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# NATscape

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The Newsletter of  
NATS Ontario Chapter

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Summer 2005

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

-Lynn Blaser

President's Message – Lynn Blaser

### **Spring 2005 NATscape President and District Governor's remarks.**

#### NOTHING STAYS THE SAME

This has been a year of change and new adventure and it looks as though that is going to continue. Your Chapter needs YOU more than ever. Events are too big for members to rely on the Executive to manage them without a lot of help. No one need take on a huge job alone – the more the merrier is definitely true. I remember a meeting of preparing Judges packages for the Auditions when chocolate croissants appeared. And getting together with members you don't often see is an opportunity to make new friends and extend your network and resources. The member you meet may be looking for someone to present a workshop in your special area. Be a resource.

#### **Chapter Auditions – change of date**

**Maureen Balke, Great Lakes Regional**

**Governor** has recently informed me that dates of the Great Lakes Regional Auditions are being changed and will now take place in the spring, in early or middle of March. It becomes Ontario's turn to host the **Regional Auditions in 2007 and 2008**. In addition, **NATS Artist Auditions** for our senior students must be completed by early in March 2006.

Because of this, **we must change date of our own Chapter Auditions** as it is not possible for the Executive to oversee two such major events within a month. All of the Chapters in the Great Lakes Region are moving their auditions to the fall and, after discussion, the Executive proposes the **last weekend of November**. This will mean an entry

deadline before Thanksgiving and getting your students ready early in the year. November usually promises less dangerous weather than January (the other choice) and, while the run-up to Christmas will be a conflict for some, getting restarted in early January is difficult and we run into RCM Examinations. Please contact the Executive with any ideas, or comments as we must make commitments on space for the Auditions in the next few weeks.

**Many thanks to all the members who volunteered to help** with the various tasks connected to this event last March. It made the whole process so much easier to have so many people helping. I have been writing a "how to run the Auditions" manual – something that has never existed - that will clarify what needs to be done and how to do it. I hope that you will all read it and decide which part you can do. This event is so valuable for our singers and is the major time when members meet each other. But it has become so large that "many hands" are needed in the preparation and on the day. YOU are NEEDED – each one of you. Please volunteer by contacting your Executive.

**NATSAA 2006** – The Ontario Chapter section **Artist Auditions** will be held in March or April 2006. These are for your senior students who are ready to begin a professional career. Details and requirements will be in the next **Inter Nos** magazine. A program of 18 songs and arias (1 opera, 1 oratorio) is required. The more singers who enter and actually sing in our district, the more we can send on to Regionals. The winner of each Region will perform in the semi-finals at the July 2006 NATS convention for very large scholarships and prizes, including a New York recital. This opportunity only comes every second year.

You will have received a **ballot from the Regional Governor** to vote on the proposed **major changes to the Regional Auditions**. They will now be held on one day, a Saturday, instead of the previous two-day event. These will now be **sequential** to the Chapter auditions and **entrants will be the singers who place highest in their categories at the Chapter Auditions**. The number of qualifiers will depend on the number of entrants for the category in all chapters, as determined by the Regional Governor. These highest ranked singers would then automatically be registered for the Regionals, which will be either Mar. 11 or Mar. 4, 2006 in Michigan.

Please consider this proposal carefully and return your ballots to Maureen Balke before the May 30 deadline. You can reply by email, stating your name and that you are a member of the Ontario Chapter.

