



# STUDENT HANDBOOK

OF STUDIO POLICIES  
AND PROCEDURES

SKOKSTUDIO LLC

## Table of Contents

|  |    |
|--|----|
| One-Page Overview of Skokstudio Policies and Procedures .....                        | 3  |
| Regular Hours of Studio Operation .....  | 4  |
| Skokstudio Annual Holiday Schedule 2020 .....  | 4  |
| Scheduling Lessons .....   | 5  |
| Private Voice Lessons by Enrollment .....  | 5  |
| Taking Voice Lessons at Skokstudio .....   | 6  |
| Lesson Formats and Length .....  | 6  |
| Technical Session .....  | 6  |
| Repertoire-building Session .....  | 6  |
| Open Registration Vocal Instruction .....  | 7  |
| Lessons, Classes, Workshops, Retreats/Camps, and Intensive Training .....            | 7  |
| Eligibility for Vocal Instruction at Skokstudio .....                                | 8  |
| Students Under Age 18 .....  | 8  |
| Music Literacy Requirement .....   | 8  |
| Principles of Nondiscrimination, Inclusion, Diversity, Social Equality .....         | 8  |
| Personal Computer Requirement for Online Lessons .....                               | 8  |
| Initial Vocal Evaluation/Assessment Session .....                                    | 9  |
| Student Enrollment .....   | 10 |
| The Enrollment Process .....   | 11 |
| Student Annual Enrollment Agreement .....  | 11 |
| Annual Enrollment Registration Fee and Benefits .....                                | 12 |
| REST Toolkit .....   | 13 |
| Enhanced Online Equipment Toolkit Requirement .....                                  | 13 |
| Subscription Tuition Package Plans .....   | 14 |
| Selecting a Tuition Package Plan .....   | 14 |
| Identifying Student Development Level .....  | 14 |
| Identifying Vocalist Professional Goals .....  | 15 |
| Vocalist Goals Matched to Appropriate Development Level .....                        | 15 |
| Subscription Package Plan Pricing .....  | 16 |
| Development Paths of Vocal Study .....   | 17 |
| Basic Track Development Paths .....  | 18 |
| Student Self-Scheduling with Acuity Appointments .....                               | 19 |
| Subscriptions Purchased/Renewed in Month Prior to Usage .....                        | 19 |
| Subscription Package Plan Auto Renewal .....   | 19 |
| Changing Subscription Package Plan Type .....  | 19 |
| Expired Subscriptions, Failure to Self-Schedule Renewed Subscription in Acuity ..... | 19 |
| Additional Private Lessons for Enrolled Students .....                               | 19 |
| Student Requirements/Expectations .....  | 20 |
| Basic Enrollment Requirements .....  | 20 |
| I. Communication .....   | 21 |
| Messages About Rescheduling, Cancelling, or Running Late Messages .....              | 21 |

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Contact the Studio Manager for Technical or Administrative Assistance.....   | 21 |
| Planned Absences Notification .....  | 21 |
| II. Attendance.....  | 22 |
| Attendance – Term of Enrollment.....   | 22 |
| Attendance – Lesson Frequency .....  | 22 |
| Attendance – Absences .....  | 22 |
| Attendance – Absences – Excused/Unexcused.....                               | 23 |
| Attendance – Absences – Missed Lessons .....                                 | 23 |
| Attendance – Absence Due to Weather Causing Internet/Electrical Outage ..... | 23 |
| Attendance – Rescheduling Makeup Lessons and Cancelled Lessons .....         | 24 |
| Reschedule/Cancellation by Skokstudio .....                                  | 24 |
| Attendance – Sickness.....   | 24 |
| Attendance – Tardiness.....  | 25 |
| Attendance – Return from Leave of Absence/Re-enrollment .....                | 25 |
| III. Practice and Preparedness .....   | 26 |
| Practice.....  | 26 |
| Preparedness - Online Technology Requirements.....                           | 26 |
| Preparedness - Home Environment for Online Lessons.....                      | 27 |
| Preparedness - Zoom Configuration Settings.....                              | 27 |
| Preparedness - JBL Live 500BT Headphones Configuration Settings .....        | 27 |
| Preparedness - Blue Snowball Microphone Configuration Settings .....         | 28 |
| IV. Professional Demeanor and Conduct, Attire .....                          | 29 |
| Demeanor.....  | 29 |
| Conduct .....  | 29 |
| Attire.....  | 29 |
| V. Performance Requirement .....   | 30 |
| Performance Opportunities with Resonanz Opera .....                          | 30 |
| Performances: Communication with Instructor About Upcoming .....             | 30 |
| Free Lesson Promotional Offer for New Student Referrals.....                 | 31 |
| Media Release .....  | 31 |
| Parking.....   | 31 |
| Studio Phone .....   | 31 |
| Letters of Recommendation.....   | 31 |
| Terms and Conditions.....  | 32 |
| Dismissal, Termination of Agreement Contract by Skokstudio.....              | 32 |
| Voluntary Withdrawal, Termination of Lessons Notification.....               | 32 |
| Missed Lesson Refunds .....  | 32 |
| Subscription Plan and Registration Fee Refunds.....                          | 32 |
| Additional Terms and Conditions .....  | 33 |
| Privacy Notice.....  | 38 |

# One-Page Overview of Skokstudio Policies and Procedures

## Online Voice Lessons at Skokstudio

1. Private voice lessons at Skokstudio are currently taught only online, using Zoom. Lessons are not taught in person.
2. Students are required to use a laptop/desktop computer, and cannot use a phone or a mobile device for taking lessons.
3. All student candidates must take an initial Vocal Evaluation to determine eligibility to attend lessons at Skokstudio.
4. Lessons are offered primarily through annual **Enrollment** to eligible singers of all development levels.
5. Lessons are also sometimes offered on an **Open-Registration** (per-lesson) basis for more advanced professional singers whose eligibility is to be determined at Skokstudio's discretion and may require a Vocal Evaluation in some cases.
6. All singers ages 18+ are eligible. Exceptional teenage students 13+ will also be considered, depending on prior experience, demonstrated maturity, talent, and the student's ability to communicate their goals as a vocalist.
7. Newly enrolled students are shipped both a **REST Toolkit** and an **Enhanced Online Equipment Toolkit** to their address.
8. There is an annual **Enrollment Registration Fee** of \$150 for all Enrolling students.
9. The **Enhanced Online Equipment Toolkit** is an additional Fee of \$150, payable in full or 3 monthly payments of \$50.
10. Students must sign an annual *Student Enrollment Agreement* acknowledging that Enrollment eligibility has several requirements and expectations of Communication, Attendance, Practice/Preparedness, Conduct, and Performance.

## Scheduling and Payment

1. Payment for individual lessons and subscription tuition package plan fees is accepted by credit card online at the time of scheduling/renewal, at least 24 hours prior to the appointment time requested.
2. Lessons are scheduled online using the Acuity Appointments system. Students must schedule their regular weekly lessons themselves when their monthly subscription has automatically renewed, during the last week of the month.
3. When the subscription package plan is newly purchased or renews, an email confirmation is sent to notify the student.
4. Students then schedule their lessons using the link provided in the subscription renewal confirmation email.
5. After scheduling each lesson, students get an **email confirmation** from Acuity of the lesson appointment.
6. The email confirmation contains a Cancel/Reschedule button that students use to cancel or schedule a make-up lesson.
7. The email confirmation also contains a link to an Acuity Appointments appointment page.
8. This Acuity Appointments appointment page has a link to the upcoming scheduled Zoom Meeting for the lesson.
9. Rescheduling a make-up must be done at least 24 hours before the lesson, after which Acuity only permits cancellation.
10. A make-up lesson is permitted no more than once every sixty days, up to a maximum of six times in an enrollment year.
11. Make-up lessons must be attended within 7 days of the original lesson or will be counted as a missed lesson.
12. The student can contact the Studio Manager about any scheduling issue by email to: [scheduling@skokstudio.org](mailto:scheduling@skokstudio.org)
13. There are no refunds for missed lessons, cancelled lessons, or missed make-up lessons.

## Attendance Expectations

1. All students are expected to attend no less than four lessons per month as a strict requirement of eligibility for private lessons at Skokstudio. A vocal student's development depends upon regular, consistent study over a long period of time. Skokstudio seeks serious, dedicated students who want to actively pursue voice as a professional vocation.
2. Students must be on time to their lessons. Lesson time for late arriving students will not be extended or carried over. Arriving more than 10 minutes late without prior notice by email/SMS/phone will count as a "no-show".
3. Repeated lateness, no-shows, or cancellations will result in dismissal from private lesson enrollment.
4. **Student Illness:** Even though lessons are not being held in person, **when a student is sick, they should not attend their online lesson** and should reschedule or cancel the lesson. *This is because attempting to sing while ill is potentially damaging to a singer's voice and must be prevented under any circumstance.* Students may be dismissed from a lesson at the instructor's discretion for attending while presenting obvious signs of illness such as coughing, hoarseness, sneezing, runny nose, etc. and will not receive a make-up.

## Communication

1. Do not use voicemail, text, or messaging channels for communications or questions about scheduling/attendance.
2. For all communications related to scheduling/attendance, please send email to [scheduling@skokstudio.org](mailto:scheduling@skokstudio.org).
3. For all other communications (such as questions, feedback, or concerns), send email to [heidiskok@skokstudio.org](mailto:heidiskok@skokstudio.org).
4. **Please allow 24 hours for a response**, including when waiting for approval for rescheduling.
5. **Running Late Messages:** If you are *running late* for a lesson, the Studio Manager monitors the office phone for calls, voicemail messages, and SMS text messages at 440-290-8893 and will attempt to communicate to the instructor to cordially wait up to ten minutes. However, the instructor may not be able to receive messages while teaching a lesson.

## Regular Hours of Studio Operation

Skokstudio is located at 8789 Mentor Avenue in Mentor, Ohio, and is the physical location where Master Vocal Instructor Heidi Skok conducts her online lessons. The studio offers online lesson appointments for students who have scheduled at least 24 hours in advance. The studio is not currently open to students for in-person lessons. The following chart is the standard weekly schedule for lesson appointment availability in the Acuity Appointments online self-scheduling system:

|                  |                                  |
|------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Monday</b>    | (1pm to 5:30pm) and (6pm to 8pm) |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | (1pm to 5:30pm) and (6pm to 8pm) |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | (1pm to 5:30pm) and (6pm to 8pm) |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | (1pm to 5:30pm) and (6pm to 8pm) |
| <b>Friday</b>    | (1pm to 5:30pm) and (6pm to 8pm) |
| <b>Saturday</b>  | (10am to 3pm)                    |
| <b>Sunday</b>    | Closed                           |

## Skokstudio Annual Holiday Schedule 2020

The studio observes the following holidays and will be closed. Enrolled students that normally have their lesson on a day that is a holiday must choose another day that same week for their lesson when scheduling, if possible. In some cases, a month will have a fifth week that also includes the student's regular lesson day of the week, and a student can reschedule the holiday-occurring lesson to that fifth week. Students with advance knowledge that they will be taking a holiday vacation and will be absent for multiple lessons should notify the Studio Manager by email to [scheduling@skokstudio.org](mailto:scheduling@skokstudio.org) if online rescheduling assistance with Acuity is needed due to limited schedule availability during that holiday.

