

# 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](http://www.voicetraxsf.com). See page 18 for legal disclaimer.

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

## For Intermediate/Advanced Students



### AUDIO TOUR NARRATION

**Director:** Peter Dunne

**Length:** 14-hour four-week workshop

**Class Notes:** This course includes a pre-class homework assignment.

Remember the first time you were transported to another place in time just by listening to an engaging museum audio tour? Learn the art of storytelling with Peter Dunne who has locally cast, directed and produced audio tours for many of the world's best-known museums and most prestigious exhibits. To expand your audio tour auditioning skills, you'll read a wide range of copy from scholarly and intellectually demanding narratives to funny scripts for kids. Peter will coach you on getting through the challenges all voice actors face during long sessions including reading cold, taking direction on the fly, handling difficult words and sustaining energy, characters, dialects, concentration and connection to the copy as you describe and tell an imaginative story.

### BEST DAMN DEMO PERIOD!

**Director:** Sirenetta Leoni, LA Agent, Samantha Paris

**Length:** 18-hour six-week workshop

**Class Notes:** This course includes homework assignments. Students must have home recording capabilities.

During this information-packed (and when we say packed, we mean stuffed to the rafters and beyond) workshop you'll develop a clear understanding of the demo production process from start to finish including copy selection, recording, editing, post-production, design, branding, marketing strategy, costs and online demos vs. agency demos. Samantha, Sirenetta and an experienced Los Angeles talent agent will help you to discover what your strengths are and how to highlight them in a way that will grab the attention of agents and producers, as well as common mistakes to avoid. By the last week of class, students will have produced, performed, self-directed and packaged their own mock demo.

### BLOGCAST NEWS

**Director:** Roni Gallimore

**Length:** 12-hour four-week workshop

**Class Notes:** This course will include homework assignments.

News Flash! We are searching for storytellers to bring the Voicetrax blog to life! With over 30-million bloggers in the United States alone (and growing daily), blogs are now a powerhouse platform for marketing, customer support, tutorials, activism and community sharing. Humans are relying more and more on audio blogs to get their content. This is where you come in. Utilizing actual blog entries from the Voicetrax website, Roni will guide you through the script analysis, emotional context and character development it takes to be an epic storyteller. How do you engage the listener? What's the right personality for the blog? Are you conveying the heart of the matter clearly? This class will help you answer these questions and open a virtual door to a new arena. And at the end of the day, the top performers in class, chosen by the Voicetrax Think Tank - *man those guys get around* - will be selected to be featured performers on the Voicetrax website blog to entertain current and future voice-over superstars who visit our blog for years to come. And with so many industry professionals visiting our site (*cough-producers-cough*), you just never know who might be listening!

*Taking Blogcast News with Roni The Storyteller completely changed the way I bring myself to a read behind the mic. Roni always encourages me and says, "I just want to hear more Abbey", which helps enhance my ability to tell a story from a truer and more vulnerable place. I also loved reading the blog posts about our fellow students' bookings and successes! It's like this hard work DOES pay off, and I'm literally speaking the proof of it right now realizing one day that will be me! ~Abbey Lee*

### BOOKING GIG\$ 123

**Director:** Vicki Baum

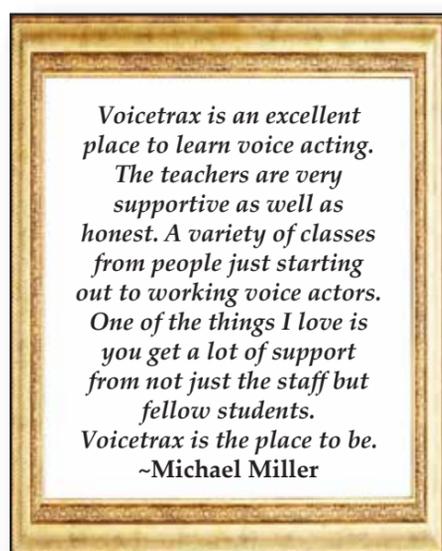
**Length:** 12-hour four-week workshop

**Class Notes:** Students must have home recording capabilities. This course includes a pre-class and weekly homework assignments.

