The Delta State University Department of Music Presents Guest Scholar Mr. Todd Wedge

Voice Care for the Professional Educator

BAIONI CONFERENCE CENTER

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 28, 2017
6:00 pm
RECEPTION TO FOLLOW

The lecture will include information on voice preservation, vocal hygiene, proper speech habits to aid the prevention of vocal distress, and a discussion of vocal pathologies.
Lecture Abstract

“VOICE CARE FOR THE PROFESSIONAL MUSIC EDUCATOR”

INTRODUCTION

A recent clinical study of professional educators performed by the American Academy of Otolaryngology published the following result:

- 58% of educators report voice difficulties at some time in their professional lives, twice the incidence of the general population.
- 47% of American teachers experience voice problems on any given day.
- 1 in 10 teachers has been forced out of the profession because of vocal misuse/damage.

Throughout my career, I have found that education degree programs often overlook the importance of educating students on the care of their most critical pedagogical instrument—the voice. By adhering to simple vocal habits, one can significantly reduce the likelihood of encountering chronic vocal fatigue and/or trauma while pursuing a career in music education.

OBJECTIVE

The purpose of this lecture is to:

- provide future music educators with a better understanding of the importance of vocal health, hygiene, and fitness
- properly identify one’s own vocal distress
- introduce speech habits and techniques that will aid in the prevention of vocal distress
- discuss modifications that can be made to the classroom environment that will support optimal vocal efficiency
- bring awareness of potential vocal pathologies

TECHNICAL LOGISTICS

This presentation will require a projection system (with audio) that is compatible MacOS Sierra software.