

HLAA Convention 2009

June 18–21, 2009
Gaylord Opryland Resort
and Convention Center
Nashville, Tennessee

NASHVILLE!



Don't Miss This! **Hearing Loss Association of America Convention 2009 in Nashville, Tennessee**

By Nancy Macklin

You're invited! Join us in Nashville as we celebrate 30 years of extraordinary accomplishments and look to the future with an eagerness and determination to make the world a better place for people with hearing loss. Convention 2009 promises to be a memorable event, to say the least. With so much to do and see, you'll want to make sure you bring your most comfortable walking shoes (or cowboy boots).

Our communication accessible program includes top researchers and professionals presenting on a variety of topics, including a track of workshops especially for young adults with hearing loss.

It's no secret that the Internet is one of the greatest inventions of all time, so plan to attend the Opening Session to hear keynote speaker Dr. Vinton Cerf, a "Father of the Internet."

You won't want to miss this year's Research Symposium sponsored by the Deafness Research Foundation titled, "An Update on the Latest Hair Cell Regeneration Research."

Peruse the Exhibit Hall with a wide assortment of hearing loss related products, services and information, as well as afternoon socials.

Join HLAA staff, Board of Trustees members, and distinguished guests as we celebrate in grand style at the HLAA 30th Birthday Celebration.

Oh, and of course, save some time to meet up with both old and new acquaintances.

Communication Access for People With Hearing Loss

All sessions, workshops, and major events at the convention are real-time captioned. Assistive Listening Devices (ALDs) are provided free of charge by request at the HLAA Registration Desk. Sign language interpreting services are provided at all major events. If you have assistive listening devices that you can use during the convention, please bring them with you.

Workshop Topics Covered in Five Tracks:

Healthy Living and Working Relationships and Communication
Hearing Technology
Advocacy and Access
Young Adult Issues—**NEW!**

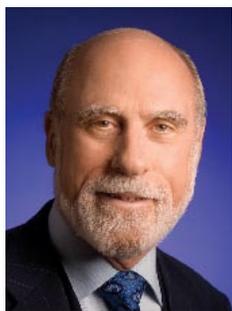
The complete workshop schedule is available on www.hearingloss.org. Look for the entire Program Book to be posted by the end of May.

Dr. Vinton G. Cerf—Opening Session Keynote Speaker

HLAA is pleased to welcome Vinton G. Cerf, Ph.D. as the keynote speaker for the Opening Session. As vice president and Chief Internet Evangelist for Google, Dr. Cerf is responsible for identifying new enabling technologies and applications on the Internet and other platforms for the company. Dr. Cerf is the co-designer, with Robert Kahn, Ph.D., of TCP/IP protocols and the basic architecture of the Internet.

In 1997 President Clinton recognized their work with the U.S. National Medal of Technology. In 2005, they received the highest civilian honor

bestowed in the U.S., the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Dr. Cerf will be speaking about technologies for accessibility and the Internet.



Research Symposium:

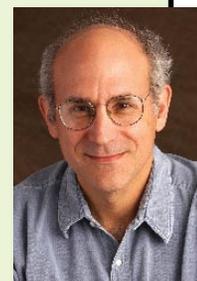
An Update on the Latest Hair Cell Regeneration Research

Sponsored by the Deafness Research Foundation



George A. Gates, M.D., medical director of the Deafness Research Foundation, will moderate the symposium and introduce his distinguished colleagues. Dr. Gates' research includes work on the biology of presbycusis and Meniere's disease, and he has conducted clinical trials in otitis media and Meniere's disease.

Neil Segil, Ph.D., joined the House Ear Institute in 1996 and is currently director of the Division of Cell Biology and Genetics. He also holds the position of research associate professor in the Department of Cell and Neurobiology at the University of Southern California, Keck School of Medicine. Dr. Segil's research at House Ear Institute is focused on developmental aspects of cell cycle regulation and cellular differentiation as they relate to the inner ear, hearing loss and regeneration.



Douglas A. Cotanche, Ph.D., is an associate professor in the Departments of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery and Anatomy & Neurobiology at Boston University School of Medicine, a lecturer in the Department of Otology & Laryngology at Harvard Medical School, and a member of the Affiliated Faculty of the Harvard-MIT Division of Health Sciences and Technology. Dr. Cotanche's research has focused on the development and regeneration of hair cells and the tectorial membrane in the avian and mammalian cochlea.

