

SARAH WEATHERWAX
DESIGNATED LINKLATER VOICE TEACHER

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Member: ACTRA, CAEA

Federation of Asian Canadian Lawyers, 2021: Led a one-day interactive voice class to a group of 20 legal professionals, lawyers and judges from Ontario & BC. Taught them a good daily warm-up to improve their vocal freedom, expressiveness and clarity so they can become more effective, persuasive communicators. Also explored the connection between body language, gesture & voice and showed them various ways to prep and manage nerves right before speaking engagements.

VO Atlanta, 2021: Panelist, Speaker and Teacher at the world's largest Voice Over conference. Taught a 3 hour class: Vocal Freedom & Flexibility for Narration & Animation; spoke on a Vocal Support panel about the benefits of regular vocal warm-ups for voice professionals, addressed certain myths about voice, and provided a list of Do's and Don'ts for care of the voice before long recording sessions. Led a 20 minute & a 45 minute warm-up for voice actors.

Online Voice Classes for Actors, March, 2020-present: After offering Pay-What-You-Can bi-weekly online classes for actors from March – Dec. 2020, classes were changed to a reasonably priced monthly subscription open to all levels of experience. At present, actor clients choose between twice annual Basic Voice or the more in-depth 8 week Voice & Text class. Work with career actors from all over the states, Canada and Europe.

Youth With a Mission, 2016-present: Teach a three day workshop annually to young actors in training as part of a three month On Camera Acting program in Dunham, Quebec. Students come from various countries for the course, connected by way of an international university program. First two days are an introduction to Linklater Voice Work and the third day focuses on text. Each student in the group receives individual coaching on an audition piece from a contemporary film of their choosing.

Drop In Voice Class for Actors & Singers, 2014-2020: Led an on-going monthly drop-in class for performers until March, 2020. Each 2 hour class offered a very complete voice/body warm up with a different focus. Class themes included: jaw, tongue, soft palate work; hips, ribs and shoulders; creating space for breath; range and articulation, etc.

Straeon Acting Studios (formerly Carter Thor Studios East) 2010-present: Teach weekend voice intensives to groups of 10-14 actors at this highly esteemed studio for film & television acting. After an overview of the Linklater progression of exercises to free the voice, students are coached on scenes or monologues, using various voice/body exercises as a way to deepen their vocal connection to text. Workshops stress the connection between vocal freedom and expressive, transformative acting. Teach in the Toronto, Boston and Montreal studios.

Private voice and audition coaching, 2000 – present: Audition coaching with actors on contemporary or classical monologues preceded by vocal warm up. Coach actor/singers, starting with the same warm-up, on acting through the song. Also have many actors who are long-term clients, pursuing vocal freedom and better acting. Dialect coaching with actors has included various US; Quebecois; Edinburgh, Dublin. Clients also include public speakers, teachers, administrators, lawyers.

Brock University, 2019: Taught a twice weekly Intro to Voice & Speech class in the Dramatic Arts Dept. during the winter/spring term. These 2nd, 3rd and 4th year drama majors were taught body & voice warm-ups, and applied their heightened vocal awareness to readings of contemporary poetry and Shakespeare sonnets. Students read excerpts of books by Kristin Linklater and Patsy Rodenburg. Taught anatomy and care vocal care of the voice. Students explored poetic text physically, vocally, visually. Students passed in written documentation of on-going voice warm-up practice, discoveries & challenges made and comprehension of the ideas that inform Freeing the Natural Voice. Completed all necessary grading and reports.

Communication Skills Class for Critical Care Doctors, 2018: Taught a communication and self-care class to residents and international fellows at Toronto General Hospital. Taught them very basic spinal alignment, breath and voice exercises. Addressed topics such as: clarity of thought in the midst of big emotion; how to calmly receive misdirected anger from patients' loved ones; how to communicate compassion, confidence and sincerity; how to listen openly, etc. Created the workshop proposal, detailed course outline and numerous 'scenarios' for classroom use. Employed a professional actor as an assistant for the final class.

The Shoe Project, Vocal Coach & Director, 2018 & 2021: Worked with 11 women, all new Canadians, on reading their autobiographical stories of migration to Canada written under the tutelage of established novelist Katherine Govier. Directed

the show, bringing all stories (representative of many languages and countries) together into a cohesive evening of theatre using gesture and a vocal style of reading from inside the moment of remembering and writing.

Theatre In A Jar, Toronto, 2017: Taught Master Class to a small group of professional actors in a studio setting at Real Space. Students were led in a voice warm-up, then each received individual text coaching. Theatre In A Jar works to re-acquaint working actors with various training disciplines: Voice, Improv, Acting, Movement. Taught the Spring & Fall sessions.

