

**Chrissellene G. Petropoulos, B.A., M.Mus., A.D.**

9201 Harrington Drive, Potomac, Maryland 20854

Cell: 301-461-5520~www.VocalMasteryAcademy.com~[Chrissellene@gmail.com](mailto:Chrissellene@gmail.com)

# **Chrissellene G. Petropoulos**

**B.A.,M.Mus., A.D.**

***“Interpret criticism as something directed at your skills  
and NOT your value as a person!”***

**Vocal And Confidence Coach, & Author**



***“Have discipline, drive and determination. You will achieve whatever you desire.”***

**Chrissellene G. Petropoulos is an opera singer, a vocal teacher and coach, the founder of Vocal Mastery Academy, and the author of the upcoming book and online course: “Build Your Voice, Build Your Confidence”. In addition she gives a seminar called: “Mastering Emotions” for anyone seeking to deal with and control their emotions in the workplace.**

After graduating from the Curtis Institute, **Ms. Petropoulos** launched her career in Europe with **the Vienna State Opera, Austria, and the Kassel State Opera,**

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**Germany.** She has performed in opera, musical theater, classical concerts and recitals throughout Europe and the United States, including at the **Lincoln Center in New York City and the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts** in the nation's capital.

In her performing career, **Ms. Petropoulos**, had the opportunity to sing for and work with many of the well known contemporary artists, including **Maestro Leonard Bernstein**, at the Vienna State Opera, in his world premier of ***The Mass***; with **Maestro Carl Boehm, Luciano Pavarotti, Lyonie Rysanek, Bidu Sayao, Margaret Bence, Mirella Freni, and Bob Hope.**

**Ms. Petropoulos** has been applauded for her "dramatic flair" and aptitude for "vivid expression." Her voice has been called "sweet" and "majestic" and described as having a "velvet" quality. Her fluency in **German, Italian, French, Greek, and English** has allowed her to give traditional and contemporary operatic and classical characterizations unprecedented expression and realism.

Ms. Petropoulos has also been **teaching and giving seminars on "Building Confidence" and on "Mastering Emotions in the Workplace"**. Recently she gave her seminar for the Maryland Bar Association, Bloomberg Corporation and for CMMI the Center for Medicare and Medicaid.

Throughout her career, she worked with accomplished professionals and had the opportunity to meet presidents, well known justices, and entertainment celebrities.

Ms. Petropoulos' **accomplishments have been entered into the United State Congressional record.**

**Chrissellene G. Petropoulos** earned a **Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Maryland, a Masters Certificate from the Curtis Institute of Music in**

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**Philadelphia, and an Artist Diploma (Doctorate in Performance) from the Johns Hopkins Peabody Institute.** She has pursued postgraduate studies at **Indiana University** and is certified in Commercial Contemporary Music. She also taught as an **adjunct professor at the Peabody Conservatory at Johns Hopkins University, the Shenandoah Conservatory, George Mason University and the Catholic University of America.**

Following an illustrious career, Ms. Petropoulos **founded the Vocal Mastery Academy and has done extensive scientific research about the function of the voice** demonstrated on video via **Fiber Optic Laryngoscopy and Synchronized Sound Dynamic Magnetic Resonance Imaging. A singing MRI!** In addition she has researched how **emotions interfere with vocal production.**

**The Library of Congress** chose her book to be put in their original collections in 2007. Her abstract was accepted and she was offered the opportunity to give a powerpoint presentation at the Voice Foundation in Philadelphia. She has been teaching her **evidence-based voice techniques and confidence, and has organized many seminars and workshops.** Her teaching combines building evidence based vocal skills as well as building confidence. She has served on arts councils and state boards.

Students of the Vocal Mastery Academy include actors, singers, teachers as well as physicians, lawyers, speakers, instrumentalists, managers, administrators, and bankers.

Decades of experience with students has shown the importance of building confidence to protect one's skills. Her upcoming online course and book called: **"Build Your Voice, Build Your Confidence"**, presents a vocal evidence-based system to students. It dives into specific details of how to build and strengthen the voice for endurance. Her system is based on her proprietary **"The 7 Technical Commands to Vocal Mastery"** and how

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to achieve predictable high and low notes as well as controlling proper placement of vowels and consonants.