In 1986 he co-discovered that birds can regenerate their cochlear hair cells after sound damage and regain their hearing. He has continued his research on regeneration and has been a prominent force in the drive to develop hair cell regeneration as a potential treatment for sensorineural deafness. Currently the work in his lab is also exploring the therapeutic potential of stem cell transplantation into the damaged mammalian cochlea.

Hinrich Staecker, M.D., Ph.D., completed his residency in otolaryngology at Montefiore Medical Center, and went on to a fellowship in Otology and Neurotology at Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary. His clinical interests include cochlear implantation and treatment of sensorineural hearing loss. He initiated clinical studies including evaluation of balance function in implant patients and music listening skill of cochlear implant patients with residual hearing. Dr. Staecker's current basic science research interests are focusing on the application of gene therapy for inner ear disorders. He is currently a tenured associate professor in the University of Kansas School of Medicine.



HLAA 30th Birthday Celebration

Please join us for a special evening of fabulous food and entertainment. We'll start out the evening with strolling magician Tom Vorjohan who has been delighting audiences for over 30 years (since he was 12!).

We'll present 30 years in pictures with a DVD generously donated and produced by Richard McCollough of the American Abilities Television Network (mirusmedia.com), recount the major accomplishments of HLAA, and listen to a few anecdotes from HLAA members.

Then get ready to kick up your heels to the hottest country show band in Nashville, Bruce and Kristi Cline and the Music City Wranglers. Line dancing, anyone?



Many of you remember our founder, Rocky Stone, wearing his trademark cowboy hat—honor him by wearing a cowboy hat to the celebration. Ticket availability is limited so please register in advance. Birthday Celebration tickets are included in the cost of the Full Activity Package. If you are purchasing your tickets separately, the cost is \$65 in advance or \$70 at the convention.

Exhibit Hall

HLAA takes pride in being the largest communication accessible consumer tradeshow for people with hearing loss, their family, friends, and professionals. Come see the latest in cutting-edge technology in hearing loss related products and services.

The Demo Room will be housed in the Exhibit Hall and this is where vendors will hold interactive demonstrations of their products. Don't miss the afternoon socials in the Exhibit Hall on Friday and Saturday.

Block Party

Here's your chance to be an "HLAA Idol!" Come test your vocal chords with a little Karaoke on Thursday, June 18, 2009, from 8:30–11 p.m. What a great way to catch up with old friends and meet new ones. We have a few surprises up our sleeve for this event!

Saturday Night at the Grand Ole Opry

You can't go to Nashville without going to the Grand Ole Opry, so pull on your cowboy boots and get set for a communication accessible performance. Even if you are not a die-hard country music fan, the energy and excitement in the air at the Opry is exhilarating.

The Opry is the longest-running radio show in history, with its first on-air performance in 1925, just five years after the birth of commercial radio in the United States. Interestingly, the lineup for each show is not completely finalized until just a few days before the show; artists are posted on the Opry website (www.opry.com). This is sure to be a night to remember!

Tickets must be purchased by May 1, 2009. Complete the Convention Registration Form on pages 15–16, or online at www.hearingloss.org. Busses will begin departing from the Gaylord Opryland's Magnolia Lobby at 6 p.m. for the 7 p.m. performance.

Rocky Stone Endowment Scholarship

It is time to send your application for the Rocky Stone Endowment Scholarship to attend Convention 2009. See the application and criteria at www.hearingloss.org.

The Rocky Stone Endowment Committee would like to encourage young people with hearing loss or the parents of a minor child with a hearing loss to apply. However, all applicants will be considered, regardless of age.

The main criteria are that you have never attended a National HLAA

Convention and that you are a member of HLAA (or join at the time you send in the application).

Three grants are available. Each will provide a \$500 check and free registration including the 30th Birthday Celebration and special events. You must attend the convention or return the check. Self-nomination is accepted, or chapters and individuals may nominate a candidate.

Welcome United States Veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan Wars

HLAA would like to show its support of the U.S. military by offering a free registration and a one-year membership to HLAA to those who have service-related hearing loss from Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom.

