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KAREN PARKS

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WEB

www.karenparks.com
www.stagebound.org

OVERVIEW**2002-PRESENT**

CEO, Stagebound, Inc., Workshops, Seminars, Professional Performances, Pre-College Consulting, Private Voice Studio (Studio for Vocal Refinement), Production Company, Nationwide (based in New York City)

2010-PRESENT

Master Artist, Vocal Consultant and National Panelist in Voice (in person and digital), YoungArts, Miami, Florida, New York City and Washington DC

2012-PRESENT

Adjunct Professor of Voice, New York University, Tisch School of the Arts, New Studio on Broadway, New York, New York

2012-PRESENT

Director, Master Artist/Teacher, Stagebound Vocal Intensive, National Opera Center, New York, New York (by audition and evaluation/interview)

2013-PRESENT

Adjunct Professor of Voice, Summer Program/Vocal Intensive, New York University, Tisch School of the Arts, New Studio on Broadway, New York, New York

2016-PRESENT

Audition Evaluator for Voice (in person and digital), New York University, Tisch School of the Arts, New Studio on Broadway, New York, New York

2018

Vocal Coach/Consultant and Member of Creative Team for 2018 Presidential Scholars of the Arts at The Kennedy Center, Washington, DC

2017

Vocal Coach/Consultant and Member of Creative Team for Regional YoungArts Winners, Mikhail Baryshnikov Arts Center, New York, New York

2015-2017

Vocal Coach/Consultant for GRAMMY CAMP (East Coast), Converse Rubber Tracks Studio, Brooklyn, New York

2013

Distinguished Teacher Recognition, Presidential Scholars of the Arts, Washington, DC

2009-2012

Head of Vocal Division, Fine Arts Center, Greenville, South Carolina

2004-2008

Assistant Professor of Voice, Department of Music, Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, Georgia

2003-2004

Artist In Residence, Department of Music, Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, Georgia

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

NYU, Tisch School of the Arts, New Studio on Broadway

Adjunct Professor of Voice, 2012-Present, New York, New York

- Weekly Vocal Performance and Small Group/Ensemble Classes, of approximately 65 Sophomores, (divided into four classes). The students learn how to bridge the gap between vocal techniques, acting techniques and effective healthy production for successful execution. Interpretation and expression of songs, personalization, moment before, objectives, dramatic action, and environment are also introduced. For Small Group/ Ensemble work, style and character objectives, obstacles and tactics used in a large and small ensemble as well as continued strengthening of music sounds and skills while immersed in the style/character of the ensemble is introduced. When appropriate, movement is also incorporated.
- Weekly private voice instruction offered for gifted Broadway-bound students of all levels (enrollment by audition only). Instruction includes a clear understanding of the mechanism and technique of healthy tone production and how it relates to effective expression of song, the acting of group and solo song, body/energy connection, characterization and interpretation; in addition to technical training in the four basic principles of singing (respiration, phonation, resonance and articulation). Clear instruction on the discipline of vocal study, breathing techniques, vocal warm-ups and repertoire guideline for Book preparation are also offered.
- Performance masterclasses at the end of each semester offer private voice students the opportunity to engage/collaborate with others in the studio and combines singing and expressing/acting in a class setting. Juniors are required to offer an ensemble piece, in accordance to their assigned role. Graduating seniors are required to create a 10-minute Cabaret as their final project.
- Artistic Evaluator (in person and digital) for voice auditions of potential incoming freshmen and NSB voice faculty
- Vocal Coach/Consultant for major NYU/NSB productions and departmental projects

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

YoungArts, Presidential Scholars of the Arts

National Panelist and Master Artist/Teacher, Vocal Coach/Consultant and Member of Creative Team, Distinguished Teacher, 2010-Present, Miami, Florida, New York City and Washington, DC

