



# SFBAC NATS NEWSLETTER

July 12, 2021

## President's Letter

Dear SFBAC NATS Teachers,

I hope this letter finds you well and that you are as excited for the summer months, as I am! It has been a hard year for all of us on many different levels, but you should all be very proud of yourselves for the commitment you gave to your students. In many ways, I feel that teachers and students needed each other, equally.

What a lovely Annual General Meeting we had on the 27th of June! It was so wonderful to see many of your faces, review our year together and share our SFBAC upcoming news, especially in welcoming our new Co-Vice President of Programs, Dr. Robin Fisher (who you will get the pleasure to read more about in this newsletter issue). There are so many wonderful exciting programs coming up, and as we mentioned at our meeting, we hope that you will consider getting involved. As they say, "many hands, make light work." Please reach out to any of the fantastic board members; I know they will be gratefully responsive!

As we are all moving toward herd immunity with vaccinating, please be mindful that we are still susceptible to contracting CoVid-19. Although the symptoms are less severe, we still should take some precautions, especially for those who have a higher comorbidity. Like many of you, returning to in-person teaching (for me, at least 3/4 of the time) is ideal. There's nothing like being able to teach a full lesson without Zoom freezing up on you, or a mic issue arising, or the lighting or camera placement contributes to obscuring your visual on the student, etc. I am seriously looking forward to seeing a multi-dimensional human, rather than a moving paper-doll sized figure on a 12-inch flat screen. Our students are also so very eager to return to in-person lessons, as well. While you're transitioning back, continue to monitor your area's CoVid-19 warnings, so you can always keep yourselves' and your students' safety at the forefront.

Unfortunately, many teachers have lost their teaching studios due to buildings, churches, and other establishments closing their doors. Some may reopen and choose not to rent space to voice teachers, due to the nature of our work. If you are one of those teachers who are able to return to your space and are aware of additional



potential studio space, please share this information on our Facebook Group Page. I am sure our teachers will be so grateful for your support in helping them find a new studio home.

Have a fantastic and safe summer! Hopefully you will give yourself some downtime for rest and recreation, or the new pandemic meaning of R&R should be, “recovery and recreation.”

Regards,

**Katie Tupper**

President, SFBAC NATS

### **Welcome Our New Board Member and Co-Vice President of Programs Dr. Robin Fisher**



Soprano **Robin Fisher** has performed to critical acclaim in Paris, Vienna, Prague, Hamburg, Chicago and Dallas. ...“amazingly precise coloratura, melting diminuendi, splendid high notes and delightful musicality” (Opernwelt) and her “mature timbre and total self-assurance.... an extremely exciting singer-actress” (Westdeutsche Zeitung).

A native of California, Dr. Fisher began her vocal studies at San José State University and went on to graduate from Smith College cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa. She won both the prestigious Fulbright-Hayes Scholarship and a Rotary Foundation Award to pursue studies in Europe and received the coveted Artist's Diploma cum laude from the University of Vienna. She holds a D.M.A. degree from the University of Texas at Austin.

Dr. Fisher joined the Sac State School of Music faculty in 2003 and holds the highest rank of Full Professor.

Sac State voice students have been winners in major regional competitions and received scholarships to attend such prestigious post-baccalaureate programs as the San Francisco Conservatory, Cincinnati College Conservatory, New England Conservatory, Bard College, UCLA and the Manhattan School of Music as well as programs including Merola program, Music Academy of the West, Seattle Opera Studio, and the Ryan Opera Center at Lyric Opera of Chicago.

As an educator, Dr. Fisher has taught courses at both the graduate and undergraduate levels including Applied Voice, Diction (Italian, German, French), Vocal Pedagogy, Song Literature, Career Planning for Singers, and a weekly studio class for performance practice.

She founded and led “Empowering Singers” in Sacramento as an intensive workshop to join voice study with the Alexander Technique. In 2013, Dr. Fisher founded *Lingua e Canto*, a summer intensive for young singers to study the Italian language, opera performance and vocal technique.



