



Echoes



Lyor Cohen and his daughter Bea, whose hearing was restored with a cochlear implant.

You Are Invited to CHI's 22nd Annual Benefit Gala Honoring Lyor Cohen

On October 30, friends and supporters of The Children's Hearing Institute will gather at *Jazz at Lincoln Center's New Home – Frederick P. Rose Hall*, to celebrate the Institute's 22nd Annual Benefit Gala. We will honor **Lyor Cohen**, Chairman and CEO of Warner Music Group's U.S. Recorded Music and present him with the **2005 Jule Styne Humanitarian Award** for his generous support of children with hearing loss. This award was established in memory of Jule Styne, composer of Broadway musicals *Gypsy*, *Funny Girl* and *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes*. In 1983, Jule helped plan our first fundraising event and created the statement of our mission...*"that all may hear the universal*

language of music." Since his death in 1996, we have honored a number of enlightened individuals with the *Jule Styne Humanitarian Award*. All have given generously of their philanthropic support, including: *Andrew H. Tisch* (1996), *Peter Faucetta, Sr.* (1997), *Arthur I. Indursky* (1998), *Dennis Basso* (1999), *Frank C. Ginsberg* (2000), *Martin Richards* (2001), *Michael J. Cohen* (2002), *Simon C. Parisier, MD* (2003) and *Robert E. Klein* (2004). For information about Benefit Gala tables, tickets and donations, please call: 212-614-8380.

Center for Hearing and Balance at the New York Eye & Ear Infirmary Diagnoses Dizziness Often Linked to "Ear Rocks"



The Center for Hearing and Balance at The New York Eye and Ear Infirmary recognizes the cause of a common form of dizziness - Benign Paroxysmal Positional Vertigo - called BPPV - as tiny calcium carbonate crystals ("ear rocks") that break loose in the inner ear and lodge in one of the ear's semi-circular canals that function as balancing organs. People with BPPV might

experience dizziness while getting out of bed in the morning, or when tilting their head back in the shower. We generally think of dizziness as affecting the elderly, but BPPV can affect younger people who have bumped or fallen on their head, or have suffered a bad infection or side effects from medication. According to the National Institutes of Health, 40 percent of Americans experience dizziness serious enough to warrant a doctor visit. "Dizziness can trigger falls. You do not have to live with this condition, especially if it is caused by BPPV," says *Ronald A. Hoffman, MD*, the

Center's Medical Director and Co-Director of The Beth Israel/New York Eye & Ear Cochlear Implant Center.

To determine if a patient has BPPV, special goggles are connected to a computer and monitor. The patient lies down with the goggles on, and moves his or her head back and forth. The monitor shows an enlarged image of the patient's eye so rapid eye movements can be detected, a sign of BPPV. "The direction and duration of the rapid eye movement tells us in which semicircular canal the calcium carbonate crystals, or rocks, are located," says *Dr. Hoffman*. "Once we know the location, we treat the patient through a series of movements, gently turning the head." says *Linda Vetere*, director of physical therapy for the Center. "The specific series of movements we use to reposition the crystal particles depend on which canal the crystal is in. We generally are able to remove them in one or two sessions."

Not all dizziness is caused by BPPV, so a careful patient history is taken to determine if there is another, more serious medical cause, such as a heart problem or potential stroke. The Center is one of the most sophisticated of its type, equipped with a comprehensive array of diagnostic and treatment services. Patients must be referred by a physician to the program. For further information, contact The Center for Hearing and Balance: 212-979-4340.



On April 21, CHI Executive Director *Carol Bohdan* participated in *Cool Women, Hot Jobs – Knowledge for the Road Ahead!*, a Career Day sponsored by Mercedes Benz at The Young Women’s Leadership School of East Harlem. This all-girls public school and college guidance program was established by *Ann Tisch*, President and Founder of The Young Women’s Leadership Foundation, to give inner city youth a choice in their education, raise expectations, increase performance and inspire leadership. Approximately 40 women, representing a variety of professional fields, spoke to the students, grades 7-12, about their careers and individual paths to success. The girls were interested to hear the surprising statistics about hearing loss and ways to preserve their own hearing.

