

Volume XVII

Sumemr 2010

CODE BREAKER

The Newsletter of The International Dyslexia Association-Arizona Branch

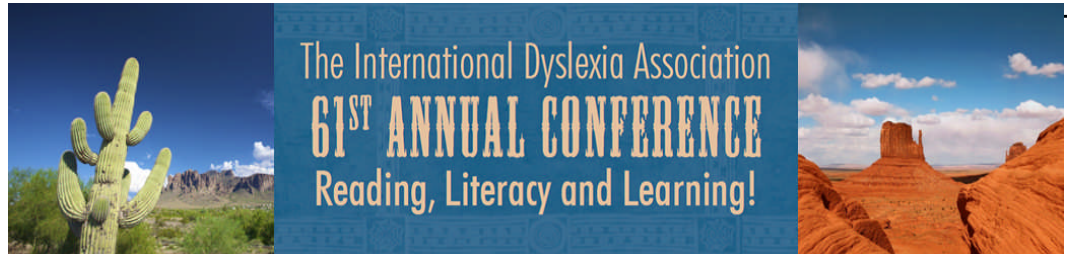


*Promoting literacy through research, education, and advocacy.
Promoting literacy through research,
education, and advocacy.*

Founded in Memory of
Samuel T. Orton

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October 27-30 Phoenix Convention Center

To register go to www.interdys.org

Highlights of the Conference:

Wednesday, October 27 6:00 p.m.

Conference Kick-Off

Keynote Address by: *Cindy Lamb Aiello,
Producer and Wife of Danny Aiello, III*

Thursday, October 28 8:30-10:00 a.m.

Samuel Torrey Orton Award and June Lyday Orton

Memorial Lecture: Marilyn Jager Adams, Ph.D.

Thursday, October 28 6:00-10:00 p.m.

Branch Social: A Night In the Museum

Friday, October 29 7:00 p.m.

President's Celebration

Hyatt Regency Ballroom

Saturday, October 30 7:00 a.m.

Dyslexia Dash

[See following pages for more information](#)



Editor's Note

The **Code Breaker** is sent out as an e-mail attachment to all members and past conference attendees who have provided their e-mail address. The **Code Breaker** is also sent out as a paper document to all those on the IDA-AZ's mailing list for whom we don't have an e-mail address, which includes members and others interested in our information.

The **Post Script** is a shorter publication sent out as an e

-mail attachment to provide the membership and others with current information that may not be included in the **Code Breaker**. If you want to make sure you have all the benefits of this information and you are not currently on our e-mail distribution list, please contact Jane Lawyer at jane@wellingtonalexander.com and provide your e-mail address.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:



As you read this newsletter, the summer's triple digit heat is coming to an end, school is back into session and we are all excited for the upcoming IDA conference. If you have not already heard or read, Phoenix will be hosting the 2010 National IDA conference from October 27 – 30. "Reading, Literacy & Learning" is the title of the conference and it reflects the fact that the content extends beyond dyslexia and contains important information on reading, literacy, mathematics and many critical cognitive skills such as learning, attention and working memory. The conference is being held at the Phoenix Convention Center, 100 N 3rd Street, Phoenix, Az 85004. I hope that many of you can participate in the opportunity while it is here in Phoenix. Go to <http://www.interdys.org/> to register for the conference.

If you cannot join us for the conference, there is another way you can support IDA. On Saturday, there will be a Dyslexia Dash in down town Phoenix. You can go to <http://www.firstgiving.com/dyslexiadaash> and register for the event or you can go to "Want to donate" and find Mary Wennersten with the Phonetic Fanatics Team and help us win.

Other news I wanted to update you on - Did you know that in May, our Governor Brewer signed House Bill 2732? It states that in 2013-2014, any third grade student who does not pass the state assessment (AIMS) or a successor test will be retained in third grade. So, parents of 2010-2011 Kindergarten students will be the first impacted by this bill. The Arizona Department of Education has been working with schools to have a comprehensive assessment system that addresses early literacy skills. Assessments like AIMSweb, DIBELS or TPRI have been reviewed and found to have the research and evidence for screening and progress monitoring that is needed to identify students early. Response to Intervention (RTI) is a system that schools should implement to help in identifying and supporting all students. For preschool and infants, First Thing First is an agency that is supporting preschools in the development of oral language skills and pre-reading skills like phonological awareness, vocabulary, and listening comprehension all through play.

