Voice Lessons

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Learning philosophy

I strongly believe that music education is a powerful way to bring people together, build self-confidence, stay mentally and physically healthy, and have fun. I am hopeful you will join my studio with an open mind and a willingness to learn. Taking lessons can be very rewarding, but it can also sometimes be difficult. It's my job to support you, and I'll do that with individualized lesson plans, flexible teaching methods, and an open door policy to discuss what is, or isn't, working for you. Learning to sing works best when you have the perseverance to push through challenges but also know when to ask for help.

Continuing my musical education is a big part of being a good teacher. If there is something you would like to learn more about, but it's outside of my teaching capabilities, let's talk about it! I will do my best to connect you with the resources to meet your goals, even if that means I'll need to do some extra research outside of our lessons.

Finally, I believe that financial circumstances should not be the reason anyone chooses to forgo their musical education. I've chosen to address this by offering sliding scale lesson rates for those who ask. In other words: if you can't afford a lesson from me, get in touch. Additionally, if you are willing and able to pay a higher rate to fund lessons for a low-income student, please also get in touch: this helps to make musical education accessible for all who want it.

Rates

Lessons are either 30 minutes (\$30) or a full hour (\$60). If you request in-home lessons, there will be an added \$10 fee, subject to change based on distance. As described above, I also offer sliding scale rates, which are available on request. These rates are for those who either cannot afford the listed price or would like to supplement lessons for a low-income student by paying more. Lessons may either be paid in 4-week or 2-week lesson bundles. The first lesson will always be a free 30 minute trial lesson.

Please check a box for which rate you would like to pay:

\$30 (half hour) \Box	\$60 (full hour) □	Reduced fee (I will contact you) □
\$10 extra fee to supplement scholarship students \Box		Travel fee (\$10) □
Please check a box for how	w frequently you would like to pay:	
4 week lesson bundle □		2 week lesson bundle D

Preferred payment method is via Venmo. My name on Venmo is @Lizzy-Stant . If you prefer to pay over paypal, my link is paypal.me/lizzystant .

Attendance

Lessons will occur on a once-a-week basis, unless requested otherwise. Please arrive at all lessons (even those on an Online platform) on time. I will end lessons at the scheduled time even if you come late. If you will be late or are unable to make your lesson, please let me know at least 24 hours in advance. If you do not notify me before our lesson that you can't attend, the first missed lesson is on me. After that, you'll be responsible for paying for lessons that we have scheduled and you have missed without warning.

Lessons

Please have a copy of your music available so that you can take notes directly on the music (i.e. either on an iPad with an Apple Pencil or in hard copy form). If possible, please wear headphones for online lessons and be connected to ethernet, as opposed to wifi.

For those taking online lessons, here are several options for online platforms we can use. I will describe a few options you will have below, and what they will entail:

Zoom: offers video and audio together, easy to use. It has very high latency, meaning that exercises may prove difficult to do and you will often need another device available to play accompaniment tracks

Jitsi: this app allows for a lower-latency video experience than Zoom. If you choose to use Jitsi, we will pair it with apps that specifically have great audio: either **Cleanfeed** (lower latency than Zoom) or **SoundJack** (lowest possible latency--real-time music making).

The benefit of using **Jitsi and Cleanfeed** over Zoom is that the audio and video will have a faster connection and the audio will be much cleaner, therefore easier for me to give accurate feedback on. Both are free apps. The benefit of using **Jitsi and SoundJack** over Jitsi and Cleanfeed is that we can have audio that is as fast as in-person music making.

If seeing all of these different options makes you a little anxious, that's ok. I am offering \$20-an-hour technology consultation lessons to be had <u>outside of lesson times</u> to discuss what would be the best technology option for you, especially if you are considering using a platform you are currently unfamiliar with. Either way, I am willing to meet you where you are at and use whatever platform is most comfortable to you, but I do caution that online lesson experiences will improve when using the available technologies that are not Zoom.

If you'd like more information about the different platforms available to you, I encourage you to read this article: <u>https://www.ianhowellcountertenor.com/technology-enabled-music-lessons</u>

Please check below for which online music technology would work best for you:

Zoom \Box I'd like to know more about my options \Box

In-person □

I will provide PDFs of most exercises and songs after lessons via email.

Studio Recital

Students are invited to perform in occasional studio recitals! The next recital is TBD. Guests may be invited and are strongly encouraged to attend. Performance in the recital is not mandatory, but it's a great way to show off your new skills!

And lastly, have fun! After a few months, you'll be singing for friends and family, and maybe even being the life of the party.

Please sign here and return to acknowledge that you have read the studio policies:

Name (Print):	Date:
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Signature: