



## SFBAC NATS NEWSLETTER

December 20, 2021

### President's Letter

Dear SFBAC NATS Members,

It feels like yesterday, we were celebrating the start of a new school year and now we are fast-approaching 2022! Congratulations in completing your first semester! Many of you are now teaching in-person, whether a hybrid set-up or full-time. Of course, just as we have started to get into a safe routine and returning to live in-person performances, a new variant, Omicron, rears its head. We will persevere, just as we had with Delta and other surges. Stay safe and stay positive. We are here for each other.

Congratulations to ALL our students and teachers who participated in our Fall Student Auditions! We had such an amazing turnout and not only witnessed incredible talent, but also some wonderful judging by all of you fantastic teachers. Thank you for taking the time to really inspire our students and give them helpful and positive feedback on their hard work.

A GIGANTIC THANK YOU to our Co-VPs of Student Auditions **Dr. Phillip Harris** and **Jacque Wilson Scharlach**! We could not have accomplished such a successful event without their tireless hard work and dedication and they do this 2 times a year!!! They would not have been able to pull it off so smoothly without **Justin Plank** our Student Auditions Technical Support. We also had hours and hours of repertoire vetting help by **Allison Collins**. **Matt LaRochelle** helped with the evening's tallying of scores at the finals concert. Communications was handled beautifully by **Dr. Ryan Downy** and our webmaster, **Solmaaz Adeli**. Of course we cannot forget to thank **Dr. Lee Strawn**, our fantastic Treasurer, for coordinating all the prizes! Last, but not least, we need to thank our finals judges: **Ashi Day**, **Andre Garner**, and **Kevin Wilson**! They brought grace, heart and wisdom to our students at the finals! We are so grateful for their time



with us. Thank you to everyone!!! Oh and our Spring Classical Student Auditions Finals will be held on March 6, 2022, so mark your calendars! More information to come soon.

There is no doubt that we are in different times with Covid in our midst, which has truly impacted our students both young and old. Keeping them as well as ourselves engaged is key and this is exactly why SFBAC is dedicated to bringing you events and programming that inspire you and your students. You also have a say in what you'd like to see our chapter do! **Jonathan Smucker**, our Membership Secretary, with the help of both **Dr. Emily Sinclair** and **Allison Collins**, have sent out this fantastic survey and would love for you to fill it out so you can be heard. Here is the link to the survey: <https://sfbacnats.com/members-only/membership-survey-please-fill-out-by-dec1>. On that note, we can always use some help!! Some areas we could use your help with are our SNATS program, Diversity and Inclusion Committee, Recitals, Membership Engagement, Programs, Student Auditions and helping to review and update our Bylaws, etc. If you have any interest in any of these areas, we would love to have your help. Please email: [sfbacnats@gmail.com](mailto:sfbacnats@gmail.com).

With SFBAC NATS Board elections approaching this coming Spring of 2022, volunteering would be a wonderful way for you to learn about the inner-workings of our chapter, shadow a board member and maybe be inspired to run for a board position for the 2022-2024 term. We are actually still looking for an interim Co-VP of Programs!

**Dr. Robin Fisher** is our amazing Co-VP of Programs, but she would love to have a partner to help with this two-person position. Please connect with Robin or myself if you're interested or have questions about the position. AND don't forget that Robin has organized our next "Singer's Toolkit" workshop on January 23rd with **Dr. Candace Y. Johnson**! Stay tuned for more information about that!

As many of you may know already, our dear VP of Recitals, **Ashley Bailey**, will be stepping down at the end of December. We have been so lucky to have her serve our community. She has brought so much to the role of VP of Recitals and we are grateful for her time and commitment to our membership and to our students. Thank you Ashley and we are sending you the best of wishes on your new and exciting chapter! And thank you for putting on such a fabulous recital on December 4th! We will surely miss you and all your positivity you bring! However, Ashley has found a fantastic interim VP of Recitals, **Gayatri Venkatesan**! Welcome Gayatri! We are looking forward to having you on the board and bringing your wisdom and perspective to our membership!

