The Center for Medical Humanities, Compassionate Care and Bioethics

GRAND ROUNDS

Thursday, October 29, 2020
Location: Zoom - Please RSVP for link
4:30pm - 6:00pm

Music and the Brain: Linking Melody and the Mind

Vincent de Luise, MD

We will take a deep dive into “Why Music”? Why is music so essential, fundamental and necessary in our lives? Whether one loves jazz, rock, folk, heavy metal, or just can’t get enough Beethoven and opera, we humans are all neurologically “hardwired” for music, and virtually all of us are capable of being musical. Music exists in all known cultures, and the pentatonic scale and the octave are fundamental to almost all of them. Why would that be?

What is the Mozart effect? Does Mozart’s music make you smarter? Does the music of other composers make us smarter?

What about Music as Medicine. Can Music Heal? How does music work to make Parkinson Disease patients walk again, and Alzheimer’s patients remember their past? How does melodic intonation therapy work to rewire the brain so that a patient relearns how to speak by relearning how to sing?

Please RSVP here or to bioethics@stonybrookmedicine.edu

Vincent de Luise MD is an assistant professor of ophthalmology at Yale University School of Medicine, a distinguished visiting scholar at Stony Brook University School of Medicine, and on the adjunct faculty of Weill Cornell Medical College where he serves on the humanities and medicine committee and is program annotator for the Weill Cornell Music and Medicine Orchestra. He is a 2019 visiting professor at La Sapienza University School of Medicine in Rome, Italy in the masters program in psychoneurobiology.

Dr. de Luise is also the cultural ambassador of the Waterbury Symphony Orchestra and the president of the Connecticut Summer Opera Foundation.

Dr. de Luise is a phi beta kappa graduate of Princeton University, the Weill Cornell Medical College, and the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute of the University of Miami. He has done fellowships at Harvard University in medical humanities and at the Proctor Foundation of the University of California San Francisco in corneal surgery and ocular immunology.

During his medical training, Dr. de Luise studied clarinet with the principal clarinetists of the NYC Opera, the San Francisco Symphony Orchestra, and the Florida Philharmonic. Dr. de Luise organized and performed at the Connecticut Mozart Festival, and at Carnegie Recital Hall with the Talcott String Quartet. He was a co-founder of the annual classical music concert at the American Academy of Ophthalmology, and writes frequently about music, perception and the arts.