STUDENTS’ EXPERIENCE WITH VOCAL INJURY IN UNDERGRADUATE PERFORMING ARTS TRAINING PROGRAMS

Participants:
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Pace School Of Performing Arts
Provost’s Summer 2020 Student-Faculty Undergraduate Research Award

Methodology:

Research Question:
What is the vocally injured student’s experience?

Results:
This study provided valuable insight on injured students’ experiences with faculty, recovery, accommodations, stigma, and personal/academic trials while in school.
PARTICIPANTS

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Pace School of Performing Arts/ Dyson College of the Arts and Sciences
Provost's Summer 2020 Student-Faculty Undergraduate Research Award
What is the vocally injured undergraduate student’s experience?

- What is vocal injury?
- How common are vocal injuries?
- What do we know about the recovery process?
- What makes being in college with one different?
- What are performing arts programs and faculty like?
- What stigma surrounds vocal injury?

Ultimately, we hypothesize that this study will help build awareness around the trials of this specific group of performing artists. The insight gained from this study can hopefully help in building performing arts programs, hiring able faculty, and providing mental support to injured undergraduate students.
TECHNIQUES/METHODOLOGY

ARE YOU A PERFORMING STUDENT WHO CURRENTLY HAS, OR PREVIOUSLY HAD, A VOCAL INJURY?

Pace University is currently conducting a survey study looking at students’ experience with vocal injury while in school. If you experienced a vocal injury while in your acting, musical theatre, or vocal performance program, you are eligible for this study. The survey is open to current students experiencing vocal injury, as well as alums who had an injury while in school, and should take no more than 5 minutes of your time.

Scan the QR code below to access the survey.
RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS

- Most students work on recovery with a voice team.
- Students value the relationship with their voice teacher.
- Students experience stigma within their programs (primarily from faculty).
- Students require specific academic accommodations for their recovery, especially regarding vocal rest.
- Students have experienced both positive and negative personal and educational effects due to their injury.