



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF  
**TEACHERS  
OF SINGING**  
\*\*\*  
San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

# SFBAC NATS NEWSLETTER

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



## Table of Contents

President's Letter - page 2  
SFBAC NATS Classical Student Auditions Spring 2023 Report - page 3-7  
Musical Theatre Workshop with Meredith Pyle Report- page 8  
Latin American and Spanish Song for NATS CHATS, Welcome to Join the CCC NATS &  
NATS Code of Ethics - page 9  
Membership Information - page 10  
Photo Gallery - page 11  
SFBAC NATS Committees - page 12  
Board Members - page 13

**The Deadline Submission for the Summer Newsletter is  
June 6, 2023**

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

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Happy to Spring to One and All,

I hope everyone is doing well and staying dry. There have been so many amazing things going on in our chapter since our last newsletter!

Over the Martin Luther King Jr. weekend I had the pleasure of attending an amazing Cal-West Regional Conference in Long Beach. The event was run by our wonderful chapter members, Regional Governor **Katie Tupper & Dr. Emily Sinclair**. The key note speaker of the event was Co-VP of Singing Festival - **Dr. Phillip Harris** who spoke on the influence of Martin Luther King, Jr. and how we can incorporate the music of black composers in our teaching. At the event we were also able to hear live and online presentations from SFBAC members: **Emily Bender, Dr. Julia Nielsen, Chelsea Hollow, Dr. Larissa Kelloway, Sheila Townsend, and Dr. Michael Mohammed**. I am so thankful for all of our members who attended and those who volunteered at this event. It was a great place to learn and grow as a teacher, and to enjoy great visits with our chapter members and our regional friends.



On January 29th, **Dr. Karine St-Pierre** and **Dr. Robin Fisher** hosted a Musical Theatre Workshop with Meredith Pyle. I learned so much from the hands on work that she did with us and I have taken a lot of it to my studio this semester. Thank VP's of Programs for making this event happen!

On February 4th, we had an amazing student recital run by **Gayatri Venkatesan** graciously held in the home of member, **Rachel Michelberg**. Thank you Rachel for your wonderful hospitality! I love when our students have more opportunities to perform.

On March 11th, many of us gathered together at CSU, East Bay for our Spring Singing Festival/Auditions. We had over 150 singers participate, and many teachers and volunteers helping. This was one of the best run festivals since my time joining the chapter, and that is in great part to **Dr. Phillip Harris, Dr. Erin McOmber** and **Justin Plank**. Also special thanks to our three finals judges: **Dana Sadava, Dr. Candace Johnson, and Justin Fatu Su'esu'e**.

It is so great to see chapter members at events - if you haven't been to one lately I would highly encourage you to attend the next one. These are great places for us to build community as singing teachers and to build our craft together! Be on the lookout for more details on all these events and more chapter happenings on our Facebook page or in this newsletter.

Have a wonderful spring and I look forward to seeing many of you at one of our upcoming events!

**Jacque Wilson Scharlach**  
Chapter President - SFBAC NATS

# PAST AUDITIONS

## SFBAC NATS Classical Student Auditions Spring 2023

**Congratulations to all teachers and students who entered this Spring!**



### Final Round Winners:

**Dorothy Barnhouse Children & Youth Award**  
**Brooks Liang,**  
student of Yuhan Sun

**Raymond Salazar Lower High School Award**  
**Diana Yanovskiy,**  
student of Robin Fisher

**Page Swift Upper High School Award**  
**Jason Yang,**  
student of Janet Campbell

**Kathryn Harvey Collegiate Award**  
**Stephanie Ortiz,**  
student of Christopher Bengochea

**Edwin Barlow Post-Collegiate Award**  
**Rachael Davis,**  
student of Carrie Hennessey

**Late Bloomers Award**  
**Toshiko Ueda,**  
student of Jin-Hee Kim



*Photo Credit: Andriy Yarmolovych*

**Special THANK YOU to the pianist Daniel Lockert for his impeccable playing at the Finals!**

## All SFBAC NATS Classical Student Auditions Spring 2023 Winners:

<https://sfbacnats.com/singing-festival>

### Category 01 – Children: 5th grade & younger

1st Place: CeCe Xia (student of Alison Collins)  
2nd Place: Marianne Lombos (student of Miyuki Mori)  
3rd Place: Tanisi Mandal (student of Margaret Secour)  
Honorable Mention: Kenna Kaba (student of Gayatri Venkatesan)



