NATS Cal-Western Region

Cindy Dewey, Regional Governor

Cal-Western Regional Conference and Student Auditions
January 14-15, 2017
Grand Canyon University
Phoenix, AZ
Students entered: 270
Student entries: 319
Teachers attending: 63
Collaborative pianist: 47

Presentations:

Errik Hood, A Lecture Recital: The Performance and Teaching of Songs by Ivor Gurney
Cindy Dewey, “How Do We Know Our Students Are Learning What We Think We are Teaching”
Amanda DeMaris, “Singers’ Perspectives On Musicianship and Pedagogical Approaches in Training”
Michelle Markwart Deveaux, “Healthy Bel and the Musical Theatre Landscape of Singing: Techniques and Exercises”

Auditions Chairperson: Ruth Ellis, Utah District Governor
Site Host: Rachel Velarde, Arizona District Governor

Guest Adjudicators: Brian Horne, President, NATS Foundation and Jason Lester, Texoma Regional Governor

ARIZONA DISTRICT GOVERNOR, RACHEL VELARDE

Valley of the Sun Chapter Jennifer Nagy, Chapter President

Aug 20, 2016 Board Meeting

Sept 16-17, 2016 Fall Workshop with guest clinician Craig Bohmler

Mr. Bohmler offered group instruction focused on the essentials of preparation and interpretation required to craft a singular performance on stage and in the audition room. He touched on some technical aspects as they relate to performance style, characterization, and stage presence. Mr. Bohmler’s teaching is rooted in the philosophy that learning to sing a beautiful legato line is the fundamental skill, that once established, makes anything possible. He believes that sound technique facilitates the versatility of a single voice to execute multiple genres. Masterclass
participants received 15 minutes of one-on-one instruction after group instruction was completed. 40 Registrants, 15 singer participants

SESSION 1: Friday 3:00pm – 5:30pm. Art Song, Lieder, and Mélopédie Class. Mr. Bohmler coached singers presenting selections of Italian or English art song, German Lied, or French Mélopédie. Chanson (French folk song) and Canzone (Italian folk song) also welcome.

SESSION 2: Friday 7:00pm – 9:30pm. Opera Class. Mr. Bohmler coached singers presenting selections of operatic literature.

SESSION 3: Saturday 10:00am – 12:30pm. Audition Techniques: Opera & Musical Theater. Singers presented a selection from the operatic or musical theater repertoire, from memory, in a mock audition and receive constructive feedback. Musical theater selections were limited to 32 bars for this session.

SESSION 4: Saturday 2:00pm – 4:30pm. Singing in English: Serving the Text. Mr. Bohmler coached singers presenting classical or musical theater selections in English.

Oct 23, 2016 Board Meeting

November 18-19, 2016 FALL 2016 Musical Theater/CCM Student Auditions

31 Teachers 200 Students 3 volunteer adjudicators
Location: Mesa Community College

WORKSHOPS AND CLINICIAN INFO:
"Ditching Effort: Building Your True Sound for Contemporary Commercial Music"

"Ditching Effort: Finding Authenticity and Freedom in Contemporary Commercial Singing"

CLINICIAN: Martha Irvine

Born into a musical family, Martha has loved to sing for as long as she can remember. She started playing guitar at age 13 and quickly fell in love with the freedom she felt in communicating to audiences through music. She earned her Bachelor’s degree in Music Education from Arizona Christian University, in Phoenix, AZ, and her Master’s degree in Contemporary Commercial Voice Pedagogy from Shenandoah University, in Winchester, VA. She is also certified in all levels of Somatic Voicework™ /The LoVetri Method for Contemporary Commercial Voice. She has studied and performed a diverse selection of solo music including selections from Rock, Pop, Jazz/Blues, Country, Folk, Musical Theater, Christian and...
Classical styles. She currently teaches voice at Arizona Christian University and Stages Music. Her eclectic love for musical styles, functional vocal technique, and song writing influences her ability to train and coach singers to find their own unique vocal identity.

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Southern Arizona Chapter  Stephanie Fox, Chapter President

August 27, 2016  Chapter Meeting
4 members present

Dec 2016, 2016  Chapter Meeting + dinner
4 members present

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA  DISTRICT GOVERNOR, STEPHANIE SABIN

Los Angeles Chapter (NATS-LA)  Bruce McClurg, Chapter President

Average event attendance 100-200 members.

