

Editor:

Tanni L. Anthony, Ph.D.
State Consultant on
Blindness/Low Vision

Colorado Department of Education
Exceptional Student Services
1560 Broadway, Suite 1175
Denver, CO 80202

(303) 866-6681 (voice)

(303) 866-6767 (fax)

E-mail: anthony_t@cde.state.co.us

Sense Ability

By Tanni Anthony

We are sensory beings. Everything we learn comes from our sensory systems. We see, hear, listen, touch, feel, smell, and/or taste sensory information all around us. Every movement we make is registered with our bodies, as we seek balance and feel the physical supports beneath our bodies. We feel the internal resonance of our voices and respiration, hear voices and all levels of sounds in the environment. We notice color / contrast, sense visual movement, as well as find visual focus on items of differing sizes and distances. We discriminate salty from sweet from savory from bitter. Our sense of smell brings us comfort or alerts us to danger. Our skin is our largest sensory system—we feel what we touch and what touches us.

Sensory development starts even before we are born and continues throughout our lifetimes. When one or more senses are absent or diminished, the brain works to make sense of the world in what might be a unique way for one person as compared to another. The learner who is blind listens to the sound shadows in her environment through the tapping of her cane or the sound reflected off nearby objects. The child with low vision uses the color memory of a bright shirt to identify a friend across the playground. A new favorite story is about a child (as told by Jim Olson) visiting the CIMC and stating enthusiastically, "I smell braille!" as he walked down the hall toward their book inventory. Another sweet tale (from Donna Keale) involves a child shopping with her mom, scooting under the clothing racks and finding a dress with dotted swiss fabric (with fuzzy little bumps) and noting "This dress has braille!"

There are all sorts of paths to sensory learning—all it takes is a physical ability nurtured by meaningful experiences. Experiences that make sense (quite literally) to the learner. Braille books experienced by their smell and bumpy topography. Colors called out as way to identify friends and items from a far distance. Sounds detailing a travel route through practice with the cane. We must do our part to ensure daily teaching lessons in sensory efficiency. Kids then do their part to use the best sense for the task at hand. Now that just makes good sense!

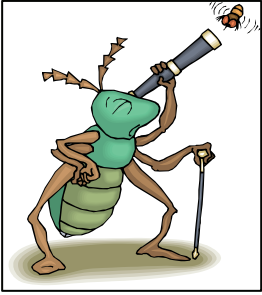
KEEPING IN TOUCH!

A Newsletter for Parents and Service Providers
of Colorado Children Who Are Blind/Visually Impaired

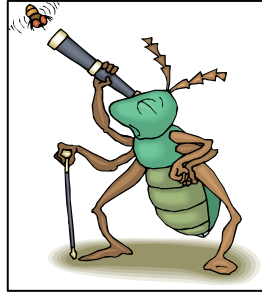
March—April 2015

Table of Contents

Sense-Ability	1	Jobs Openings in Colorado	15
Low Vision Evaluation Thank Yous	2	Transition Information	16
Orientation & Mobility News	3	Technology Update	17
CDE Happenings	4	Check it Out	18
Calendar of Events	5	CCB Summer Offerings	23
Resources and Materials	8	Just for Parents	24
Save the Date Events this Summer	9	Family Learning Retreat	25
Dots of Interest	10	Colorado Connections	27



LOW VISION EVALUATION CLINIC NEWS



A YEAR IN REVIEW WITH MANY THANKS!

Thanks to everyone for another year of wonderful Low Vision Evaluation Clinics! We thank our superb LVE Team: **Dr. Tom Theune** (low vision optometrist, **Wendy Stoltman** and **Jim Olson** (low vision therapists), and **Debbie Haberkorn** (Low Vision Clinic Coordinator). What an excellent team! We also thank our Site Coordinators: **Sarah Sonnier** and **Angela Sims** (Western Region), **Donice Fennimore** (Southern Region), **Carol Love** and **Elaine Karns** (Northern Region), and **Rebecca Warnell** (Metro Region). It takes a true team effort to offer these clinics.

Thank you to all of the TVIs who brought students to the clinic: **Deborah Andrews, Shelly Bainbridge, Elaine Brown, Linda Campbell, Nancy Cozart, Elsa D'Angelo, Donice Fennimore, Diane Fitzkee, Jessica Hank, Elaine Karnes, Nancy Knight, Jeannie Lei, Kaitlin Lombardi, Christina Martin, Lori Mattick, Debbie Mendoza, Brooke Miller, Janis Mountford, Anitha Muthukumar, Beth Myers, Julie Novak, Vicki Pearson, Lisa Roll Moore, Mimi Schaper, Wendy Schlageter, Melissa Shular, Angela Sims, Sarah Sonnier, Morgan Turner, Rebecca Warnell, and Wendy Watson**

Over the course of the year, **47** children across **24** administrative units were evaluated for their low vision needs. In total **96** devices were prescribed and **35** were purchased.

