

Amber Nicole Dilger

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Teaching Artist Bio, 492 words

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Amber Nicole Dilger has been performing professionally throughout the United States since 1995 in musical theatre and concert productions both large and small. From classics like "Camelot," "The Sound of Music," and "Sweeney Todd," to newly created productions like the one-woman show, "Arlington," she shines on stage bringing real human depth to characters of every kind. Equally at home in intimate concert settings, the standards of the Great American Songbook are ones she loves to share with audiences. In addition to performing, Amber Nicole is a licensed music educator and has a strong interest in helping learners of all ages and abilities find their unique voice, specializing in helping those with performance anxiety. Teaching Artist engagements have included four years of community outreach concerts in the Madison, Wisconsin area with Four Seasons Theatre; Disney Musicals in Schools teaching artist training and residency; full school year residency with Historical Perspectives for Children in Chicagoland k-12 educational programs; and performing in many professional Theatre for Young Audiences contracts throughout the country. Amber Nicole also teaches individual lessons and group classes in her Cary, North Carolina studio as well as online. In her free time, she enjoys doting on her dog and cat and spending time in nature. She is a member of Actors' Equity Association and the National Association of Teachers of Singing. Discover more, including information about her CD, "Swim Kiss," at www.AmberNicoleDilger.com.

A Note About Story, from Amber Nicole:

The Art of Storytelling has always been at the center of my life. As a young child I was captivated by stories told in books. I was deeply moved by stories singers sang, emotionally touched by performances of actors and dancers, and enthralled by stories told instrumentally. I started to become aware of the stories we tell ourselves in order to learn new skills. Learning and functioning within our understanding of the world is directly related to the stories that our minds and bodies hold so tightly. Peeking into the studies of cognitive neuroscience made my years of studying education as an undergraduate click into place with new clarity.

I am intrigued by each day that I get to spend in this lifetime, diving into deeper understanding (and deeper puzzlement) about how and why we humans do the things we do. I feel as if I'm a detective, collecting details of this complexity and applying it to my performing and teaching. I love participating in a student's realization that sometimes their physical or mental self is getting in the way of them achieving their mission, and then helping them find detours around the tension or blockage so that new paths can be created. I love playing with the integration of our body and mind as the instrument of our storytelling in its myriad of forms.

In short, I am excited by teaching, by performing, by learning, by living, and Story seems to be the thread that binds it all.