

AuditionCon



WORKSHOP SCHEDULE for THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 2025

9:30 a.m.

Navigating the Audition Process: Tips for Students and Educators

Lindsay Kate Brown, Annie Kate Lee

Louisiana State University

LSU

School of Music

This lecture aims to demystify the school audition process by equipping educators and students with essential strategies for success. We will explore the initial research phases, guiding students to understand specific requirements and expectations of various schools and universities based on their level. Participants will gain insights into effective musical preparation, including repertoire selection and practice techniques, alongside proven audition techniques that enhance performance confidence. Additionally, we will examine current trends in audition requirements, illuminating what institutions prioritize in candidates. By providing a comprehensive framework, this lecture empowers students to navigate audition season with clarity and assurance, setting them up for their best chance at success.

Link: <https://www.lsu.edu/cmda/music/index.php>

10:30 a.m.

Training the Hybrid Singer: Learning How to Traverse Genres as a Vocal Artist

Max A. Moreno

Iowa Conservatory



Get more information on how to approach different styles and genres of vocal music with authenticity and professionalism while still maintaining your vocal health and technique. Iowa Conservatory is an accredited boarding school for the arts that believes in fostering excellence at all levels of artistry. Dr. Max Moreno, Music Department Chair, is a master vocal teacher and artist who has taught all different levels of singers from elementary school age groups to professional post doctoral students. He currently works and performs in the Iowa City area, where he enjoys the challenges of professional musicianship in all forms, as a singer, conductor, director, coach, actor, and pianist.

Link: iowaconservatory.org

11:30 a.m.

Master Class with Dr. James Rodriguez (TCU Voice Faculty)

James D. Rodriguez

Texas Christian University



This is a master class presentation where Dr. Rodriguez will work with students on classical and musical theatre repertoire. Dr. Rodriguez is an Associate Professor at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, TX. He is a baritone who has sung a number of operatic roles throughout the United States and is avid recitalist. He has presented master classes, lectures, and has published research on vocal wellness and diverse repertoire.

Link: <https://finearts.tcu.edu/music/>

12:30 p.m.

The Integration of Vocal Technique and Lyric Diction in Expressive Singing

Lori McCann

John J. Cali School of Music, Montclair State University



This Workshop/Masterclass explores how elements of lyric diction—pronunciation, articulation, meaning and interpretation, communication, and expression—integrate with healthy, expressive vocal technique.

Dr. Lori McCann, BM, MA, AD, DMA, is Professor of Music and Coordinator of Vocal Performance at the John J. Cali School of Music, Montclair State University. A lyric soprano, she has performed leading roles across Europe and the U.S. in operas and concerts featuring works by Mozart, Händel, Bach, Monteverdi, Puccini, Brahms, Mahler, Debussy, Canteloube, Bernstein, Weill and many others. She is a frequent performer of contemporary repertoire, including premieres of 20th- and 21st-century works. Dr. McCann teaches applied voice and performance courses for BM, MM, AD, and BFA Musical Theater students. Her areas of expertise include Lyric Diction, Canteloube's Chants d'Auvergne, Developmental Pedagogy, Zarzuela, and 19th-century Spanish Lyric Theater. She adjudicates competitions and presents masterclasses internationally and is active in NATS, currently serving on the International Advisory Committee and as a mentor teacher for the NATS National Mentoring Collaborative. She served 2 terms as Eastern Region Governor, and was Artist Faculty at the American Institute of Musical Studies in Graz, Austria for 11 years.

Dr. Lori McCann (mccannl@montclair.edu) or Prof. Beth Roberts (robertsb@montclair.edu).

Link: <https://www.montclair.edu/john-j-cali-school-of-music/>

1:30 p.m.

A Master Class with Allen Henderson

Allen Henderson

Georgia Southern University



Join a master class with professor Allen Henderson as he works with singers to improve their performance of chosen repertoire.

Link: <https://ww2.georgiasouthern.edu/cah/music/>

2:30 p.m.

The Versatile Vocalist: tools for exploring classical to pop

Kelly Holst and Kevin Wilson

Oklahoma City University, Wanda L. Bass School of Music



Come play with us as we explore various technical and dramatic ideas to help singers shift from one style to the next. With a focus on fun and vocal efficiency, this interactive session will demonstrate that small adjustments can go a long way.

Dr. Kelly Holst and Professor Kevin Wilson serve on the voice faculty at Oklahoma City University in the Wanda L. Bass School of Music. In addition to teaching rising stars in opera and musical theater, Professors Holst and Wilson teach vocal pedagogy and are passionate about collaboration in the field of voice.

Wanda L. Bass School of Music, Oklahoma City University, 405-208-5474.

Link: <https://www.okcu.edu/academics/schools-colleges/wanda-l-bass-school-of-music>

3:30 p.m.

Musicianship Brush Up!

