

February 1, 2020

Dear CO/WY Chapter Members,

Our chapter's 58th Annual Student Auditions will take place at Colorado Mesa University in Grand Junction, CO, on Friday and Saturday, April 3rd and 4th, 2020. Many thanks to Graham and Stefanie Anduri for making the necessary arrangements to host us. Friday, April 3rd will include our Collegiate and Graduate School categories (5A – 16) and Saturday, April 4th will include our High School, Avocational, Professional, and Teacher categories (1A-1 – 4B, & 17A – 20B).

******The national NSA committee and our national board of directors have approved some monumental changes for this year's auditions, so be sure to read this letter carefully (changes listed at the end of this letter)!******

Masterclasses/Recitals: We have some very exciting masterclasses and recitals for our attendees this year!

- **Musical Theater and Classical Masterclasses, on both days**
- **Lecture Recital: “New Art Song Traditions: Five Jamaican Songs”**
- **Lecture Recital on vocal health and longevity practices for educators**
- **Lecture recital on Verdi Art Song**
- **Recital given by our West Central Singer of the Year and NATSAA winner**

Please visit our website <http://cowynats.org/auditions> to download the following materials:

- Chapter auditions handbook (updated January 2020)
- Hotel and restaurant information near the CSU campus
- Individual Student Entry Worksheet (for collecting information only. You must register students ONLINE)
- How-to guide from National NATS:
https://www.nats.org/Library/NSA_Files/Accessing_the_NATS_Auditions_Registration_System_-_PDF_instructions.pdf

Online registration: GOING LIVE ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH. NATS uses the Auditions Registration and Scheduling System from Bradley Mills of Auditionware.com. To register on the website, please visit [nats.org](https://www.nats.org), log in, and click on **NATS AUDITIONS REGISTRATION**. If you are already logged in, click “Member Home” at the top of the page, and that will take you to your account home page. The website has convenient online payment through debit or credit card. *Fees may also be submitted by school check, but you must allow plenty of time for the US mail to deliver your payment to the NATS office in Florida and administrative time to post the payment PRIOR to the registration deadline. More instructions found on the homepage of the registration website.* **Please remember that all teachers are required to register for their students - TAs and students may NOT submit registrations!**

Auditions Registration Deadline: **Thursday, February 27th.** Please mark this deadline carefully on your calendars as it comes up quickly! I can only accept *completed online applications, including pianist information and payment*, so please be sure you have all required information at the time of submission.

*****Private/Independent Studio Teachers: you must list your STUDIO NAME under school/college if students are in high school or avocational/professional/teacher, NOT “An Individual Private Studio” from the drop down menu**

Fees: The fee is \$15.00 per audition, per division. A student entering both Classical and Music Theater categories will pay a total of \$30.00.

The Handbook: Please take the time to read the entire handbook before you register your students. There are also additions and adjustments made to the handbook that parallel the Regional NATS handbook. You are responsible for entering your student in the correct category. Please note that the music theater repertoire requirements have been relaxed. **Please make yourself very familiar with the handbook.**

Judges: Any teacher entering students must be available to judge all day, on both days. **You will need to provide your cell number** so we can contact you quickly on the days of auditions, should the need arise. Substitutions are permissible in exceptional cases, but must be approved in advance (see handbook). Chapter members who are not entering students are encouraged to participate as judges. Please let me know if you would like to do so.

Pianists: **Pianists may play for no more than 10 auditions per day.** No exceptions will be allowed. One student entering both Classical and Music Theater Divisions counts as two auditions. If the pianist is also singing in this event, this decreases the number of auditions for which he/she may play. Please consult the handbook. If your pianist is playing for multiple studios, please be certain that the pianist is aware of the limit and does not overbook himself/herself. ***You will not be able to enter a pianist online or complete your registration if he/she already has 10 entries scheduled, so please do not wait for the last day!*** Colleges and larger studios often share pianists, so please be kind and do not overbook your pianist.

Luncheon: Our chapter's annual luncheon and judges meeting will be **at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, April 3rd, Grand Junction LOCATION TBA.** This event is for NATS members, guest judges, and pianists only. You will be able to list the number of luncheon attendees on the scheduling website. Our Hospitality Chair, Aimee Woods, and our hosts, Graham and Stefanie, are making arrangements for a fantastic meal. Please reserve your lunch on the registration site **AFTER FEBRUARY 7th.** The cost per meal will be listed on the registration site, and you may submit lunch fees online with your registration fees.

Eligibility: Finally, make certain you have paid your annual dues for both NATS and the Colorado-Wyoming chapter. Only **current chapter members** in good standing are eligible to enter students in the auditions. **You will not be able to access the registration page should your dues be unpaid.** For questions about your membership status, please contact our Secretary, Cheryl Ringer (cherylringer@gmail.com). When you renew your National membership online, you should also pay your CO-WY chapter dues at the same time.