If you are involved with a student(s) who attended a regional low vision clinic this school year, please be sure that you have offered to review and, as needed, interpret the team's report with both the student and the parents. We want to be sure that this information is readily understood by all involved parties.

Also please work with the student directly to ensure that the device is used correctly and stored appropriately. As summer approaches, the hope is that purchased devices will be used even more so in the home and community settings. The success of our clinics comes down to the understanding of each child's low vision abilities and needs across people and environments and the efficacy of these lifelong magnification tools across a variety of settings.

 * . **PINTEREST AND KIDS WHO ARE BLIND** *
 * Here's a message from the mother of a blind teenager who is also a teacher of the visually impaired: *
 * "Parents and/or Teachers of Students with Visual Impairments: Are you looking for 'how-to' ideas *
 * for children who are blind or visually impaired? If so, go to Pinterest (www.pinterest.com) and check *
 * out my boards: Braille, Orientation & Mobility, Blind or Visually Impaired Ideas, Toys and Games for *
 * Blind or Visually Impaired, Technology for Blind or Visually Impaired, Blindness Publications and Or- *
 * ganizations, Articles about Blindness, Crafts for Blind or VI, Time for Blind or VI, Guide Dogs and Hors- *
 * es, Sports for Blind or VI , Science for Blind or VI, Math for Blind or VI, Deaf-Blind, Cooking for Blind or *
 * VI, Low Vision, Braille All Around Us, Sensory for Blind or VI, Music for Blind or VI, Crafts & Holiday *
 * Craft Ideas for Blind or VI, Braille Jewelry, Expanded Core Curriculum...and more."
 * Merry-Noel Chamberlain, Mother of a Blind Teenager (MBT), TVI, NOMC

ORIENTATION & MOBILITY

Episode 32 of The Blind Sport Podcast - An Interview with Mike May

In episode 32 of the Blind Sport Podcast, the hosts talk with Mike May from California USA. Mike is an American business executive, skier and enthusiast of other sports who was blinded by a chemical explosion at the age of three.

Among his many accomplishments, Mike holds the record for downhill skiing by a person who is completely blind (racing at 65 mph). He competed in the alpine skiing event at the 1984 Winter Paralympics and won three bronze medals in the downhill, giant slalom, and combination events.

He regained partial vision in 2000 after cornea transplants and a pioneering stem cell procedure. The podcast details how this effected his approach to sports.

In 1999, Mike founded the Sendero Group which is a company that develops accessible GPS navigation technology for the blind. So how can blind people use GPS tools to enhance their enjoyment of sport?

You can subscribe, download and listen to The Blind Sport Podcast for free via iTunes or visit the website <http://theblindsportpodcast.com>.

It is also on AGOGO, Tune in, Stitcher and IBlink Radio.

International O & M Conference Registration is Open

Join your colleagues in Montréal this July to learn about the latest developments in orientation and mobility research, environmental accessibility, developing technology in orientation and perception, preparing for innovative services for the older population, etc. The 15th International Mobility Conference is a worldwide gathering of O&M scientists, researchers and practitioners expected to convene July 6-9, 2014, at the Palais des congrès de Montréal, in Canada. They have planned 9 interactive and hands-on workshops.

Register early to secure your seat as workshops have limited capacity!

Learn more and register ><<http://creation-samarkand.us3.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d79be39c54c6e6ce82953520f&id=96019b444c&e=6338f36bba>>

CDE Annual O&M Seminar Coming Up!

We are full to capacity for our April 30-May 2 O&M Seminar with about 60 participants ! The registration has officially closed. If we missed a Colorado COMS who wants to attend, please be in touch with Tanni at 303 866-6681 or anthony_t@cde.state.co.us.

We are looking forward to featured Thursday night speaker, Dr. Kara Hanson, on low vision devices and our featured Friday and Saturday speaker Dr. Sandra Rosen from San Francisco State University. Dr. Rosen will detail sensorimotor functioning, wheelchair transfers, proprioceptive assessment / intervention, and balance activities.



Practical Ideas for Evaluating Educators with the State Model Evaluation System

Last month, three guides were released to provide additional guidance on using the State Model Teacher Rubric for evaluations of different groups of teachers. Guides were released on evaluating culturally and linguistically diverse education specialists, teacher librarians and teachers of the arts. One new guide is available: *Practical Ideas for Evaluating Early Childhood Education Teachers*. Another new guide is expected next month titled *Practical Ideas for Evaluating Special Education Teachers*.

