



Dear Singer,

This is your requested information about voice lessons at Sing Like A Star Studios.

At Sing Like a Star Studios we offer many classes including: [Voice Lessons](#), [Songwriting](#), [Piano and Guitar](#), [Lessons for Children](#), and [Performance Opportunities](#). We even offer a [Lessons for Less](#) program with our highly qualified and trained Sing Like a Star Associate Teachers. The first step to getting started with any of our classes is to register for a no-obligation [CONSULTATION](#).

Sing Like A Star Studios is the premier source for voice instruction in Atlanta-and throughout the world with online singing lessons- where you will:

- Sing higher and stronger with NO vocal strain!
- Eliminate voice breaks!
- Sing in the style of music YOU like-R & B, gospel, musical theatre, rock, pop, country, jazz!
- Sing with style- riffs, runs, and licks!
- Record in the studio!
- Write your own songs!
- Develop your performing skills and artistry by performing in professional showcases!
- Sing with the vocal technique used by today's top recording artists and Broadway stars!
- Develop the power, consistency, range, flexibility, and natural sound most sought after by the music industry's most successful producers!

Founded by renowned vocal coach Tricia Grey, MM, SLaS provides unparalleled training to aspiring and professional singers of every musical genre. Sing Like A Star brings world-class vocal instruction to the greater Atlanta area with in-person lessons at our [two conveniently located studios](#) (Sing Like a Star East Cobb 30068 and Sing Like a Star North, in Alpharetta 30009). We provide convenient vocal training all around the world with our [online voice lessons](#) -one-on-one, face-to-face lessons recorded to video and audio and emailed to you. You can have the world's best vocal training delivered right to your home, car, office, or hotel!

[Please view our very short informational video](#)

SLaS inspires, empowers, and educates a wide-ranging clientele from every musical category. Rock, pop, country, jazz, R & B, gospel, and musical theatre singers develop the vocal skills at Sing Like A Star Studios that allow them to shine in their chosen musical style.

At SLaS we teach balanced registration and mix- bel canto singing for contemporary singers! **This is world-class training for contemporary and popular styles of singing, based on scientific research.** We develop and coordinate the muscles that *should* be used in singing, called intrinsic muscles, and we teach you to stop engaging the muscles that get in your way, known as extrinsic interfering muscles. We build brand

new neuromuscular responses that, with practice, become life-long good habits. Over time your voice begins to function effortlessly; things that used to be hard for you to sing become amazingly easy with our process.

We work with all ability and experience levels from beginning to advanced singers. We specialize in keeping the professional singer's voice healthy and strong without changing their unique sound and style!

Sing Like A Star singers deliver effortless power, amazing vocal control, great high notes, authentic vocal styling, and incredible consistency- no wonder Sing Like A Star trained singers are at the forefront of today's music industry. Sing Like A Star vocal lessons will help you to sing stronger, sing higher, and sing with total confidence- in any vocal style!

But singing lessons are not just for aspiring professionals; anyone who loves to sing should consider vocal training at Sing Like a Star Studios.

"At Sing Like a Star Studios, we can teach anyone to sing, if they are willing to practice" says studio owner Tricia Grey, MM. "Many people think that singing ability is something you either have or you don't- but nothing could be further from the truth. I have worked with several students through the years who did not possess a great natural vocal ability- but did have tremendous drive, discipline, and work ethic -who now have professional careers!"

Consider vocal study at Sing Like A Star Studios if you are:

- A professional singer who would like to improve your vocal technique without changing your unique sound.
- An actor/actress who would like to be a triple threat.
- A high school student who would like to get the lead in the musical, make All-State, or be accepted into a competitive university or conservatory program.
- A younger singer who loves to sing popular music in today's styles, rather than a teacher's favorite style.
- An aspiring professional singer auditioning for musical theatre roles, rock bands, or hoping to land a record deal.
- A pop, rock, jazz, R and B, gospel, or country singer who wants to keep your unique sound while improving range, power, flexibility, and style- riffs and runs.
- A musical theatre singer wanting to make it on Broadway.
- A contemporary Christian or church choir singer.
- An aspiring songwriter who wants to learn how to write hit songs.
- A person of any age with a bucket list who has always wanted to learn how to sing.
- Anyone who loves to sing!

We even have a special program for very young singers (ages 3+)

Our [Lessons for Children](#) program is headed by Associate Teacher Elaine Drennon Little, MFA, MEd, who is a 28-year veteran of public school music teaching. Our younger singers get a very basic exposure to the SLAS vocal technique while playing rhythm instruments, moving, dancing, clapping, singing, playing the piano, and generally having fun! Elaine has a real love for bringing music to younger singers! Our lessons for children program combines the best of proven educational principles with vocal and musical development.

Whether you are a young singer, a professional, or just have a bucket list, Sing Like A Star vocal training will make your dreams come true!

Some questions for you: Have you ever taken a voice lesson and left that teacher's studio wondering what the purpose of the lesson was? Have you taken numerous lessons without seeing the improvements you were looking for? Does the process of improving your voice seem mysterious? Has your teacher ever explained exactly what is going on with your vocal folds and the rest of the vocal mechanism when you sing?

Often vocal training is presented with undefined objectives, vague feedback, and no plan for developing specific muscular coordination. These ineffective lessons typically consist of a random “warm-up” followed by numerous repetitions of a song. They deliver little actual vocal improvement because they are not targeted at improving specific muscular coordination and efficiency.

At Sing Like a Star we have a better method. Our SLaS training is based on cutting-edge research in vocal science- applied to contemporary singing styles. Sing Like a Star methodology is based on specific objectives and definable outcomes. It is a sequential and planned program of skill building based on [The Eight Steps of Vocal Development](#) the foundation of the book YOU can Sing Like a Star! by Tricia Grey, MM.



As you progress through [The Eight Steps of Vocal Development](#) you are building efficient muscular coordination, eliminating your old bad habits, and replacing them with good ones. Anything you want to achieve with your voice can be done- one step at a time!

You will soon be able to SING like you never dreamed you could sing! You will suddenly find your voice doing things you never thought it could do- things that formerly seemed impossible are now easy for you because you have trained the vocal muscles to function efficiently. AND you can learn how to sing with style! You can learn how to sing great riffs and runs-and the scales those riffs and runs come from-so you can learn to create your own improvisations rather than copying another artist’s riffs.

In addition to world-class singing lessons and vocal instruction we offer performance opportunities in a beautiful state-of-the-art professional theater. Our [Sing Like a Star Singers’ Showcases](#) enable students to combine their new vocal technique with performance skills and they are great fun too! You will learn to be a great performer- a very important skill! Singers need a goal and a chance to incorporate performance and vocal technique skills as they improve. The more you perform the better performer you become. Our Sing Like a Star Singers’ Showcases are just the place for singers of all experience levels from beginner to professional to evolve and grow!

At Sing Like A Star Studios you have many options to learn the world’s most valuable vocal technique:

OPTIONS FOR STUDY:

1. IN-PERSON LESSONS: You have the option of taking [in-person lessons with Tricia Grey, MM](#) OR [LESSONS FOR LESS with a Sing Like a Star Associate Teacher](#). at either of our [two convenient studio locations](#).

Studio 1: East Cobb- 320 High Meadow Drive, Marietta GA 30068: Just OTP, Windy Hill exit from I-75 North. **Tricia teaches in East Cobb Friday-Tuesday. Associates teach in East Cobb on Thursday.**

Studio 2: North- 365 Brady Place, (at Main), Alpharetta GA 30009: Haynes Bridge Exit 9 from I- 400 North. **Tricia teaches in Alpharetta on Wednesday and Thursday. Associates teach at the Alpharetta studio 7 days a week.**

2. ONE-ON-ONE ONLINE LESSONS: Or, you can take [one-on-one online voice lessons](#) through your computer or mobile device (i-phone, i-pad, i-pod touch, Android, or Blackberry) with either studio owner Tricia Grey, MM, or with an Associate Teacher.

Internet voice lessons are just like in-person lessons, but you don’t have to drive! They are very effective and convenient if you do not live in the Atlanta area- or even if you live locally but prefer not to

drive. What a great stress and time saver! All you need is a computer or mobile device with video capability and wi-fi connection and you are set! A video/audio recording of your lesson is sent to you after the lesson. With the method we use, Webex, you can even use 3-G, 4-G, and LTE.

One challenge so many singers (and parents) face today is that everyone is so busy and over-booked. **Save driving time and learn from anywhere with one-on-one online voice lessons!** Technology now makes it possible to take advantage of our expertise from anywhere in the world! IMAGINE- the convenience of learning this world-class vocal technique from the comfort of your home! Online voice lessons are fun, convenient, and easy! Rather than Skype, notorious for dropping calls, we use a professional platform called Webex. It records your lesson so you can practice! And there is nothing for you to purchase- **all you do is open an email, click on a link, and enter a number.** It's so easy and convenient!

Many students from all over the world as well as those who live in the local Atlanta area are discovering the fun of online voice lessons using a computer or a smart phone, (i-phone, Blackberry, or Android) an i-pad, or an i-pod touch. You don't ever have to miss a voice lesson with the convenience of the internet! Visit the [ONLINE VOICE LESSONS](#). tab on the dropdown under [Rates/Classes](#) to learn more.

By utilizing an [online vocal coach](#) you will be able to take professional voice lessons from the comfort of your own home, from your hotel when traveling, or from anywhere in the world!

You don't even need reliable internet to take lessons through your phone with our Webex system, which can operate on Wi-Fi, 3G/4G, and LTE.