Amanda DeMaris

Arizona State University



Are you a musical theatre singer who struggles to learn music from the page? Or one who stresses out in callback situations when having to learn new musical material quickly? If so, this workshop is for you! Come ready to look through some musical theatre tunes that may be familiar or new, and experience strategies to understand and engrain the musical material efficiently.

Amanda DeMaris, soprano, has been heard on opera, recital, and concert stages. Currently she is Clinical Associate Professor of Voice at Arizona State University where she teaches applied voice, vocal pedagogy, and musicianship for singers. She holds degrees in vocal performance from Ithaca College and New England Conservatory, as well as the degree Doctor of Education from Columbia University. Her students have performed in National Tours, Off-Broadway, and at the Metropolitan Opera, Houston Grand Opera, and numerous other regional theatres, opera companies and cruise lines. Discography includes Upstate Songs (Danby Road Studios), Gratitude (Tempest Studios), and reminiscences (Blue Griffin Studios). She has presented at NATS, MTNA, The Voice Foundation, and ISME, and her research has been published in the Journal of Singing.

Link: <https://musicdancetheatre.asu.edu/>

4:30 p.m.

Sing As You Speak- Cantare come si parla

Dan Johnson-Wilmot

Viterbo University



Pre-college age singers will explore the correlation between speaking and singing, breath and body, and emotion and story telling.

Daniel Johnson-Wilmot is a Professor Emeritus and Visiting Professor of Music at Viterbo University in his fifty-third year in the Music Department. He received his Bachelor of Arts in Music from St. John's University, Collegeville, Minnesota and a Master of Music in Voice from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He chaired the NATS Wisconsin Student Auditions for more than thirty years. He was elected Vice-President of Membership in 2014 and served two terms. He was appointed NSA Coordinator in 2014 and continues to serve. His students have won over four hundred awards in NATS auditions. They are award winners in Metropolitan Opera Auditions and the Schubert Club Scholarship Competition. Former students of his sing in major opera houses in Europe and the United States and on Broadway.

Link: <https://www.viterbo.edu/>

6:30 p.m.

Exploring Vocal Freedom Through Body Balancing

Rebecca Salter

Reinhardt University



Dr. Rebecca Salter is Associate Professor of Music – Applied Voice and Voice Area Coordinator at Reinhardt University. Former students have appeared on film and television, Broadway, National and International Broadway tours, as well as regional theatres and young artist programs throughout the country. Many students have been selected as winners and finalists at all levels of the National Association of Teachers of Singing Student Auditions. Dr. Salter holds degrees from the University of Oklahoma (DMA) and Oklahoma City University (MM/BM). In 2016, she was chosen as a teacher participant in W. Stephen Smith's Naked Voice Institute. Dr. Salter is certified from The Institute for Contemporary Commercial Music in Vocal Pedagogy (The LoVetri Method - Level One) and Performance Movement Restoration (Level One). She serves as the Region Governor of the National Association of Teachers of Singing Southeastern Region.

Link: reinhardt.edu

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE for FRIDAY, JUNE 27, 2025

9 a.m.

Voice Care for the Career Voice Teacher

Kathy K. Price and Jonathan Price

Westminster Choir College at Rider University



"Voice Care for the Career Voice Teacher" is a workshop to help participants understand the nature of their voice use, voice health considerations, and strategies for more effective teaching with less voice use. We are keenly aware of the vocal load that voice teachers carry as singers and teachers with additional duties in conducting choirs and directing MT shows, opera, etc. Classical, Musical Theatre, and Commercial applications will be addressed in this workshop.

The presenters are voice professors at Rider University in Lawrenceville, NJ: one in the Westminster Choir College Classical program (kprice@rider.edu), and one in Rider's Musical Theatre program. Dr. Kathy Price is Professor of Voice at Westminster, teaching voice lessons, voice pedagogy, and voice science among other topics, and directs the Presser Voice Lab and the summer Voice Pedagogy Institute (VPI). Jonathan Price specializes in Musical Theatre voice pedagogy and teaches on the voice faculties of Rider University and Marymount Manhattan College, is assistant director of VPI, and has a large private studio in NYC. Both serve the National Association of Teachers of Singing community: Jon as president of New Jersey NATS, and Kathy as Governor of New Jersey NATS.

Link: <https://www.rider.edu/academics/colleges-schools/college-arts-sciences/westminster-choir-college>

10 a.m.