In addition one must learn how to control their interfering emotions. These emotions not only interfere with optimal vocal production, but also hinder professional relationships. This course dives into the methods called **“Performance mode mindset”**, which is an approach to **dealing with criticisms**, how to control emotions and understanding and distinguishing between **who one is vs. what one does**. In addition, **it dives into learning how to stop personalizing comments or criticisms, thus achieving optional control of the voice as well as control of emotional reactions to negative comments or criticisms.**

Vocal Mastery Academy students have achieved incredible success in their lives and careers, from scholarship recipients to award-winning artistic directors and songwriters. They have also been on nationwide TV, movies, and commercials as well as Broadway and national tours. They also include doctors, lawyers, administrators, managers, economists, speakers, teachers, and bankers.

The success of this all encompassing approach of **simultaneously building skills and building confidence has been born out by the success of many of her students.**

**Chrissellene G. Petropoulos, B.A., M.Mus., A.D.**

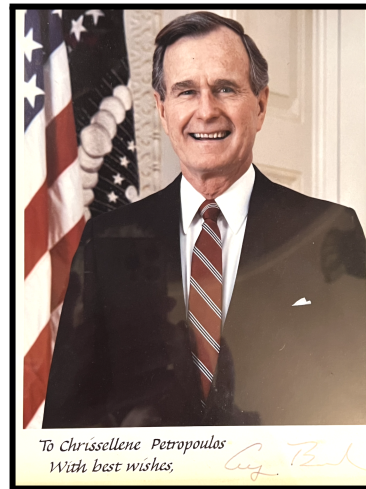
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# 1-Chrissellene's Journey

**People she met in the course of her career and many she worked and performed with. These include well known singers, presidents, justices, and actors.**

## **President George Bush**



**Chrissellene sang for and met President Bush  
at the Kennedy Center Fundraiser  
for Joe Gibbs, 'Youth for Tomorrow'~ [2008]**

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## **First Lady Nancy Reagan**



**First Lady Nancy Reagan  
Chrissellene sang National Anthem  
International Horse Show, Maryland [circa 1989]**

## **Chief Justice John Roberts**



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**Office of Chief Justice John Roberts at the Supreme Court [2020]  
Jane Roberts, Josie Roberts (former student) & Dimitri**



**Chief Justice John Roberts, Chrissellene & Dimitri~ [2020]**



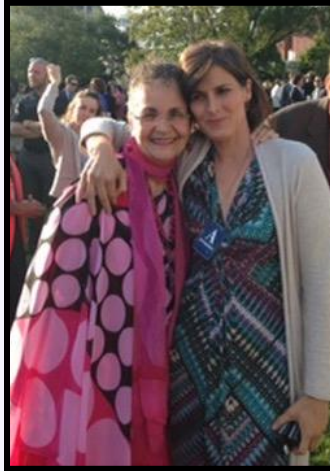
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**Chrissellene at The White House 2018]**

**Claire Shipman And Jay Carney (Former White House Press Secretary) invitation (Chrissellene taught their son, Hugo)**



**Claire Shipman And Chrissellene**



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## **Maestro Leonard Bernstein~ Bernstein's Mass,**

### **Vienna State Opera~ [1982]**



### **Bernstein's Mass, Vienna State Opera, Austria, 1980**



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**Placido Domingo, Vienna State Opera, [1982]**



**Placido Domingo, Wolf Trap, VA. [circa 1994]**



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**International Luciano Pavarotti Competition, Philadelphia [circa  
1983] ~Chrissellene was a finalist**