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<td>SEP Extravaganza: Honors Recital 2015 SEP Winners</td>
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San Diego Chapter  Teri Herron, Chapter President

Summer Teacher Workshop
We hosted the "Tune in...Tune up...Tune out: Re-Envisioning the Vocal Warm Up" teacher's workshop with Meribeth Dayme at the St. Andrew's by the Sea Episcopal Church on Sunday, July 31, 2016, 1 - 4 p.m. in San Diego, CA. It was an exciting three-hour workshop that took a new look at the vocal warm up and how we can transform this old practice in exciting new ways. There was thrilling audience participation and there were short breakout sessions that allowed us to practice the elements being shared in small groups. We set our audience limit to 30, the largest number Meribeth was comfortable having in the session, charged a nominal fee, and sold out the event using the TicketLeap online ticketing system. We had options for ticket purchases for both NATS Members and non-members with the non-members paying an additional fee. I reached out to the other vocal music organizations within San Diego and was able to bring in folks from the local Mu Phi chapter as well as the San Diego Choral Consortium. Several people who received the information through the regional email attended from other parts of California including the LA, Orange County, Napa, and Bay areas.

October Student Auditions and Master Class Chapter Event

We hosted our fall student auditions at the University of San Diego on Saturday, October 29, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. 13 Teachers registered students. 44 Student competed. 22 prizes and 1 honorable mention were awarded in 12 categories. As part of our auditions day, we offered a free 90-minute Master Class with Meribeth Dayme. Five singers and one alternate were chosen from a pool of video submissions from the chapter to take part in the master class, which took place during the adjudication calculation portion of the afternoon. The master class was attended by 60 people.

NATS Winter Workshop National Event

National held the Sing the Body Electric: Wellness for Performers and Teachers NATS Winter Workshop at the Marriott Mission Valley in San Diego, CA, on January 5 - 7. Our Membership Chair, Laurinda Nikkel, served as one of the local co-coordinators for the event, and members of the Chapter Board, including the President and Treasurer, assisted with the coordination of some elements prior to the event.

Spring Musical Theater Workshop/Master Class Chapter Event

We hosted our It Might As Well Be Spring Workshop and Master Class with Mary Saunders-Barton and Stephen Brotebeck at the Canyon Crest Academy on Saturday, March 18, from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. The Morning Session consisted of the master teachers offering a variety of approaches to successfully presenting a musical theater song including effective gesture and acting and movement tips to elevate performance. In addition, invaluable information on vocal pedagogy best practices for musical theater (including approaches to singing this rich and popular repertoire for both male and female voices) was presented. The Afternoon Session consisted of a Master Class
where four singers and one alternate were chosen from a pool of video submissions from the chapter. Two high school level students (one male and one female), one male college level student, and one female graduate level student had 30 minutes of individual instruction with the master teachers during this two-hour session, with an additional 15 minutes provided for the alternate who was invited to sing at the end of the master class. In order to be able to ensure that we could afford to present the workshop, The President coordinated with the Treasurer and board to build a budget, and then the President wrote for and was awarded Discretionary funding of $600 through the national site. We offered options for ticket purchases for NATS Members, Students, and Non-Members with the non-members paying an additional fee. The event had pre-sales of 35 tickets through the TicketLeap online ticketing system, with an additional 3 full-day tickets purchased at the door. We also offered a $10 master class only admission which garnered us another 5 attendees for just the afternoon session. (We offered free attendance to the master class for the 5 students chosen to sing, as well as the teacher who hosted us at the event venue.)

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DISTRICT GOVERNOR, WENDY HILLHOUSE

Central California Chapter  Hanna York, Chapter President

• We typically have four set meetings per year.
  Sept. 10, 2016
  Feb. 4, 2017
  April 1, 2017
  May 6, 2017
• We have spent a considerable amount of time updating our chapter bylaws since last year. This has been a main topic of discussion at our regular business meetings.

Chapter Student Auditions
• We hosted our chapter voice competition at Fresno City College this year on April 1st (we currently rotate between three schools) and had 59 singers participate. We awarded 17 singers with First and Second place certificates and cash prizes. We currently hire 2 pianists to play for this event and allow students to participate in both Classical and Musical Theatre categories.
• Our final meeting is usually set up to feature some kind of master class or presentation for both members and their students. This year, one of our new members will be presenting “Classical Voice Industry: Portfolios, Auditions, Agents and Jobs” from her research during her doctoral program.

