



January 9, 2010

Happy New Year! It is my pleasure to serve as your Vice President. As you can imagine, the scheduling of auditions is a large job. Many thanks to Deedy Francis, who exercised great leadership in this capacity, and has been very generous and helpful to me as I begin to navigate this process. This letter is to inform/remind you of details for the Spring auditions. The auditions are **Friday and Saturday, March 12 and 13 at The University of South Carolina School of Music**. Auditions on Friday are for College and Graduate categories (both classical and music theater). Auditions on Saturday are for High School and Continuing Education categories. **The application deadline is Friday, February 5: only on-line applications will be accepted and must be posted by midnight. If an application is incomplete in any way, it will not be accepted.**

This year, only on-line applications will be accepted for state auditions (www.scnats.org). **Please consult the handbook for changes in categories and repertoire.** If the teacher would prefer that the student submit their own applications, the teacher must create a student registration code. Again, this process is very easy, just follow the instructions. Should you have any questions concerning music theater repertoire contact Serena Hill (sopranohill@yahoo.com; 803-467-1069). Should you have any questions concerning classical repertoire contact Tina Thompson-Broussard (tinatb@charter.net; W: 864-616-6738 H: 864-268-4836). If you have any problems registering, contact me or Grant Lewis (glewis@ngu.edu; 864-990-2210). **Please remember that each teacher's national and state dues must be current in order for students to participate. If you have not paid your dues, you will be locked out of the website and any on-line applications will be automatically deleted.**

I would like to remind you that we now have the ability to pay for all SC NATS fees (dues, luncheons, workshops, student registrations, substitute judge fees) via PayPal, rather than sending a check to Loretta Haskell. I encourage each of you to consider this option, as it is much more convenient for all involved. More information is available on the SC NATS website.

I appreciate those of you who took the time to answer Deedy's recent e-mail regarding the new audition scheduling service. The membership approved the use of this wonderful new feature that will schedule auditions expeditiously and effectively. You will enter your application information on the website as usual and I will administer all of the applications until the deadline. Our web master, Grant Lewis, will compile the information necessary for scheduling

and send this information to Brad Mills, developer of the service, and our auditions will be scheduled in minutes! Grant spoke in depth with Brad and all of the possible kinks in the system (what if a student is singing in the auditions but also accompanying, etc) have been worked out! The cost for this service is a mere \$1 per application. As a result, **the student registration fee is now \$16.**

Another new addition this year is a procedure for changing repertoire after the registration deadline. Teachers must download and complete a Change of Repertoire Form, which will be available on the website, for *each audition*. The form requires the signature of both the student and the teacher. Please keep a copy for your records. This form should be filled out in quadruplicate (4 times). One copy (with the name of singing teacher) should be left on file at time of Registration. Three copies (without the name of the singing teacher) should remain with the student to be presented to the judges in the audition. It is the teacher's responsibility to ensure that the changed repertoire meets the requirements for that category. Failure to do so will result in disqualification of the student.

There will be a judges meeting each morning of auditions in the Instrumental Rehearsal Hall (Room 016), where we have lunch. The time for the meeting will be determined after the audition schedules are confirmed. This meeting is extremely important as we are all reminded of our responsibilities and procedures as adjudicators. There will also be a luncheon/business meeting each day between the morning and afternoon audition sessions. This is an important time of discussion and decision making.

I look forward to seeing all of you in March. Should you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at any time!

Sincerely,

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