- Martin Luther King Jr. Day: Monday, January 20, 2020
- Memorial Day: Monday, May 25, 2020
- Juneteenth Day: Friday, June 19, 2020
- Independence Day Weekend: Friday, July 3 - Saturday July 4, 2020
- Labor Day: Monday, September 7, 2020
- Thanksgiving Day: Thursday, November 26, 2020
- Friday after Thanksgiving Day: Friday, November 27, 2020
- Winter Holiday Season Break: Wednesday, December 23, 2020 – Monday, January 4, 2021

## Scheduling Lessons

1. After scheduling and attending an initial 30-minute evaluation/assessment session, new student applicants may then be eligible to **Enroll** as privately attending students of Skokstudio, or to attend as **Open-Registration** students.
2. Appointments must be made at least 24 hours in advance.
  - a) Payment is made in full at the time of scheduling a lesson.
  - b) Form of payment accepted online is credit/debit card.
3. Students do not need to be enrolled to participate in Open-Registration Lessons, Classes, Workshops, Retreats/Camps, or Intensive Training, but may be required to take a Vocal Evaluation to determine eligibility.
4. Lessons are offered as either a specifically designated “**Technical**” or “**Repertoire-building**” session.
5. Lessons are purchased as Subscription Tuition Packages of multiple lessons which automatically renew each month.
6. Students receive an email notification of the renewal with a link to schedule the lessons from the renewed package plan.
7. Students then self-schedule using the studio’s Acuity Appointment online scheduling system.

## Private Voice Lessons by Enrollment

Private voice lessons at Skokstudio can be reserved by currently Enrolled students. Regular lessons are scheduled in recurring weekly time slots that are scheduled for the same day and time each week. Depending on the intensity of study, privately attending students must take at least two lessons per week, totaling a minimum of eight regular lessons each month. Note: New students take only four lessons per month for the first two months. Students are also encouraged to schedule additional individual lessons, whenever desired. Extra lessons can be scheduled for any convenient time slot.

### *Private Individual Lessons*

- Private individual (1-on-1) lessons are conducted online via Zoom in either 30-minute and 60-minute sessions.
- Lessons are scheduled as either a **Technical session** or a **Repertoire-building Session**.
- Students take a minimum of one lesson of each type per week for a total of at least eight lessons per month (after first two beginning months of only four technical lessons per month).

### *Private Group Lessons*

- Group lessons can be scheduled and paid for by any Enrolled student over the age of 18 designating themselves as a “*Group Representative*” for an entire group of enrolled students who all desire to be trained together.
- A group of enrolled students who wish to attend a private group lesson together must coordinate directly with their Group Representative, who acts as the financially and legally responsible entity for payment of ongoing lesson fees throughout the enrollment term.
- This type of lesson is suited for singing groups, choirs, and students who want to sing together.
- Group lessons can have 2 to 5 students and are held as one-hour (minimum) length lessons.
- Group pricing and subscription packages for enrolled groups is available upon request.
- Contact the Studio Manager at [scheduling@skokstudio.org](mailto:scheduling@skokstudio.org) for more information.

# Taking Voice Lessons at Skokstudio

## Lesson Formats and Length

Private Voice Lessons are delivered in two formats: **Technical** and **Repertoire-building**. Students take one lesson of each type every week. Each format consists of specific, regular planned activities that are presented in 30 or 60-minute length lesson sessions. A 60-minute lesson may also contain additional planned activities in a typical lesson routine that can't be offered in 30-minute lessons. Students under 18 are not permitted to take more than one 30-minute lesson per day. Students 18+ may take both lesson types on the same day, if scheduled consecutively, and up to 90 minutes maximum in total time.

### Technical Session

All Technical sessions begin with a brief moment of focus on positivity. Master Instructor Heidi Skok traditionally uses three quick positive quotes, generically taken from notable literary and historical figures. A 60-minute lesson also then includes less than five minutes of calm mental preparation and centering to ready the student for the enduring hour ahead. Skokstudio understands the importance of having one's mind be clear and on a positive track so that the work also follows a path of positivity and achievement, which in turn provides a feeling of confidence and self-love.

Each lesson then follows with lip-flutter and tongue-flutter exercises. These exercises will last five to ten minutes, depending on the student ability. Again, also depending on student ability, in a 30-minute lesson there will then be four to eight specially crafted exercises that handle areas of breath support, chest voice, head voice, and the combination of head and chest.

A 60-minute lesson will have twelve to sixteen custom exercises. In both a 30 and 60-minute lesson, some of these exercises will utilize the REST Toolkit of auxiliary tools that is shipped to each enrolled student. Heidi Skok meets the individual need of the singers as the work is being done, and addresses issues and works to solve them in the moment. Singers develop confidence as they work through the technical process.

### Repertoire-building Session

The Repertoire-building lesson also begins with three positive quotes. There is no technical exercise work in this lesson. Technical corrections however, will be made during the working session within the repertoire itself.

For each 30-minute lesson, Master Instructor Heidi Skok has either assigned one to two songs, or the student has chosen for themselves. A 60-minute lesson will have three to four songs that will be worked on, which will be either assigned or chosen. Songs are selected that are a good technical fit with respect to range, ability, and style for the individual voice. The instructor does assign Classical repertoire to each student, but for technical purposes, only. The student then sings in any genre that their voice best resides.

With online lessons over Zoom, the songs in lessons are sung either acapella, with Karaoke, or while singing along with another artist on YouTube. For some repertoire, Heidi Skok can record on the keyboard for the singer, and upload to the singer so that on the singer's end, they can play the accompaniment and sing to it. Also, apps are available that provide accompaniment.

## Open Registration Vocal Instruction

### Lessons, Classes, Workshops, Retreats/Camps, and Intensive Training

Skokstudio also offers vocal instruction to students who have not enrolled. Public “Open Registration” vocal instruction is conducted under several formats such as **Lessons, Classes, Workshops, Retreats/Camps, or Intensive Training**. These Open Registration formats are sometimes offered in cooperation with other partner arts organizations such as **The Center For Rock Research** and **Resonanz Opera**, and are preplanned, scheduled, and announced by Skokstudio throughout the year.

Individual students who are interested may then independently register to attend, up to the maximum number of attendees. These lessons can occur in a single day, in a span of several days, or may happen over a series of consecutive weeks. *Open Registration Lessons, Classes, Workshops, Retreats/Camps, and Intensive Training group lessons may require an audition or evaluation to determine a student’s suitability for participation.*

> Open Registration Lessons are only available to current professional artists who cannot commit to Enrollment in Private Lessons due to their performance schedule and to established professional performers who have an upcoming audition.

> Classes can have minimum of 3 and a maximum of 6 students. Classes provide a planned curriculum that requires all students to progress at a minimum pace together. Thus, an assessment of ability is required prior to student participation in a class, as class offerings are typically targeted to a specific ability level.

> Workshop/Retreat/Camp/Intensive Training groups must have 6 to 12 students to run. These types of groups are larger in size than Class group sessions, and do not run for as long. The curriculum from these lesson types also often allows students to progress more at their own development speed and from different levels of ability. Assessment of student ability with an evaluation or student audition may sometimes be required. Workshops, retreats, camps, and intensive training groups may be cancelled by Skokstudio (or partnering organization Resonanz Opera) for insufficient attendance.

- A **workshop** is typically either a single or multiple day event, usually lasting at least an hour but not more than eight hours total, even if multiple days. Workshops are uniquely and specifically oriented to address a specific need, goal, or area of focus of vocal instruction and performance.
- **Retreats** and **camps** are more general in nature and may last one to three days (retreat) or three to five days (camp). Each day of a retreat or camp may last four to eight hours apiece.
- **Intensive Training** is also provided by Skokstudio through performance-based study programs offered by Resonanz Opera as vocal instruction and coaching for emerging and professional singers from across the country. Acceptance to open positions for these Intensive Training study programs are only by audition with Resonanz Opera. An Intensive Training Program has between 8 and 20 students per session, and a program session lasts two to four weeks, ending in a public performance, concert and/or a theatrical production (such as an opera).



## Eligibility for Vocal Instruction at Skokstudio

Skokstudio is interested in training serious singers, ages 18 and older, who want to develop their singing ability in any music genre, through the application of classical vocal technique. Eligibility as a candidate for enrollment in private lessons with Skokstudio is strictly determined by evidence of a student's desire and commitment to develop as a professional vocalist. *The formal procedure for all candidate students to have the opportunity to share their vocal background and goals with Skokstudio to determine eligibility for enrollment is through an initial vocal evaluation session.*

### Students Under Age 18

In certain circumstances, students who are teenagers under age 18 may also be considered for private instruction as well. Students must be able to clearly demonstrate that they possess the necessary high level of commitment required by Skokstudio.

Students under 18 may take lessons only with parental/guardian consent, and are then permitted to take only 30-minute lessons, unless otherwise directly approved by Skokstudio. Parents of students under 18 will sign the Student Enrollment Agreement instead of the student themselves, as it is a legally binding document describing student conduct and financial obligation for provision of services by Skokstudio. **(See Student Enrollment Agreement)**

### Music Literacy Requirement

*The ability to read music* is a basic prerequisite for all new students seeking professional training at Skokstudio. Alternatively, new students who have identified pre-professional goals should at least be currently taking regular, formal music lessons taught by an instructor. The ability to read music is one skill that commonly distinguishes “professionally-trained musicians” who intend to build a singing career from students who enjoy singing for only fun and personal entertainment.

However, new or non-professional students who have a goal of **“Enjoyment”** or **“Exploring”** (see *Identifying Vocalist Professional Goals*) are not required to read music but must understand that progress as a pre-professional student of voice depends on this ability.

### Principles of Nondiscrimination, Inclusion, Diversity, Social Equality

Skokstudio upholds a policy of nondiscrimination for any reason of race, religion, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, or body shape in all company activities.

Skokstudio also considers student candidate age eligibility to have no upper boundary, and with its sister organization Resonanz Opera, seeks to champion principles of inclusion, diversity and social equality in the Arts through their partnership together in the *ROSALIA Program for Vocalists*.

Inquire with the Studio Manager for more information about *ROSALIA*, Skokstudio and Resonanz Opera's partnership program for social equality in the Arts.