*The SFBAC NATS **Advisory Committee** is comprised of former members who advise on administrative practices and questions that arise within the current board. With their vast knowledge and chapter experience, SFBAC NATS is able to honor its rich traditions while continuing to bring its membership current and innovative programs and offerings.*

**We asked our three committee members to share some fun facts with you:**

### **Dr. Juanita Ulloa**

Sharing that my doctoral student loan is now 3/4 paid off and what a relief. My doctorate was really worth it, but what a load. Please consider joining with me in praying for loan debt relief for all our own students!

I have an amazing daughter, Cristina Milizia, who does voice-overs internationally in hundreds of voices. If you follow video games she is Annie in League of Legends. Cristina recently shared with me that the recording sessions that are the most fun are when she gets booked to recreate or create animal sounds. She doesn't have to keep to a script and improvises with weird noises for hours at a time while a group of producers sits behind the glass watching. Fascinating.



I've written over 20 new songs since COVID started, mostly spiritual global fusion crossover in both Spanish & English. A new style emerging, go figure! It has brought me much release and peace and has become a welcome morning ritual. Someday the songs will be ready to introduce to the world...

### **Kathleen Ludowise**

One would think that our professional lives would slow down during the pandemic. Somehow that never happened for me. My students and I quickly converted to Zoom lessons a year ago. Having a majority of teens on my roster, they had no problem switching to the new medium. Once we got all the sound systems working well, all went smoothly. (Thanks to CleanFeed.) The students kept as busy as ever, entering all the usual auditions and contests. However, now these activities all use video entries. I used the summer of 2020 to teach the students how to make a good video recording of themselves. I do look forward to having in-person pianists again who follow the student



instead of the student following a recorded accompaniment.

Also, I was in charge of the Music Teacher's Assoc. of California's VOCE competition for MTAC Santa Clara County Branch. Since MTAC had no online platform, I created my own platform using Google Drive. Other years we've had about 40 instrumental and vocal entries, and this year we had about 70!. For whatever reason, the pandemic brought more student/teacher interest than usual. So, things have been busier than ever for me, and we've all learned new online skills along the way.

My hobby is gardening. The month of May is prime season for getting the veggies in the ground. Currently, my dining room is full of tomato, cucumber, and basil plants waiting to be planted out in the garden. All were grown from seed started back at the end of March. Unusual fun fact: I currently have over fifty 24 oz jars of honey in my kitchen.

I always love listening to the German composers – Mozart, Schubert, Schumann, and Strauss, especially. I've also been exploring some 21st century musical theater, trying to stay up to date on the rep.

### Wendy Hillhouse

Wendy Hillhouse completed her Master's degree in Liberal Arts at Stanford in 2020. Her thesis is entitled "Singing the Unsung Songs: James Joyce, Chamber Music, and the Singing Effect", and concludes that James Joyce's "musical words" were shaped by the fact that as a singer, he favored words that are easily sung. Covid came along, though, so she's eagerly looking forward to graduating on June 12. Graduation will be remote, but she'll be wearing a cap and gown because, after 2 other degrees, this is the first time she's been able to attend her graduation. Wendy is excited!



### Opera is back in the Bay Area!

SFBAC members **Phil Skinner**, **Chad Somers** and **Jonathan Smucker** will be performing in the West Edge Opera Festival, July 24th - August at the California Shakespeare Bruns Amphitheatre in Orinda.

Rehearsed and performed entirely outdoors, the festival includes Janacek's **Katya Kabanova**, **Elizabeth Cree** by Kevin Puts and Mark Campbell, and Cavalli's **Eliogabalo**.

It's remarkable to return to live performance after these many months--come see us! Get tickets while you can at [westedgeopera.org](https://westedgeopera.org)!