Tired of spending time auditioning online with few positive results? *News Flash: It may not be your performances that are holding you back. Gasp!* Yes, you absolutely need to apply your training and submit a creative, organic performance, but when it comes to online casting sites there is so much more to it. It can be intimidating when you hear that only 3% of the thousands of registered "actors" on Voice123 actually book a job. But have no fear! The good news is a majority of the Voicetrax student body who've trained to a competitive level are within that 3%! And one of the major reasons for that is this comprehensive, A-Z class that reveals not only how Vicki books in the top 10% nationwide on Voice123, but how she consistently books through various other audition resources as a result of her networking and hustle. She'll cover her entire online auditioning strategy including which auditions to choose, how to build your profile and professionally communicate with potential clients as well as how she keeps track of her finances, bills clients... basically how she acts as CEO running her voice-over business.

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

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### DIRECT THYSELF

**Director:** Samantha Paris

**Length:** 10-hour weekend seminar

**Class Notes:** None

The time has come... you can't avoid it any longer: the director's chair (*insert spooky music and student shudder here*). By now you've heard from multiple teachers and working professional students that self-direction is the name of the game when it comes to auditioning, and they'd be exactly right. These days you are on your own to create an attention-grabbing, competitive audition. This seminar presents your first chance to sit in the actual director's chair, and you'll soon realize that by having to articulate a clear analysis of a script as a director for your classmates, you will gain confidence in your ability to break it down for yourself when you have to. Spend a weekend in the director's chair channeling your "inner Samantha".

## FINDING TRUTH IN THE BOOTH

**Director:** LA Agent

**Length:** 10-hour weekend seminar

**Class Notes:** This course includes a pre-class homework assignment. Students must have home recording capabilities.

Seeking truth in a performance is a never-ending expedition for an actor. The possibility of capturing a genuinely real moment is something that drives our kind forward. It's the biggest challenge actors face, but when it happens there is nothing like it. Not to mention it's what a majority of clients want for their projects (*whether they write their scripts that way or not. Ugh*). Join our experienced LA Agent as he makes use of scripts that lend themselves to this pursuit of realism and other scripts that want us to be natural and yet use the words *introducing* and *coming soon*, thus providing a much greater challenge. Agent X will even bring in some of the winning auditions, so you can see how you stack up to your LA competition. Strip away all the extraneous noise and information and get to the heart of the matter to bring out the raw emotions of the words on the page.

## GET ANIMATED!

**Director:** Townsend Coleman

**Length:** 10-hour weekend seminar

**Class Notes:** None

Worried that characters are not for you or you'll never be any good at them? One of the most beloved animation voice actors in the country (see *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles* and *The Tick*) brings his extensive experience to this seminar to prove you wrong... in the most loving manner, of course! With Townie leading the charge, you can and will become a character whiz. You'll explore all the vital skills and techniques and foster the required mental approach that aspiring animation and video game actors need to be successful including developing a specific back story, using prototypes to create an original character and of course, breaking down the copy. You'll develop and expand your own cast of characters and gain some well-earned swagger in your ability to perform and sustain a fully flushed and truly believable character.



*Voicetrax is amazing. Everyone involved, from the students to the founder herself are exceptionally caring, encouraging people. The teachers are working professionals who know what they're doing and will tell you what's really going on. I'm realizing my dream here. ~Dane Fox-McGraw*

## GET IN THE ACTING GAME

**Director:** Dave Fennoy

**Length:** 10-hour weekend seminar

**Class Notes:** None

Join one of the first Voicetrax students ever, Dave Fennoy, as he explores approaching video game performances from a true actor's perspective, as if they were cinematic characters because in video games these days they are! Dave is globally known for his gaming credits (*The Walking Dead, anyone?*), which means his ability to create a multi-faceted, genuine character is on point! With a million-dollar voice, Dave could have rested on his laurels, but he's studied hard to develop his acting chops and he'll absolutely do the same for you. Spend the weekend with Dave as he shares his philosophies examining how authenticity and context always bring a starring and even a bit player video game performance to life.

## GOT GAME II: CRITICAL DAMAGE

**Director:** Chuck Kourouklis,  
Brian Sommer

**Length:** 12-hour four-week workshop

**Class Notes:** Prerequisite: Got Game Level One or prior approval from Voicetrax. This course includes homework assignments.

The warlords are coming for you, so be brave, grab your sword and level up to explore all the hidden caves and open battlefields the video game industry has to offer. Your campaign leaders, Brian and Chuck, are turning up the heat in this level two workshop. They'll take you through your paces including challenging you to direct your fellow students as well as acting as the casting producers breaking down class performances and choosing who would be cast. Not to mention the all-important, yet rarely practiced "efforts": the ability to die, yell and know the difference between falling off a 30-foot cliff and a 300-foot cliff, all the while not blowing your vocal cords out. Ramp up for a four-week adventure full of variety!

