

Title IX/Sexual Harassment/Misconduct/Misunderstanding in the Modern Voice Studio

Steven B. Jepson

I) Overview

- Voice Teachers have been known in the past to do things with their students that are considered to be unhealthy, unethical, and possibly illegal in today's world
- In colleges and universities across the country, such behavior is reported to your campus Title IX office, Equity Office, or Title IX Administrator
- Today's students/parents of students are more apt to report issues that they feel uncomfortable with
- When dealing with private studios, such actions can be met with legal proceedings, which could result in civil/criminal cases
- Some issues brought to Title IX may be misunderstandings that could have been taken care of with communication

II) Understanding Title IX

III) Issues with applied voice (in an academic setting and/or private studio)

IV) What to do when a report has been filed, as a teacher, as the accused party

V) Steps to take to insure transparency/understanding within a studio

VI) The role of NATS regarding conduct within the voice studio

VII) Conclusion

Steven B. Jepson, baritone, is a respected international artist with expansive credits in the Americas, Europe and Japan, With over fifty operatic roles, he made his European debut as Carmen's Escamillo, his signature role, and has reprised that role with many companies in the United States.

In musical theater, he has been applauded for virtuoso performances in such roles as Don Quixote, Emile deBeque in South Pacific and the title role in Sweeney Todd. His concert experience is rich and varied, from Broadway pops, cruise ship production shows and cabaret, to sacred works and symphonies.

The recipient of many vocal awards, Steven Jepson was the first to be awarded the Baughman Artistry Award at the Kansas City Metropolitan Opera Competition. He received a nomination for Best Actor in a Musical by the Metrolina Theatre Association and Creative Loafing Magazine. Also in demand as a teacher and clinician, he has served on the faculties of several outstanding colleges, and is currently on the faculty at the University of Missouri-Columbia.