

# CHANTI NEWS

## March Issue

*What is Debbie up to now?*



I wouldn't be a true Canadian if I didn't start this out with WAY TO GO CANADA! We had our best year yet at the 2010 Olympics and I was more than privileged to be right in the thick of it.

Congratulations to my dear friends in the USA – incredible amount of goals and to the rest of the world...what a tremendous world event. The patriotism in Canada was incredible – you would have thought this was a Super Bowl game.

We really put Canada on the map this year and I am PROUD TO BE CANADIAN!

Check out the video I posted of my time spent partying on Granville Street. I have to say I was awed by the friendliness, positivity and celebratory passion in everyone. No riots, no violence, just everyone having a great time. Here are some of my favorite moments!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gkBAAdRmAv1Y>



## IN THIS ISSUE

### Highlights worth reading:



SAVE up to \$105.00 on a Deb Munro workshop. This could be the last workshop tour year. Come see her in Hawaii, NY, Orlando, TO and more...

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Book Deb Munro for a private Voice Session while attending one of the best Voice Over Experiences you'll ever encounter – VOICE 2010 in LA

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### Don't Miss:



This month's article: Audition Acrobatics From the decision makers' point of view to the online audition!

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LOCAL TV PROGRAMMING NEEDS YOUR HELP! Article from Jennifer Vaughn Saskatchewan Voice Group established

*Also check out Harlan Hogan's Voice Essentials and the Don LaFontaine – VO2GO Kit*

## Work with Deb Munro in person as this may be the last year!

I am constantly reminded that It's great to be busy but time just seems to run away and there seems little left at the end of the day. I see big changes in my career direction in the next year or so, therefore travelling workshops may become a rare occasion, but I will maintain my private workshops and lessons. This is a great year to join me in a group workshop because I have a ton of great opportunities and I truly think this year's

workshop "Audition Acrobatics & The Voice Pitch" is one of the most eye opening and result oriented workshops that I have ever created. Utilizing my experience as both Casting Director and Director/Producer /Client, I will take you through the decision makers point of view from the audition, to your marketing package. How to walk into an audition, the tests that you are put through, the audition itself, your online auditions, the cover letter, taking risks and so much more.

## Workshop opportunities around North America – BIG SAVINGS

I would like to bring your attention to two specific cities you don't want to miss! I am honored to be working together with Voices.com for the upcoming New York Workshop at Edge Studio with special guests Rob Scigliompaglia (VO Talent and Lawyer) & David Goldberg (Edge Studios).

You will have the opportunity to win a free membership valued at \$299.00, as well as an e-book of your choice. THIS IS ONE INCREDIBLE workshop opportunity and we are filling up fast.

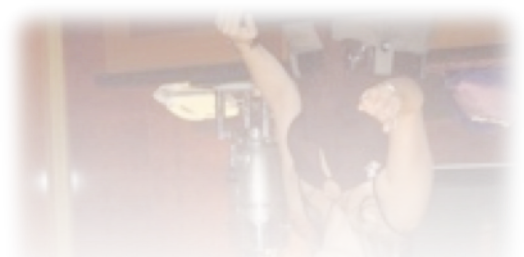
If that isn't enough, what about joining me in Hawaii for a workshop in an intimate location on the Big Island in Hilo (Honomu), just three minutes from the Botanical Gardens

and the famous Akaka Falls at Kaikea Mauka Home Studios.

**Edmonton** - Sunday, March 7th (I apologize for the short notice),  
**Philadelphia** March 20/21st,  
**Orlando** April 24/25<sup>th</sup>  
**Seattle** May 1/2nd (nearly full),  
**Toronto** May 22/23rd  
**Regina** Sept 25/26th.

