

NASET Special Educator e-Journal



OCTOBER 2009

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Update from the U.S. Department of Education

White House Pledges \$5 Billion to Encourage Innovations in Education

<http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/news/story.jhtml?id=260300010>

The Obama administration has committed \$5 billion in federal funds for those state governments which support the administration's ideas for reform within our nation's schools. The money granted will be from the Race to the Top Fund included in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act passed earlier this year. Grants from the fund will be used to encourage education reforms, with a focus on the development of tougher academic standards, more effective ways to recruit and keep teachers, tracking student performance, and developing plans of action for failing schools.

ED Seeks Reviewers for Race to the Top

ED is seeking recommendations for reviewers for Race to the Top, the \$4.35 billion competition for states to lead the way in school reforms. "We hope to assemble panels of our nation's most distinguished educators, policymakers, and scholars to participate in the review process for this ambitious reform initiative," Secretary Arne Duncan said in a letter this week. "I am writing to ask for your help in identifying candidates for consideration." "I encourage you to share this letter with anyone you feel is qualified," he said. He asked for recommendations as soon as possible and no later than September 30, 2009. For more information about the review process or about applying to be on a panel, visit: <http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/secletter/090902.html>

ERIC Library to Expand, Improve Under New Contract

The U.S. Department of Education will spend \$29 million over the next five years to enhance and operate the ERIC digital library of education literature, which offers free access to a broad array of scholarly materials. ERIC is the world's largest and most frequently used digital library of education, containing more than 1.3 million bibliographic records indexed from 1966 to the present. Its website (<http://eric.ed.gov>) provides free access to the ERIC digital library, which received more than 40 million visits in 2008 from educators, researchers, and the general public.

New enhancements included in this five-year contract include:

- Collaboration with the agency's library to digitize and process archival materials related to the history of the Department, such as early 20th century records from the Commissioner of Education
- Enhanced online submission format allowing Department of Education grantees and contractors to easily submit reports and related published research
- Establishment of a Library Committee, composed of school, academic, and special librarians who will recommend journals and sources, changes to the ERIC Thesaurus, and services and outreach
- Optical Character Recognition (OCR) of 486,000 digitized microfiche documents to ensure universal access

The ERIC website provides an alphabetical list of more than 984 journals currently indexed in the digital library. Other materials-including research syntheses, conference papers, technical

reports, and policy papers -are also indexed from more than 760 sources. More than 20 percent of the collection is full-text materials. ERIC, one of the longest-running services offered by the department of education, is part of the National Library of Education in the Institute of Education Sciences.

Visit the ERIC website at: <http://eric.ed.gov>

Secretary Arne Duncan Designates 314 Schools as 2009 Blue Ribbon Schools

Yesterday Secretary Arne Duncan announced 314 schools as 2009 National Blue Ribbon Schools. He made the announcement at Highland Elementary School, a 2009 Blue Ribbon School in Silver Spring, Maryland. The schools—264 public and 50 private—will be honored at an awards ceremony on November 3 at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, DC. “These Blue Ribbon Schools have shown that all children can learn with appropriate supports,” Duncan said. “They are producing outstanding results for their students. Some have shown dramatic improvements in places where students are overcoming the challenges of poverty, and others serve as examples of consistent excellence that can be a resource for other schools. They are places where improved teaching and learning benefits every student, and where students are challenged to meet high expectations with the active support of teachers, parents and the community.” More than 6,150 of America’s schools have received this coveted award over the past 27 years. View the 2009 winners at <http://www.ed.gov/programs/nclbbrs/2009/index.html>

Back-to-School National Town Hall Meeting with Secretary Arne Duncan

Last night Secretary Arne Duncan hosted a virtual national “listening and learning” event before a live studio audience of 60 parents and educators at the WETA television studio in Arlington, VA. Watch the town hall meeting now at <http://www.connectlive.com/events/ednews/>

In addition to hearing from the audience, Secretary Duncan responded to phone calls, emails, and video submissions from across the nation. Dave from Iowa asked about standards. A mother in California asked how to improve teaching for children with disabilities. A caller from Nevada questioned whether teachers should be evaluated based on student test scores. A parent from Tennessee asked how to gain buy-in from teachers for a longer school year. The town hall-style meeting was broadcast live on many of the approximately 800 public access, PBS, and Dish Network stations that are registered broadcast partners. Secretary Duncan and his leadership team will visit all 50 states this year to listen and learn from students, teachers, and communities in preparation for working with Congress on the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA).

Deputy Secretary Tony Miller Visits Los Angeles for President’s Speech to Students

On September 8, Deputy Secretary of Education Tony Miller visited Commonwealth Avenue Elementary School in Los Angeles to watch with a class of 5th-graders as President Obama spoke to America’s students. Miller also represented the Obama Administration at the “Get

Schooled” conference and video screening of a documentary video, “Get Schooled: You Have the Right.” “As we start the new school year,” Miller said, “America needs all students performing up to the best of their abilities. We need every child to graduate from high school ready to succeed in college and to compete in the global economy. As President Obama has said, if you drop out of school, you’re not quitting on yourself, you’re quitting on your country,” Miller said. “The Administration’s participation in Get Schooled is an example of creative public-private partnerships that are critical to addressing the crisis in our schools and supporting young people in their education.”

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NASET Sponsor Mayer-Johnson



Update From The National Dissemination Center for Children with Disabilities

Here's the latest changes on NICHCY:

- **A fact sheet on Other Health Impairments**
<http://www.nichcy.org/Disabilities/Specific/Pages/healthimpairment.aspx>
- **A PDF version you can print and share of Developmental Delay**
<http://www.nichcy.org/InformationResources/Documents/NICHCY%20PUBS/fs9.pdf>
- **A PDF version you can print and share of Deaf-Blindness**
<http://www.nichcy.org/InformationResources/Documents/NICHCY%20PUBS/fs16.pdf>
- **A revised PDF version of our fact sheet on Intellectual Disabilities**
(no longer called Mental Retardation, thank you to everyone who pointed this out)
<http://www.nichcy.org/InformationResources/Documents/NICHCY%20PUBS/fs8.pdf>
- **The full discussion of What It Means to Be Highly Qualified under IDEA that had somehow been cut off after one paragraph!** (We sure are glad someone noticed and told us!)
<http://www.nichcy.org/SchoolsAndAdministrators/Pages/IDEA%27sDefinitionofHighlyQualified.aspx>
- **Tourette syndrome: Where is it?**
For those who wondered why we didn't have a fact sheet on Tourette syndrome...the disability is now discussed as part of the new Other Health Impairment fact sheet. It even has its own separate resource page and description. While it's not as full-blown as other fact sheets, it will certainly connect you with the top resources in the field and treasure troves of info on Tourette syndrome.
<http://www.nichcy.org/Disabilities/Specific/Pages/OHI-tourette.aspx>
- **What's the Spanish saying?**
One visitor let us know that she wanted to share our Spanish language materials with families but didn't read Spanish herself, so she couldn't tell which publication was which. Could we please add the English after the Spanish title? she asked. Well, we have! When you visit Nuestros Productos/Publicaciones page, you'll see. Hopefully, that will help clear up the mystery.
<http://www.nichcy.org/Pages/publicaciones.aspx>

IT ALL STARTS IN FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

Looking for newborn screening and genetics programs and policies?

Try the National Newborn Screening and Genetics Resource Center.

<http://genes-r-us.uthscsa.edu/>

More on genetics.

Part of the National Resource Center just mentioned is its Genetics and Educational Materials (GEM) Database. It's searchable and can help you identify materials developed by regional genetic networks, HRSA projects, publications and other materials.

<http://genes-r-us.uthscsa.edu/resources/genetics/GEMDatabase/index.asp>

Recognizing reading (and other) problems early: Programs for parents.

Empowering Parents, a PBS special hosted by Al Roker, visits schools to help families identify early signs of reading problems and find ideas for getting their kids the help and support they

need to succeed at reading.

<http://www.readingrockets.org/shows/launching/empowering>

Concerned about your child's food allergies at school?

Managing food allergies at schools can be challenging. Education, communication, and cooperation are the keys to preventing allergic reactions.

<http://www.foodallergy.org/school.html>

Have you met Alex?

First, meet Alex's mom. She wanted the IEP team at the new school to see her son as a person, not a label, so she made a wonderful 3-minute video to introduce him at the beginning of the IEP meeting. It worked even better than she expected. Check it out.

<http://www.wrightslaw.com/info/iep.video.moody.htm>

Parents get involved.

Project Appleseed is the #1 ranked resource in Google and Yahoo! for "parental involvement in public schools" (or so they claim). But a look at this organization's bristling-with-purpose website is bound to make parents feel...well, like getting involved. Find out how at the link below. Pssst: National Parental Involvement Day is coming up soon (November 19th) but we thought we'd tell you early, so you can plan ahead.

<http://www.projectappleseed.org>

Parenting, A-Z.

Visit the Center for the Improvement of Child Caring (CICC), sign up for its newsletter, and join the National Effective Parenting Initiative. The site includes info on special needs and preschoolers.

http://www.ciccparenting.org/cicc_home.asp

Communicating with your child's school.

This resource from CADRE offers specific communication skills that may be helpful to parents as they develop and maintain partnerships with their child's school.

<http://www.directionservice.org/cadre/success.cfm>

Building a good relationship with your child's teacher.

From the National Center for Learning Disabilities.

<http://www.ncld.org/at-school/general-topics/parentschool-partnership/building-a-good-relationship-with-your-childs-teacher>

Effective IEP meetings: Tested tips.

Here's another from CADRE, offering suggestions for convening successful IEP meetings. It includes preparation tips for parents and educators.

<http://www.directionservice.org/cadre/testedtips.cfm>

Watch a video on IEP teams.

