

USNA Presentation– November 3, 2017

Title: Positive & Powerful Presentation – A Vocal Seminar

Subtitle: Techniques for cultivating confident, authentic and efficient vocal habits in the workplace.

with Dr. Madeline Miskie D.M.A., 200 Hour Registered Yoga Teacher

Seminar Description:

During this interactive workshop we will explore the relationship between body / breath awareness and the voice; specifically, how excess tension in various regions of the body can have a potentially negative impact on the voice. First, we will go through some light stretching and movement to loosen up some of those tension-prone areas (shoulders / neck / hips, etc.). We will then discuss the basic principles of efficient breathing techniques and healthy phonation and then put them into practice with some simple speaking exercises; highlighting the importance of pacing and volume control in presentation. The seminar will conclude with a brief Q&A. No need to wear athletic clothing to the class. Attendees are advised to bring water!

Madeline Miskie – BIO

After sustaining a vocal injury in 2011, Dr. Madeline Miskie re-built her vocal technique using a combination of body awareness, breathing techniques (derived from Hatha yoga) and her knowledge of the anatomy and physiology of the vocal instrument. Miskie has devoted her teaching career to helping students of all ages and levels to sing and speak efficiently, with comfort and ease. Her vocal students have been accepted into undergraduate music programs (performance, education and music therapy) with full or partial scholarships at the following institutions: The Hartt School of Music, The Crane School of Music, Shenandoah Conservatory, San Francisco Conservatory, New England Conservatory, The Boston Conservatory, Towson University, The University of Maryland, Baldwin Wallace, George Mason University, West Virginia University, Temple University, and Morgan State University and such nationally recognized educational programs including Boston University Tanglewood Institute (BUTI), Brevard Music Center, Interlochen Center for the Arts and the Washington National Opera High School Institute. In the DC area, Dr. Miskie's students have performed with the Prince George's Philharmonic, Imagination Stage (Bethesda, MD), Olney Theater Center, The Washington Children's Chorus, Next Stop Theater Company, The Annapolis Shakespeare Company, Washington National Opera Children's Chorus and Little Patuxent Opera.

Miskie's voice is characteristically "beautiful...warm in expression...striving to become a true artist...refreshing in her love and respect for the art form." (*Maureen O'Flynn, soprano*) Her love for the performance medium of the art song recital led her to complete a dissertation project on the subject of "The Art Songs of Celius Dougherty (1902-1986)" which included performances, recordings and unpublished sheet music (from handwritten scores) of song cycles by Dougherty at the University of Maryland, where she received the Dean's Music Fellowship.

Dr. Miskie is the founder of 'Breath•Body•Sound•Studio' in Annapolis, MD in

partnership with the Annapolis Shakespeare Company, where she offers individual voice lessons and individual yoga classes. Miskie is continuing her study and practice of classical Ashtanga yoga with Level 2 Certified Instructor Michael Joel Hall in Washington, DC.

