

Course description

In this short workshop, the focus lies on non-verbal communication which entails every aspect of communication besides the words itself: Posture, gesturing, use of voice, authentic and spontaneous expression and personality. The application of these skills has a direct effect on the scientist's convincing appearance and professional charisma.

This workshop is geared towards discovering one's individual potential through improvisation and experience-based processes with the goal to expand on one's convincing style.

Methods

As an opera singer with a background in theatre and vocal performance, I have gained extensive insight into an authentic, convincing expression. This expression always has two goals:

- ✦ to perceive and connect to an audience or conversation partner
- ✦ to deliver an enticing message

In order to achieve this, the presenter/communicator needs to know about her body, his personality. He needs to have a range of possible action thus a physical vocabulary of spontaneous expression and she needs to know what she stands in for. These insights can be discovered and trained by experiential learning. Through exercises lent from acting, voice lessons and movement, the participants develop their range of expression through experiences. They become aware of their strengths and difficulties and develop solutions to manage their challenges. Lecturing will be kept at a minimum. The focus lies on doing, experimenting and embodied discoveries rather than the rational, logical understanding of the concept of non-verbal communication.

Content

- ✦ Non-verbal vocabulary building – awareness building
- ✦ Use of voice, vocal expression & improvisation to get to know vocal potential
- ✦ Spontaneity in expression through spontaneous presentations
- ✦ Improvisation to enhance authentic, confident expression

Recent Coaching Contracts, entailing non-verbal communication

ERC Starting & Consolidator Grant, Individual Coaching for young and established professors – RWTH Aachen, Helmholtz Foundation

Postdocs and Doctoral Students

Ruhr University Bochum-Graduate School, open for MPI students of NRW – year round

RWTH Aachen – year round

Excellence Cluster CESAR, Bonn in conjunction with MPI Bonn – once a year

MPI Generalverwaltung – Presentation Skill Workshop for Postdocs – twice a year

Different MPIs nationwide – year round

Voice & Body Language



Trainer

Kathrin Keune, consultant and performing artist, holds a Master's degree in Expressive Arts Therapy, Coaching and Education and earned a B.A. in the performing arts. She worked in a San Diego based medical research laboratory throughout her 6 year stay in Southern California, USA (2005 - 2011). Kathrin has been offering trainings on scientific presentations and communication at different American and German universities. Her background in theatre in combination with her psychology degree turn her trainings into an outstanding learning experience. She still performs as a classical singer at different venues in Germany.