

#### SING LIKE A STAR STUDIOS

# WELCOME TO SING LIKE A STAR STUDIOS

SING STRONGER, SING HIGHER - SING LIKE A STAR!



Dear Singer,

You are receiving this because we are responding to your request for information about voice lessons at Sing Like a Star Studios.

At Sing Like a Star Studios we offer many classes including: <u>Voice Lessons</u>, <u>Songwriting</u>, <u>Piano and Guitar</u>, <u>Lessons for Children</u>, and <u>Performance</u> <u>Opportunities</u>. We even offer a <u>Lessons for Less</u> program with our highly qualified and trained Sing Like a Star Associate Teachers. The first step to getting started with any of our classes is to register for a no-obligation <u>CONSULTATION</u>.

Sing Like A Star Studios is the premier source for voice and songwriting instruction in Atlanta, (and throughout the world with online singing lessons)

#### where you will:

- Sing higher and stronger with NO vocal strain!
- Eliminate voice breaks!
- Sing well in the style of music YOU like-R & B, gospel, musical theatre, rock, pop, country, contemporary Christian, jazz!
- Sing riffs, runs, and licks- with style!
- Record in the studio!
- Write your own songs!
- Develop your performing skills and artistry by performing in professional showcases!
- Sing with the vocal technique used by today's top recording artists and Broadway stars!
- Develop the power, consistency, range, flexibility, and natural sound most sought after by the music industry's most successful producers!

Founded in by renowned vocal coach Tricia Grey, MM, Sing Like A Star Studios provides unparalleled training to aspiring and professional singers of every musical genre. Sing Like A Star brings world-class vocal instruction to the greater Atlanta area with in-person lessons at our two conveniently located studios (Marietta 30068 and Alpharetta 30004-30009), and even more convenient vocal training from anywhere in the world with online voice lessons which are one-on-one, face-to-face lessons that are recorded (video and audio) so you can practice! You can have the world's best vocal training delivered right to your home, car, office, or hotel!

#### Please view our very short informational video

Sing Like A Star inspires, empowers, and educates a wide-ranging clientele from every musical category. Rock, pop, country, jazz, R & B, gospel, contemporary Christian, and musical theatre singers develop the vocal skills at Sing Like A Star Studios that allow them to shine in their chosen musical style.

This is world-class training for contemporary and popular styles of singing, based on scientific research. We train the muscles that need to be coordinated and efficient in singing (called intrinsic muscles), and we teach you to stop engaging the muscles that get in your way, known as extrinsic interfering muscles. We build brand new neuromuscular responses that, with practice, become life-long good habits. Over time your voice begins to function effortlessly; things that used to be hard for you to sing become easier and easier with this process.

We work with all ability and experience levels, from beginning to advanced singers. We specialize in keeping the professional singer's voice healthy and strong, without changing their unique sound and style!

Sing Like A Star singers deliver effortless power, amazing vocal control, great high notes, authentic vocal styling, and incredible consistency- no wonder Sing Like A Star trained singers are at the forefront of today's music industry. Sing Like a Star vocal lessons will help you to sing stronger, sing higher, and sing with total confidence- in any vocal style!

But singing lessons are not just for aspiring professionals; anyone who loves to sing should consider vocal training at Sing Like a Star Studios.

"At Sing Like a Star Studios, we can teach anyone to sing, if they are willing to practice" says studio owner Tricia Grey, MM. "Many people think that singing ability is something you either have or you don't- but nothing could be further from the truth. I have worked with many students through the years who did not have a great natural vocal ability, but had tremendous drive, discipline, and work ethic, and who now have professional careers!"

#### Consider vocal study at Sing Like A Star Studios if you are:

- A professional singer who would like to maintain vocal health for life, and improve your vocal technique without changing your unique sound.
- An actor/actress who would like to be a triple threat.
- A high school student who would like to get the lead in the musical, make All-State, or be accepted into a competitive university or conservatory program.
- A younger singer who loves to sing popular music in today's styles, rather than a teacher's favorite style.
- An aspiring professional singer auditioning for musical theatre roles, rock bands, or hoping to land a record deal.
- A pop, rock, jazz, R and B, gospel, or country singer who wants to keep your unique sound while improving range, power, flexibility, and style- riffs and runs.
- A musical theatre singer wanting to make it on Broadway.
- A contemporary Christian or church choir singer.
- An aspiring songwriter who wants to learn how to write hit songs.
- A person of any age with a bucket list who has always wanted to learn how to sing.
- · Anyone who loves to sing!

#### We even have a special program for very young singers (ages 3+)

Our Lessons for Children, program is headed by Associate Teacher Elaine Drennon Little, MFA, MEd, who is a 28-year veteran of public school music teaching and has a second Master's Degree in Music Education. Our younger singers get a very basic exposure to the SLaS vocal technique, while playing rhythm instruments, moving, dancing, clapping, singing, playing the piano, and generally having fun! Elaine has a

real love for bringing music to younger singers! Our lessons for children program combines the best of proven educational principles with vocal and musical development.

Whether you are a young singer, a professional, or just have a bucket list, Sing Like A Star vocal training will make your dreams come true!

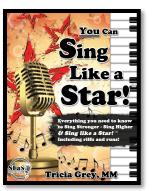
Some questions for you: Have you ever taken a voice lesson and left that teacher's studio wondering what the purpose of the lesson was? Have you taken endless lessons, but not seen the improvements you were looking for? Do you mostly just sing songs in your lesson, but never seem to sing them much better? Does the process of improving your voice seem mysterious? Has your teacher ever explained exactly what is going on with your vocal folds and the rest of the vocal mechanism when you sing?

Often, vocal training is presented with undefined objectives, vague feedback, and no plan for developing specific muscular coordination; these ineffective lessons consist of a "warm-up" followed by numerous repetitions of a song. They deliver little actual improvement in muscular efficiency, strength, or coordination and effect few long-term vocal changes.

At Sing Like a Star we have a better method- one that combines cutting-edge research in vocal science with contemporary singing styles.

You don't ever have to wonder what is going on with your voice! Sing Like a Star methodology is based on specific objectives and definable outcomes. It is a sequential and planned program of skill building based on <a href="https://document.com/html">The Eight Steps of Vocal Development</a>, the foundation of the book **YOU can Sing Like a Star!** by Tricia

Grey, MM.



As you progress through The Eight Steps of Vocal Development you are building efficient muscular coordination, eliminating your old bad habits and replacing them with good ones. **Anything you want to achieve with your voice can be done- one step at a time!** We believe in defined and specific objectives for each step of your development. You will always know how far you have come on the path of vocal training and what your next goal will be; your teacher will be glad to discuss these objectives with you so you will know how you are doing.

But even more important to the singer; you will soon be able to SING like you never dreamed you could sing! **You will suddenly find your voice doing things** 

you never thought it could do- things that formerly seemed impossible are now easy for you because you have trained the right muscles to function efficiently. AND you can learn how to sing with style- how to sing great riffs and runs- if that is your preferred style, and where those riffs and runs come from so you can learn to create your own improvisations rather than copying another artist.

In addition to world-class singing lessons and vocal instruction, we offer **performance opportunities** in a beautiful state-of-the-art professional theater. Our <u>Sing Like a Star Singers' Showcases</u> enable students to combine their new vocal technique with performance skills, and they are great fun too!

At Sing Like A Star Studios you have many options to learn the world's most valuable vocal technique:

1. In-person lessons: You can take lessons in-person at either of our two convenient studio locations

**STUDIO 1: EAST COBB-** 320 High Meadow Drive, Marietta GA 30068. Just OTP, Windy Hill exit from I-75 North- convenient for Atlanta, Dunwoody, Buckhead, Sandy Springs, Marietta, Roswell, Kennesaw.

**STUDIO 2: NORTH-** 365 Brady Place, Alpharetta GA 30009. Haynes Bridge Exit 9 from I-400 North. Convenient for Alpharetta, Cumming, Kennesaw, Roswell, Johns Creek, Duluth.

- **2. Online lessons:** You can take one-on-one online voice lessons through your computer, phone, or i-pod touch. This approach is very effective and convenient if you do not live in the Atlanta area, or even if you live locally but prefer not to drive. They are a great stress and time saver! Save driving time by studying from home with online one-on-one voice lessons. Technology now makes it possible to have a voice lesson from anywhere in the world! Our busy local students often use the internet distance training option, combined with in-person lessons. A video/audio recording of your lesson is sent to you after the lesson. With today's technology, it's almost like being there in person!
- 3. **Speakerphone:** You can even take lessons through a speakerphone!
- **4. Lessons for Less:** If you can't afford lessons with Master Teacher Tricia Grey, MM, you can learn the same great vocal technique by studying with one of our highly qualified, trained, and educated <u>Sing Like a Star Associate Teachers</u>. Our Associate Teachers have music degrees, many years' experience teaching, years of professional performing as singers, and they have been trained personally by Tricia Grey to teach the Sing Like a Star vocal method. They pass rigorous testing in order to become and remain certified to teach at Sing Like a Star Studios.

In addition to world-class vocal training, we offer <u>piano</u>, <u>guitar</u>, <u>and songwriting instruction</u> as well as artist development, performance, and pageant coaching!

Everything you need to take your career to the next level is right here at Sing Like a Star Studios! To get started with any of our classes your first step is to book a **CONSULTATION**.with us so we can meet with you to discuss your goals, give you a professional vocal evaluation, and reserve your place in our schedule if you decide you would like to commit to the lessons. There is a \$25 fee for the initial consultation.

#### The SLaS Method

At Sing Like a Star **you will see immediate changes in your voice** and you will know exactly why you are doing each exercise. We can explain everything that is happening in your voice from a vocal science perspective, if you are interested. Because you are on a specifically designed path of development- <a href="The Eight Steps of Vocal Development">The Eight Steps of Vocal Development</a>- you will know exactly how far you have come, and what lies ahead. Your vocal development is based on specific objectives and definable outcomes. **It is not just random and inefficient "warming up"**, **but a sequential and planned program of skill building that is designed to develop specific muscles in a specific order for a specific result.**.

Sing Like A Star Vocal training is unlike any method in existence today. This world-renowned vocal development technique will develop amazing high notes and eliminate straining and vocal breaks. You will learn to sing from very low to very high with a consistent sound. You will develop powerful high notes, effortless control, and the contemporary vocal quality of today's artists with SLaS vocal training! Your voice will be strong, connected, and balanced, with dramatically increased vocal range, power, and vocal control. You will be able to sing in any style of music you choose, with a healthy, flexible, and powerful sound. You will learn to sing licks, runs and riffs for R & B or gospel styling. At Sing Like a Star Studios you will become a confident singer because you know your voice will work correctly-

every time! You will learn to be the artist you always dreamed you could be.

