Amanda Flynn

Voice Teacher, Researcher, and Author. Broadway Vocal Coach. Musical Theatre Educator. amanda@amandaflynnvoice.com
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Education

Columbia
University
Teachers College

Educational Doctorate in College Teaching in Music and Music

In Progress

Education

Summer cohort program designed to accommodate full time teaching schedules.

Research interests include:

- Assessment in musical theatre education as a means for equity and transparency in education and training
- Vocal health education at the undergraduate level
- The intersection of vocal injury and undergraduate training
- Assessment in the voice studio

The University of Utah

Certificate in Vocology

2017

Specialized certificate with coursework in:

- Biomechanics of the voice
- Instrumentation of the voice

Voice habilitation

Performing voice

New York University

Master of Music in Vocal Performance, Musical Theatre

2013

Concentration

Recital focus:

- Lyrics of Ira Gershwin
- Country and folk musical theatre repertoire
- A character study of Ella from Bells Are Ringing

Advanced Certificate in Vocal Pedagogy

2013

Post-masters certificate with coursework in:

- Vocal pedagogy research and practice
- Vocal repertoire for teaching (classical and musical theatre)
- Voice disorders in the Speech-Language Pathology program

The New School

Bachelor of Science in Liberal Arts

2013

Recognized for outstanding academic achievement as a student returning to education after a hiatus within the School of General Studies

Baylor University

Vocal Performance Major

2000-2003

Attended Baylor from 2000-2003 before being cast in the national tour of the 2001 Broadway revival of *Oklahoma!*

Higher Education Teaching Experience

Pace University Assistant Associate Musical Theatre Program Head

2020-current

Administrative duties include:

- Selecting shows and hiring creative teams
- Hiring faculty and staff, including a new voice instructor, vocal coaches, and staff accompanists
- Restructuring coursework, in particular the Senior audition and showcase course.
- Arranging the Artist in Residence program
- Assigning students to voice teachers
- Organizing faculty meetings and monthly major meetings
- Participating in recruitment, including watching pre-screens and live auditions
- Creating voice, music, and acting benchmarks for the four-year curriculum, including developing rubrics for incoming First Year Diagnostics, and Sophomore and Junior Evaluations.

Adjunct Instructor, Private Voice

2016-current

Teaching duties include:

- Developing curriculum for a four year sequence of syllabi for applied voice instruction for students within my voice studio. Instruction includes vocal exercises, repertoire, discussion, and written work such as journals and end of term papers. Class topics include breathing, anatomy, resonance, registration, releasing tension, developing practice habits, and balancing the mental aspect of performance and training.
- Leading the department in a yearly vocal health workshop geared towards learning about voice disorders, symptoms, treatments, and prevention, in addition to coordinating vocal health-related guests.
- Serving as an undergraduate Honor's Thesis advisor when needed.
- Participating in the environmental scan work sessions, interviews, and rebuilding process focused on improving the equity, diversity, and inclusion within the performing art department.
- Creating an Open Education Resource (OER) textbook for voice lessons.
- Pursuing interdisciplinary opportunities with the Communication Sciences and Disorders department, including presenting a lecture on vocal health at the Pace chapter of the National Student Speech Hearing Language Association.
- Actively integrating technology, such as Blackboard, Brightspace, Zoom, and Google Docs, into class each semester for discussion assignments, journals, midterm video projects, papers, and online instruction when needed.

Columbia

University

Graduate Instructor, Private Voice

2019-current

Teachers College

Teaching duties include:

• Applied voice instruction for students at Columbia, including undergraduates and graduate students in the graduate school of education.

Teaching duties included:

- Applied vocal instruction focused on technical work, repertoire, goal setting, and discussion of practice habits.
- Providing assignments and student evaluations for the accreditation process for the conservatory when needed.
- Evaluating incoming first-year students alongside the department chairs.
- Assisting the Head of Voice and Music with assigning students to voice studios.

Adjunct Instructor, Vocal Technique Class

2014-2017

Teaching duties included:

- Instructing first year college students through a curriculum that covered all aspects of vocal technique, implementing music theory skills, and building practice and preparation skills.
- Leading class through lectures, physical work, group singing, individual singing, and written work.
- Presenting the department-wide lecture on voice disorders including their symptoms, treatment, and prevention.

