

**By-Laws of the Georgia Chapter  
of the  
National Association of Teachers of Singing**

(Revised 1-23-2008)

**ARTICLE I – NAME**

As chartered in Georgia by the Executive Committee of the National Association of Teachers of Singing, and subject to its By-Laws, the name of this organization is the Georgia Chapter of the National Association of Teachers of Singing.

**ARTICLE II – PURPOSE AND CODE OF ETHICS**

The Georgia Chapter adopts fully the stated purposes of the National Association, which are: (1) to establish and maintain the highest possible standards of ethical principles and practices in the profession of teaching singing and vocal art. (2) To establish and maintain the highest possible standards of competence in said teaching profession, to encourage and conduct research, to disseminate information to the profession at large and to stimulate effective cooperation among vocal teachers for their mutual welfare and advancement. The Georgia Chapter, as an organization, subscribes without reservation to the “Code of Ethics,” adherence to which is one of the conditions of individual membership in the National Association.

**ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP**

All teachers of singing who have been accepted by the National Association into Full, Associate, Affiliate, or Emeritus membership, and who reside or teach in the geographical area which the Georgia Chapter has been chartered or otherwise encouraged to serve, are immediately eligible for membership in the Chapter. No such member shall be refused membership in the Georgia Chapter; however, such chapter membership is not obligatory on the part of the individual. Chapter membership will be terminated when a member resigns from or is dropped from membership in the National Association (Also, see ARTICLE VII.)

**ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS**

The elected Executive Board shall consist of PRESIDENT, VICE-PRESIDENT, SECRETARY, TREASURER, AND 7 BOARD MEMBERS who will serve as REGISTRAR, MEMBERSHIP CHAIR, CHAIR OF EDUCATION, REPERTORY CONSULTANT, WEB CHAIR, AND HISTORIAN. The PAST PRESIDENT and the DISTRICT GOVERNOR shall serve in an ex-officio capacity. The term of office shall be two years.

The PRESIDENT shall preside at all meetings of the Chapter and present such matters as may properly come before the body, be in ex-officio capacity on all committees, and

keep the membership informed of the activities of the organization.

The VICE PRESIDENT shall assist the president in his/her duties and preside at meetings when the President is absent. In addition, he or she shall serve as state chair for Student NATS. Neither the President nor the Vice President shall serve consecutively for more than two terms, though they may properly succeed others in these offices.

The SECRETARY shall keep accurate minutes of all meetings, conduct necessary correspondence; submit chapter news to the *Journal of Singing* and *Inter Nos*; and at the end of each biennial term of office will submit in written form a report of the chapter's activities.

The TREASURER shall keep an accurate account of the finances of the Chapter, receive payment of dues, notify delinquent members that they have been dropped from membership, collect payment for all workshop fees and pay all approved bills of the Chapter. At the end of each biennial term of office the treasurer will submit in written form a report of the chapter's finances.

The REGISTRAR shall accept registrations for all student auditions and be responsible for the complete operation of the student auditions.

The MEMBERSHIP CHAIR shall maintain close ties with voice instructors in the public schools and colleges and encourage those who are not members to join; expediently advertise the organization in order to gain new members; and shall maintain close contact with inactive members.

The CHAIR OF EDUCATION shall be responsible for planning and implementing enrichment experiences for the Chapter including workshops and study opportunities.

The EXECUTIVE BOARD shall outline programs; direct the policy, activity and growth of the Chapter; secure speakers and other talent for meetings; and promote membership in the Chapter in accordance with the membership regulations established by the National Association.

The REPERTORY CONSULTANT shall hear and decide questions of appropriate repertory for the student auditions.

The WEB CHAIR shall maintain the Chapter website, working in cooperation with other Executive Committee members to supply current information about upcoming events to the membership.

The HISTORIAN shall create and maintain the portion of the Chapter website devoted to past events and shall maintain such other materials as are available about the history of the Chapter.

Special officers, committees, or chairpersons may be appointed by the President to serve

in such temporary capacities as occasions may demand. Any administrative officer, whether elected or appointed, shall cease to hold office upon termination of his/her membership in the National Association. Any elected officer may be removed from office, upon due cause, by two-thirds vote of the Chapter membership.

#### **ARTICLE V – MEETINGS**

There shall be at least one business meeting of the Chapter each year. This will be held in the Spring in conjunction with the State Student Auditions. The Executive Board will meet in November of each year. Announcement of the annual Chapter business meeting will be sent to chapter members. Members may submit agenda items and nominations to the President prior to the meeting. Since the Georgia Chapter serves a large geographical area, chapter meetings will rotate to various parts of the area. Chapter meetings may be called by the President or by any responsible segment of the membership provided in the latter instance that Chapter officers and the remainder of the Chapter membership are notified at least twenty-one days in advance of such a meeting.

#### **ARTICLE VI – ELECTIONS AND QUORUM**

All officers shall serve for a two year term. In November before the voting year the President shall appoint a Nominating Committee; the report of the committee shall be given at the annual Chapter business meeting, at which time a vote will be taken. In the absence of a quorum, a vote will be taken by mail following the meeting. A quorum will consist of one-third of the active membership. At any regular meeting, each member in good standing shall be entitled to vote in person or by written proxy upon any motion or question properly brought before the Chapter. Officers shall take office on May 1st.

#### **ARTICLE VII – DUES AND ASSESSMENTS**

The annual Chapter dues shall be assessed and are payable by January 1st of each year. The amount of dues may be changed upon recommendation of the Executive Board and a vote of the membership. If any remain unpaid by February 1st of that year, said membership shall automatically cease. Assessments over and above the annual dues may be made for special events necessitating unusual expenditures only where such a motion is entertained at a meeting where a quorum is present, or by mail and said motion is passed by a majority vote.

#### **ARTICLE VIII – PROGRAM AND PROCEDURES**

The program of this Chapter properly may include social, promotional, professional, and educational activities at the discretion of its officers and members, so long as such activities are consistent with the PURPOSES AND CODE OF ETHICS stated in ARTICLE II, above. Business meetings shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's RULES OF ORDER.

#### **ARTICLE IX – AMENDMENTS**

With the exception of Articles I, II, and III, which may not be amended or revoked, the By-Laws of this Chapter may be repealed or amended, or new By-Laws adopted, by a majority of the Chapter membership voting in person, by written proxy, or by mail, provided that such amendments have been announced to the membership at least twenty-one days in advance of the voting date.