## Hello, fellow SFBAC NATS members!

With so many new members, I know that many of you do not know me. I have



been a chapter member since 1998 and was Chapter President for 4 years and VP, Recitals for 6 years before that. Being part of NATS and participating in the many programs for our students and for ourselves has added so much to my teaching life, which can be an isolating profession.

Anyway, I am excited to announce my 2 latest accomplishments and was asked to write a bit more about it for the newsletter.

1. The publishing of my audio program, **Victoria's Victorious Vocal Exercise Program** - a DIFFERENT kind of singing program! 2 years of planning and work. Besides a short warm-up and longer workout, I have targeted training and exercises for specific technical needs, vocal colors and musical styles (classical and musical theater to pop, jazz, country, R&B, etc.).

I have purposely made it very affordable and sales have been excellent! <https://www.healthyvocaltechnique.com/order-victorias-victorious-vocal-exercise-program/>

2. The exponential growth of my **YouTube channel, Healthy Vocal Technique (Victoria's Victorious Vocal Tips)** - nearing **25,000 subscribers** (up from 1,700 exactly 1 year ago), and approximately 750,000 views! It is truly amazing to have such an influence on so many singers all over the world. Although it is a LOT of work, I never thought the rewards would be so great. It keeps getting better!

3. Besides the above, of course, I still have my private students, and this online growth has brought me an international clientele and a long wait list.

All of this started about 2 years ago when, after 28 years of teaching, I wanted to infuse new life and variety in



my studio. Now, at 30 years of teaching, I am having more fun than ever in both teaching and performing. My goal is to continue building passive income and impacting singers from all walks of life.

### Victoria Rapanan

<https://www.healthyvocaltechnique.com/>  
<https://www.reverbNation.com/victoriarapanan>  
<https://www.facebook.com/victoriarapanan1>

**Subscribe to my YouTube channel:**  
<https://www.youtube.com/user/vrsing>



Congratulations to SFBAC NATS member **Jace Wittig** and her student, **Saman de Silva**, who became 1st Place winner in both, the **NATS National Student Auditions** and **Classical Singer's 2021 Vocal Competition** in his category!



Saman is a 17-year-old baritone from Los Altos Hills who just completed his junior year of high school. Congratulations, Saman!

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**Jonathan Smucker**  
(SFBAC NATS Membership Secretary)

is celebrating his graduating high school senior, **Murali Mayer**, who will continue his vocal studies at **St. Olaf College** this fall with a double major in music and math.

Murali has studied with Jonathan at the San Francisco Community Music Center since he was 11 years old, receiving a CMC Merit Scholarship for his lessons.

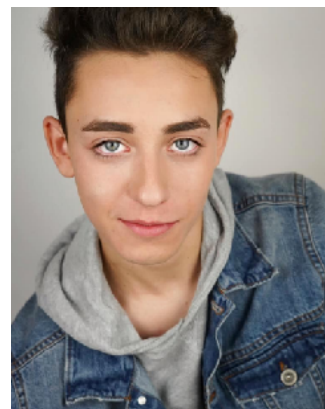
Congratulations, Murali!

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Congratulations to SFBAC NATS member **Alexandra Mena** and her many students, who were accepted into **numerous colleges** and **summer programs** around the country and became winners at **the KPU International Music Festival 2021!**

**Felicia Chang**, 1 of 5 women, accepted to **Carnegie Mellon University's** musical theatre program, from a pool of thousands of applicants.

**Andre Lajevardi** was accepted to musical theatre summer pre-



college programs at the **University of Michigan, Oklahoma City University,** and **ArtsBridge.**

**Mireya Nevel** was accepted to the summer pre-college



musical theatre programs at **NYU Tisch** and **Oklahoma City University.**

**Jessica Steele** was accepted to the summer music program

for high school students at **CSSSA, CalArts.**

**Lauren Berling** accepted to summer theatre intensive for



college students at **Boston Conservatory** (program was later cancelled).

**The KPU International Music Festival 2021 winners:**

**Amabel Loh** won gold medal and outstanding performance for the

musical theatre/high school division.

