

## **NATS Policy on Copyright Laws**

In May, 2008, the national Copyright Committee, comprised of Elaine Case, Donald Simonson, Deorah Thurlow, Cynthia Vaughan and Margaret Cusack, Chair, submitted a report to President Martha Randall and President-Elect Scott McCoy. The committee consulted with publishers and NATS legal counsel, and researched copyright laws and the copyright policies of MTNA, ASCAP and the Metropolitan Opera.

The following statement is a summary of the recommendations\* from the committee report, which the Student Auditions Committee believes to be in alignment with the intent of the Copyright Committee:

**The National Association of Teachers of Singing endorses a strict policy regarding copyright laws. The use of photocopied music is prohibited at all NATS sponsored events, from the national to the chapter level.**

### **Exceptions are:**

- 1. Music that is out of print, still under copyright law, with permission from a publisher.**
- 2. Sheet music or books for which the copyright has expired, but available in CD format. (e.g., CD Sheet Music)**

Puget Sound Chapter Adjudication Guidelines Committee addition:

Computer generated music and PDF files purchased from a music publisher or music website must include the receipt.

\* The national Copyright Committee report does not address audio and video copyright issues. Some chapters and regions publish a statement prohibiting such recording. The national Student Auditions Committee recommends further research by the Association into this aspect of copyright law.