We want to take you higher.

Join Celebrated Voice Actors, Creative Directors, Talent Agents and Casting Directors and Ignite Your Career!

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DAY-AT-A-GLANCE

9:00 am
Registration

10:00 am
Performance Palooza – Voiceover Showcase Presented By the HEAR Now Festival and SueMedia Productions

Voice Arts® Award nominated director Sue Zizza and master Foley artist and audio engineer David Shinn choreograph a live audio theater production, featuring an All-Voice Arts® Award Nominated Ensemble of voiceover greats: Scott Brick, Hillary Hubert, PJ Ochlan, Kyla Garcia and the unflappable Phil Proctor.

10:45 am
Crash Course Audiobook MBA: Getting Smarter About Your Success

Sr. Manager of Marketing for ACX, Hannah Wall hosts an all-star team of audiobook award-winners to take you from the ground floor to the top of your game. Bridging the education gap is the magic key for the successful audiobook narrator. You’ll graduate with honors when Hannah connects the dots with Kat Lambrix, Sr. Producer, Audible Studios / Mark Kondracki, Director-Producer, Outloud Audio / Christa Lewis, Narrator-Teacher, Wacky Titles Productions and Chris Fogg, Founder, ListenUp Audio. Plus, the announcement of the ACX Contest Winner.

11:35 am
Get Animated with Disney’s MOANA & ZOOTOPIA

The incomparable and legendary voice actor/teacher, Pat Fraley, brings you another gem for the depths of feature animation. From the phenomenal success of ZOOTOPIA to the highly anticipate opening of Disney’s MOANA, Casting Director Jamie Sparer Roberts, CSA (Voice Arts® Nominee) and Co-writer/Co-Director Jared Bush take us behind the creation of this major animated feature – starring Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson and introducing Auli’i Cravalho. They’ll uncover the nuts and bolts, practical considerations for working voice actors to better understand and prepare for roles in animation.

12:30 pm
Intermission

1:00 pm
There’s Money in Your Radio

Vast opportunities exist in radio voice acting and they are often misunderstood. Joe Cipriano investigates the world of radio and voice acting with Writers Guild Award Winning Producer Dan Greenberger of CBS, the voice of the 2016 Emmys Melissa Disney, Sencotwn Radio Imaging director Justin Case, and the unflappable voice actor for radio and TV promotion, Howard Cogan. Looking to expand your voiceover horizons? There’s Money In Your Radio, gets to the heart of the questions and answers that can make all the difference. Be there and tune in!

2:00 pm
Backstage Vanguard Award for Outstanding Agenting & Business Leadership

Celebrate with Super agent Ken Slevin, CEO & President of CESD Talent, when he receives the Backstage Vanguard Award for Outstanding Agenting and Business Leadership. Then listen in for a revealing interview about what it takes to provide successful agenting for voice actors. Hear from one of the best in the world about how agents work, what they look for and how voice actors can best acquire agent representation. It’s a conversation that could supercharge your career and inspire your success.

MIDDAY

3:00 pm – 6:00 pm
Exhibitors Reception

Lunch and beverages will be served. Our sponsors will be out to play. They’ll bring you up to date on the latest in audio technology, web design, voiceover training, news and more. Plus: Wanna go for a ride? HONDA will unveil the latest in hydrogen-based fuel technology with a live display of the new 2017 Clarity Series: The Car for a Clean Future. Most of all, this is an opportunity to enjoy your friends and meet new ones – to share your knowledge and learn from others. Inspire and be inspired.

4:00 pm
Speed Dating with Your Demo Reel

Stacey Aswad host 90 minutes that could change your life. An exclusive one-on-one networking venue for a pre-selected group of talented voice actors, who will meet in 6-minute sessions with some of the top movers and shakers in the industry. This exclusive event admits 25 attendees who have been pre-approved via phone interview. This is a fast-paced rocket ride to talent self-awareness, marketing execution and networking skills. Sponsored by Sennheiser.

