

GREAT LAKES REGIONAL GOVERNOR'S NEWSLETTER

**GREAT LAKES REGIONAL STUDENT AUDITIONS
SPRING 2011**

Dear Great Lakes Region NATS Members!

Happy New Year! It is my pleasure to serve as the Great Lakes Regional Governor. I met with Caroline Smith last November in Indiana to collect the Great Lakes Region NATS materials. WOW! I have big shoes to fill! Caroline did a fantastic job as our Regional Governor and I know we all thank her for her leadership the past few years. As your new Governor I ask your indulgence as you read through this information. If indeed there are mistakes, please bring them to my attention and I'll get them corrected.

Plans are in the process for wonderful day at Bowling Green State University. Dr. Sean Cooper, Prof. Myra Merritt, and the voice faculty of Bowling Green State University will be our hosts. In addition to the auditions, Dr. Ronald C. Scherer from the Dept. of Communication Sciences and Disorders at BGSU will present a workshop for our students on vocal function and vocal health with Donna Colcord.

I hope all of you are having a wonderful and musically productive year, and I look forward to seeing you at the upcoming Regional Auditions and the upcoming Spring NATS Workshop presented in collaboration with the MTNA Conference, *Let's Make Music Together: The Art of Collaboration* in Milwaukee, WI March 26-30.

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING CAREFULLY!

DEADLINE FOR SPRING STUDENT AUDITION FORMS:

POSTMARKED THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2011

THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS DEADLINE.

MAIL MATERIALS TO:

**LAURIE LASHBROOK
362 GUZZETTA HALL
THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON
AKRON, OH 44325-1002**

SPRING STUDENT AUDITIONS

DATE: SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 2011

LOCATION: BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY

AUDITIONS CHAIR: Laurie Lashbrook, Great Lakes Region Governor

HOST: Sean Cooper, Myra Merritt and the Voice Faculty at BGSU

POSTMARK DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 10, 2011 (NO EXCEPTIONS)

In order to ensure that our Region's Special Awards (e.g., the Gean Greenwell, Jessye Norman, Jon Vickers, Ralph Appelman, Irma Cooper, Most Promising Musical Theatre awards) can continue at the level we would like to keep in the future, I am inviting each of you to take this particular opportunity to **donate** special funds toward these awards, or toward any of the top awards at the Regional Auditions. Donors will be named in the program of the final Concert of Promise. This is your opportunity to donate toward an award in the name of someone special, or simply to help support NATS Great Lakes Auditions. **If you would like to make such a contribution, please fill out the portion of the Teacher Form concerning contributions toward awards, and enclose a check made out to Great Lakes Region NATS by the deadline.**

The final schedule will be sent to those whose students will be performing in these auditions, and to all those who will be judging, and to all those who make a donation toward the awards.

A total of 55 hotel rooms have been reserved for both March 4th and 5th. The cutoff for the guaranteed rate at all three hotels is Feb. 21, 2011.

- **Hampton Inn and Suites** (20 rooms) Event Rate: \$75/night
(419) 353-3464 <http://hamptoninn.hilton.com>
- **Best Western Falcon Plaza** (20 rooms) Event Rate: \$72/night
(419) 352-4671 <http://book.bestwestern.com>
- **Holiday in Express** (15 rooms) Event Rate: \$84/night
(419) 353-5500 <http://www.hiexpress.com/hotels>

Here are some helpful links:

Directions- <http://go2.bgsu.edu/choose/visit/directions/>

Campus map- <http://www.bgsu.edu/downloads/bgsu/file19550.pdf>

Restaurant guide- http://www.bgscene.com/restaurants/bar_and_grills.php

All of the Regional Information for the Student Auditions is attached. Specifically, please find:

- 1. General Info re: categories, repertoire requirements, etc.**
- 2. Teacher Registration Form**
- 3. Waiver of Judging Form**
- 4. Student Registration Form**
- 5. Student Audition Form (please duplicate, and submit 3 copies for each student)**

Teachers Judging or Waiver: Teachers whose students register for these auditions are required to participate as adjudicators or in other assigned duties (we NEED you!), unless officially excused. Age and infirmity are automatically always excused; other personal issues will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

We realize that many teachers are actively involved in performances or conferences whose dates cannot be changed; we can excuse you for these if you submit this information on the Waiver form.