**Brian Loh** won gold medal for the musical theatre/high school division.

**Lauren Berling** won gold medal and outstanding performance for the musical theatre/college division.

**Katelyn Hsu** won silver medal for the classical/high school division.

Congratulations!

**Alina Ilchuk** (SFBAC NATS Newsletter Editor) is happy for her student **Clara Abrahams**, who has been awarded GRAND PRIX in the **Alley of Stars International Art Competition** and 1st

place in the **2021 New York Virtuoso International Competition.**

In 2020 Clara was



accepted into the **Boston University Tanglewood Institute Young Vocal Artists Summer Program** -- cancelled due to Covid -- but will be attending their program in July of 2021. Congratulations, Clara!

## 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.

# STUDENT *recitals*

## 2021 Summer SFBAC NATS Virtual Student Recital

will be held on

**Sunday, August 15th  
at 12:00 pm.**

**ALL STYLES - Musical  
Theater/CCM/Singer-  
Songwriter/Classical!**

**LIVE PERFORMANCES  
ONLY via Zoom!**

Limited to 15 participants  
with performances kept  
under 5 minutes- first  
come, first serve!

We will limit the number  
students per teacher to  
2.

**\$10 registration fee  
paid via PayPal on the  
recitals page:**

[SFBACNATS.com/recital](https://www.sfbacnats.com/recital)

Please email the VP of  
Recitals, Ashley Bailey,  
at  
[ashleybailey528@gmail.com](mailto:ashleybailey528@gmail.com)  
to indicate interest and  
register via Google  
form on our website.

## MASTER CLASS ANNOUNCEMENT

Our webmaster **Solmaaz Adeli** & Voice Academy SOL is hosting a **virtual master class** and **Q&A** with the fabulous American soprano **KS Linda Watson** on **Friday, July 30th at 10:00 am PT.**

The live Q&A will include former Vice Ambassador to Austria and Artistic Consultant **Chris Hoh** and will be focused on furthering studies / moving and working in Austria.

Students encouraged to perform their song live / pre-recorded video also accepted.

To apply contact [voiceacademysol@gmail.com](mailto:voiceacademysol@gmail.com)

\$75 participation fee

### MASTER CLASS & LIVE Q&A with KS Linda Watson, soprano

July 30, 2021 - Virtual - Apply Below



#### KS Linda Watson, soprano

American soprano Linda Watson has appeared at many of the major opera houses of the world including Deutsche Oper Berlin, Teatro Real Madrid, Gran Teatro del Liceu, Teatro alla Scala Milan, Nederlandse Opera, Opéra national de Paris, Wiener Staatsoper, Bayreuther Festspiele and at the Metropolitan Opera, with leading conductors including Abbado, Mehta, Levine, Gergiev, Tellefmann, Pappano, Gatti, Salonen and Nagano. In 2014 she was nominated for the Principal Solist Grammy Award for her participation in Christian Tieleman's Ring recording. On Jan. 15, 2020, soprano Linda Watson was honored with the title of Kammerängerin at the Wiener Staatsoper.

**Christopher J. Hoh, artist consultant / composer / diplomat** Chris Hoh is an experienced leader and manager in international affairs. He served as the U.S. Vice-Ambassador to Austria and to Bosnia. A published composer, he has received commissions and premieres in Europe and the USA. A member of ASCAP and other groups, he also serves on the boards of The Trueman and The Resonance Project. He will join the Q&A.

#### Program hosted by Voice Academy SOL

#### Singers will:

- receive a master class from KS Linda Watson
- connect with ways to study and work in Austria
- engage in Q&A with KS Linda Watson & Chris Hoh

**When:** Friday, July 30, 2021

10am PT / 1pm ET / 7pm CET

**Where:** VIRTUAL

**Apply:** Email YouTube link: performance / recording

PayPal \$75 registration fee

Voice Academy SOL

Founder, Solmaaz Adeli

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







## Competitions & Vocal Program Announcements

### 13<sup>TH</sup> THE THIRTEEN

#### VOCAL FELLOWS PROGRAM

Open to early-career singers of vocal ensemble and oratorio music.

