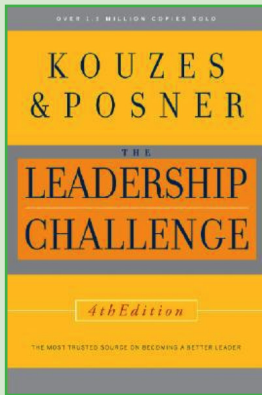


Chapter News & Notes

Develop Leadership Skills of Your Executive Board

Develop the leadership skills of your executive board. A 2-3 hour leadership retreat can recharge your officers and clarify their roles within the organization.

A great resource for structuring this training is the book "The Leadership Challenge" by Kouzes & Posner and published by Jossey-Bass. Their work focuses on "how leaders mobilize others to want to get



extraordinary things done in organizations." If you are interested, I would be happy to share the outline I have used for these retreats with the two student organizations I advise. The outline includes asking students to identify leaders that have affected them, discussing different styles and philosophies of leadership, and team problem solving exercises.

New Chapters as of March 2014

Ouachita Baptist University	Arkadelphia, AR
Southwestern Assemblies of God University	Waxahachie, TX
Madonna University	Livonia, MI
University of Wisconsin-Osh Kosh	Osh Kosh, WI
University of Florida	Gainesville, FL
University of Tulsa	Tulsa, OK
University of Kentucky	Lexington, KY
Winthrop University	Rock Hill, SC
Limpcomb University	Nashville, TN
Adelphi University	Garden City, NY

A Message For Our SNATS Chapters

Greetings from Eau Claire, Wisconsin where we lived through our coldest winter on record: 54 sub-zero days so far and 20 degrees below zero on March 3 as I write this! Brrrrr! I did escape the cold when I traveled to Indiana University to join the IU SNATS chapter for their outstanding New Voice Educator's Symposium on Feb. 21 and 22. The presentations were varied and informative and I left feeling that the future of NATS and of voice teaching are in good hands! Presentations are listed later in the newsletter, including a session I gave entitled "There is Life After Grad School." Congratulations to the talented scholars and wonderful hosts who make up the IU SNATS chapter!



Mitra Sadeghpour
VP Discretionary Funds/
Field Activities
vpdiscretionary@nats.org

Congratulations also to all the chapters around the US and Canada who are providing great research, performances, and service for their members, their schools, and their communities. I hope that you will find some new ideas and be inspired by the activities on the following pages. The creativity of our SNATS chapters never ceases to amaze.

Looking for some new challenges for your organization? We have several new ways you can get involved in events at the national level:

1. Take part in a survey. Dr. Jessica Sofranko Kisenwether, Assistant Professor of Communication Sciences and Disorders at The College of St. Rose in Albany, NY has specifically asked for our help. She is researching singers' knowledge of vocal anatomy and physiology and has created a 15 minute online survey. It is located at <http://www.nats.org/surveys.html> along with several other interesting surveys. Contact Dr. Kisenwether, kisenwej@strose.edu, with any questions.

2. Volunteer at the Boston National Convention July 5-9, 2014! According to Deborah Guess, Office Manager at the NATS National Office, "Any students wishing to volunteer for the conference should send their name, contact information including address, email and phone number to info@nats.org. If students commit to 15 hours or more they will be eligible for a complimentary registration (does not include a guest artist recital or banquet ticket)." This is a great deal! We will be holding a SNATS luncheon during the conference—I would love to meet you there! For more information, see http://www.nats.org/cgi/page.cgi/Boston_2014.html

3. Share your chapter's activities by submitting them to me by Oct. 1, 2014 for the summer edition of the SNATS newsletter. I especially encourage stories and pictures about Collaboration! Please submit electronically to vpdiscretionary@nats.org.

My best wishes for a wonderful summer semester!

Mitra Sadeghpour

One Year Later: Coker College



(Top left, bottom left and top right) SNATS members perform for and rub elbows with the Hartville Kiwanis



SNATS trip to the SC NATS district fall workshop with guest clinician, Arlene Shrut, followed by an evening of the musical "Ragtime" at Trustus Theatre in Columbia, SC

2013-2014 Coker College SNATS members

Breanna Barfield
 Shannon Dolinar, secretary
 Robbie Gainey
 Kristen Gallimore
 Terah Gamble, public relations

Chardé Henry
 Brandon Herron
 Briana Lotan, president
 Rose Mancuso, vice-president
 Kevin McCormick

Chris Moore, public relations
 Brittane Phillips, treasurer

Advisor: Serena Hill LaRoche, D.M.A.

Spotlight Chapter: University of Toronto

Student NATS at the University of Toronto

Email: karine.st.pierre@utoronto.ca

<https://ulife.utoronto.ca/organizations/view/id/21139>

The University of Toronto Student NATS Chapter (SNATS UofT) held a blood drive on September 27th 2013 in memory of Lynn Blaser, a devoted member of NATS and a respected member of the voice faculty at the University of Toronto since 1990. Ms. Blaser worked across Canada as a senior

voice examiner for the Royal Conservatory of Music, as a Festival Adjudicator, and as a Voice Clinician until her diagnosis of leukaemia in December 2012.

snats
University of Toronto

voice examiner for the Royal Conservatory of Music, as a Festival Adjudicator, and as a Voice Clinician until her diagnosis of leukaemia in December 2012.

