

Wood-Ridge "Singing in the Summer" Vocal Workshops

Sponsored by Wood-Ridge Recreation

For students entering grades 3-8 for the 2024-2025 school year

****OPEN TO KIDS FROM ALL TOWNS****

Week 1 - Monday, August 5th - Thursday, August 8th

Week 2 - Monday, August 12th - Thursday, August 15th

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Cost Per Week:

\$180 for 1 child & \$10 discount for each additional sibling.

(Each workshop is 12 hours of instruction with a certified NJ Music Educator with over 20 years of experience.)

Location:

Wood-Ridge Jr/ Sr High School's (Newly Renovated) Auditorium
258 Hackensack Street, Wood-Ridge, NJ



Classes taught by Ms. Manolakakis (a.k.a. - Ms. Mano)

& WRHS Past & Current Choir, Glee Club & Band Members

About the Ms. Mano: Click on this link: [Ms. Mano's Bio](#) or Scan the QR Code



Registration is limited and Open until Friday, June 14, 2024!

Click on this link to Register: [Vocal Workshop 2024 Registration](#)

or scan the QR Code:



Wood Ridge “Singing in the Summer” Vocal Workshop 2024

Sponsored by the Wood-Ridge Recreation @ Wood-Ridge Jr/Sr High School

OPEN TO KIDS FROM ALL TOWNS: 3rd - 8th Grade (for the 2024-2023 school year)

Week 1: Monday, August 5th - Thursday, August 8th

Week 2: Monday, August 12th - Thursday, August 15th

Facilities & Accommodations

Location: Wood-Ridge Jr/Sr High School,
258 Hackensack Street, Wood-Ridge, NJ 07075

Rooms used

~**Auditorium**- Newly renovated with updated sound system, grand piano and projector.

~**Choir Room**- 40 Posture Chairs, upright piano, white board, projector & sound system.

About our Program

This summer workshop will start your child on a rewarding and lifelong musical journey. The main objectives are to have fun, build confidence and cultivate your child's love for singing!

In addition, students will learn the basics of singing such as: vocal health/technique, group singing in 2 to 3 part harmony, ear training to match pitch, sight-singing, scales, and how to read/count music. This is a great way to prepare their voice for singing in musical theater/drama, choir and solo singing.

Recommended grade levels for participation in this summer workshop are students entering 3rd - 8th grade for the 2024-2025 school year.

What We Offer

Classes taught by Ms. Manolakis (a.k.a. - Ms. Mano) - Professional certified K-12 music educator with over 30 years of training/experience with specialization in vocal performance & choral singing. In addition, *WRHS Past & Current Choir, Glee Club & Band Members*. About the Ms. Mano: Click on this link: [Ms. Mano's Bio](#) or Scan the QR Code



~ Free Workshop T-Shirt

~ Mini showcase of the students' progress on the last day of each session.

~Cultivate confidence and love for singing in your child!

Itinerary

9:00-9:15: Welcome / Sign in / Team Building Games

9:15-9:45: Vocal Technique - Students will learn how to use their voice and increase their ranges by participating in vocal warm-up exercises, matching pitches, intervals & scales.

9:45-10:15: Musicianship: Students will work on music literacy and how to make reading music exactly like reading a book.

10:15-10:30: Team Building Games

10:30-11:00: Sectionals: Students will work in their voice groups to learn their part to sing in 2 to 3 part harmony. (High, Medium & Low ranges)

11:00-12:00: Vocal Ensemble: This class will work on instructing students how to sing a choral setting.

What to Bring

***Sneakers or sandals with backing**

***Wear comfy clothes**

***Water bottle - students are encouraged to have their water bottles with them at all times. They need to stay hydrated to sing!**

Registration is Limited & Open until:

**** Friday, June 14, 2024****

Cost: \$180 for 1 child &

\$10 discount for each additional sibling.

~THERE ARE NO REFUNDS OR PRORATES FOR MISSING THE WORKSHOP(S) FOR ANY REASON!!!