The Thirteen offers these vocal fellowships to early career singers from diverse racial, ethnic, cultural, or other demographic groups that are significantly underrepresented among professional singers of vocal ensemble and oratorio music.

With this program The Thirteen aims to play a role in diversifying our field by providing fellows with a high-level music making experience, mentorship, and connections within the field.

This fellowship will be an inclusive, welcoming experience and is aimed at singers who are enrolled in or

have recently completed their undergraduate or graduate education and aspire to be professional vocal ensemble and oratorio singers.

The Thirteen has a history of addressing important social issues of the day through its programming, including climate change, migration, and systemic racism. We frequently work with diverse composers and performing musicians.

**Fellowship recipients will rehearse, perform, and tour** with The Thirteen from **February 6 - 13, 2022**. They will be an integral part of this concert week, performing with the twelve singers of The Thirteen in concerts featuring works by Ralph Vaughan Williams, Trevor Weston, Caroline Shaw, and Benjamin Britten.

#### SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS WILL RECEIVE

- A high-level music making experience preparing and performing a concert of music with The Thirteen.
- Mentorship from The Thirteen's Artistic Director and The Thirteen's Fellow Mentor.
- Compensation of \$1,000.00.
- Travel stipend and per diem if located outside of the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan area.

#### APPLICATION PROCESS | Complete applications are due October 15, 2021

**Contact:**  
[info@TheThirteenChoir.org](mailto:info@TheThirteenChoir.org)



The **NATSAA competition** takes place every other year in conjunction with the NATS Winter Workshop and is open only to NATS members and students of NATS members.

Preliminary competitions are held at the regional level, with one winner emerging from each of the 14 NATS regions. The 14 semifinalists then gather at the site of the NATS Winter Workshop in New York City, January 2022 for the final two rounds of the competition. The winner will then perform at the 57th NATS National Conference to be held in Chicago, July 2-6, 2022.

**Entry Fee:** \$75 **APPLY NOW**

**Prizes:** Over \$50,000 in cash and other prizes! Various prizes and awards are given to participants in the competition.

**Competition Dates:** Preliminary regional rounds of the competition are scheduled for Fall 2021, with the national semifinals and finals scheduled as part of the 2022 NATS **Winter Workshop in New York City, January, 2022** (dates TBD).

**Deadline to Apply:** Sept. 13, 2021

**Application, Repertoire Requirements, and Complete Rules** Region Audition Preliminary Dates/ Locations (TBD).



The **National Musical Theatre Competition** is seeking the best emerging musical theatre soloists, those who just need that one break to move their careers forward.

To be eligible, applicants must be between ages 20-28 as of the application deadline date. Preliminary rounds of the competition are scheduled to take place in **Fall 2021**.

Approximately 24 singers advance to the semifinal and final rounds – to be held during the NATS 2022 Winter Workshop - January, 2022 (dates TBD) in New York City. The winner will then perform at the 57th NATS National Conference to be held in Chicago, July 2-6, 2022.

**Entry Fee:** \$90 (or \$75 for students of NATS members). **APPLY NOW**

**Prizes:** The winner is awarded more than \$5,000 in prizes in addition to a concert at the next NATS National Conference; second prize is awarded more than \$2,500; third prize is \$1,000.

#### Competition Dates:

PRELIMINARY ROUNDS

**Live Auditions** - Dates and location(s) TBD

**Online Auditions** - Video submission deadline is October 15, 2021.

SEMIFINAL AND FINAL ROUNDS

January, 2022 (dates TBD) in New York City as part of the 2022 NATS Winter Workshop. Approximately 24 singers will advance to the semifinal round in New York City.

