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

Voicetrax is both an online and in-person\* voice-over training academy with a robust selection of classes for both formats. For over 30 years we have been dedicated to not just training actors but mentoring human beings to reach their personal and professional goals. Minus the hugs & high-fives, our students have found the learning experience online to be just as instructive, effective, engaging and valuable (some even say more so, check out the testimonial page on our website) as our in-person classes, as we utilize all the tools at our disposal including performance recording and playback and breakout rooms for rehearsing.

We realize that with the multitude of classes to choose from it may be a bit daunting to know what curriculum strategy would work best for your specific and unique situation. But because we are a school enthusiastically committed to mentoring each student individually, we encourage you to contact our team for guidance at (415) 331-8800. Any member of our team who answers the phone can help you identify the courses that are most appropriate for your needs at each particular stage of your training. For actual dates and prices of classes, please see the registration form on our website at www.voicetraxsf.com. See page 18 for legal disclaimer.

\*When the current State and/or Federal Health & Safety Mandates allow.

### For Beginners

#### **BEGINNING SEMINAR**

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

Class Notes: None

Launch into a weekend packed full of information, performance exercises and FUN! You'll explore basic voice acting fundamentals including detailed acting choices, script interpretation, microphone technique, monologues, dialogues, improv and video game characters – *including playback and feedback of recorded performances*, making this class a unique experience in online training choices. Get ready to jump in from the very beginning experimenting with partner improv exercises and audience participation guessing games that revolve around making specific acting choices. By the end of the weekend, you'll have a solid understanding of the voice acting craft, and an awareness of the particular skills and techniques you'll need to succeed in the current marketplace, and perhaps even a different perspective of who you are and what stories and characters you can create!

The Beginning Seminar was AMAZING! As a bashful newcomer, this class blew the doors right off any fears I had about pursuing my passion of becoming a voice actor. By the end of the weekend I felt supercharged. I didn't want to stop! Most importantly, I loved working with Vicki & Aaron. Both of them were so supportive, encouraging and honest with feedback. I truly feel like they care about helping beginners improve and chase their dreams. I already feel like Voicetrax is family and love them all dearly. I can't wait to keep stuffing my brain with their knowledge and skills. I now have a bright light illuminating my path to realizing my dream. ~Mikey Thomas

I enjoyed the whole online experience. The digital platform was easy to use and had no difficulties connecting even though it was the first time I did any type of web meeting. I'm so grateful this online class was offered. I've been wanting to sign up for quite some time and this seemed like the right push for me to step into the realm of voice acting. The teaching came to me, which made things super helpful and comfortable. The feedback from the teachers were very constructive and supportive. I learned so much by watching the other students and hearing the feedback. The direction was very straightforward and easy to understand, and I appreciate that I'm learning from experienced and talented people that are currently working in the industry. I can see you all have a joy for this and that's invaluable. ~Desireé Griffin

## CREATING CHARACTERS

Director: Chuck Kourouklis, Brian Sommer Length: 10-hour weekend seminar

**Class Notes:** None

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

#### FINDING YOUR VOICE

Director: Samantha Paris

Length: 3.5-hour overview

This school changed my life! The academy has an unparalleled roster of teachers covering every aspect of the voice-over world. Be it commercial, characters, narration, audio books, promos, or anything in-between Voicetrax has an instructor who can teach you what you need to know to succeed. But what really sets this school apart is the sense of family and community you have there. Samantha Paris and her staff do such a phenomenal job of creating a warm, comforting environment that makes classes fun, exciting, and some place you just can't wait to get back to. And when the pandemic hit and in person classes went on hold, they didn't skip a beat at transitioning to an online learning format, great for a guy based in Southern California who wants to be a part of it! I owe all my past, present, and future

#### Class Notes: None

Join Voicetrax founder, Samantha Paris, for an enlightening overview that's half "everything you ever wanted to know about voice-over" and half interactive exercises where volunteers who are game get to jump right in and actually record a character or a radio commercial! After decades in the industry, Samantha is thrilled to be able to pay it forward by offering this information in a fun, loving, tell-it-like-it-is way. Samantha will offer a straightforward outlook regarding the financial realities of the business, the commitment and training required to become a successful, working voice actor, the advantages and pitfalls of online casting, and how you'll know when you're really ready for a demo and a talent agent. What a fun way to spend a Saturday!

