



newsletter

WWW.NATS.ORG/SNATS

SPRING 2017

Welcome New Chapters!

New Chapters since Nov. 15, 2016

Capital University Columbus, OH

Dr. Chad Payton, *advisor*
Emma English, *president*

McNeese State University* Lake Charles, LA

Carol Lines, *advisor*
Emmie Lancon, *president*

*Reinstated

ABOUT SNATS

*The National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) fosters 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.*

For more information about Student NATS (SNATS) Chapters, send an email to Alison Feldt, SNATS Coordinator, at vpoutreach@nats.org

Message for our SNATS Chapters HAPPY SPRING!

(Although you are receiving this newsletter in April, the VP's message was written in March.)

While many parts of the country experienced unusually warm weather in February - we certainly did here in Minnesota - winter returned to many of those same parts of the country with a fury the past few weeks. Yesterday was the first official day of spring and it is beginning to feel and look like spring. All the snow has melted here in Northfield except where it was piled up by snowplows. Crews are trimming trees and sweeping the roads of all the sand and salt laid down over the winter, and the rains expected at the end of the week will wash away any remaining traces of winter, at least we hope so.



Alison Feldt
SNATS Coordinator and
NATS Vice President for Outreach
feldt@stolaf.edu

NATS announces a Marketing & Communications Intern position at the National Office in Jacksonville, Florida. The application deadline is May 5, 2017. [Click here](#) to find out more about this exciting position.

The names and email addresses of each chapter advisor and president are listed in the SNATS online directory. Please remember to notify me immediately via email to vpoutreach@nats.org or feldt@stolaf.edu anytime there is a change in your chapter's leadership. This is the only means the national office and I have of communicating with your chapter. If that information is not up-to-date, you may miss out on important announcements, miss out on receiving this newsletter, etc.

NATS membership is now available to full-time students. Although it is not a requirement for belonging to your local SNATS Chapter, the NATS Student Membership offers benefits including digital access to the Journal of Singing. Fall enrollment begins October 1, and membership is good through January 1, 2019.

Finally, I am happy to visit your chapter as time allows. Please know that I am always here to support you and your chapter. The fall 2017 newsletter will go out between October 15-November 15, 2017. Email your chapter's news/photos to vpoutreach@nats.org by October 1, 2017.

Alison Feldt

SNATS CHATS!

We are happy to announce the first ever SNATS Chat on **Sunday evening, April 23, 2017**. This nationwide student chat is scheduled at 9:30 p.m. Eastern; 8:30 p.m. Central; 7:30 p.m. Mountain; and 6:30 p.m. Pacific. The one-hour event will be modeled after the highly successful NATS Chats – a live online, real-time discussion for students and singers.

Dr. Errik Hood, assistant professor and voice area head at Utah State University, will be the moderator. Our guest will be **Lynn Holding**, Associate Professor of Voice & Vocal Pedagogy at University of Southern California.

Space is limited, so make sure you register and join the discussion. [Click here](#) to register via GoTo Meeting.

The topic is **“NOT Lost in Translation: Adapting Classical Technique to Musical Theatre Styles.”** Lynn will begin the session with a presentation about the differences in Classical Technique and Musical Theatre Technique. The information is geared toward helping students, who are studying classically, negotiate the task of teaching younger students wishing to take lessons in styles other than classical - in this case, Musical Theatre. Students should come with questions about how to translate the knowledge they’re getting in their classical applied instruction into the teaching of this particular style.



About Errik Hood

Dr. Errik M. Hood, baritone, has appeared professionally with dozens of opera companies and orchestras throughout the country. The path of his performing engagements follows closely with his teaching career, having taught voice at the University of Dayton, Northern Kentucky University, Wright State University, The Ohio State University, Northwestern University.

His upcoming soloist engagements include Brahms’ Requiem with Springfield Symphony Orchestra, Dvorak’s Stabat Mater with Reno Chamber Orchestra, Sharpless in *Madama Butterfly* with Utah Festival Opera & Musical Theatre, and a lecture recital at the College Music Society Regional Conference.

