

Marieke Schuurs

Marieke has a Bachelor of Music and a Master of Fine Arts from the University of California, Irvine. She trained with Barbara Conable as an Andover Educator (Bodymapping), becoming licensed in 2006, then went on to certify as an Alexander Technique teacher with Alexander Technique International in 2016. She has been a member of the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) for many years, including serving as the NW Regional Governor and National Board Member during Covid. Also a singer, she enjoys both classical and jazz, having sung for many years with Eugene Opera and with her own jazz group, Elegant M. Currently, she is singing with the Clefs of Insanity, a fourteen member a-cappella singing group in Eugene.

Marieke trains voices from an Alexander Technique perspective, an organic approach based on the performer's overall balance and coordination. She is also adept in vocal rehabilitation and is considered a vocologist, working collaboratively with a student's SLP or laryngologist. She offers Alexander Technique lessons for musicians with RSI (Repetitive Strain Injury). She gives workshops and clinics in the Alexander Technique, for music studios and choirs, throughout Oregon. Marieke currently teaches at Harmony Roadhouse in Eugene, and at the Portland Creative Arts Collective in Beaverton.

More recently, Marieke has been exploring birthwork. She is a Traditional Health Worker (THW) registered Birth Doula in the state of Oregon and applies the Alexander Technique to her support of people in labor and starting their families. She believes that birth is a defining rite of passage, and the quality of that experience has an effect on the continuing well-being of the parents and baby.

Marieke has a cat named Charlie, and her children are grown and have families. She loves to read literary fiction, take walks on the beach or in nature, travel, paddleboard in the warm months, and hang out with her children and grandchildren.