



Dear Cal-Western NATS members,

It is that time of year again. Time to get ready for the Cal-Western Regional Conference and Auditions. Chapter Presidents and Active Members: Please reach out to teachers in your communities who either are not current NATS members or have not yet joined NATS. There is still time for them to have their membership reinstated or to apply for membership. Please forward this email to any voice teachers who might be interested in having their students compete in these qualifying auditions for NSA or in the regional-level-only categories. Encourage teachers to register and attend even if they are not planning to enter students. There is much to be gained from attendance at the conference events, and never has there been such a bargain! Two days of events and auditions for the ridiculously low registration fee of \$36.

DATE:	JANUARY 14-15, 2017
HOST SITE:	GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY PHOENIX, ARIZONA

Attached you will find a number of important documents:

- CWR 2017 Conference/Audition Schedule
- CWR 2017 Registration Instructions
- CWR 2017 Fee Schedule
- CWR 2017 Categories
- CWR 2017 Hotel and University Information
- CWR 2017 Presenter Bios
- CWR 2017 Guest Artist

Registration is now open at www.natsauditions.com . REGISTRATION DEADLINE: December 1, 2016 at MIDNIGHT

REMEMBER: The TOP FIVE singers in each progressing category (categories 1-15) will be eligible to compete in the national YouTube online screening round. Competing at the CWR Regional Auditions January 14-15 is the ONLY way for students to qualify for the NATS National Student Auditions.

For more information about the NSA visit the NATS website
<http://www.nats.org/competitions.html>

- Please note that this year we will be offering Contemporary Commercial Categories in addition to our Classical and Musical Theater ones. See the attached document "CWR 2017 Categories" for full details.
- We have a number of exciting conference workshops and performances planned. See the conference schedule for details. We encourage you and your students to attend all sessions.
- There are several scholarships to summer programs being awarded to competitors again this year. If you, or someone you know, might be interested in donating a scholarship to our students, please be in touch with Ruth Ellis, ruth@ruthellis.net.
- Please take care in the selection of repertoire. Last year's vetting committee found over 20 selections which had to be changed.
- Please also take care in the selection of categories. Each year teachers/students make errors which lead to on-site disqualification.

ONLY STUDENTS OF ACTIVE NATS MEMBERS (National Dues up-to-date) MAY PARTICIPATE IN THE AUDITIONS.

Finally, we are always in need of volunteers during the conference (beyond the normal adjudication assignments). Please contact Rachel Velarde, NATS Arizona District Governor and Conference Site Host, (rachel.velarde@gcu.edu) if you are willing to volunteer your time and talents.

I look forward to seeing you all at the 2017 NATS Cal-Western Regional Conference and Auditions in January in warm, sunny Phoenix.

Sincerely,

Cindy Dewey, DMA
NATS CWR Governor
Music Department Head
Utah State University
Caine College of the Arts

Email: cindy.dewey@usu.edu
Office: 435-797-3055
Cell: 435-760-1609