



WORDS FROM CEO Brett Bachmann



Shakespeare once said, "April hath put a spirit of youth in everything." I couldn't have said it any better. Our month of April always keeps us hopping as we are occupied with spring and closing the school year out on a positive note. We continue to provide the best education and care to our students daily. Our students and teachers enjoy that much needed spring break the first week of April and when we return, the year is almost complete. This year adds even more excitement as we are busy getting ready for our annual fundraiser, Sound Beginnings Breakfast, which takes place this year on May 19th.

I'm happy to announce a special event in May! Our very own movie event – our own production of *The Little Red Hen* – complete with popcorn and a red carpet. Our staff profile features Claire Sterling, HHI audiology assistant, who has been a dedicated member of our team for the last seven years. And check out our Research Corner that provides our latest innovation and technology in the hearing healthcare field. The studies that take place under our roof can maybe determine the next big thing in hearing research and education.

We've got so much going on! I ask that you pay attention to our calendar of events and participate in as many of the activities as you can. Don't forget to sign up for our Sound Beginnings Breakfast by contacting Wende Elkins at welkins@thehearinginstitute.org or (502) 515-3320. And thanks always to our continuous support from our donors, Delta Dental, The Gheens Foundation, Kindred Health, and Kosair Charities. Special thanks as always to our staff, friends and volunteers who help us provide great service and care to the community. Remember, your support is vital for the success of our organization and the students and families of HHLA.

My door is continually open to you — for a tour, a visit or a volunteer opportunity. For more information or to ask a question, please send me note at bbachmann@thehearinginstitute.org

Happy Spring!

-Brett



HHLA FEATURES MOVIE PREMIERE OF "THE LITTLE RED HEN"

The students of Heuser Hearing & Language Academy (HHLA) will present their very special version of *The Little Red Hen* on May 12 at 6:00pm at the downtown campus. The one-of-a-kind movie premiere will feature the first ever showing of "The Making of The Little Red Hen" with its original cast of students and teachers in this unique production, red carpet arrivals of stars with paparazzi, an intermission and even popcorn.

"Our students will not only display their language and vocabulary skills, but they will put special emphasis on the arts," says Debbie Woods, Education Director of HHLA. Students will showcase highlights of the arts program and wear costumes created and designed in art, sing songs from music and orchestra, and dance in tutus from the ballet. "We will present to our audience just how much the arts can inspire and motivate children to become the best version of themselves," adds Woods. The night's proceeds from the sale of popcorn, drinks and student artwork will go toward the HHLA Children's Field Trip Fund.

Admission to the event is free and open to all families and friends of HHLA.

For more information, contact Debbie Woods at 502-636-2084 or dwoods@thehearinginstitute.org.

RESEARCH CORNER

Dr. Sharon Miller has received an award from the American Auditory Society for her paper: Neural Correlates of Phonetic Categorization in Adult Cochlear Implant Listeners. Dr. Miller presented this work at the recent American Auditory Society meeting in Scottsdale, Arizona.

For more information about the American Auditory Society, visit www.amauditorysoc.org.

Drs. Chhayakant Patro and Pavel Zahorik continue their work on reverberant sound. Although speech understanding difficulties in reverberation are frequently reported by individuals with hearing loss, reverberation can also provide important sound quality benefits, such as enjoying music in a concert hall. Drs. Patro and Zahorik are studying both the positive and negative aspects of reverberation. One part of the study is focused specifically on prototype hearing aids that may improve listening in reverberation. Another part of the study is focused more broadly on perceptual aspects of reverberation.

For more information about this work, and how to participate, visit www.zaplab.org.

STAFF PROFILE Claire Sterling, Audiometric Assistant, HHI



Over the last two years Claire Miller – now Sterling – has worked at the Heuser Hearing Clinic as an Audiometric Assistant specializing in cochlear implants and pediatric patient care. She also helps with the audiology needs of the students of the Hearing & Language Academy. Previously she was a classroom assistant for five years as an employee of Jefferson County Public Schools (JCPS). "I love working with the kids at the school and helping them reach their academic goals by making sure they have the best access to sound in their classroom environment at all times," says Claire.

Claire sees hearing healthcare quickly evolving. "The technology in hearing healthcare makes such great advances on an almost daily basis that it is exciting to help adults and children to get both great access to sound and to integrate new hearing technologies into their daily lifestyle with the use of accessories, smart phone apps, or just showing someone a new feature in their current technology," says Claire. She also helps with the many outreach projects including HHI's biggest outreach of the year, the Kentucky State Fair booth, and the ListenUp! Project. Claire successfully manages the community outreach and the organization of all the booth volunteers for the entire weeks of the fair. "Having a booth at the state fair allows Heuser to provide hearing screens to thousands of people and gives up-to-date information that closes the gap between patients knowing about their hearing loss and actually getting patients the help they need to manage," adds Claire.

When she's not at HHI, Claire spends time with her husband, Christopher, and her family - especially nieces, Grace and Ruby. Grace attended HHLA, in the Hearing Peers class and, according to Claire, still fondly reminisces about her experience there. Claire's hobbies include watching college basketball (she admits to being a bit of a crazy basketball fan in love with the Kentucky Wildcats) and arts and crafts.

HEUSER NEWS

Student Volunteers Make a Difference!

Thanks to the volunteers of Delta Zeta from the University of Louisville who help HHLA teachers and students once a month. We appreciate their assistance and the lessons learned by student and teacher are priceless!



HEUSER 2017 EVENTS

- April 14th:** Easter Egg Hunt (DZ)
- April 28th:** Zoo Field Trip
- May 4th:** Derby in the Park Field Trip
- May 12th:** Special Ladies' Day
- May 12th:** HHLA Movie Premiere
- May 19th:** Sunny Acres Farm Field Trip
- May 19th:** Sound Beginnings Breakfast - **SAVE THE DATE!**
- May 24th:** Graduation
- July 24-28th:** Summer Camp (Ocean Theme)

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