Clinical Trial of Bone Anchored Hearing Aids at The New York Eye & Ear Infirmary

Individuals with adult-onset single sided deafness experience significant communication difficulties. Recently, a titanium bone-anchored hearing aid (BAHA) was developed which represents a new device for the rehabilitation of single sided deafness. The BAHA is a bone-conduction hearing aid that is implanted into the mastoid process of the temporal bone behind the ear during a routine surgical procedure. The goal of this investigation is to examine short-term and long-term efficacy of the BAHA in adults with single-sided deafness. Persons who participate in this study will receive the BAHA and receive otologic and audiologic follow-up to determine any short-term and/or long-term changes in sound localization, speech recognition in noise, and patient satisfaction with the device. Research subjects are being recruited for this study by principal investigators *Christopher J. Linstrom, MD* and *Carol A. Silverman, Ph.D.* If you are a physician treating unilateral adult-onset deafness, please contact Dr. Linstrom for participation details: (212) 979-4200.

Susan Cheffo, MS, Coordinator of Educational Services at The Beth Israel/New York Eye and Ear Cochlear Implant Center, recently sent us this essay:

“As a cell phone user with a cochlear implant, I noticed that I could hear well in most quiet situations but I wanted better access in background noise. I travel a great deal on the train and in my car, and found that some noisy situations were impossible. One time a parent called me when I was on the LIRR and I thought I was talking to my dog groomer!

I was glad to find out that some models of cell phones were now t-coil compatible (all Samsung, some LG, Blackberry, or Treo). I went to my local Verizon store to listen to various t-coil compatible cell phones and was quite impressed with the quality. I particularly liked the clarity of the Samsung model 670 (I also liked the camera!). Since my present cell phone contract did not allow me an upgrade yet, I spoke to Verizon customer service. After much explaining about my cochlear implant and the need for a t-coil compatible cell phone, I was told to send a letter from my doctor (audiologist) and I would receive an authorization for an early upgrade. After waiting 10 days for the authorization, I became impatient. I went to the Verizon main store in the mall and explained my situation to a salesperson. This young man was extremely helpful and authorized my upgrade on-the-spot! I also explained that I was in the car a great deal and could not use a hands-free device. He suggested that I purchase the car charger/speaker combination that was compatible with my new Samsung cell phone. It also came with a microphone that clipped onto the overhead sun visor. He explained that the quality from the speaker was quite good as reported by other customers. I purchased it along with my new phone, and ran to my car to try out the new system. I was extremely impressed with the clarity from the speaker, and that people that I called could hear my voice easily. I even tested the system on the highway, where background noise is most prevalent and found that I could understand and be understood with almost no difficulty. I went back to the Verizon store to thank the salesperson and explained how successful this system was. He responded by letting me know that I helped him direct future customers who were hearing aid/cochlear implant users. What a great attitude!”

Making News

In June, New York magazine published its Eighth Annual “Best Doctors” issue highlighting 1,374 top physicians in every field. Leading otolaryngologists cited include Children’s Hearing Institute Founder and Beth Israel/New York Eye & Ear Cochlear Implant Center Co-Director *Simon C. Parisier, MD*; New York Eye & Ear Infirmary Chairman of Otolaryngology *Steven D. Schaefer, MD*; and NYEE Cochlear Implant Center Service Director, *Christopher J. Linstrom, MD*. In July, Our Town and Spirit newspapers featured the column by Dr. Simon Parisier “Protect Your Hearing.”

**Support The Children's Hearing Institute By
Purchasing Our New Artist-Designed Note Cards
New Cards Feature "Beethoven – The Spiral of Sound"**

"Dear Friends,

The Children's Hearing Institute is proudly introducing our first note cards. Costs are generously underwritten by the marketing communications agency **Avrett Free & Ginsberg**, ensuring 100% of sales proceeds will benefit research, treatment and education programs for children with hearing loss.

These colorful cards feature "**Beethoven – The Spiral of Sound**," an original oil painting created for us by Dutch-born artist **Shoshannah Brombacher Miller**, who lives in New York with her husband and two children. Her son *Yoni* received a cochlear implant at age two and the artist herself suffers progressive hearing loss. She holds a Ph.D. in Jewish literature and writes and collects Chassidic stories, which influence her art. *Shoshannah* derives inspiration from *Ludwig Van Beethoven*, the master composer and virtuoso pianist whose personal triumph over hearing loss is an inspiration for the ages. 'Think what the poor man could have done with a cochlear implant,' she says.

We are selling our high quality, glossy finish note cards in sets of ten, with envelopes, at \$25 per set, including shipping. *Shoshannah's* original oil painting is being sold by silent auction and will be displayed at the Institute's upcoming 2005 Benefit Gala. To purchase note cards and/or to inquire about bidding on the original oil painting, contact us at: 212-614-8380. We thank you for your support".

