

*National Association
of Teachers of Singing*
San Francisco
Bay Area Chapter
Newsletter



Summer 2008

Hello dear SFBAC Members,

This is my last letter to you as your president of four years. I would like to thank all of you for your continued support and desire to improve this art of singing. It has been an honor to serve this amazing chapter and I have enjoyed my time as your president and membership secretary.

Now for the business at hand: Annual General Meeting.

Our annual general meeting is scheduled for Saturday, June 21st at 3:00 pm at the lovely Peninsula Jewish Community Center in centrally located Foster City. The PJCC is located at 800 Foster City Boulevard, Foster City 94404. This is an important meeting for our chapter as many of your board are retiring this year and elections for a two year term are pending. We also have a bylaws revision to vote upon and re-election of our regional governor.

The Chapter will provide beverages and hors d'oeuvres but we invite your additions (no shellfish or pork, please). Last year's AGM was a rousing success and gave many a chance to catch up on old friendships and make new ones. I look forward to seeing you there!

Finally, we are a chapter of artists and teachers of excellence and I look forward to the future with SFBAC NATS.

Sharon Kaye
President, SFBACNATS

NATS Newsletter

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter
18234 Crest Avenue
Castro Valley, CA 94546

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Featuring the premiere viewing of

“Air Is A Gift”

A film by Tina Baird

Peninsula Jewish Community Center

Saturday, June 21

3 PM

Please join us for this opportunity to touch base with your colleagues, vote on new board members and view Ms. Baird's work.

Beverages and hors d'oeuvres will be provided
Any additional food and drinks are welcome!
(Please, no shellfish or pork)

I received this correction from Tina Baird:

As part of a team with two other members, I did win an award, as reported in the May newsletter. However, the award was for a 4-minute claymation done to the song "Frog Went A'Courtin'," not for the breathing for singing video which will belong to the SFBAC when it is finished. We expect "Air Is A Gift" to be finished by June 21, and ready for viewing at the Annual General Meeting. Wendell Brooks sang for the frog claymation, and Michael Field did the sound engineering. Without their excellent work, I doubt "Frog" could have won an award, no matter how much work we put into it. The same team, complemented with computer graphics experts, is at work on "Air Is A Gift," so we expect good results. Thank you. Tina Baird

Nominees to the Board for the upcoming year are as follows:

President:	Wendy Hillhouse	
VP Programs	Sue Field	Continuing
VP Festival	April McNeely	Continuing
VP Recitals	Victoria Rapanan	Continuing
Membership	Grace Johnson	
Recording Secretary	NONE	
Treasurer	Dorothy Barnhouse	
Newsletter	Joshua Elder	Continuing
Web Master	Meghan Dibble	Continuing

Goat Hall Productions/San Francisco Cabaret Opera

will be holding vocal auditions for their 2008 - 2009 Season, which includes Fresh Voices VIII Festival of New Music: Opera Apocalypse, on Sundays, June 22 and 29, 1 to 4 pm in Berkeley, CA. The season will also include chamber operas in English. For more information, visit: www.goathall.org

Dear NATS Members,

The NATS CHATS committee is pleased to announce our 2008-2009 season.

The schedule is as follows (specific topics will be announced at a later date):

September 7th, 2008 (with Guest Host, NATS President-Elect Dr. Donald Simonson)

October 5th, 2008

November 2nd, 2008 (with Guest Host, CCM Specialist Jeannette LoVetri)

December 7th, 2008

February 1st, 2009 (with Guest Host, Lisa Popeil, Voiceworks)

March 1st, 2009

April 5th, 2009 (with Guest Host, Elizabeth Howard, Vocal Power, Inc.)

May 3rd, 2009

To join the chat, please visit www.nats.org<<http://www.nats.org>>, the official website for National Association of Teachers of Singing. NATS members may enter the chat page from the members area of the website. Click the link for NATS CHATS, scroll down the page, and click on the "chatroom" button. The host will create a "NATS CHATS" room immediately before the chat.