You will sing the style of music YOU love to sing rather than a teacher's favorite style of music. We believe singers should be empowered to sing in the styles they prefer; we teach all styles-rock, gospel, R & B, musical theatre, contemporary Christian, pop, jazz, and country.

You will also learn to be a great performer- a very important skill! You will have the opportunity to perform in the Sing Like a Star Singers' Showcases, held every spring and fall at a professional theater. Singers need a goal and a chance to incorporate performance and vocal technique skills as they improve. The more you perform, the better performer you become. Our Sing Like a Star Singers' Showcases are just the place for singers of all experience levels from beginner to professional to evolve and grow!

Your vocal development is planned, logical, and organized. It is based on specific objectives. The SLaS method is science-based and incorporates the latest research in the fields of vocology and vocal science. In your initial consultation with Sing Like a Star your voice will be professionally evaluated, and you will receive a lesson plan tailored for your voice based on the Eight Steps of Vocal Development from the book YOU can Sing like a Star! by Tricia Grey, MM.

Most vocal training consists of vague or undefined objectives, little feedback, and very little if any real skill-building or improvement; typical lessons consist of a random and ineffective "warm-up" followed by singing songs but no specific remediation of challenges presented in the song.

Rather than ineffective and random "warm-ups" that have no meaning to the student and result in little change, <u>The Eight Steps of Vocal Development</u> guides you sequentially and logically through all phases of your vocal development, with each new skill building upon the previous skill.

Unlike most vocal lessons the SLaS method is based on **defined**, **specific objectives and measurable outcomes**, known in education as **quantitative assessment**.

<u>The Eight Steps of Vocal Development</u> begins with the foundation of good singing- breath management, otherwise known as *appoggio*. Then we build and develop the lower register of the voice, followed by the upper register. Then we begin connecting those registers together so you have one smooth and strong unbroken sound. The higher steps of development emphasize things like vibrato, dynamics, and flexibility. Those are the steps involved in building a reliable and efficient vocal technique.

But even more important to the singer; you will be able to **apply** your new skills to the songs **you** would like to sing. You will even learn how to **sing with style- how** to do great riffs and runs- becoming a creator of your own riffs and runs rather than just an imitator of someone else's.

The SLaS method is a specific, logical, and organized plan of development with definable and measurable objectives for each step of your skill-building. Each step has specific and measurable objectives; your teacher will be glad to discuss these objectives with you so you will know how you are doing. You will always know where you are in your path of vocal training and what your next goal will be!

The Eight Steps of Vocal Development



# Tricia Grey, MM Master Vocal Instructor Owner, Sing Like A Star<sup>TM</sup> Studios

At Sing Like A Star Studios you will learn the vocal technique of the stars from a music industry expert who has been there- Tricia Grey, MM is a professional singer and voice teacher with an unbeatable combination of music degrees, research in

vocal science, and 20+ years of professional performing and teaching.

Sing Like a Star studio owner Tricia Grey, MM is an exceptionally qualified voice teacher with a Master's Degree in music and over 20 years' professional experience singing, writing songs, recording, teaching, and performing in the competitive music industry.

Tricia sings and teaches in all vocal styles- rock, R & B, gospel, blues, jazz, musical theatre, and country. She is a music industry veteran who knows what it takes to succeed.

A native of Los Angeles where she taught voice and sang professionally for many years before relocating to London, New York and then Atlanta, Tricia was recently the vocal coach for the MTV series *Made*, and for *Before the Fame*.

Tricia's performing and teaching career in Los Angeles included singing lead in many top LA bands, as a solo artist and as the opening act for many top name recording artists. Her performing career included touring the United States and Europe as well as recording her original music in some of LA's most famous recording studios. She has performed with many of the top names in the music industry in Los Angeles, New York, and London.

Tricia Grey, MM has spent many years researching the science of vocal production and she is a leading expert in vocal technique and pedagogy. She authors instructional manuals used for training voice teachers throughout the world. She combines her experience and knowledge of the music industry with a formidable educational background for an unbeatable combination.

Her life-long study of vocal science, technique, and pedagogy has resulted in a synthesized, unique and powerful approach to vocal training that is unparalleled. The Sing like a Star vocal method is science-based and incorporates the latest research in the fields of vocology and vocal science- applied to contemporary singing! This method is the preferred training used by major popular recording artists in R & B, gospel, country, and rock genres, as well as Broadway and musical theatre singers throughout the world. It is the most sought after singing technique in the music industry today-the technique known as mix and balanced registration.

Every singer today needs powerful high notes that are similar in tone to the low notes, rather than flipping into a weak, breathy sound for higher pitches. That quality is known as MIX! Singers who have great mix voices include Beyonce, Ariana Grande, Demi Lovato, John Legend, Adam Levine, Katy Perry, and Bruno Mars. Mix is the most sought-after vocal sound in the music industry today, and Sing Like a Star is the place to learn it!

The Sing Like a Star (SLaS) vocal method enables singers to sing with power and control from the lowest notes to the highest notes with a powerful, consistent, and connected sound- the commercial sounding vocal quality that the music industry is looking for! This is known as the balanced registration

and mix approach to voice. This technique will develop amazing high notes, at least a three octave range (or more), power, control for riffs, licks and runs, along with the development of your personal vocal style.

**So, why do you need this training? You need this training because you can't teach yourself.** Very few people can teach themselves to sing correctly. Most self-taught singers incorporate incorrect muscles, called the extrinsic digastric strap muscles (these are the ones we use for swallowing that pull the larynx upward), instead of relying on the intrinsic muscles. So, they muscle up, stay stuck in their chest voice, and strain like crazy when they try to sing higher notes, until they crack, big time. That can be embarrassing! Then if they want to sing any higher, all they have is a breathy, weak sound on the upper pitches, which definitely does not work for today's music! Or they may be the timid type of singer that sings everything in



a breathy, barely audible sound. That doesn't work either! You need a strong mix to be able to compete in today's vocal market of contemporary music or musical theatre. The mix is the strong upper register that sounds like you are belting, but feels easy! This is an exciting sound, and is the sound that all the stars in today's music business use- whether they are pop or Musical Theatre, this is the sound to get!

Sing Like a Star Vocal training is geared toward developing exactly this sound.

You need this training because most of the vocal training that is available will not get you the results you want. Often, vocal training is presented with vague or undefined objectives, little

feedback, and very little if any real skill building; lessons consist of a random and ineffective warm-up, followed by numerous repetitions of a song, with little long-term improvement.

This is not going to do much toward building new vocal skills.

One thing you probably already realize is that, with those methods, you haven't been getting much better. At Sing Like a Star your vocal development is based on specific objectives and definable outcomes. It is not randomly warming up, which accomplishes nothing, but a sequential and planned program of skill building. This educational model of defined and specific objectives and measurable outcomes, known in education as quantitative assessment, means that teachers do lesson plans and written reviews of each lesson taught, assessing where the student's skill level is and writing specific plans for skill development, which are then reviewed and commented on by studio owner Tricia Grey, MM.

This takes a lot of time for the teachers, but it is just one way we provide consistency in training, and student-centered teaching. That kind of planning, reflection, and sequential skill building is certainly not the norm in most voice teaching. To find out more about the Sing Like a Star method please visit <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/jhes.2007/j

**Tricia Grey, MM is an expert on the science of the voice, vocal pedagogy, and how the voice really works.** (That's why she wrote a book about it!) The Sing like a Star method incorporates the latest research in the fields of vocology and vocal science. **Each exercise given in this developmental program has a specific purpose and is done in a very particular order, for a specific reason.** This program really works! The Eight Steps of Vocal Development sequentially and effectively builds skills and muscles, creating new neuromuscular pathways that, with repetition, become lifelong good habits. (That's why we want you to practice!)

In your initial consultation with Sing Like a Star, your voice will be professionally evaluated and you will receive a lesson plan tailored for your voice. **That plan is constantly refined by your teacher as you improve.** 

**PRACTICE:** We do want you to know that **we require 20-30 minutes per day of practice**, by singing along with your recorded lesson, standing in front of a mirror, with focus on achieving the goals of that week's lesson. That is the only way change and improvement occurs. **We will give you the tools, but you have to put in the work to see the results.** This is a partnership!

#### **OPTIONS FOR STUDY:**

You have the option of taking <u>in-person lessons with Tricia Grey, MM</u> at either of our two convenient studio locations

**Studio 1:** East Cobb- 320 High Meadow Drive, Marietta GA 30068: Just OTP, Windy Hill exit from I-75 North. **Tricia teaches in East Cobb Friday-Tuesday**.

**Studio 2: North**- 365 Brady Place, Alpharetta GA 30009: Haynes Bridge Exit 9 from I- 400 North. **Tricia teaches in Alpharetta on Wednesday and Thursday**.

Or, you can take <u>one-on-one online voice lessons</u> through your computer or mobile device (i-phone, i-pad, i-pod touch, Android, or Blackberry)

Internet voice lessons are just like in-person lessons, but you don't have to drive! They are very effective and convenient if you do not live in the Atlanta area- or even if you live locally but prefer not to drive. What a great stress and time saver! All you need is a computer or mobile device with video capability and wi-fi connection and you are set! A video/audio recording of your lesson is sent to you after the lesson.

3. You can even take lessons with a speakerphone if your internet connection is not great. Or, with the Webex Meetings app on your phone, you can use 3-G or 4-G phone technology to take a lesson that is recorded for you! How convenient is that?

#### RATES FOR PRIVATE LESSONS

There is a \$25 fee for the initial consultation. Click here to register for your CONSULTATION

STUDY WITH MASTER TEACHER AND STUDIO OWNER TRICIA GREY, MM Tricia Grey, MM is a leading expert in vocal pedagogy. Her cutting edge SLaS vocal technique is the gold standard of the music industry.

#### RATES and POLICIES FOR MASTER TEACHER TRICIA GREY, MM

**STUDY WITH SING LIKE A STAR ASSOCIATE TEACHERS- Learn the SLaS technique for less!** If you can't afford lessons with Master Teacher Tricia Grey, MM, you can learn the same fabulous technique for far less by studying with a Sing Like a Star Associate Teacher.

Visit the LESSONS FOR LESS page to read all about our highly qualified Associate Teachers!

