

KairosCast, Episode 4, transcript

<intro music>

Courtney: Welcome to KairosCast.

Harley: Welcome to KairosCast. I'm Harley Ferris.

Courtney: And I'm Courtney Danforth. On this episode we'll preview plans for KairosCast during 2015.

Harley: And we have a holiday gift to you, our listeners, from KairosCast--a collaboratively composed and performed parody song.

Courtney: It's a good end to 2014 for us, because "collaboration" is kind of a theme for us in the new year.

Harley: That's right. We had a lot of fun working with you all producing this song, and we're looking forward to working with even more of you on upcoming KairosCast projects.

Courtney: We're going to look at journal entrepreneurship, MOOCs, and soundwriting.

Harley: We're going to have pieces on design for accessibility and other useful coding techniques and best practices

Courtney: We hope a lot of you will want to contribute on these or propose additional topics.

Harley: KairosCast is reading proposals now and will be happy to help you pursue a project.

Courtney: If you'll be traveling during this winter break, that may be a good time for you to record a short interview with a colleague you don't usually see.

Harley: Or, if you haven't found the time to teach yourself about audio editing, what better time than now, before classes start up again.

Courtney: We'll take proposals and submissions at kcast@technorhetoric.net.

Harley: We're excited to hear your ideas for 2015.

Courtney: As for the end of this year, I'm afraid we got a bit silly.

Harley: In the grand tradition of holiday parodies, we have produced an actual song this month.

Courtney: And although this is an absurd undertaking, it actually does enact some important elements of what we're about here at KCast. Here's how it worked. First, we invited people to offer remakes of "The Twelve Days of Christmas" on themes related to the Kairos mission: rhetoric, technology, and pedagogy.

Harley: That call went out on the Kairos Facebook page and Twitter stream and we got lyrics sent in by email.

Courtney: We compiled the lyrics in a shared Google Doc, found some sheet music and a karaoke video to use as a guide track, and asked people to make recordings.

Harley: How'd you make your recordings, Courtney?

Courtney: I ran Audacity and my mic from my laptop and had the lyrics in another window on there. I kept the sheet music on my tablet, and played the guide track through headphones on my phone.

Harley: That's sounds manageable.

Courtney: It was okay. The only problem is my recording booth doubles as my coat closet, so there was a lot of precarious balancing of electronics amidst boots and mittens.

Harley: Hey, whatever works!

Courtney: Yep. Usually I can get away with just a notebook and my phone. This was a little more complicated. How'd you record your tracks?

Harley: I have a decent setup at the house, so I recorded my parts along with the rest of the tracks in Reaper, which is the audio software I use for just about everything these days, including this podcast. From there, it was just a matter of mixing everything together.

Courtney: Cool!

Harley: We got contributions recorded in all kinds of circumstances, and we're glad for all of them.

Courtney: So, when we talked about this originally, I thought we could do this sort of like Eric Whitacre's "Virtual Choir" project. Is that how it actually worked out when you were editing all the tracks together into a single song?

Harley: Well, I'd love to say that we were that professional and coordinated, but it was a little more punk rock than that, in a DIY kind of sense. I started with the karaoke track, and then added parts to it in ways that I hope made sense. And I learned a lot if we ever do something like this again, like the need for some kind of synchronizing mechanism... I think the hardest part was knowing where to line up the nonvocal tracks--particularly percussion. But I think it turned out.

Courtney: That sounds really complicated.

Harley: Yeah--good thing it's fun. And speaking of fun, we want to thank everyone who contributed to this project: Amy Lueck, Hayes Hampton, Jill Morris, Kathryn Perry, Kyle Stedman, Tim Amidon, and Christopher Andrews, and Cheryl Ball.

Courtney: We're excited to hear from more of you on upcoming projects. Please query us at kcast@technorhethoric.net.

Harley: Visit our webpage for submissions info, to hear past episodes of KairosCast, and to connect with our partner podcasts. That's kairos.technorhethoric.net/kairoscast.

Courtney: You'll be able to download the KCast Friends single of our song and a bonus ringtone there too.

Harley: And now, the world premier of KCast's first hit single, "The Twelve Days of *Kairos*"!

<song: "The Twelve Days of Kairos">

On the first day of Kairos, my journal gave to me: a Christmas song parody.
On the second day of Kairos, my journal gave to me: two hyperlinks...
On the third day of Kairos, my journal gave to me: three alt tags...
On the fourth day of Kairos, my journal gave to me: four interviews...
On the fifth day of Kairos, my journal gave to me: five podcast streams...
On the sixth day of Kairos, my journal gave to me: six wiki entries...
On the seventh day of Kairos, my journal gave to me: seven Google Hangouts...
On the eighth day of Kairos, my journal gave to me: eight query emails...
On the ninth day of Kairos, my journal gave to me: nine download errors...
On the tenth day of Kairos, my journal gave to me: ten final edits...
On the eleventh day of Kairos, my journal gave to me: eleven proofread transcripts...
On the twelfth day of Kairos, my journal gave to me: twelve awesome webtexts...

<outro music>

Courtney: KairosCast is produced by Courtney Danforth and Harley Ferris.

Harley: It is distributed by *Kairos*, Doug Eyman, senior editor.

Courtney: Our editor is Cheryl Ball.

Harley: If we had interns, their names would go here.

Courtney: KairosCast is made available under a Creative Commons license. For more information, please refer to our website.

Harley: For more *Kairos*, see kairos.technorhethoric.net.