To access these guides, visit: <http://bit.ly/1zTQG24> CDE is collecting feedback to improve these guides.

To submit feedback, email Educator_Effectiveness@cde.state.co.us

New Report on Implementation of the State Model Evaluation System

CDE recently released a report which provides an update on how the State Model Evaluation System for teachers and principals is being implemented in 26 school districts that have been piloting the system since 2011. It also describes how the Colorado Department of Education continues to make improvements as the new evaluation requirements are rolled out in the state's 178 districts.

To access the report, visit www.cde.state.co.us/educatoreffectiveness/reportcoevaluationssystem

READ Act Rule Revisions

English Learners and the READ Act: The department initiated a rulemaking process at the Feb. 18 -19 state board of education meeting to revise the READ Act rules. The rulemaking process is in response to a recent opinion (<http://www.cde.state.co.us/coloradoliteracy/attorneygeneralsopinion>) by the Attorney General's Office to allow for use of Spanish assessments in the determination of a significant reading deficiency for students who receive literacy instruction in Spanish and English.

More information is available at: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/coloradoliteracy/ReadAct/index.asp>

Resources for English learners in relation to the READ Act can be found at:

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/coloradoliteracy/ellandread>

Special Education Data Reports

If you are interested in viewing the special education data reports for each district around the state, they have been posted on the CDE website.

The link to access the reports is below.

http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdesped/sped_datareports

OSERS Twitter Account

The Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS) has a twitter account!

Click: https://twitter.com/ED_Sped_Rehab



Calendar of Events

2015 2015 2015 2015 2015 2015 2015 2015 2015 2015 2015

- April 13—May 1** Tentative CMAS and CoAlt Science and Social Studies Testing
- April 13—May 15** Tentative CoAlt and DLM Testing
- April 15** CAER Board Meeting - CO Center for the Blind
Contact: David Gooldy at dgooldy@cherrycreekschools.org
- April 16** Metro TVI Meeting - West High School—Social Room
Contact: Jeannie Lei at jlei@cherrycreekschools.org or Mimi Schaper at mschaper2@CherryCreekSchools.org
- April 17** Vision Coalition - CO Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
Contact: Tanni Anthony - anthony_t@cde.state.co.us
- April 17—19** Winter Outdoor Adventure — Estes Park, CO
Contact: Kaitlin Lombardi learningchannels.org
- April 27—May 22** Tentative CMAS PARCC Testing
- April 30—May 2** PEP Conference—location to be determined
Contact: David Ramer at ramer_d@cde.state.co.us
- April 30- May 2** CDE Orientation and Mobility Seminar—CO Center for the Blind
Contact: Tanni Anthony—Anthony_t@cde.state.co.us
- May 1** CAER Board Meeting—CO Center for the Blind
Contact: David Gooldy at dgooldy@cherrycreekschools.org
- May 8** Southern Region TVI/COMS Meetings—Pikes Peak BOCES
Contact: Donice Fennimore at dfennimore@ppboces.org
- June 4** CSDB Graduation
- June 5 – July 31** Summer for Success College Prep Program — Colorado Center for the Blind
Contact: Brent Batron—bbatron@cocenter.org

- June 6—August 1** **Earn & Learn High School Program**—Colorado Center for the Blind
Contact: Brent Batron— bbatron@cocenter.org
- June 8—9** **SWAAAC Summer Symposium - Auraria Higher Ed Center – Denver**
Contact:
www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/medicalschool/programs/atp/Pages/AssistiveTechnologyPartners.aspx
- June 8—26** **Confidence Camp for Kids** —Colorado Center for the Blind
Contact: Brent Batron— bbatron@cocenter.org
- June 10 – July 1** **Initiation to Independence**—Middle School Program—Colorado Center for the Blind
Contact: Brent Batron = bbatron@cocenter.org
- June 11** **Graduation at the Anchor Center for the Blind**
- June 11** **CSDB Board Meeting - CSDB**
Contact: Jacky Skinner at (719) 578-2102 or jskinner@csdb.org
- June 13 -14** **CSDB Family Learning Retreat Presents “See It My Way”**
Contact: Diane Covington at dcovington@csdb.org
- June 21-25** **Sports Camp - CSDB**
Contact: Donna Keale – dkeale@csdb.org
- June 25—26** **2015 Summer Institute on Deaf-Blindness**—Adams 12 Training Center
Contact: Tanni Anthony— anthony_t@cde.state.co.us
- June 26—27** **The 2015 American Conference on Pediatric Cortical Visual Impairment, Omaha, NE**
Contact:
- July 5—10** **National Federation of the Blind Convention** – Orlando, FL
Contact: www.nfb.org
- July 6—9** **15th International Orientation and Mobility Conference—Montreal, Canada**
Visit: <http://imc15.com/en/>
- July 13—17** **BELL: A Summer Braille Camp for Kids—Colorado Spring** (location to be announced)
Contact: Kaitlin Lombardi at kaitlinmlombardi@gmail.com 303-918-9465
- BELL: A summer Braille Camp for Kids Metro Denver -Rocky Mountain MS Center, 8845 Wagner St, Westminster CO.**
Contact: Michelle Chacon at rascal.angel2@gmail.com or 303-507-6291

