



# SFBAC NATS NEWSLETTER

To advance excellence in singing through teaching, performance,  
scholarship, and research



## Table of Contents

President's Letter 2  
2024 SFBAC Classical Auditions Winners 3-4  
SFBAC NATS Workshop with Rhoslyn Jones Report 5  
Membership Info & Committees 6

**THE DEADLINE SUBMISSIONS FOR THE SUMMER NEWSLETTER is June 2, 2024**

Please email your materials to [alinailchuk@yahoo.com](mailto:alinailchuk@yahoo.com)  
Contact us: [sfbacnats@gmail.com](mailto:sfbacnats@gmail.com)

SFBAC NATS bylaws and board meeting minutes may be obtained upon request:  
[sfbacnats@gmail.com](mailto:sfbacnats@gmail.com)

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dearest Chapter-

I hope you are all doing well and that your voice studios are flourishing.

We have had such a great start to the year so far here at SFBAC NATS. We had an amazing Classical Auditions in March at CSU, East Bay, with almost 200 singers participating and a fantastic final event with judges Nikolas Nackley, Katie Preissner, and our own Dr. Julia Nielsen.



We also had a lovely program on March 24th with Rhoslyn Jones, a soprano from San Francisco Conservatory, on classical vocal technique in Oakland (rescheduled from February).

In the fall, you can look forward to a student recital, student auditions featuring musical theater and contemporary music, and an online program.

As we approach springtime, I want to let you know that we will also be electing a new board for the 2024-2026 session, and we would love to have you join. If you are interested in being a member of the board or a committee member for the Singing Festival, DEI, or you are interested in starting something new, we would love to have you. Please reach out to me at [jwilson1897@gmail.com](mailto:jwilson1897@gmail.com) as soon as possible. Be on the lookout for more information about our elections and Annual General Meeting in the email next month.

Additionally, if you have other ideas for ways we can engage with one another as a chapter by region, we would love to hear your ideas.

Sending all my best to each of you and wishing you a restful spring.

All the best,

**Jacque Wilson Scharlach**

Chapter President- SFBAC NATS

### SFBAC NATS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A committee of three board-appointed SFBAC NATS members:

**Wendy Hillhouse, Kathleen Ludowise, Dr. Juanita Ulloa**

When called upon, the Advisory Committee provides council to the board, when advice is needed on questions regarding operational, ethical, and historical (such as interpreting the bylaws, etc.) matters.

## PAST AUDITIONS



### Congratulations to all teachers and students who entered 2024 SFBAC NATS Classical Auditions

### Congratulations to all Finalists & Final Round Winners!



#### Category 01 – Children

First Place: Yueran Dora Jiang (student of Alison Collins)  
 Second Place: Sean Zhang (student of Xiaohua Song)  
 Third Place (tie): Shanna Yu (student of Xiaohua Song)  
 Third Place (tie): Julie Li (student of Alison Collins)

#### Category 02-1 – Youth, Group 1

First Place: Adhya Mahesh (student of Olga Moudry)  
 Second Place: Valentina Mottl (student of Erin McOmber)  
 Third Place (tie): Cece Xia (student of Alison Collins)  
 Third Place (tie): Kyra Ginwalla (student of Diane Squires)  
 Third Place (tie): Mia Lu (student of Krista Wigle)

#### Category 02-2 – Youth, Group 2

First Place: Yunfei Wang (student of Xiaohua Song)  
 Second Place: Janvi Trivedi (student of Gayatri Venkatesan)  
 Third Place: Zoe Pan (student of Krista Wigle)  
 Honorable Mention: Anya Chen (student of Xiaohua Song) /  
 Maira Srivastava (student of Rachel Michelberg) / Neel Pai  
 (student of Gayatri Venkatesan)

#### Category 02-3 – Youth, Group 3

First Place: Anastasia Miin (student of Haruna Shiokawa-Mo)  
 Second Place (tie): Nadia Moehler (student of Erin McOmber)  
 Second Place (tie): Bianca Rosenthal (student of Lora Libby)

