

MonthlyUpdate

Good things are worth waiting for. **The Voice Biz Handbook 2nd Edition** is now complete and ready to ship. Fully revised and updated, this new expanded edition is packed with 50% more pages of information and resources. Including up to date information on marketing, demos, industry trends, agents, unions, equipment, finding work, and more, this unique reference, guides you step by step through the creation of your own successful VO business. Only \$43.00 including taxes and shipping. 50 copies have already been sold, get yours now at www.micme.com.

Our *Voice Pitt BBQ* was a smashing success! Many thanks to all who stopped by to help us officially inaugurate our new Vancouver location. It was a fantastic mix of people and all had a great time. Join us in 2009 for our next *Voice Pitt* event, the *Chanti Productions New Year's Gathering* on January 3, 2009. **Mark your calendar now!**

Debbie's audition to become the new host of *CityLine TV* "was wonderful," Deb reports. Hundreds of top candidates from across Canada competed for one of the most prestigious jobs in Canadian television. Deb was thrilled to learn that hers was among the top auditions, but alas, she did not get the part ... *this time*. In her words, "I was prepared for this outcome and feel honored to have come so close. On to the next one." What a wonderfully positive attitude! She really practices what she preaches, following her own great advice from the *Voice Biz Handbook*, "Stay committed, and don't give up - you'll get there."

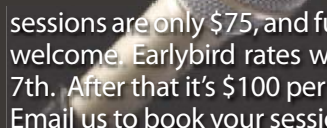
ChantiPromos

VOICE 2008 - Last Chance For The Event of the Year!

If you haven't registered yet for **VOICE 2008** in Los Angeles, August 8-11, don't delay. www.voice-international.com

Over 24 presenters will share the insider secrets that made them successful and can propel your career to new heights. Don't miss this exciting event ... and be sure to select **Debbie Munro** as your first session on August 8th.

Deb has set aside some special private sessions at **VOICE** just for you. We're almost full, but a few spots remain at special discount rates for advance booking. Half-hour



sessions are only \$75, and full hours just \$100. All levels are welcome. Earlybird rates will be in effect through August 7th. After that it's \$100 per 1/2 hour or \$125 per hour. Email us to book your session at Voice2008@MicMe.com

If you're attending **VOICE 2008**, be sure to visit our booth to say hello. Deb will be there with daughter Brandi Munro, winner of the 2008 Voicey Award for Best Child Voice, and Associate Producer Eric Pollins. We'll be showcasing our *Making .Wavs 2009 Voiceover Cruise*, the new *Voice Biz Handbook 2nd Edition*, and our *Creating Voices CD-ROM Virtual Workshop* at special **VOICE 2008** show prices.

Promos

• It's Mic 'n' Me 'n' Porky! The *Making .Wavs Voiceover Cruise* sets sail September 21 - 26, 2009, with special guest coach **Bob Bergen**, the voice of *Porky Pig* and *Tweety Bird*. Cruising from beautiful Vancouver, British Columbia to Los Angeles, California with ports of call in Astoria, Oregon and San Francisco. It's a 5 day, 4 night adventure you'll never forget! In LA we'll meet **Susan Blu** and **Cynthia Songe**, two of the top animation talents and directors of our time. They have offered an optional one day workshop. Click here for more details.

• We're busily preparing for **VOICE 2008** and will have some exciting packages for attendees. In addition to the revised and updated *Voice Biz Handbook 2nd Edition*, we'll have a special gift for visitors to the *Chanti* booth. We're also introducing great new designs for our marketing materials and *we want your opinion*. Check them out and tell us what you think. While you're there, enter to win some great prizes. We look forward to meeting you!

• Lots of great new demos came out this month. **Marilyn Taylor** worked with Deb online to create her new narration demo - *what a voice!* Talented **Sarah Groundwater** recorded her animation reel, and

John Spackman, one of our favorite voices, created a commercial demo and now is developing his character demo. New talent **Susan Sierra** also finished her commercial demo. Congratulations to all of you! Look for them in the *Demo* section of our website.

• Deb has been busy voicing, as usual. This month she landed a great gig as the new voice of *Coast Capital Savings*. Deb says she feels terrific when she just gets a callback, and of course even better when she books the job! Great work Deb, we're all proud of you!

• The US network television debut of Chanti's Associate Producer, **Eric Pollins**, aired July 2nd on Fox's MyNetworkTV. Eric is featured as **Mario** in the new sitcom *Under One Roof*, starring Flavor Flav and Kelly Perine. If you missed it, no problem! For a limited time you can still catch it in the US on the Internet at Hulu.com or by clicking here: www.hulu.com/watch/25881/under-one-roof-get-richor-fry-tryin

• September will be very busy as we gear up for our fall workshops. We're putting in some serious overtime! Please be patient - and persistent if necessary - if it takes us a little while to respond to your inquiries. It's great to be busy but it comes with consequences. Thanks so much for understanding.