## KNØW YØUR ZERØ

**Director:** Vicki Baum

**Length:** 12-hour four-week workshop

**Class Notes:** This course includes a pre-class and weekly homework assignments.

Have you ever looked at a long list of specs on the script and been confused as to what to focus on? Naaaahhh... that NEVER happens... Or have you been auditioning online and you're not sure how to choose amongst the dozens of scripts you receive each day that represent your best odds on booking the job? Truly knowing yourself, what you naturally bring to the table both vocally and personality-wise is a critical piece of the puzzle when it comes to choosing what to add into the recipe to create an outstanding, yet uniquely YOU performance. You'll work on quintessentially you scripts, as Vicki and the rest of the class will assist each student in ascertaining what makes you, well... YOU. If history tells us anything, we're betting you just might be surprised at what you learn about yourself, as well as astounded and enlightened by how others perceive you on the very personal and exhilarating journey you'll take in this workshop.

*No matter where you are in your voice-over journey, this is a class worth taking - multiple times! Why? Because what we think is our "zero" can morph over time or get forgotten in the clutter of auditions that ask us to be everything. This class is not about what we THINK our vocal and personality traits are, it is about how others perceive those traits, which is really the truth about what we are projecting. Once you know your zero, not only can you save time and energy selecting auditions that are in your wheelhouse, you have a foundation from which to build - even exploring the surprising brilliance of your "anti-zero". Thank you to Vicki and my classmates for helping me rediscover my zero. ~Lynda Kluck*

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## PRESS ONE FOR IVR

**Director:** Roger Vosburg

**Length:** 6-hour two-week workshop

**Class Notes:** None

Please hold... Your class description is very important to us... We will be with you in just a moment... In this workshop, Roger will help you develop the skills and techniques necessary to work on voice activated response systems (automated phone prompts also known as Interactive Voice Response), including appropriate style, clarity, maintaining consistency and energy, cold reading and techniques such as "concatenation". And why should you be interested in IVR? Well, not only are the initial sessions usually very long (long = well paid), but when a bank needs to add a few prompts to their phone tree, who are they gonna call? (*pleeeeee don't say Ghostbusters, that joke is sooo 1984, you know who'll they'll call... YOU! again and again and again*) You'll finish this workshop with a greater understanding of what it takes to be the "voice of a company".

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## SCRIPT ANALYSIS

**Director:** Samantha Paris, Chuck Kourouklis, Sirenetta Leoni

**Length:** 18-hour six-week workshop

**Class Notes:** This course includes weekly homework assignments.

Simply put... if you don't get the script, you don't get the gig! This tantalizing triad of teachers will help you unravel the mysteries of script interpretation as you analyze a variety of TV and radio commercials, animation, video game and narration scripts while discovering how to dissect copy intelligently to give you a leg up on the competition. You'll learn to look for hidden clues (aka "bunnies") and not just the ones buried in the body of the copy, but the ones you can glean from the sound effects, visuals, directions, music, length, even the agency name. Strengthen and broaden one of *the most important* foundational skills necessary for voice-over success in this class fortified with an additional two weeks in response to overwhelming student demand. We can take direction, too!

## SHE SAID/SHE SAID: HOW'D I BOOK THAT?

**Director:** Roni Gallimore, Vicki Baum

**Length:** 12-hour four-week workshop

**Class Notes:** This course includes a pre-class and weekly homework assignments. Students must have home recording capabilities.

Feedback times TWO! On separate weeks you will receive feedback from your Guest Directors on the exact same performances, giving you the opportunity to contrast and compare the thoughts from two professionals. What did they agree on that was great about your performance that you should keep front and center in future attempts, and what do you need to work on to bring consequent reads to a competitive level? Additionally, all the scripts you'll be performing (with minimal direction since that's what it's like in your closet at home), will just happen to be projects booked by your Guest Directors. You'll get to hear their WINNING auditions as well a commentary on their approach to the audition. What was special? What risks did they take? How did your audition stack up? All these burning questions will be answered as they divulge their tricks of the home-auditioning trade. A unique and wonderful window into the thought process of successful, working voice actors. Your online and agency auditions will undoubtedly be all the better for receiving all this insider information!

