WE ALL HAVE A VOICE.
CELEBRATE IT.

3rd Annual
Voice Arts® AWARDS GALA

WARNER BROS. STUDIOS
BURBANK CA | NOVEMBER 13TH AT 5PM

© 2016 Society of Voice Arts And Sciences™
We are more than ready...to congratulate

Michael Buffer

Voice Arts® Icon Award

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Michael Buffer

Voice Arts® Icon Award

To the Voice Arts® Community:

Thank you.

Speaking on behalf of my unstoppable partner Joan Baker, and the SOVAS™ Board of Directors, I could go on saying thank you for the rest of my life and I probably will. Gratitude is all I have left after receiving the endless stream of support and love from so many within the voiceover community and beyond. SOVAS™ stands strong for one simple reason: The people who are dedicated to its mission and who commit themselves to it with heart and soul. Judi Durand is a public relations pro who observed what we are envisioning and said, “I believe you have something. I’ll do everything I can to help you reach your goals.” Judi not only made us one of her pro bono projects, but she did it out of love. Artie Egendorf (energysway.com) is another angel in our lives. He has provided extraordinary spiritual guidance and life coaching on levels we could never have imagined possible. It always comes down to dedicated people. My heart is filled with gratitude.

Operating a nonprofit is a humbling experience. Almost every time you pick up the phone it’s to ask someone for something for free, followed by educating that person in the mission of your organization. With so many charities doing extraordinary work that tackles humanity’s most devastating problems in war-torn nations or regions ravaged by the forces of nature, it seems strange to ask for support for voice acting.

Yet, when people consider the global impact that the human voice can have at every level, a flash of recognition suddenly shines through and a sparkle lights their eyes. Voice acting, when done artfully, has the power to engender great joy, laughter, understanding, comfort, knowledge and many other positive influences that impact our global humanity. “In the beginning there was the word.” The word is the realm of the voice actor, the artist, the orator, the singer and anyone who wants to make a positive difference.

This year, we are thrilled to see SOVAS™ and the Voice Arts® Awards emerge as a new energy transforming our industry and our world for the better. The Muhammad Ali Humanitarian Honor is a gift to the realm in which our work takes place. The Environmental Voice Arts® Award is a declaration that our voices can be harnessed and unleashed for the greater good. The voice actors, writers, content creators, directors, casting directors and talent agents are the centurions of communication. “In the beginning there was the word.” I take that to mean that every time we speak is a new beginning.

Sincerely,

Rudy Gaskins
Chairman & CEO
Society of Voice Arts and Sciences™
ORDER OF THE EVENING

4:15 pm
Red Carpet Arrivals

4:45 pm
Opening Reception
Hors’ d’oeuvres & Open Bar

5:45 pm
Theater Open for Seating

6:00 pm
Voice Arts® Awards
Welcome
Award Recipients Announced

Special Honorees:
Michael Buffer, Lonnie Ali and Erin Brockovich
Award Recipients Announced

9:00 pm
Honda After Party

DAVE WALSH & WALSH VOICEOVER COACHING
CONGRATULATE
MICHAE L BUFFER
on receiving
The VoiceArts® Icon Award
For Lifetime Achievement

And to all 2016 Voice Arts® Award nominees, including our wonderful voiceover clients and alumni:

MIKE BRANG
DAVE FENNOY
ALISON FREED
TIM FRIEDLANDER
BRADY HALE S
ANDREW HEYL

DEBBE HIRATA
CRAIG KLEIN
ALICYN PACKARD
JAY PRESTON
ADAM VERNER

And to all 2016 Voice Arts® Award nominees, including our wonderful voiceover clients and alumni:

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CRAIG KLEIN
ALICYN PACKARD
JAY PRESTON
ADAM VERNER

walshvoiceovercoaching.com
walshvo.com
Congratulations to the Voice Arts® Awards nominees and all who open their hearts to the greatness within.

Schulman Lobel is proud to and honored to protect the integrity of the Voice Arts® Award balloting process.