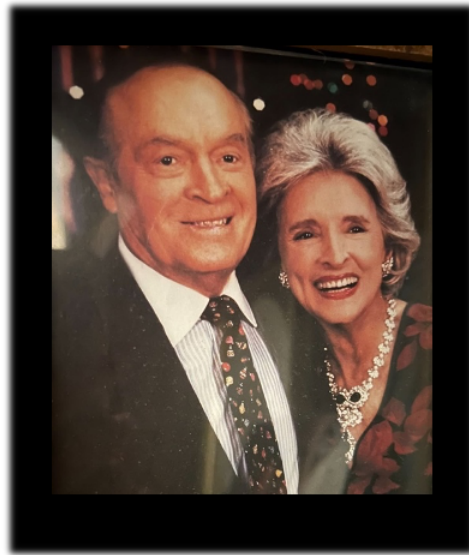


**Rod Rosenstein~Friend and Neighbor**

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**Bob and Dolores Hope**

**Chrissellene sang for and met the Bob Hope at the Kennedy Center~Fundraiser for Joe Gibbs, Your for Tomorrow~ [2008]**

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**Joe Gibbs Washington (Redskins) Commanders Football National Anthem singer [1983-1988]**

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## **Vocal Mastery Academy Studio [2000-2024]**



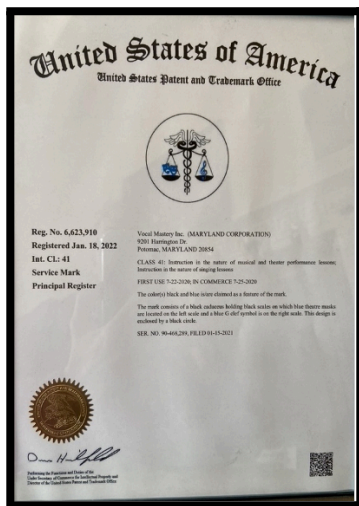
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**Private lessons**



**Chrissellene has been awarded a United State Patent for:**

**Cold Climate Protection Garment [1988]**

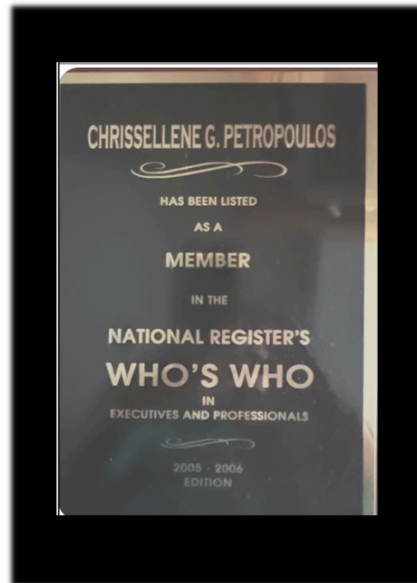
**Awarded a United State Trademark~2022**

**Logo for Vocal Mastery Academy**

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**National Register's Who's Who [2005-2006]**

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## 2- PRESS REVIEWS OF Chrissellene's WORK and PERFORMANCE

**SOPRANO CHRISSELLENE PETROPOULOS**

*...performed superbly, with musical aplomb. She was in the best of health and a source of joy to all who heard her.*  
—WASHINGTON POST

*Chrissellene earned a triumph with four Bellini roles which displayed her early maturity of her voice and her mastery of the role.*  
—NEW YORK NEWS

*The singer has a beautiful voice and a beautiful personality. She could be a great soprano.*  
—NEWPORT, MAINE

*What magical, warm voice!*  
—KASSEL, GERMANY

In her relatively young career, Washington soprano Chrissellene Petropoulos has enjoyed remarkable success. Being based in Europe for the past five years, Ms. Petropoulos has spent two years with the Vienna State Opera and with the Kassel State Opera, Ms. Petropoulos has received several prizes and awards from opera festivals such as the German Festival of Operatic Music in Kassel, a special mention at the Pinarofest in Pinarofest, and among others who have been supporters of her career are the British Royal Opera House, the Metropolitan Opera House, and the Lyric Opera of Chicago.

Chrissellene Petropoulos has earned prizes in the Parafest International Competition, the Munich Competition and the Max-Milian-Musikwettbewerb Oper Regional Competition. She was a first place winner in the National Federation of Young Artists and the Baltimore Opera Competition, among others.

Chrissellene Petropoulos has appeared throughout the U.S., Europe and Greece, singing a wide variety of operatic roles in traditional and contemporary works, in several languages.