Don't forget that the 57th NATS National Conference will be held July 2022 in Chicago! Consider attending, as it is truly an experience of renewal, inspiration, and growth! You will meet old friends and make new ones and walk away a more enlightened teacher. You can find out more information at this link: <https://www.nats.org/chicago2022.html>

Thank you so much for your continued membership with SFBAC! We hope that you are taking advantage of all that we have to offer. We appreciate you!

Be safe and be well.

Sincerely,

**Katie Tupper**  
President, SFBAC NATS

## UPCOMING EVENTS



### Spring 2022 Classical Singing Festival & Student Auditions

The **SFBAC NATS Spring 2022 Classical Singing Festival and Student Auditions** will be in a hybrid model with the first round as a video submission.

The **final round** will be a LIVE STREAMED CONCERT with 1st place winners performing at CSU, East Bay (subject to current COVID Protocols).

Save the dates and let your students know about the **video deadlines**:

- January 11th** - Registration Opens - you can start turning videos in;
- February 11th** - Registration closes;
- February 19th** at 10:00am - Judges Meeting;
- February 20-26** - Judging Open;
- March 6th** at 6:00 pm - Finals Round with students performing LIVE from CSU, East Bay - while we LIVESTREAM from our LIVING ROOMS!

The annual San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of NATS Student Auditions offers to our membership's students:

Motivation toward vocal and musical growth;

Encouragement toward the preparation of appropriate repertoire for many genres of music;

An opportunity to sing before qualified and impartial judges and to receive constructive criticism of their performance;

An opportunity to have outstanding musical talent and vocal achievement recognized by teachers and peers.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

##### FESTIVAL CO-CHAIRS

**Jacque Wilson Scharlach**

[jwilson1897@gmail.com](mailto:jwilson1897@gmail.com)

&

**Dr. Phillip Harris**

[philewish@gmail.com](mailto:philewish@gmail.com)

##### YouTube Video Submission Guidelines

[https://www.nats.org/NSA - You Tube Round Video Submissions.html](https://www.nats.org/NSA-You Tube Round Video Submissions.html)



## The Singer's Toolkit Workshop Series: The Singing Teacher's Toolkit for Diversity & Flexibility



We are happy to announce our next workshop in  
The Singer's Toolkit Workshop Series -  
“**The Singing Teacher's Toolkit for Diversity & Flexibility**”  
featuring **Dr. Candace Y. Johnson**, UC Berkeley  
<https://cjsings.com/>

The presentation and workshop with SFBAC NATS student  
singers and members will be on  
**Sunday, January 23rd, 3:00-5:00 p.m.**

Please contact SFBAC Vice-President for Programs,  
**Dr. Robin Fisher** for more info: [rfisher@csus.edu](mailto:rfisher@csus.edu)

### Location:

**UC Berkeley Morrison Hall, Room 125**, and for  
the online audience through Zoom livestream.  
In-person participants and audience will need to  
show proof of vaccination, valid photo ID, and  
receive a temperature check upon arrival.  
If COVID conditions preclude an in-person  
meeting, the event will be moved to fully online for  
participants and audience.

### More Event Info:

This engaging workshop in The Singer's Toolkit  
Series is an in-person presentation and  
masterclass workshop with **Dr. Candace Y.  
Johnson (DMA)** featuring students and/or NATS  
members as performers. In a brief presentation,  
Dr. Johnson will share her experience  
incorporating inclusivity and cultural awareness  
teaching voice class for the last 12 years to a  
widely diverse body of students at UC Berkeley.  
She will also share resources for repertoire by  
black composers and talk about her journey to  
create her own blend of opera, gospel, and jazz.  
She will then work with SFBAC NATS performers  
to address such topics as style, cultural sensitivity,  
and authentic interpretation. Together, we will find  
a safe space to be inspired and challenged as we  
step out of our comfort zones to explore new  
ways to teach singing with diversity in mind.