Finally, I would like to tell you about an interesting web site – "Children of the code" <http://www.childrenofthecode.org/>. You will find interviews of key researchers and practitioners in literacy like Louisa Moats, Keith Stanovich, Marilyn Adams, Reid, Lyon, Nancy Hennessy, and many more.

Mary Wennersten
President
AZ IDA

Using the Struggle to Understand Others

by Mary Wennersten, President, Arizona Branch of IDA

I come from a family of five sisters and two brothers who are all readers and were good students in school. I was the shy and quiet sister. I struggled in school and could never figure out how to read, spell words, or solve math problems. I was always watching everyone, trying to figure out what they were doing and why it was so easy for them. I remember my parents always reading books, magazines, and newspapers. You would think that because I come from a house full of readers that I would have just picked up the love of reading, but that was not the case. My mom knew something was wrong early on. It wasn't until I was 10 years old that my parents finally got some answers. They found out that I had a learning disability (dyslexia) in reading, written expression, and math. That was both a relief and a cause for concern for my parents. They didn't know what to do for me or how to help me. From the time I was in 4th grade until college, I went to summer school and took both a reading and a math class. I graduated from high school with a 5th grade reading and math level.

I then decided to go to college because everyone else in my family went to college. I loved working with kids and I was good at training new employees where I worked. So, I went for a degree in education. At first I thought I wanted to be a middle school teacher since I struggled so much in 7th and 8th grade, but I decided for elementary. After 5 1/2 years of sweat and tears, I graduated from University of Arizona with a B.A. in elementary education. There were professors who told me that I should not be there. There were times I failed and had to take the class again. But through it all, I wanted to show everyone that I could do it and be a good teacher.

It was in college that I learned about what I needed to do to be successful in school. I started tape recording all lectures. Then I would have to go back and listen to them to finish taking the notes I had difficulty in keeping up with in class. I sat in the front of the class to help me stay active in learning instead of sitting back and being passive. I learned that if I was in a study group, I learned more from group discussion than just reading the chapter. I learned about color coding my notes and writing important information on index cards to study from. I learned that I was better at labs and active learning than sitting in lecture halls and taking notes.

I then got my masters in special education. I knew I wanted to help other students who struggled in school like me. I thought that this would be enough to make a difference. But even after 10 years of teaching experience and a master's degree, I still didn't know how to help all students, especially those who struggle in reading and spelling. It wasn't until I learned about Orton-Gillingham and multisensory teaching that I understood the importance of teaching the structure of our language and the importance of teaching the decoding of words. It was during this time that I found my true love, and that is training teachers.

Since 2003, I have been working at the Arizona Department of Education in Reading First. I have been a part of and have seen a remarkable transformation of schools and teachers in what researchers know is "best practice" in the instruction of at-risk students. I have been able to share my experiences and knowledge with teachers who have never struggled to learn to read or who have not been taught how to teach reading explicitly and systematically. I am truly blessed to have a job that I get to work with educators and share my story and knowledge every day.

