

Julia Davids and Stephen LaTour

VOCAL TECHNIQUE

A Guide for Conductors, Teachers, and Singers

Vocal Technique: A Guide for Conductors, Teachers, and Singers is the first book to connect the disciplines of vocal pedagogy, vocal science, and choral technique. It fills a need for accurate, well-researched, and easy-to-read information on how to teach and learn singing in both solo and choral contexts. This concise yet comprehensive guidebook offers numerous, practical voice-building and problem-solving suggestions and exercises, as well as clear photographs and elegant illustrations.

The authors thoroughly address important topics such as breathing, onset, resonance, vowel modification, vibrato, register transitions, range extension, intonation, changing voices (both adolescent and aging), and vocal health. They integrate the perspectives of renowned artists, choral professionals, vocal pedagogues, and the latest in vocal science. This is a must-have for conductors, voice teachers, and music educators, and will benefit solo and choral singers of all ages and abilities.

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FOUNDATIONS OF VOCAL TECHNIQUE Posture • Breath Control • Initiation, Creation, and Release of Sound • Resonance • Vowels • Consonants

ENHANCEMENTS OF VOCAL TECHNIQUE Vibrato • Negotiation of the Vocal Registers • Improving Range • Improving Intonation • Legato, Staccato, Accents, Melismas, Dynamic Control • Improving Choral Blend • Changing Voices • Reducing Tension • Guarding Singers' Vocal Health • A Productive Warm-Up

"It's a fantastic book. The chapters on vowels and resonance are superb and sophisticated. I love the very clear, simple, to the point illustrations. The content is invaluable for voice teachers and choral directors alike. As a voice teacher, I'm particularly pleased to see an integrated approach to vocal technique for both soloists and choral singers." — Karen Brunssen, *Northwestern University*

"Resonance strategies, choir positioning, cambiata voices, hypothyroidism, vibrato—all in one book! The authors raise contemporary issues as well as never-mentioned ones. This resource bonanza will be voraciously appreciated." — Darryl Edwards, *University of Toronto*

"*Vocal Technique* is an incredibly valuable resource. Written in a remarkably approachable style, the book balances keen observations with understandable technical explanations. I cannot help but wish I had read this volume when I started my conducting career more than 35 years ago. I heartily recommend it to conductors and singers of every level of experience and training." — Jerry Blackstone, *University of Michigan*

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