Simon C. Parisier, MD

Founder, The Children's Hearing Institute

Co-Director, The Beth Israel/New York Eye & Ear Cochlear Implant Center

Professor of Otolaryngology, New York Medical College



**Your Winning Bid For This Exquisite, Original Painting
Will Benefit The Children's Hearing Institute**

Painter **Shoshannah Brombacher Miller** has generously donated her exquisite work of art – "**Beethoven – The Spiral of Sound**" - to The Children's Hearing Institute to generate funds for our research studies and educational programs. The painting will be sold by Silent Auction and will be displayed at our Benefit Gala October 30. We are accepting bids starting at \$5,000. To place a bid, contact us at: 212-614-8380. The winning bid will be announced at the Benefit Gala.

Shoshannah describes her rich symbolism: "Inspired by his angelic Muse, *Ludwig Van Beethoven* is seen in the upper half conducting a symphony. He appears to be randomly walking in one of his brooding poses, as seen on the spiraling path of life - which is suggestive of an anatomical *Cochlea*: the organ of hearing. With each turn, the spiral appears smaller and more distant, as the sound of silence becomes less visible. A Triumphant Arch with winged horses symbolizes the inner triumph of *Beethoven* over his deafness. The spiral also serves as the platform connecting the two worlds of the artist: the Roman bridge in Maastricht, Netherlands (birthplace of the artist) and the Manhattan skyline. The spiral is surrounded by the 'Four Elements' – all reverberating with the sounds of music. The lower left corner (string quartet) is 'Earth' with greenish tones. The golden sun ('Fire') illuminates and warms the old city of Maastricht and its inhabitants love for music. In the upper right is a Music Hall reminiscent of the great concert halls of Europe. Music floats through the element of 'Air' and over the canals connected by bridges. Like music, 'Water' has depth, flow and change, and represents life itself."



Shoshannah's painting measures 36" L x 24" W. invite you to learn more about the artist by visiting www.absolutearts.com/portfolio/s/shoshannah.

Protect Your Hearing

"Hearing is a gift most people take for granted until they start losing it," says *Simon C. Parisier, MD*, co-director of The Cochlear Implant Center at The New York Eye & Ear Infirmary and founder of The Children's Hearing Institute. "Because the chronic din of ordinary life is higher than ever, reducing excessive noise can improve your hearing health, no matter your age." The Children's Hearing Institute offers the following tips for preserving the hearing of you, your kids and your parents. "Make protection of your hearing part of your everyday lifestyle," says Dr. Parisier:

If you suspect your child may be experiencing a developmental delay, consult a physician for a hearing screening. Hearing loss can occur at any age and can go undetected in infants and children. Unfortunately, the average age of diagnosis of hearing loss is close to age three. Using today's technology, a child's hearing can be easily tested, even at birth. Early detection and remediation can avoid serious damage and speech disorders.

Keep volume on iPods, walkmans, televisions, stereos and radios at a reasonable level. Unless teens are warned about the perils of personal sound tracks, they will experience the same hearing loss faced by their baby boomer rock n' roll parents.

Wear earplugs at noisy work sites and while operating power tools. Workplace noise combined with the natural effects of aging deteriorates hearing ability.

In noisy recreational activities, wear ear earplugs or earmuffs to protect against prolonged noise of motorboats, motorcycles and snowmobiles.

Keep your distance from speakers at concerts, festivals and sporting events.

Stay clear of toxic noisemakers such as firecrackers and guns.

If you or your aging parents have problems hearing, consult a physician to determine if a hearing aid or cochlear implant is indicated to prevent further loss. Digital technology has led to better quality hearing aids and in many cases, cochlear implants can completely reverse deafness.

For further information on hearing loss, visit The Children's Hearing Institute online at: www.childrenshearing.org For further tips on protecting your hearing, visit "Wise Ears," a public awareness campaign organized by The National Institute on Deafness and Communication Disorders, The National Institutes of Health: www.nidcd.nih.gov/health/wiseears.

CHI Sponsors Teen-Mentored Photography & Scrapbooking Workshops



Susan Kornfeld was diagnosed with a bi-aural moderate to severe hearing loss at 18 months and is now successfully mainstreamed as an incoming senior at Byram Hills High School in Armonk New York. "This is the kind of success that can be attained

when families work hard for it," says *Jane R. Madell, PhD, CCC-A/SLP, Cert. AVT*, co-director of The Beth Israel/New York Eye & Ear and Ear Cochlear Implant Center. Susan first learned about photography at Camp Pinecliffe in Harrison, Maine, and has received high marks in her photography classes at Byram Hills. She will finish her high school photographic education by taking Advanced Placement Photography this fall. An avid photographer and scrapbooking hobbyist, *Susan* has developed a workshop to teach beginning digital photography and scrapbooking to 8-12 year-old children who are hearing impaired and their friends. The workshops feature personal attention, simple instructions and a social environment for kids. Sessions began in the spring and took place on weekend mornings in midtown Manhattan. Participants were required to bring a digital camera and, for the first session, five photographs that could not be returned. All other supplies were provided by *Susan*. The fall series will take place at 11AM on Saturday mornings, also in midtown Manhattan. For more information, contact Susan at sbk215@optonline.net, or on her cell phone: 914-557-3053.