#### RATES and POLICIES FOR SING LIKE A STAR ASSOCIATE TEACHERS

**LEARN TO SING ONLINE!** One challenge so many singers (and parents) face today is that everyone is so busy and over-booked. Save driving time and learn from anywhere with one-on-one online voice lessons! Technology now makes it possible to take advantage of our expertise from anywhere in the world! IMAGINE- the convenience of learning this world-class vocal technique from the comfort of your home! Online voice lessons are fun, convenient, and easy! Rather than Skype, notorious for dropping calls, we use a professional platform called Webex. It records your lesson so you can practice! And there is nothing for you to purchase- all you do is open an email, click on a link, and enter a number. It's so easy and convenient!

Many students from all over the world, as well as those who live in the local Atlanta area are discovering the fun of online voice lessons! Local students utilize this option a couple of times per month, along with in person lessons, to save driving time or when traveling, using a computer or a smart phone, (i-phone, Blackberry, or Android) an i-pad, or an i-pod touch. You don't ever have to miss a voice lesson with the convenience of the internet! Visit the **ONLINE VOICE LESSONS.** tab on the dropdown under **Rates/Classes** to learn more.

Many students from all over the world as well as those who live in the local Atlanta area are discovering the fun of **ONLINE VOICE LESSONS**. Local Atlanta students utilize this option a couple of times per month in combination with in-person lessons to save driving time or when traveling. By utilizing an <u>online vocal coach</u> you will be able to take professional voice lessons from the comfort of your own home, from your hotel when traveling, or from anywhere in the world!

You don't even need reliable internet to take lessons through your phone with our Webex system, which can operate on Wi-Fi, 3G/4G, and LTE.

Sing like a Star's online singing lessons enable our professional expertise to be available to students in any location around the world. ONLINE VOICE LESSONS. have recently gained popularity due to advances in technology. Singers all over the globe study from home or when traveling using a computer or a smart phone, (i-phone, Blackberry, or Android) an i-pad, or an i-pod touch.

#### HOW TO GET STARTED AND TRANSFORM YOUR VOICE

# Take Three Easy Steps To Get Started With This Transformational Vocal Technique:

- 1. Print and read this document, the INFORMATION AND FAQ. Save it for your records. Any questions you have about lessons at Sing Like A Star Studios are answered for you in this document.
- 2. Click on this link to fill out our **REGISTRATION FORM**

This will register you for a **CONSULTATION**, an introductory session where you will meet with us to discuss your goals, receive a professional vocal evaluation and written feedback about our plan for addressing any vocal challenges, and reserve your regular weekly lesson time in our schedule, if you decide you would like to commit to the lessons.

You will meet with Tricia Grey, MM, if you indicate you will be studying with her on the registration form, OR Elaine Drennon Little, MFA, MEd, director of Associate Teachers, if you

**indicate ASSOCIATE on the registration form.** Elaine will assign you to the Associate Teacher who best meets your needs, after your consultation.

# The purpose of the consultation session is for you to:

- 1. Have your voice professionally evaluated.
- 2. Receive a plan of action from us based on <u>The Eight Steps of Vocal Development</u> to address your unique vocal challenges.
  - 3. Discuss your goals.
- 4. if you decide to commit to regular lessons, to reserve your regular weekly spot in our schedule and prepay for your first month of sessions.

Be sure to indicate on the form **which lesson plan you prefer**: <u>lessons with studio owner and Master Teacher Tricia Grey, MM</u>, or the <u>LESSONS FOR LESS program with a Sing Like a Star Associate Teacher</u>. Tricia Grey only does consultations for students wishing to study with her.

Be sure to indicate **which studio you prefer**: <u>East Cobb, Alpharetta</u>, or <u>Online Voice Lessons</u> and a general time preference. We are usually quite booked, but we will try to find a slot that is at least on the same day as your preference.

\*Tricia Grey, MM teaches at the Alpharetta studio on Wednesdays and Thursdays. She teaches at the East Cobb location on all other days. Online lessons are held every day.

\*The Sing Like a Star Associate Teachers are at the East Cobb studio on Thursdays and the Alpharetta studio every other day. Online lessons are held every day.

The consultation and vocal evaluation do not in any way commit you to a series of lessons, although we hope you will become a Sing Like a Star student! You have the option to start lessons any time after the evaluation has taken place.

- 3. Once you have submitted the online registration form you will be contacted by email (within 24-48 hours) with a proposed time for your consultation session. This will be the closest available time in our schedule to the time you requested. Our support staff will also be calling to confirm that this is a time that will work for you.
- 1. <u>If the proposed time does not work</u>, immediately reply "not confirmed" to the confirmation email, and discuss it with our Support Staff when you are called.
- 2. If the time is good for you, immediately reply "confirmed". Check your spam/bulk mail folder for your CONFIRMATION EMAIL.

#### **TO LEARN MORE:**

1. View the <u>VIDEOS</u> page. These videos will help you to get a sense of what lessons at Sing Like a Star Studios are like. You will be able to see students in lessons, student performances, showcases, vocal tips, and educational videos by Tricia Grey, MM. The student performances will inspire you! View the <u>Testimonials</u> and <u>SUCCESS STORIES</u> pages for more videos of Sing Like a Star students who are now working professionals.

- 2. Visit the <u>The SLAS METHOD- What You Will Learn</u>, <u>FAQ</u>, and <u>VOCAL TIPS</u> pages of the website for articles, free singing tips and important information about your voice and your new vocal technique.
- 3. Visit and subscribe to <a href="www.youtube/triciagrey">www.youtube/triciagrey</a> for more free voice lessons and vocal tips.

**SHOWCASES:** In addition to world-class singing lessons and piano/guitar/songwriting instruction we offer performance opportunities in a beautiful state-of-the-art professional theater. Our **Sing Like a Star Singers' Showcases** enable students to combine their new vocal technique with performance skills, and they are great fun too! Visit the **Sing Like a Star Singers' Showcases** tab on the dropdown under **Rates/Classes** to see videos and pictures of past showcases.

LESSONS FOR LESS: If you can't afford lessons with Master Teacher Tricia Grey, MM, you can learn the same great vocal technique by studying with our highly qualified Associate Teachers, for less than half the price! Our Sing Like a Star Associate Teachers have been trained in the Sing Like a Star method, they have music degrees (several Master's Degrees among them) and many years' experience teaching in the Atlanta school system. They undergo rigorous training and testing to be certified to teach the Sing Like a Star method. AND they are professional singers and have performed professionally on the Atlanta music scene for years. Besides providing the best vocal training going, our Associates also offer guitar, piano, and songwriting instruction.

When you meet with your Associate Teacher for your consultation session they will design a lesson plan just for you, based on their evaluation of your vocal category and objectives for improvement, working closely with studio owner Tricia Grey on an ongoing basis to make sure your vocal needs are met. All curriculum is based on <a href="The Eight Steps of Vocal Development">The Eight Steps of Vocal Development</a>, a sequential skill-building course that efficiently develops muscular skills and coordination. Visit the <a href="LESSONS FOR LESS Associate">LESS Associate</a> <a href="Teacher">Teacher</a>. tab on the dropdown under <a href="Rates/Classes">Rates/Classes</a> to find out more.

**LESSONS FOR CHILDREN:** We are often asked "how soon should my child start studying voice?" The answer is that it's never too soon to start! Young children love to imitate sounds and sing, and often pick up bad vocal habits along the way. Why not start them off with the right vocal training and a vocal technique that will enable them to sing their favorite musical theatre or pop songs in a healthy manner? Why not lay the foundation for a lifetime of good singing?

Visit the Lessons for Children tab under Rates/Classes.

Our staff of experts works with professional level singers, as well as providing lessons for children, starting as young as 4-5 years.

You will get an evaluation when you come in for your consultation that will explain your child's vocal category and the specific steps we take to develop that particular category voice- all voices are not alike! Your Associate Teacher will be able to discuss with you exactly why they are doing each exercise, the objective of each of the Eight Steps, and how each step works specifically for your child's voice.

We don't *just* do exercises-we sing songs too! And our singers sing them really well, and improve very quickly- if they practice the exercises.

# PRACTICING- FOR EVERYONE OVER 8! ADULTS, THIS SECTION IS FOR YOU TOO!

Adults, you can think of this section as "grown-up you dealing with inner child you, who sometimes does not want to do what they should"!

We do want you to know that we require 20-30 minutes per day of practice, for any child over 8. That is the only way change and improvement occurs. And most children are not developmentally able to do that consistently on their own, so parents will have to schedule and enforce that. It is simply not true that if they really want it, they will discipline themselves to practice. Parents- you have to be very proactive, sometimes all the way through high school! That is the nature of the developing brain. But, if you create good practice habits young, they will be sustained for life!

Here is why the practicing habit (at least when you do it correctly) is sometimes a struggle for singers of ALL ages: Anything that is a habit has been done so many times that there is a neuropathway in the brain, a kind of groove, that means we don't have to think about it any more. It's easy. It's fun.

Singing will be that way someday, I promise! But....any time we are trying to change a habit, or learn a new habit, this takes attention and focus. Mindlessly warming up does nothing to create new habits.

Standing in front of a mirror and paying attention to the goals of each practice session, as you vocalize along with your most current lesson with focused attention will create new habits. Which means that, someday, you won't have to think about it- because it is second nature! You have, through many repetitions, created a new neuropathway in your brain. The more you reinforce a good habit the stronger it gets. That's the problem with skipping practice days- you weaken the connection. It's a physical substance in the brain, called myelin, which is built up with focused repetition.

We want you to get to the place where you can take you attention <u>off</u> technique, and you can focus your attention on emotionally delivering your song, when you are onstage, instead of "here comes the high note- what am I supposed to do?" Three books to read are *Talent is Overrated*, *The Talent Code*, and *Outliers*. So-called "talent" actually means very little, in the long run. How hard you work at something, and how many times you repeat a skill <u>with focused attention</u>, actually determine success. Good stuff to know!

Practice ideally should be standing in front of a mirror, singing along with the last lesson. Plug your device into a boom box or a loudspeaker system. You need to project! Less-than-ideal might be vocalizing in the car on the way to school. Just find a way to include it in the day.

Please don't over-schedule your child (or yourself, adults!) with every activity available, leaving no time for practice, then get frustrated when they don't have the self-discipline to practice like they should, and quit. Any new habit takes consistency, repetition, and reinforcement- practicing is no exception!

#### You should know that:

- 1. Music lessons *of any kind* require daily practice. You are going to have to eliminate some activities to make time for this. Establish priorities.
- 2. In the child's mind, (grown-up children too!) singing lessons are all about singing songs. Unfortunately, while that might be enjoyable, they can do that at home for free. If the goal is to improve, (and have fun too!) there needs to be a daily practice routine, preferably at the same time each day, of a

minimum of 20 minutes per day, **on the exercises we give you, not singing songs**. That is why we record the lessons.