Good luck to all the nominees!

www.AliCenter.org

Schulman Lobel Zand
Katzen Williams & Blackman LLP
certified public accountants and advisors

WWW.SCHULMANLOBEL.COM
JURORS

Animation Producer
Electric Lip Productions
IAN FULTS

Voice Actor
JAY BRITTON

Creative Services
Comcast Sports Net
JAY WADHLA

Producer, Director
Acting Coach
JEFF HOWELL

Author/Blogger
MARY BURKEY

Podcast Host
Book Guy Show
PAUL ALVES

Creative Director
Roundhead Creative Group
PHIL ALCABES

Voice Actor/Founder
The Voiceover Network
RACHAEL NAYLOR

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CESD Talent
JOHN “HOSS” HOSSENLOPP

VO Talent Manager
Johna Gottlieb Consulting
JOHNA GOTTLIB

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Audio Editor
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Narrator
JV MARTIN

Narrator
RC BRAY

Director/Producer
SueMedia Productions
SUE ZIZZA

Voice Actor
Spanish & English Language
TOMAS MACKEY

Creative Director
Executive Producer
VENUS DENNISON

Narrator
KAREN COMMINS

Casting Director
Liz Lewis Casting Partners
LIZ LEWIS

Talent Management
The Talent Express
LORNA RAINEY

Audio Producer
DuArt Media
LOU GUTIERREZ
VOICE ARTS™ AWARD NOMINEES

OUTSTANDING NATIONAL TV COMMERCIAL, BEST VOICEOVER

Voice Actor: Mike Brang
Product: “United Mileage Plus Explorer Card”
Client: CHASE
Voice Actor: Cristina Milizia
Product: “The Curious Life”
Client: The Laughing Cow
Voice Actor: Debbe Hira ra
Product: “Feed Greatness”
Client: Purina
Voice Actor: Keith Michaels
Product: “A Story Worth Telling”
Client: Guatemala Tourism
Voice Actor: Christian Lanz
Product: “Telenovela”
Client: Tostitos

OUTSTANDING NATIONAL TV CAMPAIGN, BEST VOICEOVER

Voice Actor: Chris Fries
Product: Chevrolet With Techron
Client: Chevrolet
Voice Actor: Sam Williamson
Product: LG OLED TV
Client: LG
Voice Actor: Glenn Howard
Product: “Spartans Will”
Client: Michigan State University
Voice Actor: Debbe Hira ra
Product: “Feed Greatness”
Client: Purina
Voice Actor: Mike Brang
Product: “Let’s Go Places”
Client: Toyotan

OUTSTANDING TV ANIMATION, BEST VOICEOVER

Voice Actor: Jessica McDonald
Product: The Amazing World of Gumball
Voice Actor: Christian Lanz
Product: Epic Cat Battles with Puss in Boots
Client: DreamWorksTV
Voice Actor: Kevin Gilkm ann
Product: Get Blake!
Client: Nickelodeon
Voice Actor: Cristina Milizia
Product: Lala The Koala, Disney Junior
Client: Disney Junior
Voice Actor: Steph Lynn Robinson
Product: Loopid
Client: CTV

OUTSTANDING PROMO DEMO REEL, BEST VOICEOVER

Voice Actor: Mike Brang
Product: Mike Brang Promo Demo
Client: Mike Brang
Voice Actor: Jason LaShea
Product: Jason LaShea Promo Demo
Client: Jason LaShea
Voice Actor: Jay Preston
Product: Jay Preston Promo Demo
Client: Jay Preston

OUTSTANDING NATIONAL TV PROMO, BEST VOICEOVER

Voice Actor: Chris Fries
Product: Big 10 Championship on FOX
Client: FOX
Voice Actor: Dave McRae
Product: 800! Brunch
Client: Travel & Escape
Voice Actor: Craig Klein
Product: 2015 BMW Championship Tease
Client: Golf Channel
Voice Actor: Chris Fries
Product: The History of Daytona
Client: FOX
Voice Actor: Chris Fries
Product: West Texas Investors Club
Client: CNBC

OUTSTANDING TV PROMO CAMPAIGN, BEST VOICEOVER

Voice Actor: Toy Holmes
Product: Black Girls Rock
Client: BET
Voice Actor: Chris Fries
Product: Brooklyn Nine-Nine
Client: FOX
Voice Actor: Alicyn Packard
Product: Ovation Network
Client: OVA TION TELEVISION NETWORK
Voice Actor: Lorraine Ansell
Product: Toot Tool Drivers for Tiny Pop
Client: SONY
Other Credits: Lorraine Ansell

