



Voice Faculty

Robert W. Becker teaching styles include classical, musical theater, pop, rock, and gospel. Robert works with the principle of releasing all interfering and unnecessary tension, manipulation, or interference of the voice. Attention is paid to releasing head, neck and shoulder tension. Natural breathing and air flow (support) are developed along with the understanding of using language and pure vowels. Robert studied at the Cleveland Institute of Music. His teachers include Irving Bushman, Eleanor Steber, Wittfield Lloyd Shanzer, Conrad Osborne, and Hanne Lore-Kuse, soprano of East German Wagnerian in Berlin, Germany.

He has performed with Goldovsky Opera Theatre, Cleveland Opera, Iceland National Opera, National Symphony Orchestra in Reykjavik, Iceland and at Radio City Music Hall. He is a cantor at St. Pauls Roman Catholic Church, N.Y.C., and a year round member of vocal quartet at the Hebrew Tabernacle of Washington Heights, N.Y.C. He established the very successful "Opera Gala", at La Dolce Vita, in Cleveland's Little Italy, that ran weekly for 13 years. Robert is soloist at First Church Christ Scientist Cleveland. Robert accepts beginners to advanced professionals; a sample lesson is recommended.

Norma Codispoti, mezzo-soprano, is a magna cum laude graduate of Baldwin-Wallace College and Conservatory of Music where she holds a Bachelor of Music Education and Bachelor of Music in Voice Performance, and studied with Sophie Ginn. She holds a Master of Music in Voice Performance at Ohio State University where she was a teaching assistant and an active performer in opera and concert performances. In her professional career, Miss Codispoti has sung major mezzo roles and concerts with Cleveland Opera Theater Ensemble, New Cleveland Opera, Youngstown Opera, Youngstown Symphony, Opera Columbus Symphony, Akron Symphony, and Ohio Chamber Orchestra.

Miss Codispoti is currently on the voice faculty of the Baldwin-Wallace University Community Music School where she has been teaching for 35 years. In the past she has been on the voice faculty of Beck Center for the Arts where she has taught voice, singers' diction, vocal pedagogy, voice classes and voice clinics, and acted as Coordinator of Singers' Forums, and presented seminars on the Care And Function of the Singing Voice. During her professional career, Miss Codispoti has coached with Eleanor Steber in New York City. Miss Codispoti's students have gone on to perform opera nationally and internationally in musical theater in New York City and at other venues. Her students have won national association of teachers of singing competitions. Norma Codispoti also teaches voice classes through the Community Music School.

Tracy Grady: [BW Conservatory Faculty Member](#)

Lynne Hoffman-Engel is an experienced voice teacher and professional performer. Lynne also brings to the studio her unique background of 25+ years of experience in the music industry. She is able to fuse the study of voice with real-world advice and examples of what it takes to succeed in a quickly-changing musical landscape. Lynne serves as mezzo soprano soloist with The Church of the Covenant Choir in Cleveland's University Circle and has performed opera, oratorio, lieder and Broadway repertoire in Boston, New York and Atlanta. Lynne holds a Bachelor of Arts in Music Education from Saint Olaf College and an Master of Music in Performance from The New England Conservatory of Music. Lynne focuses on developing a healthy vocal technique in the studio, and teaches Classical, Broadway legit and belting styles to students ages 16 and older. Lessons focus on developing breath support, tone, range through technique exercises and preparing repertoire. Lynne also specializes in college audition preparation.

Joel McDaniel specializes in teaching beginning and intermediate singers and musical theatre. Mr. McDaniel incorporates ear training, as well as varied genres of music into lessons to teach musical concepts and proper vocal techniques. He currently teaches Music at Laurel School in Shaker Heights, OH. Outside of his teaching, he remains an active performer and director/music director around North Eastern Ohio. Mr. McDaniel received his Bachelor of Music Education from Baldwin Wallace University.

Sandra Simon [BW Conservatory Faculty Member](#)