

**2019 November Membership Business Meeting
Georgia Chapter, NATS
Clayton State University
Friday, November 22, 2019/8:30 am**

MINUTES

1. **Call to order and welcome** (GA NATS President, Brian Bonin)
2. **Upcoming Student Auditions:** Next two auditions are scheduled for November 6-7, 2020 at Reinhardt University and November 5-6, 2021 at Columbus State University.
3. **Introduction of new members:** Heather Witt, Kennesaw State University; Emily Budd, LaGrange College; Mike Hedary, University of Georgia; Timothy Harper, University of North Georgia.
4. **Introduction of Board Members**
5. **Treasurer's Report:** 440 students participated last year, presentation of current balance. 4 students never cashed checks last year, please encourage students to cash these within 60 days.
6. **Annual masterclass:** Item was discussed during a virtual meeting of the executive board this past February. Attendance has been low at the February masterclass. Will fold masterclass into the student auditions weekend over the next two years and eliminate the teacher dinner. This will also engage students outside of the auditions. Mary Saunders Barton will be the clinician next year. See webpage for her bio.
7. **Teacher Enrichment Program:** No one expressed interest, what can we do to make it better? Purpose is to bolster teaching skills, could be useful for someone teaching classical who wants help teaching musical theater. Busy schedules could be contributing factor for lack of interest. Possible to do this virtually? Suggestion of having 1 or 2 master teachers each year. Also suggested that there was an issue with the language when this was first presented, good idea to observe other teachers but maybe remove the word "master." Should be a discussion, collaboration, exchange of ideas. National NATS does this, at least 2 mentors are established teachers. Opportunity for growth on both sides. Once someone has applied, they can be matched up with another teacher. Also possible for 2 teachers to choose to work with each other. Money available for travel stipend. Discussed broadening the distance, possibly going to teachers in other states either virtually or physically. Decided to keep it within the chapter, as members donate their time and seeking outside resources could be pricy. Members are welcome to submit ideas.

8. Votes:

- a) Ongoing travel support for NATS interns from our chapter (deadline is Dec. 15)
- b) Approval of \$100 travel stipend for students who progress to semifinal of NSA's
- c) A change in executive board, electing Jennifer McQuade as Auditions Chair (2020-2021) and Erin Shepherd Murray as Membership Chair
- d) Convert Membership Chair Executive Board position to Private Studio Outreach and Support Chair (in an effort to reach more private studio teachers for mentoring and NATS membership)

All votes passed unanimously with 62 members present.

9. Meeting adjourned by Brian Bonin