Over 58,000 military personnel have returned with a hearing loss in the last few years. Convention 2009 is a perfect place for veterans to learn more about all aspects of hearing loss. In addition, there will be a workshop to address the educational needs of veterans, conducted by Dr. Gerald Buckley, assistant vice president, Dr. Alan Hurwitz, president, and Larry Scott, professor, all of the National Technical Institute on Deafness (NTID) at Rochester Institute of Technology.

HLAA is a partner with NTID on a new initiative to serve military veterans with hearing loss who are returning from recent conflicts. This presentation will include a summary of the information known to serve them and an overview of the services that will be provided, including access to more than 200 career programs and majors at RIT. This pilot project is set to begin in fall 2009. Veterans interested in attending the convention should contact Nancy Macklin at nmacklin@hearingloss.org for registration information.

Chapter Development Room

Stop by the Chapter Development room to check out the treasures displayed by many chapters including newsletters, brochures and flyers. In addition, chapter-related workshops will be held on creating and editing chapter newsletters, starting a new chapter, and chapter development.

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GAYLORD OPRYLAND RESORT & CONVENTION CENTER

Join us as we experience the energy and excitement of Music City at the Gaylord Resort and Convention Center, the flagship property of the Gaylord Hotels Family.

Simply stated, the Gaylord Opryland is magnificent! With acres and acres, nine to be exact, of lush indoor gardens, cascading waterfalls and its own indoor river, you'll never want to leave! It's located on the Cumberland River, just minutes from the Nashville International Airport and a short drive to the honky-tonks of downtown Nashville.

You'll discover casual restaurants as well as fine dining, tons of shopping, and a spa and fitness center. There's even late-night entertainment at the Fuse Nightclub. The hotel has 2,881 guest rooms and every room features high-speed wireless Internet access and two phones, including one cordless.

Hotel Accommodations

HAAA has reserved a block of rooms at the Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center; reservations must be received by **Friday, May 15, 2009**, in order to receive the \$145 single/double rate. An additional daily resort fee of \$15 is added to the cost of each sleeping room; this fee covers several amenities which include:

- Wired and wireless high-speed Internet access
- Fitness Center access
- Designated complimentary in-room beverages
- Local shuttle service
- Daily newspapers
- Local and toll-free 800 telephone calls (20 minutes per call)

Making Your Reservations

Making your hotel reservations has never been easier—you may reserve your room online or by calling the hotel directly.

Online Reservations

Go to <http://www.hearingloss.org/convention/index.asp>, then click the link on the right-hand side, "Make your reservation at the Gaylord Opryland Resort."

Reservations by Phone

Call **888-777-6779** and mention the Group Code N-HLA9.

Transportation and the Airport Shuttle

If you intend to fly to Nashville, do yourself a favor and check out airfares at www.hlaatravel.org. Save on ground travel to and from the airport by reserving a shuttle ticket online: simply go to the Convention page on the HAAA website where you will find a link to the Gaylord Transportation Service. The shuttle operates daily from 5 a.m. until 10:30 p.m.

If you are a guest of the Gaylord Opryland Resort, there is a fee for parking of \$18 per day. There is a special lot just for recreational vehicles (RVs) where parking is free.

Local Host Committee

Local HAAA member volunteers will make you feel welcome in the Music City. With their hard work and enthusiasm, this Convention is sure to be among the best.

Schedule-at-a-Glance

Here's a brief look at what we're planning.

Thursday, June 18, 2009

- Exhibit Hall Opens, 11 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
- Workshops, 1 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. (each workshop will be 1¼ hours this year)
- Exhibit Hall Grand Opening, 4 p.m. – 6 p.m.
- Opening Session featuring keynote speaker, Vinton G. Cerf, Ph.D., known as a "Father of the Internet," 6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
- Get Acquainted Party, 8:30 p.m. – 11 p.m.

Friday, June 19, 2009

- Research Symposium sponsored by the Deafness Research Foundation, *An Update on the Latest Hair Cell Regeneration Research*
- Workshops in the afternoon starting at 1 p.m.
- Exhibit Hall Social—Sugar Rush, 3 p.m. – 5 p.m.
- HLAA 30th Birthday Celebration, 7 p.m. – 11 p.m.