Want to see an IEP team at work? Watch this clip from Empowering Parents, part of the PBS series, Launching Young Readers. (When you click the link below, you'll come to the Reading Rockets "For Principals" page. In the right column, you'll see "The IEP Team" and a link to "Watch video clip." That's the one you want.)

<http://www.readingrockets.org/audience/professionals/principals>

Online educational games.

We know, we know, we're all trying to get our kids OFF of the computer. But this site will hook you up to online educational games. Phonetics, math, science, art....you name it, you can play it to learn.

http://www.empowertech.org/Resources_Games.html

Find respite.

Respite care is a service that offers temporary care for a child or adult with disabilities or chronic or terminal illnesses. The National Respite Locator Service helps parents, caregivers, and professionals find respite services in their state and local area to match their specific needs.

<http://chtop.org/ARCH/National-Respite-Locator.html>

Interested in autism?

CDC (the Centers for Disease Control) has a new autism website. Very snazzy.

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/autism/index.html>

A parent's guide to developmental delays: A podcast.

LD Podcasts are a weekly event at LDonline about all aspects of learning disabilities and kids who struggle in school, and this one focuses on DD. Listen at:

<http://ldpodcast.com/2006/11/20/show-31-a-parents-guide-to-developmental-delays/>

Is challenging behavior a problem at home?

Then you may be interested in what the Center for Evidence-Based Practice: Young Children with Challenging Behavior (CEBP) has to say. This document gives parents eight practical tips they can use when their young children exhibit challenging behavior. Each tip includes a brief explanation and an example to show parents how they might use the specific approach with their own family in everyday life.

http://www.tats.ucf.edu/wg_inclusion/PositiveSolutionsforFamilies_CEBP.pdf

Q&A: Taking service dogs into places of business.

If you need to know what the law says, read this brief from the U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division.

<http://www.ada.gov/qasrvc.htm>

Planning your transition from high school: A tool kit.

A very good tool kit from PACER for youth with disabilities and their parents.

<http://www.pacer.org/tatra/2009Award.pdf>

Also for youth: Talking with your doctor.

Talking with Your Doctor and Other Medical Professionals is a Web site with videos designed to help you communicate more effectively with your health care providers. Talk about how you're feeling, listen and ask questions about medical conditions, and get involved in decisions about your health!

<http://hctransitions.ichp.ufl.edu/gladd/>

THE LITTLE ONES: EARLY INTERVENTION/EARLY CHILDHOOD

Quick! If you want to comment...

The U.S. Department of Education has published a 30-day comment request for the IDEA Part C State Performance Plan (SPP) and Annual Performance Report (APR), which has recently been revised. Comments are due by September 11, 2009. So best be quick, if you have something to say.

<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-19364.htm>

Plan ahead to OSEP's 2009 Early Childhood Conference.

December 7-9, 2009, in Arlington, VA. Registration's open!

<http://www.nectac.org/~meetings/national2009/splash.html>

Do you have questions about infant mental health?

Find answers in this research synthesis of frequently asked questions that early childhood providers have about Infant Mental Health (IMH), early social and emotional development, and the IMH system. From the Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning.

http://www.vanderbilt.edu/csefel/pdf/rs_infant_mental_health.pdf

Recognizing child development problems early: A video.

This 4-minute video is in the public domain, courtesy of the CDC.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KrUNBfyjIBk>

Weaving cultural competence into program standards and monitoring.

Here's a new tool to help spark discussion and to serve as a guide to help early childhood programs respond to the needs of diverse children and families in a positive way. It was developed by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) as part of its Quality Benchmark for Cultural Competence Project (QBCCP) that's determining key elements of cultural competence for early childhood programs and ways to meaningfully integrate these elements within quality rating and improvement systems.

http://www.naeyc.org/files/naeyc/file/policy/state/QBCC_Tool.pdf

Home visits.

Home visitation programs offer family-centered services to pregnant mothers and families with infants and young children. If you're looking for resources about home visitation programs, you'll find them in a new brief from the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Library.

<http://mchlibrary.info/guides/homevisiting.html>

Managing food allergies in child care and preschools.

The Child Care and Preschool Guide to Managing Food Allergies is designed to educate caregivers of children under age 5. Endorsed by the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology and the American Academy of Pediatrics, the guide includes two educational videos (one for adults, one for children), a binder of information, and much more. Cost? \$75.

Available from the Food Allergy & Anaphylaxis Network (FAAN). Read how to order at:

<http://www.foodallergy.org/school/childcare.html>

Disability awareness and inclusion in early childhood programs.

Need materials you can use in your program? Try Including Us All, a nonsexist, multicultural

guide for incorporating the topic of disability into the early childhood curriculum: same/different (hearing impairment), body parts (visual impairment), and transportation (mobility impairment). Cost? \$15. Read all about it (and order, if you like) at the Educational Equity Center at AED: <http://www.edequity.org/programs/disability-awareness-and-inclusion>

Raid the treasure chest at the TATS program.

TATS is a statewide project in Florida that supports programs serving preK children with disabilities by providing technical assistance and training. Check out its Documents page! From there, branch into the area of your interest, including finding a scad of documents on:

- curriculum and instruction
- evaluation and assessment
- family involvement
- inclusion
- transition
- program effectiveness and quality

Have fun. You may need a truck to bring all the loot home.

<http://www.tats.ucf.edu/documents.php>

Another treasure trove.

Are you interested in quality materials on topics related to early childhood and early intervention? The Natural Resources listserv is one way to stay up-to-date with the latest free or low-cost booklets, CD-Roms, videos, Power Point presentations and other items. Go to the link below to learn more and find out how to sign up for the listserv.

http://www.fpg.unc.edu/~scpp/nat_allies/na_resources.cfm

SCHOOLS, K-12

A vision of K-12 students today.

Start your school year off by watching this 4-minute video. Not a word is spoken, all is visual.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_A-ZVCjfWf8

And while we're watching videos, how about TeacherTube?

Launched in 2007, TeacherTube provides teachers with an online community for sharing instructional videos. The service is free for everyone.

<http://www.teachertube.com/>

H1N1 preparedness guidelines for schools.

The feds have issued guidelines designed to help educators and administrators share health information, plan for staff and student absences, and maintain a learning environment in the event of a flu outbreak.

<http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2009pres/08/20090807a.html>

We'll mention it again cos it's that important: Accessible books.

Bookshare is free for all U.S. students with qualifying disabilities. Funded by an award from OSEP, Bookshare's library includes more than 50,000 digital books, textbooks, teacher-recommended reading, periodicals, and assistive technology tools. Talk about a back-to-school resource!

<http://www.bookshare.org/>

Stretched thin?

Are you a teacher dealing with fewer resources in your classroom this fall because of budget cuts? What suggestions do you have for educators who are faced with crowded classrooms, a shortage of supplies, or the need for an extra pair of hands? What suggestions do they have for you? Join the featured discussion this month at: <http://www.teachermagazine.org>

The difference a dedicated principal can make.

Check out The Principal Story on PBS and take an inside look at the challenges facing America's public schools---and the great difference a dedicated principal can make. You'll go on an emotional ride that reveals what effective educational leadership looks like in the 21st century. You can also borrow the film and download the discussion guide, for FREE if you're a nonprofit, educational institution, library, or local PBS station.

- To sign up, visit:
<http://www.amdoc.org/outreach/events/>
- To find out when your local PBS station is showing The Principal Story:
<http://www.pbs.org/pov/tvschedule/>

Adapting language arts, social studies, and science materials for the inclusive classroom.

http://www.cec.sped.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=CEC_Today1&TEMPLATE=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm&CONTENTID=4218

What about those 9 multiple intelligences?

The link below will take you to the PBS educational resource page that includes an overview of Howard Gardener's 9 multiple intelligences as well as tips to include a multiple intelligences approach in teaching. You'll also find multiple intelligence resources.

www.pbs.org/wnet/gperf/education/ed_mi_overview.html

Food allergies: A back-to-school toolkit.

For the 2.2 million school-age children with food allergies and their parents, staying safe at school requires the help of teachers and friends. The Food Allergy & Anaphylaxis Network has put together a tool kit for all grade levels so the entire class can help by learning how to Be a PAL: Protect A Life(tm) From Food Allergies. <http://www.foodallergy.org/school/toolkit.html>

A toolkit for Title I parental involvement.

Hot off the press from SEDL.

<http://www.sedl.org/pubs/catalog/items/family120.html>

Sourcebook for effective family-school-community partnerships.

Educating Our Children Together includes guiding principles for family-school-community involvement, tips for getting started, a self-assessment tool to determine current practices, and program descriptions that have been organized around eight interrelated cluster strategies. From CADRE.

http://www.directionservice.org/cadre/EducatingOurChildren_01.cfm

How are schools using the stimulus money?

Find out from the American Association of School Administrators, at the link below.

http://www.aasa.org/uploadedFiles/Policy_and_Advocacy/files/AASAStimulusSurveyAug09.pdf

Two new videos on recruiting and retaining high-quality special educators.

From the Personnel Improvement Center. <http://video.personnelcenter.org/>

Change the world every day in 5 minutes.

Can a bunch of school kids really change the world in five minutes a day? This class of primary school kids demonstrates over the course of a week that it only takes five minutes a day to make a positive impact---from recycling to planting fruit and vegetables to telling jokes. Watch the video at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oROsbaxWH0M>

Nominate a fellow special educator for a CEC Professional Award.

Recognize outstanding special educators with CEC's Professional Awards: Wallin Lifetime Achievement, Clarissa Hug National Teacher of the Year, Special Education Research, and Outstanding Leadership awards. Nominations are due by October 9.

