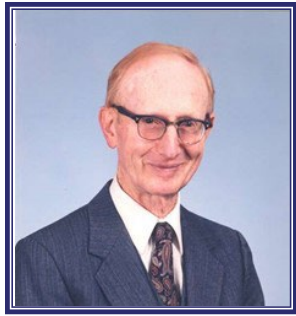


# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION *of* TEACHERS *of* SINGING



## LOUIS NICHOLAS

### THE LOUIS NICHOLAS FUND

PROVIDES FUNDING FOR THE NATS ARTIST AWARDS

"Louis will be long remembered as a gentle and charming presence whom we all adored."  
Jean Westerman Gregg, NATS President, 1994-97, 98-99

Louis Nicholas was a charter member of NATS and President from 1962-1964. He received the AB degree at Southwestern at Memphis (now Rhodes College) in 1934, the MMus degree at the University of Michigan in 1939, and a diploma for Specialist in Music Education from Columbia University in 1952. He was married to the late Sarah Elizabeth Lacey on March 27, 1942 and they had three sons, Joel Edward, David Paul, and Kevin Lacey.

In 1944, following public school teaching positions in Dyer County and Memphis, and Instructor of Music at North Texas State Teachers College, he joined the music faculty at George Peabody College for Teachers in Nashville, where he also was Summer Concert Series Chairman for seventeen years. Following his retirement from Peabody in 1979, he taught at Belmont University, Scarritt College, and Trevecca Nazarus College. He also served in Nashville as choir director at First Lutheran Church, 1945-1946, West End Methodist Church, 1946-1957, Vine Street Christian Church, 1958-1969, and as tenor soloist at The Temple, Congregation Shalom, 1946-1977, as well as music director, 1959-1977. He served as Music Editor and Critic for The Tennessean from 1951-1975. He was the author of 'I'hor Johnson: American Conductor (1952) and a number of professional Journal and magazine articles. He contributed chapters to Symphony Orchestras of the United States, edited I Directors Guide (1967).

As tenor soloist, Louis performed thirty-six programs without rep of eight historical lecture recitals covering seven centuries and ten countries and three series of song cycle. His students have been soloists with the Nashville Symphony, members of the Metropolitan Opera, Raji City Glee Club, and singers with Fred Waring and Robert Shaw.

He was the last living charter member of NATS. He had been elected to the American Academy of Teachers of Singing in 1960. He also was a member of the Music Teachers

National Association, the Music Educators National Conference, a fellow of the American Institute of Vocal Pedagogy, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia. and Omicron Delta Kappa. At the Detroit NATS convention banquet in December 1963, the close of Louis's presidency, our late Historian, Harvey Ringel, reported: "It was Louis Nicholas's evening. As toastmaster, he not only brought down the house, but almost buried it." NATS will be forever indebted to Louis for turning us into a democratic organization. During his presidency, he succeeded in passing the by-laws revision prohibiting vice presidents from serving more than two terms of two years each. Early in our NATS history, it had been common practice to pass around the vice presidencies among a few people for many terms. He attended every national convention until 2002 and was honored at the 1995 convention.

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### **GIVING to NATS**

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