Honorable Mention: Heidi Wang (student of Alison Collins) /  
 Sanyi Yao (student of Alison Collins)

#### Category 03-1 – Lower High School Treble, Group 1

First Place: Sofiiia Dorozhkina (student of Alina Ilchuk)  
 Second Place: Annabel Zhao (student of Diane Squires)  
 Third Place: Sofia Tedesco (Student of Xiaohua Song)  
 Honorable Mention: Marie Asano Suzano (student of Amy Heumann) /  
 Sophia Kaushik (student of Christine Abraham)

#### Category 03-2 – Lower High School Treble, Group 2

First Place: Madeleine Chen (student of Erin McOmber)  
 Second Place (tie): Claire Comerford (student of Erin McOmber)  
 Second Place (tie): Clare Weiss (student of Audrey Howitt)  
 Honorable Mention: Vivian Sun (student of Amy Heumann)

#### Category 04 – Lower High School TBB

First Place: Brooks Liang (student of Sue Ma)  
 Second Place: Samuel Pang (student of Xiaohua Song)  
 Third Place: Saurab Gulati (student of Furong Gardner)  
 Honorable Mention: Jack McPherson Day (student of Katie Tupper)



**Category 05-1 – Upper High School Treble, Group 1**

First Place (tie): Claire Delay (student of Kathyne Jennings)  
 First Place (tie): Sophie Mazzeo (student of Rachel Michelberg)  
 Third Place (tie): Eve Nudd (student of Janet Campbell)  
 Third Place (tie): Akshi Malhotra (student of Haruna Shiokawa-Mo)

**Category 05-2 – Upper High School Treble, Group 2**

First Place: Evelyn Hsu (student of Kathyne Jennings)  
 Second Place: Rori Escudero (student of Janet Campbell)  
 Third Place: Lucy Henrich (student of Audrey Howitt)  
 Honorable Mention: Amelia Tai (student of Alison Collins)

**Category 05-3 – Upper High School Treble, Group 3**

First Place: Katherine Jackson (student of Erin McOmber)  
 Second Place: Kaiyi Ma (student of Amy Heumann)  
 Third Place: Katelyn Hsu (student of Alexandra Mena)  
 Honorable Mention: Anna Aganina (student of Erin McOmber) / Erin Lieberman-Evans (student of Roger McCracken)

**Category 06 – Upper High School TBB**

First Place: Tatupu Vaili (student of John Chen)  
 Second Place (tie): Owen Browne (student of John Chen)  
 Second Place (tie): Gabriel Tompkin (student of Roger McCracken)  
 Honorable Mention: Agastya Goel (student of Roger McCracken)

**Category 07 – Lower College / Independent Studio Treble**

First Place: Katrina Franco (student of Kathyne Jennings)  
 Second Place: Natalie Fishman (student of Wendy Hillhouse)  
 Third Place: Maddison Ramirez (student of Emily Sinclair)  
 Honorable Mention: Jahzara Jones (student of Jacque Wilson Scharlach)

**Category 08 – Lower College / Independent Studio TBB**

First Place: Akash Shah (student of Wendy Hillhouse)  
 Second Place: Thien-An Truong (student of Jonathan Smucker & Michael Mohammed)  
 Third Place: Jordan Martinez (student of Jonathan Smucker & Michael Mohammed)

**Category 09 – Upper College / Independent Studio Treble**

First Place: Flora Yuan (student of Wendy Hillhouse)  
 Second Place: Kaelyn Howard (student of Jacque Wilson Scharlach)  
 Third Place: Rebekah Burns (student of Jacque Wilson Scharlach)  
 Honorable Mention: Kristiana Budke (student of Sheila Willey)

