The 1997 VASTA/ATME Conference marks the first formal collaboration of these two organizations. The Voice and Speech Trainers Association and The Association of Theatre Movement Educators are joining together to offer this joint conference, the focus of which is the integration of voice and movement. Each of the four major workshops will be conducted by two teachers with expertise in movement and voice. This auspicious occasion marks the eleventh annual VASTA conference, and the first ever ATME conference. The conference will take place at Loyola University in Chicago, August 2-5, immediately preceding the ATHE conference (which will take place at the Palmer House in Chicago, August 6-9). Conference room and board will be provided by Loyola University.

The conference fee for the 1997 conference is as follows: VASTA or ATME Member--$100, Student Member--$60, and Non-member--$185. VASTA membership dues are $55, and student membership dues are $35. For information about ATME membership contact Dawn Arnold at 312-341-3719 or e-mail her at darnold@acfsysv.roosevelt.edu. A single occupancy room (including 3 meals per day) is $70 per night, and a double occupancy room (including 3 meals per day) is $53 per person per night.

The conference will begin with registration and a reception on Saturday evening, 8/2, from 7:00-8:30. The next three days and evenings are solidly packed with workshops.

Please contact Kate DeVore, conference planner, with any questions or requests for applications or conference brochures--by e-mail at: katherine_devore@bidmc.harvard.edu, by phone at (617) 713-2026, or by land at Voice and Speech Clinic, 333 Longwood Avenue, Suite 371, Boston, MA 02115.

The following is a brief description of the workshops to be offered with presenters listed alphabetically and in the order of presentation. All workshops will be participatory.

Claudia Anderson and Fran Bennett will present "The creative linkage of Pisk and Linklater from fire in the belly to awakening the giant and releasing it into the wild." We will explore physical experiences, abundance of breath and other delights that come into our lives, such as sharing the words we love. Classical text will be used as a vehicle.

David Leong and Bonnie Raphael will present "Violence Without Victims." Each half of this two-part workshop will include vocal and physical warm-ups, exercises, improvisation, demonstration and discussion relating to the planning, choreography and safe execution of physical and vocal violence onstage. Strategies for effective collaboration will also be addressed.

Kate Burke and Colleen Kelly will present "Speaking in Figures." "Tis figured in my tongue" is Richard III's response to Anne's "I would I knew thy heart." (R3.1.2, 194)Shakespeare gives "that unbodied figure of the thought . . . ." (TR1.3, 16) form and shape through the embodied figure of the speech. Forms of expression and figures of speech become physical action when form is given to expression and figure is given to speech. This two part workshop will focus on the form and figure of the text that emerges when coupled with figures of dance (part 1) and forms of fight (part 2).

Tom Casciero and Marth Munro will present "Optimal vocal/physical Integration for Performers." Laban Movement Studies and several body re-education techniques will be used to integrate the speaking voice. Connections will be made to Linklater, Lessac, Berry and Estill techniques.

We are also pleased to welcome the return of Things That Work, moderated by Bonnie Raphael. Things that Work is an informal, interactive session for sharing strategies and exercises for any situations or challenges suggested by the participants.

On Monday evening Dr. Robert Bastian, Otolaryngologist at Loyola, will talk about performers' voice issues and answer questions related to vocal health/medicine.

Last but not least, Tuesday morning there will be an Improv workshop for the whole group given by guest artists from Second City.