California Capital Chapter  Michelle Markwart Deveaux, Chapter President

August 14, 2016  CCC NATS General Meeting
Attendance: 8
October 15, 2016  CCC Student Auditions planning meeting  
Attendance: 10

November 12, 2016  CCC NATS ADULT SINGERS RECITAL  
Pioneer House Retirement Community  
Singers: 15  
Teachers: 4

December 17, 2016  CCC NATS ADULT SINGERS RECITAL  
Estkaton Fountainwood Lodge

January 16, 2017  NATS Open Studio  
Westminster Presbyterian Church  
Hosted and facilitated by Lee Hoffman  
Teachers present: Lee Hoffman, Michelle Deveaux, Catherine Fagiolo, Marisa Atha  
Attendance ~ 50

February 13, 2017  Chapter General Meeting  
Attendance 8

February 25, 2017  CCC NATS Student Auditions  
Students: 27  
Teachers: 14  
Accompanists: 2

Teachers in attendance: Michelle Deveaux, Robin Fisher, Marisa Atha, Catherine Fagiolo, Tina Harris, Lee Hoffman, Burr Phillips, Dorla Menmuir, Rachel Kessler

Hosted by Catherine Fagiolo at American River College

April 24, 2017  CCC NATS General Meeting  
Attendance: 9

Redwood Empire Chapter  Vaida Falconbridge, Chapter President

January 14, 2017  Board and General Meeting  
5 of our 6 board members were present for the board meeting,  
and an additional 5 chapter members came for the general meeting.

Saturday Feb. 25, 2017  Student Auditions  
22 student singers participated, and several chapter members were there helping with registration and other jobs.

February 26, 2017  Winners Recital
May 6, 2017  
Spring Workshop: French Lyric Diction  
Presenter: Susan Witt-Butler

NEVADA  
DISTRICT GOVERNOR, ALBERT R. LEE

Las Vegas Chapter  
Alfonse Anderson, Chapter President

November 5, 2016  
Student Auditions, Las Vegas at UNLV  
135 students participated

February 21-23, 2017  
Master Classes with Angela Meade, soprano

Chapter members active - 14. Private and CCSD public school and University teachers.

UTAH  
DISTRICT GOVERNOR, RUTH ELLIS

Central Utah Chapter  
Kerilyn Johnson, Chapter President (2016)  
J Arden Hopkin, Chapter President (2017)

Events Coordinator: Korianne Johnson  
Treasurer: Martha Glissmeyer  
Adjudications Coordinator: Debra Bounous  
BYU SNATS Representative: Robert Brandt  
Membership VP: Cecily Bills-Ellis

Living Room Series
Last year we created something called a Living Room Series (LRS) where members were invited to host an informal event in their home (or place of their choosing) on a topic they felt passionately about. We held one last one in March hosted by Debra Bounous. This was held at BYU and there were about 7 in attendance. This year we converted to a forum style event once a month starting on April 30. These were held at Arden Hopkin’s home and he acted as facilitator. The purpose was to discuss topics of interest within the group where nobody was the authority, but rather we had an open discussion where we could share with each other our knowledge and/or opinions on each topic. We discussed best practices, motivating students to practice, vocal technique styles and more. These continued through August and typically had around 5-6 participants.

Chapter Conference
On February 9, 2017 we held a day conference at BYU. We had roughly 25 members and other guests attend and the conference included five speakers with the topic focused on “balance”. We started with a keynote speaker, Sam Beeson who delighted us with his stories about prioritizing and remaining balanced in our lives. After Sam, we heard from Isaac Hurtado about his studies on lowered laryngeal position. Dallyn Bayles gave a concert/lecture combination including stories about balancing his career with other aspects of his life. We had a boxed lunch brought in and then heard from our last two speakers. First Bonnie Slade conducted a workshop on working with young
children and music then Kris Jennings talked to us about “The Second Circle” as it relates to us as performers and connecting with our audiences. The day was a huge success!

**Live Facebook Event**
In order to help prepare our members for all the adjudication changes that were coming, we offered a live Facebook event for members to tune in on and ask questions.

**Dinner Event**
We also held a fun dinner gathering in Oct. where we discussed our upcoming adjudications and answered questions for the members concerning all the changes that had been made.