3. Children are not developmentally capable of sustaining ongoing and consistent self-discipline, no matter how much they like to sing. This is up to parents to schedule, to expect, and to enforce. Make it the first thing you do when they walk through the door after school. It's like eating vegetables. We may not love it, but the payoff is worth it! Quitting lessons because you left it up to the child to practice, and they didn't, sends the message that anything that is challenging-don't work at it- just give up! Not a great message.

When you and your child begin to see the **payoff of practice**- a stronger voice, better high notes, and the ability to sing like their favorite artist, practice gets a whole lot easier!

#### TO GET STARTED:

Take Three Easy Steps To Get Started With This Transformational Vocal Technique:

1. Download, print and read **INFORMATION** and FAQ

Save it for your records. Any questions you have about lessons at Sing Like A Star Studios are answered for you in this document.

2. Click on this link to fill out our **REGISTRATION FORM** 

This will register you for a **CONSULTATION**, an introductory session where you will meet with us to discuss your goals, receive a professional vocal evaluation and written feedback about our plan for addressing any vocal challenges, and reserve your regular weekly lesson time in our schedule, if you decide you would like to commit to the lessons.

You will meet with Tricia Grey, MM, if you indicate you will be studying with her on the registration form, OR Elaine Drennon Little, director of Associate Teachers, if you indicate ASSOCIATE on the registration form. Elaine will assign you to the Associate Teacher who best meets your needs, after your consultation.

#### The purpose of the consultation session is for you to:

- 1. Have your voice professionally evaluated.
- 2. Receive a plan of action from us based on <u>The Eight Steps of Vocal Development</u> to address your unique vocal challenges.
  - 3. Discuss your goals.
- 4. if you decide to commit to regular lessons, to reserve your regular weekly spot in our schedule and prepay for your first month of sessions.

Be sure to indicate on the form which lesson plan you prefer: <u>lessons with studio owner and Master Teacher Tricia Grey, MM</u>, or the <u>LESSONS FOR LESS program with a Sing Like a Star Associate Teacher</u>. Tricia Grey only does consultations for students wishing to study with her.

Be sure to indicate **which studio you prefer**: <u>East Cobb, Alpharetta</u>, or <u>Online Voice Lessons</u> and a general time preference. We are usually quite booked, but we will try to find a slot that is at least on the same day as your preference.

Tricia Grey, MM teaches at the Alpharetta studio on Wednesdays and Thursdays. She teaches at the East Cobb location on all other days. Online lessons are held every day.

The Sing Like a Star Associate Teachers are at the East Cobb studio on Thursdays, and the Alpharetta studio every other day. Online lessons are held every day.

The consultation and vocal evaluation do not in any way commit you to a series of lessons, although we hope you will become a Sing Like a Star student! You have the option to start lessons any time after the evaluation has taken place.

- 3. Once you have submitted the online registration form you will be contacted by email (within 24-48 hours) with a proposed time for your consultation session. This will be the closest available time in our schedule to the time you requested. Our support staff will also be calling to confirm that this is a time that will work for you.
- 1. <u>If the proposed time does not work</u>, immediately reply "not confirmed" to the confirmation email, and discuss it with our Support Staff when you are called.
- 2. If the time is good for you, immediately reply "confirmed".

Check your spam/bulk mail folder for your CONFIRMATION EMAIL.

RATES AND POLICIES FOR MASTER TEACHER AND STUDIO OWNER TRICIA GREY, MM

RATES AND POLICIES FOR SING LIKE A STAR ASSOCIATE TEACHERS

**THE CONSULTATION- WHAT TO EXPECT:** At the consultation we will discuss your goals and how we can help you with them. We will professionally evaluate your voice with assessment scales; you may sing a song if you would like to. (Just a verse/chorus without accompaniment is fine). We will then choose a regular weekly lesson time. **Payment is submitted at the consultation to reserve the first four sessions.** Please bring your payment method to the session. The consultation does not in any way obligate you to do more lessons, unless you choose to. And we hope you do!

**RATES and CLASSES:** At Sing Like a Star Studios we offer many classes including: <u>Voice Lessons</u>, <u>Songwriting</u>, <u>Piano and Guitar</u>, <u>Lessons for Children</u>, and <u>Performance Opportunities</u>. We even offer a <u>Lessons for Less</u> program with our highly qualified and trained Sing Like a Star Associate Teachers. The first step to getting started with any of our classes is to register for a no-obligation <u>CONSULTATION</u>.

**TEACHING SCHEDULE:** The studio is open 7 days a week until 9 pm. We can find a time for you!

#### PAYMENT POLICIES

1. Payments will be debited automatically for the entire month, on the 3rd of each month. We use the information you bring to the consultation. You can change that information at any time.

- 2. Some months have five weeks and some have four, so your payment amount is adjusted accordingly.
- 3. A two-week written email notice is required to discontinue classes. You will be charged for two more lessons after we receive your notification to discontinue.
- 4. We do not take checks, or any other form of payment during or after the lesson- all lessons are prepayed. We would like to spend our time focused on you and your singing!
- 5. Payments that do not process, for any reason, are charged a \$40 late fee. Our preferred method of payment is banking- you will never get a late fee!

Lessons are prepaid monthly.

**BI-MONTHLY LESSONS WITH TRICIA GREY, MM** Though the best results come from a commitment to weekly vocal lessons and daily practice, Tricia sometimes offers every other week lessons. Those lessons have to fit into the schedule with another alternating student. If you have a friend who wants to take lessons, that would be ideal! Associates do not offer every-other-week lessons-their rates are already extremely low.

#### LESSONS FOR LESS

If you can't afford lessons with Master Teacher Tricia Grey, MM, you can learn the same fabulous technique for far less by studying with a Sing Like a Star Associate Teacher. Visit the **LESSONS FOR LESS** page on the dropdown under Rates/Classes for more information.

#### We have TWO CONVENIENT STUDIO LOCATIONS:

- 1. **Marietta Studio** (close to Atlanta): 320 High Meadow Drive, Marietta 30068- (Bordering Roswell) WINDY HILL EXIT FROM I-75 North. Very convenient for Dunwoody, Atlanta. Buckhead, Smyrna, Roswell, Sandy Springs.
- 2. **Alpharetta Studio:** 365 Brady Place, Alpharetta 30009- HAYNES BRIDGE EXIT 9 FROM I-400 North. Very convenient for Roswell, Alpharetta, Duluth, John's Creek, Cumming

Contact our Sing Like a Star support team by email at support@singlikeastar.com. Call our support team at 404-790-1830 Monday-Friday, noon-9 pm EST. Weekend calls will be returned on Monday. We are available for Instant Chat on the website Monday-Friday from noon-9 pm EST

NAVIGATING THE WEBSITE: Just about anything you could ever want to know is on the website! We have even created an instant chat feature on the home page where you can ask us questions, from noon-9 pm Monday-Friday. Here is the layout of the website- where to find what you are looking for!

<u>RATES/CLASSES</u> is the main dropdown menu. This page will tell you the rates for all lessons and the classes that are offered at SLaS. The dropdown under this main tab contains most of the other main pages of the website. Here are the options on the dropdown:

**GET STARTED** The three easy steps to start transforming your voice now!

MASTER TEACHER TRICIA GREY, MM Rates and lessons with studio owner Tricia Grey

ASSOCIATE TEACHERS Meet our Associate Teachers and learn what they can do!

ONLINE LESSONS Learn about the convenience of taking lessons with Webex on your computer, phone, i-pad, or i-pod touch!

<u>LESSONS FOR CHILDREN</u> Many of our children are already performing professionally- others just want to have fun learning!

SHOWCASES Learn to be a professional performer by singing in our Sing Like a Star Singers' Showcases!

<u>PIANO AND GUITAR LESSONS</u> Many of our students book hour-long sessions every week, combining voice with piano or guitar lessons.

**SONGWRITING** Many of our students book hour-long sessions every week, combining voice with songwriting instruction.

<u>PAGEANT COACHING</u> Many of our students participate in pageants- a great way to learn poise. We have some of Atlanta's best pageant coaches on our staff. Study voice and win your next pageant at SLaS!

<u>PERFORMING GROUPS</u> Many of our students take these extra classes, held once a week, to learn to sing in a group.

The next tab is the <u>GET STARTED</u> tab where you can start the process of transforming your voice by registering for a consultation. Under the GET STARTED tab is

#### THE SLaS METHOD- WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

This page describes the SLaS vocal method and why it is the best vocal method on the market today. The next tab is the <u>FAQ</u> page where any questions you may have about lessons at Sing Like a Star are answered. The next tab, the <u>2 LOCATIONS OR ONLINE LESSONS</u> page gives you a map and link to both studios, and offers the online option to you too.

**TRICIA GREY, MM** Meet Tricia, read about her performing career and her research leading to the development of the SLaS vocal method.

TRICIA'S ORIGINAL MUSIC Why not study with a teacher who can "do it" as well as "teach it". This is Tricia's 10<sup>th</sup> CD, and it rocks!

SUCCESS STORIES SLaS students who now have professional careers because of their study with us.

<u>TESTIMONIALS</u> Watch videos of SLaS who are now professionals, and see what this technique can do for you!

**VOCAL TIPS** takes you to the

VOCAL TIPS BLOG Subscribe to the VOCAL TIPS BLOG on the dropdown under Vocal Tips, for lots of articles on everything from Keeping Your Voice Healthy, to How to Break Into the Music Business!

LESSON VIDEOS To view videos that allow you to meet Tricia, hear student lessons, and view Sing Like a Star students performing, please visit the LESSON VIDEOS page. These videos will give you a sense of what voice lessons at Sing Like a Star studios are like, and you will be inspired by the student performances.

For free lessons and vocal tips, subscribe to www.youtube.com/triciagrey

All these pages are full of information! Visiting these pages of the website will familiarize you with the many opportunities you will have at Sing Like a Star

To learn more about your voice and pick up lots of tips about how to succeed in the music business, <u>Subscribe to the Vocal Tips Blog!</u> This blog has tons of valuable information. Some of the best blogs are <u>Singing and Self-Talk</u>, <u>How to Nail a Musical Theatre Audition</u>, and <u>How to Keep Your Singing Voice Healthy</u>.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

#### WHY IS SING LIKE A STAR THE BEST STUDIO FOR ME?

We bring you a unique and unparalleled combination:

- 1. Over 20+ years in the music business working with many of the top names in the music industry, backed by a commitment to higher education and research- there are several Master's degrees among the Sing Like a Star Instructors- a rare combination of "real world" experience and educational excellence. All teachers have extensive performing careers and a commitment to higher education.
- 2. Sing Like A Star vocal training- the Technique of the Stars. This balanced registration and mix training develops the power, incredible high notes, consistency, and contemporary sounds that make you infinitely valuable to today's music economy.
- 3. Songwriting instruction- your ticket to the industry. Very few singers become successful on their voice alone- learn to write hit songs at SLaS.
- 4. Performance opportunities at our Sing Like a Star Singers' Showcases.
- 5. Connections with the music business and referrals of qualified students.
- 6. Convenience- you can lessons using the internet to save driving time.
- 7. Quick results- you will see immediate changes in your voice and you will reach your goals quickly!

