



ALDA Boston – P.O. Box 600622 – Newtonville, MA 02460

Website: [www.aldaboston.org](http://www.aldaboston.org)

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## ALDAgram – March 2017

The 2017 ALDA Boston Ballot will be on its way to you in a day or so. This year we are again voting via email. ALDA Boston will also be celebrating its 28<sup>th</sup> birthday when we meet in April. In looking back at old correspondence, I learned that in 1987/1988, a group of people petitioned ALDA, Inc. “to grant us a charter as an affiliated Chapter, operating under franchise of ALDA.” ALDA Boston was the second chapter to be recognized, and Marylyn Howe and/or Gerri Lyons can probably tell us the story behind why we were the second chapter and not the first.



**Congratulations to Carol Hilbinger** for winning Outstanding Advocate of the Year award at the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Constituents' Day on March 13. Here is Carol with Heidi Reed, Kelly Kim, and Betsy McCarthy.

Jonathan O'Dell's outstanding photos of 2017 Deaf and Hard of Hearing Constituents' Day can be seen at the link below.

[https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A\\_1drv.ms\\_f\\_s-21Atblx2isEtoukC1o03UpHzwh-5FuDn&d=DwIFaQ&c=IDF7oMaPKXpkYvev9V-fVahWL0QWnGCCAfCDz1Bns\\_w&r=mJ9JqsYWa7zoN62wc1tyYh9TbBlnd2zyzwQtZkfWZTw&m=QdwKdB84j7\\_YtN0ZFD4alT3Lc4ts2iZ5ZGj0wHPzcEU&s=M8kbR9n5iwn4Ci98hlchEGp9Uab5Hs-7gRW9VWLMmfA&e=](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A_1drv.ms_f_s-21Atblx2isEtoukC1o03UpHzwh-5FuDn&d=DwIFaQ&c=IDF7oMaPKXpkYvev9V-fVahWL0QWnGCCAfCDz1Bns_w&r=mJ9JqsYWa7zoN62wc1tyYh9TbBlnd2zyzwQtZkfWZTw&m=QdwKdB84j7_YtN0ZFD4alT3Lc4ts2iZ5ZGj0wHPzcEU&s=M8kbR9n5iwn4Ci98hlchEGp9Uab5Hs-7gRW9VWLMmfA&e=)

## News from Members and Friends

Former ALDA Boston Board member John Lawrence reports that he and his wife now have 18 grandchildren. John became bilateral about five years ago and is now waiting for the new Naida processor.

Gael Hannan, whom many of you know or met at Celebration '16, is now the recipient of a Kanso, the latest Cochlear Americas processor that sits on the head, not behind the ear.

Let's hear from more of you. What have YOU been doing to help your hearing?

## Channel 5

Did you have difficulty accessing the 5:00 news on Channel 5 during big storm Stella? Captioning was lost for about nine minutes. Channel 5 is launching a new caption system called ICAP. According to David C. Beauvais, Sr, the Assistant Director of Engineering, the new system offers a number of capability improvements for monitoring and recovery. If you have problems with captioning, please call Dave at 781-433-4352 and report the problem. Let us know also. We'll send a sheet with over-the-air reception hints from Dave in a day or so.

## Upcoming ALDA Events



On **Saturday afternoon, April 8**, we will be treated to a professional historical interpretation of "First Ladies from Martha Washington to Frances Clara Cleveland." Bring your friends. The show looks at the personal and private details of our very public First Ladies. The presentation will take place at the new McAuliffe library in Framingham. CART will be provided.

Since it's ALDA Boston's 28<sup>th</sup> birthday, we'll announce the results of the Election of Officers while we eat birthday cake. If you haven't RSVP'd yet, please do so to Louis or Linda Sakin at [louissakin@aol.com](mailto:louissakin@aol.com) or call 508-620-1148 (Voice/TTY) just so we know how much coffee and cake to get.



**Save the date now.** On **Sunday, June 4**, Malka Young, Director of Communal and Elder Services at Jewish Family Service of Metrowest, will talk about Community Resources and How to Access Them.

