



*National Association  
of Teachers of Singing*

San Francisco  
Bay Area Chapter

*Newsletter*

October, 2007

## Letter From Our President

Greetings for October!

My message is short this month. Get your registrations (for you and your students) to our treasurer Audrey Howitt. Our Fall Symposium, Inside Auditions, is right around the corner on Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup>! Let's all take opportunity to provide this information to our studios and honor our generous colleagues with our attendance. I look forward to seeing you there and remember...

Canta che ti passa

*Sharon Kaye*

PS:

Support our president: she stars as Madame. Cecile in the Lyric Theatre production of Victor Herbert's Mademoiselle Modiste. New member, Diane Squires, stars as the title character, Fifi Modiste. Here is the ticket link to this very fun and price worthy production: <http://www.lyrictheatre.org/tickets/single.php>

## NEW MEMBERS



SFBACNATS is pleased to welcome Diane B. Squires and Anja Strauss into our chapter.

Many of us have had the privilege of hearing Diane sing and she had been meaning to join us for quite sometime. Diane can be contacted at [dianesoprano@yahoo.com](mailto:dianesoprano@yahoo.com).

Anja works in the Preparatory Division and Adult Extension at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. She also is the Artistic Director of Lieder Galerie California and is affiliated with the San Francisco Community Music Center. Anja can be contacted at [email@anjastrauss.com](mailto:email@anjastrauss.com) or [www.anjastrauss.com](http://www.anjastrauss.com).

Please take a moment to welcome Diane and Anja into our chapter.

Diana Rae Ryan  
SFBAC NATS Membership Secretary  
510 538-8021  
[Diana.Rae.Ryan@gmail.com](mailto:Diana.Rae.Ryan@gmail.com)

Greetings from your friendly neighborhood SFBACNATS webmaster,

This year's member directory is being published without the affiliations for the simple reason that it cannot be updated as easily or as regularly as our webpage. They will now be listed in an additional column on our online directory at: <http://sfbacnats.org/Directory.htm>. Should you like your affiliations listed, please type them out and send them to me. Please limit the number of Affiliations to the top 3 and be sure to check spelling.

I have added a pianist resource page at: <http://sfbacnats.org/Pianists.htm>. If there is someone you'd like to recommend, please respond with their name, contact information, location, and a comment.

Thank you,  
Meghan Dibble  
[finalalice@hotmail.com](mailto:finalalice@hotmail.com)

Materials for Newsletter Publication should now be sent **electronically** to:  
[joshuaianelder@hotmail.com](mailto:joshuaianelder@hotmail.com)  
Deadline: October 20

Late Bloomers Voice Party!  
Sunday, November 11th at 3pm

These Late Bloomers Voice Parties are there for all students who began to study voice after the age of 35, whether they are barely learning to carry a tune or have been singing for years as soloist in their church choir or community productions, and everything in between.

The Party takes place at the Richmond District Branch of the Community Music Center of San Francisco in a large living room type space in a little house surrounded by a lovely garden.

Eleanor Cohen will accompany all students who don't bring their own accompanists.

For more information, contact Dorothy Barnhouse:  
[dorbarn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dorbarn@sbcglobal.net)

### JAZZ VOCALIST ELLEN ROBINSON - IN CONCERT

Saturday, October 20  
8:00 PM - 11:30 PM

*"Ellen Robinson knows how to connect with an audience... she's full of energy on this one. Musically, she's in top form."*  
Jim Santella, All About Jazz

A rollicking and heart-felt evening of live music---tasty ballads, gutsy blues, timeless jazz standards, and some of Ellen's own original material.

#### FEATURING:

**Sam Bevan** - bass  
**Jon Herbst** - piano  
**Daniel Folz** - drums

**Anna's Jazz Island**  
2120 Allston Way  
Berkeley 94704  
510-841-5299

\$12.00 at the door - reservations recommended  
<http://www.ellenrobinson.com>

NATS SFBAC FALL SYMPOSIUM

***Inside Admissions—***

*How to be Accepted to a  
Collegiate Vocal Performance Program*

Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2007, 12:00-4:00 p.m.  
Concert Hall, San Francisco Conservatory of Music  
50 Oak Street, San Francisco

A remarkable consensus exists among teachers in undergraduate vocal performance programs, about what they want to hear and see at an audition. Yet prospective students make the same mistakes, over and over again. Come and let a panel of teachers from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music and San Jose State show you how to successfully apply and audition for a collegiate, undergraduate vocal performance program. Students, parents and teachers of college-bound singers are especially urged to attend.

