

To Whom It May Concern:

Cheryl Saks is an amazing vocal and piano teacher, as well as a person. She has created an opportunity for students like myself to improve their vocal and piano skills. She trains everybody from beginners to experienced students who just want to learn more. I've been going to Cheryl for singing, for 7 years. Two years after that, I started piano. Cheryl's style and technique is straightforward and effective, and she's influenced my life, personally, in many ways.

Cheryl has helped me gain experience in what I love to do. Several years ago, Cheryl started doing concerts at Borders Books and Music to promote her CD. She invited myself and a few other students to join her and sing backup. We had practices once a week and even did a photo shoot for a poster! We traveled around Long Island doing shows and we even did one in the city. We experienced different kinds of people and environments. We were given the opportunity to sing solos and play other instruments. Beyond all that, we became really good friends. Even though our ages spanned from grade 6 to out of college.

Cheryl sends her students to NYSSMA every year, and prepares them for auditions and concerts. She holds recitals a couple of times a year, where everyone gets together and performs what they have been working on for the past couple of months. We have a lot of fun with our recitals. Once we did a recital in honor of Rosie O' Donnell and then sent the tape to her. We decorated big brown boxes with paint and glitter in her basement. Sometimes we get together and do duets and ensembles. We do serious music and fun stuff too. She encourages us to get involved and work hard if we want something. Her love and passion for music and teaching show when she starts every lesson. She is always ready with some constructive criticism and motivational advice to help her students keep working and practicing.

Sincerely,

*Megan Allen*

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