Wishing to honour her memory, UofT SNATS members, family, and friends donated blood throughout the morning, with a few donating for the first time. The blood drive was so successful that it will likely become a UofT SNATS annual event.

On January 22nd 2014, SNATS UofT executive members Brooke Dufton, Catherine Gardner, Charlene Santoni, Suzanne Schaafsma, Karine St-Pierre joined the University of Toronto's Hart House Midday Mosaic Series for a voice recital with pianist Mai'kai Nash.

The five sopranos performed works by Calixa Lavallée, Alphons Diepenbrock, Richard Strauss, Sergei Rachmaninoff and Lori Laitman.

Upcoming events include workshops with Toronto based artist manager Andrew Kwan and classical music public relations specialist Liz Parker, as well as SNATS UofT's annual Vocal Health & Pedagogy Symposium.



SNATS members: (front) Suzanne Schaafsma, Karine St-Pierre, (back) Charlene Santoni, Douglas Brenton.



SNATS Sopranos Recital with Brooke Dufton, Karine St-Pierre, Charlene Santoni, Catherine Gardner and Mai'kai Nash

Activities From Our Chapters

► University of Montana

Our Student NATS group is inspired to do more with every new year. Last year we attended the Student NATS audition in Billings, an experience that was encouraging and valuable to us all. This year we intend to add to our fundraising efforts for both the fall and spring semesters. Our group's spring fundraiser is called Flocking - we place pink flamingos on people's lawns, and they pay to move the flock to a friend's house. It has been very popular! In November Student NATS is pleased to have Taylor Hightower and Kerrin Dunbar Hightower perform, give a master class, and talk about their experiences as church and community musicians. We also have our own teachers give clinics throughout the year, addressing everything from resumes to creating a good choir sound.

— Dayle Walters, Chapter President
 — Kimberly Gratland James, Chapter Advisor



(Left) University of Montana SNATS members at NATS student auditions in Billings, Montana.

► St. Olaf University



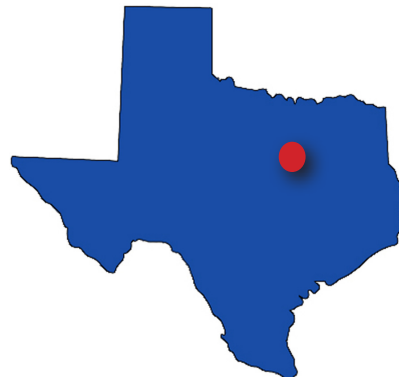
The St. Olaf SNATS chapter advisor, Alison Feldt, sponsored a master class by James Valenti on Monday, March 3, 2014. Valenti returned to the Minnesota Opera to perform the role of Rudolph Valentino in Dominick Argento's opera, "The Dream of Valentino" on March 1-9.

Did You Know? SNATS chapters do not have to be affiliated with a University or College? Check out Grapevine/Southlake SNATS and the Chicago Chapter SNATS.

► Grapevine/Southlake SNATS

Three independent private studios in the Dallas/Fort Worth metroplex have joined together to form the Grapevine/Southlake chapter of SNATS. Kristen McKinley and Regina Walter have performed together and worked together for many years, as well as serving on the DFW NATS board together. They knew Kelly Himes through reputation as a teacher and as a fellow member of DFW NATS. The three teachers have referred students to each other and kept current on studio happenings through Facebook and at chapter auditions for a number of years. They joined forces this year to form a collaborative SNATS chapter. The chapter hosted its first event on January 25th, funded in part by a grant from NATS. They hosted a master class on Breathing and Belting in Music Theater Singing, led by NATS member Laurie Lee Cosby of Studio Bella Voce and TWU. This was the first time many of the students had ever attended a master class, and they were very supportive of every singer from each studio. There were about thirty students in attendance, some parents, and a few colleagues. The chapter is planning another event for the future using the Alexander Technique. They are very excited that the students are not only being exposed to different teaching styles and methods, but that they can see teachers who are supporting each other, collaborating, encouraging, and cheering for each other's students.

— Kristen McKinley



Continued: SNATS Chapter Activity Reports

► Chicago Chapter SNATS

Winners from CCSNATS 2nd annual Schubertiade workshop and masterclass performed on a Schubertiade Chicago concert. This was held at the Fine Arts Building at 410 S. Michigan Ave on February 1st, 2014. Winners will also present a recital at the new PianoForte Foundation Studios. Join us at PianoForte Recital Hall | 1335 S. Michigan Ave. on May 3rd | 2pm.

Other chapter activities include “The Naked Voice Book Discussion.” Stephen Smith from Northwestern University guided SNATS members through his book and demonstrated some of his exercises with CCSNATS members. This event was held at Northwestern University on March 2.

