

GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE CALL

It is my pleasure to announce the Thirty-Fourth NATS Southern Region
Fall Conference and Student Auditions,
November 12 – 14, 2009
Harding University
Searcy, Arkansas

PRELIMINARY CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Wednesday, November 11	Executive Board Meeting	(evening)
Thursday, November 12	Preliminary Round Auditions	(all day)
	Guest Artist Recital	(evening)
Friday, November 13	Chapter & Region Meetings	(morning)
	Semi-Final Round	(morning)
	Master Class for non Semi-Finalists	(morning)
	Lecture/Recital Presentations	(afternoon)
	Master Class with Guest Artist	(afternoon)
	Region Banquet	(evening)
Saturday, November 14	Final Round Competition	(9 am–2 pm)

Please visit our Southern Region website to find everything you need for the conference at: <http://natssouthern.com> **NOTE:** We are attempting to go green! You will have the **option** to submit all student and teacher registrations online for the first time this year. Instructions for mailing your payment will be on the teacher registration form and you get an immediate “receipt” email of your submissions. Of course, if you are uncomfortable with the online registration, you may print and mail your registrations as before.

The DEADLINE for ONLINE and MAILED registrations is OCTOBER 9, 2009. The postmark deadline for your check for online registrations, accompanist requests, and Brothers Nomination Forms is also OCTOBER 9, 2009. No exceptions will be made.

Dr. Kimberly Broadwater will again be our Auditions Chair and is excited to be attempting the all online registration procedures. This should make her job a bit less daunting. Kimberly's address and email are listed on the bottom of the website home page and in the Auditions Booklet if you need to contact her with any audition questions.

PLEASE NOTE! (This means you! Read it now!) ☺

- **Accompanists must play only from ORIGINAL MUSIC this year. I know that this was a shock to some of you last year and some concessions were made. However, we must be in compliance with the copyright laws and students will be disqualified if you do not adhere to this rule. Students should be responsible for keeping up with their original music and provide it at their audition for our wonderful but sometimes overburdened collaborative pianist. No exceptions will be made. Any questions? lsims@lsu.edu**

- **You will again find a Preliminary Round Judging Form posted on the website. You must fill out and print the form for each student so that they can bring THREE copies – one for each judge – to his/her Preliminary Audition. This form takes the place of the previously used Repertoire sheets and judging sheets, thereby being green, saving the Region copy costs, and the auditions chair preparation time.**
- **We will again use the Final Round order that we used last year in which the Graduate categories (Classes 13-16) will be followed by the Music Theatre categories (Classes 17-19) which will end the Final Round.**

We have several changes on the Executive Board. The new roster is posted on the website. Welcome to our new officers!

I am thrilled to announce that the 2009 Conference features **soprano JANE REDDING** as our Guest Recitalist. She will be collaborating with **Michael Borowitz** at the piano. Some of you may remember Ms. Redding because she was a two-time past Governor's Award winner in the Southern Region. Since leaving our region, she has been cultivating a successful national singing career. You may enjoy reading about her and hearing some audio files on her website at: www.janeredding.com

Pianist/Conductor Michael Borowitz is Nevada Opera's Artistic Director, Ohio Light Opera's Music Director, and guest conductor for many regional opera companies. He is also the newly appointed Music Director/Opera Coach for Louisiana State University Opera. We are thrilled to have him in our region. Read more about him at his website: www.michaelborowitz.com

Ms. Redding will also present a Master Class on Friday. Stay tuned for the request to submit your students for consideration to be on that class. Get these and other Conference details from the full Conference Schedule, which will be on the website by September.

Please take the time to nominate a deserving collaborator this year. You know they would appreciate it. The form is available on the web site. The Brothers Award recognizes an outstanding accompanist at Southern Region NATS, someone who has encouraged young singers at our Conferences over the years the way that Ronnie Brothers did for so many years. Last year we awarded Maria Curry, free-lance pianist from Baton Rouge this honor. Wouldn't you love to see a collaborative pianist who you depend on recognized in this way?

I hope to see you all in beautiful Searcy, Arkansas in November!

Lorraine Sims
Southern Region Governor