



Harc Heralds performing at their annual *Let's Talk Luncheon*
Photo Credit: Alexander's Fine Portrait Studio

What is Aphasia?

Aphasia is a language disorder that affects a person's ability to communicate. It is caused by damage to one or more of the language areas of the brain. It can occur suddenly after a stroke or head injury, or develop slowly from a growing brain tumor or disease. Aphasia affects a person's ability to express and understand written and spoken language. There are two types of aphasia: Broca's aphasia, or non-fluent aphasia, where individuals frequently speak in short, meaningful phrases that are produced with great effort. Individuals with Wernicke's aphasia, or fluent aphasia, may speak in long sentences that have no meaning, add unnecessary words, and even create new words.

The Harrison Center for Music Therapy provides group music therapy services at the Houston Aphasia Recovery Center (HARC). HARC provides various programs for participants with aphasia, their caregivers, families and volunteers. Our music therapist on staff leads group music therapy sessions for the Music and Language Program at Harc, using a variety of interventions, which include neurologic music therapy techniques such as Melodic Intonation Therapy. Research has found that music is processed in both hemispheres of the brain and can create new and strengthen existing neural pathways, making music an effective tool in recovery.

We honored Aphasia Awareness Month in HARC's first Play that was held at St. John the Divine on June 5th, 2016.

Upcoming Events

- June:** Aphasia Awareness Month & PTSD Awareness Month
- June 5:** Harc Play Performance
- June 24-30:** Helen Keller Deaf-Blind Awareness Week
- June 30:** Recital Consent Forms DUE!
- July 4:** Clinic CLOSED for 4th of July
- August 22:** HISD School back in session

Reminders

- Out of school for the summer? Reschedule for an earlier time with your therapist!
- Clinic is closed for Fourth of July - Happy Independence Day
- School starts back August 22nd - Let your therapist know your availability for 2016-17 school year!

***Return the Sign Up slip for The Harrison Center's first annual Music Showcase in December by June 30th!**

THE HARRISON HOUSE ROCK

Annual Music Showcase

This year, The Harrison Center wants to showcase the abilities of our clients with families and friends. We are hosting our first "Harrison House Rock" tentatively scheduled for Sunday, **December 4, 2016**. The location is TBD, and we are asking our families to sign and return interest/signed consent forms for participation by **June 30th** to your therapists. This event will be open to friends and family. More details regarding the Music Showcase will be available in the near future.



HCMT Team having fun in our community outreach at The Children's Museum of Houston

Owning our story
and loving ourselves
through that process
is the bravest thing
we'll ever do.
-Brene Brown

Mental Health Awareness

The Harrison Center continues to tackle our ongoing goal of Mental Health Awareness. The Harrison Center provides music therapy services to individuals of all ages with a variety of mental health diagnosis, including but not limited to: ADHD, ODD, PTSD, anxiety disorders, depression and bipolar. Please take a moment to watch and listen to a powerful and moving video created and sung by HCMT music therapist, Megan

Joseph. We feel you should watch it twice, once to read the words and once to listen to the words of the song. [CLICK HERE FOR VIDEO](#)



HCMT Team with Dr. Layla Salek, founder of Susie Bean, after our behavior-training workshop

Did You Know...?

- Around 20% of the children and adolescents with diagnosable mental health problems receive the treatment they need.
- Mental illnesses are more common than cancer, diabetes, or heart disease.
- Half of all mental health disorders show first signs before the person turns 14.

Our Locations

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| Humble
19411 McKay Suite 300
Humble, TX 77338 | Pasadena
3801 Vista Road Suite 200
Pasadena, TX 77504 | Southwest
8021 Bissonnet Street
Houston, TX 77074 | Spring
16835 Deer Creek Dr
Spring, TX 77379 | West
9432 Katy Freeway Suite 320
Houston, TX 77055 |
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