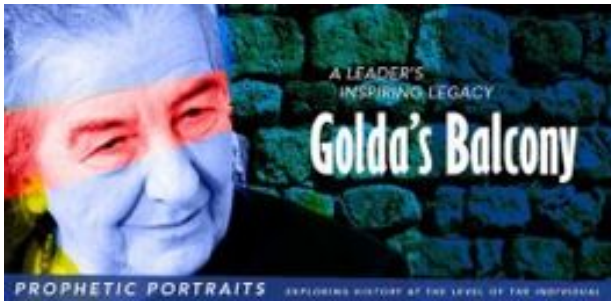
## Other Events of Interest



Early-bird Registration for the HLA A Convention in Salt Lake City from June 22 -25 will end on March 31. The keynote speaker is Staff Sgt. (RET.) Shilo Harris, author of *Steel Will: My Journey Through Hell to Become the Man I was Meant to Be*. There will be all sorts of symposia, workshops, and fun things to do in Salt Lake City. For more info, go to <http://www.hearingloss.org/content/registration>



## HLAA/ALDA Theater Night at New Rep!



Join us on **Friday evening, April 14**, for a performance of *Golda's Balcony* at the New Rep Theatre in Watertown, 321 Arsenal Street. The theater is hearing loop-enabled, so that should make hearing easy. Members of ALDA and HLAA will receive a discount by using the code 14GOLDA10. Contact the box office for ticket purchases or order tickets online.

Written by William Gibson, directed by Judy Braha, and featuring Bobbie Steinbach, “*Golda's Balcony* follows Golda Meir from her humble beginnings as a Wisconsin school teacher to her meteoric rise through Israel's early political system, becoming one of the world's first elected female heads of state and one of the most influential women in Jewish history.”



## Museum of Fine Arts Accessible Guided Tours



Mark your calendar now for *Art in Bloom 2017* and celebrate this exuberant spring festival at the MFA on Friday, April 28. You'll have a choice of a tour at 2:30 or 6:30. “This joyous rite of spring pairs fine art and floral design to be explored during our tour. Garden clubs and professional designers from across New England create floral arrangements inspired by the MFA's works of art chosen by our curators. You'll have time after your tour to explore even more arrangements all over the museum.” Look for the registration form on Monday, April 3.

The next tour on Sunday, May 21, will focus on Henri Matisse. “*Matisse in the Studio*” is the first major international exhibition to examine the importance of Matisse's personal collection of objects, offering unprecedented insight into the great artist's creativity. See these rare pairings of Matisse's major works with objects of inspiration in “*Matisse in the Studio*” in its only US venue at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.



## Accessible Theater



**Broadway in Boston** Performances are at the Boston Opera House. For tickets, go to: <https://oss.ticketmaster.com/aps/ccet/EN/buy/browse> or get tickets by phone at 617-880-2419 or in person at the Box Office, 539 Washington Street, Boston



*The King and I* will be open-captioned on Saturday, April 15 at 2 pm. The ASL performance is on Saturday, April 22 at 2pm. The audio-described performance is on Saturday, April 22 at 2 pm.



*Mamma Mia!* will be open-captioned on Saturday, June 3 at 2 pm.

## News of Note

Can over-the-counter hearing aids for older adults with mild-to-moderate hearing loss work as well as hearing aids purchased through an audiologist? In a new study, participants who selected pre-programmed hearing aids using an over-the-counter delivery model reported a similar level of benefit as participants who purchased the same hearing aids through an audiologist following best practices. The National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD), part of the National Institutes of Health, supported the study, which is published in the March 2 American Journal of Audiology <http://aja.pubs.asha.org/article.aspx?articleid=2608398>

The South Korea-based startup Earlogic (<https://earlogic.com/>) introduced a smart music platform app named TSC Music, which was designed to equalize sounds based on users' hearing capacity and serve the dual purpose of improving sound quality and protect users from hearing loss. Users are prompted to take a self-administered hearing test on five key frequencies when they open the app. The app then uses its threshold sound conditioning technology to render sound based on both frequency ranges and decibels unique to users' preset hearing condition. TSC Music also saves users' hearing data to help monitor daily hearing conditions, which include progress, usage time, best and worst INDEX, and other parameters.

Phonak's Rechargeable Hearing Aid Wins International Design Award

<http://journals.lww.com/thehearingjournal/blog/breakingnews/pages/post.aspx?PostID=84>

*How to tell your parents they need hearing aids* by Brande Plotnick, MS, MBA, managing editor, *Healthy Hearing* March 14, 2017 No matter your age, having your parents in your life is a blessing. For Generation X and Baby Boomers whose parents are aging, this is even more so. However, this blessing can sometimes come with having uncomfortable conversations with your parents about unpopular topics such as when it's time to stop driving or living independently, when it's time to get that second medical opinion or when it's time to get help for a hearing loss that is causing communication breakdowns. To read more, go to <http://www.healthyhearing.com/report/33206-How-to-tell-your-parents-they-need-hearing-aids?>

Researchers have been able to demonstrate the hereditary nature of certain forms of **tinnitus**. Bilateral tinnitus - that is, tinnitus in both ears - has been shown to depend on genetic factors, particularly in men. The twin study, which is published in the journal *Genetics in Medicine*, was conducted by researchers at Karolinska Institutet together with colleagues from the European research network TINNET. To read more, go to <http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/releases/316328.php>



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