#### WHAT WILL SING LIKE A STAR VOCAL TRAINING DO FOR ME?

At Sing Like A Star Studios you will learn to sing stronger, sing higher, and sing with complete confidence, in all styles including gospel, blues, rock, pop, jazz, musical theatre, country and R & B. You will develop amazing high notes, great power and control, and the ability to sing licks, runs and vocal riffs, just like your favorite artist. You will develop your own unique style too! You will learn to create your own riffs and runs.

Your voice will be healthy, strong, and beautiful, and you will experience freedom from vocal strain. You will be able to sing with power and flexibility from your lowest notes to your highest notes, with an octave of at least three octaves. You will eliminate voice breaks by learning how to bridge. Bridging is the art of transitioning through the passaggio, or passageway between lower register and upper register.

You will learn to sing with soul, emotion, and flexibility. And, best of all, your voice will remain healthy for a lifetime of singing if you continue to practice the principles of good vocal production that you will learn at Sing Like a Star studios.

#### WHAT STYLES DO YOU TEACH?

At Sing Like A Star studios you will learn to sing in any style you prefer, including gospel, blues, rock, pop, jazz, musical theatre, country and R & B. We tailor your instruction to make you the best singer possible in the music styles you love!

#### WHAT ARE TRICIA'S CREDENTIALS?

Tricia Grey, MM, is a Master Teacher with over 20 years' experience performing, singing, and teaching in all vocal styles. She brings you a rare combination of real world performing and teaching experience backed by academic excellence.

She has a Master's Degree in music. Her performing career has spanned the US from Los Angeles to New York, and Europe. Tricia has sung professionally in studios, in bands of all kinds, (rock, R & B, blues, jazz), on recordings and tours, and in operas while teaching voice for over 20 years and she continues to be active in the recording industry and in live performing.

Tricia is a published songwriter and she teaches songwriting, as do all the Sing Like a Star Teachers. Many of our students take a songwriting/piano/guitar and a vocal lesson weekly. Numerous students have gone on to professional careers as singer/songwriters.

Tricia recently released her 10th album of original songs and she performs often in the Atlanta area.

#### WHAT AGES AND LEVELS DO YOU WORK WITH?

All ages and all levels from beginner to professional, and all styles of music are welcome at Sing Like a Star studios.

Student goals range from wanting to sing karaoke, to sing in a church choir, wanting to be cast in a high school musical, having a bucket list, all the way to aspirations of being a professional in the competitive music industry. We are here to help all singers achieve their goals.

The only requirement is the ability to commit to at least 20-30 minutes per day of practice.

#### HOW MANY LESSONS WILL I NEED?

If you would like to be a professional singer, you should consider consistent and ongoing voice lessons as your lifelong commitment. Although most students progress very quickly, vocal study is a process. You will see amazing results in your voice within 3-6 months of study at Sing Like a Star. With a year of this training, with at least a once weekly lesson (or more) and a minimum of 30 minutes of practice every day, and you will have a completely new and different voice. If you want to go pro, you will need to continue vocal study throughout your career.

#### CAN I SEE VIDEOS OF STUDENT LESSONS AND PERFORMANCES?

Yes, on the <u>"Videos"</u> page of the website there are videos of students in lessons, student performances, several videos explaining the Sing Like a Star vocal technique methods. These will allow you a glimpse of what lessons at SLaS can do for you! On the SHOWCASES page are videos from the last few years of our twice yearly showcases.

For free voice lessons and tips and to see videos of student lessons, performances and performances of Tricia's original music, subscribe to Tricia's You Tube channel at http://www.youtube.com/triciagrey

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2. If the time is good for you, immediately reply "confirmed". Check your spam/bulk mail folder for your CONFIRMATION EMAIL.

#### **DOWNLOAD:**

can be downloaded.

RATES AND POLICIES FOR MASTER TEACHER AND STUDIO OWNER TRICIA GREY, MM

# RATES AND POLICIES FOR SING LIKE A STAR ASSOCIATE TEACHERS

#### WHAT ARE THE OPTIONS FOR STUDY?

At Sing Like A Star Studios you have many options to study voice and songwriting:

# LESSONS WITH MASTER TEACHER AND STUDIO OWNER TRICIA GREY, MM

#### RATES AND POLICIES FOR TRICIA GREY, MM

You can study weekly, with one-on-one individual instruction. This is the best option for your vocal or songwriting development. Individual instruction is available at two conveniently located studios

- 1. 320 High Meadow Drive, Marietta, GA, 30068 on Mondays, Tuesdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays.
- 2. 365 Brady Place, Alpharetta, GA 30009 on Wednesdays, Thursdays.

  You also have the convenience of taking lessons through the internet using webex, a professional platform that records your lesson in both audio and video. Students are sent a link after the session, that

Sing Like a Star offers voice lessons, songwriting lessons, piano for songwriters, audition preparation, artist development, and many more options.

#### LESSONS WITH SING LIKE a STAR ASSOCIATE TEACHERS

Sing Like a Star Associates go through a rigorous and ongoing training program to teach the Sing Like a Star Method. They teach curriculum specifically designed by Tricia Grey, MM. Teachers are accountable and must pass yearly certification and are required to attend a minimum of two hours weekly teacher training and testing in order to teach the Sing Like a Star method. You can be sure that you are getting the full benefit of the Sing Like a Star vocal method, at a fraction of the cost!

Our Associates, like studio owner Tricia Grey, MM, bring a rare combination of professional performing experience and higher education- we have several Master's Degrees among us! Elaine Drennon Little, MFA, MEd, taught music and chorus, for over 28 years in the public schools of Atlanta; Elaine has a real love for bringing Music Education to our younger students. She makes learning fun for the student clapping, movement, and playing various instruments.

You will be in good hands with these Associate Teachers! And at the incredibly low rate of \$25 per half hour for teachers of this caliber and experience, you won't find a better deal anywhere.

#### WHAT ARE YOUR RATES?

There is a \$25 fee for the initial consultation. DOWNLOAD:

RATES and POLICIES FOR MASTER TEACHER TRICIA GREY, MM

RATES AND POLICIES FOR SING LIKE A STAR ASSOCIATE TEACHERS

#### WHERE ARE YOU LOCATED?

Lessons are held at the Alpharetta Sing Like a Star studio, at 365 Brady Place, Alpharetta, 30009 and at the Marietta location at 320 High Meadow Drive, Marietta GA 30068

#### WHAT HAPPENS AT THE CONSULTATION/EVALUATION SESSION?

The introductory consultation/evaluation session is designed for you to meet briefly so we can evaluate your voice. You will receive a professional diagnosis of your vocal issues, and a plan to address those issues.

Then we will review the studio policies and if you choose to commit to regular lessons, you will reserve your spot in the permanent weekly schedule. Payment will be made at this time to reserve the first four sessions, using the financial information from the online registration form. Please bring all paperwork (completed and signed) to this session.

This no - obligation introductory consultation is designed for you to meet briefly with us, before you commit to the monthly lesson payment structure. It is not a lesson. You will sing a few basic scales so we can evaluate your voice to see where your technique is currently, and you will sing a portion of a song. You will receive a professional diagnosis of your vocal issues, and a plan to address those issues, based on The Eight Steps of Vocal Development model from the book **YOU can Sing Like a Star!** by Tricia Grey, MM. Then you will review the studio policies and reserve your spot in the permanent weekly schedule. Payment is made at this time to reserve the first four sessions. Please bring your payment method and paperwork to this session.

#### How often will I take lessons?

A minimum of one lesson per week is necessary to make vocal progress. Consistency will ensure that you progress more quickly. Students may take more than one lesson per week. You may take 1 hour, ½ hour, or ¾ hour lessons. Lessons are at the same time every week- you pick a time that works for you,

and that slot is reserved for you with your pre-payment. Although not as effective, we now offer every other week and single lesson options.

#### Are the lessons recorded?

Students record directly to their i-phone, i-pad or i-pod Touch using an app called i-talk. Android phones are good too. We recommend purchasing an i-pod Touch- you can store lots and lots of voice lessons, accompaniment tracks, and so forth on this device. You can even take internet lessons with us on it!

# Where are your studios?

There are two convenient Atlanta locations:

**Studio 1**: 320 High Meadow Drive, Marietta 30068, This in East Cobb, just OTP, off Windy Hill from I-75, very easy to get to from downtown.

**Studio 2**: 365 BRADY PLACE, Alpharetta GA 30004-30009. Exit 9, Haynes Bridge from I 400 North. Conveniently close to Roswell, John's Creek, Duluth, Cumming.

Sing Like a Star also offers online singing lessons using the internet with Webex. You can take a lesson from anywhere! With Webex, you just click on a link and type in a number! Nothing to sign up for! You can do internet lessons from your mobile device or computer from anywhere!

#### What is your teaching schedule?

The studios are open 7 days per week, until 9pm. Tricia is at the Marietta studio on Mondays, Tuesdays, Fridays, Saturdays, Sunday, and the Alpharetta Studio on Wednesdays, Thursdays. The Associate Teachers are at the Alpharetta studio every day of the week, and the Marietta studio on Wednesdays and Thursdays. We can find a convenient time for you!

Save driving time and gas by taking one-on-one online voice lessons. They are so convenient!

# Will I still sound like myself if I train my voice?

YES! Sing Like a Star training will enable you to sing in any musical genre you choose, in a natural and free production, which can be applied to any style- rock, R and B, Broadway, Gospel, jazz, country, Musical Theater. Sing Like a Star singers can be found on Broadway, (we have 3 singers currently doing Broadway shows!) on several record labels, with scholarships to the best Musical Theatre programs in the country, singing in every possible musical style. This training teaches you to sing freely and effortlessly in any vocal style with stamina, consistency, emotion, control, and power. We teach you how to be the best YOU, with your unique sound and quality, rather than forcing you to sound like someone else!

