Strengthen your vocal sound, improve your performance and lengthen your interpreting career with this hands-on, “voice-on” workshop! Delivered by Dr. Juanita Ulloa, a classically trained international Operachi singer, Professor of Voice and a Spanish Court Certified Interpreter, this program helps interpreters of all languages treasure and train their voice.

The workshop covers two fundamental areas for successful interpreting: vocal production and accent reduction.

An understanding of vocal production enables interpreters to maintain vocal health and improve job performance.

Accent reduction enhances interpreters’ professional appearance and delivers a higher-quality service to clients.

Invest in this interactive, intensive workshop, for the long-term health and productivity of your voice!
Transform Your Voice
Vocal Production and Accent Reduction for Interpreters

Voice Production

As professional interpreters our brains work in tandem with our bodies – in particular, with the voice box and certain muscles that assist with air support and release. We train for linguistic intellectual dexterity, but need to match it with some understanding of vocal production in order to stay vocally healthy. Learning about vocal production goes a long way towards improving vocal understanding and subsequent sound production. This part of the workshop will explain, demonstrate and answer the following questions:

- Where does my voice come from?
- What exactly is breath support?
- How much air do I need?
- How does my diaphragm play into all this?
- Where is the vocal motor?
- Where is the resonator?
- How do I go faster in simultaneous without running out of air?
- What is the proper way to soften my voice in the interpreting encounter?

Participants will explore their vocal production individually, in pairs and as a class with fun, yet useful interactive activities. They will also learn daily warm-ups for successful long-term vocal care.

Accent Reduction

Let's face it; everyone has an accent. But as interpreters we need to be understood by everyone in the room. Accent reduction improves our image as professional interpreters and helps us to provide better service to our clients. In this part of the workshop we'll dive deeply into:

- Vowels versus consonants
- Voiced consonants versus unvoiced consonants

Although the presentation will feature examples of tricky pronunciations in English, the techniques and activities are invaluable for both non-native and native English speakers. Extensive use of self-reflection and peer feedback (including audio and video recording!) will provide participants with the tools for continued improvement after the workshop.
Trainer Bio

Dr. Juanita Ulloa

Dr. Juanita Ulloa is a classically trained international Operachi singer, Professor of Voice and a Spanish Court Certified Interpreter in Texas and California. She has transformed voices for thirty years, fostering a studio that ranges from beginners to national competition winners, finalists, judges, lawyers, and TV personalities. Her doctorate is from the University of Northern Colorado in Vocal Performance; her MA and BA Music degrees are from Yale University and UC Berkeley. Dr. Ulloa often tours the U.S., Mexico, and Spain as a solo concert artist, juror for vocal competitions, and instructor of voice master classes. She has created seven award winning Mexican Mariachi & Latin American CDs and songbooks along with a warm-up and voice class CD for interpreters. She has taught at several universities in Texas and California.

As a Spanish legal interpreter, Dr. Ulloa has worked in California, Colorado and Texas courts. She trained at the Berlitz Interpreter Program in Mexico City, the University of Arizona’s Summer Intensive Interpretation Program, and San Francisco State University’s Legal Interpretation Certificate Program.

Dr. Ulloa publishes articles, books, and songbooks championing Mexican Song, including her Beginning Latin American Piano book, published by MelBay Publishers on Amazon, and Three Volumes of Mexican Song in Sheet Music with Classical Vocal Reprints. She is currently writing The Mariachi Voice for Oxford University Press.

For more information, or to register for the next session, go to www.cultureandlanguage.net and click on Training or contact the CCC office:

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