

## **JOHN HERSEY HIGH SCHOOL - PRIVATE VOICE LESSON STAFF**

### **FRANCESCA DeTOGNE**

Francesca DeTogne, or "Cessie" as she is affectionately known, graduated from Illinois Wesleyan University in 2003 with a degree in Vocal Performance. Since that time, she has worked as a middle-school music teacher and choral director, a vocal director and accompanist for children's musicals, and a voice teacher-- not to mention the choreographer for the illustrious adult show choir "Stage Fright". She also has over fourteen years of experience working with children, and finds that experience invaluable when explaining vocal concepts to young singers! Her background is in both classical singing and musical theater, and her philosophy is all-encompassing: the basic techniques of singing are the same, no matter what style of music you choose to perform. Love what you sing, do it with all of your heart, and enjoy what you do-- and everything else will fall into place. She looks forward to starting her third year in JHHS's choir family!

### **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 tenth 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. In 2007 Nick won a special award for his arrangement of "Tico Tico" 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 10 years at John Hersey High School and is also a private teacher at Wheeling High School. 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 highly important to know the past as well as the present and to never forget the many different musical styles that have developed from ancient times to what's 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 voices are best suited for. In turn, he hopes that they 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, 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.

### **JUDY LYNN MOE**

Before retiring in June 2007, Judy was the head of the music department and served as a choral director at Glenbrook North High School in Northbrook, Illinois for 34 years. She now teaches part-time at Roosevelt University, Hersey High School and York High School.

After attending Valparaiso University in Indiana, Judy went on to receive a Bachelors Degree in Voice and Music Education and also a Masters Degree in voice from Roosevelt University.

Her skills as an educator and singer are evident in the many awards and honors that she has received. These include the Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching, the Mary Hoffman Award for Excellence in Teaching awarded by the Illinois Music Educators Association, the Paul Harris Fellow from the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International, the first Outstanding Alumni Award in 2003 from Luther North High

School and was twice awarded the Outstanding Service Award at Glenbrook North High School. Judy has been invited on many occasions to work as a clinician and guest director for various festivals including Guest Director for the Illinois Music Educator's All-State Choir, the Illinois American Choral Directors Association Honor Choir and numerous district festivals throughout the Midwest.

Judy looks forward to sharing her experiences and vocal knowledge with you.

### **COLLEEN TIMLER**

Colleen Timler is a vocalist and private voice teacher from Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. She received her degree from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point and moved to the Chicago area in 1994.

Ms. Timler has been teaching private voice lessons in Chicago area high schools for over 13 years and the past seven years has been a part of Prospect High School's private staff as well as has assisted with their showchoirs and as Vocal Director of the musicals. She is also a Voice Teacher in The Chicago College of Performing Arts at Roosevelt University. She joined the Hersey Choral staff two years ago as the Director of Ladies First and last year, began teaching private lessons at Hersey.

As a performer, Ms. Timler has been featured at some of the finest clubs in Chicago, including the Metropole, Jazz Showcase, Pops for Champagne and Park West.

### **PATRICIA TOLEDO**

Patricia Toledo holds a B.M. in vocal performance from Lawrence University Conservatory of Music, WI and a M.M. in vocal performance from The University of North Carolina at Greensboro. She has performed both musical theatre and operatic roles including the title role in Puccini's Madama Butterfly with Opera Ft. Collins, Eleanor of Aquitaine in the one-woman opera Flower and Hawk with Long Leaf Opera, the Virgin Mary in The Wise Women, Papagena in The Magic Flute, Minnie in The Match Maker, Audrey in Little Shop of Horrors, Polly Peachum in Three Penny Opera and Catherine in Pippin. She has also been an ensemble member with Greensboro Opera, Triangle Opera, Light Opera Works, Madison Symphony Chorus, and Madison Opera's Opera in the Park.

In 2004, Ms. Toledo returned to the Chicago area to be closer to her parents and start a family. She is has been on faculty at the Schaumburg Academy of Music and John Hersey High School since 2005. She is an active member of the National Association of Teachers of Singing serving as Treasurer of the Northern Illinois Chapter and she has served for three years on the board of the Northwest Chapter of the Lyric Opera. Ms. Toledo enjoys singing in recital and continues her classical vocal studies with Metropolitan Opera soprano Julia Faulkner and has also studied contemporary commercial singing styles and techniques. Ms. Toledo's students have done well performing at such venues as The American Girl Show (Chicago), IMEA Honors Choir, local jazz clubs, Battle of the Bands (Schaumburg), as well as leads in several musicals in the greater Chicagoland area. Her students have also made finals and placed in the Chicago NATS Musical Theatre Auditions and the Northern Illinois Classical Auditions. Besides from teaching, Ms. Toledo is a mom, wife, and training assistant in Taekwondo. More information and performance clips are available at [www.patriciatoledo.com](http://www.patriciatoledo.com).