2015 2015 2015 2015 2015 2015 2015 2015 2015 2015 2015 2015

- July 30—August 2** **12th International CHARGE Syndrome Conference—** Chicago, IL
For more information visit chargesyndrome.org/
- September 16-18** **Western Region Early Intervention Conference—**Albuquerque, NM
Contact: Joanne Whitson, WDE (307) 324-5333
- October 15** **SHAPE Conference—**PreConference Session with Dr. Lauren Lieberman (APE and VI)
More information to come in the next newsletter!
- October 16-17** **Hold the Date for the CDE State Conference on Blindness/Visual Impairment**
Contact: Tanni Anthony— anthony_t@cde.state.co.us
- November 18-21** **Getting in Touch with Literacy Conference -** Albuquerque, NM
Contact: Linda Lyle, Janie Blome, or Cay Holbrook at gettingintouchwithliteracy@yahoo.com.

2016 2016 2016 2016 2016 2016 2016 2016 2016 2016 2016 2016

- January 4** **Full UEB Implementation in the United States!**
- July 20-24** **AER International Conference -** Jacksonville, FL
Contact: www.aerbvi.org

2017 2017 2017 2017 2017 2017 2017 2017 2017 2017 2017 2017

- July 19-22** **AER International O&M Conference—**Pittsburgh, PA
Contact <http://swoma.org/>

2018 2018 2018 2018 2018 2018 2018 2018 2018 2018 2018 2018

- July 25-19** **AER International Conference -** Reno, NV
Contact: www.aerbvi.org

FITNESS FUN

Find Your Fit is a fitness, exercise and wellness seminar for all ages. " This is a full day, high energy, interactive seminar. Come sample goalball, dance, yoga, guide running, self defense, tandem cycling, beep ball and more. You can try it all! Each participant will also receive a healthy breakfast, lunch, and snacks. No matter your age or ability level, you will leave with practical tools that will help you live the life you want through exercise and physical activity. Registration is \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door." Register online at www.wefitwellness.com/services/findyourfit For more information contact Cheryl Gross at 866-543-6808.

May 9, 2015 8:00am-4:00pm

Colorado Center for the Blind, 2233 W. Sheppard Ave. Littleton, CO

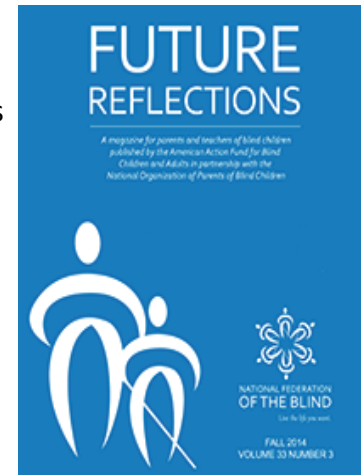
Resources and Materials

Future Reflections

Future Reflections is a magazine for parents and teachers of blind children. It is published quarterly by the American Action Fund for Blind Children and Adults in partnership with the National Organization of Parents of Blind Children. Future Reflections is available free of charge to subscriber addresses in the U.S.

To subscribe to Future Reflections in print or on USB thumb drive, send an email to nfbpublications@nfb.org

Include your preferred medium in the body. Please include your address, whether you are a parent of a blind child (and, if so, include your child's name and birth date), a teacher, or other subscriber.



Tactile Illustration Guide

The Guide to Designing Tactile Illustrations for Children's Books can be found at:

www.aph.org/research/illustration.htm

Students with Disabilities Can Now Access On- Demand Children's TV Programming!

Article from HOMEROOM; the Official Blog of the US Department of Education

Thousands of students with visual or hearing disabilities can now access free, video-on-demand children's television programming. Dozens of children's and family TV episodes may now be viewed online featuring closed captioning and descriptions through the Accessible Television Portal project. Among the shows: "Ocean Mysteries," "Magic School Bus," "Bill Nye the Science Guy," "Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood," "Expedition Wild" and "Peg + Cat."