<http://www.cec.sped.org/Content/NavigationMenu/AboutCEC/Awards/Professional/default.htm>

Nominate a student for a Yes I Can! award.

CEC's Yes I Can! Awards honor students with disabilities who excel in nine categories. Students may be nominated by a parent, teacher, principal, or other adult. Nominations are due by October 9.

<http://www.cec.sped.org/Content/NavigationMenu/AboutCEC/YesICanFoundation/default.htm>

STATE & SYSTEM TOOLS

50-state report on PK-12 policies.

From CCSSO (Council of Chief State School Officers). The report informs policymakers and educators about the current status and trends in policies across the 50 states that define teaching and learning in elementary and secondary schools.

<http://www.ccsso.org/publications/details.cfm?PublicationID=379>

Financial accounting for local and state school systems: 2009 Edition.

From the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). This NCES handbook has been designed as the national standard for state and local education agencies to use in tracking and reporting financial data and for school districts to use in preparing their comprehensive annual financial reports (CAFRs).

<http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2009/2009325.pdf>

Guide to analyzing data from the Family Outcomes Survey.

This new document from the Early Childhood Outcomes Center (ECO) will give you suggestions on how to analyze data from the Family Outcomes Survey and how to use the analyses to plan for program improvement.

http://www.fpg.unc.edu/~eco/assets/pdfs/FOS_Guidance_Report_08-09.pdf

RTI CTRL.

Have you seen the Response to Intervention Classification Tool and Resource Locator (RTI CTRL)? This resource contains both a web-based self-assessment and a resource filtering tool that SEAs can use to find resources that are relevant to their needs. The self-assessment allows users to identify their current implementation activities within several elements of RTI, and the results of the assessment yield a unique set of useful resources that are relevant to their current

implementation level and may provide guidance as RTI is further implemented.

<http://www.rtictrl.org/>

The power of school-wide positive behavior support.

Take 30 minutes and watch this video of George Sugai, which is an excellent primer on SWPBS. Share it, too, with your school systems. And click on the link under the video that says "Go back to the Video Page" and see what other great video primers are available on PBIS. From the OSEP Technical Assistance Center on Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), of course.

http://www.pbis.org/swpbs_videos/pbs_video-swpbs_reaching_all.aspx

SPECIAL FOCUS: AFTER SCHOOL

Last month our special focus was Back to School. Now that we're "back," how about what we're doing after school? Millions of children are involved in afterschool programs or activities, including children with disabilities. To help all those involved in afterschool care and programming, here's a list of resources that will give you food for thought, concrete strategies, and a world of connections to make afterschool a welcoming, active, and fruitful way to spend out-of-school time.

Afterschool.gov.

Where else to start? Afterschool.gov is a one-stop website connecting the public, and particularly afterschool providers, to federal resources that support children and youth during out-of-school time. The link below is to the Children With Disabilities page.

<http://www.afterschool.gov/xhtml/subject/24.html>

2009 fact sheet on out-of-school time. <http://www.niost.org/pdf/factsheet2009.pdf>

Afterschool programs are for students with exceptionalities, too!

<http://www.cec.sped.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Home&CONTENTID=1327&TEMPLATE=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm>

The National Center for Quality Afterschool.

SEDL's National Center helps state education agencies and local practitioners develop high-quality, balanced programs that provide a safe and fun environment for academic enrichment as well as youth development activities. While you're there, sign up for the Center's monthly newsletter, AfterWords.

<http://www.sedl.org/afterschool/resources/index.html>

Visit the California After-School Resource Center (CASRC).

Browse and download free curriculum and curriculum evaluation materials. Participate in a free curriculum lending library.

<http://www.californiaafterschool.org>

Discovering Community: Activities for afterschool programs.

The National Institute on Out of School Time, in association with the After-School Corporation, designed this curriculum to foster positive attitudes and stronger affiliations between students, teachers, and the surrounding school communities.

<http://www.niost.org/pdf/Discovering%20Community%20Activity%20Guide%20PDF.pdf>

Working together for children and families: A Community's Guide to Making the MOST of Out-of-School Time.

This substantial, informative guide describes the theoretical basis, experiences, and learnings of the first and second phases of the MOST Initiative. It also explains how to build an out-of-school time system using the MOST approach.

<http://www.niost.org/pdf/MOSTguide.pdf>

Focus on Families! How to build and support family-centered practices in after school.

From the Harvard Research Project.

www.gse.harvard.edu/hfrp/projects/afterschool/resources/families/

Resource guide for planning and operating afterschool programs.

Now in its third edition, this resource guide describes readily available and inexpensive resources that support afterschool programs. Topics include management, communication, programming, community building and collaboration, and developing connections between K-12 educational and afterschool programs. <http://www.sedl.org/pubs/fam95/afterschool.pdf>

Try the AIM guidelines.

The AIM Guidelines describe the need for and characteristics of successful afterschool inclusive math programs.

<http://www.edequity.org/files/eec-power-user/AIM%20Guidelines%20for%20Website.pdf>

After-School Math PLUS and After-School Science Plus.

These two inquiry-based programs are designed for use in after-school centers serving students aged 6-14. They've have been field tested with students with disabilities and include modifications to ensure they are fully accessible to students with a broad range of physical, cognitive, and social/emotional disabilities.

<http://www.edequity.org/?q=programs/disability-awareness-and-inclusion>

Boosting inclusion with AT and supplemental services.

From the National Center for Technology Innovation and Center for Implementing Technology in Education. <http://www.ldonline.org/article/9924>

Find a tutor.

tutorfind.com is a free online search service that can help you locate a tutor. You can also call 1-800-64-TUTOR to talk to an experienced education counselor. All TutorFind tutors are certified by The American Tutoring Association. <http://www.tutorfind.com>

10 tips for affirming diversity and supporting equity in new afterschool programs.

<http://www.californiatomorrow.org/media/astips.pdf>

80 ways to say "Very Good!"

Not just for afterschool programs, either! This is useful everywhere.

<http://syacgs.org/Info/SNLStuff/CoachClinic/80ways.html>

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NY BOCES Teacher Credits Bookshare Digital Library as Invaluable Resource

By Valerie Chernek and Maria Aranguren

Bookshare, the world's largest online accessible library for individuals with print disabilities, is an invaluable resource for Mrs. Maria Aranguren, an Itinerant Teacher for nine schools within the component districts of Western Suffolk BOCES (Board of Cooperative Education Services) in Suffolk County, a suburb of Long Island, NY. She said, "Bookshare has changed my life as a teacher and given me back precious teaching time. For students who are visually impaired, Bookshare has given them a sense of reading freedom."

The Bookshare digital library (www.bookshare.org) provides access to over 50,000 digital books for students who are blind, have low vision, a physical disability or a reading disability and the organizations who serve them. Through Bookshare, students and their teachers can legally download books and periodicals to be viewed or read aloud in alternative formats such as Braille, large print and digital text. In 2007, Bookshare received a \$32 million award from the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) to provide free access for all U.S. students with qualified print disabilities.



For 11th grade honors student, Dana Zarett, who has a visual impairment, Bookshare has made a big difference. Dana wants to be an architect and takes advanced placement courses. She needs K-12 and higher education textbooks on time. Recently, she downloaded *The American Pageant*, a college level textbook for a required U.S. History class. "The first time we downloaded a book from Bookshare, I was thrilled!" Dana said. "Sometimes I feel that my needs are not a priority. Getting my textbooks on time and in a digital format has helped me keep up with my school work. Access to Bookshare has also reduced the time we spend enlarging textbook pages which is not fun for me or my teachers. The type size does not increase proportionally, so pages were difficult to read. This was frustrating and made me not want to do my homework."

"Imagine a visually impaired student trying to listen to an audio tape on math," shared Mrs. Aranguren. "Audio is not the optimal format for studying math equations. Dana needed a textbook called the *Practice of Statistics – TI 83-84 Graphing Calculator Enhanced* and Bookshare had this textbook. Dana actually told me that she was looking forward to doing her statistics problems. How many students say that to their teachers?"

Digital textbooks are not always readily available. For middle and high school students, getting textbooks at the start of the school year is critical to keep them on track. Mrs. Aranguren would watch her students fall behind and feel their frustration while they waited for books. She believes that Bookshare has sped up the time it takes for students to get access to textbooks. Her students appreciate the quick access to books.

Bookshare converts digital textbook files into formats students use with software applications that combine text on a computer screen with speech generated by the computer, or with devices that display Braille. Bookshare files can also be used to produce large print and embossed Braille. The quick access to student-ready formats reduces the time teachers who serve students with visual impairments have to spend adapting or reformatting general education curriculum into accessible file formats. “This process can take forever,” said Mrs. Aranguren. “It is not uncommon for students to wait weeks or months to receive accessible files in our public school system.”

For some general education teachers, it is difficult to understand what formats and tools students with disabilities require in terms of accessing and using text. Mrs. Aranguren says there are many factors determining the type of text a student needs and how to produce it. Some teachers believe that photocopying materials and pressing ENLARGE will help students read better, but this didn’t work for Dana. “Bookshare offers a flexible learning environment without the stress,” she said. “As I find books in Bookshare, I silently thank the educator who first requested it and shared it for other students to access and enjoy!”

Mrs. Aranguren learned about Bookshare from a NY state education newsletter. She went online to search for a required novel for a fifth grader, called *Maniac McGee* by Jerry Spinelli, about a boy from the east side of a small town whose life experiences touch the hearts of many learners. She found the book on Bookshare and has since located many of her students required books in the library. Over the years, she estimates she has spent hundreds of hours searching, photocopying and scanning books. She said, “Bookshare has changed these laborious tasks into an easy-to-use system which freed me up to do more of what I call real teaching. Real teaching is talking with my students about what they read, encouraging them to study independently, discussing plans for their future and teaching them technology skills so that they will be successful in their chosen career.”

