

# Echoes

THE CHILDREN'S HEARING INSTITUTE  
www.childrenshearing.org

March, 2013



## *The Children's Hearing Institute Celebrates 30 Years!*



**Dr. Parisier and patient**

The Children's Hearing Institute is proud to celebrate 30 years of service to deaf and hard-of-hearing children, their parents and the professionals who work with them.

Dr. Simon C. Parisier, world renowned Otolaryngologist and his wife, Elaine founded The Children's Hearing Institute in 1983 based on a need to help children with hearing loss and their families. For the past three decades, The Institute has supported pioneering research as well as medical, educational, and therapeutic innovations that have immeasurably improved the lives of children with hearing loss.

CHI's most significant accomplishment has been its visionary support of cochlear implant technology with the goal of eliminating deafness. In 1979, Dr. Parisier began his groundbreaking work using this device, which is surgically placed in the cochlea to restore hearing to deaf individuals. Dr. and Mrs. Parisier recognized that this revolutionary surgical intervention could not, in and of itself, ensure a deaf child's ability to develop the listening, speech, language, and learning skills that are necessary to attain educational success. Therefore, in 1983, The Children's Hearing Institute was founded to fund research into the efficacy of the cochlear implant as well as fund the educational and clinical services that support these children.

It is with great appreciation that we thank our loyal donors. Your generosity has enabled CHI to enhance our research capabilities, expand our educational outreach, further our innovative treatments for children and essentially...turn hope into hearing.

### *Applications are now being accepted for the Susan Cheffo Memorial Scholarship*

This scholarship will be awarded to a hearing impaired student who is a cochlear implant user and will be attending college in the Fall of 2013 and is determined to overcome the challenges of their hearing loss and strive to achieve academic success.

Susan Cheffo was an adult with hearing loss, who had bilateral cochlear implants. Her impressive career as a Teacher of the Deaf, the Principal for the Nassau BOCES Program for Hearing and Vision, and the Educational Consultant for BIMC/NYEE and The Children's Hearing Institute allowed her to use her personal experience and knowledge in changing the lives of numerous children. She was an extraordinary human being who was instrumental in helping children with hearing loss succeed both academically and socially.

If you are interested in applying for the scholarship, please contact Myrna Farrell at 646-438-7819 or [mf Farrell@nyee.edu](mailto:mf Farrell@nyee.edu) to request a copy of the scholarship guidelines and application. Deadline for submitting applications is Friday, June 7th.



If you would like to donate to the Scholarship Fund in honor of Susan, please make checks payable to The Children's Hearing Institute and reference Scholarship Fund in the memo or visit our website at [www.childrenshearing.org](http://www.childrenshearing.org) to donate online to the Susan Cheffo Memorial Scholarship.

# The Children's Hearing Institute appoints four new members to the Board of Directors

As we celebrate the 30th Anniversary of The Children's Hearing Institute, it is truly remarkable to look back at the milestones we have reached, goals we have accomplished and, more importantly, the lives of the many children and families who have benefited from our services. As we enter our 4th decade, CHI remains focused on the fact that hearing loss is still America's number one birth defect and leading disability. Effecting more than 37 million American's of all ages, hearing loss continues to be increasingly recognized as a public health crisis.

The Institute is honored to welcome the following new members to the Board of Directors. Together we will continue our work in fulfilling our mission of moving children from a world of silence to a world of sound.

## Stephen J. Paluszek



Mr. Paluszek is a Principal of PRB Advisors LLC and Portfolio Manager of PRB Investors, LP. Prior to this position Mr. Paluszek was the President and Director of M.A. Schapiro & Co., Inc., a broker-dealer specializing in bank stocks, from 1988 until the sale of the company in December of 1997. He is an alumnus of Georgetown University (1979) and later went on to receive his MBA at New York University's acclaimed Stern School of Business (1983).

Having directly experienced the tribulations of hearing loss, he was afflicted by otosclerosis, a sometimes hereditary disorder of the inner ear which causes progressive deafness. Following a sharp deterioration in the 1990's, Dr. Hoffman restored his hearing by performing a stapedectomy in both ears. After this defining moment in Mr. Paluszek's life, he felt a keen awareness of how important hearing is in our everyday activities and should not be taken for granted.

Aside from The Children's Hearing Institute (CHI), Mr. Paluszek also lends his support to other deserving philanthropic ventures. He serves as Director of The Morris and Alma Schapiro Fund that provides grants to hospitals, schools and arts and education programs. He was Co-Chair of the recently completed Friends Seminary Capital Campaign, and is Co-Chair of the Georgetown Wall Street Alliance. Additionally, Mr. Paluszek is also a major supporter of Harlem Link Charter School in NYC and St. Mary's Secondary School in Nyeri, Kenya.