The portal is part of the US Department-funded Described and Captioned Media Program (DCMP). It includes video-on-demand content provided at no cost by the major television networks, as well as producers and distributors like PBS Kids, Sesame Workshop, Cartoon Network, Sprout (NBC), the Fred Rogers Company, Scholastic Media, Litton Entertainment, Out of the Blue and Fremantle Television. "In the digital age, the capability exists to deliver a higher level of personalized programming for students who were underserved in the past," said Secretary Arne Duncan. "This type of large-scale collaboration between the Education Department and so many major television networks, producers and program distributors will allow greater access to television programming for all students."

To view the content, teachers and school personnel, parents, and other professionals working with qualified students can visit www.dcmp.org and apply for access to the portal. Once approved, accessible content can be used with, and by, students in the classroom and at home via the Web, mobile phones and tablets, mobile apps, and set-top boxes. The portal itself is fully accessible to those with sensory impairments. Children with disabilities can locate any featured program without difficulty. Initially, the site will include 73 episodes of 19 different children's television programs. Additional content from other producers will be added over the next two years.



The 2015 American Conference on Pediatric Cortical Visual Impairment



Friday-Saturday, June 26-27, 2015

Omaha, Nebraska

Provided by Children’s Hospital & Medical Center, Omaha, Nebraska

<http://childrensomaha.org/workfiles/Conferences/PCVIflier.pdf>

<p>PROGRAM GOAL</p> <p>The American Conference on Pediatric Cortical Visual Impairment brings together occupational therapists, ophthalmologists, optometrists, teachers of the visually impaired, neurologists, pediatric interventionists and physiatrists to increase interdisciplinary understanding of cortical visual impairment in children.</p>	<p>TARGET AUDIENCE</p> <p>Occupational therapists, occupational therapy assistants, ophthalmologists, pediatric ophthalmologists, neuro-ophthalmologists, neuro-optometrists, optometrists, teachers of the visually impaired, pediatric neurologists, neonatal and pediatric interventionists and pediatric medical specialists.</p>
--	--

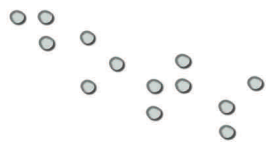
2015 Summer Institute on Deaf-Blindness and Significant Support Needs

June 25 and 26, 2015 in Denver

Title: Rethinking Mathematics Instruction for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities

Presenter: Claire Greer of the Center for Literacy and Disability Studies

Description: Discuss and model instructional strategies to support the Dynamic Learning Maps Essential Elements for mathematics implementation. Educators will explore topics such as Early Number Concepts, Algebraic Thinking, Geometric Thinking, and Operations for students with significant cognitive disabilities in the context of typical learning barriers (i.e., communication barriers, physical barriers, sensory barriers). This professional development event is intended to guide participants toward new thinking focused on learning math in a collaborative, student-centered learning environment. For more information, contact Tanni at anthony@cde.state.co.us.



DOTS OF INTEREST



Braille and Print Books

Free books combining full-color illustrations for the sighted family member, and interleaved transparent sheets with Braille text and picture descriptions are available from Christian Record Services for the Blind. The latest book is "Max Moves In" by Linda Porter Carlyle. To order "Max Moves In" or other Full-Vision books in the series, contact linda.martin@christianrecord.org or call 402-488-0981, ext. 227.

Tactile Illustrations

Colorado's own tactile artist Ann Cunningham recently worked with the National Braille Press on the release of the print/Braille version of *Bat Loves the Night* by Nicola Davies. This lovely book includes a tactile image of the loveable bat which was created by Ann. If you have ever wondered how tactile pictures are made, Ann describes the process on her new Sensational Information Blog at <https://boatride.wordpress.com>. The book is available for \$8.99 from the NBP Bookstore, which can be found at <http://www.nbp.org>

BELL: A Summer Braille Camp for Kids

BELL is a one-week braille enrichment camp for kids ages 4-12. Both beginners and more accomplished braille readers will gain confidence in reading and writing while engaged in games, crafts and exciting outdoor activities.



BELL CAMP COLORADO SPRINGS: July 13-17 (site to be determined)

BELL CAMP METRO DENVER: July 13-17: Rocky Mountain MS Center, 8845 Wagner St., Westminster. CO

For more information contact program coordinator Michelle Chacon: rascal.angel2@gmail.com

Ready to apply? Applications for BELL are available on the NFB website: nfb.org/bell-summer-program-form

There are two print UEB Symbol List Available.

Both are pdf and best if printed on 11" x 17" paper.

