



Milton Commission on DisABILITY

By **Nathalie Elfer**
Member, Milton Commission on Disability
Times contributor

Milton’s Commission on Disability is interested in learning about concerns that Milton residents, employees, and visitors have related to persons with disabilities and their access to meetings, services, programs, and activities in town.

If you have information about barriers to such access in Milton or ways to improve the lives of our residents with disabilities, share them with the Commission by emailing them to our Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Coordinator, Joe Prondak, at jprondak@townofmilton.org or www.townofmilton.org under the “Boards and Committees” tab.

On our web page, we have a link to Milton’s Request for Reasonable Accommodations Form, which is located in the center, next to our Facebook link. Milton residents, employees, and visitors who have disabilities that may impact access to Milton meetings, services, programs, and activities may use this link to request reasonable accommodations.

The Commission’s purpose, set by Massachusetts law, is to cause the full integration and participation of people with disabilities in Milton.

We do this by researching local problems of people with disabilities; advising and assisting Milton officials and employees in ensuring compliance with state and federal laws and regulations that affect people with disabilities; coordinating and carrying out programs designed to address the needs of people with disabilities in coordination with programs of the Massachusetts Office on Disability; reviewing and making recommendations about policies, procedures, services, activities, and facilities of departments, boards, and agencies of Milton as they affect people with disabilities; providing information, referrals, guidance, and technical assistance to individuals, public agencies, businesses, and organizations in all matters pertaining to disability; and coordinating activities of other local groups organized for similar purposes.

The Commission meets once a month and these meetings are open to members of the public. We have three vacancies to fill on the Commission. If you are interested in learning more, attending a meeting, or joining the Commission, email the appointing authority, the Select Board, via Mike Dennehy: mdennehy@townofmilton.org.

In the next few months, we will share information about various disabilities including common and rare disabilities; accessible parking and parking placards for persons with disabilities; the use of push buttons to open doors for people with physical disabilities; a webinar on Talk Saves Lives by the American Foundation for the Prevention of Suicide; and Milton’s SMART911 Program that all residents, both able and disabled, should register for at www.Smart911.com.

Our web page also has the contact information for commissioners who can answer any other questions.

HAPPENINGS

Vocal production workshops at Curry College

From Tuesday, Feb. 5 through Saturday, Feb. 9 at Curry College, a week of master classes, workshops, and performances focused on the health, science, and use of the human voice will be offered. All of the events listed below will take place at Curry’s Milton campus at 1071 Blue Hill Ave., and are open to the public. High school students and people of all ages who sing, act, or otherwise rely significantly on their voices are encouraged to attend. The workshops will be led by vocologists and performers Laurel Irene and David Harris of VoiceScienceWorks.

Performances will include vocal groups from Curry College and Boston. The week of events was organized by award-winning composer and Curry College Associate Professor Julian Bryson as part of a new initiative to emphasize interdisciplinary thinking.

The schedule is: **Tuesday, Feb. 5 at 7 p.m.:** Masterclass on the science and maintenance of the voice with vocologists Laurel Irene and David Harris of VoiceScienceWorks at the Alumni Recreation Center.

Wednesday, Feb. 6 at 4:15 p.m.: Open rehearsal with Curry College’s *Sing!* vocal ensemble at the Alumni Recreation Center. And at 5:30 p.m., a demonstration and discussion on extended vocal techniques in film scores at the Alumni Recreation Center.

Thursday, Feb. 5 at 7 p.m.: “The Science of Sound” using the voices of those present to demonstrate concepts with vocologists Irene and Harris of VoiceScienceWorks at the Alumni Recreation Center.

Friday, Feb. 8 at 3 p.m.: Open rehearsal with Cur-

ry’s *Accelerando* chamber choir at the Alumni Recreation Center.

Saturday, Feb. 9 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.: A series of free workshops led by Irene and Harris throughout the day. The day concludes with performances by workshop participants, Curry College’s *Sing!* and *Accelerando* vocal ensembles and *Triad: Boston’s Choral Collective* made up of professional singers and composers. This will take place at the Keith Auditorium.

Please RSVP to voicescience@curry.edu if you wish to attend.

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