Special discounts will apply if you mention this newsletter.  
 \$105.00 off for HAWAII  
 \$50.00 off for NY, Orlando, Philly, Tacoma, Regina and Toronto  
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Workshop price is \$395.00  
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*Click on Calendar of Events or Workshops*

## Book your private session now at VOICE 2010

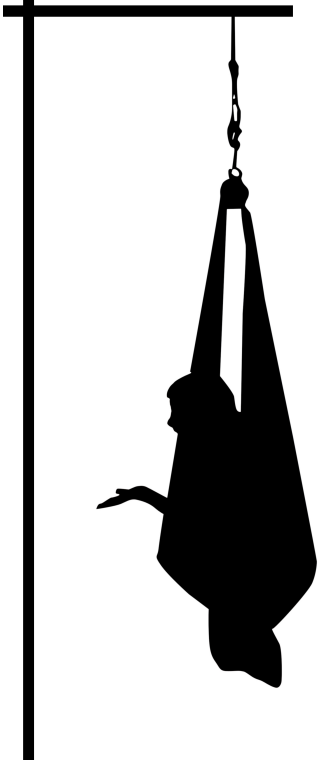


I know there is a ton of great workshop opportunities, but if the economy hasn't crushed your income, make sure to come see me as one of the feature presenters at Voice 2010 in Los Angeles June 3-7th. This is the only Convention for Voice Actors and is well worth attending. I have been a part of VOICE each year and I love the networking, information and feeling I get, being around hundreds of industry professionals and newbie's. The energy alone is worth attending for. Early bird registration is now over but they have offered me a tremendous discount offer to share with you. If you would like to have the opportunity to work with me in person while attending VOICE 2010, you must book these sessions in advance. There are only a FEW WEEKS LEFT to book these time slots. As a special bonus, anyone attending will receive my discounted rate of \$79.00 per hour. VOICE 2010 requires

these sessions to be booked in advance so be sure to contact me ASAP to book your session  
 deb@micnme.com

If you haven't signed up yet, check it out here:

<http://voiceacting.com/dap/a/?a=694&p=http://voice2010.com>



## Article of the month:

Written by Deb Munro

One of the most important things ANY actor can learn is that auditions are the work. Consider the jobs the commission for all the hard work you have put in. As the saying goes, "The more you put in, the more you get in return".

The one thing rarely shown in the media is the journey that celebrities have taken to get where they are. We watch actors perform on camera and as voice talent and feel that it just looks so easy, assuming that they lucked out and got that one lucky break, or that they were a natural. We don't hear about the no's, the times they were struggling actors, the small roles we will never learn about etc. Especially when it comes to voice. People believe they have a voice; therefore they have what it takes to make it and that is all they need. If you are a pro in this industry you know all the hard work you have put in.

If you want to succeed in this industry there is much to learn not only in skills and auditions but also marketing and business. I can't touch on everything in one article so I want to talk to you about "Audition Acrobatics". Just like an acrobatic on a tightrope you need experience before you can perform. In today's market this isn't easy because there are a ton of people now vying for the same jobs. We have created a different generation of voice talent.

## Audition Acrobatics

### *Tips from the Decision Makers point of view*

It is very interesting to see the different dynamics of the voice industry now compared to what it was even 5 years ago. The veterans of our industry are watching a huge change in what was once a local profession. Working from home is a new element that many A-list talents haven't had to experience. Editing was left to the engineers, residuals were common, and the phrase pay 2 play was unheard of. They have watched as their industries standards have decreased and their competition level skyrocket. I can only imagine what that must be like for them to witness.

Some of us are becoming veterans of a different generation of voice actors. I call us "The Global Voice Market" or "The Online Voice Market". No matter which market you fit into, there is one thing that we all have in common; we have to learn how to audition and there are many things you need to know both for in person auditions and online. Many lessons will be learned by experience first hand but I have been blessed to work with the decision makers on many occasions allowing me a different insight into the audition world and I thought I would share some of them with you. In fact I created a workshop around the subject, so I thought I would share a few of my tips for in person and online auditions, from what I have learned during my time as a casting director, talent, director/producer and coach.

