

# **ALEXANDRA PAWLUS VOICE STUDIO**

## **COVID-ADJUSTED TEACHING POLICY**

Welcome to the Voice Studio of Alexandra Pawlus! I am ecstatic to get to know you and your unique instrument. When the human voice is combined with music, it can be a truly touching and life-altering event. Music invites us to live in someone else's story, and it invites others to live in our own stories. As humans, communication and self-expression are essential to our vitality and happiness. I believe that singing is the highest form of self-expression, and my goal as a teacher is to share the power and joy of music with anyone who has ever yearned to be heard. I work with students of all ages across many genres, specializing in Classical and Musical Theater (Contemporary, Pop, Golden Age) vocal techniques. Book your lesson and discover your voice today!

### **Regular Fees**

\$60/half hour

\$80/hour

Payments should be made up-front in four-week increments. Payments may also be accepted at least a week prior to the lesson. Lessons cancelled within 24 hours of the scheduled lesson time may not be rescheduled.

### **Cancellation/Late Policy**

Students should arrive on-time for their lessons once a week. If the student is more than 15 minutes late, it will count as a skipped lesson. Skipped lessons are non-refundable. Students may only have three absences per teaching term. If you know you will need to miss a lesson, you must notify me at least 24 hours before your lesson. I will happily reschedule you!

Illness cannot be controlled, and I understand that life happens unexpectedly. As long as good communication is maintained in terms of rescheduling and/or absences, there should be no problems.

### **NEW: REMOTE TEACHING EQUIPMENT**

Lessons will be taught using Zoom (and Cleanfeed for students that have an external microphone). USB external microphones are preferred, unless students have access to a mic with a pre-amp.

If you do not have an external microphone (USB mics are fine):

- Please let me know what kind of computer you will be using, as this affects built-in microphone quality.

- Depending on microphone/headphone quality, students may be asked to switch between headphone or computer audio.

Zoom audio settings:

Open preferences/settings.

Open Audio tab and open “Advanced” settings.

**Suppress Persistent Background Noise: DISABLE**

**Suppress Intermittent Background Noise: DISABLE**

**Echo cancellation: AUTO**

### **Materials**

Students should come prepared for each lesson by bringing the following materials:

Water, pencil, music (copied), and anthologies/scores as needed. Advanced students are encouraged to record lessons as well, although this is not required.

As students progress in their training, purchasing collections of songs or arias will become helpful.

### **Practice**

Students are expected (and should want to!) practice outside of their weekly voice lessons. Vocal training is muscular training, and consistent practice is crucial to keeping yourself “in shape.” Feel free to bring in songs you would like to work on! I am also more than happy to help you find repertoire that both excites and challenges you.

### **Physical Contact (Does not apply to VIRTUAL)**

Singing is a very physical art form, where our own bodies serve as both the instrument and the performer. As a voice teacher, I may ask for your consent to touch body parts relevant to singing such as: abdomen, shoulders, neck, rib cage, back, and head. Singing is directly related to body alignment, so lessons will almost always include a short physical warm up such as stretches and breathing exercises. Bringing awareness to tense muscle groups is vital to vocal technique, and each body is different.

I will **always** ask for consent before making any physical contact. If you have any concerns or physical injuries I should know about, *do not hesitate to let me know.*

### **Behavior**

For each voice lesson, I promise to make the most out of our time and to provide a professional experience. I will put my best foot forward to help you master your instrument, and I simply ask for the same enthusiasm and respect in return.

I look forward to working with you!

**ALEXANDRA PAWLUS, SOPRANO**

MASTER OF VOCAL PERFORMANCE, NEW ENGLAND CONSERVATORY 2019  
CONCENTRATION IN VOCAL PEDAGOGY

BACHELOR OF VOCAL PERFORMANCE, UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA SCHOOL OF THE  
ARTS 2017

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Student Signature and Date