### Personal Computer Requirement for Online Lessons

Online Lessons require that students must use a home computer with webcam. Students are required to use either a Mac or PC, (either a laptop -or- desktop with webcam) with a **fully updated** version of OS X or Windows 10. Students must be able to download and install Zoom to their computer, which must meet Zoom's minimum computing requirements. (See Preparedness)

**Cell phones, tablets, Chromebooks or other mobile devices are not permitted for online lessons.**

## Initial Vocal Evaluation/Assessment Session

Skokstudio welcomes dedicated voice students of all genres, from all walks of life, and from all over the world, who are driven to sing and absolutely committed to doing the technical vocal work necessary to develop as a professional singer. The studio reserves the right to determine eligibility for all candidate students through an initial evaluation session. Candidate students to have the opportunity to share their vocal background and goals with Skokstudio by requesting a Vocal Evaluation at the Skokstudio.org website: <https://skokstudio.org/schedule-lesson>

- During the initial vocal evaluation session, if Zoom reports that the student's internet is too slow or wi-fi signal too weak, the student will be unable to take online lessons at Skokstudio unless the student contacts their ISP to increase the speed to High-Speed Internet. This could for some students be an added personal expense that should be considered essential for today's singer who studies online, and many providers are now making faster home internet service speeds more affordable. Moving closer to the wi-fi router should also improve the signal strength.
- Students must be prepared to demonstrate that they can read music if asked, or must be able to share the name and institution of the instructor currently (or most recently) teaching them to read.
- Skokstudio lessons demand a level of physical participation which require students to freely move around, stand or crouch for periods of time, and of use a variety of light fitness equipment.
- Students with physically limiting conditions or with less severe cognitive challenges may be considered for eligibility at the sole discretion of Skokstudio on a case by case basis. The instructor is capable of modifying the curriculum to meet the needs of the student, and will endeavor to do so where practical. Please communicate any specific needs to find out if adjustments can be made to some of the special exercise techniques.
- During the evaluation, parents of student children under 18 should communicate any learning or social/behavioral challenges that they are aware that their child may possess to permit a thorough determination of the studio's ability to offer instruction appropriately for their needs.
- The studio reserves the right to limit eligibility for students with hearing impairment and who are otherwise unable or unwilling to meet the requirements of full physical and cognitive participation.

## Student Enrollment

Contrary to much of what is seen in film and on tv, in the real world singers in training simply do not develop to their fullest ability overnight. While true that transformative advances in vocal development can take place rapidly for students who apply themselves, the mature formation of a foundation of core technique is charted over the course of years, not months or weeks. Furthermore, when vocal development is taking place it simply does not continue to progress without consistent **commitment** to both regular lessons and weekly practice. A singer must devote a great deal of time, effort, and resources to advance as a professional vocalist. Heidi Skok makes a similar commitment when working with a student, and endeavors to establish a positive, encouraging, relationship of trust with each new student. This special mentoring relationship between a voice student and teacher must be nurtured over time for it to flourish.

For this reason, Skokstudio will dedicate no less than a year of time when working with each newly enrolling singer, and thus seeks students who are also committed to that minimum length of study. Our studio is in search of those singers who are presently somewhere on their journey as a professional vocalist and are seeking not only to strengthen the foundation of their vocal ability, but to take their vocal development in the direction that they as a singer desire to grow. *Skokstudio seeks singers at all levels of development who have a desire to sing well, a willingness to learn, and the dedication that is required to be a successful professional vocalist.*

Students must complete the annual **Enrollment Process** every year to regularly attend weekly lessons at Skokstudio. Skokstudio not only provides individual and group private lessons for Enrolled students, but also additionally offers special Open-Registration vocal instruction to (non-enrolled) singers as well. Open Registration instruction is offered in formats such as Lessons (only for advanced professionals), Classes, Workshops, Retreats/Camps, and Intensive Training sessions.

- After taking a vocal evaluation, new student candidates may enroll at any time during the year.
- Enrollment is for a term of one year that begins starting from the date of signing the Student Enrollment Agreement. **This flexible start date allows students interested in long term formal vocal study the ability to begin right away, at any time of year**, instead of only at one or two start dates prior to a “Spring Term” or “Fall Term”. Skokstudio does not have a fixed annual term.
- Because Skokstudio has a flexible Enrollment start date and **does not have a Standard Annual Term that starts on specific date each year**, Skokstudio may need to make changes to current tuition rates, and the variety and/or makeup of package plan offerings at some point during any enrollment year. These changes will immediately go into effect during the next month of renewals for all students regardless of enrollment date. Students will be notified of these changes prior to them taking effect. (*See Additional Terms and Conditions - Amendment of Terms*)
- Established prices, terms, and student obligations are published in the most current version of this Student Handbook of Studio Policies and Procedures, made available to students at all times.

## The Enrollment Process

Once a student has completed the *steps of the Enrollment process*, they are **Enrolled**. Enrolled students are then permitted to schedule lessons, reserved at the same time slot each week and receive the discounted subscription rate and other benefits of enrollment. To complete Enrollment each year, all students must sign the Student Enrollment Agreement and pay the annual Enrollment Registration Fee.

**STEP 1:** Sign the Student Enrollment Agreement. The Agreement requires the student to complete the steps of enrollment and to adhere to the policies and procedures described in this Handbook.

**STEP 2:** Pay the annual **Enrollment Registration Fee**. Newly enrolling students also pay the **Enhanced Online Equipment Toolkit Fee**, paid in full at the time of enrollment or as 3 monthly payments.

**STEP 3:** New students select a **Subscription Tuition Package Plan** that suits their development goals.

- a) New students pay first month of Subscription Tuition Package Plan at the time of enrollment.
- b) Subscription Tuition payment is accepted by credit card, auto-renewed last week of every month.
- c) Students are only permitted to attend enrolled lessons with an active Subscription Plan in place.

## Student Annual Enrollment Agreement

All enrolling students must sign a new Student Enrollment Agreement each year they attend. The Enrollment Agreement describes both student requirements and services by Skokstudio. It states:

1. The student agrees to study with Skokstudio for a term of one year from the date of agreement.
2. The student agrees to pay the *Student Enrollment Registration Fee of \$150*
3. The student agrees to pay the *Enhanced Online Equipment Toolkit Fee of \$150*.
  - a. This can be paid in full at the time of enrollment or in three monthly \$50 installments.
4. The student agrees to adhere to all studio policies and procedures as stated in the **Student Requirements and Expectations** section of this Policies and Procedures document.
5. The student will maintain an active **Subscription Tuition Package Plan** during the enrollment term.

Since Skokstudio has a flexible enrollment start date, monthly subscription tuition rates and package plan offerings are not fixed, “price locked”, or guaranteed by the Student Enrollment Agreement for the entire period of a student’s enrollment because occasionally, changes to current offerings and the addition of new offerings could be made at some point during a given calendar year. All students will be notified of these changes to current offerings or the addition of new offerings when they do occur.

## Annual Enrollment Registration Fee and Benefits

The annual *Enrollment Registration* fee of **\$150** allows Skokstudio to offer many **EXCLUSIVE benefits**.

### **Professional Expert Support Provided By Studio Manager of Operations and Technology**

Skokstudio staffs a highly dedicated, full-time Studio Manager who not manages the day to day activities of the studio's operation but is *additionally on call from Monday-Saturday, 9am to 9pm* to support the studio's video conferencing system for all lessons, as well as to support individual student scheduling and administrative needs. The Studio Manager is always thinking of creative ways to make Skokstudio online lessons superior to any other form of online vocal instruction available, anywhere in the world. His role is to directly assist both the student body and Heidi Skok by providing online instructional technology strategic support in addition to managing all organizational development and business operations of Skokstudio.

### **The REST Toolkit**

Shipped to all students, the REST Toolkit contains six or seven auxiliary vocal therapeutic tools and fitness equipment utilized in Skokstudio lessons, all kept in a Skokstudio tote-bag. See the details on the following page. Additionally, a free Skokstudio T-shirt in the student's size is included, too!

### **Video Recordings of All Lessons**

All lessons are recorded for students to download and review for practice between lessons.

### **Twelve Free EXCLUSIVE Monthly Group Classes**

Students are offered the additional opportunity to come together and learn by helping each other grow through demonstrating, accepting, and encouraging each other's work and talent. Heidi Skok offers guidance to attending students as they perform what they are currently working on.

### **Membership to Student Facebook Group EXCLUSIVE ACCESS to Daily Vocal Training Webinars**

Students are invited to join the Skokstudio Student Facebook Group, where Skokstudio delivers daily video training webinars for enrolled students, Monday-Friday, featuring the REST Technique.

### **Discounted Lesson Package Prices**

Subscription Packages offer a discounted lesson fee rate from the standard per-lesson fee rate.

### **Easy Tuition Payment Plan**

Tuition is paid in monthly installments, automatically billed to student credit card for convenience.

### **Performance Opportunities**

Students are eligible to participate in performance opportunities through Resonanz Opera.

### **Promotional Exposure**

Students are eligible to receive promotional exposure on social media and website if desired.

- Guaranteed fixed weekly time slots every month and easy 24/7 online self-scheduling/rescheduling
- Students can receive email notifications and Calendar alerts of upcoming lessons.
- Upcoming Scheduled lessons can be added to student's personal Google and/or Outlook calendar.
- **COMING SOON: Student Portal** online access to scheduling, view lesson recordings, upload music
- **COMING SOON: Skokstudio REST Toolkit training videos** and custom video exercise lesson plans

## REST Toolkit

Skokstudio has created a special vocal instruction auxiliary **REST Toolkit** of six or seven small to mid-sized therapeutic and fitness-oriented exercise items such as a yoga mat, a yoga block, and exercise stretch-bands, all directly utilized during all Skokstudio private lessons. The REST Toolkit is made available to students through the enrollment fee, but can also be purchased alone. All enrolled students will receive the REST Toolkit, which is kept together in a Skokstudio tote-bag, and shipped directly to their address. The REST Toolkit will be periodically updated at the discretion of Skokstudio. Students will also have access to video demonstrations of training exercises utilizing the REST Toolkit.

## Enhanced Online Equipment Toolkit Requirement

The quality of audio during an online lesson is extremely important and depends on many technical factors, especially the equipment that is used by the student. Skokstudio has carefully selected several pieces of studio equipment that are essential for online vocal students to use, and has bundled them together in an **Enhanced Online Equipment Toolkit** that considerably improves the quality of online lessons. **All newly enrolling students will receive the Enhanced Online Equipment Toolkit.** New students will be shipped the Enhanced Online Equipment Toolkit upon enrollment, and the Studio Manager will help them set up and configure the Toolkit to their laptop or desktop home computer.

There is a **\$150** fee for the Enhanced Online Equipment Toolkit which can be paid in full at the time of enrollment. Alternatively, a student can pay \$50 at the time of enrollment, and then make two more additional automatic payments of \$50 each month for the next two months when their lesson subscription package plan renews. If for any reason a student must leave enrollment before the fee is paid in full, the Equipment Toolkit must be returned to the studio within ten days or the balance will be then charged to the student's credit card. Upon receipt of returned equipment, fees already paid for the equipment will be refunded. Alternatively, the student can choose to pay the remaining amount if they want to keep the equipment. Students who have confirmed with the Studio Manager that they already possess equivalent studio equipment prior to enrollment do not have this requirement.



*Enhanced Online Equipment Toolkit*

*The Enhanced Online Equipment Toolkit contains a home studio-grade USB microphone, a gooseneck mic pop-filter, and also a pair of high-quality Bluetooth headphones which has a special necessary "Talk-thru" feature allowing students to hear themselves sing while wearing them. Wireless headphones are necessary to allow students to freely move many feet away from the computer during their lesson and to be able to perform vocal exercises that require the student to get down on the ground on the yoga mat included with the REST Toolkit.*

## Subscription Tuition Package Plans

All enrolled students have an active Subscription Tuition Package Payment Plan in place at all times during the course of the enrollment year in order to be considered “currently enrolled”. The Subscription Tuition Package Plans are packaged as multiple lessons that are discounted from the standard per-lesson rate when purchased at the same time. Subscriptions are automatically renewed in the last week just prior to the month of their intended use. These tuition packages are considered a subscription plan because they renew monthly, and they “expire” at the end of the enrollment term.