Workshops



Our industry-leading *Voice Biz Workshop* is the perfect supplement to the new *Voice Biz Handbook 2nd Edition*, and now is available online in two 4-hour sessions that you can attend from the comfort of home or anywhere with an Internet connection. Discover everything you need to know about the voice over industry. Connect via Skype or telephone as we guide you through the essentials of demos, marketing, unions, equipment, and more ... and that's just *Session 1!* Then tune in for two more weeks of training with *Session 2, The Voice Mix*, two 4-hour sessions that cover *Hooking up your studio and Editing 101*. Your coach Deb Munro guides you step by step through your studio hook, then you'll record and edit audio live via webcam. You'll be an audio editor in no time flat! This crash course will save you endless hours of research, trial and error, and headaches. More than \$450 of value, now at a special introductory priced of only \$315 per person. See our schedule on page 3 for online dates and times, or join us for an onsite workshop at a location near you.

Getting Loopy is a unique workshop devoted to the fine art of *ADR*, also known as *Dubbing* or *Looping*. Work with a variety of visual projects while you test your lip syncing skills. This skill is rarely taught, yet is in high demand. In the morning you'll work with animation, narration, video games, walla (background), SFX, commercials and more. In the afternoon test your ad libbing and improv skills. Join us in a variety of challenging exercises that will stretch your abilities and get your creative juices pumping.

Take the SING Out of Your SONG is a Mic 'n' Me advanced workshop. If you're an experienced voice talent, actor, broadcaster or returning student, then you will qualify for our most advanced class. Challenge yourself in this intense 4-hour mic session. Receive a personalized assessment, and work with challenging scripts that will hone your skills.

VoiceOver Workout caters to all levels of voice talent. We work on script analysis with on-mic practice sessions all day long. You'll get multiple mic sessions and tons of one on one direction. Work on commercials, narrations, dialogue and characters from a wide variety of scripts. All your sessions and director's notes are recorded and sent home with you for review. Available online.

Editor's Corner

By Eric Pollins

The contract between the Screen Actors Guild and the Alliance of Motion Picture & Television Producers expired on June 30, 2008. Some productions in the U.S. and Canada have proceeded, albeit very few. Concerns that SAG may still call a strike vote have prompted many producers to wait it out on the sidelines.

A "final offer" was presented by producers to SAG on June 30th, but has not been acted on by the union. SAG leaders have refused to endorse the proposal, but may send it to the membership for a vote by the end of July.

With the current economic woes facing the US economy and the lingering after effects of last year's WGA strike, another work stop-

SAG CONTRACT EXPIRES-REPERCUSSIONS LINGER

page is the last thing our industry needs right now. The situation is worse in Canada, where ironically a comparatively strong dollar has negatively impacted its film and television industry, 80% of which services US productions.

Even if SAG approves a contract before AMPTP's current August 15th deadline, it will take months for productions to ramp up to full capacity. So expect the slowdown to last through this fall, or longer. In the interim, this is a great time to enhance our training and keep our skills sharp so we'll be ready to get to work once the dust settles.

Follow these links to learn more about the SAG/AMPTP contract talks:

www.variety.com/article/VR1117988926.html?categoryid=18&cs=1

www.hollywoodreporter.com/hr/content_display/television/news/e3i5dab627a6e5e9f6779db3f7dc6047543

Special Promos

- A **new video game company** is opening up in Edmonton, Alberta. Auditions by invitation only. Contact Dave ONLY for more. [Click here.](#)
- Voice Talent and Actress **Sabrina Prada** is moving away from her current work and is looking for something more exciting. If you or anyone you know is looking for a FANTASTIC executive or personal assistant, starting in September she's your gal. [Click here for more.](#)
- Voice Talent **Debbie Gratten** sent out a terrific promo/e-zine that we'd like to share with you. This is a great way to keep in touch with clients, casting, agents and more. Good work Deb. [Click here.](#)
- **PunkTV** needs your help. They are doing new promos for their intros and extros to PunkTV.ca videos and are inviting you to polish up your copy writing chops and write some crazy, risque or clean commercial ID'S for them. Contact Dixon for more. [Click here.](#)
- As part of our VO cruise with **Bob Bergen** we will have the privilege to work with two of the top directors and talents in the biz, **Susan Blu** and **Cynthia Songe**. Based in LA, they offer some fantastic workshops. [Click here to learn more. More information on this workshop coming soon.](#)
- **Voiceover Universe** is the new online world of Voiceover. It's free, and takes a bit of time, but we've been invited several times so it's definitely catching on. Check it out. [Click here for more.](#)