Today, she encourages all of her high school students with print disabilities to become individual Bookshare members. She wants them to download popular books and novels to read at home, as well as required reading materials. Her goal is to help every student with a disability become an independent learner and have successful learning experiences in life. She said, “Each student now has a Bookshare account and they love it! For Dana, I see an especially bright future ahead!”

Bookshare offers a variety of membership options for schools, organizations, qualified students and individuals. To register visit: <http://www.bookshare.org/membership/overview>

ABOUT BOOKSHARE

Bookshare, www.bookshare.org, is the world’s largest accessible online library for people with print disabilities. Through its technology initiatives and partnerships, Bookshare seeks to raise the floor on accessibility issues so that individuals with print disabilities have the same ease of access to print materials as people without disabilities. In 2007, Bookshare received a \$32

million five-year award from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP), to provide free access for all U.S. students with a qualified print disability. The Bookshare library now has over 50,000 books and serves more than 60,000 members. Bookshare is an initiative of Benetech, www.benetech.org, a Palo Alto, CA-based nonprofit that creates sustainable technology to solve pressing social needs.

NASET Sponsor Mayer-Johnson



Calls to Participate

K-16 Teachers Invited to Apply for Fulbright Program

<http://www.fulbrightteacherexchange.org/cte.cfm>

The Fulbright Teacher Exchange Program, sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, provides opportunities for full-time K-16 teachers with at least three years' experience to participate in direct exchanges of positions with colleagues from other countries for a semester or academic year. U.S. teachers are eligible to apply for a direct exchange of teaching positions with a counterpart in another country teaching the same subject(s) at the same level. Apply by October 19, 2009.

Leadership for Excellence and Equity Forum

<http://tinyurl.com/mwdjg9>

The 2010 Equity Alliance forum "Reinvesting Equity: Building Bridges and Tearing Down Walls," will take place February 16-17 in Phoenix, Arizona. This forum will provide the opportunity for several potential areas of focus, including civil and educational rights, disproportionality in special education, school-family partnerships, organizing schools for inclusive education, and more. Session proposals that cover the range of expertise from presentations of research to presentations of promising practices are welcome. Proposals can be for presentation/discussions, workshops, panels, and roundtables. Deadline for proposals: November 15, 5:00 pm.

Tenth Annual Multiple Perspectives on Access, Inclusion, & Disability: Future History

<http://tinyurl.com/kkp8dl>

The Tenth Annual Multiple Perspectives conference will be held April 27-28, 2010, at Ohio State's Columbus Campus, and this year's theme, "Future History," encourages reflection by celebrating themes from past conferences. Proposals for the conference should incorporate one of the themes from past years. The deadline for proposals is November 7, 2009.

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Special Education Resources

PACER Center Launches National Teen Bullying Prevention Web Site

<http://www.pacerteensagainstabullying.org/>

TeensAgainstBullying.org was launched by the PACER Center's National Center for Bullying Prevention to serve as a bullying prevention resource where teens can become a powerful part of the movement to end bullying. Through the use of videos, blogs, and social networking, the site's resounding message is "the end of bullying begins with you."

CADRE's Effective IEP Meetings: Tested Tips

Fact Sheet

<http://www.directionservice.org/cadre/pdf/EFFECTIVE%20IEP%20MEETINGS%20May%202009.pdf>

This document from CADRE offers suggestions for convening successful IEP meetings. It includes preparation tips for parents and educators and addresses such topics as: What IEP/IFSP Conveners Can Do (Pre-Meeting), What IEP/IFSP Conveners Can Do (During Meeting), and What IEP/IFSP Conveners Can Do (Post-Meeting). Available in pdf (47 KB, 2 pp).

Equity in Action: Professional Learning for Culturally Responsive Teaching

Report

<http://www.equityallianceatasu.org/>

Professional Learning for Culturally Responsive Teaching, The Equity Alliance at ASU's newest publication, includes key principles to guide development and implementation of professional learning. This publication also presents several research-based examples of practice that demonstrate educators' engagement in professional learning that results in the improvement of students' academic and social outcomes.

Graduating America: Meeting the Challenge of Low Graduation-Rate High Schools

Report

<http://www.jff.org/publications/education/graduating-america-meeting-challenge-low/863>

This report from Jobs for the Future provides tools to examine the characteristics of schools, districts, and states, which will assist in making certain approaches more likely to succeed in certain places. Through this sort of analysis, states and nations will be able to identify reform opportunities, and they can target human, financial, and knowledge resources to where they are most needed and will do the most good.

Implementing High-Quality Youth Programs

Research Briefs

<http://www.childtrends.org/youthdevelopment>

Three new research briefs from Child Trends focus on research findings on the implementation of high quality out-of-school time programs. How Program Administrators Can Support Out-Of-School Time Staff centers on effective stratifies for facilitative administration in out-of-school time programs. Building Systems-Level Partnerships links research findings to effective strategies for building systems-level partnerships in out-of-school time programs. Data-Driven Decision Making in Out-Of-School Time Programs offers recommendations and action steps to support the use of high-quality data to inform the implementation of evidence-based practices.

Leveraging the Indicators of College and Career Readiness

Policy Brief

<http://www.all4ed.org/files/SPIMovingBeyondAYP.pdf>

This Alliance for Excellent Education Policy Brief examines the research on a number of high school performance indicators which have emerged as being predictive of high school graduation and college career readiness. The intention of the brief is to recommend that federal policymakers establish graduation and college and career readiness as the goal for all students and high schools through various courses of action.

NCWD/Youth Releases Spanish Version of Disability Inquiries in the Workforce Development System

Report

http://www.ncwd-youth.info/sites/default/files/infobrief_issue9_in_spanish.pdf

The National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability/Youth (NCWD/Youth) has published Spanish versions of four publications, including “Disability Inquiries in the Workforce Development System.” Available in pdf (53 KB, 4 pp).

NCWD/Youth Releases Spanish Version of Guideposts for Employer Success

Report

http://www.ncwd-youth.info/sites/default/files/guideposts_for_employers_in_spanish.pdf

The National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability/Youth (NCWD/Youth) has published Spanish versions of four publications, including :Guideposts for Employer Success.” Available in pdf (46 KB, 4 pp).

NCWD/Youth Releases Spanish Version of Guideposts for Success

Report

http://www.ncwd-youth.info/sites/default/files/guideposts_for_youth_in_spanish.pdf

The National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability/Youth (NCWD/Youth) has published Spanish versions of four publications, including “Guideposts for Success.” Available in pdf (71 KB, 8 pp).

NCWD/Youth Releases Spanish Version of The Workforce Development System & the Professional Development of Youth Service Practitioners: Why Professional Development Report

http://www.ncwd-youth.info/sites/default/files/infobrief_issue19_in_spanish.pdf

The National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability/Youth (NCWD/Youth) has published Spanish versions of four publications, including “The Workforce Development System & the Professional Development of Youth Service Practitioners: Why Professional Development?” Available in pdf (116 KB, 12 pp).

NCWD/Youth Research Brief on Individualized Learning Plans

Research Brief

http://www.ncwd-youth.info/sites/default/files/220_strategic_use_of_individualized_learning_plans.pdf

The National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability/Youth has published the research brief, Strategic Use of Individualized Learning Plans: Preparing Students with Workforce Readiness Skills for 21st Century Jobs. The brief seeks to expand the definition and scope of Individualized Learning Plans (ILP), describe the range of workforce readiness skills that can be communicated through ILPs, and demonstrate how ILPs can design quality learning experiences that result in tangible workforce skill indicators. Available in pdf (546 KB, 9 pp).

Professional Learning for Equity Module

PowerPoint presentations, handouts, facilitator material

<http://equityallianceatasu.org/pl/inclusive-education-for-equity>

This new publication from the Equity Alliance at ASU seeks to address the meaning behind inclusive education. The Equity Alliance guides participants through an exploration of inclusive education systems, schools, and classrooms which will eventually allow them to construct their own model. Downloadable materials include PowerPoint presentations, participant handouts, and facilitator manuals.

Raising Rigor, Getting Results: Lessons Learned from AP Expansion

Report

<http://www.nga.org/Files/pdf/0908APREPORT.PDF>

The National Governor's Association (NGA) has released a new report which details the results from the Advanced Placement Expansion Project. This project was a large-scale initiative launched in 2005 to "redesign the American high school" in 51 pilot high schools in rural and urban school districts serving minority and low-income students. The report indicates that the number of minority and low-income students taking AP courses more than doubled, and scores of 3 or more (out of 5) accelerated from year to year at a rate higher than the national average. Available in pdf (1.6 MB, 24 pp).

Student-Led Solutions to the Nation's Dropout Crisis

Report

http://www.communitiesforpubliceducationreform.org/sites/cper/files/imce/VOYCE_Report.pdf

"Student-Led Solutions to the Nation's Dropout Crisis," a report by Voices of Youth in Chicago Education (VOYCE), used participatory action research and student site visits to successful schools to engage youth in examining the dropout issue and recommending changes in policy and practice that improve the quality of education for all students. Available in pdf (12.6 MB, 31 pp).

Helping Educators Improve Learning in Diverse Classrooms

<http://www.tolerance.org/tdsi/>

As part of an effort to improve the teaching of students of color, the Southern Poverty Law Center's Teaching Tolerance program has launched a new online initiative. The Teaching Diverse Students Initiative (TDSi) offers interactive multimedia tools to help educators improve learning opportunities and outcomes for racially and ethnically diverse students. TDSi's resources include learning activities, case studies, video of effective practice, reports and articles, and video commentary by leading researchers. School districts interested in working with TDSi should contact Michelle Garcia at TDSi@tolerance.org. The research-based tools of TDSi are available free of charge.

