

# Duke Ellington School of the Arts

## Vocal Music Department Course Description

### Course: Advanced Vocal Techniques 4 Credit: One Carnegie Unit

#### Course Description

Vocal Techniques 4 is the final level of technical study for seniors at Duke Ellington. Techniques of study include exercises that develop singing skills, repertoire in several languages and formal and informal performances. It is a required course for vocal students who complete 4 years of study at Ellington.

#### Course Outline

Students continue the study of vocal techniques that are the fundamentals of singing—posture, breath management, vowel production, consonant production, musical line, vocal flexibility and the ability to interpret music with expression and appropriate style. Each student is expected to make progress in each area of the fundamentals of singing through class participation and daily practice.

Students apply their study of the physiology of the voice to their technical studies. They continue study of vocal hygiene and professional care of the voice, diction in several languages, and actively apply the International Phonetic Alphabet.

Students memorize repertoire in several languages, and translate and interpret texts and poetry. They are evaluated through class work, Senior Hearing, and recital performances including the opportunity to perform a 20-minute Senior Recital demonstrating the skills acquired at Ellington. They demonstrate appropriate stage presence, poise and discipline.

Senior Hearing requires presentation of 4 songs in at least 3 languages (including English).

#### Content Standards

Six DCPS Content Standards are basic to the core skills, concepts, and knowledge for vocal techniques courses:

- Students Sing Alone and with Others, a Varied Repertoire of Music Representing Diverse Genres, Styles and Cultures
- Students Read, Notate, and Interpret Notational Symbols for Rhythmic and Melodic Patterns
- Students Listen, Analyze, Compare and Describe Different Forms of Music
- Students Critique Their Own Performance and the Performances of Others
- Students Identify, Investigate and Interpret Relationships Among the Principles of Music and Other Disciplines
- Students Explore a Variety of Heritages from Music of Many Cultures