**Deadline to Apply:** September 15, 2021

[Application, repertoire information and complete rules](#)



#### The Art Song Composition Award

The competition is open to any composer whose submitted work meets the prescribed requirements and who pays the competition entry fee.

The composer of the winning song cycle, group of songs, or extended song cycle will receive a cash award and a performance of the winning composition at the next scheduled NATS National Conference.

**Entry Fee:** Each entry is \$30 for professionals; \$15 for full-time students

**Prizes:** The winner is awarded \$2,000 plus expenses to the NATS 57th National Conference in Chicago, July 2-6, 2022; the runner-up is awarded \$1,000. Cash prizes are generously sponsored by American composer Lori Laitman.

**Competition Dates:** Submission deadline for online applications is Dec. 1, 2021, with judging to take place in early 2022.

**Deadline to Apply:** Dec. 1, 2021 (Application to open June 1, 2021)

[Complete rules](#)

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

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



## New Position for Members!

Calling all members- the SFBAC NATS board is seeking applicants for **Member Engagement Coordinator**, an exciting new position working with the board in the area of membership.

The Member Engagement Coordinator will collaborate closely with the Membership Secretary and President on member social events, a new SFBAC Welcome Committee, membership outreach and online engagement. Please see the full job description at the following link: [Come join our team!!!](#)

Send your emails expressing interest in the position or with any questions to Katie Tupper, SFBAC President, or Jonathan Smucker, membership secretary, at [sfbacnats@gmail.com](mailto:sfbacnats@gmail.com). We look forward to having your help making SFBAC serve all of our members, better!

## 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](#).

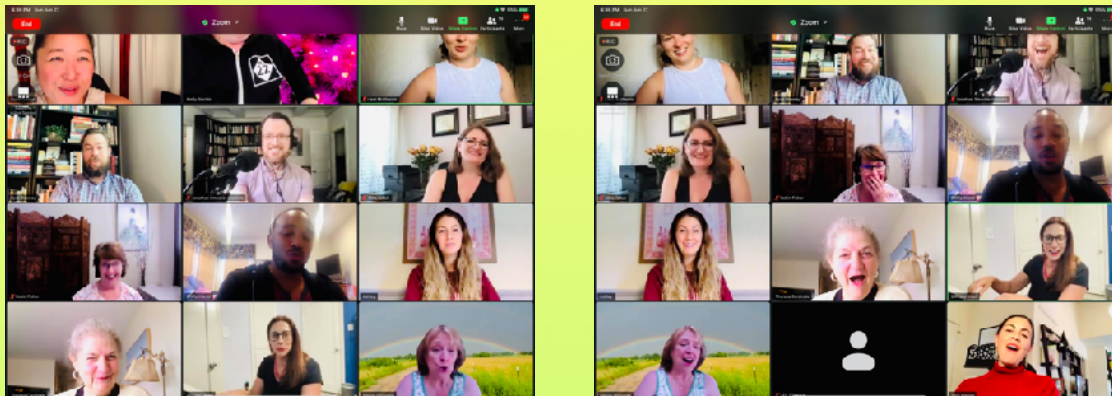
## SFBAC NATS welcomes the following new members:

**Akane Ota**  
**Dr. Harmony Rose Murphy**  
**Martin Benvenuto**

We are over 180 members strong!  
 Do say hello to our newest members when you have the opportunity!

## 2021 Annual General Meeting Was a Success!

Thank you to everyone who came out to our Zoom SFBAC NATS Annual General Meeting!  
It was so wonderful to see you all, share and connect!  
Here are some fun images of us singing altogether  
“Somewhere Over The Rainbow,” unmuted!



