

Dear Louisiana NATS members,

Thank you for your patience as we navigate this NATS season and finalize details for the upcoming conference! A reminder that the Fall 26 LA NATS Conference and Auditions will be held on November 13th and 14th at McNeese State University, Lake Charles, LA.

1. November Conference Format Update

We received 29 votes in total, which fell just short of our 31-vote threshold needed for a valid 50% membership quorum. The conference will be held **IN-PERSON this November.**

2. Tentative Conference Program

Here is the tentative Conference Program based on participation.

F26 LA NATS Conference Tentative Program

3. Call for Masterclass Clinicians and Industry Panel

Call for Masterclass Clinicians

We are seeking members interested in serving as clinicians for our upcoming masterclasses, which will cover the following categories:

- **Commercial Music (CM)**
- **Musical Theatre**
- **Classical**
- **K-5**
- **6-12**

Rules for Student Participation in Masterclasses

- **Classical Masterclass:** Participating students must sing a piece that is **different** from the repertoire they are using for their CL chapter audition.
- **Commercial Music, Musical Theatre, K-5, and 6-12 Masterclasses:** Everyone is welcome to participate, but those who did not advance to the finals will be given first preference.

Call for Industry Panelists

We are hosting an Industry Panel focused on navigating real-world singing and teaching careers, covering everything from audition strategies to building a sustainable life as a professional performer and teacher. If you have professional performance experience, industry insight, or expertise in preparing singers for the field and would like to serve as a panelist, please express your interest via the form below.

Presentation Ideas and Offerings

Have a presentation idea you would like to offer? Feel free to submit your idea using the form below.

Masterclass Clinicians and Industry Panelists Form

(You will be asked to submit a short bio at the end of the form)

4. Call for Student Opera and Musical Theater Scenes

We invite chapter members to submit student ensemble scenes to be featured during the conference in both Opera and Musical Theatre.

- Name of stage director, school, and/or organization
- Name of scene, musical/opera, and composer
- Student names and corresponding character names
- Length of Scene
- Brief scene synopsis
- Will you provide your own pianist?

McNeese will provide chairs. No costumes allowed; please wear concert black.

Lighting will be minimal. Please provide your own props if needed.

If you have a scene you would like to consider for performance, please fill out the form below:

Opera and Musical Theater Scenes Form

5. Registration and Categories

Registration for the conference is set to tentatively open on **October 5**. Please keep an eye out for updates. The Student Registration fee is \$18 per category, and the Member fee will be \$20. If you have any questions concerning registration, please contact our Louisiana District Auditions Chair, Ms. Liesl Cruz at lieslemilycruz@gmail.com.

6. Lunch and Chapter Meeting

When you register, you will have the option to pay for our members' luncheon. Our luncheon this year will be catered by Jason's Deli. The menu will be as follows and must be paid along with your registration:

TURKEY Sandwich Box: Roasted turkey breast, lettuce, tomato on multigrain bread. Chips, pickle, and dessert.

HAM Sandwich Box: Ham, lettuce, tomato, on multigrain bread. Chips, Pickle, and dessert.

Gluten-Free HAM Sandwich Box: Ham, lettuce, tomato on Gluten-Free bread. Chips, pickle, and GF dessert.

Gluten-Free TURKEY Sandwich Box: Roasted Turkey, lettuce, tomato on Gluten-Free bread. Chips, pickle, and GF dessert.

Vegetarian Spinach Veggie Wrap Box: Spinach, guacamole, pico de gallo, mushrooms, and Asiago cheese on a wheat wrap. Served with fruit and dessert.

Vegan Very Veggie Sandwich Box: Spinach, guacamole, hummus, tomato, red onion, cucumber, on an ancient grain bun. Served with fruit and chips.

*There will be a place to add further customization to your order if needed.

7. Campus Map, Parking, and Food

Below are two campus maps for McNeese University. All faculty and commuter lots are open for parking, and no pass or permit is required.

[McNeese State University Campus Map](#)

[McNeese State University Parking Map](#)

Our host Dr. Paul Wolf has put together a wonderful Restaurant list and Must-Tries for Lake Charles!

[List of Lake Charles Restaurants and Must-Tries](#)

8. Hotels

I am waiting on the hotel booking links and expect to share those with everyone next week.

These documents will be updated on <https://natssouthern.com/louisiana> soon!

Thank you for your continued support and engagement in our chapter. We look forward to seeing you at the conference!

Warmly,
Dr. Briana Sosenheimer
President, Louisiana Chapter of NATS