Mixing Arts and Science

Part I: Human Voice as an Art Instrument

Thursday, May 2nd, 2013
East Los Angeles College
About STEAM...

The STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) family at ELAC is excited to welcome you to the beginning of a new adventure, Mixing Arts and Science, a three-year effort that will explore the integration of science and arts and how these two fuse seamlessly to provoke the human senses. STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) is a new initiative that we have developed with the goal of engaging students and members of the general community in the appreciation of art through a scientific viewpoint, and the appreciation of science from an artistic perspective. During the next six semesters, students and the community will be able to join us in a unique journey in which we will explore the art of sound production, the engineering of television production, masterpieces art conservation, and the physics of the human body in motion, among other topics. This initiative is possible through funding from the US Department of Education, to help increase awareness on the importance of science in different facets of our life, while aiming to increase the number of students pursuing a degree in STEM.

We are proud and excited to launch this initiative with the collaboration of the LA Opera, a cultural landmark of Los Angeles County and a strong supporter of education and community engagement. I am certain that you will enjoy today’s exceptional program. I sincerely want to thank the team that has worked so hard and passionately on the success of this event. I want to specially thank Dinesh Chhetri and Douglas Sumi for accepting our invitation with an adventurous spirit and helping us to make tangible Part I: Human Voice as an Art Instrument.

Now, simply clear your mind, open your ears and let the fusion of science and arts transport you through the STEAM experience... while transforming the way you perceive the world.

En buena hora!

Armando M. Rivera-Figueroa, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Chemistry
MESA and STEM Programs Director
East Los Angeles College
Now in its 27th season, LA Opera has become one of America’s most ambitious opera companies under the leadership of Plácido Domingo (Eli and Edythe Broad General Director) and James Conlon (Richard Seaver Music Director). Presenting benchmark productions of standard repertoire as well as new and rarely-staged operas, the Company brings together world-renowned singers, designers, directors and conductors for performances that attract the attention of international audiences and critics. LA Opera reaches an audience of over 280,000 annually through its mainstage productions and its award-winning Education and Community Programs. For more information, please visit www.LAOpera.com.

**LA Opera Staff**

Stacy Brightman  
*Director of Education and Community Programs*

Jennifer Babcock  
*Associate Director of Education and Community Programs*

Anthony Jones  
*Community Programs Tour Manager*

Garrett Collins  
*Communications Coordinator*

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**About GANAS...**

**Goals And Needs for Accelerated STEM**

On September 22, 2011, the U.S. Department of Education awarded East Los Angeles College a grant (Award # P031C110092) for a project entitled, Goals And Needs for Accelerated STEM (GANAS). This cooperative grant, with the University of Southern California (USC), aims to increase the number of community college students, particularly traditionally underrepresented students, who transfer to a baccalaureate program and finish in a STEM discipline.

GANAS has been able to allow ELAC to develop different activities to target each specific goal under the grant. Activities ranging from outreach, to engagement, to preparation for success, to intervention and remediation strategies have been and are continually developed.

The success of our STEM program builds on a thorough review and continuous evaluation process, which allow us to evolve with the constant and dynamic “metamorphosis” of the process.
About our Guest Speakers

American pianist and vocal coach, Douglas Sumi, has served on music staff under such conductors as James Conlon, Plácido Domingo, Patrick Summers, William Lacy, Michele Mariotti and Emmanuel Villaume. In addition, he has been répétiteur for main stage productions at LA Opera and frequently works with the singers in the Domingo-Thornton Young Artist Program. This past summer, he toured Russia with the young artists in a cultural exchange, giving concerts and master classes at the Galina Vishnevskaya Opera Center and the St. Petersburg Conservatory. He has spent time participating and coaching at various song programs and festivals. He was Assistant Coach to English diction expert Kathryn LaBouff at the Manhattan School of Music. While in New York, he was part of American Opera Project’s Exiles by composer Renee Favand.

He holds a Master of Music degree in Classical Accompanying from the Manhattan School of Music, where he studied under the guidance of Warren Jones. In the fall of 2012, he is delighted to begin working with the opera studios of UCLA and Azusa Pacific University.

Dr. Dinesh Chhetri graduated magna cum laude from Brown University with a degree in Biochemistry. He then obtained his MD from UCLA School of Medicine, and graduated with distinction for his thesis on vocal fold paralysis and laryngeal reinnervation. He remained at UCLA for his residency training in Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, and followed with further training with a 2-year Fellowship in Voice, Swallowing, and Airway Disorders.

Dr. Chhetri’s medical practice is devoted to voice disorders, swallowing disorders, and airway (breathing) disorders. He is the director of the UCLA Swallowing Disorders Program and is co-director of the Laryngology (Voice) program. He is an NIH funded researcher in the topic of Voice Disorders. He is known nationally and internationally for his clinical and research contributions in the arenas of laryngeal physiology, voice and swallowing disorders. He is now an Associate Professor of Head and Neck Surgery at UCLA.

Program

6:00 p.m.  Welcome & Introduction

6:15 p.m.  Mr. Farley Herzek  President, ELAC
            Dr. Judy Chu  U.S. Representative, California 27th District
            Dr. Richard Moyer  Vice President Academic Affairs, ELAC
            Dr. Armando M. Rivera  Associate Professor of Chemistry and
            Dr. Stacey Brightman  STEM Programs Director, ELAC

6:35 p.m.  Dr. Dinesh K. Chhetri  Voice production and the human
            body

7:00 p.m.  Dr. Dinesh K. Chhetri joined
            by Douglas Sumi  In tandem demonstration; the human
            body as a system to create art

7:20 p.m.  Lisa Eden, Robert MacNeil,
            Roberto Gomez and
            Douglas Sumi  Vocal coaching demonstration with
            LA Opera artists

7:30 p.m.  Lisa Eden, Robert MacNeil
            and Roberto Gomez
            accompanied by
            Douglas Sumi  Opera Recital

8:15 p.m.  Reception