Sing like a Star's online singing lessons enable our professional expertise to be available to students in any location around the world. [ONLINE VOICE LESSONS](#). have recently gained popularity due to advances in technology; singers all over the globe study from home or when traveling using a computer or a smart phone, (i-phone, Blackberry, or Android) an i-pad, or an i-pod touch.

3. SPEAKERPHONE LESSONS: You can even take lessons with a speakerphone if your internet connection is not great. Or, with the Webex Meetings app on your smartphone you can use 3-G or 4-G phone technology to take a lesson. It's recorded that is recorded for you! How convenient is that?



In addition to world-class vocal training, we offer [piano, guitar, and songwriting instruction](#) as well as artist development, performance, and pageant coaching!

Everything you need to take your career to the next level is right here at Sing Like a Star Studios! To get started with any of our classes your first step is to book a [CONSULTATION](#).with us so we can meet with you to discuss your goals, give you a professional vocal evaluation, and reserve your place in our schedule if you decide you would like to commit to the lessons. There is a \$25 fee for the initial consultation.

THE SLAS METHOD

Sing Like A Star Vocal training is unlike any method in existence today. This world- renowned vocal development technique will eliminate straining and vocal breaks. You will learn to sing from very low to very high with a consistent vocal quality. You will develop powerful high notes, effortless control, and the natural, unaffected contemporary vocal quality of today's artists.

Your voice will be strong, connected, and balanced, with dramatically increased vocal range, power, and vocal control. You will be able to sing any style of music you choose, with a healthy, flexible, and beautiful sound. At Sing Like A Star Studios you will become a confident singer because you know your voice will work

correctly- every time! You will learn to be the artist you always dreamed you could be.

You will sing the style of music YOU love to sing rather than a teacher's favorite style of music. We believe singers should be empowered to sing in the styles they prefer; we teach all styles- rock, gospel, R & B, musical theatre, contemporary Christian, pop, jazz, and country.

The SLaS method is a specific, logical, and organized plan of development with definable and measurable objectives for each step of your skill-building. You will always know where you are in your path of vocal training and what your next goal will be! The Eight Steps of Vocal Development begins with the foundation of good singing- breath management, otherwise known as *appoggio* (Step 1). Then we build and develop the lower register of the voice (Step 2), followed by the upper register (Step 3). Then we begin connecting those registers together so you have one connected, strong, and consistent sound (Step 4 and Step 5). The higher steps of development emphasize things like vibrato, dynamics, and flexibility (Step 6). In Step 7 we work on songs and applying your new technique to make the songs work. And Step 8 is really fun- riffs and runs- learning to sing with style! The Eight Steps steps build a reliable and efficient vocal technique that allows you to focus on your performance, secure in the knowledge that your voice is reliable and solid. This method is not just random and inefficient "warming up", but **a sequential and planned program of skill building designed to develop specific muscles in a specific order for a specific result.**

SLaS and MIX

The **mix and balanced registration method** is the preferred training used by major popular recording artists in R & B, gospel, country, rock, as well as by Broadway and musical theatre singers throughout the world. It is the most sought after singing technique in the music industry. **Mix** is a ringing, brilliant, powerful quality when singing high notes; it sounds like the singer is singing in their "chest voice" all the way up to the highest pitches. It is powerful and projected, rather than breathy and weak- it sounds strong but it feels easy, not strained. Every singer needs powerful high notes that are similar in tone to the low notes, that have the same power and brilliance- but without the strain of pushing the chest voice upward. That vocal quality is known as mix. Singers who have great mix voices include Beyonce, Ariana Grande, Demi Lovato, John Legend, Adam Levine, Katy Perry, and Bruno Mars. **Mix is the most sought-after vocal sound in the music industry today, and mix is what we teach at SLaS!** Whether you sing pop or musical theatre, this is the sound you need! Mix enables singers to sing with power and control from the lowest notes to the highest notes with a consistent, connected, natural sound- the contemporary vocal quality the music industry is looking for! And Sing Like a Star Studios is the place to get it!

WHY DO YOU NEED THIS TRAINING?

1. **You need this training because you can't teach yourself.** Very few people can teach themselves to sing correctly. Most self-taught singers unknowingly incorporate incorrect muscles called the extrinsic digastric strap muscles (these are the ones we use for swallowing that pull the larynx upward) instead of relying on the correct intrinsic muscles of the larynx. When you muscle up, you tend to stay stuck in your chest voice- and then strain like crazy when you try to sing higher notes- until you crack, big time. That can be so embarrassing! Then if you want to sing even higher, you have to do it a breathy, weak sound called *falsetto*.

Or you may be the opposite type, that needs to develop more strength- the timid singer that sings everything with a breathy, barely audible sound. That doesn't work either!

At Sing Like a Star we teach **balanced registration**- the lower register and upper registers are equally strong, vibrant and ringing, and you learn to transition smoothly between the registers so your voice sounds like one voice instead of two totally different voices with a big break in the middle.

2. **You need this training because most of the vocal training that is available will not get you the results you want.**

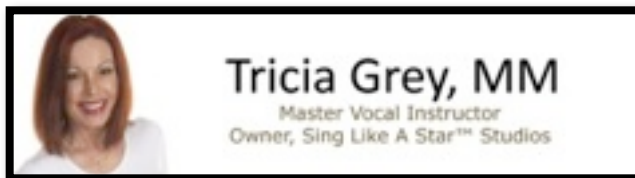
1. Often, vocal training is presented with vague or undefined objectives, little feedback, and very little if any real skill building; lessons consist of a random and ineffective “warm-up” followed by numerous repetitions of a song, with little long-term improvement. This is not going to do much toward building new vocal skills.

One thing you probably already realize is that with these methods, you haven’t been getting much better.

At Sing Like a Star we have a better plan. Your vocal development is based on **specific objectives** and **definable outcomes**. This means that teachers do lesson plans and written reviews of each lesson taught, assessing where the student’s skill level is and writing specific plans for skill development, which are then reviewed and commented on by studio owner Tricia Grey, MM. This takes a lot of time, but it is just one way we provide consistency in training and student-centered teaching. That kind of planning, reflection, and sequential skill building is certainly not the norm in most voice teaching.

To find out more about the Sing Like a Star method please visit [The SLaS METHOD- What You Will Learn.](#) under the GET STARTED tab on the website.

2. Teaching mix is a highly specialized skill- one that requires many years of intensive training. This is not a skill taught in University programs. It is a skill that few teachers understand. Mix singing and balanced registration is an integral component of *bel canto*- a method originally created to develop a strong upper register and smooth transitions between registers. The mixed voice for contemporary singing method was further developed in Los Angeles with Speech Level Singing, an organization that Tricia was an integral part of; in fact, she wrote their teacher training manual, used to train teachers all over the world. She was certified at the highest level in SLS- a process that took many years of intensive study beyond Tricia’s Master’s Degree in Music. A good teacher needs to be continually involved in ongoing education in order to stay abreast of recent developments and research; there are many facts about vocal function unknown to most of the vocal community only a few years ago that have changed the way we develop voices. There have been many new developments in vocal technique in just the last few years that many teachers are unaware of; Tricia has made it her life’s mission to research and study new developments in vocal training and to make those new developments available to her readers and students.



TRICIA GREY, MM
OWNER, SING LIKE A STAR STUDIOS, LLC

At Sing Like A Star Studios you will learn the vocal technique of the stars from a music industry expert who has been there. Sing Like a Star studio owner Tricia Grey is a professional singer and voice teacher

with an unbeatable combination of music degrees, research in vocal science, and professional performing and teaching experience. She is an exceptionally qualified voice teacher with a Master’s Degree in music and over 20 years’ professional experience singing, writing songs, recording, teaching, and performing in the competitive music industry. Tricia sings and teaches in all vocal styles- rock, R & B, gospel, blues, jazz, musical theatre, and country. She is a music industry veteran who knows what it takes to succeed.

A native of Los Angeles where she taught voice and sang professionally for many years before relocating to London, New York and then Atlanta, Tricia was recently the vocal coach for the MTV series Made, and for another show, Before the Fame. Tricia’s performing and teaching career in Los Angeles included singing lead in many top LA bands, as a solo artist and as the opening act for many top name recording artists. Her performing career included touring the United States and Europe as well as recording her original music in some of LA’s most famous recording studios. She has performed with many of the top names in the music industry in Los Angeles, New York, Nashville, and London.

Tricia Grey, MM has spent many years researching the science of vocal production and she is an expert on vocal technique and pedagogy. She combines her experience and knowledge of the music industry with a formidable educational background for an unbeatable combination. Her study of vocal science, technique, and pedagogy combined with her “real-world” experience as a professional singer in the competitive music industry has created a synthesized, unique and powerful approach to vocal training that is unparalleled. Her book *You Can Sing Like a Star!* is the culmination of her research and study, presented in an easy-to-understand format that is appealing to every reader.



PRACTICE:

We want you to know that, for anyone over the age of 8, we require 20-30 minutes per day of practice, by singing along with your recorded lesson, standing in front of a mirror, with focus on achieving the goals of that week’s lesson. That is the only way change and improvement occurs. We will give you the tools- but you have to put in the work to see the results. This is a partnership! 20-30 minutes per day of practice is the only way muscular change and improvement occurs. And it needs to be consistent, daily practice to effect any real change.