OUTSTANDING NATIONAL TV COMMERCIAL REEL, BEST VOICEOVER

Voice Actor: Alan Adelberg
Product: Alan Adelberg Video Game/Animation Demo Reel
Client: Alan Adelberg
Voice Actor: Laila Berzins
Product: Laila Berzins – Animation Demo 2016
Client: Laila Berzins
Voice Actor: Jason LaShea
Product: Jason LaShea – Animation Demo Reel
Client: Jason LaShea
Voice Actor: Dian Perry
Product: Dian Perry Animation Demo Reel
Client: Dian Perry
Voice Actor: Kimberly Woods
Product: Kimberly Woods Animation Demo
Client: Kimberly Woods

OUTSTANDING NARRATION – TV OR FILM, BEST VOICEOVER

Voice Actor: Jody William Baxmeyer
Product: Alexander the Great
Client: Jam Advertising
Voice Actor: Robert Clotworthy
Product: Ancient Aliens
Client: HISTORY
Voice Actor: Bob Peterson
Product: E!60 The Family Business
Client: ESPN
Voice Actor: Mike Brang
Product: Jimmy Kimmel Live
Client: ABC
Voice Actor: Brian Haymond
Product: Subaru Launch Control – Family Ties
Client: SUBARU

OUTSTANDING LOCAL TV COMMERCIAL, BEST VOICEOVER

Voice Actor: Kim Handysides
Product: FGCU Effect
Client: Florida GulfCoast University
Voice Actor: Julia Knippen
Product: Dreamworld
Client: Hood New England Creamery
Voice Actor: J. Michael Collins
Product: Pizza My Heart 2016 California Spot
Client: Pizza My Heart

OUTSTANDING RADIO COMMERCIAL, BEST VOICEOVER

Voice Actor: David Brouwer
Product: Chevy Silverado, Find New Roads
Client: Chevy
Voice Actor: Chris Fries
Product: “Airport”
Client: Fifth Third Bank
Voice Actor: Jay Preston
Product: Free Fries
Client: McDonald’s
Voice Actor: J. Michael Collins
Product: State and Main Kitchen and Bar 2016
Client: State and Main Kitchen and Bar
Voice Actor: Lea Guilino
Product: Tejava Ice Tea
Client: Tejava

OUTSTANDING POLITICAL ANNOUNCEMENT – IMAGE, BEST VOICEOVER

Voice Actor: Brian Haymond
Product: Ted Cruz for President, “Scorpion”
Voice Actor: J. Michael Collins
Product: Great Moments in American Oratory – Huffington Post
Voice Actor: Tim Friedlander
Product: Sue Minter
Voice Actor: Tim Friedlander
Product: Shaughnessy Naughton

OUTSTANDING MOVIE TRAILER, BEST VOICEOVER

Voice Actor: J. Michael Collins
Product: Alice Through The Looking Glass
Client: ABC

(Cont.)
Voice Actor: John Grove  
Product: One For The Road, An HD Extreme Sports Ski Film  
Client: TETON Gravity Research

Voice Actor: Kirsten Cruz  
Product: A Summer’s Eve  
Client: Metropolis

Other Credits: Director: Emiliano Galigani

OUTSTANDING MOTION PICTURE ANIMATION, BEST VOICEOVER

Voice Actor: Albert Brooks  
Product: Finding Dory  
Client: Pixar Animation Studios

Other Credits: Ellen DeGeneres, Ed O’Neill, Kaitlin Olson, Hayden Rolence, Ty Burrell, Diane Keaton, Eugene Levy, Sloane Murray, Idris Elba, Dominic West, Bob Peterson, Kate McKinnon, Bill Hader, Sigourney Weaver, Andrew Stanton, John Ratzenberger

Voice Actor: Ellen DeGeneres  
Product: Finding Dory

Client: Pixar Animation Studios

Other Credits: Albert Brooks, Kaitlin Olson, Hayden Rolence, Ty Burrell, Diane Keaton, Eugene Levy, Sloane Murray, Idris Elba, Dominic West, Bob Peterson, Kate McKinnon, Bill Hader, Sigourney Weaver, Andrew Stanton, John Ratzenberger