### 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.



## Remembering Our Members

### Anna Carol Dudley (1931 - 2021)

Anna Carol Dudley passed away on Thursday, May 27th, in Oakland, California. She was 90 years old. Her family are grateful that we could all visit with her shortly before her passing, and for her long life and the blessings she bestowed on so many as an artist, wife, mother and friend. Anna Carol was born on the island of Maui in 1931, where her father, Robert Kingdon, was a pastor in the Congregational church in Kahului. In 1940 the family moved to Wisconsin Rapids, WI, where Anna Carol grew up in the parsonage of her father's new church. The family also bought a one-room log cabin on a lake near the town of Cable where they vacationed during summer, and which remained a favorite place for vacations and family reunions throughout Anna Carol's life. After graduating from Lincoln High School she attended Oberlin College in Ohio, where she received a BA in history in 1952 and was awarded a Shansi Memorial Fellowship to teach at OCPM elementary school in Madurai, India. In India Anna Carol studied, among other things, karnatic music (voice and *jalatharangam*, tuned water bowls). She also deepened her relationship with her future husband, Richard Dudley, who was not only a fellow Shansi rep but also a missionary kid himself, born and raised til the age of 14 in South India. Dick and Anna Carol also formed a life-long friendship with their fellow Shansi reps, Joe and Joann Elder, as well as Dave and Padma Gallup. Upon leaving India in 1954 Anna Carol and Dick travelled overland through the Near East and Turkey, bought bicycles in Switzerland, and cycled through Europe before crossing the Atlantic by ship. Dick was drafted into the army when they returned, while Anna Carol enrolled at the Oberlin



Conservatory to study vocal performance with Marion Sims and do a Masters degree in music history. Her 1956 MA thesis was titled, "Raga: The Concept of Melody in the Music of India." After completing her MA she married Dick and

lived with him for a year at Ft. Sill, Oklahoma, before finally moving out west in 1957. While Dick began graduate studies in political science at the University of California, Berkeley, Anna Carol dove into the

Bay Area music scene. She got her first singing jobs with Kenneth Jewell, an Oberlin graduate, who was musical director at First Congregational Church Berkeley. She performed early music with harpsichordist Donald Pippin at the Old Spaghetti Factory in San Francisco, sang with the Berkeley Chamber Singers, and participated regularly in the Cabrillo Music Festival.

Anna Carol and Dick returned to India from 1969-1971 with their sons Shannon and David (their third son, Justin, was born in Delhi). Dick directed the University of Wisconsin's year-in-India program, and Anna Carol kept active musically, performing concerts for the U.S. Information Service in India, Afghanistan and Ceylon.

Back in the Bay Area in the 1970s and 80s, while Dick taught political science at Diablo Valley Community College, Anna Carol became increasingly involved in contemporary music. She sang with groups such as Earplay, Composers Inc., Kronos Quartet, Mills College Performing Group, Sounds New, San Francisco Contemporary Players, and premiered the works of many composers. She made records of songs by Charles Seeger, Luigi Dallapiccola, and Henry Purcell with the 1750 Arch label in Berkeley. Her early music work also continued during these

years, as a soloist with the Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra, and notably with *Tapestry* (originally the *Elizabethan Trio*), a group that included Lorette Goldberg, Judy Nelson and Rella Lossy. Anna Carol taught voice at San Francisco State University from 1976 to 1994, and also for some years at UC Berkeley and Stanislaus State. In the late 1970s and early 1980s she directed the San Francisco Early Music Society's Baroque Music and Dance workshops in the summer, and was SFEMS president from 1981 to 1982. She took leadership roles in other Bay Area arts organizations, including the Jr. Bach Festival and Earplay.

As energetic as Anna Carol was in her musical career, she was always devoted to her family. Her three sons were the light of her life and she shuttled them to music lessons and rehearsals, as well as classes in drawing, ceramics, dance, gymnastics and whatever else she thought would be good for them. She and Dick treasured California's natural beauty and took the family hiking, camping, skiing, and boating. Especially memorable were summer backpacking trips with Marge and Ken Sauer and their four boys (Anna Carol was fated to share her life with lots of boys, having also grown up with four brothers). Music and family merged in the Christmas season when Anna Carol hosted a neighborhood caroling party, and took the family to the Sauers' house on new year's eve to sing madrigals.