- All lessons are 30 or 60 minutes in length.
- Students under the age of 18 can schedule only 30-minute lessons, and not more than one per day.
- Lessons are scheduled at the same day and time each week, during the first four weeks of a month.
- Basic Track packages plans are made up of **4 Technical** lessons and **4 Repertoire-building** lessons scheduled as one lesson of each type per week.
- New Beginner students take only 4 x 30-minute Technical lessons/month for the first 2 months.
- Students may schedule 2 to 4 regular lessons per week, depending on their development level.
- Students will therefore have eight, twelve, or even possibly sixteen total lessons per month.
- New students pay the first month of their Subscription Tuition Package Plan during enrollment.
- Subscription Tuition payment is accepted by credit card, auto-renewed in last week of the month.
- Enrolled students may schedule extra lessons in addition to the subscription package at any time.
- A student must be sure that their subscription renewal does not fail automatic payment or it could result in the inability to schedule their regular lessons, and possible loss of their regular time slot.
- Hourly Lesson Tuition rates, Subscription Package Plan offerings and fees may be subject to change and will be announced along with an update to this Student Handbook of Policies and Procedures.

## Selecting a Tuition Package Plan

When selecting a package plan, several factors are considered. The student’s development level and their current goals as a singer are both important to take into account. After identifying the student development level and their goals, the Tuition Package Plan that best suits a student can be selected.

## Identifying Student Development Level

Prior to initially enrolling, a student’s general level of development has been determined during their student’s vocal evaluation. Development level is primarily based upon amount of prior formal training.

For our package plans, a student’s development level may be **Beginner**, **Intermediate**, or **Advanced**.

- **Beginner (Year One and all Students under 18)**
  - Students under 18 years old
  - Students age 18+ who have completed less than 1 year of regular weekly 30-minute lessons
- **Intermediate (Year Two / Year Three+)**
  - Students age 18+ who have completed 1 to 3 years of regular weekly lessons
  - Students under 18 years old may only be considered after completing 4+ years of lessons
- **Advanced (Year Four+)**
  - Students who have already earned a Bachelor’s degree in Vocal Performance
  - Students who have completed the equivalent of 3+ years of regular 60-minute weekly lessons

## Identifying Vocalist Professional Goals

The enrolling student’s immediate, near term, and potential future goals as a singer must be identified and taken into account. These goals will also help match a student to a specific development level, and could suggest whether they may want to progress at a faster or slower pace. As well, for the singer who is a highly committed pre-professional or professional vocalist, the pace or intensity of study can be limited by a singer’s available resources of time and finances.

- **Enjoyment.** I do not have professional goals, but I enjoy singing and simply want to sing well. Singing is a hobby. I do not intend to pursue a formal career as a vocalist. However - I can show that I am able to make the serious commitment and devotion of time and resources required to develop my vocal talent even if just for my own personal satisfaction.
- **Exploration.** I am exploring the possibility of a professional career in singing. I am a highly driven individual with yet untrained singing talent, and I presently want to discover if I may yet want to commit myself to pursue formal training to become a professional singer.
- **Building.** I want to build my vocal ability through classical voice training, with the intention to sing professionally. I am a new or developing pre-professional singer who has already shown my commitment to become a professional vocalist through my track record of prior training and possibly with past public performance experience, but I know that I need further formal training to build the voice and career that I want to have.
- **Transformation.** I am a professional vocalist (or pre-pro with prior intermediate-level formal voice training) seeking to radically change something about my voice or ability to perform. I may be a student changing vocal fach or seeking to dramatically extend my vocal ability, style, or endurance.
- **Refinement.** I am a professional singer seeking to further develop my voice and ability to perform.
- **Mentoring.** I am seeking training to both a singer and vocal instructor. I am seeking continued training for my own vocal development as well as training to teach voice to others as an instructor.
- **Repairing.** I am a professional vocalist who is recovering from vocal injury or damage seeking to therapeutically repair my voice and ability to perform vocally in a private setting.
- **Targeting.** I am a professional vocalist (or pre-professional with prior training) either seeking assistance with a specific vocal part or role, or who wants prep coaching for upcoming auditions.

## Vocalist Goals Matched to Appropriate Development Level

Students will consult with the Master Instructor Heidi Skok to determine the package plan that best suits their goals at their current level. A student’s development level has been identified during their initial vocal evaluation by Master Instructor Heidi Skok. The Package Plan will be reviewed annually.

|              | Enjoyment | Exploration | Building | Transformation | Refinement | Mentoring | Repairing | Targeting |
|--------------|-----------|-------------|----------|----------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Beginner     | ✓         | ✓           | ✓        |                |            |           | ✓         |           |
| Intermediate |           |             | ✓        | ✓              | ✓          |           |           | ✓         |
| Advanced     |           |             | ✓        | ✓              | ✓          | ✓         | ✓         | ✓         |



## Subscription Package Plan Pricing

- The standard lesson rate is \$110 per hour for single online lessons.
- Online lessons are \$90 per hour for Enrolled students, when purchased as a package.
- Online lessons are \$100 per hour For Open-Registration students, when purchased as a package.
- Group lesson and subscription pricing available upon request.
- Packages are grouped into **Basic Track** and **Intensive Track**

| Basic Track Packages           | LESSONS IN PACKAGE PLAN |           |            |           | Lessons Per Month | Hours Per Month | MONTHLY PACKAGE PRICE | ATTENDANCE TERM           |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
|                                | Tech 30min              | Rep 30min | Tech 60min | Rep 60min |                   |                 |                       |                           |
| Beginner<br>Tech               | 4                       |           |            |           | 4                 | 2               | \$180                 | YEAR 1:<br>First 2 months |
| Beginner<br>Tech + Rep         | 4                       | 4         |            |           | 8                 | 4               | \$360                 | YEAR 1:<br>Last 10 months |
| Intermediate<br>Tech + Rep     |                         | 4         | 4          |           | 8                 | 6               | \$540                 | YEAR 2<br>OR YEAR 3       |
| Intermediate<br>Tech + Pro Rep |                         |           | 4          | 4         | 8                 | 8               | \$720                 | YEAR 3+                   |
| Advanced<br>Tech + Pro Rep     | 4                       |           |            | 4         | 8                 | 6               | \$540                 | YEAR 4+                   |

| Intensive Track Packages                       | LESSONS IN PACKAGE PLAN |           |            |           | Lessons Per Month | Hours Per Month | MONTHLY PACKAGE PRICE |
|--|-------------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
|  | Tech 30min              | Rep 30min | Tech 60min | Rep 60min |                   |                 |                       |
| Beginner<br>Tech Intensive + Rep               | 8                       | 4         |            |           | 12                | 6               | \$540                 |
| Beginner<br>Tech + Rep Intensive               | 4                       | 8         |            |           | 12                | 6               | \$540                 |
| Intermediate<br>Tech Only (Special Admission)  |                         |           | 4          |           | 4                 | 4               | \$360                 |
| Intermediate<br>Tech Intensive + Rep           |                         | 4         | 8          |           | 12                | 10              | \$900                 |
| Advanced<br>Tech Intensive + Pro Rep           | 8                       |           |            | 4         | 12                | 8               | \$720                 |
| Advanced<br>Tech + Pro Rep Intensive           | 4                       |           |            | 8         | 12                | 10              | \$900                 |
| Advanced<br>Tech Intensive + Pro Rep Intensive | 8                       |           |            | 8         | 16                | 12              | \$1,080               |
| Advanced<br>Pro Rep (Open Registr.)            |                         |           |            | 4         | 4                 | 4               | \$400                 |
| Advanced<br>Pro Rep Intensive (Open Registr.)  |                         |           |            | 8         | 8                 | 8               | \$800                 |

## Development Paths of Vocal Study

Students will be directed by Master Instructor Heidi Skok to take a specific **Development Path** at Skokstudio, chosen to direct them toward the specific goal that each student might themselves have. The Development Path taken by an enrolled student (A, B, C, or D) is the changing sequence of Package Plans that they will take over the course of four, five, or six years of study at Skokstudio. Along a development path, every year a student's current package plan may change, depending on their overall goals as well as their present level of demonstrated technical progress and vocal development.

Each package plan contains 4 technical lessons and 4 repertoire-building lessons per month, (following completion of the first two-months for new Beginners, of taking only 4 technical lessons per month). A different intensity and amount of technical or repertoire work at each level are the two ways the curriculum composition changes in a Development Path for a student over several attendance terms.

By direct comparison, students enrolled in Bachelor's degree program in Vocal performance at a university or college conservatory would typically take two one-hour lessons each week (one technical and one repertoire) for two terms of sixteen weeks, each year of their four-year degree. This would be  $(2 \times 2 \times 16) = 64$  hours per year, or 256 hours for a Bachelor's degree in Voice.

Skokstudio has prepared our carefully measured package plans staged in the development levels of Beginner, Intermediate, and Advanced, to be taken in progressive sequence. The four **Basic Track** development paths of study A, B, C, and D offer students more hours of study, delivered at a far higher quality, and at only a fraction of the cost of attendance at a university or college conservatory.



## Basic Track Development Paths

Students enroll at their current level, and may proceed to change plans as they progress through the remaining attendance terms. Students would take four, five or six years to move through the complete series of package plans. The different paths of study pictured in the diagram below illustrate how a singer may choose as course of study using the **Basic Track Packages**. A student develops from a Beginner to an Advanced level singer, vocally prepared for a professional career, in four to six years.

Students can take fewer number of years to progress to the Advanced level by occasionally (or by exclusively) taking **Intensive Track Packages**. Taking a development path that includes an Intensive Track package at any point during a student’s development can more than double the rate of progress. These are intended for ambitious, driven students who desire as much or more study than is available in a university conservatory setting. Students who take Intensive Track packages would still use the development paths below as a general guideline for their overall progress to the Advanced level.

### Basic Track Development Paths



## Student Self-Scheduling with Acuity Appointments

Students will create an Acuity account, which they will use to schedule their lessons. During the last week of each month, students are notified by email from Acuity that their subscription has been automatically renewed (see below). *Students must then immediately schedule the lessons from their renewed package plan themselves using the Acuity Appointments online scheduling system with the link provided in the **subscription renewal confirmation email**.*

- Each lesson must be scheduled on the same day/time of the week.
- Lessons are scheduled for the first four weeks of each month. Fifth weeks are left for makeups.
- Lessons that occur on a Holiday must be scheduled on another date in the seven days prior to or after the Holiday, or may the fifth week occurrence of that day of the week when it exists.

The Studio Manager provides students and parents with any assistance they need to self-schedule lessons using Acuity Appointments online. Please contact [scheduling@skokstudio.org](mailto:scheduling@skokstudio.org) for help.

## Subscriptions Purchased/Renewed in Month Prior to Usage

Subscriptions are purchased/renewed before the month they are to be used. The lessons from a new package start on the first week of the month AFTER the subscription has been renewed.