#### Rozsa Voice Competition

NATS Ontario took on a new challenge: organizing and hosting the Provincial section of the **Rozsa Voice Competition**, held on April 2 in Toronto. (ORMTA ran the Piano section and selected a winner.) **Darryl Edwards**, District Governor at the time, and I agreed to run the competition with a limitation on any financial losses to NATS. In the end, costs were covered and we will be able to donate the surplus as a scholarship toward the travel costs of one Semi-Finalist. I would like to thank Darryl and commend his vision in seeing an opportunity for closer contact, not only with ORMTA, but also *across* Canada with other teacher organizations and singers. Our Chapter is rich in resources and we were able to provide judges with great teaching and performing experience: Gwenlynn Little, Steven Henriksen and former District Governor Jennifer Higgin substituted at the last minute for Patricia Green who became ill. When Gwenlynn was delayed by that spring snowstorm, Diane Nelsen stood by to take her place if needed. Two singers were designated by the judges to continue to the National Semi-Finals in Calgary in July at the CFMTA Conference: *Peak Performance*. All entrants were students of NATS Ontario teachers and it was an impressive display of talent and excellent preparation, giving the judges an extremely difficult decision. Congratulations to both teachers and singers. The Ontario Semi-

Finalists are: **Jonathan Estabrooks** and **Steven Hegedus**, students of Darryl Edwards and working with Gary Relyea during Darryl's sabbatical year. This competition is certainly something we would consider for future years.

#### Fall Meeting Event

**Projects VPs, Michelyn Wright and Christopher Foley**, have planned a repeat of the hugely popular **Making the Cut** round table for September's General Meeting. Parents and students will learn about the process of applying for music programs at universities and find out which of the represented universities is best for them. There will be an exciting workshop on Contemporary Music on the same day. See the article later in NATScape.

The new **RCM Syllabus and Songbooks** have been published. I hope you all took advantage of the special offer from Frederick Harris Music to obtain these at reduced cost. Congratulations to NATS Ontario member **Penelope Dale** who worked so hard on preparing this series and the syllabus. Your input to RCM is considered very seriously and many teacher suggestions have been incorporated into the new books.

#### Chapter Elections

**Next March** will bring the Chapter Elections and it is not too early to think about them. Some people have already indicated a willingness to serve but I invite you to speak confidentially with me if you have an interest in working for your Chapter. A new description of Executive positions will be sent out. I will be ineligible to hold any office at Chapter level after serving for at least 6 years and will finally wear only one hat as District Governor. We're all busy but we all have talents and skills that are needed to keep the Chapter vibrant and growing.

I wish you a wonderful and restful summer so that you can come back full of energy and enthusiasm to meet the new challenges and changes next fall.

#### PROGRAMS- Co-Vice-Presidents: Special Projects: Michelyn Wright and Christopher Foley

We are pleased to be running the "**Making the Cut**" workshop again on Sunday September 25<sup>th</sup> at



Transfer from Admin. Acc.	2,300.00
Ont. Aud. Transfer from Admin. Acc.	400.00
NATSSA voided cheques	60.00
Bank Interest	.30
Total	\$3,950.30

**Total Receipts** **\$5,645.60**

**Disbursements:**

Awards Ontario Auditions	\$3,560.00
Auditions NATSSA Scholarships	400.00
Supplies (cheques)	26.13

**Total Disbursements** **\$3,986.13**

**Balance per accounts as at February 28, 2005** **\$1,659.47**

**True Balance as at February 28, 2005** **\$1,659.47**

**VP MEMBERSHIP – Barbara Dunn Prosser**

There have been a number of changes to the membership of our Chapter this year. In 2004, Christine Komatsu moved to Florida, and Jennifer Coombs moved to England so they are no longer members of our Chapter. Just recently Mary Enid Haines has moved to Quebec although she is still on our membership list.

In January of 2005, Victor Martens withdrew from our chapter in good standing because of his reduced teaching responsibilities at Wilfred Laurier University. In February, Donna Garner requested a leave of absence for the coming year. Since our March auditions, Eraine Schwing Braun and Paul Coates have also officially withdrawn.

We are delighted that Marjorie Sparks has renewed her membership as has Marc McNamara after a short leave of absence.

Finally, we are very pleased to welcome the following new members this year: Patricia Green and Rachel Mallon from the University of Western, and Kimberley Barber from Wilfred Laurier

University. We also welcome Jane Black from Minesing, Ont., Reid Spencer from Waterloo, Joel Katz and Ted Baerg also from UWO.