**KENNEDY CENTER, TERRACE THEATER**  
Wednesday, November 20, 1985, 7:30 P.M.

Chrissellene Petropoulos, Soprano, Vladimir Sokoloff, Piano  
Opera by Verdi, Act 1, Scene 1, "The Barber of Seville"  
Tickets are available in the office, 100 West End Avenue, New York, NY 10023.  
Phone: (212) 875-6100. Open House: 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM.

Executive Management, Keller-Pratt Management, 360 West 55th Street  
Public Relations, Patricia Nancy Stein Music Services, 100 West End Avenue, New York, NY 10023

**SOPRANO CHRISSELLENE PETROPOULOS**

**KENNEDY CENTER, TERRACE THEATER**  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1985, 7:30 P.M.

WASHINGTON PERFORMING ARTS SOCIETY PRESENTATION

**The Surprise Soprano**  
By Paul Hume

**After Only One Major Role, a Young Maryland Singer Is Headed for The Vienna State Opera**

**W**HEN Chrissellene Petropoulos was 9 years old, her fourth-grade teacher gave the class an assignment to write the stories of their lives. She wrote, in a thin paper book, which her mother still has, "When I was 3, I loved to sing opera! I loved opera! I love opera!"

In two weeks Petropoulos will be 27. Four weeks after that she will fly to Vienna to take up a new life with the Vienna State Opera. The little girl who grew up in Potomac, Md., went to Winston Churchill High School and the University of Maryland—and who became a singer by chance—has landed a contract with one of the most prestigious opera companies in the world.

Moreover, in addition to studying in the State Opera's Studio, she also will sing in 50 performances during the coming season, with the title of "Solo Singer," and with the accompanying higher pay.

All summer Petropoulos has been taking daily German lessons, getting ready for Vienna and the big house where German is the bread-and-butter language. "Going to live in Vienna and to work in that opera company is the biggest honor of my life," she says. "I don't know just where I am going to live, but it will be within walking distance of the Staatsoper so that I can go to the opera every night."

Asked how she got such a contract, she says, "When I was little, I played basketball, football, soccer," as if those were the paths to operatic stardom. But, of course, there was music: "I began to study piano when I was 4. With Milca Merson. When my mother took me to him, he said, 'I don't teach children!' But while they were in the next room, I sat down at the piano and began playing 'Chopsticks.' He asked who was playing like that, and then he said he would teach me."

As if the piano were not enough, Petropoulos says that one day, "when I was 5, I saw an orchestra with all those violin bows going up and down, and I said, 'I want to do that.' So when I was 5 or 6, I started on the violin too," with Neva Greenwood.

All this music study did not persuade Petropoulos that she should be a professional musician. Her father is a physician, and although she says, "I could never be a surgeon," she was "interested in people and in psychology. I should have been a psychiatrist with a coach."

By the time she entered the University of Maryland, she had decided to major in some field of music and psychology. One day her father suggested that music therapy was the ideal combination of the two. In the process of meeting the requirements for the music side of that degree, Petropoulos found out she had a voice.

As a junior in 1975, she had decided that she did not want a performing major that is, either as a violinist or a pianist. So the committee that was holding auditions for admissions told her to "sing something." When she said she had no music with her but could sing, "My Country 'Tis of Thee," they gave her a score of Handel's "Messiah" and said, more or less, "Go upstairs and work on that for a while and come back and sing it." Proceeding

See OPERA, B3, Col. 1

*Chrissellene Petropoulos: "The biggest honor of my life." Photograph by Gerald Martinson—The Washington Post.*

**Vienna State Opera, Austria: Chrissellene's workplace!**

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### **Washington Post, Paul Hume, July 20, 1980**

“The little girl who grew up in Potomac, Md., went to Winston Churchill High School and the University of Maryland, Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, and Peabody of Johns Hopkins in Baltimore, -- and who became a singer by chance -- landed a contract with one of the most prestigious opera companies in the world.

