



February 2008 Newsletter Southeastern Region of the National Association of Teachers of Singing

Notes from the Regional Governor

The National Conference in Nashville promises to be a fabulous celebration of our 50th anniversary. If you haven't registered yet, do so quickly.

This communiqué brings to a close my communication with you as Regional Governor. I wish I could say that I had gotten to know each NATS member in our region personally but we both know that would have been impossible. I am just grateful for the relationships that have been forged with so many of you. Enclosed you will find information on the nominating committee's recommendation for a new regional governor. Toni is a gracious person and a hard worker. I suspect you will find her to be an even better regional governor than her predecessor. Please note that the postcard ballot must be postmarked by March 15th for your vote to count. Thank you for all the support and assistance you have given me as regional governor. I believe we have moved the region forward in the revision of a number of our policies and procedures; we also brought an on-line presence to our work and reputation. It has all been good.

Lloyd Mims, Regional Governor

561 803-2400 lloyd_mims@pba.edu

Regional Governor Nominee Biographical Information Dr. Toni Anderson, Chair & Professor of Vocal Studies, LaGrange College



Toni Passmore Anderson brings a wealth of performance, scholarly, and administrative experience to LaGrange College. She earned a Ph.D. in Higher Education from Georgia State University, a Masters degree in Vocal Performance from The New England Conservatory of Music, and the Bachelor of Music degree from Lamar University. A mezzo-soprano, Dr. Anderson has performed in concerts, operatic productions, and solo recitals in the United States and abroad. She most recently premiered Lee Johnson's *Symphony No. 7: Infinitude*,

written for mezzo-soprano and piano quintet, at the Moscow Conservatory. Repeat performances of this work were given at LaGrange College's 175th anniversary celebration, and at the Human Rights Defenders Conference, hosted by former President Jimmy Carter at the Carter Center in Atlanta. Other premiers of works by Lee Johnson include *Childlike Civility* performed at the Rialto Theater in Atlanta, and *U Gophel Knoyz*, a sacred cantata.

Dr. Anderson has performed in concert with the LaGrange Symphony Orchestra, the Atlanta Virtuosi, Camerata Musica (Columbus, Georgia), ONYX Opera, the Boston Musica Viva, the Boston Academy of Music, and numerous university and civic chorales. She has also performed the role of the narrator in Stravinsky's *L'Histoire du Soldat* with members of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. Premiers of chamber works include *From the land of the farther suns* (Lee Horton) and *Three Songs* (Mitch Turner). She performed the title mezzo-soprano role of Mme. Bernardey in the world premiere of Curtis Bryant's *Zabette* in Atlanta, which also aired on WABE Radio (Atlanta), and the role of Mrs. Krenshaw in Sharon Willis' *The Opera Singer*.

Dr. Anderson's historical research on the Fisk Jubilee Singers is the subject of a forthcoming book that will be published by Mercer University Press. She participated with WGBH-TV in Boston in the making of a documentary on the Jubilee Singers which aired May 2000 as a part of PBS's American Experience historical series. She has presented her research in lectures at several colleges, given papers at scholarly conferences, including the College Music Society's national and regional meetings, and is published in the *Southeastern Journal of Music Education*. Her research interests extend to issues in higher education. She co-authored an essay entitled, "Building Conversations of Respect: The Voice of White Faculty at Black Colleges" that appears in *Affirmed Action: Essays on the Academic and Social Lives of White Faculty Members of Historically Black Colleges and Universities*, by Foster, Guyden, and Miller, editors.

Dr. Anderson is the president of the Georgia Chapter of the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) and holds membership in the following professional organizations: College Music Society, the Society of American Music, Association for the Study of Higher Education, and Delta Omicron International Music Fraternity. She is the president of the LaGrange Arts Council and serves on the boards of the LaGrange Symphony Orchestra and the LaGrange Lyric Theater.

The ballot to elect Dr. Anderson must be postmarked by Friday, March 15th for your ballot to count.

[Please do not confuse this postmark deadline with the regional auditions registration postmark deadline of Monday, March 3.]

The information and registration forms for the
Regional Auditions can be found on the website:

www.sernats.org.

If you cannot access them via the internet, please
call 561 803-2400 and leave a message for “NATS
packet to be mailed to you;” also leave your name
and address.

Please note the
Registration Postmark Deadline:
Monday, March 3, 2008

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