*I love the She Said/She Said class! I appreciate that the format mimics exactly what we experience in real auditions in a supportive classroom environment. I get the chance to practice scripts, hear the acting choices my fellow classmates made, and then the actual read that booked the job. Plus getting double feedback from both Roni and Vicki helps clarify different perspectives/direction on the same audition. It's a real world lesson in the audition process, giving and receiving feedback, and making strong choices. I love it! ~Lucy Parkinson*

## SPEAKING MY LANGUAGE



**Director:** Aaron Miner, LA Agent

**Length:** 9-hour three-week workshop

**Class Notes:** Although this course will be taught in English, all participants must be FLUENT in Spanish.

There is a ridiculous amount of work opportunities for actors who speak Spanish, so much so that all the big talent agencies have a separate division dedicated to it and they are *clamoring* for Spanish-speaking actors. But lest you think this is a class merely focusing on getting through voice-over copy in Spanish, take heed: script analysis, acting choices and self-direction will definitely still be in play. With Aaron, you'll work on conversational, natural performances as you record in class. Then our secret LA Agent, who runs the foreign department for one of the biggest agencies on the country, will swoop in on the last week and play the part of well... *an agent*... to give you constructive critiques and maybe even a chance to perform again incorporating his assessments. The multitude of different accents within the Hispanic speaking world will be explored, determining which are the most often asked for and how regional slang plays a part, as well as overcoming pacing concerns with the often-overwritten copy while avoiding the clichéd Telemundo style read. *Si puedes leer y entiendes esto, entonces estas calificado a tomar esta clase!*

## THE GOOD, THE BAD & THE WEIRD

**Director:** Brian Sommer

**Length:** 12-hour four-week workshop

**Class Notes:** Students must have home recording capabilities.

In this workshop you'll traverse down the track through the multi-faceted land of characters from good to bad and all the way to the wacky world of weird. Stretch yourself from week to week as each class focuses on a different category. Team up with Brian, your character conductor, as you make stops at Goodville (princes, maidens, superheroes), Bad Canyon (mad scientists, thieves, assassins) and Weirdburg (zombies, aliens, robots) characters. The last week will cumulate in a free-for-all, as you bring all your diverse characters to life challenging your ability to pivot from one to the other to the other on cue. And the frosting on this deee-licious character cake? Brian will pick the top performer from the final night and award them a FREE private lesson with him. How you like them apples?

## THREE IN A ROW

**Director:** Thom Pinto

**Length:** 10-hour weekend seminar

**Class Notes:** Class can and SHOULD Be Repeated. 😊

One of the ironies of our business is that frequently, the short copy bears the most income. In this class, Thom divulges his techniques that are right at your fingertips to ensure that your three in a row aren't just slow, medium and fast takes of the exact same read and are *truly* unique and commercially viable, whether it's announcer tags, character one-liners or :15 spots. If producers are listening to hundreds of one-liners, it's critical that you grab their attention from the get-go, no time to warm into your performance. And no matter what kind of copy you audition (short or long form), when you book a session, you'll often be asked to perform a particular line three times in a row, and by "often" we mean in every single voice-over session you will *EVER* be in. So yeah, there's that.

## TOURS, TUTORIALS & TALES: THE STORY WITHIN

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

**Director:** Vicki Baum

**Length:** 14-hour four-week workshop

**Class Notes:** None

This workshop is prepared to take your narration skills up a notch or two while telling a great story. And since narration is one of the dominant genres in the voice-over industry with opportunities like never before, this class is a perfect vehicle to transform you into a narrator to be reckoned with. By further honing your visualization techniques, script analysis and acting choices, you'll learn to deliver the more authentic and conversational reads that are now in demand. You'll span several genres including audio tour, industrial tech, tutorial and medical narration that are so prevalent in today's narration market.

## VO FIGHT CLUB

**Director:** Aaron Miner

**Length:** 10-hour weekend seminar

**Class Notes:** This course includes a pre-class homework assignment. Students must have home recording capabilities.

Ok, sure, we could go with the obvious opening line for this class description and say *the first thing about VO Fight Club, is you don't talk about VO Fight Club*, but that would be silly (*and lazy*) because as voice actors talking is what we do. Join Aaron, your ultimate cornerman, as he takes you through the rigors of a true voice-over clash. Students will contend in a March Madness tournament-like bracket throughout the weekend until the final two are left to battle it out for the grand prize: a half-price four-week or weekend class! But before you ask, "How will I be involved if I get eliminated early?", don't worry because there is something very important we haven't told you about this seminar: It's really a *direction class* disguised as a competition class! That's right, no matter the ultimate outcome of the performance side of this class, Aaron will be coaching the constant flow of student directors guiding the actors still in the game as the audience weighs in on who won each round by articulating who they would cast and why. At the end of the weekend, Aaron will choose the best director who will win a private lesson with our current Top Teacher, Vicki Baum.