Calendar of Events for the IDA AZ

Saturday, September 11, 2010

9:00 to 2:00

Full Executive Board Retreat

Arizona Literacy and Learning Center
14001 N. 7th Street Phoenix

Friday, October 1, 2010

5:00 to 8:00

New Member Social

4915 E. Doubletree Ranch Road
Paradise Valley

Saturday, October 2, 2010

9:00 to 12:00

Full Executive Board Meeting

Arizona Literacy and Learning Center
14001 N. 7th Street Phoenix

October 27-30, 2010

Wednesday-Saturday

61st Annual IDA Conference

Phoenix Convention Center

Saturday, October 30, 2010

7:00 am

2nd Annual Dyslexia Dash

Downtown Phoenix

Saturday, December 4, 2010

9:00 to 12:00

Full Executive Board Meeting

Arizona Literacy and Learning Center
14001 N. 7th Street Phoenix

Saturday, January 8, 2011

9:00 to 12:00

Full Executive Board Meeting

Arizona Literacy and Learning Center
14001 N. 7th Street Phoenix

Saturday, February 5, 2011

9:00 to 12:00

Full Executive Board Meeting

Arizona Literacy and Learning Center
14001 N. 7th Street Phoenix

Saturday, February 12, 2011

Time: TBD

Local Dyslexia Dash

Place: TBD

Saturday, February 26, 2010

Az Branch Conference

Black Canyon Conference Center

Saturday, April 9, 2010

Phoenix Barnes and Noble

Saturday, May 14, 2010

9:00 to 12:00

Annual Meeting

Arizona Literacy and Learning Center
14001 N. 7th Street Phoenix



New Member Social Get Together

Friday, October 1, 2010

5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

4915 E. Doubletree Ranch Road

Paradise Valley

Conference Kick-Off



Wednesday, October 27
6:00 p.m.

Keynote Address by:
Cindy Lamb Aiello
Producer and Wife of Danny Aiella,III

Cindy-Lamb-Aiello, wife of Danny Aiello, III has a special perspective on his life as a dyslexic individual. Partners on many projects, Cindy witnessed firsthand not only how her husband learned to adapt and function "on set" but how with confidence he discussed his dyslexia openly with colleagues and friends and in fact attributed much of his immense creativity to his learning difference.

Pinnacle Award Presentation:
Danny Aiello, III, Director, Producer, Stuntman
(Awarded Posthumously)

Danny Aiello, III is an accomplished producer and director with twenty-five years experience in the industry. He has worked on films as an actor, stuntman, stunt coordinator, director, and producer. Noted successes include producing and directing "18 Shades of Dust" ,a feature film nominated at the London Film Festival, and the CBS television series "Dellaventura" nominated for the People's Choice Award for Best New Dramatic Series as well as over three hundred films and television shows such as "Sex in the City: the Movie", "Rescue Me", and "Stuart Little 2". He achieved all of this, and so much more, with dyslexia.

Exhibit Hall Grand Opening

Wednesday, October 27
7:30 to 9:00 p.m.

Come to the Exhibit Hall
Where there are more than 100 exhibitors

As Well As:
Hors d'oeuvres
Cocktails
Entertainment
Door Prizes



Thursday, October 28, 2010

6:00 to 10:00 p.m.

IDA Arizona Presents:

A Night In The Museum

Dr. Drake D. Duane, Featured Host

Phoenix Art Museum

Tickets are \$65.00 per person

Shuttle Transportation from Hyatt Regency



**A night of exciting, Art, Music & Dance ensembles with
Food to challenge your idea about the Southwest**

Friday, October 29, 2010

7:00 p.m.

All are invited to the:

President's Celebration

Hyatt Regency Ballroom

\$30.00 per person

Tickets are available for purchase during registration or on-site, pending availability.

**Buffet Style Dinner
Cash Bar
Music & Entertainment
Awards & Presentations
Silent & Live Auction
And much more!**





2nd Annual Dyslexia Dash Kicks Off Saturday, October 30, 2010

This event will begin at the Hyatt RyGENCY. Participants will “dash” (run, jog, or walk) 5K through downtown Phoenix

The goal of the Dyslexia Dash is to raise much needed funds to Support the work of IDA and the lives of people with dyslexia.

The pledge minimum for each Virtual* or Actual Dasher, eighteen years and older is \$150. There is no cost to register for the event.

A virtual Dasher is someone who registers and fundraises, but does not participate in the actual event

Pledge minimums include: Commemorative T-shirt, water, snacks and support along the course including water stops & medical assistance.

Prizes will be awarded to:
 First Male to finish
 First Female to finish
 Top Fundraising Individual
 Top Fundraising Team
 Top Fundraising Branch

To SIGN UP:

Register online at www.firstgiving.com/dyslexiadash

For INFORMATION:

Contact Kristi Bownman,

IDA Director of Development

(410) 296-0232, ext. 402 or kbowman@interdys.org



Who's on Arizona's IDA Board?

