BAYLOR UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MUSIC
SUMMER VOICE INSTITUTE

Vocal Pedagogy: Practical Applications for the Solo Voice and Middle/High School Choirs

Designed for Choral Music Educators and Private Voice Teachers, this 2020 Summer Voice Institute course will focus on various aspects of the singing voice including anatomy and physiology of the laryngeal and breathing mechanisms, phonation, basic acoustics, vocal registers, pathologies, vocal health, and their direct application to the developing singer. For many singers, the choral director is the only ‘voice teacher’ they ever encounter. Thus, a clear understanding of the vocal mechanism including information regarding its care and development is highly important for choral educators. Voice change is an inherent issue when working with adolescent singers because it affects vocal expectations, literature selection, and development of the tone in choral and solo formats. Through the immediate application of course information, the stages of vocal development in both male and female singers, symptoms of voice change, range considerations, and literature implications will be addressed as topics of interest to teachers of private voice and both middle and high school choral educators.

Robert Best is an Associate Professor of Voice and serves as the Recruiting Coordinator for the Vocal Studies Division. He holds the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Vocal Performance/Pedagogy from the University of Colorado at Boulder where he studied with Robert Harrison and Barbara Doscher, the renowned vocal pedagogue and author of the noted pedagogical textbook The Functional Unity of the Singing Voice. He also earned BM (Vocal Performance) and MM (Vocal Performance and Vocal Performance/Pedagogy) degrees from Arizona State University where he studied with Jerry Doan. Dr. Best has taught Vocal Pedagogy at Baylor since 2006, and applied voice lessons to a wide range of students throughout his career including vocal performance, choral music education, and musical theater. Dr. Best has recorded for the Capstone Records and Innova Recordings labels, and has been featured in performances with Opera Colorado, The Colorado Symphony Orchestra, and the National Repertory Orchestra.

Lynne Gackle is the Director of Choral Activities at Baylor University and holds the Mary Jane Gibbs Professor of Music Chair. She conducts Baylor Bella Voce, Baylor Concert Choir, teaches choral conducting, choral literature and serves as the Director of the Ensemble Division. Prior to her Baylor appointment, Lynne taught at the University of South Florida, University of Mississippi and the University of Miami (FL). She received her education from LSU (BME) and the University of Miami (MM/PhD) in Coral Gables, FL. She is an active clinician and conductor and has held various positions within the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA), including President, Southern Division and ACDA-Florida and currently serves as the National President. She also served as the TCDA-VP of Collegiate/Community Choirs. Lynne is the editor of Choral Artistry for the Singer (Walton Music/GIA) and the Lynne Gackle Choral Series (Colla Voce). Recognized for her research on the female adolescent voice, Lynne is the author of Finding Ophelia’s Voice, Opening Ophelia’s Heart (Heritage) and is a contributing author for other books published by GIA, Oxford, and Hal Leonard/McGraw Hill. She holds memberships in ACDA, TMEA, TCDA, and NATS.

Testimonials for the Summer Voice Institute Vocal Pedagogy course:
“Enjoyed every class – wonderful review and such useful tips for the classroom and vocal health! Thank you!”
“Great workshop – instructors were very knowledgeable and helpful.”