However, bear in mind that National NATS states that a teacher may be excused from judging for such reasons for **up to two consecutive years**, but then **MUST** adjudicate, or pay the extra fee. **This extra fee still will apply and be assessed if a judge cancels at the last minute and the consecutive two-year rule applies.**

Materials to submit, along with fees (etc.) by the postmark date of February 10, 2011:

1. Teacher Registration Form, one copy, listing all students' categories, and pianists (**no TBA's will be accepted**) and including Teacher Registration Fee as noted; also any special Donations.
2. Student Registration Form, one copy for each student, including Student Registration Fee for each student.
3. Student Audition Form (the form for judges' comments), **3 copies for each student.**
4. If using a Staff Accompanist, one copy of each musical selection, in the correct key. Students using staff accompanists must bring original scores to the auditions at which time staff accompanists will use the original scores.
5. **ONE CHECK** made payable to **NATS Great Lakes Region** including **ALL** the above fees. This is much easier to process.

Submit all the above to:

**Laurie Lashbrook
362 Guzzetta Hall
The University of Akron
Akron, OH 44325-1002**

(E-mail: lashbro@uakron.edu) (Phone: 330.972.2316)

NATS FOUNDATION REPRESENTATIVE

Norma Codispoti is the Great Lakes NATS Liaison for the NATS Foundation. She has been an active member of NATS both in the OH Chapter and at the national level for many years. We welcome her knowledge, expertise and willingness to serve our region in this vital capacity. Thank you, Norma, for your outstanding service to NATS and the NATS Foundation.

The NATS Foundation is a partner of NATS and is responsible to generate support through the development and management of various endowment funds such as are used to provide some of the prize money for the NATSAA Artist Awards Competition, for example. The Foundation offers scholarship funds to qualified applicants for the Aspen Summer Music Festival and NATS workshops as well sponsoring the Van Lawrence Fellowship and Awards for Vocal Excellence. It utilizes its resources to help finance innovative programs such as the Intern Program and the NATS Young Leader Award and the International Congress of Voice Teachers.

If you would like to make a contribution to the NATS Foundation please send your check made out to the NATS Foundation to:

National Association of Teachers of Singing - Executive Offices
Attn: NATS Foundation
9957 Moorings Drive, Suite 401
Jacksonville, FL 32257-2416

A contribution of \$50 or more will designate you as a member of the Circle of Friends. I thank you in advance for your support of this wonderful Foundation and its mission.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THOMAS FLORIO NATSAA WINNER!

Thomas Florio, a doctoral student at the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, won the National Association of Teachers of Singing Artist Award (NATSAA) competition July 2 in Salt Lake City, Utah. He earned a \$10,000 cash prize, a \$1,000 gift certificate from Hal Leonard Publishing and a sponsored recital at Carnegie Hall next summer. In addition, he will be the featured artist at the 2012 NATS convention in Orlando, Florida.

Thomas, a bass-baritone, was the first man to win the biennial competition since 1991. He is currently in the doctorate of voice program at IU and studies with Dr. Brian Horne. Before proceeding to the finals, Thomas won the NATSAA auditions in Indiana, Great Lakes Region, and semi-final rounds at the NATS national convention.

YOUR REGIONAL NATS OFFICERS

Regional Governor;

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torinchiles@rogers.com
519-661-2111 ext. 84323

Thank you for your support. It is a pleasure to serve as your regional governor and I look forward to seeing all of you at the Regional Auditions in Bowling Green, Ohio, USA at Bowling Green State University!

Cheers!

Laurie

Laurie Lashbrook, Governor
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