LA Voice Club Updates

A message from the group founder

The LA Voice Club has been undergoing a philosophical shift. We are transitioning into a more member-active group with big items on our agenda.

This is a call to action. Please use this opportunity to voice your continued interest in the LA Voice Club by responding to the content in this newsletter.

All member participation is encouraged and, indeed, mandatory to achieve our lofty goals! See you at the next meeting.

Reena Gupta, MD FACS

LARYNGEAL MASSAGE

Rosemary Scott found herself intrigued when she heard about laryngeal massage. Most of us active in the voice community heard about it the same way, on NPR or ABC News. As the story went, Dr. Milstein laid hands on a previously mute patient and restored her voice within minutes of starting laryngeal massage.

Rosemary invited Dr. Milstein to a conference she organized and learned the technique from the master.

We were so lucky that she shared tips with us on how to bring this into our practice and help our patients and clients. Dr. Gupta, her demo patient, was most grateful of all to be relieved of laryngeal pain!
Voice Meeting 2013

Interdisciplinary Voice Conference - Los Angeles

Those of us who have put our roots in Los Angeles as vocal caregivers have been frustrated by the lack of an academic meeting in our town. How could a city with such a density of performers not have a voice meeting? The LA Voice Club will be changing that in 2013.

At our most recent meeting, we decided to take some major steps in the organization of this meeting. New member, Barbara Dyer, of NATS fame had some great insights as a former coordinator and planner of a NATS meeting.

We decided the best audience for our meeting would not be physicians and SLPs, as all previous meetings have been. After all, our goal is to help the voice user. So instead, we’ll focus on voice teachers and their pupils. This will enable us to reach the largest possible audience and bring something new to the voice care community.

So with that, we introduce the first Los Angeles voice care conference directed toward professional voice users and those of us who work with them… Don’t worry. We’re not calling the meeting by that name!

Here is what we need from you. If you would like to be part of the development and organization of this meeting we’d like to brainstorm:

- Best location- what part of Los Angeles and the surrounding areas would appeal most to our target audience?
- Best timing- what time of day? What day of the week?
- Best topics- what topics would you want to lecture on as expert? This meeting will highlight you, an LA Voice Club member. What would interest our target audience?
- Sponsors- do you have any connections who would want to financially sponsor this huge undertaking?

Please send all ideas on the above topics to Dr. Gupta at gupta@ohni.org.

We are thinking to hold our event on World Voice Day, 2013. I hope to get help from all the membership to make this meeting a spectacular success.
Veera Asher, DMA is a pioneer in the juxtaposition of both the classic and the contemporary. Professionally, Veera has worked extensively in live production as a singer, actor, dancer, pianist, violinist, songwriter/composer, director and producer. She is also involved with academic and educational organizations as an instructor, researcher, and innovator in performing arts training.

Education:
Veera earned her Bachelor of Music, Major Opera degree at the University of British Columbia. Then, on full scholarship, she completed her performing and directing studies at the Hartt School of Music in Connecticut, where she graduated with a Master of Music, Major Opera. Beyond her classical training, she also studied Jazz at the Banff Center with Sheila Jordan; wrote, recorded and produced an original solo demo album at some of New York City’s premiere recording studios; studied Pop singing with Dr. Tina Shafer; and was a member of the New York City Songwriter’s Circle. After several years as a performing artist Veera returned to academia and completed her Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Voice Performance at the University of Nevada Las Vegas where she also taught voice classes and voice majors.

Performance and Live Production:
Dr. Veera Asher’s professional performance career has involved everything from opera and concert performances, musical theatre, and pop, to singing with jazz legends and dancing with hip-hop and Bollywood choreographers. Veera began her opera career at Connecticut Opera and has since been a featured soprano soloist in several symphonic performances singing Mozart and Beethoven to Pops repertoire. She also performed her original composition, the “Ave-Om Prayer” for voice and flute at the Weill Hall at Carnegie Hall. She has created and produced over twenty original interdisciplinary productions combining her various musical styles.

Mind-Body-Voice Expertise:
For over a decade, Dr. Veera Asher’s private voice studio has been the home to amateur and professional singers, speakers, actors, and instrumentalists. Professional clients have included classical singers, pop recording artists, television actors, pianists, flutists, lawyers, speech pathologists and performers in various New York City and Las Vegas Broadway productions. Dr. Asher’s doctoral dissertation and research specialize in voice performance, voice science & mind-body techniques. She is also a certified Pilates instructor and the creator of the pioneering mind-body-voice training technique called Pilates2Voice®.

Dr. Asher has been peer reviewed to present her innovative ideas related to music education, performance, voice technique, and mind-body training at national conferences for the College Music Society and the National Association of Teachers of Singing, as well as conducting seminars and workshops for The University of Philosophical Research, The Edge Performing Arts Center, The Ruskin School of Acting, and the Vancouver International Song Institute.

More information about Veera on her website:
www.inspire2inspire.com