Best wishes,

Matt Hoch

NATS CHATS Coordinator

2007-2008 Officers

President: Sharon Kaye

sharonmezzo@comcast.net

Vice President of Programs: Sue Field

mezzo54@comcast.net

Vice President of Recitals: Victoria Rapanan

vrising@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer: Audrey Howitt

howitt123@aol.com

Recording Secretary: Dorothy Barnhouse

dorbarn@sbcglobal.net

Membership Secretary: Diana Rae Ryan

diana.rae.ryan@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor: Joshua Ian Elder

joshuaianelder@hotmail.com

Webmaster: Meghan Dibble

finalalice@hotmail.com

Hospitality Chair: April McNeely

april_mcneely@yahoo.com

A Few Words From Your VP of Recitals

As we come to the end of our usual recital cycle, I would like to reflect on the activity since September.

Student and teacher involvement in our recitals continues to grow. Our chapter had a total of 9 recitals, including 2 new venues in Los Gatos and Danville, and 3 new coordinators! Many of the recital programs were full, with waiting lists.

I am happy to announce the newest addition of Justin Montigne as our SF Recital Coordinator! We need coordinators for Marin and the Peninsula. Can anyone help? If you have contacts with churches or retirement centers, please step up! Two teachers can work together as well, and I would be happy to assist you. Let us plan ahead now for the next cycle, which begins in September.

Some ideas for future recitals are a Beginners or Young Singers program (comparable to Late Bloomers), and Musical Theatre or Non-classical. There was even interest in the past about a NATS recital for SFBAC teachers!

I would like to thank everyone for supporting our student recitals and I have enjoyed building up the program. Have a great summer and I look forward to another year of working with you all.

Victoria Rapanan

PENINSULA TEEN OPERA AUDITIONS

**Saturdays - June 7 & 14, 2008 - 12:00noon
to 5:00pm**
2008/2009 FALL - WINTER PROGRAM
for TEENAGE SINGERS

Auditions are held by appointment only.

To reserve an audition time and/or receive further information contact PTO at (650) 400-4923 or Email: info@teenopera.org

Peninsula Teen Opera - 2893 El Camino Real, Suite D - Redwood City, CA 94061

NATS SFBAC FALL SYMPOSIUM

Sunday, October 12th 2008 1pm to 5pm

San Francisco Conservatory of Music – Salon Room
50 Oak Street
San Francisco

Anatomy of Wholeness for Singers

Babette Lightner

Stones in Water - Movement Education and Learning Methods

www.babettelightner.com

This workshop presents a new model for understanding human structure and function and the implications of this model for singing and teaching singing.

SFBACNATS is thrilled to bring Babette to San Francisco to share this exciting research (based on anatomist and master teacher David Gorman). Those of us who attended the Rhode Island NATS 2007 summer workshop, where she was a presenter, felt exhilarated after her sessions there.

In addition to the Sunday workshop, Babette will be available that weekend for private or semi-private sessions. These will take place in Redwood City. For more information, contact Sue Field: mezzo54@comcast.net

References

'My teaching has been revolutionized by what I learned from you' (She gave a student, suffering from anxiety and negative thinking some written material) 'I was teaching a new person' The student said 'I worked a piece tonight using that approach and the difference was unbelievable'

A voice professor left a message, to his effect. 'I can safely say I have never felt so fantastic in my teaching, nor have I ever felt so able to facilitate some exciting self-discovery for people. I have never seen so much progress in my students, at such a rate. They are just on top of the world'

Materials for Newsletter Publication
should be sent **electronically** to:
joshuaianelder@hotmail.com
Deadline for the next Newsletter is August 20

Dear Membership,

The first mistake I have made during the seven years that I've been serving on the board. But this is a little embarrassing. And I don't mean to sound flip. I do ask Jin Hee to forgive me for not calling her so that I would have known that she is a delightful woman and not a gentleman voice teacher. Please contact her and welcome her to our singing community!