****PLEASE INFORM US OF ANY MEDICAL HISTORY OR ANY ISSUE THAT WE SHOULD BE AWARE OF SUCH AS ALLERGIES, ASTHMA, BEHAVIOR, ETC.**

Wood Ridge "Singing in the Summer" Vocal Workshop 2024

Registration Form

(please mail this form and send if paying by check or cash)

1. Please fill out the following Camp Registration Google Form.

<https://forms.gle/cZqknOaqiNcmByzKA>

2. If paying by check or cash, please sign this form, detach and mail it to the address below OR Mail **OR** Zelle in your payment using: the QR Code to the right or Melissa A. Manolakakis' cell number (201)-321-2269 and type **"WOOD-RIDGE VOCAL WORKSHOP - FIRST & LAST NAME (of the child)"** in the NOTES. Please remember to type Wood-Ridge & your child's name if using Zelle!!!

Send Money with Zelle®

MELISSA AYVAS-MANOLAKAKIS



Zelle®

Check payable to: **Melissa Ayvas-Manolakakis**

Mail to: **Ms. Melissa A. Manolakakis**

Wood-Ridge Jr/Sr High School

258 Hackensack Street, Wood-Ridge, NJ 07075

Cell Phone: **(201) 321-2269**

Email: mayvas@gmail.com

Payment Information & Hold Harmless

"Singing in the Summer" Vocal Workshop is offering 1 or 2 weeks of instruction this summer. The workshop fee per week is **\$180 for 12 hours of instruction**. **YOU MUST PRE-REGISTER & Pay in FULL by June 14th**. This includes instruction for 4 days of the workshop, insurance, and a vocal workshop t-shirt. There will be a \$10 sibling discount for each **additional child**. We may accept walk-in registration on the first day of camp, but limited space is available. **There are NO REFUNDS** for missing the workshop(s) for any reason!!! ****Please inform us of any medical history or any issue that we should be aware of such as allergies, asthma, behavior, etc.**

I/We, the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the below named youth hereby give my/our permission to participate in any and all Wood-Ridge Recreation sponsored camp/workshop programs. I/We assume all risks and hazards incidental to such participation including transportation to and from the activities and I/We hereby waive, release, absolve, indemnify and agree to hold harmless the organizers, sponsors, supervisors, participants, and persons transporting my/our child to and from activities, for any claim arising out of any injury to my/our child, whether the result of negligence or for any other cause. I also give permission for Melissa Ayvas-Manolakakis and Wood-Ridge Recreation to use a picture or group picture of my/our child for future workshop/camp brochures. I also understand that my child's picture may be included but not limited to: the Wood Ridge Recreation, Social Media accounts (Twitter, Facebook, Instagram), @WoodRidgeRec and W-R Borough Site - www.njwoodridge.org.

Child's First & Last Name: _____ Grade: _____

Camp Week(s): Please check 1 or 2 of the sessions that your child is attending.

Session 1: Monday, August 5th - Thursday, August 8th ____ ; Session 2: Monday, August 12th - Thursday, August 15th ____

Payment Included: \$ _____ Cash or Check #: _____

Wood-Ridge “Singing in the Summer” Vocal Workshop

About the Director/Instructor:

MELISSA AYVAS-MANOLAKAKIS (a.k.a. - Ms. Mano)

MUSIC TEACHER – K-12

20 years of teaching experience for grades K - 12 in music, choir, private: vocal/piano lessons, theater camps & summer programs

EDUCATION

The College of New Jersey (formerly Trenton State College) Ewing, NJ:

Bachelor of Music in Music Education, with a concentration in voice, May 2003, G.P.A.: 3.492; Dean's List: Fall 2001-Fall 2002

Certified Music Educator in the State of New Jersey K-12, Passed Praxis Exam, June 2002

Marygrove College, Detroit, MI, Master in The Art of Teaching, December 2007; G.P.A.: 3.940

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Music Teacher/Choral Director, Wood-Ridge Jr./Sr. High School, NJ - Fall 2003-Present