Executive Officers:

President

Mary Wennersten

President Elect

Linda Barr

Vice President

Yvonne Gill

Treasurer

Stacy Fretheim

Secretary

Janet Barrett

Board of Directors:

Maureen Alianza

Carolyn Cain

Deborah Fash

Dawn Gutierrez

Pamela Harris

Jane Lawyer

Cindy Martin

Meredith Puls

Stacy Riccio

Chris Roberts

Nora Schlesinger

Janet Spadora

Marjorie Schmidt

Marilyn Willcoxon

Advisory Board:

Michaelene Barlow

Lois Goode

Gary E. Karcz

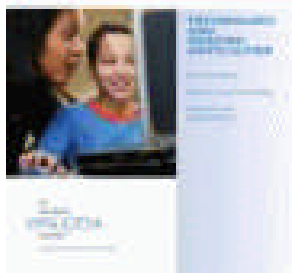
Joe Mangone

Anne Treadwell

Debby Zambo, Ph.D



Become a Member of IDA and Enjoy the Benefits!



Anyone interested in IDA and its mission can become a member.

A few examples are:

1. Individuals with dyslexia and their families
2. Educators
3. Physicians
4. Psychologists
5. Policy makers

IDA currently has over 13,000 members internationally.

To join go to:
www.interdys.org

Membership Benefits: **Perspectives:**

a quarterly periodical containing articles authored by professionals in the field, including a special section for parents

Annals of Dyslexia:

A yearly peer-reviewed journal

Discounts

on most other IDA publications

Affiliation with one of IDA's local branches (over 45 locations in the U.S. and Canada)

Access to a network of professionals

Discounts on IDA conferences and workshops

Listing in IDA's Referral for Services Database (when applicable)

Special notices of timely information

Advertising opportunities for "Non-Profit" and "For-Profit" member organizations

Looking for Information? Try Searching the World Wide Web!

There are several websites available to find information that may be worthwhile. Please note that the Arizona Branch of the IDA does not endorse any service providers. Information is supplied as a service only. This list is not all inclusive and will be updated periodically as information becomes available.

Adaptive Technology in AZ
Libraries
www.dlapr.lib.az.us

American Speech & Hearing
Association
www.ASHA.org

Association on Higher Education
(AHEAD)
www.ahead.org

Az Branch of International Dyslexia
Association
www.interdys.org

Arizona Center for Disability Law
www.acdl.com

Arizona Multisensory Training
Institute
www.azmultisensory.org

Children and Adults with ADD
(CHADD)
www.chadd.org

Council for Exceptional Children
www.cec.sped.org

Don Johnston
www.donjohnston.com

Innovative Solutions Group, LLC
www.innosolu.com

Inspiration Software
www.inspiration.com

Lexis Preparatory School
www.lexisprep.com

LD Online (WETA)
www.ldonline.com

LD Resources
www.ldresources.com

The Literacy Center
www.The-Literacy-Center.com

National ADD Association
www.add.org

National Institute for Literacy
www.nifl.gov

New Way Learning Academy
www.newwayacademy.org

On-Track Tutoring
www.ontracktutoring.com

Recording for the Blind and
Dyslexic
www.rfbd.org

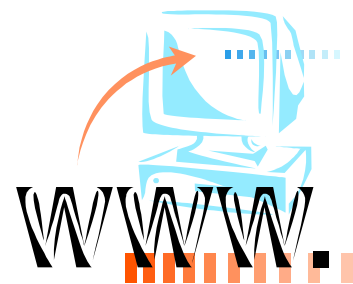
Southwest Human Development
www.swhd.org

Special Education Advocacy
www.wrightslaw.com

Totem Learning Center
www.totemlearningcenter.com

Wellington-Alexander Center
www.wellingtonalexandercenter.com

Wilson Language Training
www.wilsonlanguage.com



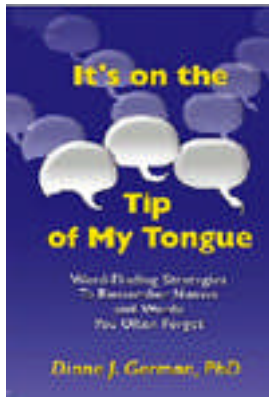
The International Dyslexia Association supports efforts to provide dyslexic individuals with appropriate instruction and to identify those individuals at an early age. The Association believes that multisensory teaching and learning is the best approach available for dyslexia.

