

Susan Davies

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Artist Statement

I am a Teaching Artist and singer in the Greater Boston area whose mission for myself and others is empowerment. In my experience, finding joy in singing means finding joy in life; singing allows us to be present and enriches our relationships with ourselves and others. It's too easy nowadays for us to think of all the ways we come up short or “aren't enough,” so singing provides a medium through which we can discover our truths and our strengths without qualifications. I create a safe, supportive, challenging, and kindly critical environment for singers to experiment with their voices and uncover unknown potential. I encourage my students to claim their space – with their voices, their bodies, their presence, their energy. I incorporate elements from the Alexander Technique and Body Mapping into my work, emphasizing the kind of mind-body-environment connection that fosters creativity, enhances collaboration, promotes critical thinking and self-awareness, and allows us to dare to be vulnerable. Singing is my gateway into lifelong learning, community, and self-esteem.

I love working with adolescents, young adults, and amateur adult singers to help them discover the vocal and artistic possibilities already within them. I'm awed by teenagers' willingness to take risks; I admire the adult who answers the call to take voice lessons after years of being discouraged. The act of learning about the expressive capabilities of the voice and how that can integrate with our whole Self makes me giddy. I bring this feeling of possibility to my teaching, workshop programming, and performances by building first on what inspires me and then fusing humor, creativity, empathy, and curiosity through presentation. No matter the genre or topic, singing is a continuous discovery of self.