



# Eastern Region

## Newsletter

December, 2009

### Regional Conference Update

Because we have such a large and diverse region – and because attendance has been down quite a bit at recent regional conferences – we will be trying an every-other year model for our regional conferences. They will be planned for non-national conference years.

The next Eastern Region Conference will be spring 2011 in Quebec. The date and exact location are TBA, but I hope you'll start planning to attend this 2011 event with students and colleagues. Please send your ideas for making this a signature event.

### Upcoming Chapter Activities

NJNATS will hold its *Festival of Singing* on February 20, 2010 at Montclair State University.

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The **Central New York Finger Lakes Chapter** announces its spring workshop with renowned Broadway star *Victoria Clark* (*Light in the Piazza*), hosted at Ithaca College, on March 27, 2010, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm.

This event is open NATS members and the public. The morning session will be geared toward teachers with emphasis on singing in the various musical theater vocal styles. In the afternoon a Master Class – *Permission to Play* – will focus on synthesizing acting and singing.

This event serves as part of the campaign to increase our local membership and to launch the inclusion of a musical theater category within the CNYFL-NATS Student Auditions beginning fall 2010.

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The **Eastern New York Chapter** will hold its annual *Art Song Festival* February 26 and 27, 2010. This event encourages students to explore 20th and 21st century American art song, as well as the standard art song repertoire. Students in high school through adult non-professionals are encouraged to participate.

The top performers from the *Art Song Festival* will be featured in an *Honors Recital* on April 18, 2010.

## Upcoming Chapter Activities...continued

Join **NATS NYC** for the workshop: *Psychological Issues in the Singing Studio: How Can You Help?*, January 23, 2010, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm at Teachers College, Columbia University (525 120th Street Between Broadway and Amsterdam, signs to the room will be posted).

NATS Members: Free admission. Non-Members: Entrance fee \$25 for both sessions (\$15 for one session), at the door.

Due to the sensitive discussions about students and how to help them, this workshop will be *for teachers only*. We hope you understand and will invite your students to other workshops – rather than this one.

The workshop features Steven Levenkron, M.S., a renowned psychotherapist practicing in New York City. His work is widely acclaimed as original and groundbreaking in both the theoretical conception and clinical treatment of Anorexia Nervosa, Self-Mutilation, and Obsessive Compulsive Disorder. Levenkron will offer insight on recognizing the behaviors, reasons behind them and how to open a dialogue with students to seek help. Knowing when we are beyond our area of expertise is important. There will be time for questions at the end of the lecture.

The afternoon session (2:00-4:00PM) will feature Dr. Rose Oosting, PhD, a clinical psychologist, and Dr. Stephen Oosting, DMA, who will host a collaborative session helping voice teachers recognize and address potential psychological issues that arise in the voice studio, along with Dr. Christopher Michaels, a noted sports psychologist, who will address attention deficit disorder.

Suggested reading for the workshop with Steven Levenkron: *Anatomy of Anorexia or Cutting: Understanding and Overcoming Self-Mutilation* both by W.W. Norton.

**NATS NYC** will also collaborate with Jeanne LoVetri on an event for World Voice Day, April 16, 2010. This event is still taking shape, but will include a panel discussion and a possible interactive microphone workshop – bringing together industry professionals in the theatrical sound field with singers and voice teachers – to discuss vocal health and microphone use in contemporary commercial music. More details will be available on our website soon (<http://www.nats-nyc.org/Events.html>).

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The **Allegheny Mountain Chapter** (PA) will have a spring 2010 get-together (date and location TBA). The discussion will focus on preparing students for musical theatre auditions. Future meeting topics will also be explored. Come share your ideas – all are needed!

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**Lehigh Valley Chapter** will hold its Student Auditions on Saturday, February 13, 2010 at Moravian College in Bethlehem, PA. For more info visit [www.lvcnats.org](http://www.lvcnats.org) or contact: Eduardo Azzati, Auditions Coordinator at [azzati@moravian.edu](mailto:azzati@moravian.edu).