Humboldt County Office of Education/Regional Occupation Program's Web Resource for Students in Transition

www.hrop.org/wizard

The Humboldt County Office of Education/Regional Occupation Program has produced an interactive web-based resource for students transitioning through high school to adult life. The Personal Data Wizard is an individual career portfolio and transition-planning program. A student can login to a secure personal site for the following activities and resources.

National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability for Youth Updates Website

<http://www.ncwd-youth.info/>

The National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability for Youth (NCWD/Youth) has updated its web site, <http://www.ncwd-youth.info/>. The updated web site offers new content areas focusing on what all youth need with specific emphasis on you with disabilities and other vulnerable populations.

Updated State Education Reforms (SER) Website

<http://nces.ed.gov/programs/statereform/>

The National Center for Education Statistics within the Institute of Education Sciences has updated the SER website focusing on five general areas: 1) Accountability, 2) Assessments and Standards, 3) Staff Qualifications and Development, 4) State Support for School Choice and Other Options, 5) Student Readiness and Progress Through School.

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ONLINE CONFERENCE

Building Emotionally Literate Schools:

Prevention vs. Intervention

For Administrators & Teachers

Date: Nov. 19th & Dec. 3rd, 2009

Time: 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm daily

Registration: \$95.00

Register at: www.emotionalliteracyconference.org

Upcoming Conferences, Workshops and Events

October 2009

Creating Connections: The Successful Transition from Pre-Kindergarten to Kindergarten

Date: October 1, 2009, 9AM-3PM

Location: Piscataway, NJ

Abstract: The Rutgers Graduate School of Education, New Jersey Department of Education and the Center for Effective School Practices has teamed up for its 1st Annual Conference for Prekindergarten and Kindergarten educators, supervisors and administrators. Through the collaboration of Lesley M. Morrow (Rutgers GSE), Ellen Wolock (NJDOE) and Claudia Burzichelli (CESP), this conference has been created to deliver the most current research-based and practical strategies for Prek-K educators. As a team, we have worked hard to bring you a conference that we hope you find valuable and informative. This full day conference offers a day of quality professional development. Participants will have opportunities to network with fellow educators who share their commitment to young children and quality education. The Conference is filled with both research based and practical sessions designed to provide attendees with valuable information. Be a part of a panel discussion with representatives covering topics such as professional development, research, policy, and state standards

Website: <http://cesp.rutgers.edu/ATL/PreK.htm>

Council for Learning Disabilities - LD Round-Up: Responsive Assessment and Instructional Practices

31st International Conference on Learning Disabilities

Date: October 2-3, 2009

Location: Dallas, Texas

Website: www.cldinternational.org

Abstract: This year, CLD celebrates 31 years of conference excellence by maintaining our traditions of offering high-quality topical sessions that are responsive to important issues in the field of learning disabilities. Our conference theme, LD Round Up: Responsive Assessment & Instructional Practices reflects the focus of the conference, which features topical sessions, workshops, two keynote speakers, and special sessions.

6th Annual Pacific Northwest Institute on Special Education and the Law

Date: October 5-7

Location: Seattle WA

Abstract: This October 2009 conference is an annual overview of selected legal issues affecting special education administration and practices. Founded in 1984, originally as a Washington State Institute, this regionally based conference on special education law serves educators and attorneys from sister states in the Pacific Northwest and attracts attendees from throughout the nation. Parents and parent advocates are also encouraged to attend. The primary mission of the Institute is to keep practitioners aware of congressional amendments to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and recent court cases interpreting the Act. Most faculty are nationally prominent acknowledged school or Plaintiff attorneys with active practices in IDEA litigation. The Institute also addresses Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, Sections 1983 and 1985 of the Civil Rights Act, No Child Left Behind Act, and other federal and state laws affecting the operation and management of special education

programs in public schools. The Institute consists of four general sessions and sixteen workshops over two days. The Institute is preceded by a full day of optional mini-courses providing formal instruction in various special education law topics. The 2009 Institute is expected to be approved by the Washington, Montana, Idaho, and Oregon State Bar Associations. In the past, the maximum CLE credits awarded were 11.0 CLE credit hours for the institute and 2 additional CLE credit hours for each of the mini-courses, for a maximum of 6 for the mini-courses and a maximum of 17 CLE credit hours for registrants who attend the institute and three mini-courses. The number of CLE credits awarded vary from state to state.

Phone: Mary Jane (206) 221-3936; registr. (206) 543-5539;

Email: slawd@u.washington.edu

Website: www.uwschoollaw.org

Sixth Annual Youth Service Institute

Conference

Date: October 7, 2009 - October 9, 2009

Location: Washington, DC

Website: <http://ysa.org/ProgramsServices/YouthServiceInstitute/tabid/181/Default.aspx>

Abstract: Youth Service America and others interested in the youth service movement will meet for training, to share stories, and to network with peers, building their capacity to develop effective programs and increase the number of community minded youth.

Convening "Whole of Community": Integrating Approaches & Practices to Address Conflicts in a Chaotic World

Date: October 7-10

Location: Atlanta GA

Abstract: "Whole of Community" can be defined as a concept in which groups, organizations, or individuals within society come together around a common purpose. Those who come together may be from diverse backgrounds, i.e., experiential, ethnic, cultural, demographic, with different goals or values but recognize that they can have a far greater impact by working together rather than individually. This idea requires new kinds of dialogue within the multiple areas of society in which each one of us moves. Visit the ACR website for a description of distinguished Keynote Speaker Wallace Warfield, past President of the Society of Professionals In Dispute Resolution whose work includes research and training projects in conflict settings in Africa and South America. He will speak on "Responding to the Whole of Conflict in the 21st Century: Challenging Conventional Identities". Mini-Plenary Sessions following Dr. Warfield's Keynote Speech will examine Conflict Resolution professionals promoting social justice; How U.S. policymakers think about our field of Conflict Resolution; A panel on understanding critical areas of potential and significant areas of need to further Conflict Resolution Education/Peace Education work; and over 100 workshop sessions and ACR Section meetings and events for interaction with colleagues in specific practice areas. There are also events for those with a Global Focus and for Commercial Mediators. [Email tlankford@acrnet.org (Terri) re: sponsorship and exhibiting.] Note: The Early Bird registration deadline is Aug. 10, 2009. There are also discounts for students, for those who wish to vounteer to work 4 shifts during the Conference, for those who take an airport/Conference train, etc.

Phone: (202) 464-9700

Email: membership@ACRnet.org

Website: <http://www.acrnet.org/conferences/ac09/index.htm>

The Problem Student Problem-Solver Workshop

Date: October 8-9

Location: Portland OR

Abstract: Got Problem Kids? Here's your Problem Student Problem-Solver Conference. You name the problems and this workshop delivers hundreds of immediate, problem-stopping answers. You will leave with innovative, more effective strategies for school failure, truancy, dropping out, work refusal, violence, delinquency, bad attitudes, depression and more. College credit and clock hours available. Free sample interventions, and free monthly Problem Student Problem-Solver magazine available at our web site, <http://www.youthchg.com>, or via email (dwells@youthchg.com), or call toll-free to 1-800-545-5736. Work-study financial aid available for all classes. Call for details.

Phone: 1-800-545-5736

Email: dwells@youthchg.com

Website: www.youthchg.com/live.html

Symposium on Research Advances in Hearing Loss

Date: October 9-10th

Location: Heuser Hearing Institute, Louisville KY 40203

Abstract: The 2009 Symposium on Research Advances in Hearing Loss at the Heuser Hearing Institute is scheduled for October 9-10th. State and national experts will present updates on research and early identification and intervention. Professionals and students who work with children and/or adults affected by hearing loss will gain valuable information. Continuing education credits will be available in the areas of audiology, speech pathology and education. Topics include cochlear implants-history, success and trends; Adolescents study: Infant Screening and Early Intervention; Early Intervention and Infant Screening: Failure to Follow-Up. Heuser Hearing Research Center: "What's Happening"; Cortical re-organization and development after cochlear implantation; and Research Horizons: What's next in research.

Website:

<http://www.bionicear.com/calendar/uploads/HHI%20Louisville%20KY%20Symposium%20on%20Hearing%20Loss.pdf>

Contact Information: (502) 515-3320 ext. 296

Email: dmarr@thehearinginstitute.org

Representing America's Youth: Transforming the Field of Juvenile Services Conference

Date: October 11, 2009 - October 14, 2009

Location: Indianapolis, IN

Website: <http://www.npjs.org/symposium.html>

Abstract: National Symposium training, focus groups and policy discussions will be led by nationally recognized individuals at the federal, state, local, organizational and private sector level(s). Workshop training will address topics related to: Juvenile Detention & Corrections, Education of Youth in Confinement, Community-Based & Residential Care, Presentation Skills & Training Techniques and much more.

Third Annual East Coast Professional Skills Program in Dispute Resolution

Date: October 15-17

Location: Woodstock VT

Abstract: Featuring a panel of nationally recognized experts in dispute resolution, this comprehensive program provides three days of unique educational opportunities for practicing

professionals. Participants select the process in which they desire expertise (one course). Each course will include lectures, small group discussions, and practice exercises. Faculty and other participants will also provide performance coaching. The synergy of ideas will provide a truly unique learning experience. Mediation workshop choices include Advanced Mediation: Skills and Techniques; Skills for Resolving Environmental and Public Policy Matters; Mindfulness for Conflict Resolvers: Lawyers, Mediators, Negotiators, Judges, Arbitrators, and Managers. Straus programs have been accepted for MCLE credit across the nation; Education expenses (including enrollment fees, course materials, and travel costs) may be deductible if they improve or maintain professional skills. (Treas. Reg. Sec. I 162-5.) Contact Woodstock Inn & Resort (802)457-6605!