Shakespeare & Company, Lenox, Mass., 2016: Taught Voice & Text at this internationally renowned theatre company's Summer Training Institute, a month long intensive training program for actors. Over four weeks, taught the entire progression of Linklater Voice exercises to the forty one enrolled students, with the final week really focusing on the connection to text. Co-taught 'Basics' Acting Class (a type of actor training unique to the company), led 'Dropping In' and 'Standing Up' sessions, assisted in 'Actor Audience' (a full day exploration of the personal, revelatory nature of theatre), and in 'Elizabethan World Picture Day.' Coached and shaped numerous Shakespeare scenes over the course of the month.

Toronto Academy of Acting for Film & Television, 2012-13: Taught a three week course, working with students each morning before their acting class. Created course outline. Actors were led through a basic but thorough progression of Linklater voice exercises. Students learned about the anatomy & care of the voice, received individual monologue coaching. Grades and feedback given at course end.

ACTRA Annual Conference, 2010: Led a large group of actors in a full physical and vocal warm-up on the second morning of ACTRA's annual conference.

Master Classes for Actors & Singers, 2009, 2012: Taught one day workshops at the S.P.A.C.E., starting with teaching basic voice exercises. Then led students in a cohesive warm up and coached all performers on their pieces, which included monologues, an excerpt from a comedic one-person show and an aria sung by an opera singer.

Workman Arts, 2006, Winter & Fall: Taught beginner's voice class to members of Workman Arts at the Centre for Addiction & Mental Health in Toronto, Jan. to Feb. 06. Focused on classic Linklater voice/body warm-ups. Oct. to Dec. 06, taught a class to develop image/theme based vocal performance pieces for the spring production directed by Ed Roy.

Acting & Voice I, Humber College, 2004: Taught voice to 1 post grad and 3 under grad classes at Humber College Comedy Department. Students learned basic progression of voice exercises & application to performance. Saw open mike nights and student sketch shows, gave individual feedback based on their performances. Followed a course outline and gave grades at semester's end.

On Set Acting & Voice Coach, deafplanet.com Seasons I and II, 2003-04: Coached the cast of a marbledmedia production for broadcast on TVO and Access Alberta. These young adult actors were both Hearing and Deaf. As well as working as Cast Acting Coach, I assisted one actor in finding numerous, varied voices. Her character was an ASL translator and each Deaf character she spoke for had to have a unique voice reflected by their physicality.

Voice Teacher Training: Attended five-week Voice Teacher Certification Course with Kristin Linklater in June 2003 along with 15 other invited teachers from 4 countries. Course included: Being taught entire progression of exercises by Ms. Linklater; In-depth personal critique by Kristin Linklater after teaching voice to a group of volunteer students; Being critiqued by Ms. Linklater after leading fellow voice teachers in a 45 min. voice & body warm-up; Private & group Alexander Technique Lessons with Nadia Kevan from Germany. Also, observed Kristin Linklater teach entire progression of voice exercises and Voice & Shakespeare to M.F.A. Acting students at Columbia University during fall semester, 2001; Private lessons and voice teacher training workshops in NYC with Andrea Haring; Private voice lessons & basic piano with Chris Von Baeyer in Toronto; Group classes with David Smukler; Group and private Alexander Technique lessons with Kelly McEvenue; Voice workshop with Patsy Rodenburg; Extending Voice & Gesture Workshop with Betty Moulton and Clare Preuss; Animation voice workshop with Jessie Thomson; Singing with Alexandra Garrison and Elaine Dunbar; Apprentice voice teaching at Shakespeare and Company in Massachusetts; On going self-education about human anatomy and natural movement.

Recent Additional Voice Teacher Training: July, 2020, participated in a one-week Speech and Phonetics Workshop with Louis Colaanni by way of Zoom; May, 2019, attended a one week Continued Professional Development course for Member Teachers at the Kristin Linklater Voice Centre in Orkney, Scotland with 13 established Designated Linklater Voice Teachers from 4 countries. Kristin reviewed various teaching skills with us; introduced us to new, advanced exercises for freeing the voice; worked with each of us on our own voices and sonnets.

Also: BFA Acting, Honors Graduate, Emerson College, Boston, Mass. **See Acting Resume.**

**** Sarah Weatherwax would like to thank the Canadian Council For The Arts for their generous rewarding of a Professional Development Grant to attend the Voice Teacher Certification Workshop with Kristin Linklater in 2003 ****