



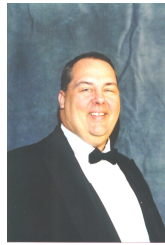
Student Chapters  
of the National Association of  
Teachers of Singing, Inc.

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**STUDENT CHAPTERS:**

Anderson University  
Anoka-Ramsey Community College  
Asbury College  
Baldwin-Wallace College  
Ball State University  
Boston Conservatory  
Brenau University  
Brigham Young University - Hawaii  
Brigham Young University - Idaho  
California State University – Fresno  
California State University – LA  
Columbus State University  
Florida State University  
**Indiana State University\***  
Indiana University – Jacobs School  
**Indiana University of Pennsylvania\***  
Ithaca College  
**Iowa State\***  
LaGrange College  
Lawrence University  
Lee University  
Legacy School of the Arts  
Marygrove College  
Moravian College  
Morehead State University  
Naugatuck Valley Comm. College  
Nebraska Wesleyan University  
New Mexico State University  
NC Central University  
Northern Arizona State University  
Ohio State University  
Pennsylvania State University  
Shorter College  
St. Olaf College  
University of Akron  
University of Alabama-Birmingham  
University of Arizona  
University of Arkansas - Ft. Smith  
University of Evansville  
University of Michigan  
University of Missouri - Columbia  
University of NC – Greensboro  
University of St. Thomas  
University of Toronto  
University of WI - Eau Claire  
University of WI – Whitewater  
Virginia Tech  
Wartburg College  
Weber State University  
Westminster Choir College/Rider U.  
West Liberty State College  
Winthrop University  
**\*new chapters this quarter.**



**Happy New Year!**

Can you believe that we are up to FIFTY-THREE chapters of SNATS!? We are proud to welcome aboard three new chapters since our last newsletter: Indiana State University; Indiana University of Pennsylvania, and Iowa State. A link to contact information for all SNATS chapters can be found at [www.nats.org/programPDF/snats.xls](http://www.nats.org/programPDF/snats.xls).

Once again, special thanks go to the NATS Foundation for supplying each new chapter with a free one-year subscription to *Journal of Singing*. Notes of thanks could be sent to the Foundation’s President, **Vernon Yenne** 360 N. Yale, Wichita, KS 67208.

**Thank you for sending me pictures and articles for this newsletter!**

**U of AKRON**

The 2006-2007 academic year was a fun and productive year for the University of Akron student chapter of NATS. This year, members of the organization participated in an array of activities that helped them gain knowledge in the art of singing and helped promote the organization and its mission.

The UA chapter is relatively new and this past academic year, SNATS president **Natalie Zenczak** and co-president **Adrienne Smedley** along with other members sought to make others aware of the nature and importance of a SNATS chapter. In order to do this, members participated in several fundraising events. One very successful fundraiser was the sale of flowers at several recitals and concerts. Parents, friends, and students were given the opportunity to buy flowers to help support performers in their endeavors. SNATS members also sold School of Music T-Shirts to many music students and parents. A particularly enjoyable fundraiser involved several faculty members, including SNATS advisor **Dr. Laurie Lashbrook**, dressing up for a Halloween fundraiser. Students were given the opportunity to vote for their favorite costumed faculty member. All of these events raised awareness for the organization.

With some of the proceeds from these fundraisers, SNATS members were able to participate in two exciting opportunities during spring semester. Members participated

in an Alexander Technique workshop with Alexander Technique teacher and SNATS members as well as some non-members came and received individual hands-on help from Ms. Jackson. Students were given the opportunity to sing or play other instruments and were given feedback by Ms. Jackson in regards to their physical state and how Alexander Technique could help alleviate unnecessary tension. Students truly benefited from their time during these two sessions.

In February, several members of SNATS took an enjoyable educational trip to Chicago to see the Chicago Lyric Opera's production of Mozart's *Così fan tutte*. This trip gave members the opportunity to see a full scale opera in a renowned opera house. Students heard remarkable performances from several incredible singers including **Erin Wall, Lauren McNeese, Eric Cutler, Nathan Gunn, Sir Thomas Allen, and Nuccia Focile**.