**Chapter Student Auditions**
November 5-6, 2016 were our chapter-level student auditions, held once again at BYU. We had roughly 134 students participate in 16 categories this year. We were able to increase the amount of prize money offered for winners as well as awarding them other gift certificates as prizes. We implemented several changes as per the national guidelines, and things went fairly well. During the second day of our adjudications at our member luncheon, we had a short meeting to finalize things for the year and introduce the incoming Leadership.

**January 21, 2017 Opening social**
The day of heavy snow-fall, so only 4 people were able to attend. We reviewed the 2017 calendar and exchanged favorite vocalizes.

**February 18, 2017 Teacher’s Forum.**
Topic: best practices for teaching and doing healthy phonation. Focus on breath management. 8 teachers attended. Live streamed on Facebook.

**March 4, 2017 Day Conference.**
Morning sessions devoted to Classical singing with presenters Marc Reynolds focused on acting techniques applied to song and arias, and Julie Wright-Costa discussing Operetta. Afternoon sessions devoted to contemporary singing, with presenters Kerilyn Johnson comparing vocal techniques of pop and classical singing and Brian Manternack discussing the training system taught at CCM at Shenandoah College. 15 teachers attended. Live streamed on Facebook.

**March 18, 2017 Teacher’s Forum**
Continuation of discussion from 2/18, with the focus on sound production this time. 8 teachers present.

**March 18, 2017 Central Utah Board Meeting.**
Review of past and upcoming events. Discussion of changes to policies and practices of up-coming student audition in November. 6 of 8 board members attended.

April 8, 2017  Master Class Mash-Up
Featuring 8 singers from BYU and UVU receiving coaching from 4 chapter members. Sponsored by BYU SNATS chapter. Total of 15 people attended.

We have monthly events planned through the rest of the Spring (monthly forums) and Summer (3 living-room events focused on repertoire: June - Italian Songs beyond the 24; July - Musical Theater Rep for beginning singers, and August - Spanish Repertoire).

The new chapter officers (effective January 1, 2017) are:
Chapter President: Arden Hopkin
Membership Chair: Michele Scott
Events Coordinator: Cecily Bills-Ellis
Adjudications chair: Mindy Ammons
Secretary: Janilyn Anderson
Treasurer: Martha Glissmeyer
SNATS BYU rep: Robert Brandt
SNATS UVU rep: Melissa Heath

Northern Utah Chapter  Brian Manternach, Chapter President

Sept 10, 10:00am-12:30 pm & 2:00pm-5:00 pm
Utah State University, Logan; FAC 214
Musical Theatre Singing Techniques Workshop, Part One
Guest Clinician: Kerilyn Johnson

Sept 17, 3:00-5:00 pm Day Murray Music, Murray
What I Learned Last Summer
Group Discussion
Attendance: 10

Oct 1, 10:00am-12:30 pm & 2:00pm-5:00 pm
Utah State University, Logan; FAC 214
Musical Theatre Singing Techniques Workshop, Part One
Guest Clinician: Kerilyn Johnson

Oct 15, 3:00-4:45 pm Day Murray Music, Murray
Early Music Workshop
Dr. Emily Nelson and Utopia
Attendance: 8

Nov 14, 2-4 pm, Thompson Chamber Music Hall, University of Utah
Vocal Masterclass
Ben Heppner

**Nov 19, 11 am-1 pm, Weber State University, Ogden**
Dr. Jennifer Erickson, Voice Faculty, Weber State University
Attendance: 8

**Jan 28, 3:00-5:00 pm Day Murray Music, Murray**
Vocal Masterclass
Prof. Kirsten Chavez, Assoc. Professor of Music, Artist in Residence, University of Utah
Attendance: 21

**Feb 18, 3:00-5:00 pm Day Murray Music, Murray**
Vocal Masterclass
Dr. Errik Hood, Assistant Professor of Music, Utah State University
Attendance: 20

**Feb 25-27, Utah State University, Logan**
Contemporary Commercial Music Vocal Workshop
Guest Clinician: Prof. Lynn Helding, Associate Professor of Voice, USC

**March 11, Northern Utah NATS Chapter Auditions**
Westminster College, Salt Lake City
Students: 225
Teachers: 29
Accompanists: 42

**April 22, Classical Winners Concert, 7:30 pm, Temple Square**

**April 29, Music Theatre Winners Concert, 2:00 pm, University of Utah**

**May 20, Chapter Luncheon, Weber State University**