Recent operatic engagements include Monatano in *Otello* (Verdi), Motorcycle Cop/First Guard in *Dead Man Walking* (Heggie),

Melchior in *Amahl and the Night Visitors* (Menotti), and Simone in *Gianni Schicchi* (Puccini), among others. Recent concert engagements include Mass in G (Schubert), Requiem (Fauré), Magnificat (Bach), Mass in A (Bach), and *Judas Maccabaeus* (Handel), among others.

Dr. Hood’s writings have been featured in *Classical Singer* and *The Ivor Gurney Society Journal*. He holds a Bachelor of Music from Wright State University, a Master of Music from The Bienen School of Music of Northwestern University, and the Doctor of Musical Arts from The Ohio State University.



About Lynn Holding

Lynn Holding is Associate Professor of Voice and Vocal Pedagogy at the University of Southern California’s Thornton School of Music. She is an associate editor of the *Journal of Singing* and author of the journal’s “Mindful Voice” column, which illuminates current research in cognitive science. Her honors include the 2005 National Van Lawrence

Fellowship, awarded to those who have “demonstrated excellence in their profession as singing teachers, and have shown knowledge of voice science.” Ms. Holding is a thought-leader within the dynamic field of vocology, and was elected to head the founding of the first non-profit vocology association, [PAVA](#).

Ms. Holding’s stage credits include leading roles with Harrisburg Opera, Nashville Opera, Tennessee Opera Theatre, and Ohio Light Opera. A deep commitment to art song led her to create “Made in America,” a narrative song recital of works by eighteen American composers which toured Europe, Australia and Iceland. Highlights in chamber music include Schoenberg’s *Perrot Lunaire*, broadcast on Nashville Public Television, and *Good Night*, written for Ms. Holding and the Baltic Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra by Icelandic composer Thorkell Sigurbjornsson.

Lynn Holding studied voice at the University of Montana, in Vienna, Austria, and Indiana University, where she was the first singer ever accepted to pursue the prestigious Artist Diploma in Voice. She earned her master’s degree in vocal pedagogy from Westminster Choir College of Rider University, and completed the Summer Vocology Institute of the National Center for Voice and Speech, where she has returned as guest faculty.

Social SNATS

We're seeing a lot about SNATS on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter, and it is great that you are sharing chapter news and events. We've taken another step in expanding the SNATS presence on social media. An Official SNATS page has just been created to serve as a hub for communication among chapters. [Click here, like and share.](#)

SNATS Members, stay in touch this summer. Where are you traveling? What creative projects are you taking on? Share your photos on Instagram and Facebook, #SNATS #NATS. If your student chapter has a Facebook page, email the address to Brian Leeper at leeperb@uww.edu and we will add your address to the list below, or let us know when your Chapter launches a new page!

SNATS Chapters on Social Media

Facebook

- [SNATS Official Page](#)
- [Asbury SNATS](#)
- [Colorado State SNATS](#)
- [Indiana University SNATS](#)
- [Jacksonville University SNATS](#)
- [Sam Houston State University SNATS](#)

- [University of Alabama-Birmingham SNATS](#)
- [San Diego State University SNATS](#)
- [Shenandoah SNATS](#)
- [University of Kentucky SNATS](#)
- [University of North Carolina-Greensboro SNATS](#)
- [University of Northern Iowa \(UNI\) SNATS](#)
- [University of Toronto SNATS](#)
- [University of Wisconsin-Whitewater SNATS](#)
- [University of Wyoming SNATS](#)
- [Wilfred Laurier University SNATS](#)
- [Winthrop SNATS](#)

Twitter

- [University of Toronto @SNATSUofT](#)
- [Indiana University @IUSNATS](#)
- [East Carolina University @ECUSNATS](#)
- [Ozark SNATS @OzSNATS](#)
- [Miami University @MiamiSNATS](#)

Instagram

- [University of Toronto SNATSUofT](#)
- [Jacksonville University SNATS JU](#)
- [San Diego State University SNATS SDSU](#)

NEW FOR 2017! NATS Student Membership

Annual Membership is just \$46.

