

2020 NATS EASTERN REGION CONFERENCE AND AUDITIONS

**Westminster Choir College
101 Walnut Lane
Princeton, NJ 08540**

Schedule of Events

Subject to change – an updated schedule will be available at the conference

FRIDAY, MARCH 20

- 11:00 am Registration opens (Cullen Center Lobby – outside Hillman Hall)
- 12:00 – 12:45 am Judges' meeting (Hillman Hall)
- 1:00 – 6:00 pm Student Auditions Preliminary Round (Various Locations)
- 5:30 – 6:20 pm ***Defining Countertenor: Unpacking the Repertoire***
Dr. Jay Carter, countertenor Location: Bristol Chapel

Description: An interactive lecture recital incorporating repertoire from the middle-Baroque through the contemporary musical periods. It uses as its departure point the assumption that we use the term countertenor for the singing of the highest voiced male soloists, but this lecture recital challenges our use of the term as a general one in need of greater definition. By exploring a variety of repertoire currently used in operatic and concert mediums, the following sub-divisions of countertenor singing are carefully defined and demonstrated with great specificity: Sopranoist - Knabenaltus - Alto -Haute-contre/Altino – Castrati.

- 6:15 - 7:00pm Reception- **Prof. Robert Edwin, Guest of Honor (Hillman Lobby)**
- 7:00 – 7:25 Award Ceremony- **Presenting the 2020 Eastern Region Conference & Student Auditions Honoree: Prof. Robert Edwin (Hillman Hall)**

EVENING MASTER CLASS

- 7:30 – 9:30 pm **Mike Ruckles**, guest master teacher, Music Theater (Hillman Hall)

SATURDAY, MARCH 20

- 8:00 9:00 am Region board meeting – All district governors/chapter presidents are invited to attend. Complimentary continental breakfast by New Jersey NATS Chapter. (Location: Martin Room)

9:15 – 9:45 am Judges' Meeting (Hillman Hall)- *All teachers are expected to judge the semi-finals (Hillman)*

10:00 – 2:30 Student Auditions Semi-Final Round (Various locations)

WORKSHOPS AND PRESENTATIONS

(Subject to change)

10:00 – 10:50 am *Hacking the Practice Room: Strategies for Effective Practice and Deep Learning*, Dr. Sean McCarther (Location: Cullen 1)

Description: Practice is an essential part of developing vocal technique. Learning to practice effectively is crucial for long-term, high-level learning. Ineffective or unfocused practice impedes learning and can frustrate both student and instructor. The purpose of this presentation is to present several methods students and instructors can use to develop practice habits in ways that are systematic, efficient, and align with current research in the field of motor learning.

10:00 am – 12:00 pm *Open Lab* – interactive tours of the **Presser Voice Lab** in Erdman 13
Every half hour. Come and explore! Lab experts will be present to guide you.

11:00 - 11:50 am *Rules, Conventions, Vagueries, and Cans of Worms: Historical and Practical Perspectives on German Lyric Diction*
Dr. Nils Neubert (Location: Cullen 1)

Description: This session addresses some of the fundamental, more intricate, and most contested terms of German lyric diction through a group conversation, accompanied by printed, projected, and recorded materials. The aim is to strengthen/contextualize prescriptive knowledge (rules) through objective, critical, and descriptive inquiry and, hopefully, to demystify and simplify some common problems, opacities, misconceptions, and resulting apprehensions regarding literature, interpretation, and pedagogy of German lyric diction. Participants are encouraged to bring their own questions for reflection, discussion, and collaborative clarification.

12:00 – 12:50 am *Musical Theater: Transitioning from College to Professional Theater*
Jonathan Price (Location: Cullen 1)

Description: Navigating the terrain from college graduation to professional auditions can be daunting. This session explores how this process unfolds and what you can do to be ready. Topics covered include how you should prepare (building a book, cut preparation, establishing an online presence), decoding the professional audition process (open calls, Equity points, call backs) and how to build a career (avoiding burnout, budgeting for continuing education and other expenses, and how to manage a career in NYC). Students and teachers are welcome!

1:00 – 2:00 pm *Lunch Break*

2:00 – 2:50 pm ***Towards Decolonizing the Curriculum of the Classical Singer: Learning the Latin American and Iberian Art Song Repertoire***
Dr. Patricia Caicedo (Location: Cullen 1)

Description: Starting from the observation of the Latin American art song, the author questions the Euro-centric curriculum of the institutions that train classical singers across the world and invites classical singers and voice teachers to explore new repertoire, specifically the Latin American and Iberian art song one, a repertoire she will contextualize presenting some of its most prominent composers and poets.

2:00 - 4:00 pm ***Voice Research Poster Fair*** in Hillman Lobby
Researchers will be present with their posters for a conversation with you!
The Poster Fair will have a separate program listing of researchers available at a later date.

3:00 – 3:50 pm ***YogaVoice®***
Mark Moliterno (Location TBA)

Description: An interactive session, this workshop will be in a master-class format. Singers will show through guided work by Mr. Moliterno how various YogaVoice® exercises and poses assist their vocal technique and performance.

4:00- 5:00 pm ***The ABC's of Auditioning: Maximize your audition experience!***
Susan Shiplett Ashbaker (Location: TBA)

Description: This 1-hour class will give you tools to take back to your team to help you make the most of your audition preparation and execution. Carpe Audition!

EVENING MASTER CLASS

5:30 – 7:30 pm **Margaret Cusack, guest master teacher, Classical** (Hillman Hall)

8:00 – 9:30 pm Eastern Region Membership Meeting and Dinner (\$40 per member – pay during registration process); LOCATION: TBA

SUNDAY, MARCH 22

9:30 – 9:45 am Judges' meeting – *All teachers are expected to judge the finals* (Hillman)

10:00 am **STUDENT AUDITIONS FINAL ROUND** (Bristol Chapel)

2:15 (approx.) Winners Ceremony and Photos (Bristol Chapel)

3:00 pm Depart for home