The International Dyslexia Association neither recommends nor endorses any specific speaker, school, institution, instructional program, or materials.

Participation in any seminar or exhibiting material does not imply endorsement by the International Dyslexia Association of specific speakers, schools, institutions, programs or materials.

The International Dyslexia Association does not endorse, accredit, or evaluate schools, colleges, camps, or institutions, teacher training activities, specific educational materials or techniques, diagnostic tests or methods, individual or group practitioners in any such field. The Association is convinced that selection of appropriate diagnostic and/or remedial resources is the responsibility of the inquirer, who alone can best determine the essential elements of compatibility and accessibility.

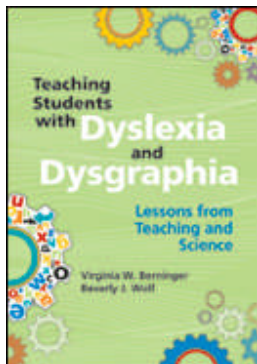
Recommended Readings:



It's on the Tip of My Tongue

By: Diane J. German, PhD

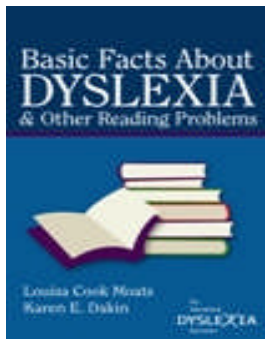
Description: It's on the Tip of My Tongue will provide readers with easy to use strategies to help them remember elusive names and words. In this book readers will learn to: recognize three types of word finding difficulties; self evaluate individual speaking to identify word-finding difficulties; use strategies to help them remember names of family members and friends and known academic and work related vocabulary; reduce word finding errors at personal, social, professional, and school activities.



Teaching Students with Dyslexia and Dysgraphia

By: Virginia W. Berninger, Ph.D., & Beverly Wolf, M.Ed.

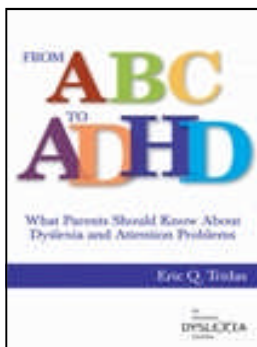
Description: Finally, a single accessible textbook answers that question for every K–12 educator. The only teacher training text to cover the three learning disabilities that require differentiated instruction—dysgraphia, dyslexia, and oral and written language learning disability (OWL LD)—this book prepares educators to teach students with learning differences in explicit, reflective, and intellectually engaging ways. 2009.



Basic Facts About Dyslexia and Other Reading Problems

By: Louisa Cook Moats & Karen E. Dakin

Description: This essential resource, available fall 2007, defines dyslexia and illustrates, with real-life examples, how to recognize dyslexia and other reading problems at various stages of development, from preschool to adulthood. The authors have masterfully selected and distilled the most significant research in the field to create this descriptive and informative resource. An IDA Bestseller!

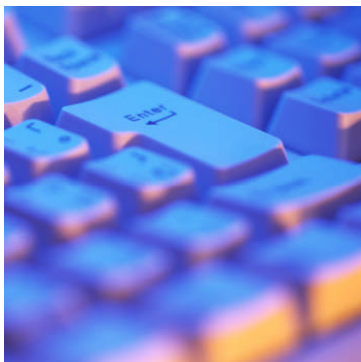


From ABC to ADHD: What Every Parent Should Know about Dyslexia

Edited by: Eric Q. Tridas

Description: From ABC to ADHD is an understandable, reliable source of information for parents of a child with a developmental or behavioral problem. Written by an experienced team of physicians who are experts in the field, this useful guide walks parents through topics that include diagnosis, treatment, coexisting conditions, and advances in neurobehavioral research.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions or
comments at
arizona.ida@gmail.com



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