In order to access the emotional powerhouse within, you need to have a reliable technique that will allow you to express all your emotions without worrying about your voice falling apart. You need to be free to perform from the heart. Training your voice at Sing Like a Star studios will give you the vocal freedom to be a true artist.

#### What additional training do you offer?

We offer piano, guitar, songwriting instruction, keyboard for songwriters, performance coaching, artist development, music theory and audition preparation.

# Will I get to perform?

Sing Like a Star studios provides performance opportunities for students with our Sing Like a Star Singers' Showcases, held every Spring and Fall at a beautiful professional 250 seat Theater in Dunwoody. These are exciting and fun events that give singers of all ability levels the chance to improve their performing skills. Please visit the SHOWCASES page under RATES/CLASSES to see videos and pictures of past showcases.

# Do you have connections in the music industry?

Yes, Tricia maintains her connections with the music industry in Los Angeles, Nashville, and New York, and she refers students who are ready to move forward with their careers.

#### What if I don't live in Atlanta, or don't want to drive in traffic?

We offer online voice lessons! With technology you can take a lesson from anywhere! No need to miss a lesson when traveling, and no need to drive in traffic! It is super-convenient: You get an email that contains a link and a number. Click on the link and type in the number. That's it! You recorded lesson (audio and video) will be emailed to you! You can do this with your computer, smart phone, ipad, i-pod touch, Blackberry, or Android. Your audio session will be recorded and emailed to you. We also do lessons with speaker phone.

# How quickly can I expect to improve?

Most students are thrilled with their immediate and dramatic improvement in range, power and tone immediately! The more consistently you practice, the quicker you will see results. The technique works very quickly, but only if you do your part- practicing for a minimum of 20-30 minutes every day, and take consistent weekly voice lessons. Record every lesson, and practice every day, and you will improve very quickly!

#### What is the best way to contact you?

Contact our Sing Like a Star support team by email at support@singlikeastar.com. Call our support team at 404-790-1830 Monday-Friday, noon-9 pm EST. Weekend calls will be returned on Monday. We are available for Instant Chat Monday-Friday from noon-9pm.

www.singlikeastar.com

Join our Facebook page! http://www.facebook.com/SingLikeaStarStudios

#### HOW ARE PAYMENTS MADE?

At the consultation session, you will prepay for the first four lessons, using the financial information you bring to the session. We prefer banking info because it does not expire or get lost or stolen.

After the consultation session payments will be debited automatically for the entire month, on the 3rd of each month. Some months have five weeks and some have four, so your payment amount is adjusted accordingly. Our payment site is very secure; however if you are concerned about using your personal financial information online, we suggest that you purchase a "netspend" card for this purpose at <a href="https://www.netspend.com">www.netspend.com</a>

#### HOW OFTEN WILL I TAKE LESSONS?

Generally, a minimum of one lesson per week is necessary to make vocal progress. Consistency will ensure that you progress more quickly. Students may take more than one lesson per week. You may take 1 hour, ½ hour, or ¾ hour lessons.

Lessons are at the same time every week- you pick a time that works for you, and that slot is reserved for you with your monthly pre-payment.

Although it is less effective, students may choose to take bimonthly (every other week) lessons, or may take single lessons when the studio schedule permits, at the higher rate of \$150 per hour, if there are openings in the schedule.

Priority in scheduling is given to students who take regular weekly lessons.

# WHERE ARE YOUR STUDIOS?

At Sing Like A Star Studios you have many options to learn the world's most valuable vocal technique:

1. **In-person lessons:** You can take lessons in-person at either of our two convenient studio locations

**STUDIO 1: EAST COBB-** 320 High Meadow Drive, Marietta GA 30068. Just OTP, Windy Hill exit from I-75 North- convenient for Atlanta, Dunwoody, Buckhead, Sandy Springs, Marietta, Roswell, Kennesaw.

**STUDIO 2: NORTH-** 365 Brady Place, Alpharetta GA 30009. Haynes Bridge Exit 9 from I-400 North. Convenient for Alpharetta, Cumming, Kennesaw, Roswell, Johns Creek, Duluth.

- 2. **Online lessons:** You can take one-on-one <u>online voice lessons</u> through your computer, phone, or i-pod touch. This approach is very effective and convenient if you do not live in the Atlanta area, or even if you live locally but prefer not to drive. They are a great stress and time saver! **Save driving time** by <u>studying from home</u> with <u>online one-on-one voice lessons</u>. Technology now makes it possible to have a voice lesson from anywhere in the world! Our busy local students often use the internet distance training option, combined with in-person lessons. A video/audio recording of your lesson is sent to you after the lesson. With today's technology, it's almost like being there in person!
- 3. **Speakerphone:** You can even take lessons through a speakerphone!
  - 4. **Lessons for Less:** If you can't afford lessons with Master Teacher Tricia Grey, MM, you can learn the same great vocal technique by studying with one of our highly qualified, trained, and educated <u>Sing Like a Star Associate Teachers</u>. Our Associate Teachers have music degrees, many years' experience teaching, years of professional performing as singers, and they have been trained personally by Tricia Grey to teach the Sing Like a Star vocal method. They pass rigorous testing in order to become and remain certified to teach at Sing Like a Star Studios.

5. **In addition to world-class vocal training, we offer** piano, guitar, and songwriting instruction as well as artist development, performance, and pageant coaching!

Everything you need to take your career to the next level is right here at Sing Like a Star Studios! To get started with any of our classes your first step is to book a <u>consultation</u> with us so we can meet with you to discuss your goals, give you a professional vocal evaluation, and reserve your place in our schedule if you decide you would like to commit to the lessons. There is a \$25 fee for the initial consultation.

**To learn more** about your voice and pick up lots of tips about how to succeed in the music business, <u>Subscribe to the Vocal Tips Blog!</u> This blog has tons of valuable information. Some of the best blogs are <u>Singing and Self-Talk</u>, <u>How to Nail a Musical Theatre Audition</u>, and <u>How to Keep Your Singing Voice Healthy.</u>

Please view our very short informational video

#### CAN YOU TELL ME ABOUT YOUR VOCAL METHOD?

#### The SLaS Method

Sing Like A Star Vocal training is unlike any method in existence today. This world- renowned vocal development technique will develop amazing high notes and eliminate straining and vocal breaks. You will learn to sing from very low to very high with a consistent sound. You will develop powerful high notes, effortless control, and the contemporary vocal quality of today's artists with SLaS vocal training!

Your voice will be strong, connected, and balanced, with dramatically increased vocal range, power, and vocal control. You will be able to sing in any style of music you choose, with a healthy, flexible, and powerful sound. You will learn to sing licks, runs and riffs for R & B or gospel styling. At Sing Like a Star Studios you will become a confident singer because you know your voice will work correctly-every time! You will learn to be the artist you always dreamed you could be.

You will sing the style of music YOU love to sing rather than a teacher's favorite style of music. We believe singers should be empowered to sing in the styles they prefer; we teach all styles-rock, gospel, R & B, musical theatre, contemporary Christian, pop, jazz, and country.

You will also learn to be a great performer- a very important skill! You will have the opportunity to perform in the Sing Like a Star Singers' Showcases, held every spring and fall at a professional theater. Singers need a goal and a chance to incorporate performance and vocal technique skills as they improve. The more you perform, the better performer you become. Our Sing Like a Star Singers' Showcases are just the place for singers of all experience levels from beginner to professional to evolve and grow!

Your vocal development is planned, logical, and organized. It is based on specific objectives. The SLaS method is science-based and incorporates the latest research in the fields of vocology and vocal science. In your initial consultation with Sing Like a Star your voice will be professionally evaluated, and you will receive a lesson plan tailored for your voice based on the Eight Steps of Vocal Development from the book *YOU can Sing like a Star!* by Tricia Grey, MM.

Most vocal training consists of vague or undefined objectives, little feedback, and very little if any real skill-building or improvement; typical lessons consist of a random and ineffective "warmup" followed by singing songs but no specific remediation of challenges presented in the song.

Rather than ineffective and random "warm-ups" that have no meaning to the student and result in little change, The Eight Steps of Vocal Development guides you sequentially and logically through all phases of your vocal development, with each new skill building upon the previous skill.

Unlike most vocal lessons the SLaS method is based on **defined**, **specific objectives and measurable outcomes**, known in education as **quantitative assessment**.

The Eight Steps of Vocal Development begins with the foundation of good singing- breath management, otherwise known as *appoggio*. Then we build and develop the lower register of the voice, followed by the upper register. Then we begin connecting those registers together so you have one smooth and strong unbroken sound. The higher steps of development emphasize things like vibrato, dynamics, and flexibility. Those are the steps involved in building a reliable and efficient vocal technique.

But even more important to the singer; you will be able to **apply** your new skills to the songs **you** would like to sing. You will even learn how to **sing with style- how** to do great riffs and runs- becoming a creator of your own riffs and runs rather than just an imitator of someone else's.

The SLaS method is a specific, logical, and organized plan of development with definable and measurable objectives for each step of your skill-building. Each step has specific and measurable objectives; your teacher will be glad to discuss these objectives with you so you will know how you are doing. You will always know where you are in your path of vocal training and what your next goal will be!

The Eight Steps of Vocal Development

At Sing Like A Star Studios you will learn the vocal technique of the stars from a music industry expert who has been there- Tricia Grey, MM is a professional singer and voice teacher with an unbeatable combination of music degrees, research in vocal science, and 20+ years of professional performing and teaching.

#### CAN YOU TELL ME ABOUT STUDIO OWNER TRICIA GREY?

Sing Like a Star studio owner Tricia Grey, MM is an exceptionally qualified voice teacher with a Master's Degree in music and over 20 years' professional experience singing, writing songs, recording, teaching, and performing in the competitive music industry.

She sings and teaches in all vocal styles- rock, R & B, gospel, blues, jazz, musical theatre, and country. She is a music industry veteran who knows what it takes to succeed.

A native of Los Angeles where she taught voice and sang professionally for many years before relocating to London, New York and then Atlanta, Tricia was recently the vocal coach for the MTV series "Made", and for "Before the Fame".

Tricia's performing and teaching career in Los Angeles included singing lead in many top LA bands, as a solo artist and as the opening act for many top name recording artists. Her performing career included touring the United States and Europe as well as recording her original music in some of LA's most famous recording studios. She has performed with many of the top names in the music industry in Los Angeles, New York, and London.

Tricia Grey, MM has spent many years researching the science of vocal production and she is a leading expert in vocal technique and pedagogy. She authors instructional manuals used for training voice teachers throughout the world. She combines her experience and knowledge of the music industry with a formidable educational background for an unbeatable combination.