If you would like to participate in this years workshop check out our dates and locations at [www.debsvoice.com/Calendar\\_of\\_Events.html](http://www.debsvoice.com/Calendar_of_Events.html) (NY, Hawaii, Orlando, Seattle, Toronto and more)

*This workshop is designed to enhance your audition skills and help you stand out!*

Contact me for more info: [deb@MicnMe.com](mailto:deb@MicnMe.com)

CHECK OUT the Do's and Don'ts (in my opinion)

**Continued...**

## THE DO'S AND DON'TS

### *Audition Acrobatics cont'd*

- Know what you are doing if you are at the audition stage. Those with experience will be obvious by the way they walk in and the way they walk out of the room, or just in the way they perform their audition.
- If you receive the script in advance be prepared and know what you're reading. They will be looking to see how prepared you are. How well do you know the character you are portraying? Do you know whom you're talking to? Have you made unique choices?
- Make short hand notes to yourself to keep focused so there is less to remember
- Be comfortable and stay positive – this is a fun industry
- Auditions are just a part of the job in order to get paid
- Focus on doing something to make each person's job easier for the assistant, the director, casting, the client etc.
- Put yourself on a pedestal, not the decision makers, but don't be arrogant, be proud.
- Nerves are see-thru and usually never book work.
- Think of a time when you felt very successful and proud
- Laugh
- When you know what you're doing, you won't be nervous
- Offer a strong presence
- Stay focused on the task at hand
- Show them you're happy to be there, love what you do and are very comfortable
- Act like you've been doing this for years (believe me it shows)
- If opportunity is there, acknowledge everyone in the room by saying "Hello" or "Good Afternoon". THIS MEANS EVERYONE. Cameramen and production assistants are future directors and producers and deserve your eye contact or acknowledgement.
- Figure out what you need to do to make their job easier (for example, on time, focused, present, directable, standing at the mic and ready etc)
- Read the breakdown thoroughly prior to your audition
- Research the company so that you know more about what they might want. This also gives you something to talk about during the audition or project. This can go a long way. Use the internet and YouTube
- If the specs don't specify a specific audience or demographic, use what information you do have and choose a few options to work with.
- Imagine yourself as this client and how important this project is to you. They may have spent their life earnings on this production. Treat it as if it were your own.
- Be as flexible as you can to accommodate the clients/directors choices. This isn't about you, it's about their message and it doesn't have to agree with yours, but you certainly have to agree with theirs. Play make believe if you have to
- Always come in with another option
- Ask questions
- Be original – 25 out of 30 talent who audition will make similar choices, usually those 5 that made original choices are the ones who got hired.
- In your slate (stating your first and last name) show them you're proud of who you are
- Make your mistakes in character
- Make odd noises between takes (you do it at home anyway) It may land you another part (this is more for animation and character type projects/clients)
- Laugh at yourself or with yourself
- If you're truly nervous, make your character extremely nervous
- Try something different than what everyone else will be doing
- Risks will fail, but many will succeed and you never know until you try.
- Don't be afraid to make the ugly face. Voice over isn't pretty.
- Show them you're human not perfect
- Don't argue with direction/choices
- Don't tell them how to do their job. It's great to offer suggestions (once you know the client) but your job is to Voice and their job is to know what they need
- Avoid re-writing the copy. Even if it is poorly written, prove to them you can voice anything. This is what good training will teach you. The words mean nothing until you make them mean something
- Don't read for projects you're not ready for or have no hope of landing
- Find a way to creatively mention something that relates to the client or the project in your cover letter, keeping it about them, not you.
- Trust your instinct!

This is an excerpt taken from my current workshop "Audition Acrobatics". I hope this article will offer you additional direction on what it takes to succeed, how to think from different angles and to remember this is a business and business usually involves sales....so know how to sell yourself.

If you have any questions or concerns send me an email. Please keep in mind this is all based on my experience in the industry.

**TV PROGRAMMING  
NEEDS YOUR HELP!**

**WE NEED YOUR HELP**



Local television is in danger and in light of this situation one of the networks that I have voiced for over 7 years is creating a new channel in hopes of a solution. Please take a moment and help us save Canadian TV and in turn means more VOICE work which many of you will have the opportunity to be a part of it.

Corus Entertainment has applied to the CRTC for a license to operate a new channel in 64 markets in Western Canada. This proposed new network, tentatively called Local1, will bring a mix of hyper-local community information and round the clock weather conditions and forecasts to its viewers.