Audition with Intention: A Classical Voice Master Class for the Next Stage

Isaí Jess Muñoz

Boston Conservatory at Berklee



What truly sets a college audition apart? In this dynamic and interactive master class, classical singers will work closely with Dr. Isaí Jess Muñoz—Chair of Vocal Arts at Boston Conservatory at Berklee and President of the National Opera Association—to refine their performance of art songs and arias while gaining invaluable insight into the audition process. From selecting the right repertoire to mastering technique, presence, and storytelling, this session will demystify what admissions panels are really listening for. Dr. Muñoz is a celebrated tenor and educator whose performance credits include the Israel Philharmonic, New York Philharmonic, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Mostly Mozart Festival, and New York City Opera. Participants will leave empowered to sing with purpose, clarity, and confidence—ready to take the next stage with intention. Boston Conservatory at Berklee's Music Division offers a reimagined approach to classical music training that engages with today's world. Rooted in diversity, excellence, and innovation, our programs empower artists to move from passion to purpose—embracing the Western canon and contemporary practices while honoring individual voices, expanding inclusivity, and fostering the collective artistry at the heart of creative expression.

Link: <https://bostonconservatory.berklee.edu/>

11 a.m.

Practical Diction for Classical Singers

Ellen Rissinger

Diction Police



Ellen Rissinger shows how to use the tools of lyric diction in a practical way! Having spent 16 years of her career working in Europe, she is currently Asst Professor of Opera Coaching and Collaborative Piano at Temple University as well as CEO of The Diction Police, with the goal of bringing the sounds of foreign languages to singers all over the world and making the rules of lyric diction easy and fun.

Link: <https://dictionpolice.com/>

12 p.m.

A Great First Impression: How to Pre-Screen Successfully

Lynn Eustis

Boston University



Boston University College of Fine Arts
School of Music

This workshop will focus on strategies for classical singers to pass through the pre-screening process successfully. Dr. Lynn Eustis will provide insights on how to choose appropriate repertoire that flatters your talents, what to consider when preparing your videos, and general "do's and don'ts". In this master class setting, participating singers will present potential repertoire for constructive evaluation with a focus on the audition process.

Lynn Eustis, soprano, is currently Chair of Voice and Associate Professor of Voice at Boston University, where she joined the faculty in 2012 after thirteen years on the faculty at the University of North Texas. She holds degrees from Florida State University (DM), The Curtis Institute of Music (MM), and Bucknell University (BM, Phi Beta Kappa). Dr. Eustis is the author of *A Singer's Epiphany: Faith, Music, and Mortality*, *The Singer's Ego* and *The Teacher's Ego*. She is a native of Long Island, New York. Contact Dr. Eustis: leustis@bu.edu

Link: <https://www.bu.edu/cfa/music/admissions-auditions/>

1 p.m.

A Master Class with Susan Williams

Susan Williams

University of Alabama



Susan Williams, soprano, has performed nationally and internationally in leading opera roles and as a soloist. Her global engagements include performances and masterclasses in Brazil, Cuba, India, Nepal, and Tajikistan, with appearances at institutions such as the Royal Irish Academy of Music and the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. She has sung with Mississippi Opera, Opera Birmingham, Cleveland Opera, and the Duke Symphony Orchestra, among others. Concert credits include solo appearances with The Cleveland Orchestra, Tuscaloosa Symphony, and the Frost Symphony Orchestra. Dr. Williams holds degrees from Birmingham-Southern College, the University of Akron, and the Cleveland Institute of Music. She joined the University of Alabama faculty in 2012, earning tenure in 2019, and currently serves as Associate Director of Opera and co-Coordinator of the

voice area. Her research explores body movement systems in vocal pedagogy, with publications in The Journal of Singing and Voice Prints. A certified yoga instructor, she integrates breathwork and movement into her teaching. She is active in NATS and the National Opera Association, where she serves as Alabama Governor.

Link: <https://www.bu.edu/cfa/music/admissions-auditions/>

2 p.m.

Masterclass with Dr. Marcus DeLoach (HS tenors, baritones, basses)

Marcus DeLoach

Temple University, Boyer College of Music and Dance



Dr. Marcus DeLoach, Associate Professor of Voice & Opera at Temple University's Boyer College of Music and Dance will present a vocal masterclass for high school tenors, baritones, and basses focusing on technical and expressive singing. Dr. Marcus DeLoach serves as Associate Professor of Voice and Opera at Temple University's Boyer College of Music and Dance. A distinguished baritone, educator, and composer, he has received acclaim for his contributions to contemporary vocal music. DeLoach's performance career spans opera, concert, and crossover genres. He has premiered leading roles in Gregory Spears' *Fellow Travelers* and Missy Mazzoli's *Breaking the Waves*, has appeared with esteemed orchestras including the New York Philharmonic and the London Symphony Orchestra, and has sung lead vocals with the rock-group Trans-Siberian Orchestra. His vocal compositions have been performed by noteworthy soloists including Keith Phares and Andrew Garland as well as organizations including Opera Philadelphia and Boston Conservatory. DeLoach holds degrees from The Juilliard School and Rice University and has been honored by Wigmore Hall, NATS, The Marilyn Horne Foundation, The George London Foundation, and the Metropolitan Opera National Council.

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Link: <https://boyer.temple.edu/about/faculty-staff/marcus-c-deloach-tuf79660>