



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF  
**TEACHERS  
OF SINGING**  
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Central Region

## **NATS Central Regional Conference October 26-28, 2023 Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois**

### **Schedule of Events**

#### **Thursday, October 26, 2023**

9:00 AM-6:30 PM NATSAA Registration, Centennial Hall Lobby  
\*Read important [NATSSA Registration Information](#)

3:30 PM NATSAA Auditions, Wallenberg Hall

#### **Friday, October 27, 2023**

8:00 AM Conference Information, Centennial Hall Lobby

9:00 AM Adjudicators Meeting, Larson Hall

9:45 AM-6:00 PM National Student Auditions Begins  
\*See current [Auditions Schedule](#)  
\*\*This schedule is subject to change.

1:00 PM-4:00 PM Interest Sessions, Bergendoff 12-All Sessions  
\*See [Interest Sessions Page](#) for more details.

- 1:00 PM *Composer Collaboration in the Independent Studio*  
Dr. Jessica Saunders and Dr. Lisa Nehrer, Dynamic Music Studios/ Saunders Vocal Studios/ Kirkwood Community College
- 2:00 PM *LGBTQIA+ Inclusion in Collegiate Singing Instruction*  
Prof. David Brian Clark and Prof. Jen Townsley, William Jewell College
- 3:00 PM *Uncommon Gems: Classically Arranged American Negro Spirituals*  
Dr. Alexis Davis-Hazell, University of Alabama School of Music
- 4:00–5:30 PM E.C. Schirmer Publisher Showcase, Wallenberg Hall
- 5:00 PM Final Rounds: Categories 1 and 2, Bergendorff, 104A
- 7:30 PM Performance Class, *Classical*, Larson Recital Hall  
[\\*Program](#)
- Dr. Alexis Davis-Hazell, (University of Alabama, NATS President-Elect)
- 7:30 PM Performance Class, *Musical Theatre*, Wallenberg Hall  
[\\*Program](#)
- Dr. Alisa Belflower (University of Nebraska - Omaha, NATS VP Auditions)

### **Saturday, October 28, 2023**

- 7:30 AM Breakfast Tables, Wilson Faculty Center
- 8:00 AM Conference Information, Centennial Hall Lobby
- 8:20 AM NATS CR Business Meeting, Wilson Faculty Center
- 9:00 AM National Student Semi-Final Rounds

9:15 AM-12:15 PM Interest Sessions , Bergendoff 12-All Sessions  
\*[Interest Sessions Page](#)

9:15 AM *Searching for New Musical Theatre Literature*  
Dr. Jeffrey Carter, Webster University

10:15 AM *Somatic Explorations in the Voice Studio*  
Dr. Rachel Ann Day, Northwest Missouri State University

11:15 AM *New and Diverse Operatic Literature*  
Dr. Chuck Chandler, DePaul University

\*12:45 PM Finals & Awards, Centennial Hall  
\* 12:45 PM All Call to gather in the Centennial Hall for further instructions

Lifetime Achievement Award:

[Dr. Ollie Watts Davis](#) of the University of Illinois, Centennial Hall

Finals:

Classical, Centennial Hall

Musical Theatre, Wallenberg

## Central Region Leadership and Conference Committee

Governor | Jeffrey Richard Carter

Treasurer | Mark Crayton

Auditions Chair | Jessica Saunders

Conference Chair | Deborah Gover

Assistant Conference Chair | Al Cooper

Emily Truckenbrod | Illinois  
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Assistant Site Chair | Patrick McNally

Assistant Auditions Chair | Michelle Allen McIntire

NATSAA Chair | Nollie Moore

Interest Sessions Chair | Yvonne Gonzales Redman

Topical Breakfast Chair | Elisabeth Pluth

Classical Performance Class Chair | Carol Chapman

MT Performance Class Chair | Alyssa Becker

Finals Adjudication Panel Coordinator | Rae-Myra Hilliard

Poster Sessions Chair | Amy Johns

Lifetime Achievement Award Coordinator | Sarah Holman

ECS Session Chair | Nathan Windt

Collaborative Pianist Liaison | Nicholas Shaneyfelt

SNATS Liaison | Suzanne Hendrix-Case

NATS Development Liaison | Sarah Wigley

NATS Development Committee member in Central Region |  
Carissa Scroggins

Immediate Past Governor | Tom Hueber



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## **NATS CR Conference General Information/Advisements:**

**Terrain:** Augustana College is a **hilly walking** campus. Please consider wearing comfortable shoes.

**Weather:** Highs for the conference days are currently projected in the 40s, with a low around the freezing mark! Pack accordingly.