**The Vienna State Opera.** Moreover, in addition to studying in the Vienna State Opera's Studio, she also will sing in 30 performances during the coming season, with the title of "Solo Singer." - Paul Hume, “The Surprise Soprano” July 20, 1980

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**The Washington Post:** “The program was performed in five languages and a half-dozen styles, with a dramatic flair equal to its high musical quality.” [circa 1985]



**The Washington Post:** “Possessing a personality that communicates with rare artistry, Chrissellene Petropoulos has been praised by Leonard Bernstein, Walter Legge, Luciano Pavarotti, Rosa Ponselle, Bidu Sayao, and Elisabeth Schwarzkopf.” [circa 1988]

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**Kennedy Center, Handel's Hallelujah [1987]**



**Kennedy Center, Concert Hall [1987]**

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**Chrissellene with Dr. Vladimir Sokoloff Washington Performing Arts Society, Recital at Kennedy Center, Washington DC~[1985]**

**The New York Times:** “Ms. Petropoulos has a lovely voice and a gracious manner with French music. It was a pleasure to hear her.”  
[1977]



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**The Washington Post:** “Ms. Petropoulos is well versed in a variety of musical styles and adept at the subtle nuances uncommonly heard in the art of song. Her fluency in German, Italian, French, and Greek allows her to give traditional and contemporary operatic characterizations unprecedented expression and realism.” [1988]

**The Washington Post:** “Chrissellene Petropoulos performed a superbly, highly musical climax. She has an ease in the lieder style and mystery of German diction that few American singers ever achieve.” [1987]



**The Baltimore Times:** “Full of emotion and mood, her singing brought together musicality and vivid expression, colorful singing, and complete approach to art songs.” [1989]

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**Recital with Vladimir Sokoloff at the Curtis Institute of Music,  
Philadelphia [1977]**

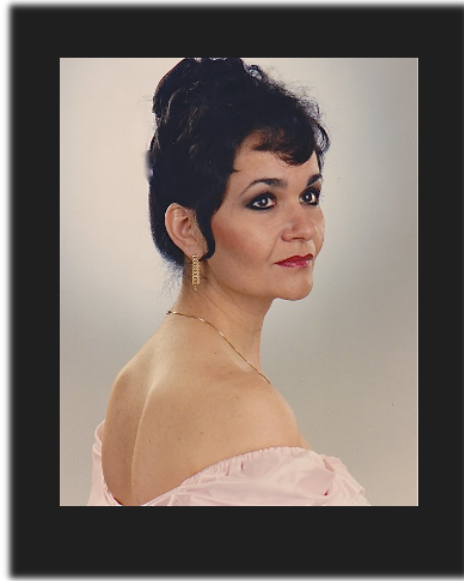
**Newport News:** “The singer was a heartbreaker named Chrissellene Petropoulos who could legitimately be called a Puccini soprano.” [1978]

**Newport News:** “Petropoulos scored a triumph with Bellini songs which displayed the lovely quality of her voice and her master of the style. Later, she wowed the crowd with a coloratura gem.” [1978]

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**Ethnos, Greece:** “Chrissellene’s velvet voice and her technical interpretation won the extended applause of the audience, which listened with admiration to the arias and art songs.” [1989]

### **3-ACKNOWLEDGMENTS & ENDORSEMENTS**

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## **James Papirmeister, Esq.**

**Attorney James N. Papirmeister, Esq., Chair of the criminal law and practice section council of the MSBA, Maryland State Bar Association**

“I am a trial attorney with thirty-eight years of experience, having handled thousands of court cases, including many high-profile jury trials in both State and Federal Courts. I am the current Chair of the Criminal Law & Practice Section Council of the Maryland State Bar Association. I am A-V Rated by Martindale-Hubbell.

Chrissellene Petropoulos has been training me over the past year on a weekly basis to dramatically improve my craft, by instilling several key principles.

At first, I thought her approach would weaken my strength as an advocate, and make me less effective in Court. Quite the opposite happened. I have

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been trained to leave my ego and emotions, (as opposed to my passion), at the Courthouse door, and not to take comments and criticisms from Judges and opposing counsel, personally.

