



Singing in styles Workshops for Singers

Presented by Edrie Means Weekly

Adjunct Associate Professor of Voice and Voice Pedagogy
Shenandoah Conservatory

*Dedicated to functional voice training based upon voice science and medicine;
specializing in commercial styles in musical theatre.*

Any of the workshops below can be offered in single or multiple day formats customized for the school or organization's needs.

VOCAL FUNCTION IN SINGING DIFFERENT STYLES (Belt, Country, Jazz, Pop, etc.)

This workshop uses functional voice training based upon voice science and medicine with a hands-on and skill-building delivery style, interacting with participants. Through experimentation with "vocal stylisms" and functional vocal exercises, this workshop is designed to enhance pedagogical skills and teaching performance in guiding the musical theatre singer as they sing in many different singing styles including country, jazz, pop and R&B. As a group, participants will experiment with functional exercises for laryngeal flexibility. Emotions and expressions can be created vocally by varying the dynamics, coloring the tone, varying the use of vowels and consonants, emphasizing alliterations, and by using "vocal stylisms" such as bending the pitch, crying, various slides, growling, shadow vowels, "creaky" sound, etc. How the breath interacts with vocal fold vibration; how posture affects tone; and how to use these functions to sing various genres will be covered. Providing science-based techniques to prevent vocal injury.



Suggested Presentation Length: 1 hour followed by a masterclass showing how to apply the concepts covered in the presentation. Equipment required: Piano; Video Projector with Sound

CROSSOVER FROM CLASSICAL TO MUSICAL THEATRE



This workshop will examine specific techniques and exercises for developing the crossover voice in a "hands on" experience. The audience will listen to excerpts of successful and unsuccessful crossover recordings. This interactive workshop will invite classically trained volunteers from the audience who would like to crossover to musical theatre singing.

Suggested Length: 2 Hours Equipment required: Piano

LEGIT SINGING IN MUSICAL THEATRE

This workshop will examine specific functional techniques and exercises for developing the legit voice in a "hands on" experience. Through experimentation and functional exercises, this workshop is designed to enhance skills of professional performers and to train students of musical theatre. The tools provided in this workshop will promote on-going personal creative and artistic development for professionals and students. For the teacher, this workshop will enhance pedagogical skills and teaching performance in guiding the musical theatre singer.

It uses a hands-on and skill-building delivery style, interacting with participants on their audition songs to examine specific ways to present their song in the correct legit style. Because of the demands for singers to sing legit songs in shows or for auditions, there is a need for laryngeal flexibility. Singers need to be able to make different interior shapes to allow changes in the resonance to serve the song style as well as the character. As a group participants will experiment with exercises for laryngeal flexibility and resonance for singing legit style.

Suggested Presentation Length: 1 hour followed by a masterclass showing how to apply the concepts covered in the presentation. Equipment required: Piano

TEACHER DISCUSSION/WORKSHOP

One day program provided for voice faculty who would like to discuss various aspects about teaching this repertoire. Topics may include vocal health concerns when singing different styles; discuss the techniques in greater depth; vocal function; problems and challenges in teaching these styles. I could teach a student with technical issues in front of only the teachers.

OFFERING A WIDE RANGE OF WORKSHOPS AND MASTERCLASSES INCLUDING:

Sing Legit in Musical Theatre
How the Voice Works
Healthy Belting
Singing in Styles (Country, Jazz, Pop, etc.)
Country Singing for Musical Theatre 101

Vocal Health
Auditioning for College
Connecting to the Song:
Emotionally, Musically and Vocally

Workshops can be customized for the school or organization's needs. Single day and individual workshops are also available upon request.