

LECTURES... WORKSHOPS... SEMINARS...

All lectures, workshops, and seminars are held at Voicetrax's studios in Sausalito unless otherwise noted. We realize that with the multitude of classes to choose from it may be a bit daunting to know what curriculum strategy would work best for your specific situation. We encourage you to contact our registrar for guidance at (415) 331-8800. We can help you identify the courses that are most appropriate for your needs at each particular stage of your training. For actual dates and prices of classes, please see the registration form.

For Beginners



BEGINNING SEMINAR

Director: Louisa MacKintosh

Length: 10-hour weekend seminar

Class Notes: None

This accelerated weekend seminar covers nearly the same curriculum as the Beginning Workshop, but is designed for students who may have a little bit of acting background or those of you ready to jump into a weekend packed full of information. You'll explore basic voice acting fundamentals including script interpretation, microphone technique, acting choices and dialogues. You'll get right into the booth from the very beginning experimenting with vocal improv exercises and audience participation guessing games that revolve around making specific acting choices. By the end of the weekend, you'll have a solid understanding of the voice acting craft, and an awareness of the particular skills and techniques you'll need to succeed in the current marketplace, and perhaps even a different perspective of who you are and what you can do in the sound booth!

BEGINNING WORKSHOP

Directors: Vicki Baum,
Louisa MacKintosh

Length: 12-hour four-week workshop

Class Notes: None

With the same curriculum as the Beginning Seminar (plus an extra exercise or two), the lessons in this workshop are presented in a slightly more methodical fashion, spread out over four weeknights. You'll explore basic voice acting fundamentals including script interpretation, microphone technique, acting choices and dialogues. You'll jump right into the booth from the very beginning experimenting with vocal improv exercises and audience participation guessing games that revolve around making specific acting choices. By the end of this workshop, you'll have a solid understanding of the voice acting craft, and an awareness of the particular skills and techniques you'll need to succeed in the current marketplace, and perhaps even a different perspective of who you are and what you can do in the sound booth!

CREATING CHARACTERS

Directors: Chuck Kourouklis,
Brian Sommer

Length: 10-hour weekend seminar

Class Notes: None

Whether or not you think you "do characters", we're here to tell you that you DO! Why? Because you've been six years old, when playing wasn't about pretending to be a character, but about *being the character*, letting go and using your imagination. And with that mindset, you can learn to do anything, even characters. Chuck and Brian will share their insights, tricks and techniques that have led to their remarkable success in the character genre. Gain an enhanced understanding of the character creation process and realize just how freeing and exhilarating it is as an adult to simply let go and play. After this weekend, you will possess an increased confidence in your ability to invent colorful and memorable, yet realistic characters. With Chuck and Brian's expertise and encouragement, get ready to unleash the characters that live within you that you never knew existed.

FINDING YOUR VOICE

Director: Samantha Paris

Length: 3-hour overview

Class Notes: None

Join Voicetrax founder, Samantha Paris, for an enlightening overview that's half "everything you ever wanted to know about voice-over" and half interactive exercises where volunteers who are game get to jump right in and actually go into the sound booth and record a character or a radio commercial! You'll be introduced to the various genres of voice-overs including radio and TV ads, animation, narration, promos and video games. Samantha will offer a straightforward outlook regarding the financial realities of the business, the commitment and training required to become a successful, working voice actor and how you'll know when you're really ready for a demo.

INTRODUCTION TO NARRATION

Director: Vicki Baum

Length: 14-hour four-week workshop

Class Notes: None

With narration being the predominant genre in the San Francisco voice-over landscape, if you want to be a consistently working voice actor, your introduction to this field is as important as ever! The different genres of narration are endless including audio tours, audio books, tutorials, medical narration and documentary narration just to name a few. During this workshop, you'll explore some of those narration styles and techniques as you work with a wide variety of copy including the always growing field of narration for the populous tech companies in the Bay Area. Learn how to engage the listener and weave a story that takes your audience along for the ride, without overpowering the visuals. You'll acquire a clear perspective on the storytelling skills required to deliver strong, connected, narration performances.

SIMPLY ACTING

Director: Frank Coppola

Length: 12-hour four-week workshop

Class Notes: None

Frank teaches the fundamental acting techniques he's learned and used successfully over the years, both as an actor and director, including breaking down the script into beats and assigning intentions, developing your character and asking yourself what happened right before the script starts. Through participation in theater games and improv exercises you'll increase your comfort level, gain confidence in your performance ability and learn to make bold choices that will bring your acting to life. You'll also spend time behind the microphone learning how to apply these basic acting concepts to performing commercial copy.

TO PARIS AND BACK

Director: Samantha Paris

Length: 6-hour one-day lab

Class Notes: None

Join our founder, Samantha Paris, as she takes you on a whirlwind journey, exploring the world of voice-over. Samantha takes great pride in the fact that she personally guides each student through every step their voice-over voyage, whether your personal path lasts a day, a couple of years or a career lifetime. Through comedy-driven dialogue and character work, Samantha will take you through "real world" audition exercises, just like the pros do it. We can't promise you croque monsieurs and pommes frites, but good old Domino's pizza will be provided. Working directly with you will allow Samantha to get to know you better, so she can recommend with personal knowledge your next best step as your adventure through the voice-over world continues.