Adjunct Instructor, Vocal Performance Class

2014-2017

Teaching duties included:

• Leading Sophomores through their acting the song class with a focus on text analysis, character creation, use of environment, and an understanding of how the musical construction of a song supports the journey of the actor.

Adjunct Instructor, Audition Technique Class

2014-2015

Teaching duties included:

• Leading this summer class through all aspects of auditioning including repertoire selection, building an audition book, cutting music, demeanor, dress code, and handling surprises in the audition room.

Adjunct Instructor, Vocal Coaching Class

2014-2016

Teaching duties included:

• Leading this summer course focused on synthesizing the work from Vocal Performance, Audition Prep, and Vocal Technique into a polished, audition-ready product.

New York University

Adjunct Instructor, Private Voice

2011-2013

·Teaching duties included:

- Developing a syllabus for applied vocal instruction in the Steinhardt School that met the needs of the research-based university.
- Working with students from the entire university, including acting and dance majors from Tisch School of the Arts. Work also included helping prepare students for auditions for both professional and school productions, as well as for admittance into the New Studio Musical Theatre Studio.

Additional Teaching Experience

Amanda Flynn Voice Studio

Owner and Instructor

2008-current

Owner of a private voice studio with students appearing on Broadway (Hamilton, Choir Boy, Be More Chill, The Lightning Thief, Caroline or Change, Mean Girls, Dear Evan Hanson, King Kong, The Color Purple, Fun Home, Matilda, School of Rock, Newsies, Beautiful, Marvin's Room, Angels in America), Off-Broadway (Be More Chill, The Lightning Thief, Fun Home, Daddy), national tours (Hadestown, Wicked, Waitress, An American in Paris, Rent, The Color Purple, School of Rock, Anastasia, Spamalot, A Chorus Line, Escape to Margaritaville), international productions (Indecent on the West End, A Chorus Line Japan, Legally Blonde UK Tour, The Sound of Music Asia Tour) and numerous regional theatres.

Clients have been nominated for Grammy, Tony, Drama Desk, Lucille Lortel, Outer Critic Circle, and Helen Hayes Awards, and have been heard on original cast recordings such as Be More Chill, The Lightning Thief, School of Rock, Mean Girls, The Color Purple, Beautiful, Pasek and Paul's James and the Giant Peach, and The Jonathan Larson Project.

Students are often referred to the studio for re-training after a vocal injury, therefore much of my work is in collaboration with laryngologists and speech-language pathologists. I currently oversee one Associate Teacher working for the studio.

Instructor and Creator, Vocal Pedagogy Foundations

2020-current

Developed the curriculum for this 7 week, online vocal pedagogy course, which includes classes on anatomy and physiology, biomechanics of the voice, acoustics and resonance, vocal health, applied pedagogy, designing vocal exercises, and selecting repertoire.

Instructor and Creator, Vocal Pedagogy Practicum

2021-current

Developed the curriculum for this 5 week course that is the second course after Vocal Pedagogy Foundations. The course focused on more hands on work in the voice studio including assessment skills, bodywork, and peer assessment. The course also took a deeper dive into belting and working with young voices.

Instructor and Creator, Belting Basics

2021-current

Developed the curriculum for this online class on the basics of belting for graduates of Vocal Pedagogy Foundations. The class covers the history of belting, definitions, including perceptual, acoustic, and registration based definitions, semantics used when discussing belting, the variations of belting, detailed listening assignments, and an in depth discussion of how to teach belting, particularly to beginning belters.

Instructor and Creator, The Performer's Voice

2021-current

Developed the curriculum for this one day workshop for professional performers focusing on how the voice works, an intro to voice injury, and practical vocal health.

New York Singing

Teacher's

Association

Instructor, Vocal Health Course

2020-current

Developed curriculum for a 10 hour, online vocal health course for NYSTA's Professional Development Program, a continuing education program for voice teachers. Coordinated guest lectures with laryngologists, as well as led interviews and discussions with voice therapists, manual therapists, psychotherapists, voice teachers, and performers.

Musical Theatre College Audition

Vocal Technique Teacher

2014-2018

Applied instruction for high school students in the process of auditioning for college musical theatre programs. Students were accepted into musical theatre programs including Carnegie Mellon, NYU, Penn State, Boston Conservatory, Pace, CCM, Baldwin Wallace, Elon, Rider, Belmont, Ball State, Marymount Manhattan, Webster, Manhattan School of Music, SUNY Buffalo, Montclair, University of Miami, and Western Connecticut.