Voice Actor: Ed O’Neill  
Product: Finding Dory

Client: Pixar Animation Studios

Other Credits: Ellen DeGeneres, Albert Brooks, Kaitlin Olson, Hayden Rolence, Ty Burrell, Diane Keaton, Eugene Levy, Sloane Murray, Idris Elba, Dominic West, Bob Peterson, Kate McKinnon, Bill Hader, Sigourney Weaver, Andrew Stanton, John Ratzenberger

Voice Actor: Ginnifer Goodwin  
Product: Zootopia

Client: Walt Disney Animation Studios

Other Credits: Jason Bateman, Idris Elba, Jenny Slate, Nate Torrence, Bonnie Hunt, Don Lake, Tommy Chong, J.K. Simmons, Octavia Spencer, Alan Tudyk, Shakira, Raymend S. Perri, Maurice LeMarche, John DiMaggio

Voice Actor: Jason Bateman  
Product: Zootopia

Client: Walt Disney Animation Studios

Other Credits: Ginnifer Goodwin, Idris Elba, Jenny Slate, Nate Torrence, Bonnie Hunt, Don Lake, Tommy Chong, J.K. Simmons, Octavia Spencer, Alan Tudyk, Shakira, Raymend S. Perri, Maurice LeMarche, John DiMaggio

OUTSTANDING CONSUMER SALES VIDEO, BEST VOICEOVER

Voice Actor: Debbie Hirata  
Product: “Our People are Everything”  
Client: Aerotek
OUTSTANDING NARRATION DEMO REEL, BEST SPANISH VOICEOVER

Voice Actor: Kristy Calvache
Product: Dino-Buddies: La Bicicleta de Muchos Colores Interactive eBook App by Aunt Eebe and Sprout!
Client: Dino-Buddies (Rivercrest Industries, Inc.) USA
Other Credits: Author, Translator: Angela Capers
Author, Illustrator, Creative Development: Harry P. Caylor, Jr.
Voice Actor: Antonio D. Espejo
Product: Galaxy Moon
Voice Actor: Valentina Latyna Plascencia
Product: Valentina Latyna
Client: Valentina Latyna Plascencia

OUTSTANDING TV PROMOS – BEST SPANISH VOICEOVER

Voice Actor: Sylvia Villagran
Product: Copa America 2016
Client: Univision Deportes
Voice Actor: Elvis Castillo
Product: El Cuerpo Del Deseo
Client: Telemundo Internacional
Voice Actor: Roberto Sanchez
Product: Olympics Rio 2016
Client: NBC Universo
Voice Actor: Fabian Toro
Product: Survive Episode
Client: Discovery US Hispanic

AUDIOBOOK NARRATION – BIOGRAPHY, BEST NARRATOR

Narrator: Ralph Lister
Audiobook: The Auctioneer by Simon de Pury
Client: HighBridge Audio
Narrator: Paul Michael
Audiobook: Boy Born Dead by David Ring
Client: christianaudio
Narrator: Tavia Gilbert
Audiobook: I Wasn’t Strong Like This When I Started Out by Lee Gutkind
Client: Tor
tant Media
Narrator: Dennis Kleinman
Audiobook: Out of the Shoebox by Yaron Reshef
Client: A World Voice
Narrator: Jonathan Keeble
Audiobook: Paul McCartney: The Life by Philip Norman
Client: Recorded Books

AUDIOBOOK NARRATION – SCIENCE FICTION, BEST NARRATOR

Narrator: Josh Clark, Charlie Davis, Scott Menville, Jim Meskimen, Stefan Rudnicki, and a Full Cast
Audiobook: Battlefield Earth: A Saga of the Year 3000
Publisher: Galaxy Press
Narrator: Simon Vance
Audiobook: Children of Earth and Sky
Publisher: Recorded Books
Narrator: Ray Porter
Product: Contact: Alien Invasion 2 by Sean Platt and Johnny B. Truant
Publisher: Podium Publishing
Narrator: Scott Brick
Audiobook: The Last Tribe by Brad Manuel
Publisher: Podium Publishing
Narrator: Tim Gerard Reynolds
Audiobook: Shadow and Flame by Gail Z. Martin
Publisher: Recorded Books

