



Official Transcript

Season 1, Episode 9

Meet Megan and Stacy: Full Throttle With the Women behind ADECIBEL Media

Stacy [00:00:00] Support for this podcast is brought to you by Goat Rodeo, a creative audio agency in Washington, D.C. Goat Rodeo helps clients and partners create high quality professional audio content, translating ideas to sound. Find them at Goat RodeoDC.com.

Megan [00:00:18] Hey, I'm Megan Rummler.

Stacy [00:00:19] And, I'm Stacy Yu and we're the founders of ADECIBEL Media.

Megan [00:00:23] We're at the end of season one and we're just now introducing ourselves.

Stacy [00:00:31] Whoops. Little oversight.

Megan [00:00:34] I feel kind of bad that we waited so long. We really should have done this at the beginning, but we have been on like, full throttle, for the past year and a half.

Stacy [00:00:44] Just about.

Megan [00:00:45] Right?

Stacy [00:00:45] Just about. Yeah.

Megan [00:00:46] And we just you know, we wanted to actually get content out there that we felt mattered. And, I felt like, oh, who cares who we are?

Megan [00:00:57] So, okay. So, who are we? Where do we start?

Stacy [00:01:00] Why don't we start with you? I think everyone has heard your voice a lot more and are probably wondering, you know, who is the host of ADECIBELvoices?

Megan [00:01:09] I'm not used to being in the interviewee's seat. I'm used to being in the interviewer seat.

Megan [00:01:14] So, it's funny because I'm actually quite shy and private. And, you would think that if you know your host and you're out there and you're doing, you know, you're out in the public, that people that know me know that I'm pretty private.

Megan [00:01:30] My Vietnamese name is Manlynh, which I love. My dad named me.

Megan [00:01:35] I am Saigon born. We fled after Saigon fell and I came to America when I was, gosh, I don't know, 1 or 2. And, I've been here in America ever since. So I'm Saigon born, but American made.

Stacy [00:01:48] Can you tell me a little bit about what inspired you 20 years ago?

Megan [00:01:52] At the time I was, you know, just launching my career in public relations. And, I had started out here on the East Coast. And then I got sent to Silicon Valley during the dot-com boom and was doing public relations out on the West Coast.

Megan [00:02:10] I suddenly realized that as I was building brand awareness and doing PR for these dot-com companies, I started to take stock and I realized that it was very homogenous in terms of the landscape of business leaders and thought leaders.

Megan [00:02:27] And, I started to question that and I didn't understand why there was such a void in Asian American representation.

Megan [00:02:38] And, I think I just stuck that in the back of my mind. And I didn't know what to do with it. I was just like, hmmm, the seems kind of off. This seems weird, but I don't know what to do about it because I'm young and it was kind of like a big thing to wrap your head around.

Megan [00:02:52] So that kernel just kind of stuck there. And I was like, gosh, I really wish somebody would help to raise awareness of all the amazing things Asian Americans are doing across industries.

Megan [00:03:06] I can't even remember this story. I know that I called you. And I'm like, hey, yo, dude, I have this idea.

Stacy [00:03:13] I'm like, what? Okay, cool.

Megan [00:03:17] So, yeah, I was just like, I was like, you know, this has been in my head for so many years. I think the time is now to do something about it.

Megan [00:03:26] So I got Stacy on board. So I found my partner in crime and then it became real. And, then all of a sudden we're like, oh, crap, now what?

Megan [00:03:33] We gotta figure out what we want to do. And then we're like, not only do we need to figure out what we're doing, but why we're doing it.

Megan [00:03:40] Why are we doing this, Stacy? I mean, with all the other hats that we wear. Why on earth would we take this on?

Stacy [00:03:48] Because we're crazy.

Stacy [00:03:49] Growing up for me, I kind of grew up in a pseudo activist family. They've always been involved in the Asian American community. And, one of the things that was kind of hammered in pretty hard was the fact that when you see something that you don't see is right, never be afraid to roll up your sleeves no matter what the cost is and fight that fight if you truly believe in it.

Megan [00:04:16] I think in my journey, and I think this is partly why it took me so long to actually do something about this idea is that I actually had to learn that courage on my own.

Megan [00:04:26] Honestly, I'm still finding it. Every day, there are very many examples of where I have to kind of dig down inside myself and say, you know what, this is the right thing to do. And no matter what, I'm going to speak out about it.

Megan [00:04:40] So who is Stacy?

Stacy [00:04:42] Oh, shoot.

Stacy [00:04:45] Who is Stacy? That is such a loaded question.

Stacy [00:04:48] So my name is Stacy Yu. I am the person behind the person who is behind ADECIBEL Media or something like that.

Megan [00:05:00] Stacy runs it all.

Stacy [00:05:04] In terms of my background, I was born and raised in Baltimore, Maryland. Go, Balmer.