— Sean Stanton, President, CCSNATS



Ouachita Baptist University SNATS. Pictured from left to right on top row are Josh Wayne (Student President), Todd McNeel (PR Coordinator), Joel Rogier (VicePresident), Maggie Garrett (Faculty Advisor); from left to right on the bottom row are Ashley Bundy (Treasurer) and Victoria Mantooth (Secretary).

► Ouachita Baptist University

This past fall semester Ouachita Baptist University started their own SNATS chapter under the leadership of Dr. Margaret Garrett and Mr. John Briggs. Students at Ouachita are very familiar with NATS on the state and regional levels of competition and many were interested in starting a chapter. Dr. Garrett and Mr. Briggs made sure to win student’s interest over with a catchy first opening meeting phrase “Snacks at SNATS.” Often students see NATS as just this huge competition, forgetting that it is also a learning experience. One gets a chance to learn about himself or herself as a vocalist and attend many different master classes, hearing a different perspective from teachers other than their own. Ouachita’s first official chapter meeting was in September and throughout the semester had bi-weekly meetings, discussing topics young vocalists and music lovers need to hear at this early stage in their career. Meeting topics consisted of information about Graduate School programs, Summer Music programs, and

the do’s and don’ts of auditioning. As this chapter kicks off the new year, they have a lot of events planned for the semester from a Social Media/Branding workshop, studying repertoire for beginning voice students, volunteering in the community, and exploring different recruitment options for incoming freshmen in the fall. The students in the chapter are very passionate and cannot wait to see what all is in store for it’s future.

— Todd McNeel, OBU SNATS Public Relations Coordinator

► Lipscomb University

This brand new chapter is hitting the ground running! The officers are planning lectures on interpretation, diction, and starting a studio. They will also invite a guest to talk about auditioning for the NATS auditions coming up in March/April.

Other activities include attending concerts and a MET HD performance at the movie theater. The chapter is also planning to have peer masterclasses where students perform a piece they are working on and the other students give immediate feedback. This gives students an opportunity to practice evaluating other voices, as well as a supportive environment in which to perform.



► University of Kentucky

Advisor Elizabeth Arnold tells us “I am THRILLED to report that we are ready to proceed forward with our University of Kentucky SNATS chapter! I met with the first of our interested students last night and we are extremely excited about starting a “formal” community of singers. We had a very productive “brain-storming” session about the many topics related to singing and teaching that we would like to cover in weekly meetings. We also agreed that the mentorship from our graduates to our undergraduates will be invaluable. Related to this, we are discussing a mentorship program which will pair our younger with our “older” singers. Social events and guest speakers/clinicians were also part of our talk.

After we come up with by-laws, we will seek to become a university sanctioned organization which, hopefully, will provide us with some extra benefits. While we have an extremely supportive group of students here at UK, the organization and structure of SNATS will further build relationships and supportive colleagues here and beyond.” Welcome University of Kentucky SNATS!



Continued: SNATS Chapter Activity Reports

► Grand Canyon University

Advisor Rachel Velarde reports that the chapter did “Christmas Caroling for Halloween” to increase their presence on campus for 30 minutes on the afternoon of October 31st. The students are excited to make this an annual event.



► University of Akron



“Our SNATS president is Michael Lucas, vice president is Emily Smith and treasurer is Katie Miler. We held a social event on Oct. 4 at my home for all students studying voice in order to encourage membership. We had games, a bonfire, a cookout

and s'mores. Our membership is now increased to 34. We also attended a Met Broadcast on HD at the movies.” Great ideas Ohioans!

— Laurie Lashbrook, Advisor

► University of Tulsa

TUSNATS is very excited to start a new student chapter at the University of Tulsa! Our inaugural event will be a trip across the state to attend a master class in April with legendary mezzo-soprano, Marilyn Home, at the University of Oklahoma. TU is also preparing to host NATS Oklahoma District Auditions in our beautiful, new Lorton Performance Center for the first time in the school's history next spring. TUSNATS is looking forward to helping organize and bring this great event to fruition. We are thrilled to begin a new chapter in the TU School of Music, and cannot wait to see what the future has in store for us.

— Judith Raiford, Advisor

► University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

In October 2013 in collaboration with the Voice and Choral Area, the UW-Eau Claire SNATS chapter hosted pedagogue Kenneth Bozeman for a full day of activities. Bozeman, a master teacher in the NATS Intern program in 2013 and head of the Voice Department at Lawrence University in Appleton, WI, presented on resonance in the male voice in the Voice Pedagogy class, did a two hour lecture demonstration for all voice students on the same topic, and held a masterclass. SNATS members had a private lunch and dinner with Bozeman and escorted him around campus through the day. President Kelly Noltner wrote and received a \$200 grant from national NATS to help fund Bozeman's residency.



Indiana University SNATS with Dr. Mitra Sadeghpour

SNATS Mission

The National Association of Teachers of Singing has fostered the formation of student chapters in order to advance knowledge about the Association and the professions of teaching and singing. A Student NATS (SNATS) Chapter is an organization of students that can meet, hold events and discussions, participate, practice, and learn more about voice teaching as a profession.

Submit your chapter news by Oct. 1, 2014, for inclusion in our next newsletter!

vpdiscretionary@nats.org