

Molly Pease

Voice Teacher with a focus on empowerment, self-expression and creativity

Since age 5, I've had an array of strong, inspiring vocal instructors, beginning with Lynn Stevens, who founded the Sacramento Children's Chorus as her master's thesis and grew it into a group that tours internationally, competes nationally and performs with opera companies and symphonies. She taught me sight reading, introduced me to freeing vocal exercises, and nurtured my natural love and joy for music and performance.

In college, opera singer-turned-modern jazz star Alicia Olatuja inspired me to find a more confident sound as a solo artist and helped me embrace my musical eccentricity. In graduate school, I studied with extreme vocalist, improviser and artist Carmina Escobar, who encouraged the cultivation of my body-voice connection and exploration of non-traditional vocal sounds. These and other educators not only inspired me to be a teacher, but also informed my teaching methods.

My students are guided in linking their singing and breath with movement to find more freedom in their sound, and focus on using the voice as a tool for empowerment, self-expression and creativity. In the first lesson, we talk about goals and musical interests so that I can design (or craft or create) individualized lessons. With extensive training and experience in jazz, pop, musical theatre, R&B, rock, classical, experimental and improvisatory music, I work with students to find and workshop the right repertoire for them, and help prepare them for performance opportunities and achieve their musical goals and desires.

I earned a Voice Performance-Bachelors of Music degree from The New School for Jazz and Contemporary Music (2014) and a Jazz Studies-Masters of Fine Arts from California Institute of the Arts (2017). I am a professional vocalist at the forefront of the music industry in Los Angeles, CA. I sing in the Los Angeles Master Chorale, am a member of social-justice choir Tonality, section leader and soloist at First Congregational Church of LA, and part of experimental vocal ensemble HEX. I frequently perform in experimental operas and musicals in the LA area. Recent performances and projects include Björk's "cornucopia" tour, The Industry's "Sweet Land", Resonance Collective's "Conference of the Birds", and Tune-Yards at Walt Disney Hall. I am a composer and songwriter and have extensive experience writing and performing my own music in chamber music, choral, orchestral, rock and jazz band settings. My two albums are ACKLAND, an experimental art rock project, and Inner Astronomy, a contemporary classical cantata for voice and strings.

I have over 12 years of voice teaching experience, including many years at Sacramento Teagarden Jazz Camp instructing budding jazz singers. I have worked as a private teacher at Pasadena Music Conservatory, Rhodes School of Music, and West Coast Music Academy. I currently teach from my home voice studio in Los Angeles, CA and offer both on-line and in-person lessons.

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