

Dear Students & Families,

I am so excited to meet you and begin our work together! I wanted to write you a quick note so that you can learn a little about me and how you can be prepared for our lessons.

First, I should tell you that I am an opera singer, which means I sing and act with other singers to tell amazing stories, and we tell all those stories with our voices and bodies! I would like to remind you all to take good care of your body and your voice as we work together by drinking lots of water, staying healthy and exercising, never screaming or yelling at the top of your lungs, and eating healthy food regularly (not too much junk food or soda). If our body is healthy, our voices feel better, too! Treat your body like the most expensive instrument you will ever buy (Because it is)!

When I have to learn new opera roles, I take a little bit of time each day to practice my music. Sometimes we can get excited by a new piece of music and practice and practice for hours and hours, then the next day we completely forget! Has that ever happened to you? I find that spending a little bit of time every day is the best way to make sure that new pieces of music store in our brains and stick in our memory.

Sometimes my voice gets tired, so I rely on technology to help me learn faster, even if I can't sing for a day or so (like if I catch a cold). I like to watch famous opera singers on YouTube, or download recordings of my songs from iTunes. It's good to hear a few different artists' interpretations of a song! I also like to make recordings of myself on my iPad or iPhone so that I can listen back and see if I've made any mistakes. Then I can go back and fix them the next time I practice.

I hope some of these ideas can help you feel prepared for lessons! I know we are going to have a great time and make wonderful music together! I want to help you learn, so if you come across any trouble doing homework or during your practice session, please feel free to ask me questions!

Sincerely yours,

*Miss Liesl*