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Newsletter January 2013

Student NATS

Welcome

Greetings to SNATS members and advisor around the US! In my five months in office, SNATS has been one of the favorite parts of my position. Meeting you in person and via email has inspired me with your energy, your creativity, and your love for the art and science of singing! Students are a vital part of our NATS organization, and I look forward to learning from you and helping you in any way I can to strengthen and grow your chapter. With our collective energy, SNATS can do anything! Have an idea? Share it with me and we'll collaborate to make it happen!

Mitra Sadeghpour is Associate Professor of Music at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, where she teaches Applied Voice and Opera Literature, is coordinator of the Voice and Choral Area, and is the director of the opera program.



Mitra Sadeghpour
VP Discretionary Funds
& Field Activities

Updates to the Website

Our online directory is up to date—hurrah! A special thanks to UW-Eau Claire SNATS President Jordyn Beranek who spent many hours with me working on this project!

We currently have 121 active chapters of SNATS. Please take a look, and maybe you'll be inspired to contact another chapter in your region to see how you might work and make music together. You could:

- Invite them to one of your events, either in person or virtually
- Host each other at a state or regional NATS Audition or workshop
- Share ideas for fundraisers, events, and membership recruitment
- Meet in the middle at a concert and then have coffee and dessert afterwards to talk it over
- Do a recital exchange
- Ask a long-established chapter if you can see their constitution and use it as a model
- Ask their advisor to come do a talk or masterclass at your school

These are only the tip of the iceberg! Got a great idea for collaborating with another chapter? Contact me and I'll share it in the newsletter.

<http://www.nats.org/snats.html>

Keep your eye on the NATS website—we are working to update the SNATS pages with ideas for effective advising, possible chapter events, examples of vision and mission statements, and examples of your innovative work in your organization!

Chapter News From Around the United States

Baylor University, led by advisor Dr. Deborah Williamson, launched a new chapter of SNATS with 36 charter members in the fall of 2012. Their president is Bille Bruley. An enthusiastic chapter, Dr. Williamson reports “we have already had one meeting featuring Ms. Julianne Best, Adjunct Voice faculty at Baylor, on “Establishing a Private Voice Studio.” Dr. Robert Best, Voice faculty at Baylor, will speak in November and give an overview of “Vocal Pedagogy.” Congratulations Baylor!

Annie Picard of the **Chicago Chapter of Student NATS** tells us “I was asked by the CCNATS Executive Board in 2011 to start a SNATS chapter. We are the *first* SNATS chapter to be sponsored by a NATS chapter instead of a college or university. How cool is that! We have grown from 7 members at start-up in September 2011 to 28 members from 8 Chicagoland universities, plus college graduates. We currently offer 4 programs: the *Master Series, Outreach Program, Singers Forums, and Mentorship and Merit in Teaching Program* (MMiT).

Thanks to Sarah van Loon, our CCSNATS Secretary and Treasurer, our website was *completely* redesigned, with a new logo and vibe to better reflect our mission and purpose.” www.chicagostudentnats.org

The University of Wisconsin-Whitewater SNATS chapter provided a complimentary lunch for all judges as a service project during the Wisconsin Auditions on Nov. 2, 2012. In 2013 the Whitewater chapter will be hosting two master class clinicians on campus. Soprano Barbara Hill Moore, the Meadows Foundation Distinguished Professor of Voice at Meadows School of the

Arts at Southern Methodist University and mezzo-soprano Karen Brunssen, Associate Professor of Voice and Opera at Northwestern University will present master classes for UWW SNATS members in March and April, 2013, respectively.



Top: Karen Brunssen,
Bottom: Barbara Hill Moore

At **University of Alabama at Birmingham**, Kristine Hurst-Wajszczuk, advisor, and new chapter president Callie Courter report: “this semester, we welcomed Jim Brody, certified instructor in the Alexander Technique, for a three-day workshop. We also met several times to watch THE AUDITION, had two yoga classes, and had two fundraising events. In the spring, Vanessa Cornett-Murtada, certified hyno-therapist, will present a workshop on using self-hypnosis to overcome performance anxiety. This will follow my workshop the previous week on treating with performance anxiety without medication. We also plan to bring in a personal trainer to discuss exercise for singers, and MET mezzo-soprano Janet Hopkins will return for a master class.” The UAB chapter applied for and received a SNATS grant to help

fund Cornett-Murtada. Check out the website for more information on SNATS grants- they are available for you, too!