4:00 pm
Audition Spotlight™ for CBS – Round 2

Just before what could possibly be the biggest voiceover moment in their lives, 40 finalists will step up to the mic for round two of the Audition Spotlight™ for CBS2, competing to become one of six finalist with a chance to win a booking for a CBS Promo Campaign, a talent contract with TGMD Talent Agency, and take home gifts that include a brand new MKII Studio Microphone from Sennheiser.

continues
PRIMETIME SHOW

6:00 pm
Honda Presentation Video and Comments
Do you know which voice actor is the voice of Honda? Look it up. You may be surprised. You’ll also be quite surprised when Honda unveils the latest auto technology for a cleaner environment right on the grounds of Warner Bros. Studios at That’s Voiceover!™ and the Voice Arts® Awards.

6:10 pm
The Muhammad Ali Center
The Great One has left this earthly plain but not without leaving us all with an undeniable legacy of courage and the pursuit of greatness. “Be great. Do Great Things.” This year SOVAS™ has chosen to celebrate the Champ for his voice as a humanitarian and activist, and for all the blows he weathered to stand up for what’s best in our humanity. We ask you to join us by reaching deep into your hearts to make a contribution to the Muhammad Ali Center.

The Muhammad Ali Center is a multicultural center with an award-winning museum dedicated to the life of Muhammad Ali. The Center museum captures the inspiration derived from the story of Muhammad Ali’s incredible life and the six core principles that have fueled his journey. The mission of the Muhammad Ali Center is to preserve and share the legacy and ideals of Muhammad Ali, to promote respect, hope, and understanding, and to inspire adults and children everywhere to be as great as they can be.

6:20 pm
Creating The Brand. Choosing The Voice.
Scott Parkin, America’s Commercial Voice Actor, exposes you, the voice actor, to the world beyond the booth, on a trip inside the minds of the people who conceive, produce and shape the content that calls upon your skills. From content creation to agenting to casting to performance to audience. Meet Lisa Lane, Promo Manager, CBS / Ron Hayes, EVP On-Air marketing, NBC / David Wright, Casting Director, Disney / Doug Melville, Chief Diversity Officer, TBWA Worldwide / Celia Siegel, owner of Celia Siegel Management / Rudy Gaskins, Chairman & CEO, SOVAS™. These are the people behind the words you speak. This time, they they speak.

7:20 pm
Million Dollar Voices
Joan Baker, author of Secrets of Voiceover Success and co-founder of SOVAS™, moderates a star-studded ensemble of some of America’s most prolific voice actors. Together, they’ll shine a light on the best and worst of the journey to voiceover success. Say hello to award-winning voice and star of stage and screen Fred Melamed, Voice Arts® Award winner Dave Fennoy, Voice Arts® Award winner Lori Alan, Voice Arts® Award winner and TV Producer Sharon Martin, the voice of Transformers and Animaniacs Jess Harnell, and bilingual voiceover dynamo Sylvia Villagran. Prepare to be exhilarated and inspired as this stellar ensemble helps you navigate real-world opportunities.

8:20 pm
SOVAS™ Academic Scholarship Announcement
Celebrated voice actor and producer J. Michael Collins, will present the prestigious SOVAS™ Academic Scholarship to one unsuspecting voice actor. The winner will be selected from nearly 50 applicants trying to achieve their voice acting dream in the face of life’s hardships and sometimes insurmountable odds. Tonight, one person will hear their name and learn that their dream is still alive.

8:30 pm
Audition Spotlight™ Finals
Under the bright lights, before a live audience, with industry agents and producers judging and scrutinizing every nuance of every performance, 6 talented finalist will square off for the Audition Spotlight™ grand prize. Only one of them will bask in the spotlight of victory, winning a paid promo booking with CBS2 Los Angeles, a talent contract with TGMD Talent Agency, a brand new MK8 Sennheiser Studio Microphone and an outrageous swag bag you have to see to believe. This is where everything voiceover comes together—the moment that captures the essence of voice acting. Real. Live. Amazing.