Panelists: Wendy Hillhouse (moderator), Pam Fry, Leroy Kromm  
(San Francisco Conservatory of Music)  
Erie Mills, Joe Frank (San Jose State University)

Presented in conjunction with the San Francisco Conservatory's Preparatory Department.

The symposium will be in two parts:

Panel discussion: How the admissions process works: what is expected of a young singer, in an application and at the audition; appropriate repertoire, musicianship, expressiveness, and presentation; admissions and scholarship criteria. Lots of time will be devoted to answering questions from the audience.

Up to 8 singers will present a mock audition, accompanied by a faculty accompanist; the panel will comment, and illustrate what goes into a successful audition.

The singers for the mock auditions will be selected by lottery from nominations by the SFBAC membership. Singers should be planning to apply to college in the next 2 years—please see information on the next page for repertoire and the process for submitting your students for the lottery.

For more information, contact SFBAC Program Chair Sue Field:  
mezzo54@comcast.net or 650-796-1829



Dear fellow SFBAC members,

I would like to report the results of our recent Recitals Committee meeting, which was attended by Recital Coordinators and Board members.

Levels of singers and preparedness for recitals:

It was agreed that the purpose of NATS Student Recitals is to support **ALL** students, beginner through advanced, by providing performance opportunities. All levels of expertise are welcome.

Student's performance repertoire must be approved by teacher. These recitals are not a substitute for the individual teacher's studio recitals.

The introduction and welcome to the recital should include the information that it is a *Student Recital*, presenting a varied range of training and repertoire.

Accompanists

Students must use the NATS provided accompanist; they cannot bring their own. The only exception is the Late Bloomer's Voice Party.

New Opportunities

We need Recital Coordinators for San Francisco and the Peninsula. Is anyone interested? We have an updated Recital Guidelines document, which was designed to simplify the process. I will be happy to forward it to anyone interested. By the way, Rebecca Jones is our new Recital Coordinator for Marin! Thank you to Marian Marsh for her many years of service.

There was discussion about having a NATS Teen Recital. Allen Cathcart, director of the Peninsula Teen Opera, is interested and would like to collaborate with a couple of other teachers to coordinate! Please step up. What about a Musical Theater/Non-classical Recital? These could fill big needs!

I have been receiving positive feedback from many of you and am very inspired. Please call or email me with any questions or comments. I look forward to working with all of you in strengthening our Student Recitals, one of the most important benefits of being NATS members!

Sincerely,

Victoria Rapanan  
(925) 216-5913  
Vocal Studios of Victoria Rapanan  
www.healthyvocaltechnique.com

# From Studio to Stage:

Integrating Dramatic Tools  
Into Singer Training



## The NATS Winter Workshop

Partnering with the National Opera Association's (NOA) National Convention.



January 4 - January 6, 2008

Millennium Biltmore Hotel

506 South Grand Avenue, Los Angeles, CA

NATS/NOA Member Early Full Registration \$255  
Non-NATS/NOA Member Early Full Registration \$285

While NATS Chapters and Regions hold a variety of local workshops, NATS Workshops are larger-scale events open to all NATS members and interested non-members. There are usually two Association Workshops offered each year, a Summer and a Winter Workshop, or just the Winter Workshop when a summer NATS Conference is also scheduled. NATS Workshops offer a chance to travel, meet other teachers and clinicians, and develop or extend your knowledge about a specified topic. Please join us at our next upcoming Association Workshop.

