Call for Papers: VASTA (Voice and Speech Trainers Association)
Focus Group of the Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE),
2018 Conference
Boston, MA August 1- 5, 2018

Please send questions to VASTA Conference Planner:
athe.planner@vasta.org

The 2018 conference theme - Theatres of Revolution: Performance, Pedagogy, and Protest - is particularly provocative for voice practitioners as we look at the voice and body in performance and training.

VASTA was well-represented at the 2017 ATHE Conference – and we want to make sure we continue this for the 2018 ATHE Conference in Boston. Let’s help our colleagues at ATHE with a wide-range of workshops and panels that help bring “voice to the revolution of our time!

We encourage all to let Marie Ramirez Downing, our Conference Planner, know what you are intending to propose. She will be able to make sure we keep the proposals varied and focused. Start planning now and reaching out to us with your ideas! You can email her at athe.planner@vasta.org

For the following Proposals, the deadline is November 1st, 2018, 11:59pm, Central Standard Time

**Workshops:** Demonstrating practical, hands-on work. Workshops usually have a minimum of three (3) presenters but can include more. These can be experiential or pedagogical in nature.

**Paper Panels:** A formal panel presenting papers/research exploring the facets of a single topic.

**Panel Discussion/Roundtable:** A more informal discussion of a single topic with three to five participants.

**Multidisciplinary Panels:** These can be any of the above formats, but must include multiple disciplines, such as VASTA and the acting focus group. Please contact Marie Ramirez Downing (athe.planner@vasta.org) if you plan to put together a Multidisciplinary Panel. These panels must be sponsored by the focus group planners of at least one other Focus Group. Each Focus Group conference planner must be contacted. If you have an idea for a multidisciplinary panel but don’t have a group assembled, let her know and she can help you to reach interested parties from other Focus and Groups. Look on the ATHE website to see a list of the Focus Groups.

Note: The presenting group does not have to contain representatives from focus groups but must have the sponsorship of the two groups.
For Debut Panels ONLY the submission process and deadline is different:

**Debut Panels:** We encourage First-Time ATHE Presenters who have short presentations to share, approximately 20 minutes, to share hands-on voice exercises and/or paper topics. Please send your “proposed exercise to present” or paper abstract directly to Marie Ramirez Downing (athe.planner@vasta.org) no later than April 1, 2017.

Please Note:

- **Single Focus Group Sessions** can address questions to the conference planner, Marie Ramirez Downing (athe.planner@vasta.org) or the associate conference planner, Cynthia DeCure (assoc.athe.planner@athe.org) before submitting their proposal.
- **Multidisciplinary proposals** must be authorized by TWO sponsoring ATHE focus groups. Email and get authorization from each focus group’s conference planner before submitting.
- **You can only participate in 2 sessions.**
- **You can only choose 1 Free A/V aid:** audio or CD player OR flip chart OR LCD projector
- **If you need additional A/V, you or the focus group will need to apply for a conference grant.** Let your conference planner know.

Complete session proposals should be directed directly to the ATHE website (www.athe.org). You must have the names for all participants ready for the proposal. The website includes submission information and forms. The session proposal deadline is November 1, 2017.

If you have questions about the submission process or if you just want to talk through your ideas, please don’t hesitate to contact Marie Ramirez Downing at athe.planner@vasta.org

Yours,