

2009 SFBAC-NATS Summer Performance Workshop for Singers Participant Survey

1. Name at least three things that you found helpful about this workshop.

- #1: My legato line, diction, breathing, posture
- #2: Loved the opportunity to gain a lot more performance experience and feedback!!!
Loved focusing on aspects with the master classes.
Loved working with the coaches each day!
- #3: 1. Because I was performing every day, I felt more confident each day singing on stage.
2. The coachings/ masterclasses were just amazing! They helped me technically and expressively.
3. If just thought the program was wonderful overall. I've never been in a program like this, so I really liked trying something new.
- #4: 1. The drama class & "getting out of the body" exercises (acting and stuff)
2. COACHING! (one on one with accompanist was great)
3. Everyone was very encouraging & wanted you to get better yourself (no comparing).
- #5: This workshop allowed me to explore my acting abilities—I feel like I reached a turning point in my acting. I also felt more comfortable and freer while performing. Additionally, I was able to comprehend my Italian song better.
- #6: Being able to be onstage several times working dramatically and in depth with pieces.
Individual coachings.
- #7: Master classes! It helps really a lot! Coachings!
- #8: Getting to sing in front of people every day. Having a coaching lesson every day. Watching other singers some great, some not so good, all improve over the week.

2. Were you able to reach your goals?

- #1: Yes, I now know more about breathing
- #2: Well, I exceeded reaching goals I didn't know I had! [smiley face]
- #3: Yes. Not 100% (of course) but I've learned how (and what) to improve and practice.
- #4: Yes, I know where I want to go with my voice & am way more comfortable with myself onstage.
- #5: Yes, I feel like I was able to achieve my goals in this workshop.
- #6: I think mostly...there is always more to be done (smiley face)
- #7: Yes!
- #8: My goals were: to have increased power. Yes. Improved breath control. Yes. Decrease movement on stage when singing. Yes.

3. If yes, how was the staff instrumental in this success?

- #1: They really understood my problems and really tried to help
- #2: So great. Super knowledgeable people passionate about music and the teaching of music.
- #3: I really like Brian's and Joe's masterclasses. It definitely helped me with diction and Brian's drama class helped me to come out of my shell more.
- #4: They were always personal & really understood each singer without taking away their love of singing.
- #5: The staff was able to teach me topics I needed to learn in order to improve in a comfortable environment.
- #6: Very knowledgeable and patient, gave me everything I needed for the experience to be successful.
- #7: [a] vowel. It gets [o] sounds in the end of coloratura, but if I put [k] in the end, it helps to not get dark vowel!
- #8: The coaching with Bryan was awesome so helpful. Then getting to perform daily and keep getting better in every daily performance. The different teachers working with students each day.

4. If not, how could the staff better assist you?

- #1: [blank]

#2: This isn't a criticism at all, but if you did expand to multiple workshops, it might be nice to have workshops with different themes or areas of focus. One more for pre-college opera, maybe one on musical theater. Grad school + opera....

#3: [blank]

#4: I wish the staff had better explained what the week was going to be like & what the classes were going to be like.

#5: N/A

#6: [blank]

#7: [blank]

#8: More on vocal technique from the staff, (but I understand why they didn't)

5. Would you recommend this program to another singer, and why?

#1: Yes, because honestly I learned soooo much in one week than I've done at a 2 week or 6 week program---meaning technique

#2: Absolutely—amazing opportunity to really focus on singing. The only reason I might not for some people is that some people I know might wish for a musical theater focus, or a standards focus, etc. What if someone didn't study any songs in other languages—could they participate?

#3: Yes! This program was so amazing. I felt better by the end of the program about my performance and singing.

#4: Yes! It helped me sooo much, not only in singing. I am more confident & love to sing even more.

#5: I definitely would! This program was informative, provided ample opportunities to perform, and was a blast!

#6: Yes, it is a great place to come work on specific rep with talented faculty and get audition ready

#7: I would really recommend this program because singers need to have as many stage experiences as possible!

#8: Yes, because I felt I grew a quantum leap this week.

6. Would you participate again and why?

#1: Yes because I want to take what I learned, improve on that, then come back and see what's in store.

#2: Absolutely if you'd let someone like me sneak in again [smiley face]

#3: Yes I would. I would not want to miss an opportunity to improve and have fun at the same time.

#4: I would love to participate more, but singing in stuff I like & am comfortable with. I did not enjoy singing opera as much because it was a little uncomfortable & not what I was interested in.

#5: Yes I would. I feel that I have much more to learn, and this was a terrific resource.

#6: I probably would because it got me comfortable with the rep and performance ready.

#7: Yes I would!

#8: I would, but we'll see where I am by next year, if I get to start studying again with a good teacher.

Answers:

Question 5 #2: We asked for 2 pieces, either classical or legit musical theater. We didn't specify language or opera.