The first is from Duxbury and lists the contractions and short forms in alphabetical order:

http://duxburysystems.com/images/ueb_black.pdf

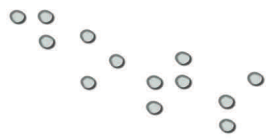
The other is from Aroga Technologies and presents the contractions and symbols by category:

<http://www.aroga.com/unified-english-braille-chart-tabloid-11-x-17-pdf-format/>

Instruction Manual for Braille Transcribing, UEB Edition 2015

This new edition of the instruction manual from the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Library of Congress, while intended to teach braille transcribing from scratch, contains drills and reading practices that can be used by any transcriber or proofreader for self-study. Already-certified transcribers and proofreaders should not submit the lessons for grading.

The lessons can be downloaded from <https://nfb.org/braille-transcribing>



DOTS OF INTEREST



Building a Bridge of Understanding between Children who are Sighted and Blind

Braille Is Beautiful is a diversity awareness program that uses the beauty of braille to build a bridge of understanding between sighted and children who are blind.. As sighted children discover how much fun it is to write and read Braille 'bumps,' they come to respect and appreciate the way blind children learn, and ultimately accept them as friends and equals in the classroom.

Developed and distributed by the National Federation of the Blind (NFB) Jernigan Institute, the program targets sighted children in grades four through six, but can be adapted for younger or older youth. *Braille Is Beautiful* can be used in the classroom or with youth clubs and service organizations. The program provides all the audio, print, and Braille materials needed for an exceptional learning experience. No previous experience with Braille or blindness is required for the successful implementation of the program. Braille Is Beautiful comes in three different kits to fit different budgets and instructional needs. Portions of the program are also FREE on the NFB Web site. Learn more at: <https://nfb.org/braille-beautiful>

For more information about the program please contact: Natalie Shaheen, Program Coordinator, Jernigan Institute
NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND 410-659-9314, ext. 229

Field Evaluators Needed for Braille Literacy Project

The American Printing House for the Blind (APH) is collaborating with the American Foundation for the Blind (AFB) to produce a Practice Guide for the I-M-ABLE (Individualized Meaning-centered Approach to Braille Literacy Education) by Dr. Diane P. Wormsley. APH will pair the I-M-ABLE Practice Guide with several other APH literacy-related products, including a talking card reader. I-M-ABLE is an approach developed for students who have not been successful learning to read braille. The approach is a whole- to-part approach that begins with teaching whole words -- individualized vocabulary words that are meaningful to the student. Students move from reading whole words into reading charted stories and from there into phonics instruction and reading more sophisticated stories. The approach also focuses on proper hand and finger technique in reading as well as writing braille.

Field testing of the kit will begin in Fall of 2015 (mid-September) and extend through Spring 2016 (end of March). Evaluators must have a student or students with whom they will agree to use the approach for the entire six-month period. Students who are ages 7 through 18 and have made little or no progress in reading braille and who have additional disabilities, such as a mild to moderate cognitive impairment and/or ESL, will be considered for the field testing.

Field evaluators will receive training in the use of the I-M-ABLE and baseline data collection. They will be expected to work with students for at least three to four days a week using the approach and to keep track of and report student outcomes as part of the product evaluation. Included in the kit will be the I-M-ABLE Practice Guide, a Califone Talking Card Reader and a small set of blank cards, braille reward stickers, the Chunk Stacker game with braille labels (for phonics activities), along with record keeping sheets for reporting student progress. In addition APH will provide the APH Word PlayHouse for supporting phonics instruction when your student reaches a predetermined level of competence.

If you wish to be considered as an evaluator for the I-M-ABLE Practice Guide Kit, please complete a survey that will ask for information on you and the student(s) with whom you intend to use this approach.

Here is the link to the survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CZ9DTWP>

Please contact sspicknall@aph.org if you have any difficulty completing the survey, or if you have questions about the field evaluation or the I-M-ABLE.

DOTS OF INTEREST



UEB Reading Practice

Many sample documents are available from the web site of the Braille Authority of North America in BRF as well as simulated braille PDF formats. There are recipes, chapters from books, famous speeches, and the like. For braille readers who are patrons of the National Library Service, some books are available for download from BARD in UEB. Currently these include book numbers from BRE00013 to BRE00022.

Most documents are available in BRF or simbraille,

For more information, go to:

<http://www.brailleauthority.org/ueb.html> and scroll down to Example Documents in UEB.

Examination for Letter of Proficiency in Unified English Braille

To be eligible to take this examination, you must already hold a certificate from the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Library of Congress, as a transcriber or proofreader. Once you have used the above resources to become thoroughly familiar with Unified English Braille, you may request to take the examination for a Letter of Proficiency in Unified English Braille by emailing transcribers@nfb.org to be added to a waiting list.