**Food Service:** The **Gerber Dining Center** (approximately a 7 minute walk from Bergendoff/Centennial) is open:  
Friday: 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. They take cash, Visa and MasterCard

The **Brew by the Slough coffee shop** (also approximately a 7 minute walk from Bergendoff/Centennial) is open:  
Friday: 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. and Saturday 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. They also take cash, Visa and MasterCard

**Gus's Snack Bar** - across the street from Centennial (about a 2 minute walk) is open:  
Fridays: 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. and closed on Saturdays. They only take cards - no cash.

**Parking:** Adjacent to Bergendoff Hall of Fine Arts (18 on map) and Centennial Hall (28 on map), on the east side of the building in Lot E. Check in will be in Centennial Hall lobby.  
[https://athletics.augustana.edu/documents/2020/7/7/map\\_feb\\_2020.pdf](https://athletics.augustana.edu/documents/2020/7/7/map_feb_2020.pdf)

**Adjudicator Briefing:** A *required* adjudicator briefing takes place on Friday, October 27, at 9 a.m. in Larson Recital Hall. You will wish to check in in the Centennial Hall lobby (large auditorium lobby facing the street) before that time; check-in begins at 8 a.m., at which time practice rooms are available too. NOTE: students are no longer required to have their printed music checked, so no student check-in is necessary.

**Practice Rooms.** Located in Bergendoff Hall. Practice room space is *very* limited. Please do not claim a room. Please do not squat in a room. Please ask students to limit practice room time to no more than seven (7) minutes before vacating the room.

**Small Divisions:** Our Commercial Music, Hall Johnson Spiritual, and American Negro Spiritual divisions have some categories with a small number of entries. Based on the number who go forward to a semi or final round, Central Region may only award a first place. This is true in some of the MT and Classical categories that have a small number of entrants, again based on how many progress from the first round.

**Finals for Children and Youth Categories (1 and 2) and CM3:** We will hold the final round, if one is necessary, for the children and youth categories late on Friday afternoon. And if we can fit in the CM3 (commercial music, high school treble) finals then, we will do so as well.

**Commercial Music:** We will be utilizing a JBL powered speaker tower with both 1/8" pin plug and Bluetooth line in capability, with two mics and boom stands available. All teachers with students entered in the CM division will receive further detail later this week. NOTE: teachers will *not* be allowed to play tracks from mobile devices, just the same way that they are not to be seen on video in virtual auditions. More specifics are forthcoming.

**Interest Sessions Technological Advice:** Augustana is a PC environment. Bring **your connecting dongles for working with Apple products** with you so that you can connect to the monitor provided at the site. Please do not assume dongles and appropriate adaptors are available. Currently we are not yet sure what the room monitor and wifi conditions will be so I am writing early so that you can **prepare for two kinds of presentations:**

1) the school wifi is perfect and any internet streaming will run smoothly on your device **AND**

2) there is no dependable wifi in the room. If you have any video and/or sound material to share, I suggest having it copied directly on to your laptop and accessible in your files in case there is difficulty accessing internet browser material through the school wifi.

I am told in the case of technical issues, that there will be someone capable to assist, but do not depend on a personal problem solver.

**WIFI:** All guests are instructed to connect to the Augustana Guest Wifi and accept the terms of use screen that appears, which is good for 24 hrs of usage. You will need to reconnect to the Guest Wifi each day. [Augustana's Wireless Internet Homepage](#)

**MAP:** [Campus Map](#)