Students can now become members of NATS and partake in benefits including FREE *Journal of Singing* digital access.

Mentoring and serving students is at the heart of the NATS mission. Lifelong learning begins at the student level, and it is in this spirit that NATS has launched a

brand new student membership category for 2017. We enthusiastically welcome students to become part of a community of friends and colleagues who all seek the same goal: excellence in teaching and singing.



Membership offers benefits including digital access to the *Journal of Singing*.

Our fall enrollment begins October 1, and membership is good through January 1, 2019.

Having a NATS Student Membership is not a requirement for belonging to a Student NATS (SNATS) Chapter. However, active participation within a SNATS Chapter is encouraged as a step toward purchasing a NATS Student Membership.

Requirement: Must be a full-time student. (NATS may request a verification of full-time student status).

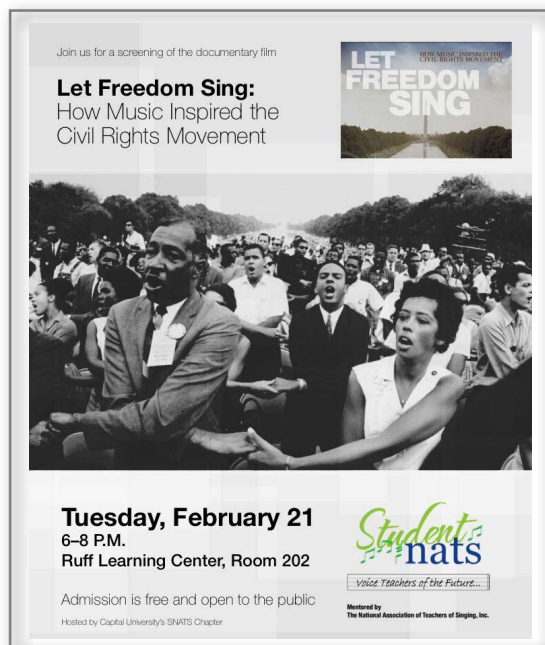
CHAPTER NEWS

Capital University SNATS

Capital University, Columbus, OH

Dr. Chad Payton, advisor; Emma English, president

The newly formed Capital University SNATS Chapter celebrated Black History Month in its first month as an official student organization. They are excited to have 25 members as a new organization. Members met to discuss inclusion and diversity within their repertoire as voice teachers. They read several articles from the NATS Journal of Singing database regarding stylistic suggestions for teaching spirituals with as much care and attention to detail as one would any art song or foreign language selection. The chapter's first campus event was a public viewing of the Time Life documentary, "Let Freedom Sing: How Music Inspired the Civil Rights Movement."



Join us for a screening of the documentary film

Let Freedom Sing:
How Music Inspired the
Civil Rights Movement

Tuesday, February 21
6-8 P.M.
Ruff Learning Center, Room 202

Admission is free and open to the public
Hosted by Capital University's SNATS Chapter

Student nats
Voice Teachers of the Future...
Mentored by
The National Association of Teachers of Singing, Inc.

Northern Arizona University SNATS

Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ

Dr. Judith Cloud, Dr. Robert Allen Saunders, co-advisors; Jordan Self-Price, president

While the Northern Arizona University chapter is small, it is mighty! This spring, members planned two major workshops, one on "Teaching Voice within a Choral Setting" a presentation by one of our graduate students, Bradley Beale, and "How to Prepare for an Audition" given by their opera director, Professor Eric Gibson. In addition to meeting every other week, the chapter has planned multiple opera viewings hosted by current SNATS members. Their most recent viewing was of Lyric Opera of Chicago's world premiere production of *Bel Canto*, an opera by Peruvian composer, Jimmy López. They hope to have a busy and productive spring semester!

Northwestern State University SNATS

Northwestern State University, Natchitoches, LA

Terrie Sanders, Corey Trahan, co-advisors; Kaylee Weakley, president

The chapter is holding two fundraisers this spring to bring in a guest clinician.