Parents- you have to be proactive about scheduling regular practice sessions, sometimes all the way through high school! Children are not developmentally capable of initiating and sustaining a daily practice habit, no matter how much they like to sing. It is simply not true that, if a child really wants to sing, they will be able to discipline themselves to practice daily- even adults often find this a challenge. But, if you help them create good practice habits young, the good habits will be sustained for life! So please don’t be the parent that leaves it up to the (usually already over-booked) kid to practice, and then decides to quit when they don’t do it. Think about the message you are sending- “if it’s hard, don’t work at it- just quit!” Not a great life lesson. You need to be an active participant in this process. The best way to encourage a child to do something is to do it yourself! They will imitate you. So, if you have ever wanted to take voice lessons, parents, this is a great time to bond with your child and be a role model too!

In many people’s minds, voice lessons are about singing songs. They like to sing along with a favorite singer in the car, and they feel they sound pretty good. Until they try to sing the song in front of people, without the help of a vocal track. You can sing along with your favorite artist at home for free- it won’t improve your singing much. We want you to sound better when you sing songs. To sing like a star yourself! So you have to change the way you sing, through practice- usually involving scales and strange sounds that drive your family crazy. **Practice is about improving specific skills, one by one, until you have completely changed your voice- one skill at a time.** This is the premise of The Eight Steps of Vocal Development- building skills, one at a time, until you have a totally new voice.

Here is why the practicing habit, at least when you do it correctly, is sometimes a struggle for singers of ALL ages: a habit is an action that has been repeated so many times that there is a neuropathway in the brain, a kind of groove, that means we don’t have to think about it any more. It’s easy. It’s fun. Singing will be that way someday, I promise! But.... trying to *change* a habit, or learn a new habit takes attention, energy, and focus. Mindlessly “warming up” does nothing to create new habits. You have to be focused on an objective, something you are trying to improve, every time you practice. This takes a lot more concentration, so it’s harder. But....this way, you actually see results!

Practice is: standing in front of a mirror and paying attention to the goals of each practice session as you vocalize along with your most current lesson with focused attention. You repeat the entire lesson, every day. Doing this repeatedly will develop new muscular responses that eventually become habitual. Which means that, someday, you won’t have to think about it- because it is second nature! You have, through many repetitions, created a new neuropathway in your brain. **The more you reinforce a good habit the stronger it gets.** That’s the problem with skipping practice days- you weaken the connection.

In order to create a habit, you want to repeat an action **at the same time every day** and in the same location. You don't want to do it "when you get around to it". Make it a priority- the first thing you do right after school or work, or the first thing in the morning. Creating this good habit will provide a big payoff- you will become a great singer!

We want you to get to the place where you can take your attention off technique so you can focus your attention on emotionally delivering your song instead of focusing on "here comes the high note", tensing up, crashing and burning.

Music lessons of any kind will require a daily scheduled practice session in order to improve. If you don't put in the time between lessons you will be taking the same lesson over and over- a frustrating experience for both you and your teacher. You have to prioritize your time to make sure regular practice happens every day. If you want to be successful in singing you will have to make some choices about how you spend your time, and not allow yourself or your child to become so busy that practice time becomes sporadic.

So-called "talent" actually means very little in the long run. How hard you work at anything, and how many times you repeat a skill with focused attention, is what actually determines your success- or lack of it.

RATES FOR PRIVATE LESSONS

There is a \$25 fee for the initial consultation. Click here to register for your [CONSULTATION](#)

1. RATES FOR MASTER TEACHER AND STUDIO OWNER TRICIA GREY, MM

Tricia Grey, MM is an expert on vocal pedagogy. Her cutting edge SLaS vocal technique is the gold standard of the music industry. If you are an advanced singer or if you would like to be a professional singer you should invest in the best- lessons with studio owner Tricia Grey, MM.

[RATES and POLICIES FOR MASTER TEACHER TRICIA GREY, MM](#)

2. RATES FOR SING LIKE A STAR ASSOCIATE TEACHERS- Learn the SLaS technique for less! If you can't afford lessons with Master Teacher Tricia Grey, MM, you can learn the same fabulous technique for less by studying with a Sing Like a Star Associate Teacher. Lessons with SLaS Associates are perfect for children and beginners.

[RATES and POLICIES FOR SING LIKE A STAR ASSOCIATE TEACHERS](#)

Visit [LESSONS FOR LESS](#) to read all about our highly qualified Associate Teachers! Sing Like a Star Associates go through a rigorous and ongoing training program to teach the Sing Like a Star Method. They teach curriculum specifically designed by Tricia Grey, MM. Teachers are accountable; they must pass yearly certification and are required to attend teacher training in order to teach the Sing Like a Star method. You can be sure that you are getting the full benefit of the SLaS vocal method at a fraction of the cost!

SLaS Associates, like studio owner Tricia Grey, MM, bring a rare combination of professional performing experience and higher education. Director of Associates Elaine Drennon Little, MFA, MEd, taught music and chorus, for over 28 years in the public schools of Atlanta; Elaine has a real love for bringing music education to our younger students. She makes learning fun for her students- you will find them clapping, moving, playing various instruments and having a great time while getting a basic exposure to SLAS vocal training.

You will be in good hands with our SLaS Associate Teachers! And at the incredibly low rate of \$25 per half hour for teachers of this caliber and experience, you won't find a better deal anywhere!

HOW TO GET STARTED

Take Four Easy Steps To Get Started With This Transformational Vocal Technique:

1. Download, print and read this document, the INFORMATION AND FAQ sheet. **Save it for your records.** Any questions you have about lessons at Sing Like A Star Studios are answered for you in this document.

2. Click on this link to fill out our **[REGISTRATION FORM](#)**. This will register you for a **CONSULTATION**, an introductory session where you will meet with us to discuss your goals, receive a professional vocal evaluation and written feedback about our plan for addressing any vocal challenges, and reserve your regular weekly lesson time in our schedule, if you decide you would like to commit to the lessons. You will meet with Tricia Grey, MM, if you indicate you will be studying with her on the registration form, **OR** Elaine Drennon Little, MFA, MEd, director of Associate Teachers, if you indicate ASSOCIATE on the registration form. Elaine will assign you to the Associate Teacher who best meets your needs.

The purpose of the consultation session is for you to:

1. Have your voice professionally evaluated.
2. Receive a plan of action from us based on The Eight Steps of Vocal Development to address your unique vocal challenges.
3. Discuss your goals.
4. if you decide to commit to regular lessons, to reserve your regular weekly spot in our schedule and prepay for your first month of sessions.

Be sure to indicate on the form **which lesson plan** you prefer: **[lessons with studio owner and Master Teacher Tricia Grey, MM](#)**, or the **[LESSONS FOR LESS program with a Sing Like a Star Associate Teacher](#)**. Tricia Grey only does consultations for students wishing to study with her.

Be sure to indicate **which studio** you prefer: **[SLaS East Cobb](#)**, **[SLaS North in Alpharetta](#)**, or **[Online Voice Lessons](#)** and a general time preference. We are usually quite booked, but we will try to find a slot that is at least on the same day as your preference. **Tricia Grey, MM teaches at the SLaS North in Alpharetta studio on Wednesdays and Thursdays. She teaches at the SLaS East Cobb location on all other days. Online lessons are held every day.**

Elaine Drennon Little, MFA, MEd does consultations at the SLaS East Cobb studio on Thursdays and at the SLaS North in Alpharetta studio all other days.

The consultation and vocal evaluation do not in any way commit you to a series of lessons, although we hope you will become a Sing Like a Star student! You have the option to start lessons any time after the evaluation has taken place.

3. Once you have submitted the online registration form you will be contacted by email (within 24-48 hours) with a proposed time for your consultation session. This will be the closest available time in our schedule to the time you requested. Our support staff will also be calling to confirm that this is a time that will work for you.

1. If the proposed time does not work, immediately reply “not confirmed” to the confirmation email, and discuss it with our Support Staff when you are called.

2. If the time is good for you, immediately reply “confirmed”. Check your spam/bulk mail folder for your CONFIRMATION EMAIL.

4. DOWNLOAD, print and save:

[RATES AND POLICIES FOR MASTER TEACHER AND STUDIO OWNER TRICIA GREY, MM](#)
[RATES AND POLICIES FOR SING LIKE A STAR ASSOCIATE TEACHERS](#)

WHAT HAPPENS AT THE CONSULTATION

This no - obligation introductory consultation is designed for you to meet briefly with us, before you commit to the monthly lesson payment structure. It is not a lesson. You will sing a few basic scales so we can evaluate your voice to see where your technique is currently, and you will sing a portion of a song, if you would like to. You will receive a written evaluation and lesson plan based on [The Eight Steps of Vocal Development](#) from the book ***YOU can Sing Like a Star!*** by Tricia Grey, MM. The introductory consultation is designed for you to meet briefly with us so we can evaluate your voice, so you can meet us and see if you think we are a good fit, and so you can decide if SLaS lessons are for you. If you do decide to commit to weekly lessons, **payment will be made at this time to reserve the first four sessions.** Please bring all paperwork (completed and signed) to this session.

RECORDING THE LESSONS

Students record directly to their i-phone, i-pad or i-pod Touch using an app called i-talk. Android phones are good for recording lessons too. **We recommend purchasing an i-pod Touch-** you can store lots and lots of voice lessons, accompaniment tracks, and so forth on this device. You can even take internet lessons with us on it!

THE STUDIO SCHEDULE

The studios are open 7 days a week, until 9pm. **Tricia teaches at the SLaS North in Alpharetta Studio on Wednesdays and Thursdays, and the SLaS East Cobb location all other days.** The Associate Teachers are at the SLaS North in Alpharetta studio every day of the week, and the SLaS East Cobb studio on Wednesdays and Thursdays. We can find a convenient time for you!