Do You Know?

Newsweek's June 6 issue featured the cover story: "How to Keep Your Hearing," citing the very startling statistics that *hearing loss is America's leading disability, currently affecting 28 million Americans to some degree* " and the number is expected to soar in the coming years - reaching *an astounding 78 million* by 2030. Various explanations for this phenomenon include generally heightened level of sound in our everyday lives, escalating hearing loss among baby boomers exposed to loud music, people living longer experiencing degenerative loss and a new iPod generation glued to amplified music. Here are other surprising facts about deafness and hearing loss:

Hearing loss is America's number one birth defect: one of every 1,000 infants is born totally deaf; three to four of every 1,000 infants have significant hearing impairment.

Approximately 19,000 children under the age of 18 have a cochlear implant, out of an eligible population of 45,000 and growing.

Although approximately 500,000 to 725,000 Americans with severe-to-profound hearing loss could benefit from cochlear implants, there are only 59,000 recipients worldwide.

Noise-induced hearing loss is growing among baby boomers. Of the more than 75 million Americans born between 1945 and 1964, 20.4% or 16 million suffer some degree of hearing loss.

Age-related hearing loss affects 1 in 3 Americans over age 65, nearly 1 in every 2 Americans over 75 and 4 out of 5 over the age of 85 impairing communication & social skills.

Recent Courses, Presentations and Publications

Madell, Jane.R. (2005) Auditory Processing and Auditory Integration Training, in Ed. Lorain Szabo Wankoff, Pro-Ed, Austin, Texas. 175-201

Madell, J.R.: Auditory Verbal International, Toronto. Seminar: Using Speech Perception Information to Maximize Functioning, July 8, 2005.

Madell, J.R.: Speech Perception Presentation to Teacher of the Deaf Interns, The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, July 14, 2005.

Madell, J.R.: "The Audiological Evaluation: More Than A Primer," The Listener - Special Silver Anniversary Edition. Summer 2005, 61-71

Cheffo, Susan and L. Heymann: 5th Biennial Northeast Regional Cochlear Implant Convention Sturbridge, Massachusetts, July 16: 1-2 Punch, Support in the Mainstream by a Speech Pathologist and a Teacher of the Deaf

Cheffo, S: Presentation on the Role of the Educator and Tour of Beth Israel's Hearing & Learning Center; given for Teacher of the Deaf Interns of The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, July 8, 2005.

Events Calendar

Call us at 212-614-8380 for information on these upcoming events:

- "How Parents Can Maintain A Life in Balance" A workshop for parents at Beth Israel Medical Center featuring Dale Atkins, PhD Thursday, September 27, 6 PM - 9 PM
- 2005 Annual Benefit Gala, Jazz at Lincoln Center, October 30
- Teen-Mentored Photography and Scrapbooking Workshops, Autumn 2005, Saturday mornings, 11 AM
- Educators' Conference, Beth Israel Medical Center, December 6
- Please consult our website for topics of parent workshops, the first Tuesday of every month starting in November

The Children's Hearing Institute Partners with The New York Eye & Ear Infirmary to Educate Pediatricians and Neonatologists on Hearing Loss

In March 2006, CHI is joining with The New York Eye & Ear Infirmary to sponsor **Call to Action: Early Intervention for Infants and Children with Hearing Loss...**a Continuing Education Conference and National Awareness Program to educate Neonatologists, Pediatricians, Pediatric Nurse Practitioners and Pediatric Physician Assistants on roles they can play in the diagnosis, treatment and follow-up of infants and children experiencing hearing loss. To further promote national awareness, we will use our educational English/Spanish website - www.childrenshearing.org - to communicate conference highlights and conduct an online study targeted to physicians with the goal of identifying issues and questions relating to pediatric hearing loss. Spanish-language components will be included, as research shows that awareness of hearing loss is particularly low among Hispanic/Latino Americans.

Our objectives are to (1) Educate Physicians, Physician Assistants and Nurse Practitioners about early and accurate identification of hearing loss to help increase the number who receive proper evaluation and appropriate treatment. (2) Provide these professionals with guidelines to recognize signs of hearing loss that may have eluded infant screening via false-negatives or other reasons. (3) Provide these professionals with guidelines for working with parents on follow-up services that can result in successful educational mainstreaming and empowerment for achieving maximal speech/language abilities.