Saturday, June 20, 2009

- Workshops begin at 8:30 a.m.
- Exhibit Hall Social—Happy Hour, 3 p.m. – 5 p.m.
- Saturday Night at the Grand Ole Opry—communication accessible! (busses leave from the Magnolia entrance at 6 p.m. for the 7 p.m. performance)

Sunday, June 21, 2009

- Awards Breakfast, 8:30 a.m. – 10 a.m.



Fun Facts About Nashville

- Nashville is located within 650 miles of 50 percent of the U.S. population.
- Nashville is ranked tenth most affordable places to retire by Yahoo! Real Estate.
- The Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center is conveniently located at the intersection of three major interstates, allowing individuals to drive there in under a day.
- Nashville is located on the Cumberland River in Davidson County in the north-central part of the state.
- Nashville is home to the Grand Ole Opry, the longest running radio show in history.
- Nashville is a major hub for the healthcare, music, publishing, banking and transportation industries.
- Roy Acuff is known as the King of Country.
- Country music entertainers, Jimmy Dean and George Jones, went into the sausage business.
- The Country Music Hall of Fame houses Elvis's gold Cadillac and piano.
- Theodore Roosevelt, after drinking a cup of locally produced coffee in Nashville, coined the phrase "good to the last drop!"

WHAT TO DO IN NASHVILLE...

Many of Nashville's attractions are located downtown within walking distance of each other. There are many free attractions around town including the Tennessee State Museum, Fort Negley and several art galleries.

Gaylord Opryland Tours is offering tour packages to Nashville attractions. Tour descriptions and rates are available at www.hearingloss.org.

Vanderbilt University

Vanderbilt University was established in 1873 and sits on a 330-acre campus which is home to a wide variety of theater and dance performances, restaurants, a national arboretum featuring more than 300 varieties of trees and shrubs, and the Vanderbilt Fine Arts Gallery.

HAAA Welcomes Presenters from Vanderbilt

From the Vanderbilt Bill Wilkerson Center for Otolaryngology and Communication Sciences, HAAA welcomes presenters David Haynes, M.D., director of Neurotology; George Wanna, M.D.; Tamala Bradham, Ph.D., associate director of the National Center on Childhood Deafness; William W. Dickinson, Au.D., assistant professor, Hearing Aid Product Line Manager, Department Hearing and Speech Science; and Andrea Hedley Williams, Au.D., pediatric cochlear implant audiologist at the National Center for Childhood Deafness and Family Communication.

Frist Center for the Visual Arts is a non-profit art exhibit center dedicated to presenting the finest visual art from local, state and regional artists as well as major U.S. and international exhibitions. You'll find plenty of activities for all ages in this family-friendly museum where art is taught through activity. Children 18 and under are free. For more information, go to www.fristcenter.org.

The Parthenon is a full-scale replica of the original in Athens and is the only exact replica in existence. The Parthenon houses a permanent collection of 63 paintings by 19th- and 20th-century American artists.

The Hermitage, a national historic landmark, was home of President Andrew Jackson. The mansion houses furniture purchased by the Jackson family as well as many personal items. Visitors can see three of the original slave cabins, Jackson's tomb, the formal garden, and an 1804 log cabin. For additional information, go to www.thehermitage.com.

Cheekwood Botanical Gardens & Museum of Art is a 55-acre estate with the former mansion of the Cheek family, among the founders of Maxwell House Coffee. Go to www.cheekwood.org for more information.

Country Music Hall of Fame

Located near the historic Ryman Auditorium and the honky-tonks of Lower Broadway, the Country Music Hall of Fame is home to a vast collection including Elvis's gold Cadillac and piano. Historic country video clips, recorded music, exhibits, live performances, and live satellite radio broadcasts, all help to make a visit here unforgettable. Visit www.countrymusichalloffame.com for more information.

Convention News and Updates

www.hearingloss.org/convention

Visit our website frequently for the latest convention updates. Sign up for the free online E-news and get all the latest HAAA news in your in-box every two weeks.



Nancy Macklin is HAAA director of events and she has pulled together an amazing and fun program for Nashville. Nancy knows about fun—she lives with her husband and three boys in Silver Spring, Maryland, where the fun and action never ends! Come meet her and all your friends (old and new) in Nashville.

Convention Sponsors



Would You Like to Exhibit or Sponsor an Event?

Contact Christopher T. Sutton at csutton@hearingloss.org or call 301.657.2248



CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

Hearing Loss Association of America Convention 2009

Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center • June 18–21 • Nashville, Tennessee

Please complete and return registration form by May 24, 2009.