Her life-long study of vocal science, technique, and pedagogy has resulted in a synthesized, unique and powerful approach to vocal training that is unparalleled. The Sing like a Star vocal method is science-based and incorporates the latest research in the fields of vocology and vocal science-applied to contemporary singing! This method is the preferred training used by major popular recording artists in R & B, gospel, country, and rock genres, as well as Broadway and musical theatre singers throughout the world. It is the most sought after singing technique in the music industry today-the technique known as mix and balanced registration.

Every singer today needs powerful high notes that are similar in tone to the low notes, rather than flipping into a weak, breathy sound for higher pitches. That quality is known as MIX! Singers who have great mix voices include Beyonce, Ariana Grande, Demi Lovato, John Legend, Adam Levine, Katy Perry, and Bruno Mars. Mix is the most sought-after vocal sound in the music industry today, and Sing Like a Star is the place to learn it!

All instruction at Sing Like a Star Studios is based on the principles of the textbook **You can Sing Like** a Star! by Tricia Grey, MM. The Sing Like a Star vocal method enables singers to sing with power and control from the lowest notes to the highest notes with a powerful, consistent, and connected sound-the commercial sounding vocal quality that the music industry is looking for! This is known as the balanced registration and mix approach to voice. **This technique will develop amazing high notes**, at least a three octave range (or more), power, control for riffs, licks and runs, along with the development of your personal vocal style.

Most vocal lessons consist of vague or undefined objectives, little feedback, and very little if any real training. A typical voice lesson consists of a random and ineffective warmup followed by singing a song over and over with little vocal development or skill building. Rather than ineffective and random warm ups with exercises that have little result and no meaning to the student, we develop specific skills, in a specific order, for a specific purpose. This is a a specific, organized sequential skill-building plan of development with definable and measurable objectives for each step of your journey; we will be glad to discuss these objectives with you so you will know how you are doing.

You will always know where you are in your path of vocal training and what your next goal will be. The Eight Steps of Vocal Development, the foundation of Sing Like a Star vocal technique, guides you sequentially and logically through each step of your vocal development, with each new skill building upon the previous skill. Instead of wondering why you are doing an exercise or what purpose it serves, you will know what step you are currently on, why we are doing each exercise, and what to expect next. The Sing Like a Star method is based on the educational model of **defined and specific objectives** and **measurable outcomes**, known in education as **quantitative assessment**.

The Eight Steps of Vocal Development begins with the foundations of good singing- breath management, vocal fold adduction, and elimination of extrinsic muscle activity for a relaxed, neutral larynx. We first activate and develop the lower register of the voice, followed by the upper register. Then we connect those registers together so you have one unified voice that sounds like you are singing from bottom to top with just one register. This is the contemporary sound you hear the best artists of all genres singing with today; the foundation of the balanced registration and mix technique.

The higher steps of development emphasize things like vibrato, dynamics, and flexibility. You will even learn how to **sing with style- how to do great riffs and runs**- and you will learn where they come from, so you can create your own riffs and runs! The Eight Steps of Vocal Development will build a reliable and efficient vocal technique- so you can focus on performing! But even more important to you, the singer, is knowing how to *apply* these skills to the songs *you* would like to sing. We encourage you to explore and sing the music you enjoy, rather than forcing you to sing in an instructor's favorite style.

#### WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS FOR STUDY?

You have the option of taking <u>in-person lessons with Tricia Grey, MM</u> at either of our two convenient studio locations

**Studio 1:** East Cobb- 320 High Meadow Drive, Marietta GA 30068: Just OTP, Windy Hill exit from I-75 North. **Tricia teaches in East Cobb Friday-Tuesday**.

**Studio 2: North**- 365 Brady Place, Alpharetta GA 30009: Haynes Bridge Exit 9 from I- 400 North. **Tricia teaches in Alpharetta on Wednesday and Thursday**.

Or, you can take <u>one-on-one online voice lessons</u> through your computer or mobile device (i-phone, i-pad, i-pod touch, Android, or Blackberry)

Internet voice lessons are just like in-person lessons, but you don't have to drive! They are very effective and convenient if you do not live in the Atlanta area- or even if you live locally but prefer not to drive. What a great stress and time saver! All you need is a computer or mobile device with video capability and wi-fi connection and you are set! A video/audio recording of your lesson is sent to you after the lesson.

3. You can even take lessons with a speakerphone if your internet connection is not great.

#### WHAT ARE THE RATES FOR PRIVATE LESSONS?

There is a \$25 fee for the initial consultation.

Click here to register for your CONSULTATION

#### RATES FOR TRICIA GREY

#### RATES and POLICIES FOR MASTER TEACHER TRICIA GREY, MM

**STUDY WITH SING LIKE A STAR ASSOCIATE TEACHERS- Same Great technique for less!** If you can't afford lessons with Master Teacher Tricia Grey, MM, you can learn the same fabulous technique for far less by studying with a Sing Like a Star Associate Teacher.

Visit the LESSONS FOR LESS page to read all about our highly qualified Associate Teachers!

#### RATES FOR ASSOCIATE TEACHERS

RATES and POLICIES FOR SING LIKE A STAR ASSOCIATE TEACHERS

# CAN YOU TELL ME ABOUT ONLINE LESSONS?

Many students from all over the world as well as those who live in the local Atlanta area are discovering the fun of **ONLINE VOICE LESSONS.** Local Atlanta students utilize this option a couple of times per month in combination with in-person lessons to save driving time or when traveling. By utilizing an online vocal coach you will be able to take professional voice lessons from the comfort of your own home, from your hotel when traveling, or from anywhere in the world! You don't even need reliable internet to take lessons through your phone with our Webex system, which can operate on Wi-Fi, 3G/4G, and LTE.

Sing like a Star's online singing lessons enable our professional expertise to be available to students in any location around the world. Remote singing lessons have recently gained popularity due to advances in technology. Singers all over the globe study from home or when traveling using a computer or a smart phone, (i-phone, Blackberry, or Android) an i-pad, or an i-pod touch.

# SOME COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT VOCAL TECHNIQUE- and the answers!

# Why do singers need a voice teacher?

Singers cannot teach themselves to sing correctly, for three reasons. The first reason is that we don't hear ourselves accurately. Most people who hear their recorded speaking voices for the first time are astounded- the sound they hear in their head is not at all the sound that the rest of the world hears! Secondly, the vocal apparatus is inside the larynx, so we cannot see it working. Therefore, the intelligent student or artist knows that keeping the voice aligned correctly requires consistently working with a specialist- a professional who understands the science of the voice and the art of vocal development. Most people who try to teach themselves to sing habitually engage incorrect muscles, the extrinsic swallowing muscles, acquiring bad vocal habits or tendencies that eventually damage the voice and prevent them from achieving the range, coordination, and power they need.

You need an expert vocal technician to properly develop your voice. You also need the discipline to practice and vocalize daily in order to overcome previous incorrect habits and to build the muscles correctly.

Thirdly, and most importantly- the teaching of singing is a science. Would you take your expensive car to someone who never looked at a manual? Why would you take your easily-damaged voice to

someone who claims to be a vocal coach but has no understanding of the real science of vocal development?

Be aware of vocal coaches who may be able to sing fairly well but have no training and no background to qualify them to actually build and develop voices. Working with unqualified individuals or trying to teach yourself to sing is a slippery slope to vocal problems. At the very least you will not enjoy the result of proper vocal development unless you study with a teacher who has made it their life's mission to understand the mechanism of the **mix voice and balanced registration.** 

Each student comes in with individual challenges, incorrect habits, and experiences; a one-size-fits-all vocal technique where every student gets the same exercises is doomed to failure for most of the students. Lessons with someone who knows a few "warm-up" exercises and can play an instrument may do more harm than good.

# What does it take to be a great voice teacher?

To be truly effective in teaching singing a teacher needs to understand how the mix voice works and how to develop balanced registration in voices that arrive with a wide variety of challenges based on habit and poor training. Every voice is different! If your teacher uses exactly the same routine of exercises with every student, that means they are not adapting education to the individual needs of students. Some students pull the chest voice too high. Others are breathy in the lower register. Others may use a nasal quality or an overly dark timbre created by imposing the larynx too much. Each of these issues has specific causes and requires different remediation. A "one-size-fits-all approach will have little effectiveness for most students. A great voice teacher is one who knows how to effect change, gets results, and can remediate a myriad of incorrect muscular functioning and a variety of dysfunctional habits.

There is a lot to understand about the science of acoustics and resonance in singing and about the physical functioning of the vocal mechanism. Science continues to push ahead with new discoveries; many of the pedagogical concepts that were accepted as absolutely true and factual up to a few years ago have now been proven false. Now we can actually see what is occurring during vocal fold vibrational cycles with stroboscopy. But so many teachers seem to ignore science and continue to promote incorrect methods they learned in college. Unfortunately there are very few voice teachers who have researched and understand the science of vocal production; most are simply passing along outdated concepts.

To be a great teacher, you have to understand and be able to teach **balanced registration**. Many teachers focus on developing and building one portion of the voice but ignore the other; they either teach you that chest voice is bad and you should never sing with your chest voice (the typical classical teacher) or they have you belting your brains out way too high (the typical musical theatre teacher). These methods are are promoting an approach that is either upper register CT muscle dominant or lower register TA muscle dominant, neither of which is the **balanced registration** essential for the contemporary vocal sound.

When you sing with balanced registration and mix your upper register and lower register begin to sound increasingly similar as time goes on- you sound like you have one unified voice rather than two separate voices. You transition from the lower to the upper register smoothly and imperceptibly; vocal breaks are eliminated and you have three times the range of a singer that only belts. Learning to teach this is a very specialized skill, and it definitely is not taught in any university program!

Along with a superior science-based vocal technique and educational credentials, a qualified teacher should also have extensive performing experience in the real world. If a teacher has never been a professional performer, there is a large chance that the technique they are teaching doesn't really work for them either.

# What are the incorrect methods of singing?

Most incorrect and vocally damaging teaching falls into the two following categories:

Yelling: Belt-only methods of teaching encourage pushing the chest voice too high, creating strain and trauma to the voice. This results in vocal abuse, damage, and usually a very short career. You can sometimes get away with it for a short time when you are young, but most singers trained this way eventually get nodules, which are growths on the vocal folds resembling small warts, resulting from

eventually get nodules, which are growths on the vocal folds resembling small warts, resulting from abuse. Nodules require surgery and complete vocal rest for several weeks. As soon as the singer goes back to the old incorrect vocal habits, the nodules return.