For the 2007-2008 academic year the UA chapter is excited to continue to strive towards excellence in vocal education and performance. They are planning to visit New York City in the spring to see an opera at the Metropolitan Opera as well as pursue possible master classes. Members are also planning several fundraisers and educational opportunities including a night of Brazilian music, more Alexander Technique workshops, and a charitable recital and fashion show.

### U of WISCONSIN – WHITEWATER

On October 26, **John DeHaan**, Professor of Voice at the University of Minnesota, presented a master class for the UW-Whitewater chapter of SNATS.

**Renée Jackson.** Two sessions were held

Mr. DeHaan worked with ten students during the three hour class that was very well received by the students and observers.

In February, the chapter will be attending a masterclass being given by **Paul Kiesgen** on *Resonance Strategies for the Male Voice* at the Spring Wisconsin-NATS Chapter meeting in Madison.



**John DeHaan** works with sophomore **Michael Roemer**, who went to the Wisconsin NATS Auditions the following weekend where he was chosen Outstanding Male Performer.

### VIRGINIA TECH SNATS

Virginia Tech SNATS has enjoyed a plethora of activity this semester, even though we are a newly formed chapter. Most recently, we hosted a master class with professional soprano soloist, **Elizabeth Weigle**. Ms. Weigle visited our campus and worked with five singers on a variety of repertoire. Ms. Weigle created a very positive and comfortable environment for the singers. She was most helpful in areas of diction, breathing, phrasing, and stage presence. We really enjoyed her visit and valued her suggestions. We look forward to working with more clinicians next semester as well.

In addition to the master class, Student NATS participated in caroling at

the local mall. Rehearsing and learning holiday music was a much-needed respite from the usual routine. We enjoyed singing together as a group and spreading holiday cheer.

Next semester will also be full of activity as we prepare to host the Virginia NATS Conference on the Virginia Tech campus. As many as 500 singers and teachers are anticipated to attend. We look forward to the work ahead in preparation for the conference.

We have had an enjoyable first semester as a Student NATS organization and are eager to offer many more educational and vocal experiences for our members, our department, and our university.



Virginia Tech SNATS members

### PENN STATE SNATS

The new Penn State chapter of SNATS founded in March of 2007 is off to a great start! At our monthly meetings we have always tried to find relevant topics to discuss. Some of the most recent were: discussing appropriate repertoire for beginning students as well as recommending vocal anthologies; listening to the great singers of the past and present and discussing their vocal qualities; offering the opportunity to sing for comments from the members of

SNATS in preparation for the Allegheny Chapter of NATS fall auditions.

On December 7, we just decided to have fun and sang Christmas music and ate cookies. It was a nice, relaxing time before we started finals. Some upcoming programs/workshops we are planning for the spring are: the Alexander Technique and how it can help singers; coaching – what it involves, how it differs from the voice teacher (demonstrations included); and healthy belting. We are excited to be a growing chapter offering relevant information to our members! Here are a few pictures from our Christmas get-together:



(Editor's note: The red plate contains cookies that spell out SNATS!)

### Central Ohio SNATS

COSNATS (affectionately termed Buckeye SNATS) is proud to announce the upcoming events of the 2008 winter and spring quarters at The Ohio State University. Events include a kick-off party in the new vocal pedagogy lab; talks with **Christopher Purdy**, local authority on anything opera; workshops; and a special Spring Event (more information to come). The members are excited about the upcoming year.

## BRENAU UNIVERSITY

Brenau University SNATS members at the new Cobb Energy Performing Arts Centre on October 7 for the Atlanta Opera's production of *Turandot*.



Back row from left: **Katie Holley**, **Kristen Fouts**, **Whitney Poole**, **Robin Brackett**, **Cara Stewart**, **Christy Harris**, **Diane Lawler-Johnson**  
Front row from left: **Ashley Lamphier**, **Jenna Thayer**, **Xiaolei Zhou**



## Ithaca SNATS

The Ithaca College Chapter of SNATS began the fall semester with an informational meeting and group Feldenkrais lesson. IC voice professor and guild-certified Feldenkrais teacher **Carol McAmis** taught new and current members. She also worked with a few members on their individual problems such as jaw tension.