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While Delaware didn't have activities to report, the new district governor for DE would like to schedule student auditions and to initiate more activity with the **Delaware Valley Chapter**. All interested members please contact Mary Ellen Schauber at [meschauber@comcast.net](mailto:meschauber@comcast.net).

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## Our New Members

### New Jersey

Cristina Castaldi, Union  
Ji-Hoon Liew, Randolph  
Ellen Renee, Hamilton  
Lorraine Ernest, Clifton  
Valerie Bernhardt, Clifton  
Barbara Mergelsberg, New Brunswick  
Claudette Peterson, Paramus  
Alejandra Garrido, Bloomsbury  
Kimberly Gill, Jersey City  
Elizabeth Murphy, Princeton

### New York

Ann Marie Wilcox-Daehn, Freeville  
Caitlin Donovan, Babylon  
Tony Arnold, Tonawanda  
Susan Cohen, Glenmont  
Claire Simard, White Plains  
Denise Ivanoff, Brooklyn  
Ann Foster, Mount Kisco  
Lonel Woods, Hannawa Falls  
Amanda DeMaris, Ithaca  
Jane Hoffman, New York  
Joanna Manring, Skaneateles

### New York (continued)

Molly McCarhty-Egan, Astoria  
Brook Packard, Rye  
Natalie Gray, Bronx  
Diane Warner, Clifton Park  
Iasi Munoz, Flushing  
Julia McKinstry, Marcellus  
Hilda Harris, New York  
Risa Harman, Astoria  
Anne Dugan, Malta  
Nils Neubert, New York  
Michelle Rosen, Brooklyn  
Susan Cohen, Glenmont  
Carolyn Sebron, New York

### Pennsylvania

Jackie Gartner-Schmidt, Pittsburgh  
Julie Bishop, Philadelphia  
Serena Benedetti, Dresher  
Paula Signorino-Richter, Pittsburgh  
Kathryn Colabroy-Faulke, Limerick  
Stacey Church, Pottstown  
Catherine Brown, West Chester  
Leah Crowne, Gettysburg  
Joseph Carrender, Lancaster

### Pennsylvania (continued)

Sean Parr, Carlisle  
Meghan Curry, Philadelphia  
Serena Heffner, Lebanon  
Elizabeth Shoenfelt, Carlisle  
Rebecca Pieper-Bohun, Nazareth  
David Bowman, Hanover  
Karen Beebe, Pipersville  
Emily Rigs, Landisville  
Rebecca Achenbach, Lititz  
Barbara Myers, New Freedom  
Michelle Horman, Philadelphia  
Kathryn Moyer, Yardley  
Catherine Brown, West Chester  
Brian Carter, Springfield

### Quebec

Kathrin Welte, Montreal  
Shannon Linton, Kanata  
Maghan McPhee, Ottawa  
Robert Martin, Belleville  
Iain Macpherson, Gatineau  
Michael Faulkner, Belleville

### West Virginia

LaKedria Johnson, Huntington

## NATSAA District and Regional Auditions

The 2010 NATS Artist Award competition begins this winter with preliminary auditions in districts around the country. Winners from district auditions advance to regional auditions later in the spring, and each region selects one singer to advance to the national semi-finals and finals – which take place at the national conference in Salt Lake City this summer.

The Eastern Region will hold four preliminary auditions:

New Jersey – March 13, 2010, Westminster Choir College, Princeton, NJ

New York – January 16, Ithaca College, Ithaca, NY

New York – March 13, Hunter College, New York, NY

Pennsylvania – March 6, Penn State, State College, PA

The regional audition will be April 10.

The Eastern Region website is being redesigned in 2010. Be sure to check for updates. . .

<http://www.easternregionnats.com>

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**New Jersey District**

Rochelle Ellis, Governor

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**New Jersey Chapter**, Susan Rheingans

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**NYC Chapter**, Lori McCann

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**Chapitre Montreal**, Denis Boudreault

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