AUDIOBOOK NARRATION – MYSTERY, BEST NARRATOR

Narrator: Simon Vance
Audiobook: Hour of the Wolf by Hakan Nesser
Publisher: HighBridge Audio
Narrator: Xe Sands
Audiobook: The Muralist by B.A. Shapiro
Publisher: HighBridge Audio
Narrator: Jim Frangione
Audiobook: Scents and Sensibility by Spencer Quinn
Publisher: Recorded Books
Narrator: Anna Parker-Naples
Audiobook: Where the Memories Lie by Sibel Hodge
Publisher: Recorded Books
Narrator: Lisette Lecat
Audiobook: The Woman Who Walked in Sunshine by Alexander McCall Smith
Publisher: Recorded Books

AUDIOBOOK NARRATION – AUTHOR PERFORMANCE, BEST NARRATOR

Narrator: Dave Isay
Audiobook: Callings: The Purpose and Passion of Work by Dave Isay
Publisher: HighBridge Audio
Narrator: Candace Cameron Bure
Audiobook: Dancing Through Life by Candace Cameron Bure
Publisher: christianaudio
Narrator: Dick Van Dyke
Audiobook: Keep Moving by Dick Van Dyke
Publisher: Blackstone

AUDIOBOOK NARRATION – CHILDREN’S PRE-SCHOOL (INFANT TO 12), BEST NARRATOR

Narrator: Lecrae Moore
Audiobook: Unashamed by Lecrae Moore
Publisher: christianaudio
Narrator: Jo Maeder
Audiobook: When I Married My Mother by Jo Maeder
Publisher: Vivant Press
Narrator: Tim Wise
Audiobook: White Like Me by Tim Wise
Publisher: Audiblebooks.com

AUDIOBOOK NARRATION – CRIME & THRILLER, BEST NARRATOR

Narrator: Adam Verner
Audiobook: The Fraud, by Brad Parks
Publisher: Dreamscape Media
Narrator: Stacy Keach
Audiobook: Murder Never Knocks by Mickey Spillane and Max Allan Collins
Publisher: Blackstone
Narrator: RC Bray
Audiobook: Nemesis: Arisen, Book 8.5
Publisher: Podium Publishing
Narrator: PJ Ochlan
Audiobook: Precinct: Siberia
Publisher: SueMedia Productions

AUDIOBOOK NARRATION – BUSINESS OR EDUCATION, BEST NARRATOR

Narrator: Daniel Maté
Audiobook: The Coaching Habit, by Michael Bungay Stanier
Publisher: Post Hypnotic Press
Narrators: Em Eldridge, Kate Orsini, Kyla Garcia, Cherise Boothe
Audiobook: The Terrible Two by Mac Barnett and Jory John
Publisher: Blackstone Audio
Narrator: Katie Schorr
Audiobook: Zootopia by Disney Press
Publisher: Blackstone Audio

AUDIOBOOK NARRATION – TEENS, BEST NARRATOR

Narrator: Caitlin Davies
Audiobook: Dragon Blood Omnibus
Publisher: Podium Publishing
Narrator: Julia Whelan and Will Damron
Audiobook: The Dwellers Saga Omnibus: Books 1-3
Publisher: Podium Publishing
Narrator: Emily Woo Zeller
Audiobook: My Best Friend’s Exorcism by Grady Hendrix
Publisher: Blackstone Audio
Narrator: Amanda Leigh Cobb
Audiobook: Never Always Sometimes by Adi Alsaid
Publisher: Recorded Books
Narrator: Julia Whelan
Audiobook: Plus One
Publisher: Jammer Audio
Narrator: Sonye Nankani
Audiobook: Rebel of the Sands by Alwyn Hamilton
Publisher: Recorded Books

