

JOHN HERSEY HIGH SCHOOL - PRIVATE VOICE LESSON STAFF

NICK FALCO

Nick Falco is a graduate of Elmhurst College in Elmhurst, IL with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Music. His focus of study was in vocal performance and music education. He's studied vocal techniques and opera in Italy, and is in his 17th season as a member of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra Chorus. Nick has also performed as a member of the Chicago Symphony Singers and The Grant Park Symphony Chorus and is also one of the founding members of the a cappella vocal jazz ensemble, An Octave Above which records and performs locally throughout Chicagoland. Nick has been awarded for an arrangement at the national a cappella competition Harmony Sweepstakes, and continues to arrange for An Octave Above. He has been teaching high school voice for the past 17 years at John Hersey High School and is also a private teacher at Wheeling and Buffalo Grove High Schools. Nick has a very strong love for music of all kinds. His lessons cover classical art songs and arias, musical theater, jazz, and pop/rock. He feels music is a diverse and constantly growing and changing subject that covers the entire span of world history through art, style and culture. He feels it is important to know the past as well as the present, and to never forget the different musical styles which have developed from ancient times to what is current in our present culture. His long term goals as a teacher are to teach his students to identify within themselves the different practices of singing in different styles, and to educate diversity in vocal music to help his students find which musical genres their voices are best suited for. In turn, he hopes that his students will learn to appreciate the incredible diversity music has to offer with an opened mind and ear. As a vocal teacher he will work on skills to improve range, technique, foreign language diction, theory, performance styles, breathing, and how to use your vocal instrument properly. He will also help students to prepare for contests, auditions, and/or concerts. Nick feels as a singer that it's always important to be listened to and critiqued in order to improve as a singer, and continues to study to this day.

COLLEEN TIMLER

Colleen Timler is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point. She has performed throughout the Chicago area with multiple bands. Singing classical, jazz, pop, Latin and musical theatre, she has played in Chicago at the Jazz Showcase, Pops for Champagne! the Metropole, and Park West. Ms. Timler has also been a featured vocalist at the Pico Spoleto festival in Charleston, South Carolina.

Ms. Timler has been teaching private voice lessons in the Chicagoland area for over 20 years at various schools such as Prospect High School, Hersey High School and Chicago College of Performing Arts. She has vocally directed over 20 musicals and has worked with numerous high school show choirs as a clinician. Ms. Timler worked as the director of Ladies First at Hersey high school for 4 years as well as assistant director to Mixed Company at Prospect high school for 7 years.

Ms. Timler has had students go on to the top classical, musical theatre, commercial and jazz schools in the country. Her students have gone on to perform in Broadway tours, Off Broadway productions, on cruise ships and have also toured the country in various bands. Ms. Timler is also blessed with 2 wonderful children and an amazing husband.

ANDREW SICKEL

Andrew graduated from Elmhurst College where he earned a B.A. in music and a certificate in voice. He has just returned from a year in Australia where he taught voice to elementary, middle and high school students in a private school, where he also directed the concert and men's choirs. Residing in Chicago, Andrew has performed around the city. Andrew's Chicago credits include City of Angels (Porchlight Music Theatre); First Date The Musical (First Date, LLC); Assassins, Heathers, Perpetual Possibility (Kokandy Productions); Titanic (Timberlake Playhouse); Time After Time: The Music of Jule Styne, A Very Merry Madrigal (Theo Ubique Cabaret Theater); Spamalot, The producers, Songs For A New World (NightBlue Performing Arts); Spamalot, Whistle Down the Wind, (Jedlica Performing Arts).

Andrew is the former director of Ladies First and now directs Commercial Break and Pulse as well as giving private voice lessons at Hersey and Glenbrook South High Schools.

PATRICIA TOLEDO

Patricia Toledo holds a M.M. in vocal performance from The UNC at Greensboro and a B.M. in vocal performance from Lawrence University Conservatory of Music. She has performed a diverse group of leading ladies both in musical theatre and in opera including the title role in Puccini's *Madama Butterfly*.

Ms. Toledo was an intern for the [National Association of Teachers of Singing](#), where she trained in teaching both classical and music theater styles. She is also trained as an early childhood music specialist through [Music Together](#). She has worked with adults, teens, and children- most notably children touring with Broadway in Chicago in Shrek and Billy Elliot. Her students have done consistently well in local and state competitions and have gone on to top classical, commercial music, and musical theater university programs in the nation. This will be Ms. Toledo's 12th year at Hersey.

PRIVATE TEACHERS

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