Phone: (310) 506-6342 (Lori); (310) 506-4611

Email: Lori.Rushford@pepperdine.edu

Website: www.pepperdine.edu

American Printing House for the Blind Annual Meeting (APH)

Date: October 15-17, 2009

Location: Louisville KY

Website: <http://www.aph.org/anmtg/2009/index.html>

Contact Information: 800-223-1839, ext. 367

Email: info@aph.org

25th Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs & Their Families

Date: October 15-18, 2009

Location: Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA

Abstract: The Division for Early Childhood is pleased to offer our 25th Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs and their Families. This conference is your chance to discover how the latest research translates into practice, mingle with the experts, see demonstrations of evidence-based intervention strategies, and develop the skills you need in your work for young children and their families.

Website: <http://www.dec-sped.org/Conference>

National Association of State Directors of Special Education (NASDSE) 2009

Location: Salt Lake City, Utah

Date: October 17 – 20, 2009

Location: Marriott City Centre Hotel, Salt Lake City, Utah

Website: <http://www.nasdse.org/Events/2009AnnualConference/tabid/493/Default.aspx>

Introduction To RTI

Webinar

Date: October 22 2009, 4:00pm - 5:45pm

Abstract: Learn how to use research-based intervention to effectively individualize instruction, monitor student progress, and implement strategies to meet students' specific needs. Cara Shores, co-author of *Response to Intervention: A Practical Guide for Every Teacher*, offers an overview of key concepts and guidelines of RTI that benefit all students. General and special education teachers and administrators will find this seminar very useful.

ts will be able to:

- Identify the major components of two models of RTI.

- Identify resources for selection of research-based strategies and curriculum based measurement.
- Utilize the RTI process to identify learning problems based on student outcome data.

For more information:

http://www.cec.sped.org/Source/Meetings/webinars.cfm?section=Professional_Development

9th Helen Keller World Conference and WFDB 3rd General Assembly

Date: October 22 - 27 2009

Location: Kampala, Uganda

Website: <http://www.wfdb.org>

Contact Information: Lex Grandia- +45 98 19 20 99

Email: lex.grandia@mail.dk

Cultivating Genius... Imagine the Possibilities

Date: October 24–27, 2009

Location: Atlanta, GA

Abstract: For professionals and parents working to improve the lives of children, youth and families

Website: <http://www.nbcdi.org/conference/default.asp>

Implementation Of RTI At The School Level

Webinar

Date: October 29 2009- 4:00pm - 5:45pm

Abstract: Explore the components of quality instruction at each tier of a three-tiered RTI pyramid, including general education classroom services, needs-based instructional services, and special education services. Additional topics include scheduling options, progress monitoring, interventions, data-based decision making, factors that impact sustainability of reform, and the impact of RTI on special education services.

For more information:

http://www.cec.sped.org/Source/Meetings/webinars.cfm?section=Professional_Development

Improving the Lives of Individuals with Neuromuscular Conditions

Location: 2201 Burns Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55119-6667

Date: Friday, October 30, 2009 8:00 – 4:15 PM

Website: <http://www.gillettechildrens.org/>

Abstract: This course is presented by the Neuromuscular Clinic at Gillette Childrens Specialty Healthcare and the Paul and Sheila Wellstone MD Center-University of MN. It is designed for physicians, nurses, clinicians and staff involved in the diagnosis and treatment of neuromuscular conditions. The information presented is meant to enhance interdisciplinary care and coordination for individuals with conditions like muscular dystrophy and spinal muscular atrophy. Course material will focus on early identification and treatment, with the goal of extending the lifespan and improving quality of life. The information will be provided in the form of didactic lectures, as well as case review and open discussion forums.

November 2009

14th Annual Conference on Advancing School Mental Health

Date: November 2-4, 2009

Location: Minneapolis, MN

Abstract: The University of Maryland Center for School Mental Health, with the IDEA Partnership (www.ideapartnership.org), is holding the 14th Annual Conference on Advancing School Mental Health, November 2-4, 2009, in Minneapolis, Minnesota. This interdisciplinary conference will provide exciting training and networking opportunities on school mental health promotion. There will be twelve separate conference strands corresponding to the ten practice groups within the larger National Community of Practice on School Mental Health. These strands are listed below:

Website: <http://csmh.umaryland.edu>

Considerations When Using RTI In Diverse Schools

Webinar

Date: November 05 2009, 4:00pm - 5:45pm

Abstract: While RTI is a promising model for changing how educators support learning for all students, practitioners face additional challenges when implementing RTI with culturally and linguistically diverse students. Learn how to implement RTI with a deeper understanding about the needs and challenges practitioners may face in today's diverse schools.

For more information:

http://www.cec.sped.org/Source/Meetings/webinars.cfm?section=Professional_Development

32nd Annual TED Conference: Teacher Preparation in Changing Times

Date: November 09-13 2009

Location: Omni Charlotte Hotel - Charlotte, North Carolina

Website: <http://www.tedcec.org/tedweb.asp?FileName=home>

Accessing Higher Ground: Accessible Media, Web and Technology Conference for Education, for Businesses, for Web and Media Designers

Conference

Date: November 10, 2009 - November 14, 2009

Location: Boulder, CO

Website: <http://www.colorado.edu/ATconference/>

Abstract: This conference, presented by Disability Services at the University of Colorado at Boulder, in collaboration with AHEAD, EASI and ATHEN, focuses on the implementation and benefits of Assistive Technology in the university and college setting for people with sensory, physical and learning disabilities. Other topics include legal and policy issues, including ADA and 508 compliance, and making campus media and information resources – including Web pages and library resources – accessible. Keynote speaker is T.V. Raman, Research Scientist, of Google, Inc.

12th Annual Accessing Higher Ground: Accessible Media, Web and Technology Conference

Date: November 10- 14, 2009

Location: Westminster, Colorado

Abstract: Accessing Higher Ground focuses on the implementation and benefits of Assistive

Technology in the university and college setting for people with sensory, physical and learning disabilities. Other topics include legal and policy issues, including ADA and 508 compliance, and making campus media and information resources - including Web pages and library resources - accessible

National Convention of the Arc of The United States

Conference

Date: November 11, 2009 - November 14, 2009

Location: Pittsburgh, PA

Abstract: <http://www.thearc.org/NetCommunity/Page.aspx?pid=411>

The convention is sponsored by the ARC and will be held in Pittsburgh, PA. Information is at the Web site.

School Readiness and School Success: From Research to Policy and Practice

Date: November 12-13, 2009

Location: Quebec City, Quebec, Canada

Abstract: Organized under the joint auspices of the Strategic Knowledge Cluster on Early Child Development (SKC-ECD) and the Centre of Excellence for Early Childhood Development, this conference will bring together researchers (international and national), policy-makers and practitioners to discuss research, practice and political issues related to school readiness. This conference will highlight research findings showing that school readiness (1) is multi-faceted and can be reliably assessed in preschool, (2) predicts a variety of later school outcomes, including school persistence and school dropout, (3) can be predicted by a variety of child and family factors, and (4) can be improved by a range of policies and programs.

Website: <http://schoolreadiness.ca/conference/welcome>

AER Regional Conference

Date: November 13-15, 2009

Location: Crowne Plaza Cleveland City Centre, Cleveland, OH

Website: <http://www.aerbvi.org/regionalconf>

Contact Information: Michelle Clyne, M. S. Ed.-(630) 790-2474

Email: mclyne@philiprockcenter.org

Forging New Pathways for Diversity and Inclusion

Date: November 18-21

Location: Arlington VA

Abstract: As we approach the end of the first decade of the 21st century, the United States continues to face challenges in creating a truly inclusive and equitable society. Although many organizations dedicated to diversity, inclusion, and civil and human rights share similar visions, often they find themselves isolated from, or even at odds with one another. This conference offers participants an opportunity to gain the skills and tools needed to create real change through dialogue, coalition building and inclusion training. The November 18-21 Conference, held in Arlington, Virginia, includes an "Emerging Issues Forum" (thoughtful dialogue on controversial diversity and equity issues; and eliciting concrete strategies for future success), a "Diversity Dialogue Series" (skill-building for effective dialogues on difficult diversity issues), and a "Diversity Leadership Institute" (managing and leading diverse organizations; and building internal capacity for inclusive workplace practices and driving organizational culture change). Please download the Conference Brochure from the National MultiCultural Institute website, www.nmci.org Who should attend?: Leaders in diversity and inclusion from across the nation

and the globe: Diversity Directors, Managers and Administrators, Human Resource Personnel, Trainers and Consultants, Educators, Healthcare and Social Service professionals, and others concerned with diversity and inclusion who work in the corporate, education and non-profit sectors.

Phone: (202) 483-0700

Email: nmci@nmci.org

Website: www.nmci.org

TASH Conference 2009

Date: November 18-21, 2009

Location: Pittsburgh, PA

Abstract: This year's conference will focus on how WE can act NOW to disseminate information, facilitate change, and empower those with significant disabilities to be active participants and create lives of their own.

Website: <http://www.tash.org/2009tash/>

email: mstaley@tash.org

NAEYC 2009 Annual Conference

Date: November 18–21, 2009

Location: Washington, D.C.