(Cont.)
AUDIO ENGINEERING – AUDIOBOOK, BEST AUDIO ENGINEER
Audio Engineer: Todd Busteed
Audiobook: Beric The Briton
Publisher: Heirloom Audio Productions
Other Credits: Executive Producer: Bill Heid / Producer: John Fornof / Narrators: Brian Blessed, Brian Cox, Tom Baker, Honeysuckle Weeks, Cathy Sara, John Rhys-Davies, and a full cast
Audio Engineer: Rob Jorgensen
Audiobook: The Dragon and The Raven
by John Rhys-Davies
Publisher: Heirloom Audio Productions
Other Credits: Executive Producer: Bill Heid / Producer: John Fornof / Narrators: Brian Blessed, John Rhys-Davies, Helen George, Sylvester McCoy, John Bell, Katherine Kellgren, and a full cast.
Audio Engineer: Jem Matzan
Audiobook: Key West Luck by Laurence Shames
Publisher: Laurence Shames
Other Credits: Jim Matzan (Narrator)
Audio Engineer: Jonathan Yen
Audiobook: Yesterday’s Gone: Season 3
Publisher: Podium Publishing

OUTSTANDING CASTING – MOTION PICTURE FILM ANIMATION, BEST CASTING
Casting Dir: Kevin Reher, C.S.A., Natalie Lyon, C.S.A.
Motion Picture: Finding Dory
Company: Pixar Animation Studios
Casting Dir: Sarah Halley Finn, CSA
Motion Picture: The Jungle Book
Company: Walt Disney Animation Studios
Casting Dir: Sarah Halley Finn, CSA
Motion Picture: The Little Prince
Company: Walt Disney Animation Studios
Casting Dir: Jamie Sparer Roberts, CSA
Motion Picture: Zootopia
Company: Walt Disney Animation Studios

OUTSTANDING CASTING – VIDEO, BEST CASTING
Casting Dir: Ivy Isenberg
Product: Call of Duty: Black Ops 3
Client: Activision
Casting Dir: Jen Rudin
Product: The Numberlys
Client: Amazon Studios
Casting Dir: Ivy Isenberg
Product: Triptank
Client: ShadowMachine
Casting Dir: Judy Keller
Product: Real Trix Rabbit
Client: General Mills

OUTSTANDING TV/RADIO COMMERCIALS & TRAILERS, BEST SPANISH VOICEOVER
Voice Actor: Fabian Toro
Product: LATAM Airlines
Client: LATAM Airlines
Voice Actor: Fabian Toro
Product: Madres
Client: Nestlé
Voice Actor: Christian Lanz
Product: “Surprise”
Client: TOYOTA
Voice Actor: Eduardo Iduliate
Product: 2015-2016 Disney
HD On Demand Campaign
Client: Walt Disney Studios
Voice Actor: Christian Lanz
Product: “Zootopia” Trailer Campaign
Client: Walt Disney Animation Studios

The Casting Society of America proudly congratulates its nominees in voice casting.
We thank the Society of Voice Arts for recognizing our contribution.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

SPECIAL THANKS
Dr. Artie Egendorf
Judi Durand
Lonnie Ali
Phillip Conley
Steve Ulrich
Judi Durand
Christopher Currier
Scot Chastain, NBC Universal
Coco Cocoves, HBO
Kasey Howe
Pat Fraley
John Florian
Vanessa Gilbert
Jeff Howell
Gemma Agovino
Arthur Cohen Photography
Nina Shoes
Theia Collections
Melissa Veniero
Dan Ichimoto
Vanessa Gilbert
Lisa Flanagan
Jeanie Kahnke
Muhammad Ali
Marc Morial
Marc Mellon
CESD Talent Agency
TGMD Talent Agency
Doug Melville
Joe Cipriano
Ron Pobuda
Phillip Conley
Ron Pobuda
Gerald Griffith
Kim Gaskins
J. Michael Collins

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ACX
HEAR Now Festival
OVATION TV
CBS2
Backstage
Ali Center
Casting Society of America
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Goddess Garden Organics
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Cedric Williams
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Let’s Get Ready to Rumble.

3rd Annual Voice Arts Awards GALA

Michael Buffer
Ring Announcer
Voice Arts® Icon Award

WARNER BROS. STUDIOS IN BURBANK
5PM PT | SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2016
Presented by Society of Voice Arts and Sciences™
*Black Tie Optional

THANK YOU

The Muhammad Ali Center celebrates all the Voice Arts Award nominees.
www.alicenter.org
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 paralleling 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 habit of connecting two products, services, or general concepts with a conjunctive

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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