### Apply to Participate:

**Deadline to submit an online Application** to  
participate as a performer in this workshop is  
Saturday, **January 8, 2022**, by 5:00 p.m. 5  
participants will be chosen to perform in the  
workshop and will be notified by January 10,  
2022.

Please prepare a video recording of yourself  
singing one selection for solo voice with  
accompaniment (live or recorded) and submit the  
link to a YouTube posting of your video below. At  
the beginning of your video, be sure to announce  
your name clearly and the title of your selection .

**Preferred repertoire** to present at the workshop  
includes the following: a classical piece by an  
African American composer (including Spirituals),  
musical theater, jazz, gospel, or a power ballad-  
ballad may be sung in any language. If a student  
is chosen to present at the workshop, but does  
not have the preferred repertoire, anything from  
the audition repertoire list is perfectly  
acceptable.

### Online Application Form:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/  
1n4ugQ95XEiQ8pWdlh3F7Kc\\_91p-  
e2Gh\\_eKnpVcc5N7Q/viewform?  
edit\\_requested=true](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1n4ugQ95XEiQ8pWdlh3F7Kc_91p-e2Gh_eKnpVcc5N7Q/viewform?edit_requested=true)

# PAST EVENTS

## Winter Student Recital



Our winter recital, held on Sunday, December 5th, was a huge success and included the students of **Solmaaz Adeli, Olga Chernisheva, Mollie McReynolds, Katya Roemer, and Alina Ilchuk**. All of the performers did a great job! The recital highlighted a perfect mix of classical, musical theater, and pop repertoire - it even featured some holiday classics such as "Dreidel Song" and "What Child Is This." This recital is available for viewing on our Youtube channel.

This was my last recital as VP of Recitals as I shift focus to our twin girls, due in February. I love this chapter and all of its talented students and teachers! So excited to pass the torch onto **Gayatri Venkatesan** who I know will do an even better job than I did.

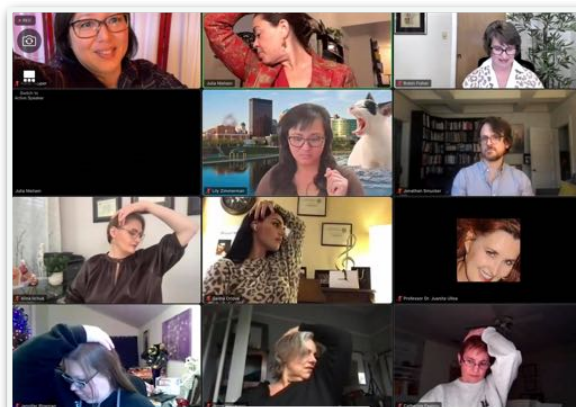
Thank you, **Ashley Bailey**

## The Singer's Neck/Jaw/Tongue Toolkit Workshop with Dr. Julie Nielsen

Thank you, **Dr. Julia Hunt Nielsen**, for a fantastic workshop on October 25, 2021. Everyone who attended had a wonderful time!

You're exactly what the doctor ordered for us: inspiration, a new set of tools, a review, and a refreshing perspective of pedagogy for the neck, tongue, and jaw.

This incredible workshop wouldn't have happened without the hard work, dedication, and organizing magic of Co-VP of Programs **Robin Fisher** and former Co-VP of Programs **Liesl Michele McPherrin!** Helpers, **Ryan Downey, Solmaaz Adeli, and Lee Strawn!** Thank you, fabulous team!