The examination tests both braille reading and transcribing skills. Successful examinees will receive from the National Library Service a Letter of Proficiency in Unified English Braille, which is an add-on to an existing NLS certificate

UEB Resources on the CDE Website

Please be sure to check out the following Unified English Braille (UEB) resources at:

http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdesped/SD-Vision_GuideDocs

- ◆ The ABCs of UEB by Constance Risjord
- ◆ The Rules of UEB, edited by Christine Simpson
- ◆ UEB Branded Modules (November 2014) (PDF)
- ◆ Guidelines for Technical Material (August 2014)
- ◆ Technical Update for Colorado
- ◆ CCSO's Webinar on UEB
- ◆ BANA Statement – Implementation of UEB (November 2014)
- ◆ BANA Statement – Provisional Guidance for Transcription Using the Nemeth Code within UEB Contexts (Nov 2014)
- ◆ Duxbury UEB Chart Form
- ◆ UEB "Cheat Sheet"
- ◆ UEB Cheat Sheet 2 (PDF)
- ◆ Transcriber's UEB Online Course (Canadian National Institute for the Blind)
- ◆ RIDBC Renwick Centre online training course in Unified English Braille (UEB), entitled "UEB Online for Sighted Learners"

We are adding new items as we find them—so keep this url in your favorites so you can stay in the know! If you find a resource that you believe will be good to add to our list of documents or weblinks, please be in touch with Tanni to have it added to this website list. Be all UEB!

DOTS OF INTEREST



Typhlo & Tactus Tactile Book Contest 2015



Entries Due September 4, 2015

Once again, the American Printing House for the Blind (APH) is the U.S. national contact for The International Tactile-Illustrated Book Prize, a biennial competition created to encourage improvement of the quality and quantity of tactile books for young children with visual impairments. Don't miss your chance to submit your tactile book, designed for children with visual impairments from 3 to 12 years of age.

The competition is conducted by Typhlo & Tactus (T&T), an organization comprised of western and eastern European nations that exists to improve the quality and quantity of tactile books available to young children with visual impairments in member countries. As a part of T&T's efforts, the organization has conducted a biennial tactile book competition each year, beginning in 2000. At first, the competition was open only to European T&T members, but in 2011, it was opened to a worldwide audience.

A panel of U.S. judges will review each entry and select the top five books to send overseas for final adjudication by an international panel of children and adults with visual impairments, as well as professionals in the field. First, second, and third prizes will be awarded. The first prize winning entry will be kept in the T&T Archives in the International Museum of Tactile Illustrated Books located in Dijon, France. Selected books may be featured on the T&T website, and appear in posters and promotional materials used by T&T.

U.S. entrants should send their completed tactile book, designed for a child with visual impairment from three to 12 years of age, to the American Printing House for the Blind by Friday, September 4, 2015. Questions? Contact Roberta Williams, rwilliams@aph.org.

Information About the T&T Tactile Book Competition

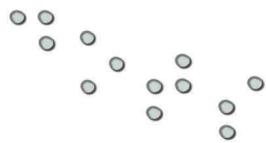
United States Information: Rules and forms for submission of the U. S. entries:

www.aph.org/research/tactile-book-contest/

General Information about the competition, and a list of last year's international entries:

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

2013 Winners: <http://www.tactus.org/Results2013.pdf>



DOTS OF INTEREST



BRAILLE CHALLENGE IN COLORADO!

By Diane Covington

For the first year, two Braille Challenge events were held in Colorado. Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind (CSDB) and the Colorado Center for the Blind (CCB) were locations for the unique competition. 40 students, who are blind and visually impaired, from across the state, tested their braille skills in several categories – reading comprehension, braille spelling, chart and graph reading, proofreading and braille speed and accuracy. The Challenge was developed by the Braille Institute of America, 13 years ago, to encourage children of all ages to fine-tune their braille skills.

At the CSDB, the following students were award winners:

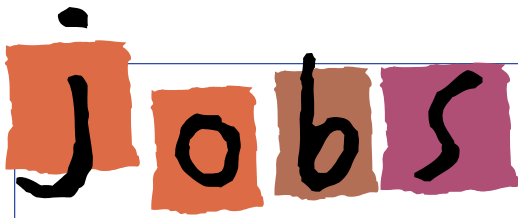
Apprentice - 1 st	Mikayla Hernandez, 2 nd Will Jensen, 3 rd Brayden Martinez
Freshman – 1 st	Sean Strasser, 2 nd Ashley Wyatt, 3 rd Tyson Caton
Sophomore – 1 st	James Bewley, 2 nd Jose Gutierrez Munoz, 3 rd Liam Nicol
JV – 1 st	Quincie Mattick, 2 nd Laura Nigon, 3 rd Richard Scott
V-1 st	Alyssa Foster