Educator of students grades 6-12 in general music and choir classes from 2003 - 2014. Then continued with grades 7 - 12 from 2014 - Present. Introduced a new curriculum of hands-on activities for general music; basic theory, music history, composition of blues songs/lyrics, music in film, improvisation using percussion, and basic piano skills. Created and implemented curriculum maps, strategic plans and pacing guides for new choir programs in: Choir 1: Sight-Singing, Choir 2: Music Theory, Choir 3: Vocal History and Choir 4: Vocal Technique for grades 7 -12 beginning the 2010 school year until present. Began 2017 - Present, teaches Intro Into Music, Art and Film and Musical Theater. Began 2024 - Present teaches Keyboarding/Piano Class for grades 9-12. Techniques that are taught in these choir classes consist of sight-singing, solfege, basic theory, and performance skills. Increased the choir from 30 students to over 200 students in both Middle and High school. Assists and creates programs for concerts and rehearsal choir/band schedules. Works with High School Concert Choir, High School Select Choir (Chorale/Glee Club), Middle School Choir (7-8), Intermediate School Select Choir (Vocal Ensemble (4th- 6th) and in the past from 2003 - 2013 Middle School Select Choir (6-8); Wrote, won and advises the “Adopt-A-School Project” Grant from Papermill Playhouse for 4 years beginning in 2011 – 2015. Glee Club (HS Select Choir) was accepted to perform at Carnegie Hall 3/8/15, 3/12/16, 3/26/17 and 3/18/19 with the National Youth Chorus; Choir performed at the Prudential Center with the Young Voices Choir 6/4/15 and 6/1/17; The liaison for the New Jersey Performing Arts Center “Historical Hip Hop Class” by creating the schedule and implementing the course within my choir classes beginning 2010 until 2017. Mentor for the Student Teaching Program for New Jersey City State University Spring 2015. Assistant musical director for “A Chorus Line,” and “42nd Street” 2003-2005; Advisor of the peer-leadership program, Lindsey Meyer Teen Institute, accompanies students to a week long annual leadership conference for 12 years, 2003 – 2015; Organizes fundraisers for both choir and leadership groups; Conducted performances of vocal choirs at Wood-Ridge Middle/High School Winter and Spring daytime and evening concerts, recitals and graduations; Organized field trips to NJPAC, Choir/Band competitions at Great Adventure, Dorney Park and Lake Compounce, performances at elementary schools in the winter/spring and the singing of “The National Anthem” at the NBA 76’ers game 4/1/05 in Philadelphia. Chaperoned trips to Penn Relays with the high school track team 2002-2003, Stokes Forest with the 7th grade and taught survival classes 2003-2011.

Advisor/Youth Advisory Counselor/Camper, Lindsey Meyer Teen Institute, Rutherford, NJ - Summer 1996-2015

Attendee and counselor at T.I.G.S. summer camp. Trained and counseled high school students at T.I.G.S. peer-leadership camp located in Blairstown, NJ. Supervised a cabin, performed skits and held workshops involving self-esteem, and choosing healthy lifestyles.

Private Voice/Piano Teacher, Self-employed - Fall 2003-Present

Vocal and piano lessons contain a concentration in classical (Italian, French, German, Latin, Spanish, Greek) Broadway, and pop. In addition all students study basic theory suited to their level (Ages 4 to Adult). Performances include an end of the year recital which showcases what students learned throughout the year.

Private Voice Teacher, Broadway Bound, Lyndhurst, NJ - Fall 2005-2008, 2011

Vocal lessons contain a concentration in classical, Broadway, and pop. In addition all students study basic theory suited to their level (Ages 4 to 18). Performances include a holiday recital and an end of the year recital which showcases what students learned throughout the year.

Student Teaching, South Brunswick Middle School South, NJ - Fall 2002

Taught general music, chorus, and handbells to grades sixth through eighth; Implemented a new curriculum on music of the ancient worlds; Cultivated a seventh and eighth grade jazz composition unit; Worked with concert choir, vocal ensemble, girls ensemble, boys Barbershop, and handbell choir; Taught keyboard unit for three weeks and worked with a graduating senior in preparation for college auditions; Co-taught trombone and tuba lessons to seventh graders; Conducted performance of handbell and vocal choirs at So. Brunswick Interfaith Service and Middle School Winter daytime and evening concerts.

K-6 Practicum, Beartavern Elementary School, Titusville, NJ - Fall 2000

Observed elementary General Music and discussed elementary Music Education with co-operating teacher; Worked with small group of peers to devise and execute two individual lesson plans.

RELATED EXPERIENCE

Musical Theater Director, Meadowlands YMCA, East Rutherford, NJ

Summer 2009 – 2019

Cultivated a pilot program for students in grades K to 9th in the art of musical theatre, improvisation, auditioning, dance and monologues; Concentration on acting and musical theatre. Directed achievement performance and manages staff. Program has grown from one two week session to one three week session and one 2 week session.

