

Sylvia Stoner-Hawkins is currently pursuing her Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Vocal Performance at the University of Kansas. She received her Master's degree in Vocal Performance from the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory of Music and her Bachelor's degree in Music and Theater from Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, New York.

A lifelong Catholic, she has been a cantor in the Kansas City, Missouri and Kansas dioceses. She trained cantors for St. Clement's church in Saratoga Springs, New York, and for Our Lady of Lourdes in Harrisonville, Missouri. She is a member of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians and has participated in NPM cantor workshops.

As a voice instructor, she has given private instruction in voice for over fifteen years. Most recently, she was appointed interim professor of voice at Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, New York, and at the University of Saint Mary in Leavenworth, Kansas. She has held Graduate Teaching Assistantships at both the UMKC Conservatory of Music and the University of Kansas. She has conducted voice master classes for the University of Nebraska, the Lyric Opera of Kansas City Honors Artists, and the UMKC Conservatory of Music. Additionally, she is a current member of the National Association of Teachers of Singing. She is also a member of the Associated Guild of Musical Arts, a professional union for opera singers, and Actor's Equity. She continues an extensive career of performance in the musical and theatrical arts.

As a cantor trainer, Sylvia focuses on strengthening vocal ability, developing a spiritual presence, refining gestures, and deepening text interpretation. These sessions would be held in a master class format, therefore each singer should prepare a psalm or song to sing. We will also cover other issues in the session that target the specific assembly's needs.

Sylvia offers private voice lessons either at her home in Shawnee or through Kansas City Young Audiences ([www.kcya.org](http://www.kcya.org)), located at 5601 Wyandotte St, Kansas City, Missouri. Sylvia may be reached via cell phone 913.485.4364 or email [sylvia@sylviastoner.com](mailto:sylvia@sylviastoner.com)