Art House Astoria

Director of Musical Theatre

2010-2015

Created the musical theatre program at the non-profit, community-based school. Developed curriculum that is tailored to each age group focusing on the well-rounded musical theatre performer, in addition to teaching individual voice lessons.

Production Vocal Coaching

Feature Films

BEAU

2021

Provided vocal coaching for the lead character of Ace, played by Matt Rodin. Work included prepping him for the rehearsal and shooting period, in addition to helping him navigate the 12 hour shoot days.

One Year Off

2021

Provided vocal coaching for the character of Georges, a lounge singer, played by Ray Fearon. Duties included selecting material for the character to sing in the film, working with the music team on arrangement details such as tempos and keys, working with the actor on vocal technique and vocal health concerns, and coaching the actor through the material.

Disney's Encanto

2020

Provided vocal coaching for a recording session with Jessica Darrow for the upcoming Disney animated feature film, Encanto, with music and lyrics by Lin-Manuel Miranda.

As the Production Vocal Coach, I was available as a vocal health resource for the company, including sharing vocal health knowledge with the cast and helping the actors connect with medical professionals when needed. Many of the actors sought my help weekly in one-on-one voice sessions, which include singing lessons, pre-show warm ups, and hands-on work. The Broadway deluxe cast recording was recorded by Broadway Records and released digitally and on CD.

Be More Chill, Lyceum Theatre

2019

As the Production Vocal Coach, I was available as a vocal health resource for the company, including sharing vocal health knowledge with the cast and helping the actors connect with medical professionals when needed. Many of the actors sought my help weekly in one-on-one voice sessions, which included singing, pre-show warm ups, and hands-on work. The show received Tony, Drama Desk, Lucille Lortel, Drama League, Outer Critic Circle, Broadway.com Audience, and Theatre Fan's Choice Award nominations. The Broadway cast recording was recorded by Ghostlight Records and released digitally, on CD, and on vinyl.

Off-Broadway

The Lightning Thief, Lucille Lortel Theatre

2017

As the Production Vocal Coach, I worked with the actors on screaming, fight noises, character voices, singing while engaging in stage combat, and general vocal health concerns during the run. The show was nominated for three Drama Desk awards including Outstanding Musical and Best Supporting Actor. An original cast recording was also recorded on Broadway Records and released digitally, on CD, and vinyl.

Other Theatre

Love in Hate Nation, Two River Theatre, Red Bank, NJ

2019

As the Vocal Consultant, I was brought in to work with the two leading actors in the show. Helped them navigate illness and vocal fatigue by adjusting their show to improve efficiency and stamina, in addition to creating individualized warmup tracks for each of them.

Theatreworks USA

2015-2017

As the Vocal Consultant, I provided vocal health information for the touring casts, as well as worked with the actors to help them find healthy, easy ways of singing and vocalizing. Also connected the actors to laryngologists and voice therapists on the road when needed.

Rock of Ages 101 Workshop

2015-2017

As the Vocal Consultant for this workshop production for Samuel French and iTheatrics, I helped the cast of high school students learn how to make healthy sounds that were stylistically appropriate for the rock score. Also helped the music director pick keys that were appropriate for the developing voice, particularly the young male voice.

Book Publications

Flynn, A. (forthcoming in 2022). So you want to sing musical theatre: A guide for performers, revised and expanded edition. Rowman and Littlefield.

Flynn A. (2020). First Year Voice Lessons: An Open Educational Resource Textbook. Pace Digital Commons.

Peer Reviewed Journal Publications

Flynn, A. (2021). <u>Assessment in musical theatre: A tool for transparency, equity, and student learning.</u> Voice and Speech Review.

Flynn, A. (2019). Vocal health in undergraduate performing arts programs. Journal of Voice, 34(5), 806-818.

Flynn, A., Trudeau, J., & Johnson, A. (2018). <u>Acoustic comparison of lower and higher belt ranges in professional Broadway actresses</u>. *Journal of Voice*, 34(3), 410-414.

Non-Peer Reviewed Journal Publications

Flynn, A. (2021). NYSTA Professional development program: Spotlight on the PDP. VOICEPrints, 18(5). 101-102.