## 2021 Online FALL Musical Theatre, CCM & Original Songwriting SFBAC NATS Student Auditions

**Congratulations to all teachers and students who entered this Fall and Final Awards Winners!**

All winners list:

<https://sfbacnats.com/new-page-4>



Children Music Theater Below 6th Grade  
1st Place - **Ella Miikkulainen-Katila**  
(student of Diane Squires)

Youth Music Theater Grades 6-8 (Group 1)  
1st Place - **Vivian Sun** (student of Kelly Clarke)

Youth Music Theater Grades 6-8 (Group 2)  
1st Place - **Anya Gupta** (student of Gayatri Venkatesan)

Youth Music Theater Grades 6-8 (Group 3)  
1st Place - **Aditya Ramanathan** (student of Gayatri Venkatesan)

Lower High School Music Theater SSA  
Grades 9 & 10 (Group 1)  
1st Place - **Shreya Ghoshal** (student of Gayatri Venkatesan)

Lower High School Music Theater SSA  
Grades 9 & 10 (Group 2)  
1st Place - **Shayla He** (student of Allison Collins)

Lower High School Music Theater TBB  
Grades 9 & 10  
1st Place - **Brian Doolittle** (student of Chad Somers)

Upper High School Music Theater SSA  
 Grades 11 & 12 (Group 1)  
 1st Place (tie) - **Valerie Golobic** (student of Kelly Fosdahl Burge) & **Avani Gupta** (student of Haruna Shiokawa-Mo)

Upper High School Music Theater SSA  
 Grades 11 & 12 (Group 2)  
 1st Place - **Riley Blackwell** (student of Rachel Michelberg)

Upper High School Music Theater TBB  
 Grades 11 & 12  
 1st Place - **Brian Loh** (student of Alexandra Mena)

Lower College & Independent Studio Music Theater SSA/TBB  
 1st Place - **Peter Sunseri** (student of Chigusa Saotome)

Upper College & Independent Studio Music Theater SSA  
 1st Place - **Lizzie Dowdle** (student of Kathryne Jennings)

Advanced Music Theater SSA/TBB  
 1st Place - **Ashley Willits** (student of Sandra Bengochea)

CCM Youth  
 1st Place - **Athena Wolff** (student of Lora Libby)

CCM High School SSA/TBB (Group 1)  
 1st Place - **Shayla He** (student of Allison Collins & Dawn Elder & Natasha Corrigan)

CCM Collegiate & Independent Studio SSA/TBB  
 1st Place - **Keri Hill** (student of Victoria Rapanan)

Adult SSA/TBB- Avocational  
 1st Place - **Alex Sheh** (student of Jin-Hee Kim)

Adult SSA/TBB - Late Bloomers  
 1st Place - **Steve Schaffer** (student of Juanita Ulloa)

Original Song (19 & Under)  
 1st Place - **Rose Madsen** (student of Amy Heumann)

Original Song (20 & Older)  
 1st Place- **Rob Jamner** (student of Chelsea Hollow)

## SFBAC NATS Scholarship/Work Study Application

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1uw4NbEylfR-BZa7FS0VsIRHWsr3tCrXB4FfnwDWzolQ/viewform?edit\\_requested=true&gxids=7628](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1uw4NbEylfR-BZa7FS0VsIRHWsr3tCrXB4FfnwDWzolQ/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.

## MEMBERS ACTIVITY

### Mozart & Lieder Master Class with Christian Koch



Dear Colleagues - **Voice Academy SOL** and **Solmaaz Adeli** will be hosting another online master class with esteemed Viennese pianist and conductor **Christian Koch** in the winter or spring of 2022.

Christian Koch accompanies several world renowned artists, including Thomas Hampson, Luca Pisaroni, Bernarda Fink, and Michael Schade.

Singers may use live or pre-recorded accompaniment. February/March Date TBA.

Please connect with [voiceacademysol@gmail.com](mailto:voiceacademysol@gmail.com) for more information.

### Songwriting Divas of Latin America & Expanding Vocal Lifespan for Mariachi Singers

Professor of Voice/Operachi singer **Dr. Juanita Ulloa** has been selected to present a recital at NATS National Chicago Convention July 3, 2022 on **Songwriting Divas of Latin America**, alongside guest artist singers **Katya Roemer** and **Lidia Chávez**.

Additionally, Dr. Juanita Ulloa and two of her voice students **José Sánchez** and **Lidia Chávez**, will present on **Expanding Vocal Lifespan for Mariachi Singers: A study of current conditions, vocal history and recommendations** at the early 2022 California Western Regional Festival Competition. The presentation will be available online to all Sunday January 15th at 3pm (PST).





