Happy New Year! Our chapter's 60th Annual **IN-PERSON** Student Auditions will take place at Colorado Mesa University in Grand Junction on Saturday, April 2, and Sunday, April 3, 2022, with our thanks to Chris McKim for making the necessary arrangements to host us.

Out of an abundance of caution due to COVID-19, we are treating these auditions, the first inperson auditions in our region, delicately with the understanding that the event may change according to university and state and local mandates. First of all, please familiarize yourself with the NATS Joint Statement regarding best health practices for the 2021-22 Student Auditions. We plan on taking necessary precautions and are projecting requiring all participants be masked except when singing. We will have more details closer to the event. Again, this could change with our developing situation, and we will keep all chapter members informed. If you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to our chapter president, John Carlo Pierce. Thank you for your understanding.

Out of consideration for many of those traveling and in order make this event as short as possible and minimize contact hours, we will be using the regional model (preliminaries on day 1 and semi-finals/finals on day 2), potentially allowing traveling participants to stay only one night if desired. We will start with a late-morning adjudicators meeting on April 2nd and continue with preliminaries in all categories. April 3rd will include semi-finals, finals, and awards in all categories starting in the morning and ending in the afternoon.

On AuditionWare.com and attached to this email, you will find the following materials:

- Chapter auditions handbook revised this year, so *please read carefully*
- Hotel and restaurant information near the CMU campus
- Individual Student Entry Worksheet (for information gathering only; must register online)
- Studio Registration Worksheet (for information gathering only; must register online)

Online registration: NATS uses the Auditions Registration and Scheduling System from Bradley Mills of Auditionware.com. To register on the website, please visit nats.org, log in, and click 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 who are not NATS members and students may NOT submit registrations!

Please see this "how-to" guide from National NATS to log in and register.

https://www.nats.org/ Library/NSA Files/Accessing the NATS Auditions Registration Syste m_-PDF_instructions.pdf

<u>Auditions Registration Deadline</u>: **Thursday, February 24th**. 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. There will be limited technical help on the 24th and I will be unavailable after 7:00 p.m., so *please* register early!

***Private/Independent Studio Teachers: you must list your STUDIO NAME under school/college if students are in high school or avocational/professional/teacher. If you don't have an official studio name, use your name followed by "Voice Studio" (i.e. "Jane Doe Voice Studio").

***Similar to the virtual auditions, this year, you will enter student repertoire during the registration process so that we can vet it ahead of time to reduce day-of disqualifications.

<u>Fees</u>: 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.

<u>The Handbook</u>: 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 category names and numbers have changed. **Please make yourself very familiar with the handbook.**

Adjudicators: Any teacher entering students must be available to adjudicate <u>all day, on both days</u>. You will need to provide your cell number so we can contact you quickly on the day of auditions, should the need arise. New: if, for whatever reason (previously known professional engagement, etc.), a teacher cannot attend the auditions and wants to enter students, they will pay a \$75 fee to cover securing a guest adjudicator in their stead. See page 11 of the Handbook for more information and exceptions. Chapter members who are not entering students are encouraged to participate as adjudicators. Please let me know if you would like to do so. We will especially need volunteer adjudicators this year due to location and the possibility of absence due to sickness.

<u>Pianists</u>: **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.

<u>Copyright Laws</u>: All performers in 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. See our Auditions Handbook, page 11, for the actions required of teachers, entered singers, and potentially their collaborative pianists, who ALL play a role in the REQUIRED copyright acknowledgement process.

<u>Luncheon</u>: At 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 2nd, we will hold our chapter's annual luncheon meeting and adjudicators meeting at Colorado Mesa University. This event is for NATS members, guest adjudicators, 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 host, Chris, have made arrangements for a fantastic meal. Please reserve your lunch on the registration site. The cost is \$12 per meal, and you may submit lunch fees online with your registration fees.

<u>Eligibility</u>: 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, Juline Gilmore (julinenats@gmail.com). When you renew your National membership online, you should also pay your CO-WY chapter dues at the same time.

Feel free to contact me with questions or concerns pertaining to the student auditions. Email is the best way to reach me.

I look forward to seeing you in April.

Sincerely, Caitlin

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CAITLIN MOORE

mezzo-soprano

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