While I have your attention, please bear with me. I'm not even sure if this is appropriate, but I've felt the need to thank you ALL for the opportunity to serve our SFBAC community. After seven years of serving in the offices of Webmaster and Membership Secretary (and for a few years both positions simultaneously), it's time for me to step down and make way for new energies to step up. As you have seen on the 2008 ballot there is a new nominee for Membership Secretary, Grace Johnson. She has had years of experience as Membership Secretary and Treasurer in a NATS chapter in Colorado. She's also a very delightful and professional lady. She comes with lots of experience and expertise. Please vote for her!

It all began for me in the summer of 2001. I was tired of trying to convince Eric Howe, President at the time, that I wasn't a webmaster. He harassed me until he wore down my common sense. I then proceeded to literally spend day and night through that summer learning the web program. Thank goodness that Angel left us with a solid foundation from which to build upon when she moved up North. She was so kind to accept so many of my frantic calls. I tell you I DID NOT KNOW WHAT I WAS DOING.

All joking aside, I sincerely thank Eric for twisting my arm (which by the way still hurts a little). Without his encouragement, I would not have become involved and learned so much about NATS, and SFBAC. I've been a member since 1988 and didn't even begin to learn about the workings of the the board or any office until 2001. I've grown professionally, technically, and have made some wonderful friends along the way. I do believe I've become a better voice teacher through all these experiences.

I want to thank Meghan Dibble for rising to the occasion and bringing her skills as webmaster. She sure bailed me out and created a wonderful professional looking web-site. We now have Pay-Pal, a Google calendar, and we are moving right along to be able to vote on the web, make purchases etc.

I'm proud to have played a very small part in revising the by-laws. When I read them for the first time seven years ago, I thought that we needed to do something, but didn't know what to do. Then Dorothy Barnhouse and Sharon Kaye began the process. And with the help of Eric Howe, we are now going to be "doing business" within the by-laws (well that's if you all get out your vote).

Last but not least, I want to thank Sharon Kaye, our President, for being an exceptional leader and a very dear friend. It was her progressive vision that encouraged and allowed each one of us board members to do the very best job that we could for the chapter. But when we needed assistance, she was the first one to jump in and help solve the challenge. She led by example.

The lady wore many hats and persevered even when ill. She has brought new life and energy into the chapter during her terms as Membership Secretary and then President. Her vision has pushed the bank account well into the black. Now we move onward and upward with new energies with Wendy Hillhouse. Please Vote!!!!!!

I encourage anyone who has had even just a slight moment of thought about being more involved, don't hesitate! You won't be sorry. You can only benefit from meeting people like you all. Thank you for taking the time to read my resignation letter. Oh and by the way, I'm not going anywhere. I will stay involved; I'm just going to be less visible.

Thank you all! See you at the AGM. Oh, and once more, I urge you all to VOTE!

Sincerely,
Diana Rae Ryan

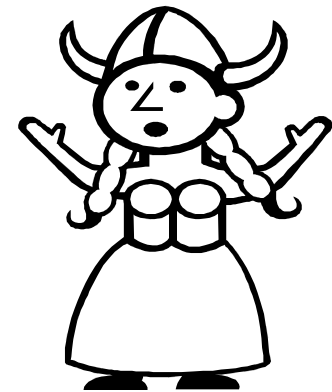
NEW CHAPTER MEMBER

Dear Chapter Members,

Please welcome Kim Jin-Hee to our Teacher of Singing family. Her residence is in Palo Alto and she teaches at Pacific Union College.

She is interested in assisting with the Singing Festival next year!

Please welcome Ms. Jin-Hee as the opportunity arises.



Victoria Rapanan continues her global expansion!

I am excited to report that I will be teaching in Southeast Asia again! In July, I will teach in Manila, Philippines for 3 days and in Bangkok, Thailand for 9 days, to include a Master Class held at the Bangkok Music Society. My latest referral is a singer from Singapore who is in San Francisco for business! Could my next trip include Singapore? I'll keep you posted! - Victoria Rapanan