

NYC NATS MENTORSHIP PROGRAM GUIDELINES

Purpose and goals for the program

Our fourth year, NATS NYC will continue to offer a Mentoring program is to offer young apprentice teachers an opportunity to observe master teachers teaching specific styles of material in order to develop advanced teaching skills. Experienced teachers may also enroll as a chance to broaden their teaching experience and receive feedback.

Program Dates/Times – 2019-2020

Our program is offering these THREE steps for mentoring.

1. Connection with TWO mentoring teachers for observations. This is to allow for different approaches and pedagogical practices. Mentee is allowed TWO hours with EACH teacher and a follow up conversation for any questions. Days/times of observations are scheduled between the Mentee and Mentor Teachers.

2. Group meeting: January 13th from 7-10. TBA format will be announced as emerging ideas are gathered from ideas based on participants.

a) Final meeting on April 29th in conjunction with World Voice Day. Participants will be recognized and final points of discussion will be included

3. Video review – one video of mentee's teaching reviewed by peer cohort.

Once the applicant is accepted into the program, the program administrator will provide the contact information for the master teacher. The first time an apprentice enrolls in the mentorship program they will enter Level I. Apprentices may enroll a second time for Level II observations and will be facilitators in the workshops.

Apprentice Teacher Guidelines

Apprentices must fill out the application form requiring the following information.

- Material Preference: Classical, Musical Theatre or CCM (pop, rock, etc.)
- Gender reference

- Observation Preference: Live/In person or Electronically (via Skype)
- Personal information including name, address, age
- Educational information

The applicant must answer the following questions:

- In which area do you have the most experience? Singing? Teaching? Other?
- What is your voice type? What is your range?
- Describe your teaching philosophy.
- Describe your top three artistic goals for this program. The following items should be included with the application:
 - Headshot and Resume/CV
 - 1 reference whom we may contact
 - Link to a video of a sample lesson or performance video

Tuition

Tuition for the mentorship program is \$225. This fee allows the apprentice teacher to observe two master teachers up to 2 times (2 times for one hour each or once for two hours) during the two-month period. If the student is unable to complete the number of observations in the two-month period, the master teacher and the apprentice may choose dates beyond the two-month window to finish the observations. The master teacher is under no obligation to provide additional dates beyond the scheduled period unless the applicant provides specific reasons.

Guidelines for apprentices observing master teachers

Apprentices who are accepted into the program must adhere to the following guidelines.

Apprentice must contact the master teacher 24 hours in advance if they are unable to attend the scheduled observation session.

The apprentice must be on time for the lesson. If you are unable to arrive on time, you must contact the master teacher for permission to enter the lesson late.

The apprentice must respect the rules of the master teacher's studio. Those rules should be agreed upon prior to the start of the observation period.

Apprentices must receive permission from the master teacher and the singer being observed before making an audio recording of the session. Any audio recordings of observation lessons, must remain confidential. Absolutely no posting online of audio clips or discussion of observations on any social media site or outlet. **Violations of the privacy of the lesson will result in immediate dismissal from the program and possible termination of membership eligibility to NYC NATS.**

During the observation session, there cannot be any interruption from cellphones. Phones must be turned off prior to the start of the session. Any apprentice using their phone for texting during an observation may be asked to leave the session.

Master teachers are under no obligation to explain concepts to the apprentice teacher during the session. Any questions about concepts must be discussed outside of the lesson.

The master teacher is under no obligation to spend more than 30 min. each week explaining their methods. The apprentice teacher may schedule and pay for a session to have concepts explained.

The master teacher has the right to limit the number of apprentice teachers who will observe them.

Any problems or concerns should be addressed with the program administrator:
Dr. Jeanne Goffi-Fynn

Master teacher responsibilities to applicant

The master teacher agrees to provide 2 hours of observation over the course of 8 weeks. The apprentice teacher will sign up for a specific time period. Once the applicant is accepted, the program administrator will contact the master teacher for availability. Each apprentice teacher will be assigned two master teachers to observe.

Feedback form

The applicant will also be asked to fill out an evaluation form about the program. The feedback on this form will help the administrators determine changes that need to be implemented.

**Current Roster of Mentoring
Teachers – see our website**