Oberlin Conservatory SNATS

Oberlin Conservatory, Oberlin, OH

Lorraine Manz, advisor; Theodora Nestorova, president

The Oberlin Conservatory SNATS is kicking off its first publicly active semester with some in-house events to introduce the group to the community of Oberlin. Members are planning a Faculty Panel Discussion on Interpreting Contemporary English/American Art Song in which students will work on 20th Century repertoire with a panel of voice teachers, coaches, and theory/history

department professors who will provide feedback and tips on interpreting and performing this often challenging repertoire. In addition, they are planning a Peer Performance Practice Night in which students (especially underclassmen) will be able to perform pieces they are working on that they may not have had an opportunity to perform during the busy season of studio classes and spring recitals. Finally, they are planning a finals study break with a screening of Thomas Hampson's master class given earlier last year, available on Medici.tv. They look forward to several exciting upcoming events in the fall, including a Body Mapping Workshop.

St. Olaf College SNATS
St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN

Tracey Engleman, advisor; J.W. Keckly and Nick Swanson, co-presidents

This year the St. Olaf Chapter organized a meet-and-greet with Renée Fleming (see the Fall 2016 SNATS newsletter) and a trip to St. Paul to see the Minnesota Opera production of Puccini's *La Bohème*. They will host an informal recital for seniors in May. In the future, the chapter would love to do more small activities, such as Met Live streams in Viking Theater on campus or dinners and question sessions with voice faculty.

Soprano Kelly Kaduce '96 was the featured soloist for the St. Olaf Orchestra Spring Concert on March 4, 2017, singing Richard Strauss' Four Last Songs. During her time on campus, Ms. Kaduce presented a master class, and the SNATS chapter hosted a dinner for Ms. Kaduce. After dinner, she took time to talk to students about her own journey to this point, including big breaks along the way. She took questions from students on a wide array of topics such as graduate programs, auditions, YAPS, managing finances as an artist, and how having a family works as an opera singer. Ms. Kaduce was extraordinarily generous and showed genuine interest in every student's individual aspirations. She answered every question, even while fighting the last remnants of bronchitis! In fact, she stayed around briefly after all were dismissed to field individual questions.



Soprano Kelly Kaduce '96 presented a master class at St. Olaf College.

University of Mobile SNATS
University of Mobile, Mobile, AL

Kathryn Hedlund, advisor; Austin Boyett, president


The University of Mobile SNATS Chapter enjoyed a wonderful workshop with Dr. Kristine Hurst-Wajszczuk from University of Alabama-Birmingham on February 11, 2017. Dr. Hurst-Wajszczuk presented research and proactive techniques for combatting performance anxiety. She took attendees through meditation and constructive rest, and discussed cognitive distortions and personal affirmation. Students loved the event!

ALABAMA SCHOOL of THE ARTS
presents
Student SNATS
Managing and Overcoming Performance Anxiety
 With clinician Dr. Kristine Hurst-Wajszczuk,
 Associate Professor of Voice and Director of Opera at University of Alabama-Birmingham



FREE TO THE PUBLIC
FEBRUARY 11, 2017 • 10AM-1PM | MARTIN HALL • ROOM 207

This event is for all musicians or public speakers who deal with performance anxiety. For more information, contact Dr. Kathryn Hedlund at 251.442.2897



University of Southern California SNATS University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA *Lynn Holding, advisor; Laurel Mehaffey, president*

On October 4, 2016, USC formed its first SNATS Chapter with 20 founding members who have already set up an exciting season of events.



In November, the USC SNATS Chapter was invited to participate in the tech rehearsal of LA Opera's *Akhmaten*.



understanding of how the larynx is coordinated, and it was fun! In February, business and performance coach Molly Mahoney joined USC SNATS for its second event. She blew them away with her tips on marketing, advertising and spreading business and joy as an entrepreneurial voice teacher and singer. Additional spring events include guest speaker Daniel Knowles on "Career Crossovers: From Singer to Speech Language Pathologist" and a SNATS Peer Share in which emerging voice teachers come together to exchange articles, voice software and teaching tips in a mock master class setting.

