

# Granite State NATS

## Chapter Bylaws

### **Article I: Name**

This organization shall be known as Granite State NATS.

### **Article II: Objectives and Code of Ethics**

A. Objectives: This chapter adopts the stated purposes of the National Association of Teachers of Singing, which are to encourage the highest standards of the vocal art and of ethical principles in the teaching of singing and to promote vocal education and research at all levels, both for the enrichment of the general public and for the development of vocal excellence in the talented.

B. Code of Ethics: This chapter, as an organization, subscribes without reservation to the NATS Code of Ethics.

### **Article III: Membership and Dues**

A. Membership in good standing in the National Association of Teachers of Singing, Inc. shall be a prerequisite to membership in the Chapter. There shall be four membership classifications in the chapter level, as there are at the national level:

1. Full members must be persons of known personal probity whose professional training and/or experience qualify them to be teachers of singing or vocal coaches. Full members have full power of vote, may hold office at any level, and may sponsor themselves or their students at NATS auditions.
2. Emeritus members are active NATS members who have attained their sixty-eighth birthday and have been members in good standing for at least twenty years. Emeritus members of National NATS who reside in New Hampshire will automatically receive Emeritus membership status in Granite State NATS. Emeritus members are not required to pay dues. They have full power of vote, but may hold office only at the chapter level. They may sponsor themselves or their students at NATS auditions.
3. Associate members must be persons of known personal probity who are beginning teachers of singing with professional training. Associate members have full power of vote, but may hold office only at the chapter level. Associate members may sponsor themselves or their students at NATS Auditions.
4. Affiliate membership may be held by individuals in related fields, by institutions such as schools, colleges, and universities, and by business firms associated with music. Affiliate members may not vote or hold office at any level, nor sponsor themselves nor their students in NATS Auditions.

B. Annual dues shall be established by the Executive Committee and shall be payable via [www.nats.org](http://www.nats.org), using the same deadlines as for national membership. Members shall receive newsletters and a membership directory, and may attend all chapter events without charge. Extraordinary events incurring substantial expense may involve a nominal donation.

### **Article IV: Officers, Executive Committee, Committees, and Member Attendance**

A. The officers of the chapter shall be President, Treasurer, Vice President of NATS Student Auditions- Musical Theater (two); Vice President of NATS Student Auditions- Children, Youth, and High School (two); Vice President of NATS Student Auditions- College and Advanced (two), for a total of eight chapter officers.

1. The President shall preside over meetings of the membership, appoint committee chairs, and shall oversee any activities of the chapter. The President shall be elected from the general membership of the chapter and shall serve a two-year term, serving for no more than three consecutive terms. The President may also hold other chapter offices if necessary.

2. The Vice Presidents shall oversee all aspects of the Chapter's NATS Student Auditions. Vice Presidents shall be appointed by the Executive Committee and may serve indefinitely until a successor is available.

3. The Treasurer shall keep the financial records, collect dues, and oversee payments for activities of the chapter, presenting a written annual report to the membership. The Treasurer shall be elected from the general membership of the chapter and may serve indefinitely until a successor is available.

B. The Executive Committee shall consist of the District Governor, officers, committee chairs, and other appointed members. The District Governor is appointed by the Regional Governor and may also serve as any officer of Granite State NATS.

C. Committees appointed by the President shall include NATS Student Auditions- Musical Theater; NATS Student Auditions- Children, Youth, and High School; NATS Student Auditions- College and Advanced; and others as needed. The membership shall confirm all committee appointments made by the president. These committees must bring forward recommendations for the consideration and approval of the executive committee, unless previously empowered to implement decisions unilaterally.

D. Members of the Chapter, in addition to serving on committees and attending chapter meetings, are expected to support the Chapter with their attendance at scheduled events. Regional and district governors are invited to attend chapter meetings as ex-officio members.

#### **Article V: Elections**

The President shall submit a roster of nominees for office to the full membership for election by e-mail response. The election shall be determined by a majority of those responding. Elections and decisions on chapter policy and procedure shall be decided by a majority of chapter members voting by e-mail; these decisions will not be made at informal meetings coinciding with student auditions.

#### **Article VI: Programs**

Regular programs shall be held as scheduled by the Executive Committee. NATS Student Auditions will be held in early spring; NATS Student Auditions: Musical Theater will be held in early fall. Non-members may attend all chapter events for a fee to be determined by the Executive Committee.

#### **Article VII: Rules of Amendment**

These bylaws may be amended by a majority of the responding chapter members voting by e-mail.