9:30 pm
Voice of Gods and Goddesses Reception sponsored by Honda.

10:30 pm
Goodnight and have a wonderful evening.

Executive Producer/Co-Creator: RUDY GASKINS
Producer/Co-Creator/Host: JOAN BAKER
Host: SCOTT PARKIN
Public Relations: JUDY DURAND

Public Relations: DARYL WILLIAMS
Graphic Design: Ichimoto Inc.
Event Planner: SCOTT MAURO
I have been doing Voice over and On Camera commercials for 30 years. I started in radio right out of college. In that time I’ve developed an extensive skill set and learned to take direction well. My objective in VO, as well as On Camera work is to do whatever it takes to have everybody present feel that the that the end product they get, is the best it can be. I like to be the one to find common ground that solves issues for creative and client alike. Often times on set or in the studio the root concept evolves. My objective is to evolve with the concept as directed and bring as much to the table as I can to the work, I earn my money. I’m an improve specialist with 25 years of improvisation on stage, on camera and in the studio. I also have no trouble reading a script exactly as written.

I’m now vocal coach teaching “Improv and the real guy read” for VO and I’m head of “On Camera Commercials” at “Gray Studios.” Premier acting school. After being in over 200 on camera commercials and having done over 1,000 voice overs in my 25 years in the business, as well as having been on the agency side copy writing and casting… I have a lot to share to help others. I’m also one of the few coaches who are also currently working and have commercials running so I know the markets and trends well. I’m passionate about all of it and I go all in.

Thanks for taking the time to read this; I wish I gave away T-shirts to those who could prove they actually read this bio. Tell ya what if you message me "I found Smart & Final to be neither". I promise I’ll get ya something :)
SPEED DATING
With Your Demo Reel
Hosted by Stacey J. Aswad

Saturday, November 12th, 4:00pm - 5:30pm
Warner Bros Theater, Burbank

Only at THAT’S VOICEOVER!

“Let’s book beautiful jobs together.”

Meet agents, casting directors and TV network creative directors.
Learn what they look for from voiceover talent.

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ROBERT REDFORD’S “START & RESTART REALISTIC DIALOGUE TRICK.”
There are those times when you will have the power to change words in a voice over project. If you are challenged with making the dialogue more realistic, here’s a trick, which Robert Redford uses in most every movie he’s ever done. A character will start a thought, get a better way of putting it, and go on with the better way of communicating the thought. For example – “Morgan is serving five years for aggravated – he’s in the slammer for busting a guy up bad.”

MONTGOMERY CLIFF’S, “READ IT LIKE A FIRST GRADER” TECHNIQUE.
This is a technique that is attributed to the great stage and film actor, Montgomery Cliff. When he would first read a script, he would read it carefully, word by word, making sure he was not performing. Why? He said that since he didn’t know what was on the pages, he couldn’t make any intelligent choices to realize the scene or story with performance. If he did perform it prematurely, it could very well lead him into choices that didn’t realize the story. This is the kind of work I do alone, and prior to a read with other actors or with the director.

THE PERFECT WORD TRICK.
If I don’t have control of the text or the ability to change words, I will occasionally take time or a pause prior to saying a word (particularly if it’s a strange or complex word) to give the impression that I just thought of it or chose it carefully. It’s rather like parallelizing the author’s journey during his or her first draft. “About two weeks ago, I was talking to my boss about the…” potentiality of a raise.

THE ONE WAY NEVER TO SLATE.
Dead. By that I mean, without personality. It’s a habit performers get into as they do audition after audition. They sound serious, even bored and have it in their mind that it doesn’t count. In an audition, everything counts from your first fricative. Consider the listener. Someone is listening to dozens, if not hundreds of auditions in a row. The first thing they hear is a performer who doesn’t reveal personality, and perhaps sound bored.