University of Toronto SNATS University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, Canada *Elizabeth McDonald, advisor; Stephanie Higgins, president*

The University of Toronto SNATS Chapter was founded five years ago by graduate students of the vocal pedagogy program and voice faculty members Lorna MacDonald and Elizabeth McDonald.

The objectives of University of Toronto SNATS Chapter:

- to advance knowledge about the professions of voice teaching and vocal performance.
- to provide fellowship among students and faculty, as well as the community.
- to provide a forum for the presentation of innovative ideas to enrich the university community.



The chapter invited its first guest speaker, Dr. David Harris, choral director and vocologist to present on the importance of group games and target practice simplification when teaching about complex topics in voice science. Pictured are USC students building a larynx with their bodies (labels were added later.)

They went through each motion of the laryngeal cartilages and musculature and created a sound that the voice might make with each laryngeal action. They left with a deeper

They meet these objectives through different activities such as symposiums, professional workshops, guest lectures, masterclasses, and an annual blood drive in memory of Professor Lynn Blaser. In October of 2014 they participated in the large-scale city event Nuit Blanche, Toronto's free all night contemporary art event, and this year they had the pleasure of putting together a concert in appreciation of Diane Nelsen, University of Toronto alumna, who generously donated her teaching library of vocal scores and texts for their fundraising efforts.

their current endeavors in becoming successful professional musicians right after graduating. Members will host a session with guest artist James McQuillen who specializes in CCM & Cabaret styles of singing. They also plan to sing at assisted living homes to practice their jury pieces, coach high school students with their Solo & Ensemble pieces, and tour the local opera company (Florentine Opera) to see the behind-the-scenes work that goes into running a successful show.

Utah State University SNATS Utah State University, Logan, UT

Errik Hood, advisor; Nicole Vander Does & Emily Cottam, co-presidents

At Utah State University, the SNATS Chapter has begun a weekly opera viewing party! Every Tuesday evening, SNATS members (and invited spouses, friends, and classmates) come together to watch an HD stream from the Metropolitan Opera archive. The evening begins with a brief discussion of the opera. So far they have viewed *La Bohème* and *The Magic Flute*!



A Vocal Health and Pedagogy Symposium took place on March 5, 2017. Marie Baron of Sheridan College led a crossover master class, and Amanda Brunk joined them in a round-table discussion on training classical singers for crossover repertoire.

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee SNATS University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI *Tanya Kruse Ruck, advisor; Katie Gruell, president*



The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee SNATS chapter has a variety of events planned for the spring semester. The chapter is bringing back recent alumni to talk about



Reminder

SNATS chapters who would like to have their events listed at [nats.org](http://www.nats.org) can follow this link: http://www.nats.org/snats_events.html and click the green "Submit an Event" button.

Update your SNATS directory listing. Anytime there is a leadership change, send an email to vpoutreach@nats.org or feldt@stolaf.edu.

Washington State University SNATS Washington State University, Pullman, WA

Dr. Julie Anne Wieck, advisor; Bogdan "Theo" Mynka, president

In January, Dr. Jennifer Anne Nash gave a master class and recital that was facilitated by Washington State University SNATS. The event was open to the public, attracting a variety of other musicians in attendance. The chapter held an Atrium Recital in February, featuring performances by SNATS members in the



Atrium of the University's public library. Also in February, faculty member Dr. Sheila Converse gave a lecture on Music Therapy, expounding on how music can be used in social work and outside of the performing or teaching spheres. In March, they presented a recital at a local retirement center.

Wilfrid Laurier University SNATS Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada

Amanda Brunk, advisor; Rachel Kalap & Janelle Laarakker, co-presidents

The SNATS Chapter of Wilfrid Laurier University has enjoyed a successful year of its teaching master class series, with classes for "Teaching the Teenaged Voice" and "Belting for Beginners." They will hold a question and answer panel with local studio teachers for new voice teachers who are just graduating.