While some broadcasters are reducing or cancelling local TV programming, we think there is a better way. We are investing in the communities we serve in Western Canada and I need your help.

You can play an important role in the potential success of the application by sending a letter of support to the CRTC. We have made the task simple, by simply visiting [www.mylocal1.ca](http://www.mylocal1.ca)

We need help in gathering as many letters of support from viewers, community leaders & business owners as possible for the March 15th deadline. Any questions, please feel free to drop me a line. Thanks so much!

Follow the directions here:

<http://www.mylocal1.ca>

**HARLAN HOGAN  
PORTABOOTH**



**VoiceOver Essentials  
Studio Line**

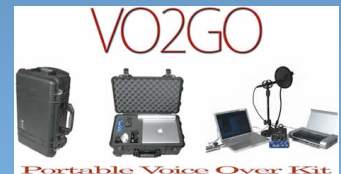
The 1-A Harlan Hogan Signature Series Microphone (\$199.00).

For those of you in need of a portable sound booth then I HIGHLY recommend his Porta Booth Pro for \$349.00

[www.HarlanHogan.com](http://www.HarlanHogan.com)

Read his article here:

<http://www.harlanhogan.com/portaboorthArticle.shtml>



**Don Lafontaine  
VO2GO PRO STUDIO  
From ERS**

These VO2GO kits are built custom to order to meet your specific requirements. Prices start as low as \$1000 complete with computer, mic, accessories, software, and case design, and they'll make it work..

<http://eldorec.com/vo2go>

## Statistics from Voice Pro Jennifer Vaughn on the Pay2Play sites

Voice Talent professional Jennifer Vaughn recently wrote an incredibly eye opening article featured on VoiceOverXtra.com (A free online resource for Voice Actors) discussing her personal stats with the Pay 2 Play sites (P2P)

I was taken back by her low booking ratio as she is truly one of the top female talents online. The P2P sites accounted for only 2% of her income and she knows what she is doing. This brought two things to my attention. 1. We need to keep stats of our auditions so that we

can know our Return on Investment (ROI) and spend our time and money wisely. 2. P2P sites aren't as easy as they once were to create full time incomes from these sites, however even though this article may seem discouraging, depending on where you are in your career, these sites are an incredible resource. For those that are ready to be on these sites (you are demo worthy and know how to audition) this can be the best educational resource you can purchase. Where else can you get that many auditions and that much experience? It really is FANTASTIC training. Auditioning, editing, learning who your voice is, what you are capable of, the risks, the cover letters, dealing with clients and more. This can still be one of the most valuable methods to obtaining experience in this industry. I only request that you research the site before obtaining memberships, as there are MANY options. This is a decision you must make for yourself. Check out the article <http://www.voiceoverextra.com/article.htm?id=294a0cby>



I'm so proud of our Regina and Saskatoon Voicers. Headed by Voice Talent Wayne Gemmell several talent have formed their own Voice Group that will actively be pursuing work together. Brilliant thinking. If you're in Saskatchewan it is time you joined this active group. For those of you outside of this market, perhaps this is something you might consider. Working as a group could turn into a future ad agency and plenty of productivity.

**Saskatchewan Voice Over Actors Club** has been established for anyone interested in learning to voice, taking workshops, participating in various kinds of collaborative and symbiotic projects. The primary goal is to develop trained local Voicers instead of using people from outside our province. The primary group is in Regina and a group is growing in Saskatoon and Swift Current. Meetings in Regina are about every 2 weeks on a random day of the week based on participant availability.

Regardless of your age, voice dialect or location, we are interested in helping however we can. We are also in need of associations with musicians, writers, sound engineers, foley people and anyone who could help put together quality pod casts, narrations and the like. voicings (which are also job opportunities) done daily around the world.

A web site will be available very soon. Contact Wayne Gemmell via FaceBook [talented2000@gmail.com](mailto:talented2000@gmail.com)

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### CHANTI NEWS

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Until next time everyone  
hope to see you at one of my workshops  
this year! This is the year to come!

Follow your passion and the money will follow!



All my best  
Deb Munro

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