

## Participants:

Christine Suddeth, Student Researcher



Amanda Flynn, Faculty Mentor



Pace School Of Performing Arts

Provost's Summer 2020 Student-Faculty  
Undergraduate Research Award

## Methodology:



## Research Question:

What is the vocally injured  
student's experience?

## Results:

This study provided valuable insight on injured students' experiences with faculty, recovery, accommodations, stigma, and personal/academic trials while in school.

# PARTICIPANTS



**Christine Suddeth**

BFA Musical Theatre Major, Psychology Minor



**Amanda Flynn**

Pace Adjunct Professor of Voice; MM, CAS in Vocal Pedagogy, Certificate in Vocology

Pace School of Performing Arts/ Dyson College of the Arts and Sciences  
Provost's Summer 2020 Student-Faculty Undergraduate Research Award

# CONTEXT/PURPOSE FOR RESEARCH

## What is the vocally injured undergraduate student's experience?

- What is vocal injury?
- How common are vocal injuries?
- What do we know about the recovery process?
- What makes being in college with one *different*?
- What are performing arts programs and faculty like?
- What stigma surrounds vocal injury?

**Ultimately, we hypothesize that this study will help build awareness around the trials of this specific group of performing artists. The insight gained from this study can hopefully help in building performing arts programs, hiring able faculty, and providing mental support to injured undergraduate students.**

# TECHNIQUES/METHODOLOGY



**ARE YOU A PERFORMING  
STUDENT WHO CURRENTLY  
HAS, OR PREVIOUSLY HAD,  
A VOCAL INJURY?**

Pace University is currently conducting a survey study looking at students' experience with vocal injury while in school. If you experienced a vocal injury while in your acting, musical theatre, or vocal performance program, you are eligible for this study. The survey is open to current students experiencing vocal injury, as well as alums who had an injury while in school, and should take no more than 5 minutes of your time.

Scan the QR code below to access to survey.



# RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS

- Most students work on recovery with a voice team.
- Students value the relationship with their voice teacher.
- Students experience stigma within their programs (primarily from faculty).
- Students require specific academic accommodations for their recovery, especially regarding vocal rest.
- Students have experienced both positive and negative personal and educational effects due to their injury.