### Category 03-1 – Lower High School SSA (Group 1)

1st Place: Diana Yanovskiy (student of Robin Fisher)  
2nd Place: Claire Comerford (student of Erin McOmber)  
3rd Place: Tanisha Shanbhag (student of Sarah Sloan)  
Honorable Mention: Shruti Srinivasan (student of Alison Collins)



### Category 02-1 – Youth Grades 6-8 (Group 1)

1st Place: Brooks Liang (student of Yuhan Sun)  
2nd Place: Zoe Pan (student of Krista Wigle)  
3rd Place: Neel Pai (student of Gayatri Venkatesan)  
Honorable Mention (tie): Mia Lu (student of Krista Wigle)  
Honorable Mention (tie): Sanyi Yao (student of Xiaohua Song)  
Honorable Mention (tie): Yunfei Wang (student of Xiaohua Song)



### Category 03-2 – Lower High School SSA (Group 2)

1st Place: Anna Aganina (student of Erin McOmber)  
2nd Place: Lucy Henrich (student of Audrey Howitt)  
3rd Place: Claire Delay (student of Jin-Hee Kim)  
Honorable Mention: Anika Raman (student of Amy Bouchard)



### Category 02-2 – Youth Grades 6-8 (Group 2)

1st Place: Sofiia Dorozhkina (student of Alina Ilchuk)  
2nd Place: Siddhant Gaur (student of Furong Gardner)  
3rd Place: Kochavia Glaubach (student of Christine Abraham)  
Honorable Mention: Chiara D'Agostino (student of Amy Heumann)



### Category 04 – Lower High School TBB

1st Place: Ethan Sadkowski (student of Sarah Sloan)  
2nd Place: Armaan Sharma (student of Kelly Burge)  
3rd Place: Aditya Ramanathan (student of Gayatri Venkatesan)  
Honorable Mention: Aaron Zhu (student of Jin-Hee Kim)



**Category 05-1 – Upper High School SSA (Group 1)**

1st Place: Miki Mitarai (student of Haruna Shiokawa-Mo)  
 2nd Place (tie): Mia Weinberger (student of Furong Gardner)  
 2nd Place (tie): Millie Cheng (student of Jace Wittig)  
 Honorable Mention: Nadia Soberg (student of Jennifer Mitchell)



**Category 06 – Upper High School TBB**

1st Place: Jason Yang (student of Janet Campbell)  
 2nd Place: Allen Sun (student of Xiaohua Song)  
 3rd Place: Aaditya Karnataki (student of Katya Roemer)  
 Honorable Mention: Tatupu Vaili (student of John Chen)



**Category 05-2 – Upper High School SSA (Group 2)**

1st Place (tie): Violet Pasmooij (student of Annelie Delfs)  
 1st Place (tie): Natalie Fishman (student of Wendy Hillhouse)  
 3rd Place: Malaya Redding Lapuz (student of Erin McOmber)  
 Honorable Mention: Marina Yu (student of Christine Abraham)



**Category 07 – Lower College & Independent Studio SSA**

1st Place: Flora Yuan (student of Wendy Hillhouse)  
 2nd Place: Grace Finke (student of Annelie Delfs)  
 3rd Place: Isabella Szabo (student of Wendy Hillhouse)  
 Honorable Mention: Sophia Gever (student of Nova Jimenez)



**Category 05-3 – Upper High School SSA (Group 3)**

1st Place: Rebecca Beringer (student of Jacquie Wilson Scharlach)  
 2nd Place: Emily Mannion (student of Janet Campbell)  
 3rd Place: Gemma Gibeault (student of Furong Gardner)  
 Honorable Mention: Erin Lieberman-Evans (student of Roger McCracken)



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

1st Place: Donovan Jasper (student of Kathryn Jennings)  
 2nd Place: Louis Santia (student of Sheila Willey)  
 3rd Place: Paco Wong (student of Christine Abraham)



**Category 09 – Upper College & Independent Studio SSA**

1st Place (tie): Jin-Hee Lee (student of Kathrynne Jennings)  
1st Place (tie): Stephanie Ortiz (student of Christopher Bengochea)  
2nd Place: Julianne Citino (student of Christopher Bengochea)  
Honorable Mention (tie): Rachel Nelson (student of Christopher Bengochea)  
Honorable Mention (tie): Rebekah Burns (student of Jacque Wilson Scharlach)



