

SOUTH TEXAS CHAPTER NATS
FALL BUSINESS MEETING
VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM
Saturday, October 3, 2020
11:45 AM

AGENDA:

- I. Call to Order
 - a. Meeting called to order at 11:55 am on Saturday, October 3, 2020

- II. Introductions
 - a. Rick Novak - Vice President & Auditions Chair
 - b. Cynthia Longoria - Vice President of Auditions
 - c. Hope Thacker - Treasurer
 - d. Lainie Horwedel - Secretary
 - e. Sean Taylor - Webmaster
 - f. Michelle Haché - Membership Liaison
 - g. Linda Poetschke, Historian

- III. Reports
 - a. President's Report – Penny Hogan
 - a. Membership: Current - 93, Associate members – 7, Emeritus members – 2, Student member – 1
 - i. Thank the Committee for our Fall Meeting Presentation by Scott Skiba: Committee Members: Teri Johnson, Michelle Haché, David Sadlier
 - ii. We will give an opportunity to ask for feedback on today's presentation
 - b. Congratulations to our NSA YouTube Finalists & Semifinalists
 - i. Finalists: Abigail Storm – 3rd place High School Music Theatre Treble Student of Michelle Haché; Anna Zavelson – 4th place High School Music Theatre Treble Student of Shaunna Shandro; Christopher McCloskey – 2nd place Lower College Music Theatre TBB Student of Penny Hogan
 - ii. Semifinalists: Lexi LaCour – Lower College Music Theatre Treble Student of Melinda Brou; Annie Eldridge – Lower College Music Theatre Treble Student of Shaunna Shandro; Claire Abramson – Upper College Music Theatre Treble Student of Michelle Haché; Angel Tolbert – Upper College Music Theatre Treble Student of Michelle Haché; Ramon Garcia – Upper College Music Theatre TBB Student of Nancy Munn
 - c. First Duties

- i. Assisted our treasurer, Hope Thacker, in locating addresses of members for spring audition reimbursements and NSA YouTube finalists and semi-finalists. Hope will give details in her report.
 - ii. Two did not ask for the NSA YouTube reimbursements assistance as their University had paid the fee.
 - iii. NATS Discretionary Fund: We received a \$400 grant to assist with our Fall Webinar with Scott Skiba.
 - iv. South Texas NATS Artist series presenters: Suzanne Ramo, soprano, Lynn Ledbetter, violin, Ian Davison, oboe & Ellen Dunham, mezzo-soprano, Ross Bernhardt, baritone
- b. Treasurer's Report – Hope Thacker
 - a. Current balance \$9,621.74
 - b. Our only activity has been reimbursements for spring auditions and NSA YouTube checks.
 - c. Deposits from National NATS: 120.00 on 9/17/2020
 - d. George Hogan Made a motion to approve the treasurer's report and Gary Mabry seconded.
- c. Motion to approve the minutes
 - a. Melinda Brou motions to accept the spring 2020 minutes
 - b. Orit Eylon seconds the motion to accept
- d. Vice President/Auditions Chair Report – Rick Novak
 - a. Our spring 2020 auditions were scheduled to take place at Texas State University on April 4, but were cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic.
 - b. Even with promising advances in the treatment and possible prevention of COVID, our calendars will continue to be affected even into next fall.
 - c. The officers wanted to wait and see how the Texoma Region YouTube auditions went before making a decision for our chapter auditions this spring. We also want to hear from you. What is your opinion about auditions videos, judging, etc.? What do your students think and want? Were the Texoma auditions useful, helpful, and appreciated? If we do have spring auditions, they will probably look very similar to the Texoma audition process.
- e. Webmaster Report – Sean Taylor
 - a. Minutes will be on the website as well as spring audition results and upcoming events and information
 - b. Password for members only page: larynx
 - i. Videos & powerpoints from previous presentations
 - ii. Recordings
 - c. Send any pictures of you teaching etc for the website
 - d. Private FB page: NATS South Texas Chapter

- e. Will work with Rick Novak to get an organized survey together to get everyone's opinions regarding the spring 2021 auditions.
- f. Membership Liaison Report – Michelle Haché
 - a. On Feb 17-18th 2020, I was asked to text 17 South Texas Chapter members who had not yet renewed their membership, in an effort to remind them that the March 1st deadline was approaching. They were each asked if they plan/do not plan on reinstating membership by March 1st, or if they plan on moving out of the South Texas region within this academic year.
 - b. By Feb 23rd, the entire list had been contacted, and we retained all but 4 members; three members had moved/were planning to move out of state, and one member had chosen to renew national membership only.
 - c. Plans for new recruitment ideas have been discussed.
- g. Historian Report - Linda Poetschke
 - a. Has gone through the box of archived pictures from the very beginning of our chapter to the present.
 - b. Next Project is to get these pictures scanned in and to Sean so he can add them to our website. This way, students that want to become a part of our chapter can view them. She hopes to complete this by the spring 2021 meeting.

IV. Old Business

- a. Orit Eylon explains there really isn't any old business that needs to be addressed.

V. New Business

- a. Rick Novak Spring Auditions - survey will come out.
 - i. Penny is feeling positive about the spring auditions, but the chapter officers decided to wait until January to make an official decision.
- b. Texoma - Melinda Brou speaks on how things are going. Up about 15% in student auditions about 633 entries. The new spirituals category is looking good. 10 more teachers overall than last year. More teachers from the farthest reaches which is exciting. Texoma looks promising and we should start to plan for the spring chapter auditions
 - i. Sean Taylor asked if there was any concern with using YouTube and copyrights? Melinda answered that those entering should Label their clips "unlisted" and also, not "listed as content for children". If it's public then it will go through the copyright filters.
 - ii. Sean mentioned that Disney songs are especially susceptible to getting flagged.
- c. New members
 - i. Shelley Schneider teaches at Concordia in Austin, Tx.

- ii. Rachel Stern - teaches at Baptist University of Texas in San Antonio and works with Gary Mabry at Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit.
- iii. Lilly Guerrero- Teaches at Texas Lutheran University in Seguin.
- d. Orit Eylon reminds everyone that NATS Annual Renewal is October through January 1st.

VI. Adjourn

- a. Lisa Clement made a Motion to adjourn the meeting.
- b. Susan Ramo seconded the motion to adjourn. Meeting Adjourned

**Webinar Master Class Presentation with Scott Skiba
Associate Director & Professor of Opera
Baldwin-Wallace Conservatory**

"ZOOMing in" traditional singing acting pedagogy adapted to our contemporary highly-digital and remote instruction-based environment.

Saturday, October 3, 2020

10:00-11:30 AM

Working with 2 National YouTube finalists/semi-finalists from South Texas Chapter