- **Stand Up Comedy Workshop** at *Studio on the Drive* in Vancouver, B.C. One day intensive with **Chris Molineux** (inspector Gadget) Sunday August 3rd from 10-5. Only \$100. Email to info@laughlearnlead.com.
- **Voices.com** has now introduced their *Platinum Membership*. This one is a bit pricey but we know Voices.com and it's sure to be worth it. 100 lucky members will benefit from this exclusive package. [Click here.](#)
- Don't miss your opportunity to mingle in a room filled to the brim with voice actors from all around the world, where at any moment you could meet your *voice idol*. All this and more awaits you at the **Red Carpet Celebrity Reception** Thursday August 7th at the **Hyatt Regency Century Plaza** in Los Angeles, for **VOICE 2008**. [Click here for more information.](#)

Featured Presenter
VOICE
The Voiceover International Creative Experience
August 8-11, 2008
www.voice-international.com

WorkShops

Earlybird Prices Available. See pricing options below.

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**Here is our list of upcoming workshops, their dates and locations and other products
Early Registration Necessary to hold your spot. Click here or go to www.micnme.com**

Vancouver, British Columbia 2008

Sept 13 **VoiceOver Workout** (All levels)

Sept 14 **The Voice Mix + Recording & Editing 101**

Calgary, Alberta 2008

Sept 20 **Getting Loopy** (ADR/Dubbing/Looping)

Eve. **The Voice Mix + Recording & Editing 101**

Sept 21 **VoiceOver Workout** (All levels)

Edmonton, Alberta 2008

Sept 27 **Getting Loopy** (ADR/Dubbing/Looping)

Eve. **The Voice Mix + Recording & Editing 101**

Sept 28 **VoiceOver Workout** (All levels)

Regina, Saskatchewan 2008

Oct 11 **Getting Loopy** (ADR/Dubbing/Looping)

Eve **The Voice Mix + Recording & Editing 101**

Oct 12 **VoiceOver Workout** (All Levels)

Red Deer, Alberta 2008

Nov 15 **Getting Loopy** (ADR/Dubbing/Looping)

Eve **The Voice Mix + Recording & Editing 101**

Nov 16 **VoiceOver Workout** (All Levels)

Winnipeg, Manitoba 2008

Nov 22 **The Voice Biz** - Business of The Biz

Nov 23 **VoiceOver Workout** (All Levels)

Toronto, Ontario 2008

Nov 29 **VoiceOver Workout** (All levels)

Eve. **The Voice Mix + Recording & Editing 101**

Nov 30 **VoiceOver Workout** (All levels)

Prices (earlybird available until 2 weeks prior to class)

Full Weekend (3 workshops) - \$475 (\$400 earlybird)

2 Workshop Combo - \$395.00 (\$315.00 earlybird)

One Day Only - \$230.00 (\$210.00 earlybird)

Eve Only (4 hours)- \$125.00 (\$105 earlybird)

All taxes included

Special Online Workshops (info coming soon)

Oct 19 & 26 **The Voice Biz** (4 hours each day)

Nov 2 & 9 **The Voice Mix** (4 hours each day)

MIC & ME Private Voice & Film Acting Services

\$105.00 per hour (Student discount available)

Available in person or online or via telephone

All sessions recorded and uploaded for review

TeleVoice Workout For All Levels. Click here.

Consistent training promotes success. Economic and environmental concerns make studying from home a smart choice, but you can't objectively direct yourself.

We have the solution! With a *TeleVoice Workout* you can be professionally directed *from anywhere*, voicing the scripts and genres that suit your goals, or get help with your actual auditions for a better shot at booking. All sessions recorded for home review.

All levels encouraged.

2 incredible hours only \$75.00 per session.

ADVANCE REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Last Wednesday of each month (with exceptions)

Sept 24th, 2008 2-4 p.m. EST & 8-10 p.m. EST

Oct 29th, 2008 2-4 p.m. EST & 8-10 p.m. EST

Nov 26th, 2008 2-4 p.m. EST & 8-10 p.m. EST

Jan 28th, 2009 2-4 p.m. EST & 8-10 p.m. EST

(Dates subject to change)

MIC & ME The Voice Biz Handbook 2nd Edition

Only **\$43.00, now \$33 for the first 50!** Click here.

Early purchase available (receive 1st + 2nd editions)

Discover everything you need to know about *The Biz*.