Save driving time and gas by taking one-on-one online voice lessons. They are so convenient! Lessons are prepaid monthly.

BI-MONTHLY LESSONS WITH TRICIA GREY, MM: Though the best results come from a commitment to weekly vocal lessons and daily practice, Tricia sometimes offers every other week lessons. Those lessons have to fit into the schedule with another alternating student. If you have a friend who wants to take lessons, that would be ideal! Associates do not offer every-other-week lessons- their rates are already extremely low.

OTHER CLASSES AT SING LIKE A STAR:

At Sing Like a Star Studios we offer many classes including: [Voice Lessons, Songwriting, Piano and Guitar, Lessons for Children](#), and [Performance Opportunities](#). We even offer a [Lessons for Less](#) program with our highly qualified and trained Sing Like a Star Associate Teachers. The first step to getting started with any of our classes is to register for a no-obligation [CONSULTATION](#).

SHOWCASES: In addition to world-class singing lessons and piano/guitar/songwriting instruction we offer performance opportunities in a beautiful state-of-the-art professional theater. Our [Sing Like a Star Singers' Showcases](#) enable students to combine their new vocal technique with performance skills, and they are great fun too! Visit the [Sing Like a Star Singers' Showcases](#) tab on the dropdown under [Rates/Classes](#) to see videos and pictures of past showcases.

LESSONS FOR LESS: If you can't afford lessons with Master Teacher Tricia Grey, MM, you can learn the same great vocal technique by studying with our highly qualified Associate Teachers for less than half the price! Our SLaS Associate Teachers have been trained in the Sing Like a Star method, they have music degrees (several Master's Degrees among them) and many years' experience teaching in the Atlanta school system. They undergo rigorous training and testing to be certified to teach the Sing Like a Star method. They are professional singers and have performed professionally on the Atlanta music scene for years. **Besides**

providing the best vocal training going, our Associates also offer guitar, piano, and songwriting instruction.

When you meet with your Associate Teacher for your consultation session they will design a lesson plan just for you, based on their evaluation of your vocal category and objectives for improvement, working closely with studio owner Tricia Grey on an ongoing basis to make sure your vocal needs are met. All curriculum is based on [The Eight Steps of Vocal Development](#), a sequential skill-building course that efficiently develops muscular skills and coordination. Visit the [LESSONS FOR LESS Associate Teacher](#) tab on the dropdown under [Rates/Classes](#) to find out more.

LESSONS FOR CHILDREN: We are often asked "how soon should my child start studying voice?" The answer is that it's never too soon to start! Young children love to imitate sounds and sing, and often pick up bad vocal habits along the way. Why not start them off with the right vocal training and a vocal technique that will enable them to sing their favorite musical theatre or pop songs in a healthy manner? Why not lay the foundation for a lifetime of good singing?

Visit the [Lessons for Children](#) tab under [Rates/Classes](#).

Our Associate Teachers provide lessons for children starting as young as 4-5 years. If your child would like to be a professional singer, you should register with studio owner Tricia Grey, MM.

You will get an evaluation when you come in for your consultation that will explain your child's vocal category and the specific steps we take to develop that particular category voice- all voices are not alike! Your child's teacher will be able to discuss with you exactly why they are doing each exercise, the objective of each of the Eight Steps of Vocal Development, and how each step works specifically for your child's voice.

We don't just do exercises-we sing songs too! And our singers sing them really well, and improve very quickly- if they practice the exercises.

GUITAR, PIANO, AND SONGWRITING: We firmly believe that being a good musician and songwriter is an important component- especially if you want to make it in today's music industry. Many of our students book hour-long lessons weekly, dividing the time between voice and songwriting or piano/guitar.

TO LEARN MORE:

1. View the [VIDEOS](#) page. These videos will help you to get a sense of what lessons at Sing Like a Star Studios are like. You will be able to see students in lessons, student performances, showcases, vocal tips, and educational videos by Tricia Grey, MM. The student performances will inspire you! View the [Testimonials](#) and [SUCCESS STORIES](#) pages for more videos of Sing Like a Star students who are now working professionals.
2. Visit the [The SLAS METHOD- What You Will Learn](#), [FAQ](#), and [VOCAL TIPS](#) pages of the website for articles, free singing tips and important information about your voice and your new vocal technique.
3. Visit and subscribe to www.youtube/triciagrey for more free voice lessons and vocal tips.

To learn more about your voice and pick up lots of tips about how to succeed in the music business, [Subscribe to the Vocal Tips Blog!](#) This blog has tons of valuable information. Some of the best blogs are [Singing and Self-Talk](#), [How to Nail a Musical Theatre Audition](#), and [How to Keep Your Singing Voice Healthy](#).

NAVIGATING THE WEBSITE: Just about anything you could ever want to know is on the website! We have even created an instant chat feature on the home page where you can ask us questions. Here is the layout of the website showing where to find anything you are looking for!

[RATES/CLASSES](#) is the main dropdown menu. This page will tell you the rates for all lessons and the classes that are offered at SLaS. The dropdown under this main tab contains most of the other main pages of the website. Here are the options on the dropdown:

[GET STARTED](#) The four easy steps to start transforming your voice now!

[MASTER TEACHER TRICIA GREY, MM](#) Rates and lessons with studio owner Tricia Grey

[ASSOCIATE TEACHERS](#) Meet our Associate Teachers and learn what they can do!

[ONLINE LESSONS](#) Learn about the convenience of taking lessons with Webex on your computer, phone, i-pad, or i-pod touch!

[LESSONS FOR CHILDREN](#) Many of our children are already performing professionally- others just want to have fun learning!

[SHOWCASES](#) Learn to be a professional performer by singing in our Sing Like a Star Singers' Showcases!

[PIANO AND GUITAR LESSONS](#) Many of our students book hour-long sessions every week, combining voice with piano or guitar lessons.

[SONGWRITING](#) Many of our students book hour-long sessions every week, combining voice with songwriting instruction.

[PAGEANT COACHING](#) Many of our students participate in pageants- a great way to learn poise. We have some of Atlanta's best pageant coaches on our staff. Study voice and win your next pageant at SLaS!

[PERFORMING GROUPS](#) Many of our students take these extra classes, held once a week, to learn to sing in a group.

[GET STARTED](#) This is where you can start the process of transforming your voice by registering for a consultation.

[THE SLaS METHOD- WHAT YOU WILL LEARN](#)

This page describes the SLaS vocal method and why it is the best vocal method on the market today.

[FAQ](#) Any questions you may have about lessons at Sing Like a Star are answered on this page.

[2 LOCATIONS OR ONLINE LESSONS](#) This page gives you a map and link to both studios, and discusses option of online vocal training.

[TRICIA GREY, MM](#) Meet Tricia, read about her performing career and her research leading to the development of the SLaS vocal method.

[TRICIA'S ORIGINAL MUSIC](#) Why not study with a teacher who can "do it" as well as "teach it". This is Tricia's 10th CD, and it rocks!

[SUCCESS STORIES](#) SLaS students who now have professional careers because of their study with us.

[TESTIMONIALS](#) Watch videos of SLaS who are now professionals, and see what this technique can do for you!

[VOCAL TIPS](#) takes you to the

[VOCAL TIPS BLOG](#) Subscribe to the VOCAL TIPS BLOG for lots of articles on everything from Keeping Your Voice Healthy, to How to Break Into the Music Business!

[LESSON VIDEOS](#) To view videos that allow you to meet Tricia, hear student lessons, and view Sing Like a Star students performing, please visit this page. These videos will give you a sense of what voice lessons at Sing Like a Star studios are like, and you will be inspired by the student performances.

All these pages are full of information! Visiting these pages of the website will familiarize you with the many opportunities you will have at Sing Like a Star.

For free lessons and vocal tips, subscribe to www.youtube.com/triciagrey

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Many questions are answered in our [short informational video](#)

WHY IS SING LIKE A STAR THE BEST STUDIO FOR ME?

We bring you a unique combination of higher education and music business experience:

1. **20+ years in the music business** working with many of the top names in the industry, along with a

commitment to higher education and research. There are several Master's degrees among the Sing Like a Star Instructors. We bring you a rare combination of real world experience and educational excellence. All SLaS teachers have extensive performing careers, a commitment to higher education and ongoing training, a high level of teaching skills, and a world-class vocal technique.

2. **SLaS vocal training**- the Technique of the Stars. This **balanced registration and mix** training develops the power, incredible high notes, consistency, and contemporary sounds that make you infinitely valuable to today's music economy.
3. **Songwriting instruction**- your ticket to the industry. You can learn to write hit songs at SLaS.
4. **Performance opportunities** at our Sing Like a Star Singers' Showcases.
5. **Connections** with the music business and **referrals** of qualified students.
6. **Convenience**- you can take lessons using the internet to save driving time.
7. **Quick results**- you will see immediate changes in your voice and you will reach your goals quickly!

WHAT WILL SING LIKE A STAR VOCAL TRAINING DO FOR ME?