**HOTEL RESERVATIONS:** Millennium Biltmore Hotel, Los Angeles,  
506 South Grand Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90071-2607  
Tel: 213-624-1011 Fax: 213-612-1545  
Reservation: 800-245-8673  
www.millenniumhotels.com

## STUDENT RECITALS

### WALNUT CREEK

Sunday, October 28th, 3pm  
Rossmoor - Gateway Clubhouse, Fireside Room  
For more information, contact Victoria Rapanan:  
victoriarapanan@healthyvocaltechnique.com  
or (925) 216-5913

### SAN FRANCISCO

Late Bloomers Voice Party  
Sunday, November 11th at 3pm  
741 30th Avenue, between Balboa and Cabrillo  
For more information, contact Dorothy Barnhouse:  
dorbar@sbcbglobal.net

### DANVILLE

Sunday, January 20th at 3pm  
Peace Lutheran Church  
3201 Camino Tassajara, Danville, CA 94506  
Directions @ www.peacejourney.org  
For more information, contact Sue Field:  
mezzo54@comcast.net or (650)796-1829

### WALNUT CREEK

*Saturday*, April 19, 2008 at 3pm  
Rossmoor - Gateway Clubhouse, Fireside Room  
Contact Karen Anderson:  
operakar@sbcbglobal.net or (925) 372-3660

### Important Note:

Theresa Cardinale regrets to inform us that the San Francisco Student Recital scheduled for October 21st has been cancelled.

For more information, contact Theresa Cardinale:  
theresacardinale@hotmail.com or (415) 648-1490

### 2007-2008 Officers

President: Sharon Kaye  
Vice President of Programs: Sue Field  
Vice President of Recitals: Victoria Rapanan  
Vice President of Singing Festival: Ruthanne Crow

Treasurer: Audrey Howitt  
Recording Secretary: Dorothy Barnhouse  
Membership Secretary: Diana Rae Ryan  
Newsletter Editor: Joshua Ian Elder  
Webmaster: Meghan Dibble  
Hospitality Chair: April McNeely

sharonmezzo@comcast.net  
mezzo54@comcast.net  
vrsing@sbcbglobal.net  
Ruthanecrow@gmail.com  
howitt123@aol.com  
dorbar@sbcbglobal.net  
diana.rae.ryan@gmail.com  
joshuaianelder@hotmail.com  
finalalice@hotmail.com  
april\_mcneely@yahoo.com

# ANNOUNCING THE 2008 NATS INTERN PROGRAM

June 10-20, 2008

University of North Carolina - Charlotte

Jane Dillard, Director of the NATS Intern Program

Jeffrey Price, On-site Coordinator

## MASTER TEACHERS:

Barbara Hill Moore, Southern Methodist University

Charles Peterson, Private Studio, Seattle, WA

Marilyn Taylor, North Carolina School of the Arts

George Shirley, University of Michigan

The NATS Intern Program is an exciting and innovative venture that seeks to pair experienced and recognized master teachers of voice with talented young members of NATS. Within a format designed to promote the dynamic exchange of ideas and techniques, the goal is to improve substantially the studio teaching skills of these promising young teachers. Each intern will teach four lessons to two students (preferably one male and one female) and perform in a master class under the supervision of a master teacher. In addition, the master teachers, our vocal literature liaison, Cynthia Vaughn, and special guests will present special lectures and demonstrations. Interns chosen will be responsible for their own expenses, although financial assistance will be available through the NATS Foundation for housing and meals. Interns may also request financial assistance from their NATS chapters or regions as well as from their institutions of employment for travel. The interns' tuition expenses for this program are completely covered by NATS, Inc., and the NATS Foundation. Again this year, one of the master teachers will specialize in the needs of the private studio teacher including teaching non-classical styles and three interns who specialize in private studio teaching will be selected to work with that master teacher.

