

GP NATS Board Meeting

Sunday, November 15, 2015, 1:00-2:45pm in Presser Hall at Temple University.

Present: Marcus DeLoach, Stephen Ng, Larry Indik, Patricia Vigil, Kim Robson, Desmond Moulton, Kate Mallon-Day

- I. November 1st meeting minutes approved.
- II. Reports:
 - a. President-Marcus
 - i. Student Auditions follow-up:
 1. The auditions were very successful.
 2. It was a generally good experience for everyone.
 3. Survey issues:
 - a. only 13 people have responded of the 80 Student Auditions participants (students and teachers) who received it
 4. Suggestion: send a new survey to all GP NATS members in an effort to include/inspire inactive members
 - a. What are the rewards of being a NATS member?
 - b. Getting to know our members better
 5. 4 board members had participating students
 6. 14 GP NATS members had participating students
 - ii. Email updates on our activities were sent to Norman Spivey (NATS president) and Lori McCann (Eastern Region NATS president) by Marcus.
 - iii. Survey results:
 1. The GP NATS Auditions Rulebook was generally liked.
 2. There is a desire for a clearer daily schedule and map/flow chart for the audition day.
 3. The copyright rules should receive more focus in our materials
 4. New categories requested by members:
 - a. Adult Men Classical
 - b. Adult Women Classical
 - c. merging men and women into one category is not desirable
 5. Suggestion: Should we move the 2016 Student Auditions from a Sunday to a Saturday?
 - a. There may possible conflict with Temple Prep.
 - b. It would avoid the issue of church conflicts for teachers and pianists.
 - iv. More on the 2015 Student Auditions:
 1. A GP NATS recruiting and networking success.
 2. The check-in process went smoothly.
 3. Ideas for next year:
 - a. More signage
 - b. More SNATS helpers to guide and escort participants around.
 - c. Suggested dates for competition 11/5/16 or 11/12/16
 - d. A post Halloween or pre-Thanksgiving date is preferred.
 - e. Marcus will put in a request for space by December.
 4. Staff Pianists:
 - a. There were mixed reactions from members.
 - b. Discussion of cost.
 - c. Discussion of adequate rehearsal time.
 5. Provided Meal: (Jimmy John's)

- a. There was a generally favorable response.
 - b. Discussion of best delivery time for the meal: check-in vs. lunchtime.
- v. GP NATS Website (up to date):
 - 1. Auditions page: the winners have been posted.
 - 2. Photo collage posted.
 - 3. The Winner's Concert video was distributed to the participating teachers.
 - 4. Suggestion: SNATS might be able to help more with video and tech in the future.
- vi. Social media discussion:
 - 1. How can we benefit more from it?
 - 2. Desmond suggests opening a GP NATS Twitter account and putting links to all GP NATS social media accounts on our website (FB, YouTube, Twitter)
 - 3. More involvement=more buzz=more members
- vii. By-Laws and role of the Board:
 - 1. Board must support the approved agenda.
 - 2. Board must be more active in general
 - a. being dedicated agents of recruitment
 - b. being spokespeople for NATS
 - c. being present at chapter events
 - 3. Larger chapters = healthier chapters
 - a. We are alive, but there are many potential members in our region we could recruit.
 - b. Larger membership impacts the financial resources for our Student Auditions, master classes, and the general amount of funds available for prizes, scholarships, awards, and making a difference in our teacher and student community.
 - c. We cannot afford to be idle with recruitment.
 - 4. Suggested recruitment language:
 - a. I am a member of GP NATS because _____
 - b. focus on Mission Statement
 - c. Desmond suggests we develop a Vision Statement as well.
- viii. NATS Eastern Regional Conference: Montclair University; March 11-13, 2016
 - 1. Stephen Ng, the Audition Chair, called for student entrants from our chapter for the National Competition.
- b. Vice-President (Stephen Ng)
 - i. Not much to add to the president's report.
 - ii. Copyright Issues at the 2015 Student Auditions
 - 1. The official statement in the NATS by-laws is clear.
 - 2. Our repertoire verification method didn't prevent all issues.
 - 3. Stephen will clean up the snags and redundancies in our Audition-ware.
- c. Secretary-Nancy (see report below)
- d. SNATS (Larry and Stephen)
 - i. Our new Temple SNATS chapter
 - 1. 13 current members
 - 2. Our encouragement must remain consistent for them to grow.

- a. the chapter needs to identify and provide “perks” for SNATS
 - 3. Hosting the Student Auditions was a positive factor in recruiting SNATS members.
 - 4. Undergrads can often be too busy to commit to SNATS.
- e. Presentations:
 - i. Teacher Centered Event: The Aging Voice w. instructor Margaret “Peggy” Baroody (Kim Robson, Larry Indik, Desmond Moulton)
 - 1. Date and Location: Sunday, 1/10/16, 3-5pm, St. David’s Church, Radnor, PA (venue not accessible by train).
 - 2. Discussion of admission fees:
 - a. Approved: \$10 members/ \$15 non-members/ SNATS free
 - 3. Generating interest and boosting attendance for the event.
 - a. Kim will invite ACDA and AGO members.
 - b. We will request a statement from Peggy regarding the subject of her talk for our promotional materials.
 - 4. Snacks/Refreshments:
 - a. a small potluck will be provided by the board.
 - 5. Additional advertising will be done on our website, the Eastern Regional website, our FB page, and, possibly, implementing a press release template from the national NATS website (Marcus and Kim).
 - 6. We will put a link from our GP NATS website to Peggy’s personal website.
 - 7. Marcus will send an announcement/reminder to the chapter in Dec.
 - ii. Spring Masterclass/Workshop (Stephen, Nancy, Kate)
 - 1. Option one: 3/23/16 (day before Easter) asking the theater presenter (name?) at West Chester University to extend his activities to include GP NATS
 - 2. Option two: 2/6/16 or 2/13/16
 - a. Troy Cook (local)
 - b. an Opera Philadelphia star from *Cold Mountain* like Nathan Gunn, Paul Groves, or Kevin Burdette
 - c. venue and cost
 - 3. Option three:
 - a. a musical theater focused event
 - b. Casting director
 - c. Monologue coaching
 - iii. Are we taking on too much with too many events? (Stephen and Nancy)
 - 1. Should be do fewer, but bigger, events per year?
 - a. Marcus reiterates that the officers and board voted in June 2015 to commit to a four event per year format through 2015-2017 (including committees and a timeline for execution).
 - b. The members present renewed their commitment to the Two Year Plan.
 - iv. Next meeting – TBA via, email or a Doodle Poll after the new year
 - v. Marcus will send “Thank you letters” to GP NATS judges for merit/ tenure folders, etc.

submitted by Board Member, Patricia Vigil

**Secretary-Treasurer Report
November 15, 2015**

Opening balance:			\$871.11
Income: PayPal		2125.00	
Extra lunches		20.00	
Expenses:			
Accompanists	540.00		
Lunches	162.00		
Audition Prizes (30)	1,350.00		897.08
PayPal fees	67.03		
Check printing	24.75		
Recording	100.00		
Insurance	40.00		
AuditionWare LLC	65.00		
Printing expenses	92.97		
		Balance:	<u>\$574.36</u>

(Income is expected from renewing memberships starting this month for 2016)