



Your Voice

Newsletter of the Voice Health Institute

MISSION

The Voice Health Institute (VHI) is an independent, 501(c)(3) nonprofit public charity founded in 2003. The VHI is dedicated to advancing laryngology and voice restoration through sponsoring innovative basic and translational research as well as promoting education and outreach programs.

The VHI works in cooperation with Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and other institutions.

Voice Health Institute

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The New Voice Health Institute

On February 28th, 2012 the Voice Health Institute (VHI) was created from the Institute of Laryngology and Voice Restoration (ILVR). The Board of Directors unanimously approved changing the name of the organization for two primary reasons. The first was to make the name of the organization more "user-friendly" and easier for the public to access. The second was to better reflect the focus of the organization on all aspects of voice health which includes voice preservation and disorder prevention, as well as the restoration of voices that have been damaged by disease or trauma. The Institute was originally founded in 2003 as a federally-approved non-profit organization by a group of committed patients to raise charitable funds to support cutting-edge research, advance training in Laryngology and Laryngeal Surgery, and patient outreach and education. Julie Andrews has been the Honorary Chairwoman of this organization since its inception.

Voice Health Institute Hosts *Raise Your Voice* Research Fundraiser in Los Angeles

Patients as well as their family and friends along with world-renowned celebrities gathered to support the Voice Health Institute's (VHI) *Raise Your Voice* Research Benefit at the Beverly Hills Hotel. The event was held to celebrate the VHI's 10th anniversary of supporting voice research and to raise funds for ongoing research and awareness programs that will restore speaking and singing capability to millions of individuals whose voices have been lost or damaged by disease or trauma. The event, which included prominent personalities from the sports and entertainment worlds, also honored

Dr. Steven Zeitels for his 25 years of surgical innovations and success in preserving or restoring the voices of thousands of patients. Also honored was Dr. Robert Hillman, Dr. Zeitels' scientific partner, for his contributions to voice research. Joe Buck, the renowned sportscaster, served as Master of Ceremonies for a group of luminaries that included Honorary VHI Chairwoman Julie Andrews, Steven Tyler, Lionel Richie, Roger Daltrey, Tom Hamilton, Christina Perri, Paul Stanley, and Keith Urban. Roger Egan and Melanie Woodworth assisted Joe Buck in organizing this unforgettable evening.

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Joe Buck (Master of Ceremonies)



Steven Tyler (Aerosmith)



Roger Daltrey (The Who)



Lionel Richie

Voice Health Institute Hosts *Raise Your Voice* Research Fundraiser in Los Angeles

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A wide range of patients whose voices have been saved by the VHI-funded medical-surgical innovations of Dr. Zeitels and his research team participated by sharing their personal stories and expressed profound gratitude. Lionel

Richie, Roger Daltrey, Christina Perri, Steven Tyler and Tom Hamilton provided the attendees with unforgettable intimate live performances. □



Christina Perri



Tom Hamilton (Aerosmith)



John Ward (President VHI)



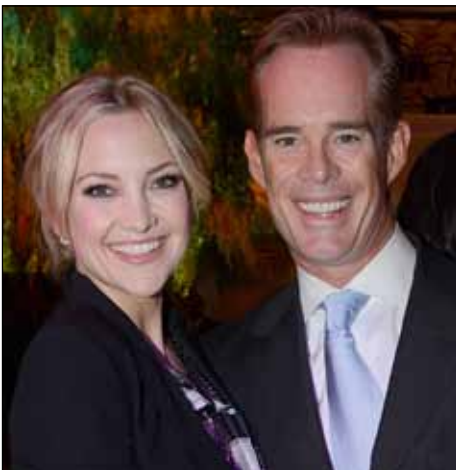
Roger Egan (Director VHI)



Robert Hillman, Ph.D.



Steven Zeitels, M.D.



Kate Hudson and Joe Buck



Roger Daltrey, Paul Stanley, Tom Hamilton, Steven Tyler

Adele Thanks Dr. Zeitels at the Grammys



Adele at Grammy Award

In late 2011, Dr. Zeitels performed voice restoration surgery on the international vocal sensation Adele. Using unique vocal cord microsurgical techniques developed with funds provided by the VHI, Zeitels halted Adele's recurrent vocal bleeding and removed a benign vocal polyp. Adele provided international recognition of Zeitels' efforts by thanking him at the 2012 Grammy Awards ceremony on receiving the first of her astonishing 6 Awards. She also expressed her appreciation in an in-depth interview in *Vogue* magazine (<http://www.vogue.com/865375/adele-one-and-only>) stating "When I met him I loved him. He made me feel safe." With her restored vocal cords, she went on to record "Skyfall" for the last James Bond film and received the Academy Award for this unforgettable performance. □

Dr. Zeitels is Featured in *The New Yorker Magazine*

"Giving Voice: A Surgeon Pioneers Methods to Help Singers Sing Again"

<http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2013/03/04/giving-voice>

Dr. Steven Zeitels was featured in a long-form biographical article in *The New Yorker* by award-winning writer John Colapinto. Having written numerous articles related to music, medicine and science, including an in-depth interview with Paul McCartney, Colapinto chronicled Zeitels' unique surgical career. An in-depth review reported Zeitels' early life experiences/education and included interviews of his surgical mentors Stuart Strong and Charles Vaughan. Grateful patients including Julie Andrews, Steven Tyler and Tom Hamilton from Aerosmith, and Roger Daltrey, legendary vocalist of The Who, discussed their experiences with Zeitels as a physician and surgeon. Zeitels' pioneering laser surgical techniques supported by the Voice Health Institute have allowed Hamilton to conquer his life-threatening throat cancer and Daltrey (with precancerous dysplasia) to continue active vocal performances including providing the finale of the London Summer Olympic Games.

Awards Received By VHI-Funded Researchers

2011

Hillman: Willard R. Zemlin Lecture and Award of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) and Honors of ASHA. Zeitels: Presidential Citation: American Laryngological Association

2012

Zeitels: Honoree for Cancer Research at Massachusetts General Hospital, Honored Guest: Grammy Foundation Future Now Conference, Fast Company's 100 Most Creative People (14th), Rolling Stone's 25 Best Things in Rock and Roll (13th)

2013

Hillman: Keynote Lecturer and Certificate of Achievement of the Voice Foundation, Zeitels: James E. Newcomb Award: American Laryngological Association

2014

Zeitels and James Burns: Broyles Maloney Award: American Broncho-Esophagological Association

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VHI Hires New Operations Manager

Melanie Woodworth was recently hired as the new Operations Manager of the Voice Health Institute (VHI). Melanie is a graduate of Northeastern University with a degree in Speech-Language Pathology. She brings a wealth of administrative experience and knowledge about the medical management of voice disorders to the VHI, having previously served as the Business Manager for the Center for Laryngeal Surgery and Voice Rehabilitation at the Massachusetts General Hospital; a.k.a. the MGH Voice Center. Melanie can be reached at (617) 720-5000 or info@voicehealth.org.

Ways in which **YOU** can help END VOICE DISORDERS

- ✓ Listen to the voice of your friends, colleagues and loved ones. If you know someone who seems hoarse for more than a few weeks, suggest they see a doctor.
- ✓ Raise awareness among family and friends about the importance of laryngeal and voice disorders.
- ✓ Share your story for a future publication.
- ✓ Provide a donation to the VHI's research, education and outreach programs. Your gift now will protect and restore the voices of tomorrow. Donate today at www.voicehealth.org.



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