

NATS San Diego NEWS

JANUARY 2009

Newsletter Editor
Enrique Toral

Winter Workshop is just around the corner...

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Competitions	2
Musical Events	3

Freedom from French Fright: French Diction Re-examined

After a very successful Fall Workshop with Dr. Robert C. White, the Board has decided to get us back to basics. The Winter Workshop on Sunday, February 22, will focus on that feared language by most singers: *French*. Why is it that of all the standard languages, French is always the one that most likely strikes fear both in teacher and student? Go on... admit it. The rules and guidelines can be confusing and to the untrained ear of a young singer it can be sometimes impossible to understand and effectively execute. Well, now is your turn to conquer all the stigmas surrounding this *tres chic* language.

We have been able to engage one of the preeminent language specialists and diction coaches in the west coast, Marcie Stapp. Some of you may recognize the name and some of you might not. Those of you who are grateful for the Nico Castel Opera Libretti Series should note that Marcie Stapp is the editor of the famed series! I personally came in contact with her and her teaching on two occasions in my early beginnings as a singer, once in a masterclass and then during my studies at the Mozart Opera Studies Institute in Austria. Later, when I worked for the Opera Company of Brooklyn I commissioned her for a new translation of *Der Schauspieldirektor*. Trust me, this lady knows what she's talking about!

By now you should have received a brochure about this class. Please take advantage of it, your membership dollars are at work. I can assure you that this is a class from which you will learn a tremendous amount and will forever find freedom from French fright! 🎵

Enrique Toral, Public Relations Chair

The author of *The Singer's Guide to Languages*, **MARCIE STAPP** is a well-known vocal coach, accompanist and translator whose operatic translations are performed by leading music schools and professional companies across the country.

Fluent in five languages, she has taught English and French at the Mangold Institute in Madrid, served as conductor/coach for the Academy of Vocal Arts, the Curtis Institute of Music, Indiana University, the Mozart Opera Studies Institute in Austria, Japan's Osaka College of Music and Sakai City Opera, the Gernot-Heindl Opera Studio of Munich, San Francisco Opera Center and Hawaii Opera Theatre among others. She is currently on the faculty at San Francisco Conservatory of Music.

Ms. Stapp has accompanied the master classes of Margaret Harshaw, Renato Capecchi, Max Rudolf, Jess Thomas and Gerhard Hüsich, and has appeared in recital with members of the Metropolitan, San Francisco and New York City Opera companies. The Metropolitan Opera's renowned diction coach Nico Castel selected her as the editor of his popular *Opera Libretti Series* and the two collaborate annually on the Castel-Stapp Master Classes in San Francisco.



REG FORMS & APPLICATIONS CAN BE FOUND AT:
www.natssandiego.org/workshops

COMPETITIONS

SCHMIDT YOUTH VOCAL COMPETITION

On January 24, 2009 at San Diego State University, the Schmidt Youth Vocal Competition will be open to vocal artists who are current high school sophomores, juniors, or seniors and recommended by their voice teachers or choral directors.

Cash Awards 1st Place: \$2000, 2nd Place: \$1500, 3rd Place: \$1000. Applicants must be prepared to present three (3) musical compositions from standard literature representing different periods and styles: Classical, Romantic, Impressionistic or Contemporary Art Song. One selection may be from Broadway theatre repertoire. Space is limited. Apply early. The competition is free and open to the public. Application can be found at: www.schmidtcompetition.org For more info call 859-257-2319.

CLASSICAL SINGER HIGH SCHOOL COMPETITION

Chapman University to host Southern California First Round Regional Date on Saturday, January 24, 2009.

Chapman University Conservatory of Music will offer a talent award scholarship to one or more of the national winner as well as 4 one-hour voice lessons/vocal coaching sessions to the First Place winner of the First Round of the Competition at Chapman University.

For more information and to register on-line visit: www.classicalsinger.com/hscmp

THE MUSICAL MERIT FOUNDATION OF GREATER SAN DIEGO

The Musical Merit Foundation of San Diego has announced its 2009 competition. Last year, the Foundation gives away a total of \$41,000 in prizes to singers and instrumentalists. The deadline for submitting materials for the preliminary audition is April 28, 2009. More information can be found at www.musicalmerit.org.



YOUNG ARTISTS COMPETITION

La Jolla Symphony Young Artists Competition will be held on January 24th with the showcase concert on January 25th to be held in an elegant La Jolla home. All requirements and application information can be found on our website: www.lajollasympphony.com. Act quickly, the application deadline is January 12, 2009!