Camp Director, *Wood-Ridge Recreation*, Wood-Ridge, NJ - **Summer 2008 – 2010** Administered and planned summer recreation program for grades 3 -8. This six-week program consisted of art, games, music, trips and shows. In addition to managing a staff of college and high school students.

Co-director, *On Stage Theatre Company*, Oakland, NJ - **Summer 2001- Summer 2003**

Cultivated a pilot program for middle school students from 11 to 13 years in the art of musical theatre, improvisation, auditioning, and monologues; Concentration on acting and musical theatre. Directed achievement performance and assisted with direction of summer high school/college level musical performances.

Music Counselor, *Wood-Ridge Recreation*, Wood-Ridge, NJ - **Summer 2001-2002**

Created & directed a six week pilot program of musical theatre for Kindergarten through 8th grade. Directed talent show, consisting of dance, theatre numbers and solo acts.

Head Counselor, *Meadowland's YMCA*, (camp site) Wood-Ridge, NJ - **Summer 2000**

Counseled and supervised students at a summer day camp. Planned theme weeks that included arts and crafts, day trips, games, music, snacks, and physical activities for ages 4-13.

ARTS TRAINING

- Private voice lessons (1995 –2009; fourteen years)
- Private piano lessons (7 years) and accompanying in the classroom, rehearsals & concerts (19 years)
- Dance lessons: (10 years) Two years with The Royal Academy of Dance for Ballet.

MUSICAL PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

- *Performed at Carnegie Hall in the National Festival Chorus (Manhattan Concert Productions) 2015, 2016, 2017 & 2019.*
- *Studio workshops for Margaret Leary 1999-2009, Vocal Soloist.*
- *Bethany Worship Team 2004-2007, 2015 - Present, Vocal soloist and back up singer, Wyckoff, NJ.*
- *A Gala Evening of Music of the Stage 2001-2003, Soloist with orchestra, TCNJ.*
- *TCNJ Winter Orchestra Concert 2002, vocal soloist, Nov. 23, 2002.*
- *TCNJ Opera Theatre Productions 1999-2002: The Boys From Syracuse: Luce, TCNJ, Die Fledermaus: Chorus, Brigadoon: Lead dancer/chorus.*
- *Westside Story: Anita, On-Stage Theatre Company in Oakland, NJ; Summer 2001*
- *Wood-Ridge HS Productions 1995-1999: Grease: Sandy, The Wizard of Oz: Cowardly Lion, The Sound of Music: Maria, Mame: Mame, Inherit the Wind: Howard, Annie: Annie.*

AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS

- Honoree for the Wood-Ridge Memorial Foundation Annual Dinner Dance and Scholarship Fundraiser 2016
- Received a 4 year grant from Paper Mill Playhouse "Adopt-A-School Project" for Wood-Ridge High School from 2011-2015.
- Performed on New Jersey 12 for their "Sounds of the Season" in December 2014 at the Count Basie Theater and the segment was aired through the 2014 Holiday Season.
- Qualified to bring 11 students to perform at Carnegie Hall 3-8-15, (12 students) 3-12-16, (20 students) 3-26-17 and (19 students) 3/18/19 with the National Festival Chorus: Under the direction of Dr. Paul Rardin, Dr. Beth Holmes, Dr. Brad Holmes and Dr. Jerry Blackstone and Manhattan Concert Productions.
- Governor's Teacher Recognition Award for Wood-Ridge High School for 2009-2010.
- Advisor of the 2009 Year: For the Lindsey Meyer Teen Institute for the state of New Jersey for years of service to teen leaders and drug prevention from 1996-2009. Received award for our Action Group 2015.
- Resolution from Wood-Ridge Board of Education for years of service to Teen Institutes for the Wood-Ridge School District October 2009.
- Two students auditioned and were accepted into Bergen County Chorus. 200 were chosen out of 500 who auditioned. 2009-2010. In addition two middle school and one high school students were accepted into the Bergen County Chorus in 2010- 2011, 2 high school students in 2013-2014 & 1 high school student in 2014-2015 & 2015-2016.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- American Choral Directors Association Member (2001-2003): Attended the Eastern Division Conference in Pittsburgh, Feb. 2002; National Conference in New York City, Feb. 2003.
- Bergen County Choir Association Member (2004-Present)
- The New Jersey Music Educators Association is a Federated State Unit of NAFME: National Association for Music Education (2014- Present)