"One in every one-thousand infants born in the U.S. today have a severe or profound loss," says former *Surgeon General C. Everett Koop, MD*. "Without proper screening before the age of three months and appropriate intervention, it can have a severe impact on the development of communication skills, academic achievement, and social functioning of the child." Clinical findings reported 2004/2005 by the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, University of Maryland, and Indiana University School of Medicine, indicate children who receive early intervention – i.e. under one year of age – have improved opportunities to achieve normal-range hearing and verbal abilities, along with social and emotional well-being.

Although newborn hearing screening – now mandated in 41 states - has revolutionized our ability to diagnose hearing early, testing is not perfect, sometimes necessitating follow-up testing. According to the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDOC), in the year 2000, **only approximately half of the children who were referred for a hearing follow-up examination were brought back for one.** In New York State, mandatory newborn screening went into effect only recently, October 20, 2001, leaving many children with undiagnosed hearing loss potentially falling between the cracks. Moreover, many children who are born with normal hearing may develop a loss over the first few years of life. According to the Congressional Hearing Health Caucus Transcript (4/30/03), 19,000 children under the age of 18 have a cochlear implant, out of an eligible population of 45,000 and growing. **Although infants under one year of age now routinely receive cochlear implants, less than half who qualify get them.** This is especially true for Hispanic/Latino Americans and African Americans, who receive cochlear implants less often than white Americans.

CHI and The New York Eye & Ear Infirmary Launch Fundraising Campaign for New Otology Center of Excellence

Consistently cited as one of "America's Best Hospitals," The New York Eye & Ear Infirmary is creating a new Otology Center of Excellence. "We will set a new standard in medical care for children and adults with hearing loss and related ear disorders," says *Steven D. Schaefer, MD* Chairman of Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery. Otology, the medical and surgical treatment of diseases of the ear, began at the Infirmary as a medical specialty in 1824, and has evolved into a broader specialty known as neuro-otology. The new Otology Center of Excellence will embrace this broader specialty, including The Eye & Ear Cochlear Implant Center, chronic ear diseases, the vestibular or balance system, disorders of cranial/auditory nerves involving the temporal bone and related intracranial disease. The Children's Hearing Institute is partnering with the Infirmary in a fundraising campaign to launch The Otology Center of Excellence. Our goal is to provide creative solutions to infants, children and teens with hearing loss and other auditory disorders; empower them to develop essential auditory, speech and language skills commensurate with their hearing peers; and enable them to achieve mainstream academic success. If you would like further information and/or are interested in making a gift to support the launch of the new Center and otology services for children, please contact *Carol Bohdan*, Executive Director, The Children's Hearing Institute, 212-614-8261.



The Children's Hearing Institute
310 East 14th Street
New York, NY 10003

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**The Beth Israel/New York Eye & Ear Cochlear Implant Center
and Hearing & Learning Center**
Beth Israel Center Coordinator: *Charlotte Hosten*, 212-844-8448
New York Eye & Ear Center Coordinator: *Yvette Sarante*, 212-614-8370

Audiology

Director: *Jane R. Madell, PhD, CCC-A/SLP*,
Cert. AVT, 212-844-8792
Supervisor: *Sandra Delapenha, MA, CCC-A*
Supervisor Cochlear Implants: *Nicole Sislian, MA, CCC-A*
Supervisor Hearing Aid Center: *Michele Distefano, MS, CCC-A*
Sabrina Alterman, MS, CCC-A
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Shelly Ozdamar, MS, CCC-A
Lisa Rosenberg, MS, CCC-A
Speech-Language-Auditory Therapy
Michele Bogaty-Blend, MA, CCC-SLP
Marianna Davila, MS, CCC-SLP
Karen Slotnick, MA, CCC-SLP

Surgeons

Director: *Ronald A. Hoffman, MD*,
212-844-8778
Director: *Simon C. Parisier, MD*,
212-979-4200
George Alexiades, MD
Paul Hammerschlag, MD
Darius Kohan, MD
Christopher Linstrom, MD
Neil Sperling, MD

Educators/Educational Audiology

212-844-6351
Coordinator: *Susan Chetto, MS*
Melanie Rosen, MA, CCC/A
Lois Heymann, MA, CCC-SLP

Social Work

Stacy Purro, MSW

Contact Us

If you have questions or would like to share a personal story with us, contact:
Carol L. Bohdan, Executive Director, The Children's Hearing Institute
212-614-8261, cbohdan@nyee.edu
Visit our educational website: www.childrenshearing.org