

National Association of Teachers of Singing
Oklahoma District
2014 District Business Meeting
April 12, 2014
Wanda L. Bass School of Music
Oklahoma City University
Oklahoma City, OK
April Golliver, presiding
Kelly Holst, recording secretary

I. Welcome and announcements

- a. Meeting called to order at approximately 1:11 p.m.
- b. Fall 2014 Texoma Regional Conference
 - i. Lone Star College-Kingwood (suburb of Houston, TX). Dates are Nov. 5-8, 2014. Edward Baird Singer of the Year Preliminaries will be on Nov. 5, 2014.
 - ii. 2015: Oklahoma City University, Nov. 11-14, 2015.
- c. News from TEXOMA Regional Governor, Dr. Mark McQuade
 - i. New TEXOMA Facebook page: for use by members to publicize information and events: set-up by Laura Stevenson the Independent Studio Liaison.
 - ii. Scott McGraff is stepping down as TEXOMA web master. Now searching for a new web master.
 - iii. New for 2014 Regional Conference: live streaming, organizing mass auditions for summer programs to occur on Nov. 5, 2014 at the conference.
 - iv. TEXOMA NATSAA winner, Kelly Holst, Oklahoma District.
- d. April Golliver, new Oklahoma District Governor
 - i. Special welcome to all new members!
 - ii. The Governor welcomes all feedback about events, master classes, recitals, auditions, and conference ideas.

II. 2014 Participation

- a. 155 students and 43 teachers
- b. Participation slightly down from last year but still a good showing.

III. 2014 Budget Report

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|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| 2013 Ending Balance | +\$3,438.68 |
| 2014 Fees Collected | +\$3,160.00 |
| 2014 Pre-conference Balance | +\$6,598.68 |
| AuditionWare Fees | -\$156.00 |
| Audition Chair Expenses | (est.) -\$100.00 |
| Governor Expenses | (est.) -\$95.00 |
| OCU Expenses (4 piano tunings) | -\$400.00 |
| Hospitality and Lunch Expenses | (est.) -\$482.50 |

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|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Contribution to NATS Foundation | -\$500.00 |
| TEXOMA Hospitality | -\$75.00 |
| Student Awards | (est.) -\$1340.00 |
| 2014 Conf. Ending Balance | (est.) +3,651.18 |

a. April Golliver reported that, due to costs of the conference hospitality room and replacement of NATS printer, the ending balance is now at \$3165.69.

IV. Old Business

- a. Motion to approve 2013 Business Meeting minutes: Louima Lilite
 - i. Second: Frank Ragsdale
 - ii. Vote: motion carried
- b. Motion to take the issue of the Adult Division rule change off the table: Mark McQuade
 - i. Second: Melody Baggech
 - ii. Vote: motion carried
- c. Discussion of the Adult Division rule change: Should amateur adult singers have the option to opt-out of the competitive aspect of the auditions? These singers could choose to sing for comments only and awards would only go to those adult singers that choose the “competitive option”.
 - i. Melody Baggech suggested two separate divisions, one for competitive singers and one for non-competitive singers as some adult singers are very competitive and others may be turned-off by the competitive aspect.
 - ii. April Golliver noted that teachers may enter students in the adult division and this entry does not count against the total number of students a teacher is allowed to bring to the auditions. At times teachers send students to the adult division for age reasons, but they may also send less competitive singers to this division.
 - iii. Questions raised: Is the feedback or the competition more important? What is the purpose of our NATS auditions? Is there a group of singers that would come just for feedback? Would this increase participation?
 - iv. Motion: “We allow the Adult Division Singers to choose to compete for awards or sing for comments only.”
 - a. Second: Melody Baggech
 - b. Vote: motion carried
- d. Music Theater Committee Report: Rob Glaubitz, presenting
 - i. Objective of the committee was to examine NATS membership concerns and comments and to submit a proposal to the Oklahoma District for consideration.
 1. Committee research and presentation
 - a. Currently no MT competition in the state of Oklahoma.
 - b. Chapters surrounding OK have MT as a part of their District competition. Examples include: Dallas/Ft. Worth, Kansas City, Arkansas, South Texas.
 - c. We are not in-line with our surrounding chapters.

- d. OK teachers have asked for a MT component.
 - e. Students want it.
 - f. Opportunity for students to receive impartial comments when not auditioning for a role.
 - g. Opportunity for students to sing for a new set of ears.
 - h. MT is popular in the state of OK and adding this competition could widen our reach, increase incoming funds and increase teacher participation.
2. Logistical issues to consider
- a. Would the MT competition happen the same day/weekend as the classical competition?
 - b. If on a different day it would be easier to schedule judges but would require twice as much organizing.
 - c. Would we have enough space and enough teachers to judge?
 - d. Would all teachers feel comfortable judging non-classical styles of singing?
 - e. Teacher background/comfort/understanding of style is very important for the primary goal of providing useful comments for students.
 - f. Should the repertoire be in-line with the Classical NATS rep requirements?
3. Practice of other chapters (CO, WY, Chicago, Valley of the Sun, KS, Dallas/Ft. Worth, etc.)
- a. Many: competition is on the same day.
 - b. Few: use a completely different date or the Friday night prior to classical auditions.
 - c. Few: use the same divisions as the classical auditions.
 - d. Some: have only three MT divisions
 - All High School
 - Lower College
 - Upper College
 - e. Repertoire: 2-3 selections, contrasting in time-period and style. A few chapters require a classical song in addition to two musical theater songs.
 - f. Judges: No determination of suitability to judge but one district uses a signed statement such as, "I am qualified to judge musical theater styles and accept belt as a legitimate vocal technique."
- e. Music Theater Committee Proposal: Rob Glaubitz
- i. A detailed proposal for musical theater auditions in the Oklahoma NATS chapter was submitted to the membership by the committee (attached to these minutes)
 - 1. Discussion

- a. Would we have enough teachers to judge considering the experience of our members in teaching this style of singing?
 - b. It was mentioned that during online registration you may specify your judging preference with the click of a button.
 - c. No requirement to judge if a teacher does not enter students.
 - d. Need for separate MT auditions chair.
- ii. Motion by Brenda Holleman to allow the committee to take the next steps logistically and send a proposal via email to the OK District membership so that we might vote via email to begin the MT competition in 2015.
 - a. Second: Brady McElligott
 - b. Vote: motion carried

V. New Business

- a. New business was not discussed due to time constraints
 - i. April Golliver will send an email to take a vote on new business
- b. Meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m.