Stacy [00:05:09] I'm of kind of mixed descent. My father's Taiwanese, my mother is Japanese, but I am born and raised in Maryland. I definitely associate myself as being an East Coast girl and lived in New England for a while for college and then moved out to California, which is actually where I met Megan, for a little bit of fun trivia.

Stacy [00:05:36] You know, identity has always been a very big part of our family, you know, not only growing up Asian American, but also growing up multi-ethnic Asian American. Understanding which parts of me were Taiwanese American versus which parts of me were Japanese American and which parts of me were just flat out American has always been a very, very integral part of my existence.

Megan [00:06:01] Well, that's the who, that's the why, that's the what.

Stacy [00:06:03] So there you have it.

Megan [00:06:04] So now we're at the end of season one. And I'm just so proud that, you know, we didn't get out one, two, three, four. We got out eight episodes. That's huge.

Megan [00:06:16] And, the caliber of guests that we have. First of all, I want to thank each and every one of our guests.

Stacy [00:06:21] Absolutely.

Megan [00:06:23] Any surprises?

Stacy [00:06:24] Any surprises? I think with all of our guests having the ability to not only tell their story, to tell their story authentically to an audience that they know that their life experience would not necessarily be looked upon as being different. I get the sense that it was liberating for all of us.

Megan [00:06:47] Definitely. Definitely.

Stacy [00:06:49] I mean, I was surprised by that.

Megan [00:06:51] So what's next for season two? What can we announce or tell our listeners?

Stacy [00:06:57] It's a secret.

Stacy [00:06:58] We have a number of great guests coming to you from various parts of the worlds. And when I say various parts of the world, I mean like fashion, science, sports, comedy, film and television.

Stacy [00:07:11] It's gonna be a great line-up.

Megan [00:07:12] I can't wait.

Stacy [00:07:13] We're super excited.

Megan [00:07:14] And, you know, the other thing is we really would love recommendations from you guys, from our listeners. So please call or text us. And the number is 202-599-3318.

Megan [00:07:27] Tell us what you think about the show.

Stacy [00:07:29] You can drop us a message via the contact us form on the website at ADECIBEL.com as well, which is at A-D-E-C-I-B-E-L.com.

Megan [00:07:40] Yeah. Just tell us what you think. Right now we are starting, you know, production for Season 2 so we're gonna be in, you know, heavy feedback mode.

Megan [00:07:52] Do you want to talk about the survey?

Stacy [00:07:54] I do want to talk about the survey. So, you know, to make sure that we're going in the right direction, we would love to hear what you guys thought of Season 1. If you go to any episode page on our website, you'll find a direct link into an online survey.

Megan [00:08:08] It's anonymous, right?

Stacy [00:08:10] It is anonymous. And you know, that feedback is really important to us.

Megan [00:08:14] So important.

Stacy [00:08:15] We want to make sure that we're, you know, providing you with the things that you want to hear.

Megan [00:08:21] The other thing I wanted to mention is our donate button.

Megan [00:08:24] ADECIBEL media is an independent podcast and is made possible through individual, you know, contributions made by generous donors like yourself, our listeners.

Megan [00:08:35] If you would like to support our efforts, please consider making a donation. And it's right on the website. Right, Stacy?

Stacy [00:08:43] It is.

Megan [00:08:43] Do you want to explain how that works?

Stacy [00:08:45] If you go to the navigation bar on ADECIBEL.com website, just click on the donate and it should take you to a page in which you can make a contribution.

Megan [00:08:56] So any amount that you can donate is super appreciated. It goes directly to our operating expenses. Donations really help us cover things related to production. You know, like all the software that we have to to to cover to actually cut the episodes and the videos that we do. And there's a lot of other operating expenses that we won't bore you with, but every little penny helps. So thank you so much for considering that.

Megan [00:09:27] We just wanted to take a moment and think are amazing sponsors like Goat Rodeo, who has allowed us the privilege to record here at The Wharf in Washington, D.C. So thank you. Goat Rodeo. We love Ian.

Stacy [00:09:42] We love Ian.

Megan [00:09:44] And also 8 Media Group without, you know, their support this, you know, podcast would not be possible.

Stacy [00:09:52] That's right. And you know, ADECIBELvoices is not only for the Asian American community.

Megan [00:09:56] Yeah.

Stacy [00:09:57] And so that way that we've designed each of the interviews is actually very inclusive. So, I mean, share with all of your friends, you know, not just your Asian American friends.

Megan [00:10:07] For sure. All right. So that's it from us.

Stacy [00:10:12] Yeah.

Megan [00:10:13] We'll see you next season.

Stacy [00:10:15] Tootles.

Megan [00:10:16] Bye.

Stacy [00:10:17] Bye.