Abstract: The early childhood education community is gathering in Washington D.C.! More than 20,000 early childhood professionals from around the world attend the NAEYC Annual Conference & Expo to discuss the everyday issues of our work with young children and families

Website: <http://www.naeyc.org/conference/>

Building Emotionally Literate Schools: “Prevention versus Intervention”

ONLINE CONFERENCE

DATE: November 19th, 2009- Administrators only

TIME: 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm

Abstract: NYC Department of Education’s District 75 serving 23,000 special education students in collaboration with Dr. Marc Brackett, Associate Director of the Health, Emotion and Behavior Laboratory at Yale University presents this online conference for school administrators and teachers. Emotionally Intelligent Schools’ programs are research based and focus on the critical value of emotions in learning, decision making, mental health, and building quality relationships. Participate in interactive online sessions, hands-on learning, and discussions with educators across the county. November 19th: administrators will learn about emotional literacy and explore specific ideas and techniques on how to teach it and use tools in their roles as school leaders. The session will conclude with a set of strategies that participants will be invited to try in their own school environments. Teachers see December 3rd for teachers and administrators.

To register visit: www.emotionalliteracyconference.org

December 2009

Building Emotionally Literate Schools: “Prevention versus Intervention”

ONLINE CONFERENCE

DATE: December 3rd, 2009- Teachers and Administrators

TIME: 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm daily.

Abstract: NYC Department of Education’s District 75 serving 23,000 special education students in collaboration with Dr. Marc Brackett, Associate Director of the Health, Emotion and Behavior

Laboratory at Yale University presents this online conference for school administrators and teachers. Emotionally Intelligent Schools' programs are research based and focus on the critical value of emotions in learning, decision making, mental health, and building quality relationships. Participate in interactive online sessions, hands-on learning, and discussions with educators across the county. Administrators and teachers will meet again with Dr. Marc Brackett and fellow participants to discuss the role and importance of emotional literacy for teachers and students. Practical tools will be introduced for teachers to try in their classrooms.

To register visit: www.emotionalliteracyconference.org year's agenda features high level research-based sessions on the issues you want to know about, including brain development, challenging behavior and economic displacement. Join us for networking opportunities with leaders and experts in the field. You will leave the conference having made new connections and new friends to learn from and hopefully collaborate with over time. Celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Zero to Three Journal and look back with some of our Board members on how our field has grown and developed. Then...look to the future with us and see where we're all heading!

Website: <http://www.zttnticonference.org/>

ZERO TO THREE's 24th National Training Institute

Date: December 4-6, 2009

Location: Dallas, TX

Abstract: This year's agenda features high level research-based sessions on the issues you want to know about, including brain development, challenging behavior and economic displacement. Join us for networking opportunities with leaders and experts in the field. You will leave the conference having made new connections and new friends to learn from and hopefully collaborate with over time. Celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Zero to Three Journal and look back with some of our Board members on how our field has grown and developed. Then...look to the future with us and see where we're all heading!

Website: <http://www.zttnticonference.org/>

2009 OSEP National Early Childhood Conference

Date: December 5 - 9, 2009 (Main Conference: December 7 - 9, 2009)

Location: Crystal Gateway Marriott Hotel, Arlington, Virginia

Abstract: The conference is intended for a variety of audiences involved in planning and delivering services to young children with special needs and their families.

Website: <http://www.nectac.org/~meetings/national2009/mtghomepage.asp>

2010

January 2010

International Conference On Child and Family Maltreatment

Date: January 24-29, 2010

Location: San Diego, CA

Abstract: The San Diego Conference focuses on multi-disciplinary best-practice efforts to prevent, if possible, or otherwise to investigate, treat, and prosecute child and family maltreatment. The objective of the San Diego Conference is to develop and enhance professional

skills and knowledge in the prevention, recognition, assessment and treatment of all forms of maltreatment including those related to family violence as well as to enhance investigative and legal skills. Issues concerning support for families, prevention, leadership, policy making and translating the latest research into action are also addressed.

Website: <http://www.chadwickcenter.org/conference.htm>

February 2010

At+Promise Conference: "Transforming At-Risk to At-Promise"

Conference

Date: February 19, 2010 - February 21, 2010

Location: San Diego, CA

Website: <http://www.atpromiseconference.org/>

Abstract: The At+Promise Conference brings together educational leaders, teachers, parents and counselors, who are dedicated to finding solutions that work for at-promise students. This conference will provide tools to help build stronger schools and raise graduation rates.

March 2010

2010 Child Engagement Conference

Date: March 5-6, 2010

Location: Chattanooga, TN

Abstract: The 2010 Child Engagement Conference will be ground-breaking event for the field of early child development. Early childhood professionals and families are invited to the first conference focused on child engagement. Participants will take part in lively discussions and learn from top scholars in the fields of early child development and community engagement. The speakers presenting at the Child Engagement Conference will impart tools for promoting child engagement in the home, in early childhood settings, and in the community. Both families and professionals will benefit from the strategies and skills presented in general lectures and breakout sessions.

Website: <http://www.childengagementconference.com/Home.aspx>

April 2010

Council for Exceptional Children Convention: Expo (CEC)

Date: April 21-24, 2010

Location: Nashville, Tenn

Abstract: CEC Convention is a unique opportunity to learn about proven instructional strategies, converse with internationally recognized speakers, and renew your professional enthusiasm. Hundreds of sessions, posters, and roundtables are included.

Website: <http://www.cec.sped.org>

Telephone: (888) CEC-SPED TTY: (866) 915-5000

Email: service@cec.sped.org

National Deafblind Conference (8th) - Deafblindness in Australia Able Australia Services (Formerly the Deafblind Association)

Date: April 28-30, 2010

Location: Melbourne, Australia

Abstract: The Conference will present the latest news, research and developments relating to deafblindness from local and overseas sources. A trade Exhibition will also showcase the latest in technology, services and products from around Australia. We are anticipating between 200-300 participants including people with deafblindness and their families, Government officials, medical and allied health professionals as well as representatives from deafblind and disability groups. An extensive social program is being developed to provide excellent networking opportunities amongst all Conference participants. For more information on the 8th National Deafblind Conference please go to the website. (Please note, this site is regularly being updated)

Website: <http://www.ableaustralia.org.au>

Contact Information: Patricia Karagiorgos-1300 225 369 or (03) 9861 6255

TTY: 03 9882 6786

email: patricia.karagiorgos@ableaustralia.org.au

June 2010

Alstrom Syndrome International Congress (ASI)

Date: June 24-28, 2010

Location: Unicoi State Park and Lodge, Helen, Georgia

Website: http://www.alstrom.org/foundation/2010_conference.html

Contact Information: Robert P Marshall-(207) 244-7043

Email: robin@acadia.net

July 2010

Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired Conference (AER)

Date: July 20-25, 2010

Location: Little Rock, AR

Website: <http://www.aerbvi.org/conference/>

Contact Information: Ginger Croce-(877) 492-2708 (toll-free)

Email: Ginger@AERBVI.ORG

September 2010

Conference of the Acquired Deafblindness Network (8th)

Date: September 29-October 3, 2010

Location: City of Aalborg, Denmark

Abstract: The theme of the conference is Building bridges - connecting people. The conference will take forward the work from the 7th conference of ADBN held in Norway in 2008. Using the theme of Building Bridges we will be exploring notions of developing relationships between deafblind people, families, friends and professionals. Bridges not only connect people but enable movement and development, independence and growth of potential.

Website: <http://www.adbn.org>

Contact Information: Else Marie Jensen-+45 4439 1250

Email: adbn2010@cfd.dk

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ONLINE CONFERENCE

Building Emotionally Literate Schools:

Prevention vs. Intervention

For Administrators & Teachers

Date: Nov. 19th & Dec. 3rd, 2009

Time: 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm daily

Registration: \$95.00

Register at: www.emotionalliteracyconference.org

Funding Forecast and Award Opportunities

Discretionary Grant Programs for Fiscal Year 2009

<http://www.ed.gov/fund/grant/find/edlite-forecast.html>

Forecast of Funding Opportunities under the Department of Education This document lists virtually all programs and competitions under which the U.S. Department of Education has invited or expects to invite applications for new awards for fiscal year 2009 and provides actual or estimated deadlines for the transmittal of applications under these programs. The lists are in the form of charts organized according to the Department's principal program offices and include programs and competitions previously announced as well as those to be announced at a later date.

Forecast of Funding Opportunities under the Department of Education Discretionary Grant Programs for Fiscal Year 2009

<http://www.ed.gov/fund/grant/find/edlite-forecast.html>

This document lists virtually all programs and competitions under which the U.S. Department of Education has invited or expects to invite applications for new awards for fiscal year 2009 and provides actual or estimated deadlines for the transmittal of applications under these programs. The lists are in the form of charts organized according to the Department's principal program offices and include programs and competitions previously announced as well as those to be announced at a later date.

FY 2009-2010 Discretionary Grant Application Packages

<http://www.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/grantapps/index.html>

This site, from the Department of Education, provides information on grant competitions that are currently open.

American Association on Health and Disability (AAHD) Announces the Creation of the 2009 AAHD Scholarship Program

<http://aahd.us/page.php?pname=Scholarship%20Program>

The AAHD Scholarship will provide support for students with disabilities who are pursuing higher education. Those who are pursuing undergraduate/graduate studies in the field of public health, health promotion, or disability studies, to include disability policy and disability research will be given preference. Please, visit the above website to download the application.

American School Board Journal: Magna Awards

<http://www.asbj.com/MainMenuCategory/Supplements/MagnaAwards/WhatisMagna.aspx>

The American School Board Journal's 16th annual Magna Awards honor outstanding programs, which have been developed or supported by school boards that showcase school district leadership, creativity, and commitment to student achievement. Maximum award: \$4,000. All nominations are judged on three enrollment categories (under 5,000 enrollment; 5,000-20,000 enrollment; and over 20,000 enrollment) with a grand prizewinner in each category. Eligibility: local school boards. Deadline: October 31, 2009.