**Category 10 – Upper College / Independent Studio TBB**

First Place (tie): Conor Warshawsky (student of Emily Sinclair)  
 First Place (tie): Gavin Pinnow (student of Sheila Willey)  
 Third Place: Jhony De Oliveira (student of Jonathan Smucker & Michael Mohammed)  
 Honorable Mention: Akshar Sarvesh (student of Wendy Hillhouse)

**Category 11/12/13 – Advanced Treble/TBB**

First Place: Suyeon Shin (student of Christine Abraham)  
 Second Place: Andrew Kessler (student of Christine Abraham)  
 Third Place: Megen Vo (student of Erin McOmber & Benjamin Liupaogo)

Honorable Mention: Enguerrand Horel (student of Kathyne Jennings) / Kaya (student of Jacque Wilson Scharlach)

**Category 14 – Avocational I Treble**

First Place: Regina Merrill (student of Chelsea Hollow)  
 Second Place: Sofia Kenny (student of Erin McOmber)  
 Third Place (tie): Ailsa Song (student of Xiaohua Song)  
 Third Place (tie): Paige Swarts (student of Christine Abraham)

**Category 15 – Avocational I TBB**

First Place: Jason Zhu (student of Kathyne Jennings)  
 Second Place: Carl Young (student of Katya Roemer)  
 Third Place: David Ahn (student of Jennifer Mitchell)  
 Honorable Mention: Chris Green (student of Katya Roemer)

**Category 16 – Avocational II / Late Bloomers Treble**

First Place: Elizabeth Wahl (student of Diane Squires)  
 Second Place: Tani Nagaoka (student of Christine Abraham)  
 Third Place: Jenny McHenry (student of Carrie Hennessey)  
 Honorable Mention: Tina Bakolitsa (student of Christine Abraham)

**Category 17 – Avocational II / Late Bloomers TBB**

First Place: Ram Ramayanam (student of Abigail Strock)  
 Second Place: David Chan (student of Diane Squires)

**Category 18 – Seasoned Singers Treble**

First Place: JoAnne Saxe (student of Theresa Cardinale)  
 Second Place: Hwai-Tai Lam (student of Jin-Hee Kim)  
 Third Place: Evelyn Harris (student of Jenny Matteucci)

**Category 19 – Seasoned Singers TBB**

First Place: Steven Knight (student of Amy Heumann)  
 Second Place: Dave Ball (student of Erin McOmber)  
 Third Place: Ken Cioffi (student of Katya Roemer)

<https://sfbacnats.com/>





## PAST WORKSHOP

### Classical Voice Workshop “Vocal Artistry for Voice Teachers and Singers” with Rhoslyn Jones

On March 24th, voice teachers and singers convened at Montclair Presbyterian Church in Oakland to attend a SFBAC NATS classical voice workshop led by Rhoslyn Jones. In addition to her vast operatic stage experience, Rhoslyn Jones is the newly appointed voice teacher for the San Francisco Opera Adler Fellows, she is on the faculty of the San Francisco Opera Merola Program, San Francisco Conservatory of Music, Chautauqua Institute, and the co-founder of the Bay Area Vocal Academy.

The first part of the workshop consisted in a presentation by Ms. Jones, in which she detailed her personal journey toward becoming an established opera singer and voice teacher. She explained how past voice teachers and mentors have shaped her teaching philosophy and her ethos in singing. Emphasizing the critical importance of advocating for early music education and nurturing a collaborative community among voice educators, Ms. Jones offered invaluable perspectives to all in attendance.

In the second part of the workshop, Ms Jones worked with four talented singers: Brooks Liang, Anastasia Miin, Katherine Nägele-Lin, and Athena Christine Palombi, accompanied at the piano by Chun Mei Wilson. Ms. Jones introduced a variety of techniques and tools to address specific vocal challenges, such as mitigating unwanted tension at the root of the tongue, addressing a dropped soft palate or encouraging consistent airflow throughout a phrase. Through Ms. Jones's guidance, the singers experienced tangible improvements in their vocal abilities, showcasing the transformative impact of her expertise within the limited timeframe.