## Subscription Package Plan Auto Renewal

Subscriptions are auto-renewed to ensure that students don't lose their time slot and package discount by failing to purchase the next subscription on time prior to their next normal weekly lesson. Students must be sure that their credit card information is current so that their card does not fail payment. Students can change their credit card information in Acuity by logging in to their Acuity Appointments account. Auto-renew will continue to automatically charge the student's credit card during the last week of each month for the same package plan for the remainder of the enrollment year.

## Changing Subscription Package Plan Type

With permission of Master Instructor Heidi Skok, students are permitted to change to a different Package Plan (to be used the following month). Intensive Track Packages are also available by special approval. To change Subscription Package Plans, contact the Studio Manager at [info@skokstudio.org](mailto:info@skokstudio.org).

## Expired Subscriptions, Failure to Self-Schedule Renewed Subscription in Acuity

If a student allows their Subscription Tuition Package Plan to expire without having renewed the plan prior to 24 hours before their normal weekly lesson time, or has not self-scheduled the lessons from a renewed subscription in Acuity Appointments online, a student will not be able to attend that normal lesson time, and must still yet immediately schedule all lessons from that package in Acuity for that month. Students failing to make their subscription renewal payment deadline by the first week of the month must then still schedule their minimum of four lessons for that current month, but at the standard per-lesson rate. The Subscription Package rate for Enrolled students is only available when purchasing/renewing a package of lessons that will be attended in the next month.

## Additional Private Lessons for Enrolled Students

Enrolled students are also encouraged to schedule extra individual lessons in addition to the lessons provided by their current Subscription Tuition Package Plan. Extra lessons can be purchased at any time, and are offered at the (non-discounted) Standard Per-Lesson Rate of \$110 per hour.

# Student Requirements/Expectations

Singers enrolled at Skokstudio have several important requirements and expectations as students. Skokstudio has established these formal requirements and expectations in order to ensure that our studio can deliver the most effective online training possible. Our studio is committed to training students who are driven to rapidly advance in their vocal development, and as professional singers.

## Basic Enrollment Requirements

All privately enrolled students at Skokstudio are required to pay an annual **Enrollment Registration Fee** and sign a one-year **Student Enrollment Agreement** form every year.

The Student Enrollment Agreement states that the student formally agrees to:

1. Pay the annual Enrollment Registration Fee of **\$150**
  2. Pay the Enhanced Online Equipment Fee of **\$150** (new students only)
- \* Thus, there is a startup fee for newly enrolling students of \$300, or only a \$150 fee for re-enrolling students who have Enhanced Online Equipment Toolkit, or equivalent confirmed by Studio Manager.*
3. Maintain an active **Subscription Tuition Package Plan** throughout the next year from enrolled date.
  4. Adhere to all studio policies and procedures, including the student requirements and expectations. These requirements and expectations fall under the following areas:

### I. Communication

### II. Attendance

### III. Practice and Preparedness

### IV. Professional Demeanor, Conduct, Attire

### V. Performance

## I. Communication

Skokstudio is interested in everything a student is doing with their voice both inside and outside of weekly lessons. Singers should discuss openly with their instructor about what they sing outside of lesson time to be sure that this is healthy for the student's voice and appropriate for the student's current work at Skokstudio. Students who repeatedly attempt to sing a piece that is outside of their vocal range and ability risk harm to their voice.

Also, a student engaged in vocal activities and performances outside of the studio should discuss modifying their curriculum to directly aid the student with their specific performance goals during that time. Thus, it is a great benefit that communication with a student and teacher be an open avenue regarding all matters related to their voice.

### Messages About Rescheduling, Cancelling, or Running Late Messages

- If you are running late for a lesson, the Studio Manager monitors the office phone during studio business hours for calls and voicemail messages at 440-290-8893.
- The office phone is mobile, and the Studio Manager can also receive running late SMS texts.
- Sending a running late message does not keep your lesson longer than 10 minutes past its scheduled appointment time, but is a considerate way to communicate tardiness.
- **Note-** If the instructor happens to be teaching a lesson, the Studio Manager cannot interrupt and will not be able to relay a "running late" message until the normal beginning of the late lesson.
- Do not use voicemail or text messaging for rescheduling or other administrative or technical issues.
- Rescheduling or cancellation is performed online. Students reschedule or cancel the lesson themselves using the Acuity Appointments online system. No communication is normally necessary for scheduling, but if a schedule issue arises, please notify the Studio Manager.
- *Contact the Studio Manager for all questions or issues related to scheduling or administrative issues at: [scheduling@skokstudio.org](mailto:scheduling@skokstudio.org).*
- For all other communications such as questions, feedback, or concerns, send email to Master Instructor Heidi Skok at: [heidiskok@skokstudio.org](mailto:heidiskok@skokstudio.org).
- **Please allow 24-48 hours for response to all email and voicemail communications.**

### Contact the Studio Manager for Technical or Administrative Assistance

- For problems with microphone or headphones during a lesson, please contact the Studio Manager by sending email to [info@skokstudio.org](mailto:info@skokstudio.org). An appointment may be needed for testing and configuration before your next lesson with the Studio Manager to correct the issue.
- If you have an administrative issue related to billing or payment, please send email to the Studio Manager at [info@skokstudio.org](mailto:info@skokstudio.org).

### Planned Absences Notification

Contact Skokstudio by email at [scheduling@skokstudio.org](mailto:scheduling@skokstudio.org) with 14 days or more notice to inform Skokstudio of any planned long-term absence when the student cannot attend two or more upcoming scheduled lessons. As much advance notice as possible of a long-term absence is appreciated.

## II. Attendance

### Attendance – Term of Enrollment

Skokstudio requires that all singers attending the studio for regular weekly private lessons be **Enrolled** as students for a term of at least one year. Although ability and development vary from singer to singer, vocal study does not happen in terms of months, but truly in *years* of work. Skokstudio seeks to train students who desire to actively take lessons both frequently enough and for a long enough period of time to be able to effectively develop their talent and pursue professional goals as singers. A custom curriculum based on the student's current goals and progress is established and communicated prior to each lesson, and absences slow and interrupt the progression of that studied curriculum.

### Attendance – Lesson Frequency

All students are expected to attend no less than eight lessons per month as a strict requirement of eligibility for private lessons at Skokstudio. This is with the exception of new Beginner students who must take only four 30-minute *Technical session* lessons for the first two months of enrollment. Vocal development depends tremendously upon regular, consistent study over a long period of time. Skokstudio is a professional training academy dedicated to training students whose focus is equally dedicated to actively pursue voice as a professional vocation.

Students take either one or two regularly scheduled lessons per week depending on the intensity of their study. This is a total of either four (4) or eight (8) lessons per month. On months that have five weeks (where the student's regular lesson day of the week occurs a fifth time), a student may take the fifth week off, or they may choose to schedule an additional lesson at the **standard per-lesson rate**. Additional lessons can also be scheduled for audition prep, role study, or for coaching help rehearsing a specific piece for an upcoming performance.

### Attendance – Absences

Student attendance must be consistent for development to progress. A scheduled lesson time has been reserved for each enrolled student with the expectation that it is naturally one of the highest priorities in the singer's life. Dedicated students make sure other routine activities are not in regular conflict with their scheduled lesson time. Poor attendance may result in dismissal from enrollment.

- **Planned Absence: Excused** (if long term with planned return, re-enrollment may still be required)
  - This is when student cannot attend two or more weeks of lessons. Lessons cannot be made-up.
  - More than 14 days of prior formal notice by email to [scheduling@skokstudio.org](mailto:scheduling@skokstudio.org)
  - Must be approved by Studio Manager. Not to exceed twice in a year.  
Ex: Summer at other parent, family vacations, long term medical condition
- **Unplanned Absence: Excused** with more than 24-hour notice, **maximum of six makeups per year**
- **Unexcused** – no cancellation/no show or less than 24-hour notice, no reschedule available

Attendance absences, missed lessons, rescheduled lessons, and makeups are all tracked by the Studio Manager. The Studio Manager will be sure to alert students before they have reached their maximum number of makeups. Students unsure of how many lessons they have missed or how many makeups they have remaining at any time during the enrollment year should feel free to check with the Studio Manager by sending email to [scheduling@skokstudio.org](mailto:scheduling@skokstudio.org).

## Attendance – Absences – Excused/Unexcused

### **Planned Excused Absence:**

Students may request a **Planned Excused Absence** by email to [heidiskok@skokstudio.org](mailto:heidiskok@skokstudio.org) up to two weeks prior to missed lessons when they know ahead of time that they will be unable to attend **two or more weeks of lessons**. This “**Leave of Absence**” would be taken for extended medical conditions, for students spend summers away with another parent, or for a family vacation, and may require re-enrollment if it exceeds three weeks. A student is permitted only **one** Planned Absence in an enrollment year, and lessons missed during a **Planned Excused Absence** are not made up.

### **(Unplanned) Excused Absence:**

Most absences are not planned, as it is understood that a student has requested their normal weekly time slot with the fullest intention that they would attend. When an unplanned absence is inevitable students can reschedule their lesson up to 24 hours prior to the lesson as an **Excused Absence**. To allow flexibility in unpredictable times of difficulty that a student may occasionally have attending a lesson, one rescheduled lesson is permitted every sixty days, up to a **maximum of six (Unplanned) Excused Absences** in an enrollment year. **Excused Absences must be rescheduled and made up within seven days of the missed lesson or the makeup lesson will be forfeited**. Due to limited available open time slots on the studio schedule, students unable to find a suitable make up time will lose their lesson time for that week.

### **Unexcused Absence:**

If a student cannot attend a lesson that has not been rescheduled more than 24 hours prior to the lesson, the lesson is considered an **Unexcused Absence and cannot be rescheduled and can only be cancelled**. Lessons should only be missed as result of last-minute student/immediate family member illness, but it is also understood that transportation issues, unpredictable traffic, and other personal or family emergencies do also happen and cannot be avoided. Repeated or frequent Unexcused Absences can result in dismissal from enrollment in private lessons.

## Attendance – Absences – Missed Lessons

Upon a second **Unexcused Absence** of a student, dismissal from enrollment may be considered at Skokstudio’s discretion. Students who fail to attend three lessons in a row (excused or unexcused) may be removed from enrollment at the sole discretion of Skokstudio. Students who have been previously removed from enrollment would be required to re-enroll before attending future lessons. Failure to attend three lessons includes both Unexcused and Excused Absences. All Cancellations, whether for illness or medical/personal/family emergency with less than 24hrs notice will be deemed “Unexcused”. Exceptions for health and family emergencies are at the sole discretion of Skokstudio.

## Attendance – Absence Due to Weather Causing Internet/Electrical Outage

Cancellations with less than 24 hours of notice due to last minute severe weather or weather-related local conditions causing internet or electricity outages may be Excused (and rescheduled) but only at the absolute discretion of Skokstudio, based upon the Studio Manager’s ability to verify the outage condition. All Skokstudio lessons are conducted exclusively online, and we do understand that unpredictable utility outages may happen.



