

# Melissa Salandra



From a very early age, it was evident that Melissa Salandra was born for singing. In fact, before she could talk, her parents observed her watching *Sesame Street* as a baby, and humming the entire song- in key. When she did begin speaking and walking, Melissa was always performing for guests as the center of attention, and quickly became an impressive source of conversation for all who had the privilege of hearing her voice.

The musical journey began in Fairfield, CT with a childhood that was both happy and wonderful. Melissa is the oldest of four children, and she earned the lead in whichever play she participated in, developing an early confidence that prevented her from being nervous. During Middle School, she performed with the Fairfield County Children's Choir, and started writing poems that would later form her first venture in songwriting as she carried a small recorder and sang her own lyrics as well.

Voice lessons kept her talent in top form throughout High School and Melissa was singing the National Anthem at local minor league baseball games. Performing as the lead singer in the Advanced Vocal Ensemble, her experiences would include singing for the Connecticut Senate, News Channel 8, and the James Town 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, plus recording a demo in her spare time. And of course, it was no surprise when she was voted the most likely to become famous and successful when she finished High School, one huge step closer to her dreams.

Looking for the absolute best way to further her education, the Berklee College of Music was selected by Melissa, and while attending, she shared the stage with many well know musicians, such as Livingston Taylor, and learned a valuable lesson- everything happens for a reason. She followed her instinct and took a leave of absence to record an album and tour, using another lesson from Berklee, which was that in order to be a singer, you must go out and get it. Now, Melissa is ready to do exactly that with a move to New York in full pursuit of a career in music, and the unique ability to inspire with an amazing, yet versatile voice that moves across a number of styles, and reaches a variety of audiences around the world.

*"This feeling is a greater power of something that I cannot explain. I just feel it in me and when I start to sing or to perform I know that singing is what I am meant to do with my life... performing and singing is my life. Today, I feel this energy telling me that my time is very soon. I know success is coming and I will not rest until I have made it to the top."*

– Melissa Salandra

# Work History

March 2011- present	<b>Recording CD</b> <i>Singer:</i> Currently collaborating ideas and working on a CD with producer Robert Dukes from Isite labels.
Oct 2010- Dec 2010	<b>Recorded CD</b> <i>Singer:</i> Recorded songs with David Stansbury from its trust Productions
September 2010	<b>Live performance</b> <i>Singer/performer:</i> Performed Broadway songs at the Duplex Theater for JD productions with executive producer John D. Forslund
March 2009- Present	<b>Recorded a CD with Production Company</b> <i>Singer/Executive Producer:</i> Recording songs with many producers, such as Jordan Orvosh, Jamie Gudewicz, and many more. Performed all vocals, provided creative input, and helped produce all recordings
Dec 2008- Present	<b>Recorded Song Parody for American Comedy Network</b> <i>Singer:</i> Recorded parody's making fun of Paris Hilton's jail time and Britney Spears' song, Womanizer.
January 2007- Present	<b>Recorded a demo with producer Michael Terry</b> <i>Singer/Executive Producer:</i> Recorded 6 original songs for a demo. Genres: Pop and Country. Performed all vocals, provided creative input, and helped produce all recordings.
2003 – Present	<b>Voice Lessons:</b> Ivan Rutherford (2003-Present)
September 2007-2008	<b>Performance and Training at Berklee College of Music:</b> Private voice lessons, performance classes.
Nov 2006- Dec 2007	<b>Kennedy Center Cabaret Fundraiser:</b> Performed for an audience of over 400 people. Practiced three times a week, practiced dance routines, performed solos and all back up vocals.
2004-Present	<b>Sang National Anthem:</b> Harbor Yard- Blue Fish Stadium; Bridgeport CT Lauralton Hall Basketball games Fundraiser for Awareness of Skin Cancer
June - July 2006	<b>Stage Performance Workshop, Berklee College of Music:</b> Improved on stage performance skills, and learned better technique when on stage
2003-2007	<b>Plays:</b> Little Shop of Horrors: Crystal Kiss me Kate: Hattie Sleeping Beauty (Twice): Sleeping Beauty Alice in Wonderland: Card
September 2003- May 2007	<b>Advanced Vocal Ensemble:</b> Sang all over Connecticut, school performances, school fundraisers, performed on News Channel 8, sang for the Connecticut Senate, sang at the James Town 100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary and recorded a CD, sang with the Fairfield County Children's Choir