### Twelve NATS teachers will be chosen to participate in the 2008 NATS Intern Program.

Requirements are as follows:

- An applicant must be a member of NATS in good standing with no more than five years of full-time teaching or the part-time equivalent. Working as a graduate teaching assistant does not count towards the five-year limit. Holding a Master's Degree or higher is preferable but not required.
- **The application must include three copies each of the following:** completed application form (available in a downloadable version at [www.nats.org](http://www.nats.org), in the 2007 *Inter Nos*, or by mail from NATS, Inc., 9957 Moorings Drive, Suite 401, Jacksonville, FL 32257), résumé, two references, and **three copies** of a recent 15-minute CD recording of your singing with piano accompaniment in three languages, including English. These recordings should be playable only on CD audio systems. Private studio teachers should include in your recording at least one non-classical song. **Applicants must not send a cassette taped recording or a video taped recording.** All completed application materials (in triplicate) must be received in the NATS Executive Office before **December 14, 2007.**
- **All completed application materials must be received in the NATS Executive Office before December 14, 2007.**

# NATS SFBAC FALL SYMPOSIUM

Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup> 2007 12-4pm

San Francisco Conservatory of Music

50 Oak Street, San Francisco.

(Street parking available and nearby parking garage . Civic Center BART )  
Note – street parking will be on meters, Saturday

A panel discussion and class with Wendy Hillhouse, Pam Fry, Leroy Kromm, Erie Mills and Joe Frank on applying for a collegiate, undergraduate vocal performance program

## 'Inside Admissions'

The afternoon will be in two parts; the first will be a panel discussion on what is expected of a young singer at an audition in terms of musicianship, expressiveness, presentation etc. Erie Mills and Joe Frank represent San Jose State University and Wendy Hillhouse (serving as moderator), Leroy Kromm and Pam Fry represent the San Francisco Conservatory. The afternoon is being held in conjunction with San Francisco Conservatory's Prep. Department. The second part of the afternoon will be a class with selected participants, (all of whom are applying to college in the next 2 years) as they present a 'mock audition' for the panel.

### Registration form:

Name.....

Address/Phone.....

E mail.....

Please check one: NATS or other teacher \$35.00.....

Student (with student ID – bring to workshop) \$10.00.....

Parent/Guardian/Driver – One per student \$20.00.....

(Please note – participating students are free, so students entered in the lottery should wait until they are notified, in September whether they are to 'audition' for the panel)

Please send reg. form and check made out to SFBACNATS to Treasurer, Audrey Howitt, 2840 Adams Street, Alameda. CA 94501.



Presents  
**Cantat**

*Dr. Mary L. P. Badarak, Director*

*And*

***The Camerata of Grace Cathedral***

*Benjamin G. Bachmann, Director*

Performing

***Explorers***

***Songs and Hymns for the New World***

Saturday, October 13, 2007 at 7:30 p.m.  
Foothills Congregational Church  
461 Orange Avenue, Los Altos, California

*And*

***Evensong at Grace Cathedral***

Sunday, October 14, 2007 at 3:00 p.m.  
1100 California Street, San Francisco, California

**"Songs of Inspiration"**

a short experimental class (for singers and non-singers) at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music this October. It focuses upon songs with messages to enhance the lives and souls of believers and non-believers alike.

The instructor is Dr. Helen Dilworth, a distinguished teacher, administrator and world class soprano who delights in guiding students in listening and singing with greater skill and understanding. The class meets 6:30 PM Mondays in the new facility 50 Oak

between Van Ness and Franklin. Contact (415) 864-7326.

NDNU Department of Music & Vocal Arts  
Ralston Performers Series presents a  
special Music Theatre Conservatory Weekend of performances, master classes, and a seminar

**FOLLIES IN CONCERT**

Book by JAMES GOLDMAN  
Music and Lyrics by STEPHEN SONDHEIM  
Produced Originally on Broadway by Harold Prince

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26, 8 PM

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28, 7 PM

**RALSTON HALL MANSION BALLROOM, ADMISSION \$42**

BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH CAMERON MACKINTOSH

**MASTER CLASSES & SEMINAR**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 10 AM-5PM

NDNU TAUBE CONFERENCE CENTER

**"PERFORMING SONGS FROM THE AMERICAN MUSICAL"**

**MASTER CLASSES (please register to perform in advance)**

**10 am-noon:** San Francisco Cabaret Artist **MEG MACKAY**

**1-3 pm:** **MARC JACOBS**, Broadway By the Bay and

American Musical Theatre of San Jose Stage Director

**"SONDHEIM AND THE AMERICAN MUSICAL,"** 3-5 pm

A panel discussion among Bay Area Theatre's Artistic Directors past and present from American Musical Theatre of San Jose, Broadway By the Bay, City Lights Theatre, Hillbam Theatre, TheatreWorks.