In essence, the workshop was a testament to the transformative power of mentorship, collaboration, and expertise in nurturing the talents of aspiring singers and empowering voice educators. Thank you, Rhoslyn Jones, for an unforgettable experience filled with wisdom and musical inspiration!

Karine St-Pierre & Robin Fisher,  
Vice Presidents of Programs



# MEMBERSHIP/ COMMITTEES

Dear SFBAC NATS members,

Please find the 2024 edition of the NATS Member Directory attached to this email! Feel free to download and save it for your records.

This document is also live at [sfbacnats.com](https://sfbacnats.com) > About Us > Members Only > SFBAC NATS Membership Directory  
Password: SFBACNATS2020

Remember- the directory is for personal use only- no promotions please.

Thank you for your membership!

All the best,  
Jonathan Smucker  
SFBAC Membership Director

**To maximize your SFBAC NATS membership and stay up-to-date on chapter news and events, be sure to:**

- Join our members-only Facebook group, **SFBAC-NATS (San Francisco Bay Area Chapter, Nat'l Assoc Teachers of Singing)**, where members can share information, promotions, and discuss topics of singing.
- Visit and bookmark our website at <https://sfbacnats.com/> and check out the “Members Only” section at [sfbacnats.com/members-only](https://sfbacnats.com/members-only), password **SFBACNATS2020** (case sensitive). The members only section is where you will find member exclusive information, including the SFBAC Online Member Directory.
- Submit your professional information to be listed on the **SFBAC Voice Teacher Directory**, available to the public through the SFBAC website. Be sure to include your location, teaching modalities, and whether you are accepting new students!
- Follow our Facebook page, **San Francisco Bay Area NATS**.
- Subscribe to our YouTube Channel, **SFBAC NATS**.

### NATS Code of Ethics

These ethical guidelines are established by the Association to outline Members’ ethical duties and obligations to students, colleagues and the general public, and to promote professional cooperation and productive relationships among its Members.

Download: [https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/f558864f-b9e0-4ba4-b765-9502e1799a28/downloads/1cn50b369\\_827334.pdf?ver=1631843764783](https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/f558864f-b9e0-4ba4-b765-9502e1799a28/downloads/1cn50b369_827334.pdf?ver=1631843764783)

## SFBAC NATS DIVERSITY and INCLUSION COMMITTEE

On June 7, 2020, at our Annual General Meeting, our board presented a statement, a pledge, that our chapter will do everything in its power to condemn and reject systemic racism and anti-blackness at every turn possible, as well as encourage, seek, and welcome more Black, POC and LGBTQ+ voice teachers to our chapter, including other marginalized voices in our community. From this call to action, a **Diversity and Inclusion Committee** was formed, chaired by **Dr. Phillip Harris** and **Dr. Juanita Ulloa** along with many other members of our board and membership. Immediate action is currently being taken to work on implementing our pledge.

**We can make an impact in our voice community and beyond!**

Would you like to join our Diversity and Inclusion Committee?

Email our Chairs **Dr. Phillip Harris** and **Dr. Juanita Ulloa**:

[diversityandinclusion@sfbacnats.com](mailto:diversityandinclusion@sfbacnats.com)

### SFBAC NATS BOARD

- Jacque Wilson Scharlach, President
- Dr. Erin McOmber & Dr. Phillip Harris, Vice Presidents of Student Auditions
- Jonathan Smucker, Membership Chair
- Dr. Robin Fisher & Dr. Karine St-Pierre, Vice Presidents of Programs
- Gayatri Venkatesan, Vice President of Recitals
- Lee Strawn, Treasurer
- Ryan Downey, Communications Coordinator
- Angelique Zuluaga, Recording Secretary
- Solmaaz Adeli, Webmaster
- Alina Ilchuk, Newsletter Editor
- Contact us: [sfbacnats@gmail.com](mailto:sfbacnats@gmail.com)