CHANGES TO THE STUDENT AUDITIONS HANDBOOK:

READ THIS SECTION VERY CAREFULLY! There are **BIG** changes this year!

- Although I do my best to highlight important rules and rules changes, I cannot highlight everything you need to know. I must rely upon you to enter your singers in the appropriate categories and to help them select repertoire that meets the requirements of the competition. If you have any doubts about the eligibility of specific repertoire, I highly encourage you to consult me about it before the registration deadline. I am best reached by email, julineNATS@gmail.com.

- **CATEGORY TITLES HAVE CHANGED.** Categories are now based on **VOICE TYPE** rather than gender, as detailed in the Auditions Handbook. Sopranos, mezzo-sopranos, contraltos, countertenors, and young men with unchanged voices will register in the **TREBLE** categories; tenors, baritones, and basses will register in the **TBB** categories. Age and length of study limits have not changed. If you have questions about selecting the appropriate category for your student, please email me as soon as possible.

- **MUSIC THEATER SONG LITERATURE** is now eligible in Music Theater categories, as detailed in the Auditions Handbook. This includes songs cut from staged productions, and stand-alone songs written by established music theater composers and lyricists in a music theater style.

- **COPYRIGHT POLICY:** Starting this year, all performers at NATS events must acknowledge the copyright policy and accept responsibility for using copyrighted materials according to the law, as detailed in the NATS Copyright Resource Center, https://www.nats.org/Copyright_Resources.html.
 - **Teachers** will log into Auditionware to register their students as normal. As teachers register each singer, they will be asked to acknowledge the NATS Copyright Policy for each singer. (This will simply be a box that teachers will check, right along with the singer's Name, Category, Etc.)

 - Once a **Singer** is registered for an event, the singer will receive an email from Auditionware with a link to an Acknowledgement page. (This email will go to the email entered for the singer by the teacher. If the singer is under 18 years of age, it would be best to use a parent/guardian's email address, as they will need to acknowledge.) The singer (or parent/guardian) will click on the link, which will take them to the Acknowledgement, and there they will click and submit the Acknowledgement of copyright. Follow-up emails will be automatically sent from Auditionware at regular intervals leading up to an event, until the singer has submitted their copyright acknowledgement.

 - Once registration closes for an event, each **Collaborative Pianist** who is playing for the event will receive an email from Auditionware with a link to an Acknowledgement page. Note: The collaborative pianist will only receive one email,

regardless of the number of students for whom they are playing, rather than one email per student. (This email will go to the email entered for the pianist by the teacher. If the pianist is under 18 years of age, it would be best to use a parent/guardian's email address, as they will need to acknowledge.) The pianist (or parent/guardian) will click on the link, which will take them to the Acknowledgement, and there they will click and submit the Acknowledgement of copyright. Follow-up emails will be automatically sent from Auditionware at regular intervals leading up to an event, until the pianist has submitted their copyright acknowledgement.

- **Teachers, Students, and Pianists** all need to complete their respective acknowledgements prior to the NATS event.

- **With our new copyright policy and teacher/student/pianist copyright acknowledgements, it is no longer necessary to check for original scores at NATS events. However, since pianists are signing the acknowledgements, they should still plan on playing from ORIGINAL scores, not photocopies, during the Auditions.**

- **TABLETS/IPADS: YES.** The use of iPads and tablets as musical scores for collaborative pianists during all levels of NATS auditions has been approved and are held to the same standards of copyright as any other musical score used for auditions. Be aware that purchasing a physical score and then scanning it for use on a tablet produces an unauthorized copy of the score. For clarification on appropriate use of tablets, visit the NATS Copyright Resource Center, https://www.nats.org/Copyright_Resources.html.

IMPORTANT: NO AUDITION will be delayed or rescheduled due to iPad/tablet technical failure.

SINCE THE ABOVE CHANGES ARE ONLY THE MOST RECENT ADDITIONS TO THE HANDBOOK, PLEASE REVIEW THE HANDBOOK FOR OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING CATEGORIES, REPERTOIRE, ETC.

Feel free to contact me with questions or concerns pertaining to the student auditions. **PLEASE NOTE THAT I WILL BE OUT OF TOWN FEBRUARY 8-10 AND WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR REGISTRATION QUESTIONS DURING THAT TIME.** Email is the best way to reach me: julineNATS@gmail.com.

I look forward to seeing you in April.

Sincerely,

Dr. Juline Gilmore
Gilmore Voice Studio
Erie, Colorado

2nd VP/Auditions Chair
CO/WY NATS
julineNATS@gmail.com