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

1st Place: Juan Angel Johnston-Chavez (student of Christopher Bengochea)  
2nd Place: Ian Harris (student of Jonathan Smucker)  
3rd Place: Conor Warshawsky (student of Emily Sinclair)  
Honorable Mention: Daniel Rios (student of Christopher Bengochea)



**Category 11/12 – Advanced SSA/TBB**

1st Place: Cole Stanford (student of Victoria Rapanan)  
2nd Place: Lidia Chavez (student of Juanita Ulloa)



**Category 13 – Advanced SSA/TBB 31+**

1st Place: Rachael Davis (student of Carrie Hennessey)  
2nd Place: Megen Vo (student of Erin McOmber)  
3rd Place: Andrew Kessler (student of Christine Abraham)  
Honorable Mention: Qui Don Mai Nguyen (student of Christopher Bengochea)



**Category 14 – Adult Avocational I SSA**

1st Place: Becky Ka Ying Lau (student of Christine Abraham)  
2nd Place: Nikhar Agrawal (student of Kathleen Ludowise)  
3rd Place: Carolyn Sprogis (student of Jenny Matteucci)  
Honorable Mention: Regina Merrill (student of Chelsea Hollow)



**Category 15 – Adult Avocational I TBB**

1st Place: Enguerrand Horel (student of Kathrynne Jennings)  
2nd Place: Jason Zhu (student of Kathrynne Jennings)  
3rd Place: Diego Martinez-Campos (student of Heidi Moss Erickson)  
Honorable Mention: Chris Green (student of Katya Roemer)



**Category 16 – Adult Avocational II / Late Bloomers SSA**

1st Place: Toshiko Ueda (student of Jin-Hee Kim)



2nd Place (tie): Ann Crichton (student of Erin McOmber)  
2nd Place (tie): Evelyn Harris (student of Jenny Matteucci)  
Honorable Mention: Colleen Vandevoorde (student of Jennifer Mitchell)

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

1st Place: Carl Young (student of Katya Roemer)



2nd Place (tie): Andrew Newell (student of Victoria Rapanan)  
Second Place (tie): Richard Aragundi (student of Lee Strawn)  
Honorable Mention: Yong Hu (student of Jacque Wilson Scharlach)



Photo Credit: Andriy Yarmolovych

**SFBAC NATS Scholarship/Work Study Application**

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1uw4NbEyIfr-BZa7FS0VsIRHwSr3tCrXB4FfnwDWzoIQ/viewform?edit\\_requested=true&gxids=7628](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1uw4NbEyIfr-BZa7FS0VsIRHwSr3tCrXB4FfnwDWzoIQ/viewform?edit_requested=true&gxids=7628)

A scholarship waives the fee for a specific SFBAC NATS event, program, workshop, student auditions, or concert. It may also be a monetary amount that will help toward vocal and/or continuing education goals. A work study program will allow for no-entry fees to SFBAC NATS events, programs, workshops (most), concerts, student auditions, NATS National and/or Regional conference fees in exchange for a mutually-agreed upon set of hours of work.

PAST EVENTS

“Don’t Sing It If You Don’t Mean It!”  
 SFBAC NATS Musical Theatre Workshop with Meredith Pyle

On January 29th, SFBAC NATS held a musical theatre workshop presented by **Meredith Pyle** at Montclair Presbyterian Church in Oakland with 31 teachers, students, and family members in attendance. Voice teachers and students learned about Florence Birdwell’s methodology, “Don’t sing it, if You don’t mean it!”—namely, how to encourage singers to communicate and connect with the audience using more than just the singing voice. Pyle presented actionable tools, such as monologuing the lyrics, or building a sound symphony, or using the Junto wheel of emotions and feelings, so that voice teachers and students got first-hand experience in cultivating positivity, vulnerability, mindfulness, and an atmosphere of play in the voice studio. The presentation was followed by a voice class in which four singers, **Sami Kuncharapu**,

**D'Vine Riley, Cecily Feliz, and Sravya Vakkalanka**, performed selections from musical theatre repertoire with **pianist, Chun Mei Wilson**. Meredith Pyle worked with each singer on different aspects of her methodology using tools such as personal anecdotes, monologuing, silly dilly gestures, and Opera Works cards created by Anne Baltz to cultivate bravery and vulnerability in performance. Needless to say, this was an insightful, informative, and dynamic workshop. Thank you, Meredith Pyle!