Wine and cheese reception follows discussion.

Master classes: \$30 each/participants, \$15 each/auditors. Seminar: \$15.

650-508-3429 or [concerts@ndnu.edu](mailto:concerts@ndnu.edu)

Proceeds of all events will be donated to scholarships for students of the Broadway By the Bay/NDNU summer Music Theatre Conservatory.  
650-508-3429 or [concerts@ndnu.edu](mailto:concerts@ndnu.edu) for tickets.

**"TURN OF THE SCREW"**

October 5-14, 2007

Oakland Metro Operahouse, 630 3rd Street, Oakland, CA  
New NATS Member, **Anja Strauss** performs as "The Governess"

Performances: October 5-7, 11-14

Thursdays-Saturdays at 8 pm; Sundays at 2pm

For tickets (\$25 advance/\$32 at the door) and information you may call 510-763-1146 or visit [oaklandopera.org](http://oaklandopera.org).

## SF State School of Music and Dance

# Opera Gala

*Opera Gala showcases finest in student performances, desserts, wine Oct. 5*

*Arias, ensembles include works by Mozart, Strauss, Bernstein, Gilbert and Sullivan, Bizet, Puccini*

San Francisco State University's **School of Music and Dance** presents the second annual **Opera Gala** at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 5, showcasing the finest performances from its rejuvenated opera and vocal programs. For the \$25 admission, guests will enjoy highlights from popular operas featuring student and alumni arias and ensembles, in addition to desserts and wine served "cabaret style." The Opera Gala, to be held in **Jack Adams Hall of SF State's Cesar Chavez Student Center**, benefits the School of Music and Dance Opera Fund.

SF State revived its opera program in 2001, after previously being eliminated in the early 1990s due to budget cuts. In its previous incarnation, the program helped develop the talents of such celebrated performers as Grammy Award-winning soprano **Susan Narucki**, mezzo-soprano **Michelle de Young**, and cabaret singer **Wesla Whitfield**.

### Tickets and Information

Call 415/338-1431 or visit <http://creativearts.sfsu.edu>.

Tickets may be purchased at [Ticketweb.com](http://Ticketweb.com) or through the Creative Arts Box Office in person Mondays through Fridays from noon to 4 PM or by calling 415/338-2467. Tickets also go on sale one hour before each show. The Box Office is located in the Creative Arts building, outside of McKenna Theatre. Admission: \$25

### Location and Parking

Jack Adams Hall is located in the Cesar Chavez Student Center on the SF State campus, 1600 Holloway Avenue at 19th Avenue, San Francisco. Public parking is available in Lot 20. Parking is \$1 per hour with a \$5 daily maximum. For details, visit [www.sfsu.edu/~parking](http://www.sfsu.edu/~parking).

## MASTER CLASS IN SOLO SINGING 2007

with Jazz Vocalist & Director **ELLEN ROBINSON**

**FIVE MONDAYS, 7:00PM - 10:00PM**

**OCTOBER 22, 29, NOVEMBER 5, 12, 19**

Beacon School, 2000 Dennison, Oakland 94606

Vocal intensive for advanced vocalists who want to fine tune their performance skills,  
classical singers who are interested in  
learning new styles,  
and choral singers who want to step in to the spotlight.

**Each singer will perform in every class and receive individual coaching.**

Piano accompaniment provided.

**COST: \$375 due in full by OCTOBER 15 to reserve your place .**

Class size is limited to 10 maximum.

NO REFUND once your place is reserved or for classes missed.