In 1994 her first grandchild, Agueda, was born. Agueda spent her first year living in Grandma's house, which also became a second home for granddaughter Emma, who grew up around the corner. When she travelled to Seattle to visit Agueda and Gabriel, or Cincinnati to visit Max and Margaret, or when the grandchildren visited her in Berkeley, Grandma was always up to play a game, read a book, or do something fun outdoors.

In her elder years Anna Carol continued to perform, giving a recital for her birthday each year at FCCB until she was 80. She also reviewed concerts and opera for San Francisco Classical Voice, and served as treasurer for the Women Musicians Club. When Dick passed away in 2016 Anna Carol grieved for him deeply. She moved to Piedmont Gardens retirement home in Oakland shortly afterwards, where she gave her last public performance in September 2017. It was a recital of Emily Dickenson poems set to music by Aaron Copland, accompanied on piano by her friend Jerry Kuderna. At the Piedmont Gardens dinner

table she also noticed how much her companions enjoyed listening to songs from their youth, and thought perhaps she would do a concert of Tin Pan Alley hits next.

Anna Carol is survived by her brothers Henry, John and Arthur; by her sons and daughters-in-law, Shannon Dudley and Marisol Berríos-Miranda, David Dudley and Jen Friedman, and Justin and Susan Sprigg Dudley; and by her grandchildren Agueda, Emma, Gabriel, Max and Margaret. She will be missed and remembered by many.

Contributions can be made to the Anna Carol Dudley Memorial Fund at the San Francisco Early Music Society. If you'd like to contribute, you can mail a check to SFEMS at PO Box 10151, Berkeley, CA 94709 (noting the memorial fund in the memo line) or use a credit card at [sfems.org/donate](https://sfems.org/donate). +

#### **Laura Barton (1942 - 2021)**

Laura J. Barton, age 78, of Mountain View, California, left us on April 3rd.

Laura was born in Detroit, MI, on September 3rd, 1942. She graduated from Wilson High School, in Portland, Oregon, class of '60, then later



continued her education receiving a BS in Business Management from the University of San Francisco in 1985.

Laura was married to David Barton in 1962 with whom she had two sons, Kenneth born 1964 and Wesley born 1966. They were together 10 years. By the end of the 1960's Laura had become a regular performer and singer with the South Bay Area music and drama scenes.

By the time of her spinal cord injury in 1978, she had worked as Music Coordinator for the City of

Palo Alto Arts Department, been Publicity Director for TheatreWorks Silicon Valley and a partner in Barton-Griswold Publishing which designed and manufactured music theory learning games. She had also been singing in the choir at Trinity Lutheran Church where she was a long-time member, and teaching a mid-week class on Christian Growth.

After recovering she returned to her work as an administrative assistant for Monterey Learning Systems, her company Barton-Griswold, her participation in the Trinity Choir, and started a choir for elementary school children with Sally Treadway called The Trinity Palo Alto Choir School; all while keeping up a schedule giving private voice lessons.

Laura married again in 2000, this time to Richard Holding who passed away in 2018. Despite several additional life-threatening medical challenges; non-Hodgkin's lymphoma in 1999, breast cancer in 2008, lung collapses in 2014 and several disturbingly resilient wounds, Laura continued with seemingly endless endeavors until the end.

Her son Ken's final conversation with her included planning for her annual party for friends and family featuring a varied list of live musical performances.

Laura is survived by her two children Kenneth and Wesley Barton, her sister Kathy Farnsworth, brother Jerry Schuette, niece Erika Schuette, and many friends. +

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**SUBMISSIONS FOR THE SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER**

If you would like to submit an article related to singing or advertise an upcoming singing event in the **September Newsletter**, please email [newsletter@sfbacnats.com](mailto:newsletter@sfbacnats.com)

**The deadline for submissions is September 5, 2021.**