- Creative Team, Vocal Coach/Consultant for Showcase Performance of the 2018 Presidential Scholars of the Arts at The Kennedy Center, Washington, DC and for the regional showcase performance at the Mikhail Baryshnikov Art Center in New York City.
- Panelist, Master Artist/Teacher, Vocal Coach/Consultant for YoungArts, an exclusive arts competition recognizing and awarding the most outstanding young gifted artists (ages 15-18), including vocalists, in the nation, including the honor of nominating and directing the top twenty Presidential Scholars of the Arts
- Distinguished Teacher Recognition, Presidential Scholars of the Arts, granted invitation to prestigious medal ceremony, exhibits, events and showcase performance
- Created vocal qualification and curriculum for application requirements, participants and consideration as a winner, honorable mention or merit finalist for the classical voice division. Also collaborated with other national panelists in pop, jazz and singer songwriter division on their vocal application requirements. Created curriculum for vocal division.
- Artistic Evaluator (digital) for classical voice auditions of potential winners, honorable mention or merit finalists

Stagebound Vocal Intensive, National Opera Center

Director, Master Teacher, CEO, 2012-Present, New York, New York

- Director/Master Teacher, plan, organize and direct an extensive, collaborative curriculum for a week of intensive vocal, acting and movement training, representing all genres of music (including classical, musical theater, jazz, pop, R&B, country and gospel). A distinguished faculty of professional teachers and musicians hired to collaborate disciplines, offering the highest level of training, expertise and advice to the participants.
- Professional workshops on breathing techniques, movement for singers, music business, networking, branding, marketing, performance preparation/etiquette, health/body maintenance, appropriate dress and repertoire/Book preparation for audition/performance.
- "Mock" auditions offered before a panel of industry professionals.
- Interactive Seminars on "Acting a Song," "What Do I Do With My Hands" and "How To Win It"
- Live stream showcase performance offered at end of Vocal Intensive

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

The Fine Arts Center | Head of Vocal Division, 2009-2012, Greenville, South Carolina

- Daily voice instruction for gifted magnet high school students (enrollment by audition only).
- Created/developed curriculum, including breathing exercises for singers, movement for singers, structured vocalises, daily studio classes, weekly performance masterclasses and knowledge of the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA).
- Weekly instruction in repertoire and résumé building/refinement, audition techniques and English, Italian and German diction.
- Two formal public recitals offered each academic year of varied genres.
- All seniors required to present a senior project and recital.

Kennesaw State University | Assistant Professor of Voice and Artist in Residence, 2003-2007, Kennesaw, Georgia

- Weekly studio classes as part of the curriculum for Music Majors.
- A formal public Studio Recital offered every semester.
- Founded "First Performance Club" for all music performance majors.

University of California | Graduate Fellowship/Teaching Assistant, Santa Barbara, California

- Taught Voice Class for Non Music Majors, created elective curriculum course
- Music 114 (Pop & Music Culture)
- Music 11 Fundamentals of Music.
- Administered workshops for choirs and ensembles.
- Assigned all voice classes and a private studio.

University of Texas | Graduate Student, Vocal Performance and Vocal Pedagogy, Austin, Texas

- Improved vocal technique and interpretation of male and female Music Majors and Non-Music Majors.
- Composed & implemented curriculum for singers with vocal damage/nodes, immediately after surgery.
- Devised breathing and vocal techniques, as well as exercises for singers to resume complete vocal recovery and health.



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EDUCATION

1995-1996 Fulbright Scholar, La Scala, Milan, Italy
Studied seven operatic and orchestral roles with Mæstro Gabriele Pisani emphasizing the bel canto technique and the verismo style of singing

1985-1993 Post Graduate MA/DMA Vocal Performance studies,
University of California, Santa Barbara

Minor: Vocal Pedagogy

Completed 135 credit hours of MA/DMA study

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Graduate Fellowship Recipient

1983-1985 MM Vocal Performance, University of Texas at Austin

Minor: Vocal Pedagogy

Completed 6 credit hours of DMA study before graduation

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Graduate Fellowship Recipient

Inducted into Phi Kappa Phi, National Academic Honor Society

1979-1983 BM Vocal Performance, Furman University

Inducted into Mu Phi Epsilon, Co-Ed Music Fraternity

MEMBERSHIP

2012-PRESENT Member of Opera America

2003-PRESENT College Music Society

2005-PRESENT Classical Singer

2005-2012 National Association of Teachers of Singing

2010-2015 Board of Directors Advisory Council, Greenville Symphony

2009-2015 Presidential Advisory Council, Furman University

1985 Phi Kappa Phi, National Academic Honor Society

1981 Mu Phi Epsilon, Co-Ed Music Fraternity