“KILLER DIALECT CATCH PHRASE” TRICK.
There will come a time when you will be asked if you can do a particular accent or dialect, and a director or producer will want you to give them a “taste.” Don’t trot out an improvised sentence or passage. Have a sentence that you know well, which shows off your abilities in the best light and includes many of the sound adjustments and changes you must make to perform the dialect correctly. I refer to these as “Killer Dialect Catch Phrases.” It is best if you make up your own. Here are a couple that work for me.

- British: All that glitters is not gold.
- Russian: I have to grab little rodent for to ring his neck.

NEVER SWING ON “AND” REMINDER
The habit of connecting two products, services, or general concepts with a conjunctive came from advertising. “It’s delicious, kids love ‘em AND it’s good for you.” It makes no sense to use valuable emphasis on a conjunctive, AND especially by getting loud for emphasis.

Conjunctive Lines
We can get all the kids, water toys in the car AND the dog.
That’s what she said, SO, I guess we’ll have to submit. We don’t make rude noises, NOR two we open our mouths while we chew.

BATS & RATS TECHNIQUE
Give a long tight “Cartoon Kiss” into your open palm. That should generate a high-pitched sound. Wiggle your palm as you do. The perfect bat or rat. What’s the difference between Bat and Rats and a Cartoon Kiss? One’s more fun.

COMMIT TO ONE CHOICE MINDSET
Before you send in two takes for an audition, consider two factors.
1. Which of the performances realizes the story best?
2. When you send in two takes, you are begging for a comparison between the two?
That means someone is in a position to decide one is not as good as the other.

QUIET AND CLOSE Agenda.
Be on the lookout for any scene or line where you can perform it as if you were in a close-up shot. Actors tend to work as if they were on stage, rather than in film. Just because there is an exclamation mark at the end of the sentence doesn’t mean it has to be loud. Sure, if the line is, “May Day! May Day!” you’ll need to get loud, but many don’t need to be performed with volume.

Quiet and Close Lines
“I’ve told you before, I’m not going to wait!”
“Who’s in charge here!”
“Ladies and Gentlemen. May I have you attention.”

DON’T BE IN THE MOMENT TECHNIQUE
This flies in the face of what is taught in acting school, but sometimes people are distracted, doing something in additional to talking to someone. It creates a different sound. Look for moments in scripts, text and copy, where a character is doing something as well as talking to someone.

THE SOUND OF THINKING MIC TECHNIQUE
The convention in voice over for thinking is quiet, as if to oneself. To make it effective, you need to marry your hushed tones (not whispered) with close microphone technique. In text, particularly in books, when a character is thinking, it is in italics. What you do is go from standard mic position, to close mic, which is 2 or three inches from the mic. That way, you will be at the same relative volume as your performance with more volume, farther away, but it will fulfill the convention of thinking.

“WHEN THE TEXT GETS HOT, GET COLD TECHNIQUE.”
This is from the audiobook narration world, but I apply it to all mediums. As a performer, you are partners with the text. When a passage in a book, or scene gets provocative or evocative like sensual or grisly passages, back off your expressiveness and attitude toward the material. Why? You want to leave plenty of room for the listener to experience their emotional journey rather than yours.
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CEO & President, CESD Talent Agency

~ ON RECEIVING ~
The Backstage Vanguard Award
for Outstanding Agenting
& Business Leadership

Dave Walsh
&
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~ Congratulate ~

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Submissions for 2017 featured programming begins November 28, 2016 and runs through February 1, 2017.

All audio fiction welcome including: audiobooks, audio plays, fiction based podcasts, game sound, sound design, and more. Live performance and recorded listening submissions welcome. Visit www.hearnowfestival.org for more information and submission applications.

The HEAR Now Festival celebrating audio fiction and the many artists who create it.

Tickets to the HEAR Now Festival go on sale March 1, 2017. Discount hotels available for festival attendees.
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