

Songwriting Workshop Instructor Bios

Jana Pochop

Singer-songwriter-producer Jana Pochop is a wanderer with a penchant for folk pop songs and universe pondering. She started her career in Austin, immersing herself in the Texas music scene, playing clubs, house concerts, and touring nationally. She was a Kerrville New Folk Finalist in 2022 and then headed off to New York City to earn a Master's in Songwriting and Production at Berklee College of Music's New York campus. She's now based in her hometown of Albuquerque, producing her own music as well as projects for others remotely and at Howlin' Dog Studio in Alamosa, CO.

Her 2022 critically acclaimed album, *The Astronaut*, was named alongside albums by Texas icons like Lizzo, Beyoncé, and Lyle Lovett as one of Texas Music Magazine's "22 Top Albums of 2022". Jana is now set to release her first self-produced album, *Powerlines*, in early 2025. Produced mainly in her Brooklyn room while studying at Berklee, Jana was also able to incorporate reverbs she collected at Georgia O'Keeffe's Home and Studio in Abiquiu, NM. The first singles from the project are available now on all streaming platforms.

"Calling Jana Pochop a "songwriter" is like calling Gandalf a guy who can throw together a nice fireworks display for a birthday party." - Texas Music Magazine

Tony Rosario

Tony Rosario is a singer/songwriter, teacher, recording engineer, session musician, and producer. He has 4 albums out available for streaming on all major platforms. He has served as a staff songwriter for Polygram/Island Music, MCA/Crosswind, and Reel One Music; as a Professor in the Music Department at DU/Metro State University, and maintains a 200+ show per-year schedule as a solo artist. In 2019 his song "Old Dogs" was a finalist in the Red Lodge Songwriters Festival. He has appeared with and/or opened for numerous high-profile artists - Firefall, Michael Johnson, Gov't Mule, David Wilcox, Guy Clark, Chuck Pyle, George Enslie, and more. His songs have been recorded by artists such as Wynonna Judd, Randy Travis, and Suzy Boggus. Tony is also a co-founder of Soldier Songs And Voices - an organization that provides music lessons, instruments as needed, and songwriting workshops to America's real heroes - our Veterans

Ron Capps

Ron Capps is a songwriter, memoirist, and playwright. His first EP, *Trying to Catch Amnesia*, is available for streaming on most services. One of the songs on the EP won a Gold Medal at the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival and others were licensed and released on a compilation CD in Canada. His memoir, *Seriously Not All Right: Five Wars in Ten Years*, was a finalist for the Books for a Better Life Award, and essays drawn from it were listed as notable in Best American Essays (2011, 2012, 2014), one received special recognition at the XXIX Pushcart Awards. His plays have been staged in domestic and international festivals, at colleges and Universities, and by community and regional theaters. Ron studied creative writing at Johns Hopkins and Fairfield, and songwriting at Berklee College of Music.

A veteran of the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, Ron founded the Veterans Writing Project, a non-profit that provides free writing workshops for veterans. In 2017, the Johns Hopkins University awarded Ron the Anne Smedinghoff award for, "a life dedicated to service, social justice, and a commitment to others."