Amanda Zasada
UW-Platteville
Student & PACCE
Summer Intern

Interning at National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) in Jacksonville, FL

Senior majoring in Vocal Music

Hometown: Platteville, WI

“Many thanks to PACCE for giving me this amazing internship opportunity; it has truly been life-changing!” - Zasada

Amanda’s aha moment:

“I met the NATS Board of Directors, who are all great models for how I want to shape my career. I’ll have the pleasure of seeing and working with them at NATS events for many years to come!”

How did your internship opportunity happen?
Upon learning about the PACCE internships, I spent a couple of weeks brainstorming with Dr. Bob Demaree, my internship advisor, in an attempt to find the organization that would best suit me. Bob thought of NATS and contacted executive director Allen Henderson. Mr. Henderson offered me an internship in the executive office and so my summer plans were set!

How does your internship complement your academic goals?
I want to establish a private voice studio once I graduate. NATS is “the largest professional association of teachers of singing in the world with more than 7,000 members in the US, Canada, and nearly 30 other countries.” It offers a wide variety of learning and engagement opportunities to members, so it’s an organization I plan to be involved in throughout my career. In fact, I first learned about NATS through our two voice teachers on campus, Dr. Susan Day and Prof. Rebecca Demaree, who are both NATS members. By working in the executive office and at the 53rd NATS National Conference, I have been able to learn about all the opportunities NATS has to offer as well as network with many of the NATS members.

How are you spending your days?
The early part of my internship was focused on preparation for the 53rd NATS National Conference held in Boston, MA. At the conference I served as the front-end head of registration coordinating volunteers, processing on-site sales, and answering general questions. After the conference, I performed primarily administrative duties and learned about the back-end of NATS.

What type of skills are you learning?
I have sharpened my people skills, as I daily conduct a multitude of NATS correspondences with outside sources.