The Finding Your Voice class was more like a "finding out all your dreams can come true" class for me. This introductory lecture opened so many doors for me and completely changed the trajectory of my life's journey. When I was a kid, I dreamt of being a voice actor. Once Samantha showed me that it was a possibility, I submerged myself into the wonderful world of Voicetrax and have never been happier. ~Lucas deAyora

voiceover success to Voicetrax. ~Wes Davis

## **INTRODUCTION TO NARRATION**

#### Director: Vicki Baum

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

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#### **Class Notes:** None

We now live in a world where communication is way beyond the written word. Companies brand their innovative products through videos, employers train their employees through videos, medical professionals learn about new treatments through videos and on and on and on. And what do all those videos around the world need? You guessed it... narrators! The different genres of narration are endless including audio tours, audio books, tutorials, medical narration, television shows and documentary narration amongst many others. During this class, you'll explore some of those narration styles and techniques as you work with a wide variety of copy including the always growing field of narration for the populous tech companies in the Bay Area. Learn not only the technical elements of narration, but also how to engage the listener and weave an engaging story that takes your audience along for the ride, without overpowering the visuals. You'll acquire a clear perspective on the storytelling skills required to deliver strong, connected, narration performances.

Whether you want to be an actor or not you make friends, you have a great time, you get a chance to express your creativity, and you get to push outside your comfort zone. I always knew I wanted to be an actor, so Voicetrax was the obvious choice. Not only am I a working actor because of Sam and her faculty, but the whole environment and community is so positive and supportive that even the students that are doing this for other reasons keep coming back for more! Art classes aren't only to pursue a career in the arts. You find parts of yourself you didn't know were there. ~Julie Hancock

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#### **SIMPLY ACTING**

**Director:** Frank Coppola

Length: 12-hour four-week workshop

**Class Notes:** None

Frank teaches the fundamental acting techniques he's learned and used successfully for decades, both as an actor and director, including breaking down the script into beats and assigning intentions, developing your character and asking yourself what happened right before the script starts, script analysis skills that are critical and mandatory skills for every actor whether it be voice-over, on stage or on-camera. Through participation in theater games and improv exercises you'll increase your comfort level, gain confidence in your performance ability and learn to make bold choices that will bring your acting to life. You'll also spend time learning how to apply these basic acting concepts to performing commercial copy.

## TO PARIS AND BACK

Director: Samantha Paris, Vicki Baum Length: 10-hour weekend seminar

**Class Notes:** None

Join our founder, Samantha Paris, as she takes you on a whirlwind journey, exploring the world of voice-over. Through comedy-driven commercial dialogues, Samantha will take you through "real world" audition exercises, just like the pros do it. And for good measure, Vicki will crash the party late on the second day to work you out on some cool character copy. Samantha takes great pride in the fact that she personally guides each student through every step their voice-over voyage, whether your personal path lasts a day, a couple of years or a career lifetime. Working one-on-one with our Founder will not only develop your acting and script analysis skills exponentially but working directly with you will allow Samantha to get to know you on a deeper level, so she can recommend with personal, first-hand knowledge your next best step as your adventure through the voice-over world continues.

To Paris & Back was the perfect tour into the world of voice-over. You get a taste of everything: script analysis, acting, mic technique, working scenes with a partner. Samantha provides insanely skilled direction and you feel how much she genuinely loves helping each student develop their skills. Her passion makes the class so much fun and helps you get comfortable – it's a safe space to explore! Had enough travel puns yet? Seriously, I recommend this class wholeheartedly! ~Laura Quiambao