VIRGINIA HAWK SCHOLARSHIP VOCAL AUDITIONS

First Place: \$3,000, Second Place: \$2,000
Entry Deadline: Friday, March 13, 2009
Auditions: Saturday, March 28, 2009 at La Mesa First United Methodist Church, 4690 Palm Avenue, La Mesa

Repertoire must include Two operatic arias and a selection from an oratorio or cantata, each sung in the original key and the original language; One song in each of the following languages: French, German, Italian, and English. Another language may be substituted for one of the four languages. At least one of these selections must be from the contemporary period (1920 to the present).

For more complete information and for applications: Genevieve Grant at (619) 466-6606 g.grant@cox.net or Ragnhild Amble (619) 465-7425 rfonhus@aol.com

AUDITIONS

The San Diego Chorus of Sweet Adelines will be holding open auditions every Wednesday evening in January from 6:45—8PM at the Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, room 207. For more information see the website at www.sdchorus.org

Pacific Coast Harmony will be holding vocal auditions for men who enjoy a cappella singing on Tuesday evenings at Torrey Pines Christian church in La Jolla from 7—9PM. More information is available at our website www.pacificcoastharmony.org



Musical Events



SATURDAY, JANUARY 10
AT 2:00 P.M.

MONC SAN DIEGO DISTRICT 2008 WINNERS CONCERT

Winners of the National Council Auditions in concert. For more info contact Joan Henkelmann at 619.479.8184

La Jolla Presbyterian Church
7715 Draper Avenue, La Jolla
Admission: \$5 Suggested Donation

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18
AT 4:00 P.M.

NATS member Penny Hawkins performs with *Courtly Noyse*, San Diego's premier early music ensemble.

All Souls' Episcopal Church
1475 Catalina Blvd., at Chatsworth Blvd.
Point Loma, 92107

Suggested free will offering, \$5

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31
AT 7:30 P.M.

J. S. BACH'S MAGNIFICAT WITH CHRISTMAS INTERPOLATIONS

Dr. Martin Neary, formerly of Westminster Abbey, conducts the PACEM Choir and the Festival Strings Orchestra along with guest soloists Karen Hogle, soprano; Amy Fogerson, alto; Scott Whitaker, tenor (NATS Member) and Scott Graff, bass.

St. Paul's Cathedral, San Diego

If you have any questions, please contact PACEM by email at pacem@pacem-music.org or by phone at 619-298-6759.

These listings are intended to promote local vocal events and support NATS members and their students.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1
AT 2:00 P.M.

JULIETTE SINGLER IN RECITAL

Soprano, Juliette Singler, is joined by guitarist, Colin McAllister, pianist Ines Irawati, and flutist Cathy Blickenstaff for a concert of music from Spain and the Americas at PLNU's Crill Hall. Music by Fernando Sor, Obradors, and many others will be featured.

Point Loma Nazarene University
3900 Lomaland Drive
Admission: Free of charge.

THURSDAY, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 14, 19 AND 21

AT 7:30 P.M.

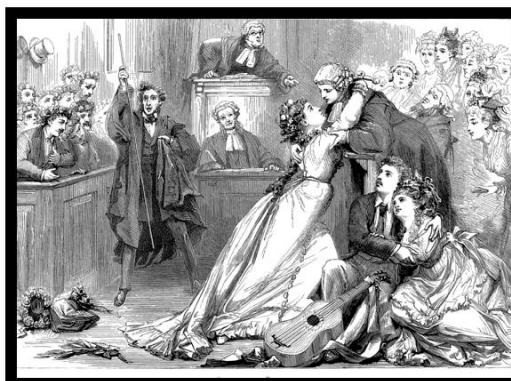
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15 AND 22

AT 2:30 P.M.

RUMPELTILTSKIN AND TRIAL BY JURY AT LYRIC OPERA SAN DIEGO

Lyric Opera San Diego presents a double bill of Gilbert and Sullivan's **Trial by Jury** and the world premiere of **Rumpelstiltskin** by Nicolas Reveles and J. Sherwood Montgomery.

Featuring NATS members Enrique Toral performing the roles of The Defendant and the title role of Rumpelstiltskin and Scott Gregory as The Counsel and the Miller. Birch North Park Theater 2891 University Avenue in North Park. Single tickets are \$30, \$35, \$40, \$45, and \$50. For more info visit www.lyricoperasandiego.org or call the box office at (619) 239-8836



NATS San Diego Chapter

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NATS San Diego Chapter Website
<www.natssandiego.org>



**"There are three kinds of
Salomes: those who can
sing it, those who can
dance it, and those who
should be shot."**

**Leonie Rysanek
1926-1998**

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Submissions for the next issue are due February 20th. Submit to Enrique Toral via e-mail at etoral@natssandiego.org or regular mail at the address above.