

# JB Studio

## POLICY STATEMENT

If you're reading this document you've probably heard and are interested in my vocal coaching. This is an exciting step towards taking your talent and instrument more seriously, and you should definitely be congratulated. The most important details you seek are as follows:

I charge **\$100/hour session** at the studio located at **1447 N. Martel Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90046**. And I have a strict **24-hour cancelation policy**.

Yet, my relationship with clients usually grows over time as they see and hear more of my background and what I do as a producer. This policy statement seeks to establish healthy guidelines, so we're clear from the start about vocal technique work, vocal therapy, developing the creative process, and eventually business advice that I also teach at the graduate school level.

What I've learned over many years is that *working with the voice often unlocks one's creative path and in many ways can heal and open one's life*. It certainly has mine. The benefits are not limited to your voice, in other words. The creative expression spreads out, and can impact in a positive way many other areas. Bottom line, if we're happy with our voices, we tend to be happier people. If we're not, well... we suffer.

So, clients find me first as a vocal coach. Then, we earn each other's trust, the skills work, and progress tends to be pretty obvious. Over time, if the personalities fit, the work expands to other areas of focus, writing music for albums, developing plays, cabarets, screenplays, and eventually producing work together. That being said, here's what needs to be very clear:

**JB Studio provides a multi-faceted infrastructure for creative artists of every level to study and/or produce entertainment products. Jonathan Baker and colleagues provide services that extend beyond a normal student/teacher relationship – into artist development and producer services. Consultation of any kind is not free. It may be at first billable by the hour, then on projects it may also include equity ownership in the intellectual property itself.**

**VOCAL STUDY PRINCIPLES** What you put in is what you get out. Studying any musical instrument is a lot like going to the gym. The benefits speak for themselves over time, but it requires a dedication and seriousness to your approach. As your trainer, I require the following policies to assure success in your process and help guarantee a return on your investment. Only you are in control of your results based on how much time and energy you put into what I advise. The techniques and direction are tried and true.

**RECORDING** Each lesson should be recorded for review and exercise purposes during the week. Students should bring their own recording devices (phones do fine). The studio is equipped for professional recording that may be used from time to time but is not guaranteed as part of the lesson fee. Students working on albums or in development may be introduced to high-end production facilities and industry personnel. The formal relationships with such opportunities are not accounted for in this policy statement.

**STUDIO LOCATION** 1447 N. Martel Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90046. The studio is located in a red-craftsman cottage. When you arrive text JB and wait on the front porch of the house. **IT IS ESSENTIAL YOU LET JB KNOW WHEN YOU HAVE ARRIVED** as often he will not stop a session until interrupted. Use only the main front door to come and go, and if leaving the house alone make sure the door is locked

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behind you. The Martel house is home to other tenants and clients must respect their personal property. Students should park on the street, NOT in the driveway nor next-door in the parking lot. Be advised of street parking signs and note that the parking lot is closed and locked at 9pm each night. Your car is not the studio's responsibility.

**PAYMENT METHODS** New students must pay in cash at the first lesson. Intermittent students can pay at the time of the lesson for that session. **Regular students must pay for one month's lessons in advance**, regardless of frequency. Cash or check is preferred. If paying by paypal or credit card the studio will add a 5% service charge. The cost of sheet music and other expenses are not included in the lesson fee. Students receive invoices over email which serve as receipt for tax write off purposes. **This policy is of great use to you – if you are a professional or becoming one, your expense at the studio is tax deductible.**

**CANCELLATION** **24-hour notice for any cancellation or reschedule request is required.** Email, text and call if necessary until you receive confirmation from JB. Actors have the worst schedules to juggle and are often caught up against last second auditions. Rescheduling a cancellation is a courtesy and may not be possible. If the lesson is made up within the calendar week it can be considered a make-good and you will not be penalized. Multiple short notice cancellations will result in dismissal from the studio.

**SICKNESS** A contagious respiratory infection can whip out the whole studio very quickly, so students must use their best judgment as to when to sing or cancel/reschedule a lesson. General rule of thumb, if you have a soar throat, stay away. If you have nasal congestion but feel functional, you'll learn from a lesson as singers are often paid to sing while under the weather and need to know how. Any signs of illness should be taken seriously, however, so when in doubt air on the side of caution.

**ATTITUDE** A supportive, productive working environment will be maintained at all times. Open communication is essential for creating a positive experience for both the student and instructor. If the environment becomes counter productive for any reason at any time the lesson will end and the fee forfeited. A vocal session is also not a therapy session. The studio will provide a recommendation to a licensed therapist whose background is in entertainment professionals should the interest arise. If a student cancels/reschedules radically, or forgets payment upon attending a lesson, they will be required to provide a deposit of one lesson fee before resuming study.

**MASTER CLASS** Master classes are held every three to four months and attendance is highly recommended. In the class, students present work to each other and receive constructive feedback from the instructor, accompanist and attending students. Guests may attend, but the class is NOT a public performance environment. Songs may be run multiple times followed by open discussion and dialogue about the progress and condition the students are focusing on in their work. Students share the expense of the class accompanist. Otherwise, JB hosts these nights as a way to bring the studio clients together for networking and support.

**“MY VOICE” SHOWCASE** Public presentation of work will be produced periodically for those students deemed ready. The showcase functions as the final step in mastering technique and performance anxiety. Thus, the work presented is full, not abridged for the purpose of landing agents or managers. Some factors that will strongly influence a student's success are consistency of practice, dedication to overcome challenges they may face, professionalism, and creative spirit. Raw talent plays less into the selection process than a student's growth, maturity of creative process, and technique within their work.

**PRODUCER CLIENT RELATIONSHIP** As a producer on any project, JB Studio receives a 25% equity ownership in the Intellectual Property itself, i.e. royalty pool. This includes but is not limited to theatrical, television, film and music projects rights developed within and or in affiliation with JB Studio. The detailed terms of these deals are outlined in a producer agreement with each artist at the time of the project's inception. Considerable time and effort is often spent educating artists on the business structure

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of their potential project. This time is not free and is billable by the hour unless it is made clear by JB that it is considered part of the studio's equity in that project.

### RATE BREAK DOWN

Vocal sessions w JB	\$100/hour	
Recording studio w/engineer	\$80/hour	\$250/half day
Opera technique w Darryl	\$100/hour	
Accompaniment w Jerome	\$50/hour	
Piano lesson w Jerome	\$60/hour	
Jerome composition	\$100/song buy out + royalty share	
Guitar lessons or writing w Willis	\$70/hour + royalty share	
Protools Editing	\$50/hour	
Music take-down	\$40/hour	
JB Project Producer	\$2500 week buy out	
Project Consultation Meetings	equity in the project	
Luis Narino track sweetening	\$30/hour	
Jon Greasley track mixing	\$50/hour	\$250/day
Legal counsel	\$250/hour and/or net % of the product	
Studio musicians	case by case basis, buy out	

\*\*All associates bill the studio and the studio bills the clients transparently for project accounting purposes. The clients pay JB Studio balance monthly.

**RELATIONSHIPS** The relationships, contacts, affiliations and referrals extended from the Studio to clients are considered proprietary. Regardless of whether Jonathan supervises or directly manages products produced and/or developed at the Studio he takes an interest in any deals that results from acceptance and participation into the studio.

By signing below, and/or attending any class or private lesson, I hereby acknowledge and agree to the aforementioned conditions within this policy statement.

PRINT FULL NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CELL PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

**SINGATURE AKNOWLEDGING ACCEPTANCE OF STUDIO POLICY TERMS:**

Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_