At Sing Like A Star Studios you will learn to sing stronger, sing higher, and sing with complete confidence, in all styles including gospel, blues, rock, pop, jazz, musical theatre, country and R & B. You will develop amazing high notes, great power and control, and the ability to sing licks, runs and vocal riffs, just like your favorite artist. You will develop your own unique style too! You will learn to create your own riffs and runs. Your voice will be healthy, strong, and beautiful, and you will experience freedom from vocal strain. You will be able to sing with power and flexibility from your lowest notes to your highest notes, with an octave of at least three octaves. You will eliminate voice breaks by learning how to bridge. Bridging is the art of transitioning through the *passaggio*, or passageway between lower register and upper register. You will learn to sing with soul, emotion, and flexibility. And, best of all, your voice will remain healthy for a lifetime of singing if you continue to practice the principles of good vocal production that you will learn at Sing Like a Star studios.

WHAT STYLES DO YOU TEACH?

At Sing Like A Star studios you will learn to sing in any style you prefer including gospel, blues, rock, pop, jazz, musical theatre, country and R & B. We tailor your instruction to make you the best singer possible in the music styles you love!

WILL I STILL SOUND LIKE MYSELF IF I TRAIN MY VOICE?

YES! Sing Like a Star training will enable you to sing in any musical genre you choose, in a natural and free production that can be applied to any style- rock, R and B, Broadway, gospel, jazz, country, musical theater. SLaS singers can be found on Broadway, (we have 3 singers currently doing Broadway shows!) on several record labels, with scholarships to the best musical theatre programs in the country, and singing professionally in every possible musical style. This training teaches you to sing freely and effortlessly with stamina, consistency, emotion, control, and power. We teach you how to be the best YOU, with your unique sound and quality, rather than forcing you to sound like someone else! In order to access the emotional powerhouse within, you need to have a reliable technique that will allow you to express all your emotions without worrying about your voice. You need to be free to perform from the heart. Training your voice at Sing Like a Star studios will give you the vocal freedom to be a true artist.

WHAT ADDITIONAL TRAINING DO YOU OFFER?

We offer piano, guitar, songwriting instruction, keyboard for songwriters, performance coaching, artist development, music theory, audition preparation, and even lessons for very young children.

WILL I GET TO PERFORM?

Sing Like a Star studios provides performance opportunities for students with our **Sing Like a Star Singers' Showcases**, held every spring and fall at a beautiful professional 250 seat theater in Dunwoody. These are exciting and fun events that give singers of all ability levels the chance to improve their performing skills. Please visit the [SHOWCASES](#) page under [RATES/CLASSES](#) to see videos and pictures of past showcases.

WHAT AGES AND LEVELS DO YOU WORK WITH?

All ages and all levels from beginner to professional and all styles of music are welcome at Sing Like a Star studios. Student goals range from wanting to sing karaoke, to sing in a church choir, wanting to be cast in a high school musical, having a bucket list, all the way to aspirations of being a professional in the competitive music industry. We are here to help all singers achieve their goals. **The only requirement is the ability to commit to at least 20-30 minutes per day of practice. Beginning students and young children will work with our Associate Teachers- students of any age who would like to pursue a professional career should work with studio owner Tricia Grey, MM.**

HOW OFTEN WILL I TAKE LESSONS?

Generally, a minimum of one lesson per week is necessary to make vocal progress. Consistency will ensure that you progress more quickly. Students may take more than one lesson per week. You may take 1 hour, ½ hour, or ¾ hour lessons. Lessons are at the same time every week- you pick a time that works for you, and that slot is reserved for you with your monthly pre-payment. Although less effective, students may choose to take bimonthly (every other week) lessons, or may take single lessons when the studio schedule permits, at the higher rate of \$150 per hour, if there are openings in the schedule, **with Tricia Grey only, and only if there is another student willing to take the alternate weeks.** Priority in scheduling is given to students who take regular weekly lessons.

HOW MANY LESSONS WILL I NEED?

A minimum of one lesson per week is necessary to make vocal progress. Consistency will ensure that you progress more quickly. Students may take more than one lesson per week. You may take 1 hour, ½ hour, or ¾ hour lessons. Lessons are at the same time every week- you pick a time that works for you, and that slot is reserved for you with your pre-payment. Although not as effective, Tricia offers every-other-week and single lesson options. **Because the Associate Teachers' rates are already so low, they do not offer every-other-week lessons.**

If you would like to be a professional singer you should consider consistent and ongoing voice lessons as your lifelong commitment. Although most students progress very quickly vocal study is a process. If you practice with the recorded lesson every day you will see amazing results in your voice within 3 months of study at Sing Like a Star. With a year of this training, taking a lesson at least once per week and practicing at least 30 minutes per day you will have a completely new and different voice.

HOW QUICKLY CAN I EXPECT TO IMPROVE?

Most students are thrilled with their **immediate and dramatic improvement** in range, power and tone! The more consistently you practice the quicker you will see results. This technique works very quickly-but only if you do your part- practicing for a minimum of 20-30 minutes every day and taking consistent weekly voice lessons. **Record every lesson, and practice every day, and you will improve very quickly!**

CAN I SEE VIDEOS OF STUDENT LESSONS AND PERFORMANCES?

Yes, on the [VIDEOS](#) page of the website under the VOCAL TIPS tab there are videos of students in lessons, student performances, several videos explaining the Sing Like a Star vocal technique methods. These videos give you a glimpse of what lessons at SLaS can do for you! On the [SHOWCASES](#) page are videos from the last

few years of our twice yearly showcases. For free voice lessons and tips and to see videos of student lessons and performances, subscribe to Tricia's You Tube channel at <http://www.youtube.com/triciagrey>

DO YOU HAVE CONNECTIONS IN THE MUSIC INDUSTRY?

Yes, Tricia maintains her connections with the music industry in Los Angeles, Nashville, and New York, and she refers students who are ready to move forward with their careers.

WHAT IF I DON'T LIVE IN ATLANTA, OR DON'T WANT TO DRIVE IN TRAFFIC?

We offer online voice lessons! With technology you can take a lesson from anywhere! There is no need to miss a lesson when traveling, and no need to drive in traffic! It is super-convenient: Instead of Skype, which drops calls, we use Webex: you get an email that contains a link and a number. **Click on the link and type in the number. That's it!** Your recorded lesson (audio and video) will be emailed to you! **You can do this with your computer, smart phone, ipad, i-pod touch, Blackberry, or Android.** We also do lessons with speaker phone.

HOW ARE PAYMENTS MADE?

All lessons are prepaid by the month, through our extremely secure online system. They have the highest security rating there is. In over 15 years of doing business, we have never had a single issue. At the consultation session you will prepay for the first four lessons using the financial information you bring to the session. We prefer banking info because it does not expire or get lost or stolen.

After the consultation session payments will be debited automatically for the entire month on the 3rd of each month. Some months have five weeks and some have four, so your payment amount is adjusted accordingly. Our process is very secure; however if you are concerned about using your personal financial information online, we suggest that you purchase a **netspend card** for this purpose at www.netspend.com

WHERE ARE YOUR STUDIOS?

At Sing Like A Star Studios you have many options to learn the world's most valuable vocal technique:

1. In-person lessons: You can take lessons in-person at either of our [two convenient studio locations](#)

STUDIO 1: SLas EAST COBB- 320 High Meadow Drive, Marietta GA 30068. (Just Outside the Perimeter), Windy Hill exit from I-75 North- convenient for Atlanta, Dunwoody, Buckhead, Sandy Springs, Marietta, Roswell, Kennesaw.

STUDIO 2: SLas NORTH in ALPHARETTA- 365 Brady Place, (At Main Street) Alpharetta GA 30009. Haynes Bridge Exit 9 from I-400 North. Convenient for Alpharetta, Cumming, Kennesaw, Roswell, Johns Creek, Duluth.

2. Online lessons: You can take one-on-one [online voice lessons](#) through your computer, phone, or i-pod touch. This approach is very effective and convenient if you do not live in the Atlanta area, or even if you live locally but prefer not to drive. They are a great stress and time saver! Save driving time by [studying from home](#) with [online one-on-one voice lessons](#). Technology now makes it possible to have a voice lesson from anywhere in the world! Our busy local students often use the internet distance training option, combined with in-person lessons. A video/audio recording of your lesson is sent to you after the lesson. With today's technology, it's almost like being there in person!

3. Speakerphone: You can even take lessons through a speakerphone!

CAN YOU TELL ME ABOUT THE SLas VOCAL METHOD?

Sing Like A Star Vocal training is unlike any method in existence today. This world- renowned vocal development technique will develop **amazing high notes and eliminate straining and vocal breaks**. You will learn to sing from very low to very high with a consistent sound. You will develop **power, effortless control, and the contemporary vocal quality of today's artists** with SLaS vocal training!

Your voice will be strong, connected, and balanced, with dramatically increased range. You will be able to sing in **any style of music you choose**, with a healthy, flexible, and powerful sound. You will learn to sing **licks, runs and riffs for R & B or gospel styling**. At Sing Like a Star Studios **you will become a confident singer because you know your voice will work correctly- every time!** You will learn to be the artist you always dreamed you could be.

You will sing the style of music YOU love to sing rather than a teacher's favorite style of music. We believe singers should be empowered to sing in the styles they prefer; we teach all styles- rock, gospel, R & B, musical theatre, pop, jazz, and country.

You will also **learn to be a great performer-** a very important skill! You will have the opportunity to perform in the Sing Like a Star Singers' Showcases, held every spring and fall at a professional theater. Singers need a goal and a chance to incorporate performance and vocal technique skills as they improve. The more you perform, the better performer you become. Our Sing Like a Star Singers' Showcases are just the place for singers of all experience levels from beginner to professional to evolve and grow!