Primary Registrant (name as it will appear on badge)

HLAA Member ID#

Second Registrant

HLAA Member ID#

Company / Organization

Providing your e-mail address helps us in our effort to "Go Green" and allows us to e-mail convention updates as they occur.

Address

City

State

Zip

Daytime Phone

E-mail

For quick and secure registration, go online to: www.hearingloss.org/convention

VALUE PACKAGES

Full Activity Package (Best Value)

By 5.24.09

Onsite

Hearing Loss Association Convention Full Activity Package includes:

Member

\$ 319

N/A

- Unlimited Entry to the Exhibit Hall During Expo & Session Hours
- All Workshops, Demonstrations, & Featured Speakers
- Research Symposium
- Opening Session & Exhibit Grand Hall Opening
- Block Party
- Awards Breakfast
- Exhibit Hall Socials
- HLAA 30th Birthday Celebration and Dinner Ticket(s)

Member Couple

\$ 558

N/A

Special Dietary Requests Vegetarian Kosher Diabetic

Education Package (Does **not** include Birthday Celebration)

By 5.24.09

Onsite

Hearing Loss Association Convention Education Package includes:

- Unlimited Entry to the Exhibit Hall During Expo & Session Hours
- All Workshops, Demonstrations, & Featured Speakers
- Research Symposium
- Opening Session & Exhibit Grand Hall Opening
- Block Party
- Awards Breakfast
- Exhibit Hall Socials

Member

\$ 259

\$ 319

Member Couple

\$ 439

\$ 499

Non-Member

\$ 309

\$ 369

Student

\$ 200

\$ 225

More packages on reverse side.

INDIVIDUAL ONE DAY PACKAGES (Does **not** include Birthday Celebration)

By 5.24.09 Onsite

June 18 – Thursday Package

- Unlimited Entry to the Exhibit Hall during Expo Hours
- Demonstrations & Featured Speakers & Book Signings
- Opening Session & Exhibit Hall Grand Opening
- Block Party

\$ 150 \$ 175

June 19 – Friday Package

- Unlimited Entry to the Exhibit Hall & Session Hours
- All Workshops, Demonstrations, Featured Speakers & Book Signings
- Exhibit Hall Social—"Sugar Rush"

\$ 150 \$ 175

June 20 – Saturday Package

- Unlimited Entry to the Exhibit Hall & Session Hours
- All Workshops, Demonstrations, Featured Speakers & Book Signings
- Exhibit Hall Social—"Happy Hour"

\$ 150 \$ 175

June 21 – Sunday Package

FREE

- Awards Breakfast
Do you plan to attend the Awards Breakfast? Yes No

Package Total \$ _____

Additional Individual Tickets

HLAA 30th Birthday Celebration & Dinner \$65 x _____
Special Dietary Requests Vegetarian Kosher Diabetic

Saturday Night at the Grand Ole Opry \$45 x _____

Individual Tickets Total \$ _____

Membership

Individual \$35 Professional \$60
 Couple/Family \$45 Student* \$20

* Please enclose photocopy of current student identification card.

Membership Total \$ _____

Contribution

Contributions help support the education, advocacy, and support efforts of the Hearing Loss Association of America throughout the year. Donors will be listed in the Convention Program if received by April 18, 2009.

Contribution \$ _____

Payment Information

- Check enclosed (payable to Hearing Loss Association of America).
- Please charge my AMEX VISA MasterCard Discover

Payment Total \$ _____

Cardholder's Name

Card Number

Exp. Date

Cardholder's Signature

Please return your completed form with payment to:

Hearing Loss Association of America
7910 Woodmont Avenue, Suite 1200
Bethesda, MD 20814
www.hearingloss.org/convention
Phone: 301.657.2248 tty2249
FAX: 301.913.9413

Cancellation Policy *The following policy applies to refunds of registration fees:*

If a registrant cancels between January 16 and March 31, 2009, they will be refunded 75% of their registration fees and event tickets.

If a registrant cancels between April 1 and May 24, 2009, they will be refunded 50% of their registration fee and event tickets.

Cancellations made after May 24, 2009, will not be refunded.

Cancellations must be received in writing. Cancellation dates will be determined by USPS postmark or e-mail receipt date.