One of our largest SNATS chapters at **Indiana University** has had a busy semester. “We have had four events this fall. We have featured three guest presenters in the fall and three in the spring. In addition, we host the New Voice Educators Symposium (above) and the Voice Faculty Cabaret annually. The Cabaret features members of the voice faculty performing solos and duets—sometimes classical, sometimes not—in a casual setting. The event brings together the faculty, including performers like Carol Vaness, Sylvia McNair, Marietta Simpson, Timothy Noble, Wolfgang Brendel, Carlos Montane, Andreas Pouliminos, Teresa Kubiak, etc., for a fun and light-hearted evening. They sing for free and the proceeds go to the SNATS chapter, allowing us to feature the other events during the year for no charge. The September meeting was a discussion about choosing a graduate school and a new teacher. The October meeting was a guest presentation on Portuguese diction with a professor from Brazil. The November meeting was a presentation about working with children’s voices with the director of the IU Children’s Choir.”

The **St. Louis chapter of SNATS** is new as of the spring of 2012. They will be hosting internet talks with pedagogues from Shenendoah University in the spring as one of their inaugural events. Advisor Emily Truckenbrod is interested in dialoguing about building a strong chapter! Look her up on our newly updated online directory!

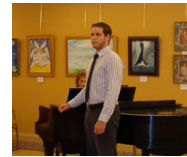
Want your chapter included in the Chapter News section of our next newsletter? Contact us!

SNATS CHAPTERS

Albany State University
Anderson University
Anoka-Ramsey Community College
Armstrong Atlantic State University
Asbury University
Auburn University
Ave Maria University
Ball State University
Baylor University
Boise State University
Boone Studio
Boston Conservatory
Brenau University
Brigham Young University
Brigham Young University - Hawaii
Brigham Young University - Idaho
California State University-Northridge
California State University - Fresno
California State University - LA
Caren Calafati Private Studios
Carroll University
Central Baptist University
Central Methodist University
Central Washington University
Chicago Chapter SNATS
Coker College
Colorado State University
Columbus State University
Community College of RI
Emporia State University
Florida International University
Florida Southern College
Florida State University
Frost School of Music
Frostburg State University
Georgetown College
Georgia Southern University
Grand Canyon University
Grapevine-Southlake
Hastings College
Indiana State University
Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Indiana University-Jacobs School of Music
Indiana Wesleyan University
Iowa State
Ithaca College
Jacksonville University
James Madison University
Kent State University
LaGrange College
Lamar University
Lawrence University
Lee University
Marietta College
Marygrove College
McNeese State University
Middle Tennessee State University
Moravian College
Morehead State University
Naugatuck Community College
Nebraska Wesleyan University
New Mexico State University
North Carolina Central University



General Meeting
FIU Student NATS



Ideas for your chapter...

Does your school have orgsync? You can use it for SNATS!

Karla Gutierrez, president of FIU SNATS reports “we have an online website through www.orgsync.com, and only FIU students can access it once they make their profiles. This site is how we communicate meetings and events. We are also in the process of designing our logo, but in the meantime we are using the one from SNATS in the nats.org page.”

Not sure how to begin? Start local! Kimberly Beasley at Jacksonville University says: We recently had our first event, singing at a retirement home called Cypress Village here in Jacksonville. The students sang a combination of opera and musical theatre to great applause! Our chapter will focus a lot on community outreach initially and then hopefully grow to the point of hosting [a larger event.]

The University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire SNATS chapter executive committee held two strategic planning meetings where they worked on defining the roles and duties of the officers and wrote mission and vision statements for the chapter. Advisor Mitra Sadeghpour used

the text “Advising Student Organizations” by Norbert W. Dunkel and John H. Shuh (pub. Jossey-Bass) to facilitate this work. We highly recommend this book both to start a new organization and revitalize the goals of an existing chapter. President Jordyn Beranek shares the chapter mission statement:

The Student National Association of Teachers of Singing, University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire Chapter aspires to advance the knowledge of the National Association of Teachers of Singing, to encourage the highest standards of the vocal art, to further student knowledge and awareness of scholarship, vocal pedagogy, and performance, and to make professional information accessible for passionate students who intend to teach singing.