**Dr. Karine St-Pierre and Dr. Robin Fisher**  
 Vice Presidents of Programs

Photo Credit: Andriy Yarmolovych

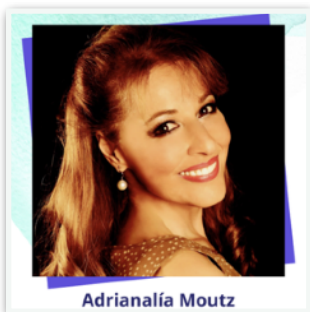




## MEMBERS ACTIVITIES

### Latin American and Spanish song for NATS CHATS

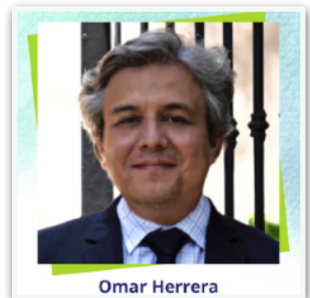
SFBAC NATS and CCC NATS member **Dr. Juanita Ulloa** was invited to feature a free one-hour online talk introducing folks to **Latin American and Spanish song for NATS CHATS!** This is the first time NATS CHATS has made information available for those wanting to learn about this huge and important topic. There will be handouts and information on cutting-edge dissertations. Everyone can register now to join her with two colleagues on **Sunday, May 21.**



Adrianalía Moutz



Juanita Ulloa



Omar Herrera

To register:  
<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/8901443153533545484>

### Welcome to join the California Capital Chapter of NATS!

On Saturday, February, 19th 2023, CCC NATS held a long awaited Annual Student Auditions at the University of the Pacific in Stockton, CA. All vocal styles were represented with terrific singers.

Three singer/voice teachers, **Claudia Kitka, Alina Ilchuk, and Dr. Juanita Ulloa** are members of both SFBAC and CCC Chapters. We welcome teachers joining both chapters!

<https://www.facebook.com/>



### 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->

## MEMBERSHIP

### Invitation to grow our membership

Do you know a newer voice teacher building a private voice studio, a colleague looking to increase their knowledge base, a teaching friend who is new to the Bay Area, or someone looking for additional student performance opportunities?

NATS and SFBC offer all this and more!

We welcome all to our community- help us to grow our ranks!

### SFBAC Membership Survey re-opened!

We have re-opened our membership survey- we want to know more about you! How singing and teaching factor into your lives, and how we can best serve you as a chapter. (Thank you to everyone who has responded already!)

Please complete the survey (about 15 minutes) at this link by April 15th.

Thank you for your time and your membership- we look forward to your responses!

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScQD4xcthNzuNLJRAjp1n1qKs8t8Covleek1svRMKDztYILPw/viewform>

### 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](#).

## SFBAC NATS welcomes the following new members:

Catherine Brady, Campbell  
 Joanna Cazden, Santa Cruz  
 Dawn Farry, Pacheco  
 Osher Fein, Cupertino  
 Marie Halcrow, Mariposa  
 Janet Holmes, San Ramon  
 Di Hong, Los Gatos  
 Larissa Kelloway, Berkeley  
 Matthew Paul Liebowitz, Castro Valley  
 Sarah Nadreau, San Francisco  
 May Oskan, Oakland  
 Yuhan Sun, Saratoga

Do say hello to our newest members when you have the opportunity!

# PHOTO GALLERY



Photo Credit: Andriy Yarmolovych



## COMMITTEES

### 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.

### 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.

Click [here](#) to view **Diverse Vocal Offerings**.

**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)

## Bylaws & Board Meeting Minutes

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

# BOARD



**Jacquie Wilson Scharlach**  
President



**Ryan Downey**  
Communications  
Coordinator



**Dr. Robin Fisher &  
Dr. Karine St-Pierre**  
Vice Presidents of Programs



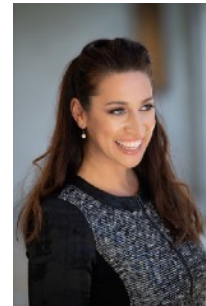
**Angelique Zuluaga**  
Recording Secretary



**Dr. Erin McOmber &  
Dr. Phillip Harris**  
Vice Presidents of Student  
Auditions



**Gayatri Venkatesan**  
Vice President of Recitals



**Solmaaz Adeli**  
Webmaster



**Jonathan Smucker**  
Membership Chair



**Lee Strawn**  
Treasurer



**Alina Ilchuk**  
Newsletter Editor

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