Applications Invited for State Farm's Youth Advisory Board Service-Learning Grants Program

<http://www.statefarmyab.com/apply.php>

Grants of up to \$100,000 will be awarded to nonprofits, educational institutions, and government agencies in the U.S. and Canada, which sponsor student-led service learning projects on

environmental, societal, or financial issues within higher education. Grants will be awarded to those projects that address the issues of environmental responsibility, natural and societal disaster preparedness, driver safety, financial education, and accessing higher education. Deadline: October 2, 2009.

CVS Caremark Community Grants Program Accepting Grant Applications for Programs Serving Children With Disabilities and the Uninsured

http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/rfp_item.jhtml?id=257400013

The CVS Caremark Community Grants Program seeks to provide support to community organizations and public schools in states where CVS stores are located. The program will award funds to nonprofit organizations working to provide disabled children and youth (under age 21) with health and rehabilitation services and/or programs, which enable and encourage physical movement and play. The program will also award grants to public schools that promote a greater level of inclusion in student activities and extracurricular programs for children with disabilities. Deadline: October 31, 2009

High School Students Invited to Submit Entries for Green Your School Contest

http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/rfp_item.jhtml?id=252800004

Awards of up to \$5,000 will be given to high schools whose students have designed projects to improve, restore, beautify, or conserve their school environment. The Green Your School Contest is a national competition that aims to stimulate and identify conservation service projects designed by high school students that improve, restore, beautify, or conserve their high school environment. To be eligible projects must have been begun after August 1, 2008. Deadline: October 9, 2009

Lowe's Toolbox for Education Accepting Applications for K-12 Public School Projects

http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/rfp_item.jhtml?id=259500002

Grants of up to \$5,000 will be awarded to nonprofits and schools working to provide disabled children and youth under age 21 with health and rehabilitation programs and active play opportunities alongside their non-disabled peers. Lowe's will donate \$5 million to U.S. public schools and public school teacher groups at more than one thousand public schools. Projects that encourage parent involvement and build stronger community spirit will be favored. Deadline: October 16, 2009

National Endowment for the Humanities Announces Picturing America School Collaboration Projects Grant Opportunity

http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/rfp_item.jhtml?id=253700047

Grants of up to \$75,000 will be awarded to collaborative projects between humanities scholars and educators to develop K-12 coursework related to American art. The Picturing America school Collaboration Projects grant is designed to help teachers and librarians form connections between Picturing America images and coursework within the schools core curriculum. Picturing America is part of the "We the People Program". Deadline: October 7, 2009.

Project Learning Tree: GreenWorks! Grants

http://www.plt.org/cms/pages/21_22_21.html

Project Learning Tree (PLT) GreenWorks! grants engage PLT educators and their students along with their community through "learn-by-doing" projects that involve student leadership, service learning and community participation. Projects must be youth planned and executed as well as involve at least one community partner such as a local organization or business and must obtain 50% matching funds. Maximum award: \$5,000. Deadline: October 31, 2009

Siemens We Can Change the World Challenge Invites Students and Teachers to Address Environmental Issues

<http://wecanchange.com/>

Students and teachers in grades K-8 will be awarded grants and publicity for their solutions to classroom environmental issues. Grades K to second will seek to create solutions to environmental issues in their classroom, grades third to fifth in their school and grades six to eight in their community. Student and teacher/mentor prizes, which vary according to grade level, include savings bonds, school grants, trips, TV appearances, and more. Deadline: Elementary-level entries is January 31, 2010; the deadline for middle-school entries is March 15, 2010.

Home Depot Accepting Applications for Building Healthy Communities Grant Program

<http://tinyurl.com/mug82r>

Grants of up to \$2,500 will be awarded to nonprofits, public schools, and tax-exempt public service agencies in the U.S. working to improve their communities by using volunteers to build and refurbish affordable housing or transitional housing, increasing energy efficiency or sustainability, landscaping, planting of native trees, community facility improvements, and the development and/or improvement of green spaces. Grants are made in the form of the Home Depot gift cards for the purchase of tools or materials. Only registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations, tax-exempt public schools, and tax-exempt public agencies in the U.S. are eligible to apply. The two remaining grant cycles for 2009 run July 15-September 15, 2009, and October 15-December 15, 2009. All applicants are required to pass an eligibility quiz before being considered for a grant. Program information and eligibility quiz are included on the Home Depot Web site. Deadlines: December 15, 2009.

Do Something Disaster Grants for Young People

<http://www.dosomething.org/grants/disaster>

Do Something and the Dunkin' Brands Community Foundation have teamed up to offer \$500 Disaster Grants to young people across the US and Canada. They want to hear from people building houses in New Orleans, planning an emergency coat drive for families in crisis this winter, or collecting toys for kids who've been through a natural disaster, etc. Each week in 2009 they are giving out \$500 to a person with a project idea around the themes of disaster preparedness and emergency response.

CVS: Caremark Community Grants

<http://www.cvscaremark.com/community/our-impact/community-grants>

The CVS Caremark Community Grants program awards funds to nonprofit organizations for programs targeting children with disabilities; programs focusing on health and rehabilitation services; public schools promoting a greater level of inclusion in student activities and extracurricular programs, and initiatives that give greater access to physical movement and play. Additionally, some contributions are made to organizations that provide uninsured individuals with needed care, in particular programs where the care received is of high quality and delivered by providers who participate in accountable community health care programs. Maximum award: \$5,000. Eligibility: public schools with programs for children under age 18 with disabilities. Deadline: October 31, 2009.

Travelocity's Travel for Good Volunteer Travel Opportunities

<http://tinyurl.com/2v7sh2>

Travelocity's Travel for Good offers funding quarterly for its Change Ambassadors Grant to help support Americans who wish to travel to participate in volunteer opportunities (volunteer

vacations). Two grants of \$5,000 each will be awarded to individuals or groups going on volunteer vacations; applicants must demonstrate a previous commitment to volunteering and financial need. Deadline: not applicable.

American Association on Health and Disability (AAHD) Scholarship Program-2009-2010

<http://tinyurl.com/quu22e>

AAHD created the AAHD Scholarship Program to support students with disabilities who are pursuing higher education. Preference will be given to students who plan to pursue undergraduate/graduate studies in public health, health promotion, or disability studies, to include disability policy and disability research. As 2009 is the first year of the scholarship program, funds are limited and we anticipate that scholarships will be competitive. Scholarships will be limited to under \$1,000. Deadline: October 15, 2009

Do Something Offers Grants for Community Action Projects

<http://www.dosomething.org/grants/general/apply>

Over the course of 2009, Do Something will award fifty-two grants of \$500 each to help young people implement or expand a community action project, program, or organization. Applicants must be no older than 25 and a U.S. or Canadian citizen. Do Something grants cannot be used to fund travel costs, individual sponsorships, shipping costs, individual school fees, or fundraising expenses. Do Something grant applications are accepted on a rolling basis. Grants will be awarded on a weekly basis. Deadline: Rolling.

Financial Aid On Disabilityinfo.Gov

<http://www.disabilityinfo.gov/digov-public/public/DisplayPage.do?parentFolderId=84>

This Web site includes links to scholarship applications for students with various disabilities for graduate and undergraduate as well as vocational studies.

Got Grants?

<http://www.teachersourcebook.org/tsb/articles/2009/03/16/02grants.h02.html>

Successful education grant writers offer advice on how to access teacher-learning funds.

Michigan State Library of Financial Aid

<http://www.lib.msu.edu/harris23/grants/3disable.htm>

Michigan State's comprehensive list of financial aid resources for students with disabilities can be found at their Web site.

Scholarships4students.Com

http://www.scholarships4students.com/special_scholarships.htm

Scholarships4students's Web site includes a list of scholarships for students with disabilities, by disability category.

National Scholarship Providers Association

<http://www.scholarshipproviders.org>

The National Scholarship Providers Association (NSPA) web site offers information on NSPA scholarships for Latino students and for students formerly in foster care. A new NPSA product, the Scholarship Data Standard, allows students to complete an online scholarship application and then re-use the information with other scholarship providers without retyping their data.

Charles Lafitte Foundation: Grants for Education & Child Advocacy

<http://www.charleslafitte.org/education.html>

The Charles Lafitte Foundation Grants Program helps groups and individuals foster lasting improvement on the human condition by providing support to education, children's advocacy, medical research, and the arts. Maximum award: varies. Eligibility: 501(c)3 organizations. Deadline: rolling.

Plum Grants

<http://www.dosomething.org/programs/plum-grant-guidelines>

Individuals who have recently created a sustainable community action project, program or organization and need \$500 to further the growth and success of the program are eligible to apply for a Plum Youth Grant. Plum grants are given out weekly. Deadline: None.

Nonprofit Music Programs

<http://www.guitarcentermusicfoundation.org/grants/index.cfm?sec=info>

The Guitar Center Music Foundation's mission is to aid nonprofit music programs across America that offer music instruction so that more people can experience the joys of making music. Maximum Award: \$5000. Eligibility: 501(c)(3) organizations. Qualifying applicants are established, ongoing and sustainable music programs across the United States that provide music instruction for people of any age who would not otherwise have the opportunity to make music. Deadline: N/A.

Live Monarch Educator Outreach Program

<http://www.lmf-educator-award.com/index.html>

The Live Monarch Foundation Educator Outreach Program provides funding for U.S. teachers to enroll in the National Campaign to bring monarch butterflies into the classroom. This program provides education and materials to strengthen the monarch's 3,000-mile migratory route within North America by creating self-sustaining butterfly gardens and refuges. Materials will be provided for each participant to raise a virtual butterfly and start a real butterfly garden with professional instruction on each level of its maintenance and care. Maximum Award: n/a. Eligibility: teachers and classrooms in areas on the monarch migratory route. Deadline: rolling.

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- National Dissemination Center for Children with Disabilities
- National Institute of Health
- National Organization on Disability
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