BY AUDITION ONLY

Contact Ellen at 510-350-8323 or [ellen@ellenrobinson.com](mailto:ellen@ellenrobinson.com)

**SEND TO: Ellen Robinson, 360 Monte Vista Ave. #314,  
Oakland, CA 94611**

TOPICS TO BE ADDRESSED IN THESE WORKSHOPS:

- \*How to prepare songs in a variety of styles
- \*Using new rhythmic approaches to spice up your song
  - \*Directing your accompanist or band
  - \*Creative phrasing
- \*Connecting vocal technique to emotional interpretation
  - \*Finding the best key
  - \*Stage presence
  - \*Audience rapport
  - \*Microphone technique

Come to the first class with two or three songs in different styles or tempos that you have prepared, 3 copies written out in your key with chord symbols included, a recording device, water, paper & pen.



## SFBACNATS Board Meeting Minutes

2:30 pm September 9, 2007



Home of Diana Rae Ryan, Castro Valley

Present: Meghan Dibble, April McNeely, Victoria Rapanan, Sue Field, Ruthanne Crow, Dorothy Barnhouse, Diana Rae Ryan, Sharon Kaye

Absent: Joshua Elder, Audrey Howitt

### Membership Report: Diana Rae Ryan.

The Membership Directory will be ready by September 30th.

It will include the Code of Ethics.

It will not include the By-Laws which are accessible on the website.

It will include names, addresses, phone numbers and codes (teacher, coach, conductor...)

It will not include email addresses or institutional affiliations.

Email addresses are included on the website.

Meghan Dibble will send an email to all members: if they want their institutional affiliations published on the website they should email her the details.

### Singing Festival: Ruthanne Crow.

It will be held March 15th 2008 at Cal State Univ. at Hayward. Winners recital same evening.

### Student Recitals: Victoria Rapanan

Rebecca Jones will be the new host for Marin Student Recitals, replacing Marian Marsh who leaves after long years of faithful and energetic service to these events.

A new recital coordinator is needed for San Francisco

A new recital coordinator is needed for the Peninsula

The October 21 recital has been cancelled due to problems with the venue.

The November Late Bloomers event is filling up early.

### Symposia and Workshops: Sue Field

#### Inside Admissions, Saturday October 13, SF Conservatory.

Emphasized that this is not a master class, but a workshop on how to audition.

The names of all students wishing to participate were in a plastic bag. Each member of the Board picked names from the bag.

Seven participants:

Megan Mitchell, Chelsea Broome, Joanna Xu, Christy Royayen, Zachary Franczak, Bonnie Horgos and Michael Bannet.

Five alternates:

1. Aaron Kaswen, 2. Samantha Cardenas, 3. Sheida Ansari, 4. Anna Steiger and 5. Melanie O'Connor.

#### Future workshops

Spring 2008, April 6, location TBA. Plans (not yet confirmed) are that this will include both

- 1) a presentation of Tina Baird's video on respiration as pertinent to singing
- 2) an open studio presented by as yet unselected members of our chapter.

For Fall 2008 and Spring 2009 the following topics are being considered:

- a) diction (including perhaps Chinese, Russian as well as others)
- b) 'Anatomy of Wholeness' - Movement Education and Learning Methods (Babette Lightner)

this can be googled for more information.

#### Website: Meghan Dibble

Starting with the renewal of membership dues in January, it will be possible to pay online using Paypal. The option of mailing in paper checks of course is still open. The option of paying for other NATS related expenses (workshops, singing festival) online is being explored.

The online membership directory (see above under Membership Report) will include email addresses. If members want institutional affiliations included, they should send the information to Meghan.

#### Other

Chapter by-laws appear to be losing validity due to advances in communication provided through the internet. A committee, Dorothy Barnhouse, Sharon Kaye and Diana Rae Ryan, has been assigned to review and suggest pertinent updates. They will report at the next board meeting. The Board will then submit the proposed updates to the entire membership for comment and eventual ratification.

#### Next Board Meeting:

November 4, 2:30, at Meghan Dibble's house.

Dorothy G Barnhouse

656 A 8th Avenue

San Francisco CA 94118

415-221-5915

Thanks to our new Webmaster, Meghan Dibble you can now read the minutes

online: <http://sfbacnats.org/Minutes.htm>

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## Calendar

Due to several requests, the calendar will return next month. In the meantime, check out the SFBACNATS Webpage Calendar!