

Georgia NATS Annual Business Meeting, 2013-2014

Minutes

November 15, 2013, 8:00 PM
Mercer University Field House

1. Call to Order and Welcome (Rebecca Lanning, President) at 8:08 PM.

1A. Remarks of Executive Officer (Allen Henderson): New website keeps track of every payment ever made, *Journal of Singing* search criteria are stronger than they have ever been and will continue to improve, “vocalpedia” will be a peer reviewed/screened resource available on the site. Winter Workshop is this January in New York with a concentration on contemporary commercial music- highlights were given. Highlights were given for the upcoming National Convention in Boston, including discussion of the first ever national student auditions. NATSAA and Intern Program deadline reminders were given. NATS is formulating a project on doctoral programs (choral conducting, voice, and possibly coaches) to examine what training is taking place in order to preserve the teaching profession.

2. Approval of Minutes (Michelle DeBruyn, Secretary) Motion was approved to accept the minutes from February 15, 2013 as written.

3. Committee Reports

A. Membership (Wendy Mullen, Membership Chair): 115 members in Feb and now have 122 now, 162 NATS members live in GA (therefore, 40 short in GA chapter). Contacted all of those not paying GA dues. Wendy thanked executive office for their assistance. New members should join after Oct. 1 in order to get a few free months because the membership will expire in Dec of the following year. In doing so, they will be current for our Fall auditions. Remind your new colleagues of the latter.

B. Treasurer (Leroy Bynum, Treasurer): Current balance is \$13,096.34. Encourage students to cash their checks as soon as possible. A check from February 2013 was cashed in October 2013. This becomes a security risk. We have a lot of extra money. A suggestion was made at this point to sponsor a student going to Nationals. Discussion follows below.

C. February Master Class (Rebecca Lanning, reporting for Ed Co-chairs): A video was sent to membership explaining the upcoming master class technician. Dr. Matt Edwards (Shenandoah University) will be presenting a session on how to work with microphones of all types as well as creating audition recordings. He will work in a master class format with students on those issues. To be tentatively held at Georgia Regents University in Augusta.

D. Website (Carolyn Dorff, Webmaster): On going challenge of removing email addresses of former members. Auditions went to some SPAM folders. Looking to put materials on line and send an email reminding everyone to go to the website for materials. Google docs was suggested by Rich for use with registration information. Website will be updated- send info to Carolyn. Hoping to link GA website to National.

E. Repertoire (Martha Malone, Rep Consultant): Didn't field many questions. Gave utmost flexibility concerning Gilbert and Sullivan as well as 24 Italian Arias in order to make it work for the singer. It was brought up that on certain rep sheets it doesn't say 20-21st Century English ART SONG. Rep sheet may need to be updated.

F. Archival Documents (Julie Megginson, Historian): All winners and their teachers should meet at 1:30 PM in the recital hall for a picture. The camera battery is dying and a new camera must be purchased.

G. Student Auditions (Richard Kosowski, Registrar):

- 302 students registered. Participation is down 24% from Feb auditions. Rebecca will be sending out a survey as a way of assessing the downswing.
- Executive Board has decided to stick with the Fall auditions for 3 years, and we will reassess at that point.

- New programming tool: It works well and will work wonderfully when all the bugs are worked out. More chapters will be using it in the future and will allow for an even better experience. Spelling counts for all involved- both teachers and the registrar as he uploads the information.

4. Old Business (Rebecca Lanning, President)

A. GA NATS funding of NATS Activities: As decided by the executive board, GA NATS has made a commitment to fund members attending NATS Intern Program, State Winner of NATSAA to advance, and for the a board member (preferably the President) of GANATS to attend the National NATS conventions: transportation and registration only, up to \$1,000. Thinking about support for student participation at Nationals is valid. The board will be meeting again in February and will discuss this at length.

Introduction of new GA NATS members: Bonnie von Hoff at Georgia College and State University, Elizabeth Slaten at Mercer University, Corey Schantz at Rienhardt University and his wife is a pianist (Anne).

5. New Business (Rebecca Lanning, President)

A. Nominating Committee (Kyle Hancock, Past-President) Slate of candidates: President: Leroy Bynum, Vice President: Wendy Mullen, Treasurer: Joy Rotz, Secretary: Tamara Harper, Archivist: Brian Bonin, Membership Chair: Jane Hendricks, Repertoire Consultant: Martha Malone, Webmaster: Carolyn Dorff, Education Co-Chairs: Christina Howell and Tonya Currier, Registrar: Michelle DeBruyn. Motion was approved to accept the slate as presented. Slate becomes effective May 1, 2014.

B. Privacy of Membership Roster-Password change: Have determined that since our membership roster is password protected, then it should be sufficient. The password will be changed to: Wotan (the "o" is a zero).

C. Compensation to Registrar: The executive board has voted to reimburse the Registrar for their hours of work on behalf of the membership by \$1 per student, the same fee that is being paid to the programmer for the scheduling software. Rich received a check today for \$302 for his stellar work.

D. Membership survey of Fall Auditions: A Survey will be sent out to members. There will be a place for any student feedback that you have received and would like to share with the board.

E. November 2014 Auditions: Tentatively set at Georgia State University. However, there is an opportunity to partner with Ruth Ann Swenson's visit to Kennesaw State University. We should definitively know the official hosting institution prior to Thanksgiving and dates will be secured at that time.

F. Modifications to bylaws: The bylaws state that we must provide you with 21 days to consider any changes to the bylaws, followed by an official vote. Membership will be emailed the bylaws changes and a vote will be taken by email. The bylaw document with highlighted changes was sent to the Webmaster for posting as well.

Call for new business with no response.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM

Dates for 2014:

State NATSAA March 1, CSU
Regional NATSAA March 27, CSU
SERNATS, March 28-29, CSU
National NATS July 5-9, Boston

Respectfully Submitted,
Michelle DeBruyn, Secretary