Unfortunately, some members have not paid dues and have therefore been removed from the current membership list. We hope that they will be reinstated in the near future.

As this newsletter goes to print there are 71 members in our chapter.

**RESULTS: MARCH 2005 STUDENT AUDITIONS**

We thank all of our Scholarship donors:

Torin CHILES, Lynn BLASER, Mary Lou FALLIS, Irene ILIC, Lorna MacDONALD Catherine ROBBIN, Michelyn WRIGHT Barbara COLLIER, Joyce HUTTON Alvin REIMER, Kevin McMILLAN

Category A

- 1st Gena Van Oostern (Ilic)
- 2nd Alesander Tirolese (Chiles)
- 3rd. Ashley Marques (Ilic)

Category 1

- 1st Eliza Jonson (Collier)
- 2nd Laura Elligson (Collier)
- 3rd. Laitlyn Killoran (Ilic)

Category 2

- 1st Dominic Farnum (Hutton)

Category 3

- 1st Sarah Parkin (Ilic)
- 2nd Amanda Bell (Ilic)
- 3rd. Mindy Perlmutter (Higgin)

Category 4

- 1st Drew Santini (Collier)
- 2nd Adam Miceli (Ilic)

Category 5A

- 1st Jennifer Schinzel (Bogle)
- 2nd Leigh-Anne Martin (Robbin)
- 3rd. Hillary Coote (Robbin / Ilic)

Category 5B

- 1st Jennifer Pyra (Mallon)
- 2nd Shannon Thomson (Yu / Edwards)
- 3rd. Rebecca Evans (Burrowes)

Category 6

- 1st Salvatore Gambino (Katz / Harmsworth)
- 2nd Paul Stoia (Chiles)
- 3rd. James Medeiros (Chiles)

Category 7A

- 1st Sharleen Joynt (Bogle)
- 2nd Eugenia Dermentzis (Chiles)
- 3rd. Danielle Buonaiuto (Chiles)

Category 7B

- 1st Vania Chan (Robbin)
- 2nd Marie Francheschini (Gustafson)
- 3rd. Chalotte Burrage (Yu / Edwards)

Category 8

- 1st Arthur Wright (Chiles)
- 2nd Jeremy Ludwig (Reimer)
- 3rd. Patrick Jang (Chiles)

Category 9

- 1st Meagan Zantingh (Chiles)
- 2nd Vanessa Lanch (Burrowes)
- 3rd. Jennifer Laengert (Gustafson)

Category 10

- 1st Jamie Hofman (Bogle)
- 2nd Matthew Chapmen (Bogle)

Category 11

- 1st Erin Stone (Chiles)
- 2nd Heather Newhouse (McMillan)
- 3rd. Allison Tippler (Fallis)

Category 12

- 1st Willis Bote (Chiles)
- 2nd Cory Knight (Bogle)
- 3rd. Jamie Hillman (McMillan)

Category 13

- 1st Olga Tylman (Baerg)
- 2nd Bridget Hogan (Henrikson)
- 3rd. Gillian Emberly (Baerg)

Category 15

- 1st Fiona Roulston (Higgin)

Category 16

- 1st Lindsay Hunt (Katz)
- 2nd Cara Adams (Fallis)
- 3rd. Vivian Moens (Dunn)

**Most Promising Awards:**

Most Promising Young Singer: Drew Santini (Collier)

Donated by Lynn Blaser "*Marjorie Orr Blaser Memorial*"

Most Promising Junior College Singer: Salvatore Gambino (Katz / Harmsworth)

Donated by Lorna MacDonald

Most Promising Senior College Singer: Erin Stone (Chiles)

Donated by Mary Lou Fallis

Most Promising Mature Singer: Lindsay Hunt (Katz)

Donated by Catherine Robbin "*Cormac Robbin Memorial*"

Most Promising Advanced Singer: OIga Tylman (Baerg)

Donated by Torin Chiles

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**NATscape is published twice a year for Members of NATS Ontario Chapter. Deadlines for submissions are May 1st & Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>.**