Musical Theater for Classical Singers
Resources compiled by the Peabody Career Services, Updated Sept. 2017

Advice Articles

**Musical Theater Singing for the Classical Voice**
Neil Semer on how musical theater can help classically trained singers

**Transitioning from Opera to Broadway**
Advice on building a musical theater career. Published on Backstage.com

**Differences btwn Opera and Musical Theater**
By composer/librettist Mark Adamo

**Kelli O’Hara**
5 Tony nominations and a thriving Broadway career. Interview: [Broadway World](https://www.broadwayworld.com)

Case Examples: Contemporary

**Kristen Chenoweth**
“Training is the most important gift you can give yourself.” Interviews: [PhillyMag](https://www.phillymag.com) | [Amazon](https://www.amazon.com)

**Andriana Chuchman**
Roles include Magnolia in Show Boat & Adina in L’elisir d’Amore. Interviews: [Camelot](https://www.camelotmusical.com) | [L’Elisir](https://www.l-elisir-damore.com)

**Victoria Clark**
Performances include Margaret in The Light in the Piazza & Ma Joad in The Grapes of Wrath. Interview: [Broadway World](https://www.broadwayworld.com) | [WSJ](https://www.wsj.com)

**Nathan Gunn**
Roles range from Lancelot in Camelot to Billy Budd. Interview: [MusicalCriticism.com](https://www.musicalcriticism.com)

**Audra McDonald**
Classically trained, Tony winner: Bess in a Porgy and Bess revival; Billie Holiday in Lady Day. [NPR Interviews](https://www.npr.org) | [Bio](https://www.audramcdonald.com)

**Lauren Molina**
Coloratura, belter, rocker. Interview: [NPR](https://www.npr.org)

Case Examples: 20th Century

**Eileen Farrell**
Dramatic soprano; jazz & pop singer. Her advice: “Tell a story in song.” [Videos](https://www.youtube.com) | [Bio](https://www.eileenfarrell.com)

**James Melton**
Switched to opera in the 1930s after tenor voices went out of style in pop music. [Bio](https://www.jamesmelton.com)

**Marni Nixon**
“The Voice of Hollywood.” Overdubbed several movie musicals. Interviews: [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com) | [NPR](https://www.npr.org)

**Janet Pavek**
Played Guenevere in Camelot & Musetta in La Boheme at the MET. Obituary: [Playbill.com](https://www.playbill.com)

**Frederica von Stade**
Originally wanted to sing musical theatre; gained fame for opera. Interview: [Opera Lively](https://www.operalively.com)

*From Johnson’s Kids to Lemonade Opera: The American Classical Singer Comes of Age*
Book by Victoria Etnier Villamil on the 1930s-50s