Your vocal development is planned, logical, and organized. It is based on specific objectives. The SLaS method **incorporates the latest research in the fields of vocology and vocal science- applied to contemporary singing styles!** In your initial consultation with Sing Like a Star your voice will be professionally evaluated and you will receive a lesson plan tailored for your voice based on the [Eight Steps of Vocal Development](#) from the book ***YOU can Sing like a Star!*** by Tricia Grey, MM.

Most vocal training consists of vague or undefined objectives, little feedback, and very little if any real skill-building or improvement; typical lessons consist of a random and ineffective "warmup" followed by singing songs but no specific remediation of challenges presented in the song. Rather than ineffective and random "warm-ups" that have no meaning to the student and result in little change, [The Eight Steps of Vocal Development](#) guides you sequentially and logically through all phases of your vocal development with each new skill building upon the previous skill. **Unlike most vocal lessons the SLaS method is based on defined, specific objectives and measurable outcomes, known in education as quantitative assessment.**

The Eight Steps of Vocal Development begins with the foundation of good singing- breath management, otherwise known as *appoggio*. Then we build and develop the lower register of the voice, followed by the upper register. Then we begin connecting those registers together so you have a unified, connected, strong unbroken sound. The higher steps of development emphasize skills like vibrato, dynamics, and flexibility. These steps build a reliable and efficient vocal technique. In Step 7 you are applying your new skills to songs, and in Step 8 you are learning style- riffs and runs!

The SLaS method is a specific, logical, and organized plan of development with definable and measurable objectives for each step of your skill-building. Each step has specific and measurable objectives; your teacher will be glad to discuss these objectives with you so you will know how you are doing. You will always know where you are in your path of vocal training and what your next goal will be!

Download: [The Eight Steps of Vocal Development](#)

At Sing Like A Star Studios you will learn the vocal technique of the stars from a music industry expert who has been there- Tricia Grey, MM is a professional singer and voice teacher with an unbeatable combination of music degrees, research in vocal science, and 20+ years of professional performing and teaching.

CAN YOU TELL ME ABOUT HOW THE ONLINE LESSONS WORK?

Many students from all over the world as well as those who live in the local Atlanta area are discovering the fun of [ONLINE VOICE LESSONS](#). Local Atlanta students utilize this option a couple of times per month in combination with in-person lessons to save driving time or when traveling. By utilizing an [online vocal coach](#) you will be able to take professional voice lessons from the comfort of your own home, from your hotel when traveling, or from anywhere in the world! You don't even need reliable internet to take lessons through your phone with our Webex system, which can operate on Wi-Fi, 3G/4G, and LTE.

Sing like a Star's online singing lessons enable our professional expertise to be available to students in any location around the world. [Remote singing lessons](#) have recently gained popularity due to advances in technology. Singers all over the globe study from home or when traveling using a computer or a smart phone, (i-phone, Blackberry, or Android) an i-pad, or an i-pod touch.

It's very simple for the client: nothing to buy if you are using a computer. If you use a mobile device, you just go to i-tunes or Amazon to get the **Cisco Webex Meetings** app. You will receive an email with a link. Save the email! When it's time for the lesson, click on the link, type in the meeting number and "join the meeting" (voice lesson in our case). After the lesson you will get another email with another link. Click on that one to download your recorded video/audio lesson! The quality of the recording is superior to any other method in use today.

WHY DO SINGERS NEED A VOICE TEACHER?

Singers cannot teach themselves to sing correctly, for three reasons. **The first reason is that we don't hear ourselves accurately.** Most people who hear their recorded speaking voices for the first time are astounded- the sound they hear in their head is not at all the sound that the rest of the world hears!

Secondly, the vocal apparatus is inside the larynx, so we cannot see it working. Therefore, the intelligent student or artist knows that keeping the voice aligned correctly requires consistently working with a specialist- a professional who understands the science of the voice and the art of vocal development. Most people who try to teach themselves to sing habitually engage incorrect muscles- the extrinsic swallowing muscles- acquiring incorrect vocal habits or tendencies that prevent them from achieving the range, coordination, and power they need. You need an expert vocal technician to properly develop your voice. **You also need the discipline to practice and vocalize daily, with focused attention, singing along with your recorded lesson, in order to overcome previous incorrect habits and to coordinate the muscles.**

Thirdly, and most importantly- the teaching of singing is a science. Would you take your expensive car to someone who never looked at a manual? Why would you take your easily-damaged voice to someone who claims to be a vocal coach but has no understanding of the real science of vocal development?

Be aware of vocal coaches who may be able to sing fairly well but have no training and no background to qualify them to actually build and develop voices. **Working with unqualified individuals or trying to teach yourself to sing is a slippery slope to vocal problems.** At the very least you will not enjoy the benefits of proper vocal development unless you study with a teacher who has made it their life's mission to understand the mechanism of the mix voice and balanced registration. Each student comes to vocal study with individual challenges, incorrect habits, and experiences; **a one-size-fits-all vocal technique where every student gets the same exercises is doomed to failure for most of the students.** Lessons with someone who knows a few "warm-up" exercises and can play an instrument but knows little about the science of vocal development may do more harm than good.

WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO BE A GREAT VOICE TEACHER?

To be truly effective in teaching singing a teacher needs to understand **how the mix voice works and how to develop balanced registration** in voices that arrive with a wide variety of challenges, due to poor habits and training. Every voice is different! **If your teacher uses exactly the same routine of exercises with every student, that means they are not adapting education to the individual needs of students.** Some

students pull the chest voice too high. Others are breathy in the lower register. Others may use a nasal quality or an overly dark timbre created by imposing the larynx too much. Each of these issues has specific causes and requires different remediation. A one-size-fits-all approach will have little effectiveness for most students.

A great voice teacher is one who knows how to effect immediate change, gets long-term lasting results, and effectively remediates incorrect muscular functioning and a variety of dysfunctional habits with sequential skill building developmental exercises such as [The Eight Steps of Vocal Development](#) offers.

There is a lot to understand about the science of acoustics and resonance in singing and about the physical functioning of the vocal mechanism. Science continues to push ahead with new discoveries; many of the pedagogical concepts that were accepted as absolutely true and factual up to a few years ago have now been proven false. Now we can actually see what is occurring during vocal fold vibrational cycles with stroboscopy. But so many teachers seem to ignore science and continue to promote incorrect methods they learned long ago, much of which has been proven to be incorrect. **Unfortunately there are very few voice teachers who have researched and understand the science of vocal production; most are simply passing along outdated concepts.**

To be a great teacher you have to understand and be able to teach balanced registration. Many teachers focus on developing and building one portion of the voice but ignore the other; they either teach you that chest voice is bad and you should never sing with your chest voice (the typical classical teacher) or they have you belting your brains out way too high (the typical musical theatre teacher). These methods are promoting an approach that is either upper register (CT muscle dominant) or lower register (TA muscle dominant), neither of which is the **balanced registration** essential for the contemporary vocal sound.

When you sing with balanced registration and mix your upper register and lower register begin to sound increasingly similar as time goes on- you sound like you have one unified voice rather than two separate voices. You transition from the lower to the upper register smoothly and imperceptibly; vocal breaks are eliminated and you have three times the range of a singer that only belts. Learning to teach this method is a very specialized skill- a skill that is definitely is not taught in any university program! Sadly, most instructors in those environments are not in touch with contemporary styles and have no understanding of mix at all. This vocal development method originated in Los Angeles, where Tricia Grey was trained and spent the first 20 years of her teaching career.

Along with a superior science-based vocal technique and educational credentials a qualified teacher should also have extensive performing experience in the real world. If a teacher has never been a professional performer there is a large chance that the technique they are teaching doesn't really work for them either. That doesn't mean they have to be performing currently; most teachers have to make a choice at some point to devote their energy to either a performing or a teaching career. However it really makes a difference to be working with a teacher who has been a good enough singer to actually work in the business, as long as they also have the intelligence to do research and understand the science and anatomy of good singing as well. It's very hard to find anyone who has both the educational background and a professional performing background, who knows how to develop and train singers of all levels. Sometimes great singers have no clue how they do what they do, so they don't make very good teachers. You need someone who can break it down to the basics, if you are a beginner; you need a method of development.

WHAT ARE THE INCORRECT METHODS OF SINGING?

Most incorrect and vocally damaging teaching falls into the two following categories:

Yelling and Belt-only: These methods of teaching encourage pushing the chest voice too high, creating strain and trauma, vocal abuse, damage, and usually a very short career. Young singers can sometimes get away with it for a short time, but most singers trained this way eventually get nodules, polyps, hemorrhages, and other gruesome evidence of vocal abuse that require surgery and complete vocal rest for several weeks.

As soon as the singer goes back to the old incorrect vocal habits, these problems inevitably return. This is not a good path to take!

Breathy Singing: This incorrect method is the norm in school and many church choral settings; it encourages airy, breathy and weak vocal production in order to blend and discourages the use of the chest voice. Singers cannot use this type of vocal sound for commercial music such as rock, R & B, gospel, or Broadway styles because it is too weak, especially in the lower register. A developed but not forced chest voice is essential in all styles of popular singing and musical theatre.

HOW IS THIS TRAINING DIFFERENT?

At Sing Like A Star studios you will develop a strong and powerful chest voice, AND a strong, powerful upper register. You will be able to connect your lower register to your upper register smoothly. Your voice will sound consistent from the very lowest notes to the very highest notes instead of sounding like two different voices. You will no longer strain as you sing high notes, your low notes will be strong and powerful, and you will have the control to sing riffs, runs, and licks for R & B and gospel styling.

