



SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF PERFORMING & VISUAL ARTS
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SUU'S DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC'S VOCAL STUDENTS GIVE STELLAR PERFORMANCES AT N.A.T.S. 2015 REGIONAL COMPETITION

Southern Utah University, Cedar City, Utah: Despite some challenging wintry weather, twenty vocal students from **SUU's Department of Music** managed to shine at the Las Vegas Regional Chapter competition of the **National Association of Teachers Singing**. This year, Southern Utah University hosted the competition on Saturday, February 28, during some early morning and afternoon heavy snow falls.

Scoring first place in their respective divisions were **Janese Pentico** (Advanced I), **Jordan Sanders** (Adult I), **Alexia May** (Adult II), **Sarah Stout** (Adult III), **Leslie Perkins** (College Freshmen Women), **Joshua Draper** (College Freshmen Men), **Michelle Reid** (College Junior Women), **Kelsie Thornton** (Musical Theater Women II), and **Glen Reber** (Musical Theater Men I and II). Second place victors included **Brandon Prunty** (Adult I), **Melissa Funk** (Adult III), **Ashley Stackhouse** (College Freshmen Women), **Madison Davis** (College Sophomore Women), **Amanda Gargon** (College Junior Women), **Corlissa Jensen** (Musical Theater Women II) and **Lindsey Lopez** (Advanced II). Taking third place in their divisions were **Shayla Rowley** (Adult I), **Corlissa Jensen** (College Junior Women), and **Rebecca Dayley** (Musical Theater Women II).

Two of Southern Utah University's full-time voice faculty members, **Professor Carol Ann Modesitt** and **Dr. Lawrence Johnson** had numerous students from their studios win in their divisions as well as adjunct faculty member **Jackie Riddle Jackson** who had several victorious students. The results are particularly notable since this is a peer-reviewed competition. This broad representation of the voice faculty in the competition is a testament to the quality of the teaching that students enjoy every day at Southern Utah University. Additionally, collaborative pianists **Dr. Christian Bohnenstengel**, **Shane Summers**, **Mary Anne Andersen** and **Tracey Bradshaw** were invaluable as they shared the stage, their talents and their insights into the music with the students.

According to Professor Modesitt, "Since this year our Las Vegas Chapter had our auditions later than the Cal-Western Regional Auditions, our students will have to wait until next year to compete on the Regional and National levels. I certainly feel that they will be ready. This event includes students from California, Nevada, Utah, Arizona and Hawaii. Next year, the students who place in the Regional Competition will have an opportunity to compete with the winners of all the NATS Regions in the United States. They have the opportunity to listen to students from other states and institutions, and I feel it will be a great learning experience for all who are involved."

The vocal students' accomplishments were achieved through their hard work and dedication to excellence, cornerstones of the Department of Music's vocal programs.

ABOUT THE COLLEGE

The **Southern Utah University College of Performing and Visual Arts** is comprised of nationally accredited departments of Art and Design, Music, Theatre Arts and Dance, as well as a graduate program in Arts Administration. The College offers 16 different degree areas, including liberal arts Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees; professional Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Fine Arts in art and theatre degrees; and a Master of Fine Arts in Arts Administration degree. More than 60 full- and part-time faculty and staff are engaged in teaching and mentoring over 550 majors in the College. Over 1100 students enroll each year in over 195 arts classes on the SUU campus. The College presents 100 performances, lectures, presentations, and exhibitions each year. The College's affiliate organizations include the Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery, Utah Shakespeare Festival, and the SUU Ballroom Dance Company. For more information about the College of Performing and Visual Arts, contact the Office of the Dean at (435) 865-8561, or by e-mail at cpvamktg@suu.edu.