

# LECTURES... LABS... WORKSHOPS... SEMINARS...

Voicetrax is both an online and in-person\* voice-over training academy with a robust selection of classes for both formats. For nearly 35 years we have been dedicated to not just training actors but mentoring human beings to reach their personal and professional goals. Minus the hugs & high-fives, our students have found the learning experience online to be just as instructive, effective, engaging and valuable (some even say more so, check out the testimonial page on our website) as our in-person classes, as we utilize all the tools at our disposal including performance recording and playback, break-out rooms for rehearsing, and our exciting hybrid class format where there are in-person students as well as online students in the same class!

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 and unique situation. But because we are a school enthusiastically committed to mentoring each student individually, we encourage you to contact our team for guidance at (415) 331-8800. With a combined 30 years' experience guiding aspiring voice actors, any member of our team who answers the phone 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 in your registration packet or on our website at [www.voicetraxsf.com](http://www.voicetraxsf.com). See page 8 for legal disclaimer.

*\*Proof of COVID-19 vaccination is required for all in-person classes. To view our COVID-19 policies in their entirety, please visit [www.voicetraxsf.com/covid-policy](http://www.voicetraxsf.com/covid-policy).*

The following courses have been ADDED or REVISED since the annual 2022 Voicetrax catalogue was first published.  
Use this mid-year catalogue in conjunction with the annual 2022 catalogue when reviewing class descriptions.

For Beginners

## INTRO TO DIRECTING

**Director:** Samantha Paris

**Length:** 3-hour lab

**Class Notes:** None

**Format:** Online

*Whaaat? A direction class in the Beginning section of the catalogue? You better believe it! There is no time like the present to start your expedition into one of the most important skills for working voice actors: self-direction. And there is literally no one better on the planet than our intrepid Founder, Samantha Paris, to help you take those first steps. Learning the basics of self-direction will not only give you insight into what is ultimately going to be expected of you in those more advanced classes, but it will add value to any class you take in the meantime, as you will hopefully be silently directing your fellow students along with the instructor. A class within a class. Neat.*



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For Beginners

## BEGINNING SEMINAR

**Director:** Vicki Baum, Aaron Miner **Length:** 10-hour weekend seminar

**Class Notes:** None

Launch into a weekend packed full of information, performance exercises and FUN! You'll explore basic voice acting fundamentals including detailed acting choices, script interpretation, microphone technique, monologues, dialogues, improv and video game characters – *including playback and feedback of recorded performances*, making this class a unique experience in online/hybrid (both in-person and online students in same class) training choices. Get ready to jump in from the very beginning experimenting with partner 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 stories and characters you can create!



## 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. This daring duo 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:** 3.5-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 record a character or a radio commercial! After decades in the industry, Samantha is thrilled to be able to pay it forward by offering this information in a fun, loving, tell-it-like-it-is way. 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, the advantages and pitfalls of online casting, and how you’ll know when you’re really ready for a demo and a talent agent. What a fun way to spend a Saturday!

## INTRODUCTION TO NARRATION

**Director:** Vicki Baum

**Length:** 14-hour four-week workshop,  
10-hour weekend seminar

**Class Notes:** None

We live in a world where communication is way beyond the written word. Companies brand their innovative products through videos, employers train their employees through videos, medical professionals learn about new treatments through videos and on and on and on. And what do all those videos around the world need? You guessed it... narrators! The different genres of narration are endless including audio tours, audio books, tutorials, medical narration, television shows and documentary narration amongst many others. During this class, 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 not only the technical elements of narration, but also how to engage the listener and weave an engaging 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:** 10-hour weekend seminar

**Class Notes:** None

This class could just as easily be called “Intro to Script Analysis”. Frank teaches the fundamental acting techniques he’s learned and used successfully for decades, both as an actor and director, including breaking down the script into beats and assigning intentions, developing your character’s back story and asking yourself what happened right before the script starts. These script analysis skills are a critical and mandatory expertise that every actor whether it be voice-over, on stage or on-camera absolutely needs to book the job. 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 learning how to apply these basic acting concepts to performing commercial copy.

## TO PARIS AND BACK

**Directors:** Samantha Paris,  
Vicki Baum

**Length:** 10-hour weekend seminar

**Class Notes:** None

Join our founder, Samantha Paris, as she takes you on a whirlwind journey, exploring the world of voice-over. Through comedy-driven commercial monologues and dialogues, Samantha will take you through “real world” audition exercises, just like the pros do it. And for good measure, Vicki will crash the party late on the second day to work you out on some cool animation copy. 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. Working one-on-one with our Founder will not only develop your acting and script analysis skills exponentially but working directly with you will allow Samantha to get to know you on a deeper level, so she can recommend with personal, first-hand knowledge your next best step as your adventure through the voice-over world continues.