

Monthly Update

How could this be, it's late Feb and I'm just sending out January's newsletter. Well many will be happy to know I actually took some time off over the Christmas holidays. I had a beautiful time with my girls and hope that you enjoyed yours as well. This however put me very behind in my work, so I've just been playing catch up. I know many of you have noticed that I'm not as quick to reply on everything that I once was. Times are getting busier and busier and time off doesn't come as easy as it once was, but you'll be happy to know that I'm catching up.

I've been hearing a lot of what a tough year 2006 was. I completely agree. Now I hear of how amazing 2007 is going to be for everyone, so let's keep that attitude so that we may bring in the New Year right. December/January is a slow time of year for most of us in business, short of retail. Not a lot of projects or workshops so not as much to report.

You will notice we finally have a new layout for our newsletters. Thanks to an amazing graphic artist, Scott Cameron, we have a great new look. We also have a new logo and will start transforming our look a bit at a time. Look for big changes ahead but all will take some time due to our extremely busy schedule. I am honored to credit my daughter Melissa Munro for our new logo that will be launched soon. Thanks team for making us look so good.

ChantiRECAP

Great things are ahead for Chanti Productions this year. We have signed on to another video production, "The Thermal Insulator Video". A recruiting video designated for all the schools in Alberta. We have an amazing crew and will begin production immediately.

Both December and January were slow months for us in regards to voice work. Many of you may have also felt the crunch. You have to prepare for these kinds of months. They happen.

I was honored to be a part of an indie animation, playing a

Playing a terrific role. I also had the privilege to voice a movie trailer at www.theroel.com. Voiced several projects in the past while for Teen Challenge (based in Eastern Canada) and a ton of other voice projects.

Chanti has kept extremely busy in workshops and creating demos etc. However we had a major set back, COMPUTER CRASH. Those of you who have been through it know. It put us extremely behind with lost information etc. Playing catch up from that has been a lot of work and kept us very busy.

I have landed an excellent agent in Vancouver and foresee a ton of fabulous opportunity ahead. With our fabulous team hard at work, we see a bright future ahead.

Promos I haven't heard from a ton of you on upcoming promotions, but because it's January, that doesn't surprise me. Here's what we have this month.

If you haven't already heard www.voice-international.com is where you should be March 27 - March 31 in Vegas.

I will be in attendance and have been asked to be a panel guest for Saturday's event so I hope to have the opportunity to meet with you. Be sure to track me down and tell me who you are. This is an event you don't want to miss.

We have completed several demos (some extremely over due); Tom Edwards, Tania De Ridder, Shannon Walline, Helen Metella, Kara Edwards, Rob Young and more.

Greg Hamilton of Calgary has put his studio together and it looks and sounds amazing. Great job Greg.

Many of you are starting to put your studios together...that's excellent. Don't forget The Voice Biz Handbook for \$50.00 to help you get started.

I've heard from some of you in regards to other promotions of course, www.silentuniverse.com a fabulous radio play with some of our own students as some of the voices. www.edmontonpolefun.com enter 1081 for extra income www.chickadivas.com a great acapella group



WorkShops

2

We're once again rearranging the Creating Voices Series of workshops. It has been challenging to put together the online 6 week workshops. This is still our future goal, but we are going to do things a bit differently for the next while to start.

We've got some amazing feedback from many that have taken the CDROM package...so glad to know that's working well for many of you. This is what we are using in the ONLINE 6 week workshop, only you're allowed to do all the FUNwork online and be directed in a group setting. Instead, now we are going to offer you the CD-Rom workshop at \$212.00 and if you want any session time with Deb Munro (your director/Instructor), it will be private and online at a special discounted rate of 50.00 per hour for your direction time. This will take care of a lot of our time zone conflicts etc. Purchase yours online or by email www.debsvoice.com

We are launching our first Online Monthly workout this month. We had to cancel the last (many last minute drop outs). We are looking full for this month so get registered ASAP. Feb 28th from 8-10 p.m. EST time on the phone with our special call in number. www.debsvoice.com or info@debsvoice.com to register.

We are honored to announce Bob Bergen, Voice of Porky Pig/Tweety/Disney Channel and more) is coming to Vancouver for the first time. This is a 3 year waiting list in LA for this amazing character workout class. Watching Bob direct is a once in a lifetime experience. You must pay full amount prior to course. Look for an info sheet to come in your emails very soon. April 28/29 from 9-5 p.m. Vancouver, B.C. Cost: \$500.00

CreatingVoices

WE HAVE OFFICIALLY LAUNCHED Creating Voices Level 1 CD – Rom now available. Cost is: \$212.00 (incl GST) for a limited time. This is the entire CV1 workshop taught by me in audio and visual format including; workbook, narrated PowerPoint presentation, audio examples and one hour private session/critique time with me. Order yours today! info@debsvoice.com If you don't have power point, you will still be able to view the show and we can include a cd-rom as an audio book type format if needed....so tons of options.

We are now introducing Creating Voices Copy Biz 1 & 2 Classes. This will replace the Creating Voices Level 3, The Voice Biz and Creating Sound as before. This is meant for every level and is a great next step no matter where you are in this industry. The beauty of it is, if you've already taken the afternoon portion of the class (The Voice Biz (Copy Biz Level 1) or Creating Sound(Copy Biz Level 2), then you only have to stay for half the class and pay for only one day, or you can create your own workout (with my direction) for the afternoon. A course custom designed by you to provide you with what you need. There are many more changes on our site, so be sure to read each of the info sheets online.

www.creatingvoices.ca or www.debsvoice.com (same site)

WorkShops

3

Here is our list of upcoming workshops, their dates and locations. For a description of the workshop and prices, please see the website www.debsvoice.com

Creating Voices Level 1 - \$424.00

Edmonton - June 9/10, 2007

Calgary - May 5/6, 2007

Vancouver - April 14/15, 2007

Saskatoon - Feb. 24/25, 2007

Regina - Mar. 17/18, 2007

Creating Voices Level 1 ONLINE - \$450.00

Mar 6 – April 10, 2007 each Tuesday eve from 8-10 p.m. EST time. Must register min 2 weeks in advance.