Flynn, A. (2021). NYSTA Professional development program: Spotlight on the PDP. VOICEPrints, 18(4). 82-83.

Flynn, A. (2021). NYSTA Professional development program: Spotlight on the PDP. VOICEPrints, 18(3). 59-60.

Flynn, A. (2020). NYSTA Professional development program: Spotlight on the PDP. VOICEPrints, 18(2). 33-34.

Flynn, A. (2020). NYSTA Professional development program: Statement from the Director. *VOICEPrints*, 18(1). 9-10.

Additional Writing

Flynn, A. (May 7, 2020). Cindy Says: Who Can Say If I've Been Changed for the Better. MTI Online Blog.

Flynn, A. (April 2, 2019). Interview: Amanda Flynn. Contemporary Musical Theatre.

Flynn, A. (ongoing) Here's What I Have To Say. Amanda Flynn Voice Online Blog.

Flynn, A. (September 7, 2015). 4 Tips for Healthy Warm-Ups. Broadway Choral Workshop.

Flynn, A. (2015). "Rock that voice." In T. McDonald, Rock of Ages 101 Production Guide. Samuel French.

Conference Presentations

Suddeth, C., and Flynn, A. (2021, June) *Students' experience with vocal injury in undergraduate performing arts training programs* [poster presentation]. The Voice Foundation Annual Symposium, Online.

Flynn, A., Korovin, G., Edwin, R., Brightman, A., and James, N. (2020, January) *Self-care for singers* presented by Harmony Helper [panel presentation]. BroadwayCon, New York, NY.

Flynn, A., Trudeau, J., and Johnson, A. (2019, June). *Acoustic investigation of the female belt in professional Broadway actresses* [paper presentation]. The Voice Foundation Annual Symposium, Philadelphia, PA.

Flynn, A. (2018, June). Vocal health in undergraduate performing arts programs [poster presentation]. NATS National Conference, Las Vegas, NV.

Flynn, A. (2018, August). *Vocal health in undergraduate performing arts programs* [paper presentation]. PAVA/VASTA Joint Conference, Seattle, WA.

Flynn, A., and Trudeau, J. (2016, August). *Perception vs. reality: Investigating the female belt voice in Broadway's leading actresses* [paper presentation]. Fall Voice Conference, Scottsdale, AZ.

Flynn, A. and Trudeau, J. (2016, August). *Perception vs. reality: Investigating the female belt voice in Broadway's leading actresses* [poster presentation]. PAVA Annual Conference, Scottsdale, AZ.

Flynn, A. (2014, September). *Safe vocal production for the young singer* [workshop presentation]. The Balanced Mind Curriculum Conference, Rockville Center, NY.

Additional Lectures and Presentations

Flynn, A. (2021, September). *The Young Singer*. [lecture presentation]. Plainview-Old Bethpage School District music educators, online.

Flynn, A. (2021, May). *Practical vocal health for the professional singer* [lecture presentation]. Classical Singer Convention, online.

Flynn, A. (2020, November). *Professional singing* [lecture presentation]. Lone Star College, online.

Flynn, A. (2020, October). *Intro to singing* [lecture presentation]. MSA Agency Broadway Intensive, online.

Flynn, A. (2020, July). Vocal health [lecture presentation]. Southeastern Summer Theatre Institute, online.

Flynn, A. (2020, April). Vocal health on Broadway [lecture presentation]. University of Nevada at Reno, online.

Flynn, A. (2020, April). Let's talk Broadway [lecture presentation]. North Broward Preparatory School, online.

Flynn, A. (2020, April). *Vocal health on Broadway* [lecture presentation]. North Broward Preparatory School, online.

Flynn, A. (2020, March). *Vocal health on Broadway* [lecture presentation]. South Portland High School, online.

Flynn, A. (2020, January). *Vocal health for teachers and students* [workshop presentation]. Junior Theatre Festival. Atlanta, GA.

Flynn, A. (2020, February). *Vocal health for teachers and students* [workshop presentation]. Junior Theatre Festival West. Sacramento, CA.

Flynn, A. (2019, July). *Understanding the student voice* [workshop presentation]. Broadway Teaching Group, New York, NY.