Indiana University SNATS hosts an annual Voice Educator’s Symposium. Send a representative from your chapter this year! Watch for more information soon about the dates of this year’s Symposium. In the meantime, check out the IU SNATS website! <http://www.indiana.edu/~iusnats/index.html>

North Greenville University
 Northern Arizona State University
 Ohio State University
 Oklahoma Baptist University
 Palm Beach Atlantic University
 Pennsylvania State University
 Pittsburg State University
 Plymouth State University
 Puget Sound Chapter
 Saint Martin's University
 Sam Houston State University
 San Diego State University
 Shenandoah University
 Shorter University
 Southeast Missouri State University
 Southern Illinois University
 St. Louis Area Chapter
 St. Olaf College
 The Singers' Theatre Studio
 Trinity University
 Troy University
 University of Akron
 University of Alabama- Birmingham
 University of Alaska
 University of Arizona
 University of Arkansas - Ft. Smith
 University of Central Missouri
 University of Evansville
 University of Iowa
 University of Las Vegas
 University of Lethbridge
 University of Michigan
 University of Minnesota-Duluth
 University of Missouri-Columbia
 University of Missouri-Kansas City
 University of Montana- Missoula
 University of North Alabama
 University of NC - Greensboro
 University of South Carolina
 University of St. Thomas
 University of Tennessee
 University of Texas
 University of Texas-San Antonio
 University of Toronto
 University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire
 University of Wisconsin - Whitewater
 University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
 University of Wyoming
 Virginia Tech
 Wartburg College
 Washburn University
 Washington State University
 Weber State University
 West Liberty State College
 Western Carolina University
 Westminster Choir College - Rider Uni
 Whitworth University
 Winthrop University



L-R: Katherine Napiwotzki - Secretary; Karine St-Pierre - VP; Brooke Dufton - Treasurer; Graham Thomson - President; Douglas Brenton - Technology Officer; Missing: Catherin Gardner - Secretary of Membership

Featured SNATS Chapter: University of Toronto

The fall of 2012 saw the creation of a new SNATS chapter at the University of Toronto in Canada. At the suggestion of Professor of Voice Lorna MacDonald and with the support from the Head of Voice Studies Dr. Darryl Edwards, SNATS UofT was established with 6 graduate students taking the roles of executive and adjunct voice teacher Elizabeth McDonald serving as faculty advisor.

Current SNATS UofT president Graham Thompson states:

“This a great opportunity for all of us here at the University of Toronto. We are thrilled to have the opportunity to take leadership roles helping student-teachers of singing at the University of Toronto’ Faculty of Music to get active in the Toronto community. SNATS U of T will provide a forum for discussion and dissemination of information and activities pertaining to singing research, teaching and performance. We are starting small this year with plans for a weekend debut seminar this spring that will feature a pedagogy research colloquium, master-classes, and a recital series which will feature the members of SNATS U of T and the members of the Vocal Pedagogy division here at U of T. Our plans for the coming years are beginning to take shape and we are excited by the prospect of becoming an very active and busy club in the Toronto artistic community.”



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email: elizabeth@nats.org

Alexander Technique Workshop

Presented by SNATS @ FIU

With Nationally recognized and
certified AmSAT technician,

Jana Tift



Open to singers, actors, and instrumentalists

FREE to SNATS Members

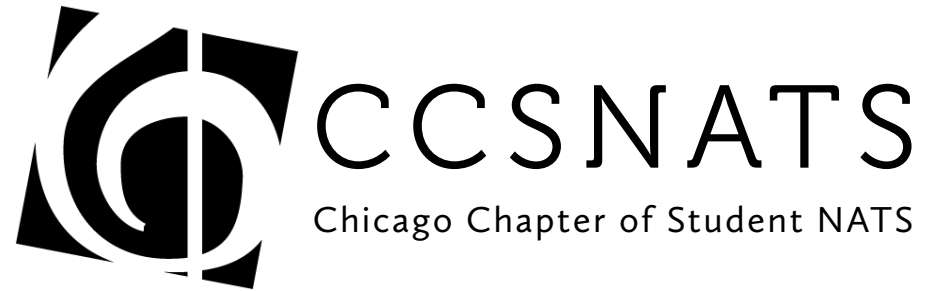
\$5 for non-members

Friday, November 2, 1:00-4:00 pm

Viertes Haus 100

With special funding from CSO





Become a member at chicagostudentnats.org.
Free to participate or attend for CCSNATS members.

The workshop will include an introduction to the fundamentals of yoga including meditation (dhyana), breathing (pranayama), physical practice (asana), and relaxation, as well as a thorough discussion and practice. You will come away with a deeper understanding of yoga, the experience of an energizing, one-hour practice specifically tailored to enhance your vocal technique, and a short warm-up that you can use in a practice room as you prepare to sing.

Saturday
December 15, 2012
2-4 p.m.

The Master Series:
Yoga for Singers with
Gary Alexander

North Park University
Hanson Hall- H23
3225 West Foster Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60625