Creating Voices Level 2 - \$424.00

Vancouver – May 19/20, 2007

Edmonton – Sept 15/16, 2007

Regina - TBD, 2008

Calgary – TBD, 2008

Creating Voices Copy Biz 1 or 2 - \$424.00 or \$250.00 one day only (copy workout). Meant for every level

Calgary TBD 2008

Vancouver – March 4, 2007 10-5 p.m. ONE DAY ONLY

Edmonton – April 29, 2007 10-5 p.m. ONE DAY ONLY

Regina - June 16/17, 2007 10-5 p.m.

Copy Biz Level 2 - Creating Sound will allow you to Perform an actual audition as I direct you, then you edit it and submit it yourself.

Vancouver - August 25/26, 2007 10-5 p.m.

Calgary - TBD Fall 2007

Edmonton – April 15, 2007 10-5 p.m. ONE DAY ONLY

Copy Biz Level 1- The Voice Biz is everything about the business. This is also available separately as a handbook for only \$53.00

*NEW Creating Copy Workout Online

Meant for every level

This teleseminar workshop will do exactly as it suggests a full copy workout. Work with a variety of current cutting edge scripts. All via the internet listen as others attempt to voice various projects...some actual auditions, some just for the practice. Join in each month for regular practice and direction. This will enhance any level. Keep up with your skills...and this will help you do just that!

All this is for only \$53.00 per 2 hour session or \$424.00 for one full year! Or customize your own package.

ONLINE - Aprox The last Wed of each month

February 28th, 2007 8-10 p.m EST

March 21th, 2007 8-10 p.m EST

April 25th, 2007 8-10 p.m EST

May 31st, 2007 8-10 p.m EST

June 27th, 2007 8-10 p.m EST

July 25th, 2007 8-10 p.m EST

August 29th, 2007 8-10 p.m EST

September 26th, 2007 8-10 p.m EST

October 30th (note this is a Tuesday) 2007 8-10 p.m EST

November 28th, 2007 8-10 p.m EST

December 27th, (* this is a Thursday) 2007, 8-10 p.m EST

Whew, that's a ton of workshops isn't it...I'll have the year in review coming soon! Please note these dates can change. I will be attempting to get a year in advance and do less time in each city so book early to help us keep consistent.



Tip of the Month

We'll wind down with our tip of the month: What will courses give me that I don't already have?

When I began my venture into the world of voice I was under the impression that I was a natural. When it came to theatre I was right. Aced every audition I ever went to...so I just assumed that this would carry me through into anything, such as film/TV and Voice. Boy was I wrong

When I began I managed to land a lead role in an international Cartoon Series titled, "Benjamin Bluemchen" This was a great gig and lasted for a year. In the first 6 months I was getting tons of little roles and some bigger ones within the series and then suddenly nothing. They started bringing in people for other roles instead. I got extremely paranoid and insecure of course and questioned them all...What am I doing wrong? They would say, "Nothing, all is fine. We just want to bring in new talent" I bought that at first, but I knew better.

It wasn't until I finally broke down and took my first film acting class with Tom Logan, that I understood exactly what it was.. Tom is an amazing acting coach from LA that comes to Edmonton May 4/5 & 6 (Contact MaryLou Drachenberg 780-460-4607). When I was trained in Voice Over, I was trained as a broadcaster. Broadcasters tend to read everything in a sing song fashion and that's exactly what I was doing. Reading every character and every script in a sing song fashion. For my main character who was a roving news reporter, that worked very well, but for my others, not so good.

I decided to take more classes from others (specifically in film and improv) and that enhanced my skills and taught me what I needed to learn to break the habits. Unfortunately with this specific animation house, too little too late. I had made the impression that I read everything as a DJ type style and therefore, I wasn't seen in auditions anymore. (It's possible I was just too helpful, I've learned alot about over stepping since then....or not directing, when you're not the director. Learn from my mistakes).

I tell you this so that you'll understand even the pros had to learn at some point. They either had to enhance skills they

already possessed or they had to discover new ones. Education is key! The more I train, the more skilled I become. Of course experience is all a part of the training process but you need to take courses in order to gain the experience.

Once you're at a level of professionalism, don't let that stop you from continuously learning from others. There are always new techniques and new trends and as a professional talent, you must be up on them at all times, as someone will always be prepared in that area if you're not.

The catch 22 for most is that you can't afford to take the courses. For many of you, I'm sure this is true, but I couldn't afford ANY of the courses I took either and they were all expensive. Some cost me over 2000.00 to take, while others cost a few hundred. The bottom line is that you CAN'T AFFORD NOT TO! You have to compare it to becoming a surgeon or lawyer or tradesperson. There is education involved. The difference is that in recognized institutions, there are funding options. In this case there usually isn't so it comes straight out of your pockets.

I can't help you gather the funds, but I can tell you that if you really want it bad enough, then you'll find a way. You'll make the sacrifices that you need to in order to follow your dreams. Regardless of what those dreams might be. Make your life count and follow what you love. You can do it but only if you want it as bad as I did. I hope this gives you incentive to move forward and not procrastinate what could be an amazing venture for you.

Until next time everyone....follow your passion and money will come...

All my best
Debbie Munro
My Voice, Your Way!

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www.winningauditions.com

Embrace the Power of Patience
Strategy #16 From the book
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Contact at info@debsvoice.com for more information