Flynn, A. (2019, January). Understanding the young singer [workshop presentation]. Junior Theatre Festival. Atlanta, GA.

Flynn, A. (2018, April). Practical vocal health [interview]. Hues Productions, Dublin, Ireland.

Flynn, A. (2018, July). *The young singer's work session* [workshop presentation]. Broadway Teaching Group, New York, NY.

Flynn, A. (2016, January). The young singer [workshop presentation]. Junior Theatre Festival. Atlanta, GA.

Flynn, A. (2015, July). *The young singer* [workshop presentation]. Broadway Teaching Group Music Director's Workshop, New York, NY.

Flynn, A. (2015, June). *Safe Vocal Production for the Young Singer* [lecture presentation]. Hicksville Independent School District Professional Development Program, Hicksville, NY.

Selected Performance Masterclasses

- Artist-in-Residence at Sacramento City College, Sacramento, CA, 2020-2021
- Online vocal technique masterclass for the studio of Jared Trudeau, Boston Conservatory, 2020
- Musical theatre performance masterclass at SMASH Cabaret, Tokyo, Japan, 2019
- Vocal technique, acting, and audition workshops at CAEG Musical Theatre Experience, Beijing, China, 2018
- Vocal technique class instructor at Texas Musical Theatre Workshop, Austin, TX, 2018
- Voice, vocal health, and college audition masterclass at College Break Thru, Chicago, IL, 2018
- Musical theatre performance and technique masterclass with Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty at The Junior Theatre Festival, Atlanta, GA, 2017
- Musical theatre song performance masterclass at Northbrook College, Worthing England, UK, 2016
- College prep workshop with Broadway Break Thru, Newtown, PA, 2015-2017
- Musical theatre performance masterclass with The Canterbury Institute for Performing Arts, Kent College, and Northbrook College, UK, 2015
- Three-day musical theatre workshop with Fearless Young Artists, Austin, TX, 2014
- Acting and music workshop, and post-adjudication discussion leader with the Junior Theatre Festival, Atlanta, GA, 2012-2015

Board of Director and Committee Service

New York Singing

Teacher's Association (NYSTA)

Director of the Professional Development Program

2019-current

Board duties include:

- Restructuring the entire program
- Hiring instructors
- Changing the format of the classes
- Overseeing syllabi
- Creating curriculum guidelines

- Negotiating contracts
- Marketing the new program
- Creating a continuing education sequence.
- Voting on new members
- Writing statements for the organization
- Volunteering for events.

Board duties of this membership-elected position include:

- Overseeing the quarterly publication, *InFormant*
- Running the social media for the organization
- Updating the website
- Communicating with membership
- Promoting events
- Chairing the Communications Committee.
- Assisting in monthly forums with the Governors.
- Voting on bylaws
- Helping organize the annual symposium
- Making decisions about the future of the young organization.

Implementation Subcommittee

2020-current

The Implementation Subcommittee is charged with implementing the portfolio and test as part of the PAVA-Recognized Vocologist designation (PAVA-RV).

Feasibility Subcommittee Co-Chair

2017-2020

The Feasibility Subcommittee was charged with the task of researching the feasibility of a credential or certification process. We ultimately created the details of the portfolio that will be required for the PAVA-RV designation.

Selected Professional Development

- Conscientious Theatre Training, Led by Nicole Brewer and focused on anti-racist theatre practices, 2021
- Anti-Racist Theatre Training, Led by Jacqueline Lawton for Pace University Performing Arts Faculty, 2020-2021
- Entertainment Inclusion Seminar, Led by Bliss Griffin, diversity consultant for AEA, 2020
- Organizing Racial Equity, Race Forward, 2020
- Building Racial Equity, Race Forward, 2020
- Acoustic Vocal Pedagogy: Online Course, New England Conservatory, 2020
- Teaching Effectively Online Certificate, Pace University, New York, NY, 2020
- CITI Program Research Certification, Social & Behavioral Research Basic/Refresher Course, 2020-2023
- Delve Deeper Level I Anatomy Class, The Visceral Voice, 2020
- Preventing Harassment and Discrimination, Teachers College, Columbia University, 2019
- Biodynamic Manual Voice Therapy Level II Certificate, Clear Voice Therapy, 2019
- Foundations in Myofascial Release Seminar for Neck, Voice, and Swallowing Disorders, 2019
- Biodynamic Manual Voice Therapy Level I Certificate, Massachusetts Eye and Ear, 2018
- Seminar for Singers: Voice Health for the Vocal Performer, The Sean Parker Institute for the Voice, 2017