## Attendance – Rescheduling Makeup Lessons and Cancelled Lessons

When a student is unable to attend a scheduled lesson, they should **reschedule** or cancel the lesson. Rescheduling can only be made up to 24 hours prior to the lesson. *Within 24 hours of the lesson, a lesson appointment can only be **cancelled** if a student is unable to attend for any reason.*

Students can easily reschedule make-up lessons for themselves for a time within the following week using the online Acuity Appointments self-serve system, 24/7. No communication with the Studio Manager is necessary unless assistance or additional information is required, such as with difficult to reschedule lessons that would fall on a holiday with little available time on the schedule for a make-up.

When the student has rescheduled, they will then receive a **confirmation** email from Acuity with a link to the rescheduled lesson on the Acuity appointments page. Students will find a link to their rescheduled Zoom meeting on the Acuity appointment page.

**Inconsistent attendance is formally discouraged but rescheduling is available to enrolled students strictly on a limited basis when necessary with the following provisions:**

- **Only one lesson is permitted to be rescheduled every 60 days, limit of 6 per enrollment year.**
- If a student is unable to attend a second or third regularly scheduled lesson in a 60-day period, those lessons cannot be rescheduled and will be forfeited as missed lessons.
- A rescheduled lesson must be made up within seven days of the original lesson or it is forfeited and counts as a missed lesson/no-show/**Unexcused Absence**.
- Once a make-up lesson is scheduled, another reschedule of the lesson is not be permitted.

Students who must reschedule do so with the understanding that finding another time that works for them in that same week may be difficult. Please contact the Studio Manager if assistance is needed.

## Reschedule/Cancellation by Skokstudio

If Skokstudio must reschedule a lesson for any reason, Skokstudio will provide at least 24 hours of notice by email if possible and will make up the lesson at the nearest available time within thirty (30) days. If the studio is closed or a lesson must be cancelled due to a local or national emergency situation or instructor illness and less than 24hrs of notice can be given, Skokstudio will not only notify students by email but additionally attempt to contact the student by telephone and by text/messaging to alert them of the cancelled lesson, and will then try to reschedule at the earliest possible convenience.

## Attendance – Sickness

The Student should NOT attend their online lesson if they are sick. Students should be responsible to cancel their lesson and not attend if they have a fever, don't feel well the night before, or if experiencing runny nose, sniffles, cough, sore throat, hoarseness, or vomiting. Skokstudio reserves the right to stop a lesson if the student's voice presents illness (through breathiness, cracking, splintering, etc.) that make it unhealthy to sing. Any lesson stopped in order to preserve the Student's vocal health will NOT be rescheduled as a make-up.

Under certain circumstances a non-singing lesson may be appropriate when a student is sick but feels well enough to meet with their instructor online via Zoom. This is a more productive substitute to missing a lesson for a student who questions their health, and can include memory work, expression, music theory, ear training, and rhythm reading exercises. Please consult your instructor before just singing while ill, to find out if an appropriate alternative lesson plan can be given.

## Attendance – Tardiness

Students must be on time for their lessons. There are no exceptions for timeliness in the professional world as singer, and students should strive to be punctual to all lessons, rehearsals, and performances. A student's commitment to being on time to their lessons is a strict requirement. Skokstudio is at full discretion to dismiss students from enrollment for repeated tardiness. For lesson appointments where a student is aware more than 24 hours in advance that they will be late to a lesson, they can receive approval for **Excused Tardiness** by sending email to Heidi Skok at [heidiskok@skokstudio.org](mailto:heidiskok@skokstudio.org)

Lesson time will not be extended beyond the scheduled lesson appointment time when a student arrives late. Whenever possible, the studio has booked lessons back to back in sequence and the next student scheduled is expected to be ready and waiting in the waiting area to begin their lessons on time as well. Students who arrive more than 10 minutes late to a lesson will forfeit the lesson time as a **"No Show"** and that lesson will then count as an **Unexcused Absence**, with no reschedule make-up lesson available.

## Attendance – Return from Leave of Absence/Re-enrollment

Enrolled students who do not attend a lesson for a period of 4 weeks must re-enroll before they can attend private lessons again. Re-enrollment requires signing a new Student Enrollment Agreement, paying a **Re-enrollment Fee** of \$150 and immediately purchasing a new Subscription Tuition Package.

### III. Practice and Preparedness

#### Practice

- Each student is expected to practice 20-30 minutes per day, every non-lesson day.
- The work that is accomplished in the lesson needs to be continued independently in practice.
- Please work with the video recording that was made in your last lesson. A link to the video is emailed to students after the lesson usually within 24 hours.
- The Studio Manager tracks who has viewed/downloaded their practice videos each week.
- Students are instructed NOT to practice anything that was not covered in the lesson.
- It is immediately discernable by the instructor in lessons whether a student has practiced or not.
- Progress is tracked and reviewed weekly and monthly with student (and parent, if under 18).
- After each lesson, new **practice goals** for the following lessons are assigned.
- During practice between lessons, students will need the following items at home:
  - Mirror large enough to see their shoulders, neck, and head
  - Recording device with headphones/speakers, used to record and playback your practicing
  - Keyboard (if you don't have a piano there are many apps with mini keyboards)

#### Preparedness - Online Technology Requirements

- Online Lessons require that students must use a home computer with webcam. Students are required to use either a Mac or PC, (either a laptop -or- desktop with webcam) with a **fully updated** version of OS X or Windows 10, and must meet Zoom's minimum computing requirements.
- **Cell phones, tablets, Chromebooks or other mobile devices are not permitted for online lessons.**
- Students must have the Enhanced Online Equipment Toolkit connected and correctly configured prior to every lesson. The **Studio Manager** assists all new students with configuring their home computer and the Enhanced Online Equipment Toolkit. For assistance with the Online Equipment Toolkit configuration at any time send email to the Studio Manager at [info@skokstudio.org](mailto:info@skokstudio.org).
- Students must be able to download and install the Zoom application to their home computer.
- The student's computer must meet the basic minimum computing requirements for Zoom, posted here: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362023-System-Requirements-for-PC-Mac-and-Linux>.
- Students will also be asked to create a Zoom account.
- During an online lesson, the student's computer should not have other applications like a browser with YouTube or anti-virus software scans running at the same time when Zoom is running.
- Student's computer must have a High-Speed internet connection for a lesson to have good quality. Slow internet speeds are unacceptable for lessons, and if the student's side of the internet signal is poor the Zoom application will display "slow connection" messages and yellow or red warning indicators in the instructor's view of the student's window. Moving closer to the wi-fi router at home or purchasing a cheap "signal amplifier/booster" will often increase internet signal strength.
- Typically, students need to be sure that other family members or devices in the home are not actively using the internet during the online lesson. This could include certain types of home cable television viewing activities such as Amazon Prime Video, Apple TV Plus, Disney+, HBO Max, Hulu, CBS All Access, ESPN Plus, Netflix on Demand, and Xbox/PlayStation multiplayer games.
- **Accompaniment:** If background music is needed for your lesson, don't use the same computer to play the music, use a separate device like a tablet, cell phone or mp3 player placed near your mic.

## Preparedness - Home Environment for Online Lessons

- Preparedness requires that students have the **REST Toolkit** with them during both lessons and practice.
- Students are expected to have the Enhanced Online Equipment Toolkit connected and correctly configured with their home computer before their lesson begins.
- Students should contact the Studio Manager for technical help.
- Student must use a room suited to the online requirements here, which will be regularly used without interruption during the lesson. The room should be well lit and as quiet as possible.
- Students do not take lessons seated in front of the computer. Lessons are taught mostly standing.
  - Student should stand about three to eight feet away from the microphone for most of the lesson.
  - Students will also be asked to work on the floor with the yoga mat included with the REST Toolkit, as part of the Skokstudio REST Technique, and will need to be able to adjust the webcam angle.

## Preparedness - Zoom Configuration Settings

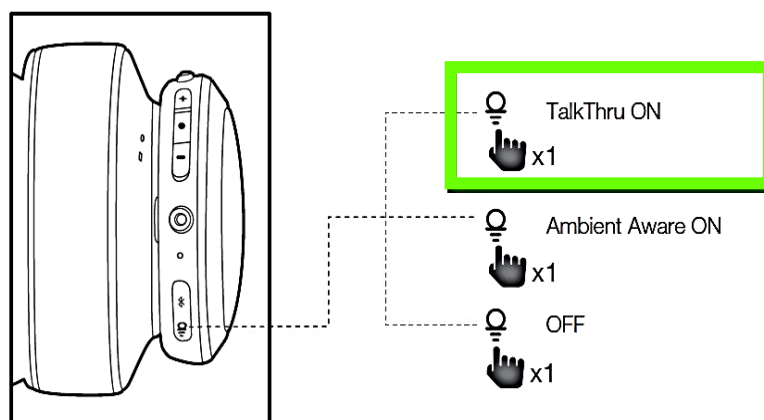
1. Find the Microphone icon in the bottom left corner of the Zoom window.
2. Click the up arrow to the right of the Microphone icon.
3. Choose “Audio Settings”.
4. Select “Automatically join audio by computer when joining a meeting”.
5. De-select “Automatically adjust volume”.
6. Set the Microphone volume level here, usually at about 60% of maximum.
7. Click “Advanced” at the bottom right corner.
8. Select “Show in Meeting Options to Enable Original Sound”.
9. Click “Suppress Persistent Background Noise” and select “Disable”.
10. Click “Suppress Intermittent Background Noise” and select “Disable”.
11. Close the window.

## Preparedness - JBL Live 500BT Headphones Configuration Settings

**Note:** JBL Live 500BT Headphones must be operating wirelessly via Bluetooth for **TalkThru** to work.

1. Short press once to activate TalkThru, which allows you to clearly hear others for quick conversations, without removing your headphones. You will hear your music volume level lower when TalkThru Technology is engaged.
2. Press once more to activate Ambient Aware, which allows you to hear your surroundings.
3. Press again to turn off TalkThru Technology.

**Note:** You can also turn on or off the Ambient Aware & TalkThru with our JBL APP (see Section 7).



## Preparedness - Blue Snowball Microphone Configuration Settings

Depending your situation, select one of the three settings:

- Use #1 when you are more than four feet away  
-or- less than four feet away but not singing loudly
- Use #2 when you are less than four feet away **and** singing loudly
- Use #3 when you want to pick up the whole room



*Blue Snowball Mic (Back)*

## IV. Professional Demeanor and Conduct, Attire

### Demeanor

Skokstudio expects enrolled students to exhibit a positive, courteous, professional demeanor and a high level of ambition. Of course, all people have their ups and downs and may not have the same focus, drive, or energy level from day to day, or may not be feeling their best on occasion. Students must recognize that a lack of rest, water, and a proper diet will contribute to a poor demeanor, sluggishness, and low drive, and must be sure to maintain their healthy habits to maintain steady vocal development. In general, sleepy singers who haven't been getting their proper rest are not alert, not quite "themselves", and do not do as well in a lesson as a student who anticipated the importance of being well rested for the lesson and gotten good sleep the night before.

All Skokstudio students must have an attitude of receptive willingness and must openly express a desire to learn and achieve. Skokstudio students should appear attentive and eager to learn, and not projecting an aloof, detached, or resistant attitude during lessons. This is not typically an issue with adult students, but parents of students who are under the age of 18 will be notified if the student offers the impression of disinterest, boredom, or apathy. Skokstudio will dismiss students of any age from enrollment for poor attitude after notifying the student/parent with a single warning, but will endeavor not to do so by seeing a change after this notification. Demeanor or attitude problems that continue after a warning notification will result in immediate dismissal.