MIC & ME Creating Voices Virtual Workshop

Discover how to become a voice talent from the comfort of home. This unique 88-page workbook comes with an easy to follow CD-ROM Virtual Presentation created and narrated by your coach Debbie Munro.

Also includes a one hour private coaching session with Debbie Munro, in person or by phone, **absolutely FREE!** (Regularly \$105). This package is regularly over \$375.00.

Now only \$210.00. Click Here

MIC & ME Demo Production/Direction-Click Here

\$105.00 per hour (Direction Only)

\$315.00 Flat Rate Direction/Editing (you do music/sfx)

\$525.00 Flat Rate Complete Demo, Full Production (prices the same for most genres, except Animation)

\$790.00 Animation Demo. All Prices Include Taxes

Being a freelance voice talent could very well be the most fun a person can have while still calling it *work*. Still, as much fun as it is, it's important to remember that it's a business and to treat it that way.

I started my career over 19 years ago as a broadcaster. Then, as technology advanced to a point where I could effectively compete as a freelance voice talent, I started on my current business path. Little did I imagine then how much my business would grow. Be careful what you ask for, right? You just might get it! Back then I had little idea how big this industry could become or where it would lead me ... I just knew I wanted it. Sure, I had goals, but no idea yet of the many directions in which they would lead me.

In particular I had no idea that my path would lead to teaching. We've all heard that *Those who can, do; those who can't, teach*. I've always been a *doer*. But over the years I discovered the fallacy of that old expression. Especially in this business, the best teachers are those who *DO* the things they teach. While I struggled to grow as a voice talent I became so fascinated with learning my craft, and so frustrated with some 'insiders' who refused to help me break in, that once I got established teaching became a natural extension of my career. That's how the *Mic'n'Me VoiceOver Workshop Series* began, and everything else that sprang from it.

Since you can never be certain where your journey may lead, it's best to prepare for all possibilities. Once you're running your own studio you may find yourself becoming a producer, or an engineer, foley artist, musician ... even a coach! But no matter which direction your path leads, one thing is certain: In order to continue growing you *must* develop the discipline to treat your career as a *business*. Otherwise, no matter how good you become your career will never advance beyond the hobby stage.

As with any business, this begins with good organization of your digital and paper records. Keep track of every client, every demo sent, and every contact made. Create a separate folder for each client and project, preferably in a computerized contact manager. Track the dates of everything you send out and each response you receive. Keep a current list of contact names, addresses and phone numbers. Save records of all expenditures, and keep the receipts. It will make your life much simpler at tax time. If you intend to make money in this business, the tax write-offs are crucial to your bottom line.

VoiceBuzz Hear it from the experts

Voice 2008 - Final countdown to the greatest VO event of 2008 [click here](#)

Voices.com - Financial Core vs Union: The real deal [click here](#)

VoiceoverXtra.com - The Voiceover industry's online news and resource centre [click here](#)

Voice Acting.com - Breaking in to the Business of Voiceover [click here](#)

VoiceRegistry - Worlds leading online registry service - feature article on Deb Munro [click here](#)

Bobbins Blog - Mid Year check up. Good thinking Bobbin [click here](#)

Julie Williams - VoiceOver Insider (worth subscribing to) [click here](#)

These articles will help you along your VO journey. Top tips from the best in the biz.

Developing a regular system for invoicing is critically important. Simplify this process by using a computerized book-keeping program such as Intuit's popular *QuickBooks*. Early on, when the pace of your business is likely to be slower, is the time to get your business organized to support your growth.

While filled with opportunities, this industry is very competitive. In the past year we've seen turnaround expectations cut to 6 hours or less with some clients. Especially if you're new or just starting out, becoming a top voice talent now demands more than just good craftwork. It requires a well-oiled business machine running at peak efficiency. Staying organized will keep you at the head of the pack.

When you're selecting equipment for your business, it's sensible to save money, but considering the low cost of equipment these days, it also pays to think ahead. If you get a one or two channel mixer it may be enough for your immediate needs, but it will limit your ability to grow. You can open up more opportunities for yourself by preparing for a business that produces more than just *dry* voice tracks. Consider spending the small extra increment required for the gear you'll need to add music and sound effects to your work, so that you'll be able to provide full-scale production services.

In our *Voice Mix* workshop you can quickly learn to create fully produced tracks with voice, music and effects. And coming in 2009 our new book series, *The Business of the Voice Biz*, will show you how get the most from your studio investment.

At *Chanti Productions* we're here to promote *your* success. We know exactly what you need to succeed, because *we don't just teach, we do this business, every day*. Remember, as a freelance voice talent *you're running a business*. And we've got the tools and experience to help you succeed.

Until next time everyone !

Deb Munro - Director / Deb@micnme.com

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