- Extramural Laryngology Rounds (ELR), Bi-monthly meeting of voice professionals in NYC hosted by a local medical center, 2017-current
- Care of the Professional Voice: De-Catastrophizing Vocal Injury, Weill Cornell Medical Center, 2017
- Singing Voice Science Workshop, Montclair State University, 2016
- Oren Brown Professional Development Program, Presented with the Distinguished Voice Professional certificate upon completion; 2014-2016
- Observership at the Sean Parker Institute for the Voice, Weill Cornell Medical Center, 2016-2019
- Vocology Mentorship, Mt. Sinai Hospital, 2013
- Bel Canto/Can Belto Workshop, Penn State University, 2013
- International Voice Symposium, New York University, 2012
- Observership at NYU Voice Center Langone Medical Center, 2012
- Professional Performance Training, 2001-current
 - Over twenty years of professional performance training in numerous fields.
 - Acting: Evan Mueller, William Wesbrooks, Michael Ricciardone
 - Voice: Dr. Jeanne Goffi-Fynn, Christine Reimer, Dianna Heldman, Aaron Hagan, Dr. Deborah Williamson
 - Piano: Nicole Brancato
 - Dance: Training in jazz, theatre dance, tap, ballet and partnering.
- Frequent attendee of the Voice Foundation Symposium, Fall Voice Conference, NATS Conference, PAVA Symposium, and the VASTA Symposium since 2016.

Fellowships/Grants/Scholarships

Van Lawrence Fellowship Award, 2019

Prestigious research award given to one voice teacher each year who pursues voice-related research. I received the award to pursue a follow-up study to my paper, *Acoustic Comparison of Higher and Lower Belt Ranges in Professional Broadway Actresses*, that will include fMRI and high-speed endoscopy. The study will be completed in conjunction with the NYU Voice Center.

Open Alternative Textbook Grant, 2019

Grant was awarded to create an Open Alternative Textbook for vocal instruction in the musical theatre department in order to provide a free alternative to purchasing a textbook.

Janet Pranschke PDP Scholarship,

2013

Merit-based scholarship covering the fees for the courses in the Oren Brown Professional Development Program.

Professional Memberships

- Actor's Equity Association
- Pan American Vocology Association
- New York Singing Teacher's Association
- National Association of Teachers of Singing
- The Voice Foundation
- Voice and Speech Trainer's Association
- Musical Theatre Educator's Alliance

Performing Experience

- Broadway and National Tour Credits
 - Glinda understudy in Wicked in Los Angeles (original company)
 - Sophie understudy in Mamma Mia in Las Vegas
 - Laurey understudy in Oklahoma! First National Tour
- Regional Theatre Credits
 - Diana Devereaux in Of Thee I Sing at Bard Summerscape
 - Urleen in Footloose at Carousel Dinner Theatre
 - Betty Blake in Will Rogers Follies at Stage Door Theatre
 - Ragtime at Fulton Opera House
 - A Christmas Carol at McCarter Theatre
- Readings and Workshop Credits
 - Jessamyn Jacobs in Between The Lines
 - Gloria in Madagascar!
 - Laura Jordan in Galactic Cigarettes

 Presents: It's Your World
 - Dolores Fuller in The Passion of Ed Wood
 - Mary Flynn in Polly, Want A Mortgage?
 - Anna VanOnderdonk in Ripped!
 - Laura in Love. NY
 - Valerie Ashley in I Am, I Will, I Do

Concerts

- Brunhilde in Joe Iconis and Family Christmas Extravaganza
- Featured soloist in Joe Iconis and Family Take Over at Barrington Playhouse
- The Witch and Teenage Zombie in Monstersongs at The Other Palace, London
- Numerous other concerts at 54Below and other venues in New York City
- Television and Film Credits
 - Legally Blonde: The Search for The Next Elle Woods
 - Marry Me (pilot)
 - The Tonight Show with Jay Leno
 - The Robin Quivers Show
 - Novolog Flexpen (industrial)
 - Recollections (short film)
- Album Credits
 - I'm Ready: The Songs of Rob Rokicki