SLaS vocal training enables you to negotiate the transitional areas or bridges of the voice known as *passaggi*, easily and without muscular tension. This is the part of your voice where you might tend to crack or break or strain as you go up in pitch, unless you learn how to release from the chest voice into the head voice, but without releasing too much.

Rather than confining you to a teacher's favorite vocal style, this training allows you to sing freely and expressively in the style in which YOU like to sing! Professional gospel, R&B, jazz, pop, rock, musical theatre, and country singers around the world all rely on SLaS vocal training to maintain their voices and their careers. **This vocal technique is the gold standard of the music industry and the vocal technique most valued by today's recording artists because it develops a natural and contemporary sound- the sound you hear in artists like Beyonce, Ariana Grande, Demi Lovato, Katie Perry, and Christina Aguilera, and Bruno Mars. This is the vocal quality called mix.**

HOW DOES MY VOICE WORK?

The vocal folds are located inside the larynx or Adam's Apple. Air pressure causes the folds to open and close very quickly, creating sound waves. Those sound waves contain a fundamental (pitch) plus harmonics (overtones) that travel upward from the larynx to be enhanced or damped in the resonating chambers of the pharynx (throat) and mouth. We control our sound by learning how to correctly sing vowels, and by adjusting the moveable parts of the resonating chambers, such as the tongue, the lips, jaw space, etc. These small changes affect and change formant/harmonic relationships, which changes the sound we produce.

When the muscles outside the larynx, known as the extrinsic swallowing muscles, engage in an effort to control pitch or dynamics, unnecessary muscular tension causes the larynx to rise, preventing the vocal folds from vibrating freely. SLaS training will teach you to use the *right* muscles (the intrinsic muscles) and stop using the *wrong* muscles (the extrinsic muscles) and how to supply just the right amount of airflow by understanding *appoggio*. This develops coordination, efficiency, and freedom in your singing.

We need to coordinate four things in order to sing well:

1. TA/CT muscle activity
2. Vocal onset
3. Resonance, or more precisely formant/harmonic activity, which we can control by the way we shape the resonators of the pharynx and mouth
4. The balance of air pressure and vocal fold resistance, or air and muscle.

The intrinsic muscles of the larynx- the TA and CT muscles- are **responsible for shortening and lengthening the vocal folds**. These muscle groups need to learn to work together cooperatively so you can

sing from low to high without cracking. In the chest voice or lower register, the TA muscle is dominant, so your vocal folds are shorter and thicker. As you sing higher, the CT muscle should become progressively more active, tipping the thyroid cartilage forward so the vocal folds are stretched and lengthened. Usually this kind of coordination is something that needs to be taught- hardly anyone figures this out all by themselves! Usually singers find the chest voice and stay stuck there, or they sing with the lengthened vocal fold posture of upper register, too low.

Singers also need to learn to adduct the vocal folds, or bring them together, at the **onset** of sound. If the folds are not properly adducted, the sound is breathy and weak. If they are hyper-adducted or slammed together too hard, you will create pressed phonation and tension. You have to find “just enough, and not too much” vocal fold adduction for a good onset.

We also need to **coordinate resonance activity- or more precisely formant/harmonic activity**. This is pretty complicated stuff. Few teachers completely understand it. Formants are an acoustic resonance of the vocal tract, measured as an amplitude peak in frequency when a singer sings into a software program such as Voce Vista. Harmonics are overtones. When the sound waves travel upward from the larynx, some of these harmonics are enhanced and some are damped, depending on the size and shape of the pharynx (throat) and mouth resonators. When we sing from low to high, we must allow a shift from the formant/harmonic relationship of lower register, known as F1/H2 to a different combination, F2/H3 or H4 depending on the vowel, associated with upper register. This phenomenon is what used to be called (incorrectly) “split resonance”.

Finally we need to learn to **balance air pressure with the ability of the vocal folds to resist that air pressure**. Its a balancing act; every singer is different. We do this by acquiring good breath management or *appoggio*.

Sing Like A Star vocal training coordinates all these systems to work automatically, creating new neuromuscular responses by the use of a series of sequential scientifically designed exercises. The result is a relaxed and stable larynx and appropriately adducted vocal folds that lengthen and thin for higher pitches, along with an awareness of how to shape the vocal tract for the most effective vowel production- the optimum condition for creating great vocal tones.

This sequential skill building developmental technique creates confidence! Knowing you can rely on your technique allows you to focus only on performing and enjoying singing, because you know your voice will work efficiently and automatically- every time!

WHAT IS BELTING? DO I NEED TO BE ABLE TO BELT TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN POPULAR MUSIC?

Poorly trained singers often yell, particularly on the higher notes of a song or when pushing for high notes. Directors and producers may demand that a singer belt out a song for greater dramatic effect. When a singer sings entirely in chest voice- pushing for the high notes with increased breath pressure- the results are swollen vocal folds that may develop nodules, polyps, or hemorrhages, distorted pronunciation, a decrease in vocal quality and control, and an inevitably shortened career. Belting, or singing into the highest notes of your range using only your chest voice is unhealthy because you are using excessive air pressure to force the vocal folds to function in a way in which they were not designed to be used, resulting in a condition known as **hyperfunction** due to excessive effort or force. Because the folds are not allowed to lengthen, stretch, and thin for higher pitches you resort to ever-increasing air pressure while holding the folds in a static shortened position in order to raise pitch. The excessive air pressure is very damaging to your vocal folds.

After awhile your overworked TA muscles, the muscles that govern lower register vocal production, just give up and let go. And that is what creates the embarrassing crack or break in your voice. You can gain a couple more notes by pushing your chest voice upward- but it comes at quite a cost! You create a vocal break between your lower and upper voice that is huge, and the higher notes you are able to sing after you “flip” are weak and breathy.

This break or flip is also due to a thing we have traditionally referred to as resonance. The term resonance, used more precisely, refers to the shifting combinations of formants and harmonics that create vocal timbre. Very simply stated, when you sing from low to high notes you need to allow a transfer from F1, the first formant associated with chest voice, to F2, the second formant associated with the upper register, along with a shift in the harmonics emphasized in the vocal tract. In mix, we emphasize H3 or H4 in the upper register, depending on the vowel. Understanding how to create this formant/harmonic shift along with the coordination of TA/CT muscles in allowing the folds to lengthen and stretch for higher pitches, is what determines the smooth transfer from low notes to high notes.

The SLaS method is far different from either pure belt or breathy singing: we teach a very strong mix that sounds like pure belt but is much healthier, you can sing higher and stronger for longer, and it won't give you nodules! We balance the lower and upper registers so you sound like you are singing with one unified vocal sound- without strain and pain! This is known as the **mix and balanced registration** technique.

MY CHORUS TEACHER SAYS I SHOULD SING WITH AN AIRY, BREATHY SOUND IN ORDER TO BLEND IN WITH THE GROUP. IS THIS CORRECT?

Traditional choral training, especially in schools and many churches, requires a breathy tone in order to blend. The use of the chest voice in females is discouraged, so female singers often cannot be heard on the lower notes; their vocal sound is airy, breathy, and weak. Singing this way creates an unbalanced voice that does not sound authentic singing current music. You need a strong chest voice in order to sing correctly in any style! For the male singers, most chorus teachers have no clue about how to get the boys to mix above their first bridge, so they just hike the larynx and push the chest voice upward to squeeze those notes out. This creates unbelievable tension in the muscles of the neck and leads to vocal damage.

Your upper register can be used with many different timbres or qualities- as long as you bridge correctly and at the right time, to get to the upper register. You can sing with a legit quality, like Julie Andrews, or you can sing with a mixed upper register, like Sutton Foster. It's your choice. The key is bridging at the right place, without letting go too much, into falsetto.

The first bridge is the most challenging. It is the area of transition where you might typically tend to push your chest voice too high. This is where your vocal folds have to continue the lengthening, stretching, and thinning process in order to create higher pitches, without coming apart; the folds need to maintain appropriate adduction as they continue to lengthen.

As you transition through the bridge you are also shifting resonance, or more specifically, formants and harmonics. If you don't allow this shift, you remain stuck in "yell" mode.

Learning the technique of bridging means you will have three times your former range, because now you can access and use a strong upper register that matches your lower register in volume and quality. With a smooth and coordinated transition through your bridge and a strong upper register mix you will sing with freedom, power and emotion in any style you choose, in any key that comes along! High notes? No problem! Low notes? Ditto!

With Sing Like A Star training you will learn about the value of both the lower and upper registers and you will learn about bridging- the best method to connect the registers. SLaS vocal training creates balanced registration, because your low voice and your high voice become equally strong, It develops great bridging- a smooth transition from chest voice to head voice, and no voice breaks or abrupt changes in the vocal quality as you ascend in pitch.

Regarding choral singing: I tell my singers they need to be adaptable to any challenging situation. Chorus is valuable in many ways; it develops good relative pitch because you learn to sing notes other than the melody, develops musicianship and sight-reading skills, and *esprit de corps*-a feeling of pride, fellowship, and common

loyalty shared by the members of a performing choir. You are exposed to music of all eras and from around the world that you would never hear on limited Top-40 radio. Those are really valuable benefits. The drawback is the breathy sound required in order to blend. So, the way to deal with that is to know that what you are doing in chorus is not going to be the way you sing in other styles. It's a stylistic choice. You definitely need to vocalize correctly when you get home to offset the breathy singing you did in choir rehearsal. For the boys, don't succumb to the temptation to yell on the notes above the bridge; work with a mix teacher to start strengthening those notes in the mix coordination, and don't push when you sing in the group- let the sound be lighter, but more correctly produced. The more you use it, the stronger it gets!

