



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
TEACHERS
OF **SINGING**
— * * * —
South Carolina Chapter

June 20, 2023

Dear SCNATS Teachers,

I hope you are enjoying some sunshine and some downtime this June! While you have been celebrating an end to the year, your SCNATS and MARNATS boards have been hard at work making plans to strengthen and sustain our organizations and their activities for the months and years ahead. You should have recently received a letter from our current and incoming MARNATS regional governors addressing the plans to move our Regional auditions to a hybrid model so that in even years (like our upcoming 2024 year) Classical/Spiritual auditions will be in person and Musical Theatre/Commercial Music audition will be virtual and in odd years (like the following 2025) Musical Theatre/Commercial Music auditions will be in person and Classical/Spiritual auditions will be virtual. Our SCNATS board has been in discussions to make decisions on how we can best align with the region and relieve some of the burdens of in person audition days in our state. The letter below from your SCNATS Vice President Elect/Auditions Coordinator Craig Allen will update you with our decisions on how we plan to move forward as a state organization. It has been my pleasure to serve as your Vice President/Auditions Coordinator for the past two years, and I am so pleased to turn our auditions over into his capable hands! Please let either of us know if you have any questions, and you can look forward to more information on our fall auditions in a letter in August.

All my best,

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<i>Email Headlines</i> <i>🎵 Auditions Coordinator Notes to Note 🎵</i>	
Classical/Spiritual In Person Student Auditions	Shifting to Classical Repertoire for Fall Audition
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Date: October 28th, 2023 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Align auditions with regional student auditions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Location: University of South Carolina 	
Musical Theatre/Commercial Music Virtual Student Auditions	Auditions alternate between a combination of live and virtual formats annually
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Date: February TBD 2024 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rotation system implemented
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Location: Virtual 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Half of categories in-person and half virtual which alternates every year
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More details to come from the Auditions Committee in August 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensures fairness, clarity, and alignment with regional student auditions
Looking Ahead...	
Academic Year 2023-2024 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classical (CL) and Spiritual (HJ/AS) categories will be held IN-PERSON in the fall Musical Theatre (MT) and Commercial Music (CM) categories will be VIRTUAL in the spring. 	Academic Year 2024-2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Musical Theatre (MT) and Commercial Music (CM) categories will be held IN-PERSON in the fall Classical (CL) categories will be VIRTUAL in the spring.
Children and Youth Categories	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Separate consultation to determine modality for these auditions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional events will be hybrid and rotating as well

Dear SCNATS Teachers,

We hope this email finds you well and that you are having a productive summer with your students. As vice president-elect and auditions coordinator of SCNATS, I am thrilled to share some valuable information regarding this year's auditions. It is with great excitement that I present to you the details and updates for what is in store for the fall and spring. After extensive collaboration with the board and committee members at the state and regional level, we have developed the following plans. Please take a moment to review the following points.

Alternate Modalities for Auditions*

To ensure a fair and diverse experience, we will implement a rotation system for the student auditions, alternating between a combination of live and virtual formats each year. This change aligns with regional events and maintains the integrity of our auditions. The addition of new categories (including children/youth, commercial) presents challenges in space, securing judges, and condensing auditions to a single day. Accessibility for those unable to travel to live auditions further complicates matters. We appreciate your understanding and support as we make these necessary adjustments.

Expanding our categories brings both opportunities and challenges. We face resource and personnel limitations in hosting time-efficient auditions across two semesters. If we did not adopt this system, a two-day event would have to be organized to accommodate our growing membership. While this is an exciting problem to have, organizing a two-day event each semester incurs financial burdens on students and member teachers which can be avoided by adopting this hybrid system. We recognize the merits of both in-person and virtual options. Our hybrid solution provides annual opportunities for both formats, offering flexibility and choice to our students and members.

Please find below the proposed schedule for the live auditions with a rotating yearly schedule. This schedule is designed to line up with the region so that we can plan auditions multiple years in advance. Below are plans for the next two years.

Academic Year 2023-2024

- Classical (CL) and Spiritual (HJ/AS) categories will be held IN-PERSON in the fall
- Musical Theatre (MT) and Commercial Music (CM) categories will be VIRTUAL in the spring.

Academic Year 2024-2025

- Musical Theatre (MT) and Commercial Music (CM) categories will be held IN-PERSON in the fall
- Classical (CL) categories will be VIRTUAL in the spring.

SCNATS Auditions for 2023-2024

SCNATS Classical/Spirituals Student Auditions Event: Save the Date!

Date: October 28, 2023

Location: University of South Carolina

We are thrilled to announce that our annual SCNATS student auditions fall event will take place in-person on October 28, 2023, at the University of South Carolina. This event provides a wonderful opportunity for students to showcase their talent in these genres. While we understand

that this semester's shift to classical repertoire may present some challenges, this adjustment will allow us to align our auditions with regional events and plan our auditions well in advance. We encourage you to start preparing your students and mark this date on your calendars. More details regarding the event will be provided in the coming months.

SCNATS Musical Theatre/Commercial Student Auditions Event: Save the Date!

Date: February TBD 2024

Location: Virtual Format

The musical theatre/commercial music student auditions will be held in February TBD 2024 in a virtual format. The dates will be formalized in the coming months. Further details regarding this audition will be shared in August, so please stay tuned for more information.

Children and Youth Categories

For our Children and Youth Categories, we will be consulting with those teachers separately to discuss specific arrangements for C & Y district auditions. It is important to note that the regional events for the Children and Youth categories will also be adopting a hybrid approach, combining both live and virtual elements. It is possible that we as the SC district could also adopt the same system for these auditions to ensure fairness and consistency across all divisions. See region governor-elect Serena LaRoche's email for clarification on this. Please keep any eye out for a poll/email soon so we can make SC district decisions promptly.

Final Thoughts...

We value your commitment to the SCNATS and appreciate your ongoing support. These adjustments and upcoming events are aimed at providing the best possible experience for our students while adapting to an evolving and growing organization. We believe that these changes will benefit both teachers and students in the long run.

Thank you for your attention to these updates. If you have any questions or require further clarification, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. We look forward to your continued participation and collaboration as we strive to foster a thriving community of singers in South Carolina.

Warm regards,

Craig Allen
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