Mr. Paluszek and his wife Violeta Dela-Cruz Paluszek reside in New York City with their three children, Olivia, Ethan and Aiden.

## Won-Taek Choe, MD



Dr. Won-Taek Choe received a Magna Cum Laude in Biochemical Sciences from Harvard College, and received his medical degree from the Stanford University School of Medicine. He then remained at Stanford for his internship and residency in Otolaryngology, and completed his fellowship in Neurotology and Skull Base Surgery at the California Ear Institute. He is Board Certified in Otolaryngology, and is a member of the American Academy of Otolaryngology-

Head and Neck Surgery, North American Skull Base Society, and the American Neurotology Society.

Dr. Choe has been honored with multiple scholarships and grants. He is a reviewer for several leading medical journals, and is a skilled molecular biologist. He also works closely with industry to develop new treatments for difficult problems.

He is also personally committed to helping children with hearing loss – his older son Caleb, underwent bilateral sequential cochlear implants in 2011 after wearing hearing aids for 3 years. His son has remained in mainstream education throughout and is thriving thanks to cochlear implant technology.

Dr. Choe resides in New York City with his wife Jieun and his two sons, Caleb and Lucas.

## Joseph M. Bernstein, MD

Dr. Joseph M. Bernstein is on the full-time faculty at The New York Eye and Ear Infirmary and the Director of Pediatric Otolaryngology for the Continuum Health Partners Otolaryngology Service Line. He works with the faculty at The New York Eye and Ear Infirmary, Beth Israel Medical Center and Roosevelt Hospital to develop the Pediatric Otolaryngology Service and to further enhance the scope of pediatric care. Dr. Bernstein's practice spans the entire spectrum of pediatric otolaryngology with special interests in congenital malformations, airway disorders, sleep apnea, and sinusitis. He is a recognized expert in the evaluation and management of children with craniofacial and cleft anomalies.



Following graduation from Columbia University and NYU School of Medicine, Dr. Bernstein trained at NYU and its affiliated hospitals. After completing a Pediatric Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery fellowship at Baylor and Texas Children's Hospital, Dr. Bernstein returned to NYU Medical Center in 1998 as a full-time faculty member. He expanded his practice to Westchester County in 2005 and to The New York Eye and Ear Infirmary in 2009.

Dr. Bernstein served as a medical consultant to the board of directors of Ha'azinu, an organization dedicated to helping hearing impaired children. He also served on the board of directors of the Westchester Day School as well as the Young Israel of New Rochelle, and he is currently serving as the Financial Secretary on the Young Israel of New Rochelle's Executive Board.

Dr. Bernstein resides in Westchester with his wife and their three children.

### Lisa C. Vasanth, MD

Dr. Lisa C. Vasanth is an Assistant Attending Physician in Rheumatology and Co-Director of Occupational Health at the Hospital for Special Surgery in New York. She



also has appointments at New York Presbyterian Hospital, Weill Cornell Medical Center and Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center.

Dr. Vasanth received her bachelor's degree from Yale University and her medical degree from Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons. She completed her residency in Internal Medicine at New York

Presbyterian Hospital after which she began her fellowship in Rheumatology. During her Rheumatology Fellowship at the Weill Medical College of Cornell University's Hospital for Special Surgery, Dr. Vasanth completed a master's degree in biostatistics from Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health.

Dr. Vasanth serves on the National Board of Medical Examiners / American College of Rheumatology as part of the Rheumatology Fellows In-service Exam Committee as well as on the Hospital for Special Surgery's Osteoarthritis Center of Excellence Committee honing the development of Non-Operative Practice Models for Osteoarthritis patients.

Dr. Vasanth and her husband Kottur reside in New York City with their two children, Brendan and Kate. Brendan and Kate were both born profoundly deaf due to the Connexin 26 gene, the most common cause of childhood deafness. Kate and Brendan received cochlear implants, are in a mainstream school setting and doing exceptionally well.

## In Celebration of our 30th Anniversary Event please Save the Date for our Annual Benefit Cocktail Reception

Jazz at Lincoln Center Monday, May 6, 2013  
Honoring:

### Dr. David Rosenberg and Dr. Jessica Lattman

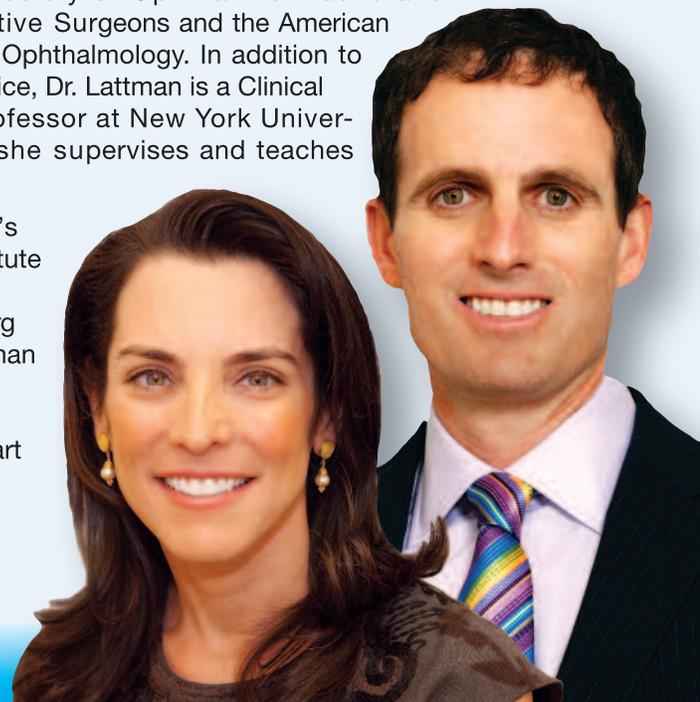
**Dr. David Rosenberg** is an expert facial plastic and reconstructive surgeon, and one of only a handful of facial plastic surgeons Board-Certified in both Facial Plastic Surgery and Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery. His surgical training included a fellowship sponsored by the American Academy of Facial Plastic Surgery, a residency in Otolaryngology in 1995 at Manhattan Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital under the leadership of Chairman, Simon C. Parisier, MD and General Surgery at Lenox Hill Hospital. He received his Medical Degree from Cornell University Medical College after earning his undergraduate degree from Cornell University.

Over the past decade Dr. Rosenberg has gained an international reputation in Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery. One of the foremost cosmetic surgeons in New York City, Dr. Rosenberg's renowned surgical techniques and modern aesthetics continue to garner attention in the press and at national conferences. He has been featured in *Forbes*, *Vogue*, *New York Magazine*, *Elle* and *The New York Times*.

**Dr. Jessica Lattman** is a trained specialist in oculoplastic surgery. She is Board Certified by the American Academy of Ophthalmology. She completed her residency training at Manhattan Eye, Ear & Throat Hospital and then went on to an advanced fellowship in ophthalmic plastic and reconstructive surgery. She graduate with honors in biology from Cornell University and received her medical degree from New York University.

Dr. Lattman has authored textbook chapters and numerous scientific articles in the field of ophthalmic plastic surgery and ophthalmology. She has been featured on local television as an expert in her field and has presented her research at the annual meetings of the American Society of Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons and the American Academy of Ophthalmology. In addition to private practice, Dr. Lattman is a Clinical Assistant Professor at New York University where she supervises and teaches residents.

The Children's Hearing Institute is grateful to Dr. Rosenberg and Dr. Lattman for agreeing to be such a significant part of our 30th Anniversary Celebration.





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*The Children's Hearing Institute has revised our Facebook Page. Like Us and receive updates on upcoming events and workshops.*

# The Children's Hearing Institute Educational Outreach Program

## Mark Your Calendars!

### UPCOMING CE COURSES- WINTER 2013

#### **Controversial Issues in Pediatric Audiology**

**March 14th and March 15th, 2013**

Topics discussed during AVT day will include auditory development of listening and language skills in children with hearing loss with emphasis on advanced skills and coupling FM systems to classroom technology. Audiology Day topics will focus on technology and unilateral hearing loss, programming cochlear implants for difficult to test children and verification of hearing aid technology. (LIMITED SEATING)

**Auditory Therapy Day - Thursday March 14, 2013**

**Audiology Day - Friday March 15, 2013**

Beth Israel Medical Center – 2nd Floor Conference Center  
10 Union Square East at 14th Street

#### **CASLLS: Cottage Acquisition Scales for Listening, Language & Speech**

**(CE Course)**

A set of criterion-referenced instruments designed to help teachers and therapists assess, monitor, and select objectives for planning instruction to promote the language acquisition of children with hearing loss.

**Friday, April 26, 2013**

Beth Israel Medical Center - 2nd Floor Conference Center  
10 Union Square East at 14th Street

#### **Required Course**

#### **NYS/Federal Rules & Regulations and Infection Control Course**

**(CE Course)**

A required course by the State of New York, Division of Licensing for individuals who are engaged in the act of "fitting, selecting, renting, adjusting, or servicing of hearing aids or any other instrument to compensate for impaired hearing, including cochlear implants." This course requirement must be fulfilled every two years.

**Date: June 13, 2013**

Beth Israel Medical Center – 2nd Floor Conference Center  
10 Union Square East at 14th Street

To register online or view full brochures

please visit our website at

[www.childrenshearing.org](http://www.childrenshearing.org)

For more information contact:

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[mfarrell@nyee.edu](mailto:mfarrell@nyee.edu).