The studio intends that its students be goal driven, asking students to reach new, higher goals each time a previous goal has been reached. Students must want to be challenged to grow and be determined and willing to do the hard work necessary.

### Conduct

Students should strive to express positivity not only toward themselves but toward others. It is very important to be most supportive of our peers. A student's posts on social media posts will not be negative or profane. Skokstudio does not permit or accept student behavior that is perceived as harassing, discriminatory, threatening, suggestive or lewd. Generally, inappropriate conduct will receive a warning first, but depending on the severity could result in immediate dismissal.

For better or worse, student behavior at Skokstudio reflects back on Skokstudio, and this especially applies to student behavior on social media. Students enrolled in private lessons will refrain from making negative posts and comments on social media platforms, and will be aware not to offer unsolicited criticism about other artists or people. Strict adherence to this policy cannot be strongly enough emphasized and failure to do so could result in dismissal from the studio.

### Attire

Do not wear exposing clothes. No bare belly or high skirts/shorts while taking your lesson online. Do wear clothes that you can move in, as one would wear to a light fitness class. No dresses and skirts. Work-out clothing or casual attire that is loose fitting is best. Students must be capable of being in a variety of positions, down on the floor, on the REST Toolkit yoga mat.

## V. Performance Requirement

Skokstudio no longer formally requires enrolled singers to perform in live public events due to public health concerns related to the Covid19 pandemic. However, actively performing for audiences in conjunction with private lessons is a healthy part of development on the path to become a professional vocalist. Students of Skokstudio are expected and encouraged to sing in at least four public-attending performances of any kind each enrollment year, but not as a formal requirement of continued Enrollment at Skokstudio. These performances may also be online events, live streamed to YouTube (or another online location) that have been advertised to the general public.

### Performance Opportunities with Resonanz Opera

For less experienced singers these opportunities may not be readily available, and less experienced students may not be quite ready to publicly perform, thus, Skokstudio does not attempt to provide these opportunities through its partnership with Resonanz Opera. Skokstudio may attempt to provide public performance opportunities for more experienced enrolled students. No student is under any obligation to perform if a performance is offered, and Skokstudio is not under any obligation to provide these opportunities to every student. The decision of which students are deemed “performance-ready” for recitals presented by Skokstudio or for other public performances will be made at the discretion of Skokstudio.

Students at Skokstudio may receive the opportunity to perform through Resonanz Opera, a non-profit organization that Heidi Skok founded as an opera company for opera singers all over the country. Since its initiation in this avenue in 2017, Resonanz has now evolved to work side by side with Skokstudio and offer the ability for Skokstudio students to have performances opportunities in all musical genres, not only opera. Beginning in the summer of 2019, Skokstudio partnered with Resonanz Opera to produce the Dairy Queen Summer Back Lot Concert series for this purpose. For more information on Resonanz Opera, please see: [www.resonanzopera.org](http://www.resonanzopera.org).

### Performances: Communication with Instructor About Upcoming

*Students are expected to communicate with their instructor as early as possible when they decide to accept a public performance or role outside of Skokstudio, such as in a high school musical, concert, or singing competition.* This communication is a vital part of the student-teacher relationship and the student’s participation and progress in lessons with Skokstudio should be tailored to suit the demands of their upcoming performance. Early discussion with Master Instructor Heidi Skok well in advance of a performance will allow her to create a custom lesson practice plan that will better prepare the student.

## Free Lesson Promotional Offer for New Student Referrals

Students receive a **free** 60-minute (or two 30-minute lessons) if they directly refer a new student to Skokstudio who then enrolls for private lessons.

## Media Release

Photos of students participating in lessons and video and audio recordings of student performances may be posted online and may be used in materials for educational, training, and promotional purposes. Parents wishing to exempt their minor students from any published media may do so by providing a written exclusion request.

## Parking

Parking spaces for guests to the studio are located as a single column of spots directly in front of the 8789 Mentor Avenue studio location (not the Dairy Queen lot), in addition to several spaces directly behind the studio in the rear wrap-around lot. The studio is the physical location that Master Vocal Instructor Heidi Skok teaches from online, but is however not currently open to students for in person lessons.

## Studio Phone

The studio phone number is (440) 290-8893. Messages left on the answering machine will be returned in the next 24 hours. Messages about rescheduling should NOT be left on the office phone.

If you are running late for a lesson, the Studio Manager does monitor the office phone for calls and voicemail messages. The office phone and the Studio Manager can also receive running late SMS text messages and will attempt to inform the instructor.

For general communications about rescheduling, do not call the Studio phone, leave voicemail, text, nor use messaging. For rescheduling or cancellation issues, send email to: [scheduling@skokstudio.org](mailto:scheduling@skokstudio.org)

## Letters of Recommendation

Ms. Heidi Skok may be requested to write recommendation letters for currently enrolled students who have worked AT LEAST six months with her and have shown significant improvement. Letters of recommendation that meet these requirements will need two weeks of notice and materials must be provided to Ms. Skok to write the letter, including envelope, stamp, email address name of recipient, and postal mailing address. Ms. Skok does not write open recommendation letters - only to direct recipients.



## Terms and Conditions

Attendance in online lessons and use of the skokstudio.org website is subject to the following additional terms and conditions. Skokstudio may amend these terms at any time. In case of an amendment, agreements made under these terms will be deemed null and void, and a new agreement will be drafted for all parties to sign. **(See Additional Terms and Conditions, Amendment of Terms)**

### Dismissal, Termination of Agreement Contract by Skokstudio

Students can be dismissed at the discretion of Skokstudio for one or more of the following reasons:

- Lack of attendance, repeated tardiness
- Lack of practice and preparation
- Poor student conduct

Should the student be dismissed from Skokstudio lessons and Enrollment Terminated, there are NO refunds. Extenuating circumstances will be considered.

### Voluntary Withdrawal, Termination of Lessons Notification

If the Student wishes to terminate lessons at any point during the year, 30 days written notice is required. This written notice may only be delivered via email to the Studio Manager at [info@skokstudio.org](mailto:info@skokstudio.org) or by regular postal mail to the studio address at 8789 Mentor Avenue.

The Studio will not accept text messages, phone calls, or voicemails as appropriate formal notification for termination of lessons.

The Student will be financially responsible for all lessons during the 30-day termination period. Students are not financially obligated for the remainder of their enrollment period following the 30-day notice.

Thus, if a student becomes aware that they will need to withdraw/discontinue lessons at some point, they should simply not purchase a subscription package plan that would extend beyond this 30-day termination notification time.

### Missed Lesson Refunds

There are no refunds for missed lessons (no show) or for cancellations with less than 24 hours (i.e., payment is due whether or not you attend your lesson). However, Skokstudio will attempt to make up lessons whenever possible and appropriate when absences have been **Excused (see Attendance – Absence)**.

### Subscription Plan and Registration Fee Refunds

Subscriptions Plan fees and Enrollment Registration fees cannot be refunded for reason of student withdrawal or dismissal.

# Additional Terms and Conditions

## **Website Usage Agreement between Student and Skokstudio LLC**

The skokstudio.org website (the “Site”) is comprised of various web pages operated by Skokstudio. Skokstudio.org is offered to you conditioned on your acceptance without modification of the terms, conditions, and notices contained herein (the “Terms”). Your use of skokstudio.org constitutes your agreement to all such Terms. Please read these terms carefully, and keep a copy of them for your reference.

Skokstudio.org is a Scheduling/Forum/Online Discussion Site. The Skokstudio.org website provides the ability for students to schedule lessons, public access to a blog, and other resources for community connection/support in the areas of communication, public speaking, and singing. In addition to monthly membership subscriptions to these online services, Skokstudio also offers enrollment and open-registration based online lessons for singing, communication, and public speaking.

### **Privacy**

Your use of skokstudio.org is subject to Skokstudio’s Privacy Policy. Please review our **Privacy Notice**, which also governs the Site and informs users of our data collection practices.

### **Electronic Communications**

Visiting skokstudio.org or sending emails to Skokstudio constitutes electronic communications. You consent to receive electronic communications and you agree that all agreements, notices, disclosures and other communications that we provide to you electronically, via email and on the Site, satisfy any legal requirement that such communications be in writing.

### **Your Account**

If you use this site, you are responsible for maintaining the confidentiality of your account and password and for restricting access to your computer, and you agree to accept responsibility for all activities that occur under your account or password. You may not assign or otherwise transfer your account to any other person or entity. You acknowledge that Skokstudio is not responsible for third party access to your account that results from theft or misappropriation of your account. Skokstudio and its associates reserve the right to refuse or cancel service, terminate accounts, or remove or edit content at our sole discretion.

### **Links to Third Party Sites/Third Party Services**

Skokstudio.org may contain links to other websites (“Linked Sites”). The Linked Sites are not under the control of Skokstudio and Skokstudio is not responsible for the contents of any Linked Site, including without limitation any link contained in a Linked Site, or any changes or updates to a Linked Site. Skokstudio is providing these links to you only as a convenience, and the inclusion of any link does not imply endorsement by Skokstudio or the site or any association with its operators.

Certain services made available via skokstudio.org are delivered by third party sites and organizations. By using any product, service, or functionality originating from the skokstudio.org domain, you hereby acknowledge and consent that Skokstudio may share information and data with any third party with whom Skokstudio has a contractual relationship to provide the requested product, service or functionality on behalf of skokstudio.org users and customers.

## **Children Under Thirteen**

Skokstudio does not knowingly collect, either online or offline, personal information from persons under the age of thirteen. If under 18, students may use skokstudio.org to schedule a lesson only with permission of a parent or guardian.

## **International Users**

The Service is controlled, operated and administered by Skokstudio from our offices within the USA. If you access the Service from a location outside the USA, you are responsible for compliance with local laws. You agree that you will not use the Skokstudio Content accessed through skokstudio.org in any country or in any manner prohibited by applicable laws, restrictions or regulations.

## **No Unlawful or Prohibited Use/Intellectual Property**

You are granted a non-exclusive, non-transferable, revocable license to access and use skokstudio.org strictly in accordance with these terms of use. As a condition of your use of the Site, you warrant to Skokstudio that you will not use the Site for any purpose that is unlawful or prohibited by these Terms. You may not use the Site in any manner which could damage, disable, overburden, or impair the Site or interfere with any other party's use and enjoyment of the Site. You may not obtain or attempt to obtain materials or information through any means not intentionally made available or provided for through the Site.

All content included as part of the Service, such as text, graphics, logos, images, as well as the compilation thereof, and any software used on the Site, is property of Skokstudio or its suppliers and protected by copyright and other laws that protect intellectual property and proprietary rights. You agree to observe and abide by all copyright and other proprietary notices, legends or other restrictions contained in any such content and will not make any changes thereto.

