

Monday, September 07, 2009

Greetings:

I hope all of you were able to have a good rest from your teaching at some point during the summer! I know that you are all extremely busy, so I've put this newsletter's main topics in bold, for easier reading and reference.

It's time again to prepare for our **annual State Student Auditions**. **Hearty thanks to last year's host school, Indiana State University**. The organizational skills of Colleen Davis, David Mannell, their colleagues, and voice students at ISU again gave us an event that ran extremely smoothly. Our friends at **Anderson University will host this year's auditions** which will be **October 31**.

The Executive NATS Office has made significant **improvements to the national website**. The new site makes it easier to access pertinent information. I encourage you to visit it and look around: [www.nats.org](http://www.nats.org). (Be patient when looking for information, as the pages load VERY slowly.) Likewise, we are continuing to make **improvements to the State Chapter's website ([www.nats-in.org](http://www.nats-in.org))**. In order to make the site more user friendly and to keep the site up-to-date, we have been experimenting with several different formats and servers. All **information about and forms for the Oct. 31 auditions** will be posted on the chapter's website in early September. You will be able to access and print out these documents directly from the website.

**The Indiana Chapter's NATSAA Auditions will be Saturday, February 13, 2010 at Butler University.** Application materials are available at [www.nats.org](http://www.nats.org). Applications must be received by the Executive Office no later than November 13, 2009.

I highly encourage our **members with five years or less of teaching** to apply for the **NATS Intern Program**, which will be held June 8-18, 2010 at Stetson University, Deland, Florida. The benefits of this program are so immense that they defy description! Financial help available. More information can be found on the national website.

Those of you who are **70 or older** are eligible for **Emeritus Membership** at the national level. The advantage of changing your membership to emeritus status is that you will have **NO DUES** to pay at the national level. The only cost associated with your NATS membership is for subscription to *Journal of Singing*. Continuing to receive the *Journal* is optional.

Consider attending this year's **NATS Winter Workshop** in Atlanta, **January 7-10, 2010**. This year's workshop will be **held in conjunction with the National Opera Association**. More information in your latest *Journal of Singing*, as well as on the national website.

It's not too early to be making your plans to attend the **National Conference in Salt Lake City, July 2-6, 2009**. Indiana was quite well represented at the conference last year in Nashville, TN. We'd like to have just as strong a contingency present for the 2010 conference! The national conferences are highly worth the expense.

Again, information will be available on the national website within the next few months. Start saving today!

**Private Teachers:** Carl Swanson, the Associate Editor of the *Journal of Singing*, has requested articles for his column about teaching in the private studio. If you have a topic you would like to share with your colleagues, please contact him at [nenats@aol.com](mailto:nenats@aol.com).

There is continuing confusion about the **difference between membership at the national level and at the chapter level**. Being a member of NATS does not automatically add you to our chapter's membership. In order to participate in the chapter's student auditions and to sponsor NATSAA applicants, you must be a member of the Indiana Chapter in addition to the national organization. Chapter dues are payable in October. Members may pay their state dues at the time they register their students for the NATS Student Auditions. If you are not able to attend the October event and would like to join our state chapter, you may mail your dues to our chapter's Treasurer, David Mannell in October. He will send you a reminder about the deadline, with information about where to send your payment.

We will be electing **new chapter officers** at our October meeting. The slate of proposed officers is:

Patricia Robertson, President

Kathy Maurer, Vice President

Lisa Dawson, Secretary

David Mannell, Treasurer

If you are aware of any **colleagues who are not receiving our chapter's e-mails**, please have them send me an e-mail: [kkelton@butler.edu](mailto:kkelton@butler.edu). I will see to it that they are added to our list.

I look forward to seeing you and your students on October 31!

Sincerely,

Kathie