

Editorial

Voice Matters!

The voice provides the main tool for both semantic and emotional communication and is therefore relevant to auditory perception, psychology, neurology, cognition, linguistics and phonetics. It is a crucial tool not only in education but also in the daily work for about 30% of the entire working population.

Of course, our voice communicates facts and feelings. And in the same way it feels better when we give than when we receive, and even better to sing to people than to be sung to. But I believe that its major role in making alliances with other humans has led to the pleasant sensation of using the voice. The human race would have achieved nothing without cooperation, and the preliminary to cooperation is communication, chiefly through the subtleties of the voice.

Why voice matters? It is one of those things that you take for granted but for me it would be impossible to make a living without my voice. I had a scare about 5 years ago, when I developed vocal nodules but in the end, it turned out to be a blessing in disguise! I was putting too much pressure on my voice and now, I respect the importance of keeping healthy and looking after it and now will do for the rest of my life.

All human beings want to sing because the endorphins we generate when we sing make us feel so happy.

—With my singing I have been able to give peace of mind, I made people dream. With our voice we can be funny, loveable, scary, we can teach, we can learn... Voice is one of the most powerful tools, let us use it to do good.

World Voice Day, April 16 is a worldwide annual event devoted to the celebration of the phenomenon of voice.

The aim is to demonstrate the enormous importance of the voice in our daily life, as a tool of communication, and as an application of a large number of sciences, such as physics, psychology, phonetics, art and biology.

The general idea underlying the World Voice Day is to demonstrate to the general public that Voice Matters.

2014: Educate your voice

2015: The motto is—VOICE, The Original Social Media.

The strategy is to arrange a global celebration in terms of an impressive multitude of voice and vocal events on April 16, 2015 in as many countries as possible, from New Zealand all the way to America and Hawaii.

Every year on April 16, otolaryngologist—head and neck surgeons and other voice health professionals worldwide join together to recognize World Voice Day. This day encourages men and women, young and old, to assess their vocal health and take action to improve or maintain good voice habits. The American Academy of Otolaryngology—Head and Neck Surgery has sponsored the US observance of World Voice Day since its inception in 2002.



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