



Eastern Region

Newsletter

Winter 2012

2013 Eastern Region Conference – March 15-17, 2013 Hosted by Ithaca College, Ithaca, New York

You and your students are cordially invited to Ithaca in March 2013 for an exciting lineup of Student Auditions, workshops and recitals. Welcome to **Ivy Walz** and **Jennifer Kay** who have agreed to serve as site coordinators. They have already done a great deal of preparation to provide all participants with activities of interest and a marvelous space in which to experience them. I would also like to thank **Stephen Ng** in advance for serving as Auditions Registrar. He did a magnificent job at West Chester this past March and I look forward to working with him.

A more thorough schedule of events will be provided when all details are in place. Here's a small summary for your information:

Friday, March 15 – After a day of auditions, Ithaca College Opera students, directed by Brian DeMaris, will treat conference attendees to a performance of opera scenes.

Saturday, March 16 – During the day, a series of workshops and information sessions will be provided by Carol McAmis (Feldenkrais), Patrice Pastore (Improvisation) and The Achievement Program. Headlining Saturday evening, operatic baritone Todd Thomas, native of Elmira, NY, will present a recital.

Sunday, March 17 – The weekend will be capped off with the final round of auditions and announcement of winners in each division.

Online registration for the Student Auditions will be active beginning January 1, 2013. Registration deadline is February 15, 2013. Members will be notified with more information later in December.

Make your plans now to attend.

From the Governor

I am excited and honored to start my term as Eastern Region Governor! I have very large, very competent shoes to fill because of the excellent work of Norman Spivey. I extend my deepest gratitude to him for a job well done and for helping to ease my transition as his successor. I would also like to wish him a hearty congratulations on his election to the office of President-Elect. We as an organization are truly blessed to have such talented and dedicated people such as Norman serving in positions of leadership and giving selflessly of their time.

I encourage you to be in touch with any celebrations, needs, concerns, etc. I want to hear from you!

Chapter Activities

On March 24, **Central New York Finger Lakes Chapter** sponsored a one-day workshop for its members at Nazareth College in Rochester, NY. We were fortunate to have two distinguished professors of voice from the Eastman School of Music offer master classes. Dr. Robert McIver presented a class on male registration and Carol Webber offered a class on performance and pedagogy.

On Saturday, October 27th the Whalen School of Music at Ithaca College hosted the annual Student Auditions of the Central New York Finger Lakes Chapter of the National Association of Teachers of Singing. There were 28 voice teachers in attendance to adjudicate 120 singers competing in categories from high school to young professional. In the past two years we have added a musical theater category for juniors and seniors and we will be expanding that next year to include freshmen and sophomores.

Plans are under way for the fall 2013 fall student auditions, which will be held at Buffalo State College in October.

The 2012 **Allegheny Mountain Chapter** of NATS Student Auditions were held at Lebanon Valley College on October 27, 2012, and were hosted by Dr. Rebecca Lister. The auditions hosted over 150 singers competing and winners were awarded \$75 gift certificates to The Musical Source in Maryland.

AMC will also hold a Musical Theater Auditions panel in the spring, dates TBA. The panel will include the Musical Theater faculty from Penn State (Beverly Patton, Ray Sage and Mary Saunders-Barton) to discuss repertoire and judging for our annual student auditions.

The annual Fall Workshop of the **Lehigh Valley Chapter** took place on November 10 at Moravian College, at which about 20 chapter members and students attended. The featured presenter was Mark Moliterno, who gave a presentation on the use of yoga techniques to help singing ("YogaVoice"). Mark's presentation consisted of three parts: first was a discussion of Yogic principles related to physical balance and creativity in singing. The second part consisted of all participants exploring foundational Yoga postures and breathing techniques (yoga mats and all!). After a lunch break, the final part consisted of a 90-minute Master Class, in which yoga principles were applied directly to five students through song performance. It was a wonderful workshop, and most enthusiastically received by all who attended.

The LVNATS Student Auditions will be held on Saturday, February 9, 2013. The annual Gala Recital is scheduled for Sunday, March 17, 2013, in the afternoon. All activities are at Moravian College in Bethlehem.

Let us know about your chapter's activities!

Our New Members...

Delaware

Alexis Droke, Wilmington

Pennsylvania

Sonya Caceres, Pittsburgh

Erica DeFrusco, Downingtown

Amanda Hu, Philadelphia

Raymond Johnson, Cheltenham

Susan Jordan, Stroudsburg

In Young Lee, Downingtown

Ontario

Jean Winter, Peterborough

Quebec

Anait Khamroian, Montreal

New Jersey

John Daniecki, Bordertown

Pamela Jones, North Bergen

Mariana Karpatova, Madison

Susan McAdoo, Denville

Erica Miller, Mount Holly

Robert Prowse, Emerson

Michelle Sontag, Bogota

Sally Tumas-Skoric, Ridgewood

Marco Vergara, Succasunna

Kathryn Zamarra, Watchung

New York

Christine Estes, New York City

Ruth Falcon, New York City

Jacqueline Jordan, Poughkeepsie

Kerry Lerew, Liverpool

Alison Lund, New York City

Quinn McClure, Astoria

Jenny Millsap, New York City

Jan Opalach, New York City

Daniel Orama, Valley Stream

Maria Pflegl, Clifton Park

Dawn Pierce, Ithaca

Sharon Spinetti, New York City

Jessica Sofranko, Albany

Kathryn Tate, Warwick

Amy Vair, Cazenovia

Chapter Officer Update

There have been several recent changes in chapter officers. New district governors include **Danielle Sinclair** (New Jersey) and **Nick Perna** (West Virginia). Many thanks go to outgoing governors Rochelle Ellis and Linda Cowan. We welcome new chapter presidents **Steven Snow** (New Jersey Chapter) and **Deborah Montgomery-Cove** (Central New York Finger Lakes Chapter) to their new posts with hearty thanks to outgoing presidents Susan Rheingans and Mario Martinez. NATS depends upon the willingness of its members to serve in leadership at all levels. Contact information for each of the Eastern Region officers is located in the newsletter and on the website. Please don't hesitate to let any of these officers know if they might be of service.

Substitute Judges Needed for Student Auditions

If you are not planning to enter students in the 2013 Student Auditions, please consider giving of your time to serve as a judge. Occasionally a teacher enters students and is unable to attend, in which case a substitute is needed. For any member who serves as a substitute judge, the teacher registration fee will be waived. Contact **Stephen Ng** at sng@wcupa.edu for more information or to express interest. You must be able to attend both Friday and Saturday of the conference.

Be sure to check the Eastern Region website for updates...

<http://www.easternregionnats.com>

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