## “Who Was Maestro Antonio Gomezanda?”

In the first half of 2022, Dr. Juanita Ulloa will be giving a webinar entitled “Who Was Maestro Antonio Gomezanda?” One of Mexico’s many nationalistic composers, Antonio Gomezanda, is the author of 93+ art songs and the world’s earliest known mariachi opera ca.1929. Connect with Dr. Ulloa for more information [juanitavoicetrainer@gmail.com](mailto:juanitavoicetrainer@gmail.com). She is currently accepting song videos from singers to feature his art songs from her three published volumes.

**Three Volumes of Mexican Art Song** with rancheras are available:

[www.classicalvocalrep.com](http://www.classicalvocalrep.com)



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*“This collection of short songs in Spanish from Mexico offers teachers a new and wonderful alternative to 24 Italian Art Songs for beginning and intermediate singers.”*

*Professor Jane Randolph  
San Francisco Conservatory of Music*

### ABOUT THE COMPOSER

Antonio Gomezanda (1894-1961) is one of many undeservedly obscure composers in Mexican music. Apart from being a piano prodigy, piano teacher, and music critic, he composed romantic and early twentieth-century nationalistic music in many genres including large, small, instrumental, and vocal. Gomezanda also wrote over 90 original songs, several vocal dramatic works, and opera ranchera (mariachi opera) full scores discovered by Dr. Ulloa in 2009. The composer continued the stylistic path of nationalism advocated by his teacher, Manuel Ponce, also known as the “Father of Mexican Song.” Gomezanda’s nationalistic topics are often based upon elements from the Mexican folk ranchero musical style that he grew up with in Lagos de Moreno, Jalisco, Mexico along with costumbrismo literary topics. He was primarily trained in classical music in Mexico City and later in Berlin.

Most songs in these collections are published for the first time. These publications contain International Phonetic Alphabet transcriptions (IPA) for easy Spanish pronunciation with both literal and poetic translations to English. Each song is presented with two key choices.

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## MEMBERSHIP

**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 Renewal period ends 12/31/2021- don't miss out on the benefits of membership!**

Be sure to renew your NATS membership and to pay your chapter dues before the 1st of the year. NATS membership can be renewed online at [nats.org](https://nats.org) in the Member Home section of the website. Add SFBAC Chapter dues to stay current with SFBAC NATS in the new year! Thank you for your membership!

### **SFBAC Membership Survey - Extension!**

We have extended the deadline for the SFBAC Membership Survey to January 10th! 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. This is also an opportunity to request contact from a member of the board or Member Care team.

Please complete the survey at this [link](#)

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

## Membership Milestone- almost 200 members!

As of this month, SFBC NATS is 195 members strong!  
You can help us get over the 200 mark!

As you consider plans to participate in upcoming SFBC and National and Regional Programs, Student Recitals, Student Auditions and conferences, please also consider inviting your voice colleagues to attend.

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!

## SFBC NATS welcomes the following new members:

Martin Benvenuto  
Lidia Chavez  
Milena Giorgieva Bach  
Deirdre Lobo  
Thilaka Sumanaweera

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

### 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)

## COMMITTEES

### 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 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 bylaws and board meeting minutes  
may be obtained upon request:**

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

# BOARD



**Katie Tupper**  
President



**Gayatri Venkatesan**  
Vice President of Recitals



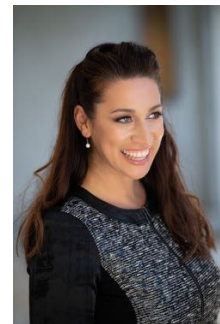
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**Contact us:**  
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**THE DEADLINE SUBMISSIONS FOR THE SPRING NEWSLETTER is MARCH 25, 2022**

Please email your materials to [newsletter@sfbacnats.com](mailto:newsletter@sfbacnats.com)