I have employed these techniques repeatedly over the past year to tremendous success. I am more effective, even with difficult Judges and Prosecutors. My previous encounters with "bullies on the bench and in the bar" would have resulted in me becoming confrontational, and argumentative, resulting in bad feelings for all involved, and not achieving the desired results.

Chrissellene's unique and original approach, allows me to listen to, validate, and show respect, even to those who are overly critical, and on a power trip, and in turn gain a much more receptive ear. This allows me to get my client's important points across, even in unfriendly court rooms. I have learned that in this business of persuasion, even in an adversarial system, you will not score any points or have any realistic chance of persuading anyone, if you show that you are contemptuous of the Judge, or prosecutor, or make them feel stupid and disrespected. Chrissellene's techniques really work, and I intend to have her assist me in bringing this training to members of the Maryland Bar."

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**Dr. Blair Eig**

**Blair M. Eig, M.D., M.B.A., M.A.**

**Former Chief Medical Officer, Holy Cross Health, Silver Spring,  
Maryland**

**Former President & CEO, Maryland Patient Safety Center, Elkridge,  
Maryland**

“Performance Mode training allows any individual to hear and accept praise, criticism, instruction, conflict and pretty much any other message with acceptance and non-judgment. Through elimination of ego and emotion, Performance Mode allows you to hear what the other person is saying, evaluate it calmly and respond in a constructive manner.

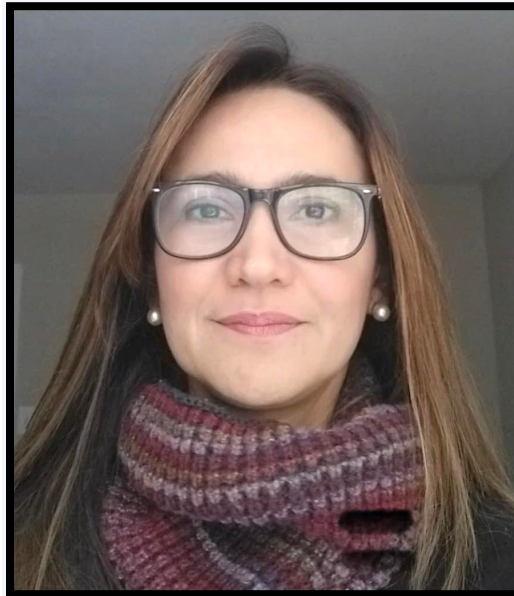
This allows for vastly improved communication and performance, no matter whether on stage or in the boardroom. Control your emotions and so much more good can be accomplished.

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I have practiced what Chrissellene teaches for much of the last two decades and it has been very successful in my life. I commend Chrissellene and her teaching in Performance Mode to you. Turn off your emotions and sit back, listen and learn.”



**Paula Ruiz-International Attorney Speaker & Presenter**

**Bloomberg Corporation**

“Performance Mode and the Commands have changed my life!

When I first met Chrissellene, I was curious about what she taught. She mentioned that she teaches confidence and voice.

I am not a singer, however, as an international lawyer, I still need to be able to communicate in the best possible way and I thought the language was the only issue to be addressed. I knew I needed to work on my tone of voice to reflect my confidence, but I did not know how to work those things

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with. In just a few lessons, I began to transform my nasal sound, and confidence using the Commands.

Today I have a more open, resonant sound thanks to the 7 Commands, and Performance mode was a pleasant surprise for me.

I learned how to stop being afraid of having an accent and learned not to worry about what others think.”



**Alan H. Alan Paul - Artistic Director of Barrington Stage  
Company**

"Performance Mode can not only help you to not take things personally, but also understand **yourself** better"

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**Claire Shipman (Jay Carney's wife) and Chrissellene at the White House**

**The Confidence Code! Chrissellene is on page 153!**

**“Petropoulos realized that the way she was experiencing the feedback was destroying her performance skills. She started to study the impact that stress has on the vocal cords and was stunned. She learned to interpret criticism as something directed at her skills and not her value as a person.”**

***The Confidence Code***

**Claire Shipman & Katty Kay**

**Chrissellene G. Petropoulos, B.A., M.Mus., A.D.**

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