When you are working with a director you always do your best to comply with that directors instructions. You can adapt if you have the skills, and if you spend as much time vocalizing correctly as you do "pushing the envelope" with less than healthy choices. Just be sure you are very clear about the difference between a stylistic choice that you make once in awhile and singing breathy all the time because you don't know how to sing any other way.

If you want to be a pop singer and are currently singing in a chorus; **don't sing soprano**. Singing high and loud with a breathy and straight tone (no vibrato) is a voice-killer. Sing alto, sing clearly but not too loudly, and you will blend in. And altos become better musicians because they have to hear harmony instead of singing the melody all the time!

For males: if you want to sing tenor, and you think you can be disciplined enough to use the correct coordination and not push, go for it. By using your mix above your first bridge you will be developing it further. But if you get into the rehearsal and find you are pushing chest voice up, and your larynx feels high and tight, and you are straining because you are trying to hear yourself over the guy next to you, try singing the first baritone part, at least until your mix becomes stronger through vocal study and vocalization.

SHOULD I IMITATE THE BREATHY SOUNDS I HEAR SOME ARTISTS USING?

This is a question of making a choice to sing in a particular style. Currently the breathy quality is used for effect, often on the first verse of a song. Then the singer crescendos into a powerful sound for the chorus. The problem with trying to imitate this is that most younger singers who start breathy, stay breathy. They don't have the control to bring the folds together, or adduct them, after starting with a more relaxed vocal fold coordination.

The question becomes: is this a stylistic choice or is this your only choice?

If singing breathy is all you can do, you need to avoid it until you know how to consistently make clearer and stronger sounds. Then use it occasionally. If you are vocalizing every day with good technique you can choose to sing breathy for stylistic effect once in awhile and you will be fine. There is nothing wrong with interpreting a phrase here and there with a breathy quality if that is your artistic choice. **Just realize that a choice to sing breathy is different from singing breathy because you have no other choice.**

The same policy applies to other style choices, like the occasional raspy sound or growl.

When you have developed a good foundation in vocal technique you can do things stylistically that may not be considered perfect technique, but because you are vocalizing well to offset this your voice is not damaged. You have to find out how much you can (or would want to) "push the envelope" and depart from perfect technique.

Breathy singing, if done at loud volumes and for long periods of time, is very wearing on the voice. But if it is a stylistic choice- and not the only tool in your tool box- you can do it for limited amounts of time **if you are also vocalizing correctly to stay balanced.**

If you are an advanced singer, and have been working on balanced registration and mix for awhile, go ahead and experiment! You have permission...just be very aware of how your voice feels afterward. If you get hoarse or feel raspy, it probably isn't worth it. Go back to what you know is correct- a clear, well-balanced sound.

WHY DOES MY VOICE CRACK WHEN I SING HIGH NOTES?

Almost every untrained singer experiences voice breaks. Some singers deal with the break by forcing the chest voice up; other singers are taught to sing in only the head voice, staying away from chest voice altogether; others simply lower the keys of songs to avoid high notes. None of these solutions are correct; all can result in limited choices in song material and an ultimately deteriorating instrument.

A break occurs when excessive air builds up because your vocal folds are staying in a static position of short and thick (or TA muscle dominant) when you are singing pitches that actually require a longer, more stretched, thinner vocal fold position, less compression, and less closed quotient (CT muscle dominant). In order to raise pitch without changing the coordination of the vocal folds you must increase air pressure. This does have the effect of raising the pitch, for a few notes- but at great cost to the delicate tissue of the folds. Excessive air pressure eventually forces the vocal folds open, **creating an embarrassing crack or break**. If you want to keep singing higher after that, you will have to do so in *falsetto*, a very breathy and weak sound. **It's obvious that this is the wrong way to go about it!**

At Sing Like a Star you will learn to sing in a connected, consistent, and powerful sound from your chest voice to your highest notes with no strain **because SLaS training coordinates the opposing muscle groups – the TA and CT muscles- to work together smoothly and efficiently**. Rather than a vocal contest where one group wins out at the expense of the other, as is the case in much teaching, **we teach the muscles to work cooperatively together. That is the essence of the concept of mix- mixing the activity and coordination of the TA and CT muscles, which results in a tone quality (mix) that is unlike either pure chest or pure head voice.**

We also learn to avoid voice breaks by understanding how resonance- or formant/harmonic relationships must shift as we go from lower register to upper register. We control this by how we shape our resonators- the mouth and pharynx, and the moveable elements of the tongue, lips, jaw space, and soft palate.

WHAT IS A BRIDGE? HOW DO I KNOW WHERE MY BRIDGE STARTS?

Throughout the program you will hear terms like “registration”, “head voice”, “middle voice”, “chest voice”, “mix”, “breaks”, “bridges”. **These terms refer to the coordinating of the muscles and resonance activity of the voice as a singer ascends or descends in pitch.** Bridges reveal these changes in vocal coordination and resonance activity. They occur in relatively predictable parts of the scale. The first bridge (primo passaggio) is the most difficult transition, involving a change in vocal fold coordination from a short, thick TA muscle dominant position to a longer, thinner CT muscle dominant position for the upper register. At the same time there is a shift in the balance of formants and harmonics, which traditionally we have referred to as “resonance”. We must allow the F1/H2 formant/harmonic relationship of lower register to shift to the F2/H3 relationship associated with mix in the upper register.

If the bridges are not negotiated correctly there may be an abrupt disconnection and interruption of vocal tone, which singers experience as cracking, flipping, or breaking. This happens when excessive air pressure builds up sub-glottally (under the larynx) because the vocal folds are held static instead of being allowed to lengthen, stretch, and thin. Eventually the TA muscle, responsible for contraction of the fold, gives up, and the fold abruptly lengthens, and at the same time the folds **adduct**, or come apart. The formant/harmonic balance abruptly changes, and the vocal folds abruptly come apart, allowing more air to rush through. Now there is less closed quotient, the amount of time the vocal folds stay together in the vibrational cycle. All these things combine to create the break in a singer's voice. And they are all factors that we can control with the development of good technique.

Here's how it works: the chest voice is your lower register, which most people use for speaking. It feels as though the tones are coming straight out of your mouth when you sing; if you place your hand on your chest as you sing a note you will feel vibration in your chest. This is known as a **sympathetic vibration**; your lower voice is not created in the chest, but the bones and cartilage surrounding the larger chest cavity are responding "sympathetically" to lower pitches. As you sing a scale starting from your lowest note ascending upward you will notice at a certain point that you will begin to feel a sense of reaching for the note or perhaps a feeling of straining to reach the pitch. You are now in your first passage area, or bridge. This is called a *passaggio* in classical voice terms.

Think of this area as the **passageway to your high notes**. The first bridge is a critical area of the voice because this is where your outer muscles are most likely to try to engage due to the interference of the swallowing muscles. The extrinsic swallowing muscles, when engaged, pull the larynx upward, preventing free vibration and adjustments of the vocal folds.

Your folds are shorter and thicker on the low notes and they are longer and thinner on the high notes- if you are singing correctly. When singing from low to high you have to allow your vocal folds to lengthen, thin, and stretch to sing the higher notes. If you try to hold on to the familiar coordination of your chest voice, you start to experience strain. If you continue to hold on, you may force out a few more notes- but at great cost to your folds. Then they give up and let go completely. That is the process that is going on when you experience a voice break. If you want to sing higher pitches after that, you are forced to do it in *falsetto*- a weak, breathy and anemic sound.

The challenge for the singer-and the teacher- is in learning how to coordinate this constantly shifting process of shortening and lengthening as you sing low and high. It's kind of like learning to drive a stick shift; at first your shifts are pretty clunky, but you get more coordinated at it over time and the bumps smooth out. That is basically what we are going in singing; we constantly have to shift gears, but we learn how to become more coordinated until we do it so smoothly no one can tell we are shifting.

Your Sing Like A Star training will build a strong connection between the lower and upper registers and a smooth transition from the chest voice upward. **This is known as bridging.** Your lower and upper registers will be equally strong. **This is known as balanced registration.** Your upper register will sound powerful, like you are still in your chest voice, but without the strain of pushing the chest voice upward. **This is known as mix.** With good bridging, balanced registration, and mix you will ultimately be able to go up and down the entire range of your voice with no breaks, no uncomfortable weakening of volume or intensity, and best of all- a healthy flexible voice that will enable you to sing in any style you like- with a range of at least three octaves! (Many of our singers easily sing five octaves). And the tone quality is that of a contemporary vocal artist- natural, exciting, and beautiful.

When you want a great vocal technique that will give you amazing high notes, strength, power, flexibility, and a healthy vocal production, SLaS vocal training is the answer! **The smartest investment in your vocal future is a weekly SLaS voice lesson and daily practice.**

WHAT IS THE BEST WAY TO CONTACT YOU?

Contact our Sing Like a Star support team by email at support@singlikeastar.com. Call our support team at 404-790-1830. Weekend calls will be returned on Monday. We are available for instant chat during normal business hours. For more information, videos, blogs, vocal tips, and articles, visit www.singlikeastar.com

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To get started with any of our classes your first step is to book a **consultation** with us so we can meet with you to discuss your goals, give you a professional vocal evaluation, and reserve your place in our schedule if you decide you would like to commit to the lessons. There is a \$25 fee for the initial consultation.

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