**Breathy Singing:** The second incorrect method is the classical or choral type of teaching, **if it encourages airy, breathy and weak vocal production.** This method often discourages the use of the chest voice which is essential in all styles of singing; it is often taught in school choruses. Singers cannot use this type of vocal sound for commercial music such as rock, R & B, gospel, or Broadway styles because it is too weak, especially in the lower register.

# How is this training different?

At Sing Like A Star studios you will develop a strong and powerful chest voice, AND a strong, powerful upper register. You will be able to connect your lower register to your upper register smoothly. Your voice will sound consistent from the very lowest notes to the very highest notes instead of sounding like two different voices. You will no longer strain as you sing high notes, your low notes will be strong and powerful, and you will have the control to sing riffs, runs, and licks for R & B and gospel styling. Sing Like A Star vocal training teaches the singer to negotiate the transitional areas or bridges of the voice known as passaggi, the part of your voice where you might tend to crack or break or strain as you go up in pitch, easily and without muscular tension. This gives you the ability to easily sing in ANY style with soul, emotion, and flexibility.

Rather than confining you to a teacher's favorite vocal style, this training allows you to sing freely and expressively in the style in which YOU like to sing! Professional gospel, R&B, jazz, pop, musical theatre, and country singers around the world all rely on Sing Like A Star vocal training to maintain their voices and their careers. This vocal technique is the gold standard of the music industry and the vocal technique most valued by today's recording artists because it develops a natural and contemporary sound.

#### How does my voice work?

The vocal folds are located inside the larynx or Adam's Apple. Air pressure causes the folds to open and close very quickly, creating sound. When the muscles outside the larynx, known as the extrinsic swallowing muscles, engage in an effort to control pitch or dynamics, that unnecessary muscular tension causes the larynx to rise, preventing the vocal folds from vibrating freely. SLaS training will teach you to use the right muscles (the intrinsic muscles) and stop using the wrong muscles (the extrinsic muscles)

and to use just the right amount of air, creating coordination, efficiency, and optimim balance between air and muscle.

Sing Like A Star vocal training coordinates the muscles to work automatically, creating a neuromuscular response by the use of a series of sequential scientifically designed exercises. The result is a relaxed and stable larynx and appropriately adducted vocal folds- the optimum condition for creating great vocal tones. Confidence in your technique allows you to focus only on performing and enjoying singing, because your voice now works correctly and automatically!

# What is belting? Do I need to be able to belt to be successful in popular music?

Poorly trained singers often yell, particularly on the higher notes of a song or when pushing for high notes. Directors and producers may demand that a singer belt out a song for greater dramatic effect. When a singer sings entirely in chest voice, pushing for the high notes with increased breath pressure, the results are swollen vocal folds that may develop nodules, distorted pronunciation, a decrease in vocal quality and control, and an inevitably shortened career. Belting, or singing into the highest notes of your range using only your chest voice, is unhealthy because you are using excessive air pressure to force the vocal folds to function in a way in which they were not designed to be used. Because the folds are not allowed to lengthen, stretch, and thin for higher pitches you resort to ever increasing air pressure while holding the folds in a static shortened position in order to raise pitch. After awhile your overworked TA muscles, the muscles that govern lower register vocal production, just give up and let go. And that is what creates the embarrassing crack or break in your voice. You can gain a couple more notes by pushing your chest voice upward- but it comes at quite a cost! You create a vocal break between your lower and upper voice that is huge, and the higher notes you are able to sing after you "flip" are weak and breathy.

The SLaS method is far different: we teach a very strong mix that sounds like pure belt but is much healthier, you can sing higher and stronger for longer, and it won't give you nodules!

# My chorus teacher says I should sing with an airy, breathy sound in order to blend in with the group. Is this correct?

Traditional classical training emphasizes only the legitimate sound, which limits the singer to singing only classical music. The use of the chest voice is discouraged, so singers often cannot be heard on the lower notes and the sound is airy, breathy, and weak. The result is an unbalanced voice that does not sound authentic singing current music. You need a strong chest voice in order to sing correctly in any style!

With Sing Like A Star training you will learn about the value of both the lower and upper registers and you will learn about bridging- the best method to connect the registers. Bridges are the areas of transition where you might typically tend to push your chest voice too high. Learning the technique of bridging means you will have three times the range of someone who does not know this technique. With a smooth and coordinated transition through your bridges and a strong upper register mix you will sing with freedom, power and emotion in any style you choose, in any key that comes along! High notes? No problem! Low notes? Ditto!

SLaS vocal training creates balanced registration (your low voice and your high voice are equally strong), a smooth transition from chest voice to head voice, and no voice breaks or abrupt changes in the vocal quality as you ascend in pitch.

**Regarding choral singing:** I tell my singers they need to be adaptable to any challenging situation. Chorus is valuable in many ways; it develops good pitch, you learn to sing notes other than the melody, and you become a much better musician and sight reader. You are exposed to music of all eras and from around the world that you would never hear on limited Top-40 radio. Those are really valuable benefits. The drawback is the breathy sound required in order to blend.

However if you are vocalizing correctly every day with this technique you can **choose** to sing breathy for stylistic effect once in awhile and you will be fine. There is nothing wrong with interpreting a phrase with a breathy quality if that is your artistic choice. Just realize that a choice to sing breathy is different from singing breathy because you have no other choice.

With good technique you can do things stylistically that may not be considered perfect technique, but because you are vocalizing well to offset this your voice is not damaged. Breathy singing, if done at loud volumes and for long periods of time, is very wearing on the voice. But, if it is a stylistic choice and not the only choice you have you can do it for limited amounts of time if you are also vocalizing with our exercises to stay balanced.

When you are working with a director you always do your best to comply with that directors instructions. You can adapt if you have the skills, and if you spend as much time vocalizing correctly as you do "pushing the envelope" with less than healthy choices. Just be sure you are very clear about the difference between a stylistic choice that you make once in awhile and singing breathy all the time because you don't know how to sing any other way.

If you are singing in a chorus don't be a soprano. Singing high with a breathy and straight tone (no vibrato) is a voice-killer. Sing alto, sing clearly but not loudly, and you will blend in. And altos become better musicians because they have to hear harmony instead of singing the melody all the time!

#### Why does my voice crack when I sing high notes?

Almost every untrained singer experiences voice breaks. Some singers deal with the break by forcing the chest voice up; other singers are taught to sing in only the head voice, staying away from chest voice altogether; others simply lower the keys of songs to avoid high notes. None of these solutions are correct; all can result in limited choices in song material and an ultimately deteriorating instrument. A break occurs when excessive air builds up because your vocal folds are staying in a static position of short and thick while you are trying to sing notes that require a long and thin vocal fold position. In order to raise pitch without changing the position of the folds, you must increase air pressure. This does raise the pitch, for a few notes. However the extra air pressure eventually forces the vocal folds open, creating an embarrassing crack or break. If you want to keep singing higher you will have to do so in falsetto, a very breathy and weak sound.

At Sing Like a Star you will learn to sing in a connected, consistent, and powerful sound from your chest voice to your highest notes with no strain because SLaS training coordinates the opposing muscle groups – the TA and CT muscles- to work together smoothly and efficiently. Rather than a vocal contest where one group wins out at the expense of the other, as is the case in much teaching, we teach the muscles to work together. That is the essence of the concept of mix- mixing the activity and coordination of the TA and CT muscles, which results in a tone quality (mix) that is unlike either pure chest or pure head voice

# What is a bridge? How do I know where my bridge starts?

Throughout the program you will hear terms like "registration", "head voice", "middle voice", "chest voice", "mix", "breaks", "bridges". All of these terms refer to the coordinating of the voice as a singer ascends or descends in pitch. Bridges reveal changes in vocal coordination and occur in relatively predictable parts of the scale. If the bridges are not negotiated smoothly there may be an abrupt disconnection and interruption of vocal tone, known as cracking or breaking.

Here's how it works: the chest voice is your lower register, which most people use for speaking. It feels as though the tones are coming straight out of your mouth when you sing, and you if you place your hand on your chest as you sing a note, you will feel vibration in your chest. This is known as a sympathetic vibration; your lower voice is not created in the chest cavity, but the bones are responding "sympathetically" to lower pitches. As you sing a scale starting from your lowest note ascending upward you will notice at a certain point that you will begin to feel a sense of reaching for the note or perhaps a feeling of straining to reach the pitch. You are now in your first passage area, or bridge. This is called a *passaggio* in classical voice terms.

Think of this area as the **passageway to your high notes.** The first bridge is a critical area of the voice because this is where your outer muscles are most likely to try to engage. The extrinsic swallowing muscles, when engaged, pull the larynx upward, preventing free vibration and adjustments of the vocal folds.

Your folds are shorter and thicker on the low notes and they are longer and thinner on the high notes if you are singing correctly. When singing from low to high you have to allow your vocal folds to lengthen, thin, and stretch to sing the higher notes. If you try to hold on to the familiar coordination of your chest voice, you start to experience strain, you force out a few more notes at great cost to your folds, and then they give up and let go completely. That is the process that is going on when you experience a voice break. If you want to sing higher you are forced to do it in falsetto- a weak, breathy and anemic sound.

The challenge for the singer-and the teacher- is in learning how to coordinate this constantly shifting process of shortening and lengthening as you sing low and high. It's kind of like learning to drive a stick shift; at first your shifts are pretty clunky, but you get more coordinated at it over time and the bumps smooth out. That is basically what we are going in singing; we constantly have to shift gears, but we learn how to become more coordinated until we do it so smoothly no one can tell we are shifting Your Sing Like A Star training will build a strong connection between the lower and upper registers and a smooth transition from the chest voice upward. With balanced registration and mix you will ultimately be able to go up and down the entire range of your voice with no breaks, no uncomfortable weakening of volume or intensity, and best of all- a healthy flexible voice that will enable you to sing in any style you like. The smartest investment in your vocal future is a weekly SLaS voice lesson and daily practice.

When you want a great vocal technique that will give you amazing high notes, strength, power, flexibility, and a healthy vocal production, SLaS vocal training is the answer!

We look forward to helping YOU Sing-Higher-Sing Stronger- and Sing like a Star!

To learn more: <u>Subscribe to the Vocal Tips blogs!</u> Tricia Grey, MM, writes informative blogs about singing, the science of the voice, and everything you need to know to succeed in the music business

# **OUR GIFT TO YOU- BEST BLOGS**

QUESTIONS? Contact our Sing Like a Star support team by phone at 404-790-1830, by email at support@singlikeastar.com, OR use our instant chat feature on the home page, Monday- Friday, 9 am-9 pm. Weekend calls will be returned Monday morning!

