

# Two SIUE students win at NATS Regional Singing Competition

November 2 2016 2:46 PM



**EDWARDSVILLE** - Two Southern Illinois University Edwardsville students won their classification at the regional National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) competition at the University of Iowa last weekend. Three other SIUE students also successfully competed at the new Voxman School of Music in Iowa City.

The winners were sophomore Michael Hawkins, a sophomore musical theater major from Belleville, in Undergraduate Lowerclass Musical Theatre Men, and David Fournie, a junior vocal performance major from St. Louis, in Undergraduate Upperclass Classical Men.

The field consisted of more than 500 students from Illinois, Iowa and Missouri. Each competitor performed arias and songs from select musicals and operas depending upon their category.

Hawkins sang “King of the World” from Songs For A New World, while Fournie performed the Prologue Aria from I Pagliacci by Leoncavallo.

“We are solidifying ourselves as one of the stronger vocal programs in the central region of NATS,” said Marc Schapman, PhD, associate professor of voice in the SIUE College of Arts and Sciences, and coach of the performers. “Our students are consistently placing high in these extremely competitive competitions. I was extremely impressed with their work ethic preparing for the event and how supportive they were of each other during the competition. We truly have a great group of voice students at SIUE!”

Maika Miller, a freshman musical theater major from Alton, finished second in Undergraduate Lowerclass Musical Theatre Women.

SIUE students advancing to the semifinals included senior vocal performance major Sarah Paitz, of Maryville, and vocal performance graduate student Emily Moore.

Central to SIUE’s exceptional and comprehensive education, the [College of Arts and Sciences](#) has 19 departments and 85 areas of study. More than 300 full-time faculty /instructors deliver classes to more than 8,000 undergraduate and graduate students. Faculty help students explore diverse ideas and experiences, while learning to think and live as fulfilled, productive members of the global community. Study abroad, service-learning, internships, and other experiential learning opportunities better prepare SIUE students not only to succeed in our region's workplaces, but also to become valuable leaders who make important contributions to our communities.