You will not modify, publish, transmit, reverse engineer, participate in the transfer or sale, create derivative works, or in any way exploit any of the content, in whole or in part, found on the Site. Skokstudio content is not for resale. Your use of the Site does not entitle you to make any unauthorized use of any protected content, and you will not delete or alter any proprietary rights or attribution notices in any content. You will use protected content solely for your personal use and will make no other use of the content without the express written permission of Skokstudio and the copyright owner. You agree that you do not acquire any ownership rights in any protected content. We do not grant you any licenses, express or implied, to the intellectual property of Skokstudio or our licensors except as expressly authorized by these Terms.

## **Class Action Waiver**

Any arbitration under these Terms and Conditions will take place on an individual basis; class arbitrations and class/representative/collective actions are not permitted. THE PARTIES AGREE THAT A PARTY MAY BRING CLAIMS AGAINST THE OTHER ONLY IN EACH'S INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY, AND NOT AS A PLAINTIFF OR CLASS MEMBER IN ANY PUTATIVE CLASS, COLLECTIVE AND/OR REPRESENTATIVE PROCEEDING, SUCH AS IN THE FORM OF A PRIVATE ATTORNEY GENERAL ACTION AGAINST THE OTHER. Further, unless both you and Skokstudio agree otherwise, the arbitrator may not consolidate more than one person's claims, and may not otherwise preside over any form of a representative or class proceeding.

## **Use of Communication Services**

The Site may contain bulletin board services, chat areas, news groups, forums, communities, personal web pages, calendars, and/or other message or communication facilities designed to enable you to communicate with the public at large or with a group (collectively, "Communication Services"). You agree to use the Communication Services only to post, send and receive messages and material that are proper and related to the particular Communication Service.

By way of example, and not as a limitation, you agree that when using a Communication Service, you will not: defame, abuse, harass, stalk, threaten or otherwise violate the legal rights (such as rights of privacy and publicity) of others; publish, post, upload, distribute or disseminate any inappropriate, profane, defamatory, infringing, obscene, indecent or unlawful topic, name, material or information; upload files that contain software or other material protected by intellectual property laws (or by rights of privacy or publicity) unless you own or control the rights thereto or have received all necessary consents; upload files that contain viruses, corrupted files, or any other similar software or programs that may damage the operation of another's computer; advertise or offer to sell or buy any goods or services for any business purpose, unless such Communication Service specifically allows such messages; conduct or forward surveys, contests, pyramid schemes or chain letters; download any file posted by another user of a Communication Service that you know, or reasonably should know, cannot be legally distributed in such manner; falsify or delete any author attributions, legal or other proper notices or proprietary designations or labels of the origin or source of software or other material contained in a file that is uploaded; restrict or inhibit any other user from using and enjoying the Communication Services; violate any code of conduct or other guidelines which may be applicable for any particular Communication Service; harvest or otherwise collect information about other users, including e-mail addresses, without their consent; violate any applicable laws or regulations.

Skokstudio has no obligation to monitor the Communication Services. However, Skokstudio reserves the right to review materials posted to a Communication Service and to remove any materials in its sole discretion. Skokstudio reserves the right to terminate your access to any or all of the Communication Services at any time without notice for any reason whatsoever. Skokstudio reserves the right at all times to disclose any information as necessary to satisfy any applicable law, regulation, legal process or governmental request, or to edit, refuse to post or to remove any information or materials, in whole or in part, in Skokstudio's sole discretion.

Always use caution when giving out any personally identifying information about yourself or your children in any Communication Service. Skokstudio does not control or endorse the content, messages or information found in any Communication Service and, therefore, Skokstudio specifically disclaims any liability with regard to the Communication Services and any actions resulting from your participation in any Communication Services. Hosts and technical support personnel are not authorized Skokstudio spokespersons, and their views do not necessarily reflect those of Skokstudio. Materials uploaded to a Communication Service may be subject to posted limitations on usage, reproduction and/or dissemination. You are responsible for adhering to such limitations if you upload the materials.

## **Materials Provided to skokstudio.org or Posted on Any Skokstudio Web Page**

Skokstudio does not claim ownership of the materials you provide to skokstudio.org (including feedback and suggestions) or post, upload, input or submit to any Skokstudio Site or our associated services (collectively "Submissions"). However, by posting, uploading, inputting, providing or submitting

your Submission you are granting Skokstudio, our affiliated companies and necessary sublicensees permission to use your Submission in connection with the operation of their Internet businesses including, without limitation, the rights to: copy, distribute, transmit, publicly display, publicly perform, reproduce, edit, translate and reformat your Submission; and to publish your name in connection with your Submission.

No compensation will be paid with respect to the use of your Submission, as provided herein. Skokstudio is under no obligation to post or use any Submission you may provide and may remove any Submissions at any time in Skokstudio's sole discretion.

By posting, uploading, inputting, providing or submitting your Submission you warrant and represent that you own or otherwise control all of the rights to your Submission as described in this section including, without limitation, all the rights necessary for you to provide, post, upload, input or submit the Submissions.

### **Arbitration**

In the event the parties are not able to resolve any dispute between them arising out of or concerning these Terms and Conditions, or any provisions hereof, whether in contract, tort, or otherwise at law or in equity for damages or any other relief, then such dispute shall be resolved only by final and binding arbitrations pursuant to the Federal Arbitration Act, conducted by a single neutral arbitrator and administered by the American Arbitration Association, or a similar arbitration service selected by the parties, in a location mutually agreed upon by the parties. The arbitrator's award shall be final, and judgement may be entered upon it in any court having jurisdiction. If any legal or equitable action, proceeding arbitration arises out of or concerns these Terms and Conditions, the prevailing party shall be entitled to recover its costs and reasonable attorney's fees. The parties agree to arbitrate all disputes and claims in regard to these Terms and Conditions or any disputes arising as a result of these Terms and Conditions, whether directly or indirectly, including Tort claims that are a result of these Terms and Conditions. The parties agree that the Federal Arbitration Act governs the interpretation and enforcement of this provision. The entire dispute, including the scope and enforceability of this arbitration provision shall be determined by the Arbitrator. This arbitration provision shall survive the termination of these Terms and Conditions.

### **Indemnification**

You agree to indemnify, defend and hold harmless Skokstudio, its officers, directors, employees, agents and third parties, for any losses, costs, liabilities and expenses (including reasonable attorney's fees) relating to or arising out of your use of or inability to use the Site or services, any user postings made by you, your violation of any terms of this Agreement or your violation of any rights of a third party, or your defense and control of any matter otherwise subject to indemnification by you, in which event you will fully cooperate with Skokstudio in asserting any available defenses.

### **Amendment of Terms**

Skokstudio reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to change the Terms under which attendance at Skokstudio and use of skokstudio.org are offered. The most current version of the Terms will supersede all previous versions. Skokstudio encourages you to periodically stay informed of our updates.

## **Liability Disclaimer**

The information, software, products, and services included in or available through the site may include inaccuracies or typographical errors. Changes are periodically added to the information herein. Skokstudio and/or its suppliers may make improvements and/or changes in the site at any time.

Skokstudio and/or its suppliers make no representations about the suitability, reliability, availability, timeliness, and accuracy of the information, software, products, services and related graphics contained on the site for any purpose. To the maximum extent permitted by applicable law, all such information, software, products, services and related graphics are provided “as is” without warranty or condition of any kind. Skokstudio and/or its suppliers hereby disclaim all warranties and conditions with regard to this information, software, products, services and related graphics, including all implied warranties or conditions of merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose, title and non-infringement.

To the maximum extent permitted by applicable law, in no event shall Skokstudio and/or its suppliers be liable for any direct, indirect, punitive, incidental, special, consequential damages or any damages whatsoever including, without limitation, damages for the loss of use, data or profits, arising out of or in any way connected with the use or performance of the site, with the delay or inability to use the site or related services, the provision of or failure to provide services, or for any information, software, products, services and related graphics obtained through the site, or otherwise arising out of the use of the site, whether based on contract, tort, negligence, strict liability or otherwise, even if Skokstudio or any of its suppliers has been advised of the possibility of damages. Because some states/jurisdictions do not allow the exclusion or limitation of liability for consequential or incidental damages, the above limitation may not apply to you. If you are dissatisfied with any portion of the site, services, or with any of these terms of use, your sole and exclusive remedy is to discontinue using the site and services.

# Privacy Notice

## Data Protection, Information usage

This privacy notice discloses the privacy practices for Skokstudio and our website; <https://skokstudio.org>. This privacy notice applies solely to information collected by this website, except where stated otherwise. It will notify you of the following:

- What information we collect;
- With whom it is shared;
- How it can be corrected;
- How it is secured;
- How policy changes will be communicated; and
- How to address concerns over misuse of personal data.

## Information Collection, Use, and Sharing

We are the sole owners of the information collected on this site. We only have access to/collect information that you voluntarily give us via email or other direct contact from you. We will not sell or rent this information to anyone.

We will use your information to respond to you, regarding the reason you contacted us. We will not share your information with any third party outside of our organization, other than as necessary to fulfill your request, e.g., to ship an order.

Unless you ask us not to, we may contact you via email in the future to tell you about specials, new products or services, or changes to this privacy policy.

## Your Access to and Control Over Information

You may opt out of any future contacts from us at any time. You can do the following at any time by contacting us via the email address or phone number provided on our website:

- See what data we have about you, if any.
- Change/correct any data we have about you.
- Have us delete any data we have about you.
- Express any concern you have about our use of your data

## Registration

In order to use this website, a user must first complete the registration form. During registration a user is required to give certain information (such as name and email address). This information may be used to contact you about the products/services on our site in which you have expressed interest. At your option, you may also provide demographic information (such as gender or age) about yourself, but it is not required.

## **Purchases**

We request information from you on our order form. To buy from us, you must provide contact information (like name and shipping address) and financial information (like credit card number, expiration date). This information is used for billing purposes and to fill your orders. If we have trouble processing an order, we'll use this information to contact you.

## **New Client Information Requests**

We request information from you on our information request form. To receive information about our services, you must provide information (like name and email address). This information is used for sending you information about our products and services.

## **Sharing**

We partner with another party to provide specific services, such as billing and scheduling. When the user signs up for these services, we will share names, or other contact information that is necessary for the third party to provide these services. These parties are not allowed to use personally identifiable information except for the purpose of providing these services.

## **Security**

We take precautions to protect your information. When you submit sensitive information via the website, your information is protected both online and offline.

Wherever we collect sensitive information (such as credit card data), that information is encrypted and transmitted to us in a secure way. You can verify this by looking for a closed lock icon at the bottom of your web browser, or looking for "https" at the beginning of the address of the web page.

While we use encryption to protect sensitive information transmitted online, we also protect your information offline. Only employees who need the information to perform a specific job (e.g. billing or customer service) are granted access to personally identifiable information. The computers/servers on which we store personally identifiable information are kept in a secure environment.

## **Cookies**

We do not currently use "cookies" on this site. A cookie is a piece of data stored on a site visitor's hard drive to help us improve your access to our site and identify repeat visitors to our site.

Some of our business partners may use cookies on our site (e.g., advertisers). However, we have no access to or control over these cookies.

## **Links**

This web site contains links to other sites. Please be aware that we are not responsible for the content or privacy practices of such other sites. We encourage our users to be aware when they leave our site and to read the privacy statements of any other site that collects personally identifiable information.