In early November, SNATS hosted a special session: "What Not to Wear: SNATS Style." Appropriate attire for repertoire class, performances, recitals, and auditions was addressed by a faculty panel. Professors **Ivy Gaibel**, **Brad Hougham**, and **Randie Blooding** and Apparel Design Instructor **Sue Watkins** shared their ideas on outfits modeled by student volunteers and fielded questions from the audience. The students modeled "good" as well as "bad" examples such as "overdressed," "too casual," "too revealing," and "too trendy." **Sue Watkins** also gave a PowerPoint presentation titled "Optical Illusion in Fashion" on how to highlight one's best assets.

The Ithaca Chapter looks forward to an opera movie night early in the spring semester. We also will be supporting the Ithaca College Concerto Competition Vocal Preliminaries by advertising and holding a reception following the performance.

## Westminster SNATS

As the spring semester approaches, the Westminster Chapter of SNATS would like to share with you all our newest developments that have happened over the past year. First of all, we would like to announce our new treasurer, **Kathryn Skovira**. We know

that she is going to make an excellent treasurer and was voted into her position unanimously.



Besides Kathryn's new membership, we started our fall semester almost doubling our SNATS membership! Both undergrad and graduate students flocked to our table during orientation week. Our secretary, **Megan Smith's** homemade poster on the anatomy of the larynx mesmerized all who passed our station, including our school's mascot. Every new member also got their very own personal applause when they joined.



Seeing this overwhelming interest in our group, we decided to allow all undergrads to partake in the upcoming SNATS activities. We were excited about the response from all undergrads, but especially that from freshmen. Freshmen students were the majority of all students involved in our trip to New York City this past December. Every semester, SNATS sponsors a field trip to New York that involves some type of educational tour relating directly to our

majors. Last semester we sponsored a trip to the *Bodies Exhibit* where members of our masters program in pedagogy and performance were allowed to view the anatomy of our instruments. We all made our advisor, **Dr. Scott McCoy** proud when we were able to identify the external intercostals and describe their function. This semester, however, we took a backstage tour of the Metropolitan Opera House. We were able to see the rehearsal spaces for all the operas going on at the moment. We saw how they built the sets to *Hansel and Gretel*, *War and Peace*, and *The Magic Flute*, visited and learned about the rehearsal spaces and practices for all the operas, held many of the costumes for all the operas, and we were able to take a rare tour of the stage floor that many are not able to experience due to the usual construction and rehearsals.

Also, this fall semester proved extremely exciting and rewarding for SNATS' Westminster voice pedagogy majors students! In the fall practicum course, second year master's students are given two students from the community with whom to work. Over the course of the semester, the pedagogy "teachers" give their students ten free lessons. They also bring each student into the class to teach in front of peers and teachers. Professor **Marvin Keenze**, a beloved faculty member at Westminster and distinguished alum, led the six aspiring teachers through a wonderful semester of learning, laughs, and lots of singing! The semester culminated with a fantastic recital, showing off both student and teachers' progress. This was **Professor Keenze's** final year teaching the practicum course, a class he developed and taught for thirty years! The class presented him with a plaque commemorating the dedication, joy, and imagination he brought to the classroom.



Next semester, the pedagogy students will complete individual research projects that cover a wide range of vocal health, acoustical, and pedagogical issues.

As this semester winds up, we are looking forward to the new year and the spring semester. SNATS is planning a master class on German Lieder with mezzo-soprano, **Melanie Sonnenberg** as well as a possible trip to the Metropolitan Opera House to see an opera performance.

**The Fourth Annual New Voice Educator's Symposium  
will be held February 8 and 9, 2008 at  
Indiana University Jacobs School of Music**

Information at: [www.indiana.edu/~iusnats/symposium.shtml](http://www.indiana.edu/~iusnats/symposium.shtml)

**SNATS GRANTS  
are available!**

Does your chapter have a project  
with which it can use financial help?  
Email **Dr. Carl Swanson** ([nenats@aol.com](mailto:nenats@aol.com))  
for information or fill out a form available at:  
[www.nats.org/snats/snats\\_grants.php](http://www.nats.org/snats/snats_grants.php).