At the CCB, the following students were award winners:

Apprentice - 1 st	Mya Surrounded, 2 nd Yoel Kaleb, 3 rd Lexi Mink
Freshman – 1 st	Jasmine McCandless, 2 nd Sophia Garza, 3 rd Jaden Diaz
Sophomore – 1 st	Deyannira Villa-Cazares, 2 nd Isaac Garcia
JV – 1 st	Johnnie Jean Duran, 2 nd Hannah Bachus, 3 rd Christina Laty
V – 1 st	Ana Martinez LaRumbe, 2 nd Jesus Gonzalez, 3 rd Gage Maestas

Thank you to Colorado Teachers of the Visually Impaired for encouraging their students to register: Jasmine Gomez, Janet Anderson, Mary Chambers, Elaine Brown, Melinda Carter, Elsa D’Angelo, Marci Reid, Cheryl Leidich, Mike Plansker, Erin Keller, Leslie Kelly, Jessica Hank, Shelly Moats, Amy Gunning, Jamie Lugo, Jan Megarry, and Kyle Berns.

The Colorado Regional Braille Challenge is the first step on the road to the national competition which will be held in June at the Braille Institute headquarters in Los Angeles. Colorado students completed the challenge, in hopes of qualifying for the national competition and the opportunity to compete against the top student braille users. Sponsors for the event included CSDB, CCB, Audio Information Network of Colorado, Humanware, National Braille Press and Seedlings Braille Books for Children.



IMPORTANT! We have JOB OPENINGS!!

Please be proactive with anticipated vacancies for this school year or the one starting in fall 2015. Please keep in touch with Tanni about your job openings. If you know of an anticipated opening in your part of the state, please begin working to recruit someone into our field by ensuring he or she has an opportunity to learn about being a TVI and/or an Orientation and Mobility Specialist. This may be a paraeducator, a brailist, and/or a colleague already in the teaching profession. Please work with Dr. Paula Conroy to learn more about the UNC distance education / graduate program to prepare TVIs and O&M Specialists in Colorado! TVI = teacher certified in the area of visual impairment and COMS = certified orientation and mobility specialist

Southern Region – Jobs

- ✓ For details about what positions may be open at the Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind, please contact Chelle Lutz at clutz@cldb.org or (719) 578-2114.

Western Region – Jobs

- ✓ **TVI/COMS** (1 FTE) for San Juan BOCES. Please contact HR Director Paula Sublett at (970) 247-3261 x 203 or psublett@sjbooces.org

Metro Region – Jobs

- ✓ **TVI** (1 FTE) Anchor Center for Blind Children. Please contact Andrea Peralta at 303-377-9732 ext. 156 or aperalta@anchorcenter.org
- ✓ **TVI/ COMS** (1 tentative FTE) Denver Public Schools. Please contact Robert Frantum Allen at 720-423-3148 or Robert.Frantum-Allen@dpsk12.org
- ✓ **O&M/VRT** (1 FTE) in Metro Denver with DVR. For more info, go to: agency.governmentjobs.com/colorado

North Central Region – Jobs

- ✓ **TVI and COMS** (5 FTE) Weld 6 School District for this school year, including a need for personnel for the upcoming Extended School year. The contact person is Kathrynne (Kate) Ballard, ESS Coordinator. She can be reached at (970) 348-6298.
- ✓ **TVI and COMS** (.5FTE) St. Vrain School District for the 2015-16 school year. For more information, please contact Lynea Pearson at pearson_lynea@svvsd.org
- ✓ **TVI and COMS** (1 FTE) Poudre School District for the 2015-16 school year. For more information, please contact Christine Villard at cvillard@psdschools.org
- ✓ **TVI and COMS** (.25 FTE) Windsor School District for the 2015-16 school year. For more information, please contact Jon Paul Burden at dburden@greeleyschools.org
- ✓ **TVI and COMS** (.25 FTE) Weld RE5J Johnstown Millikin for the 2015 school year. For more information, please contact Marietta Sears at msears@weldre5j.k12.co.us

TVIs and COMSs—If you are getting ready to retire, please do not let your CDE teaching and support services licenses expire, as you are in a great position to keep contributing in the future with part-time or sub work.

Please keep in touch with Tanni, if you are interested in this type of work after your retirement!



TRANSITION INFORMATION ABOUT MOVING ON!

Resources for Working from the NFB Website

"We say with great insistence, that the ordinary blind person can do the ordinary job in the ordinary place of business and do it as well as the ordinary sighted person, and we mean by that, that the extraordinary blind person can do the extraordinary job in the extraordinary place of business and do it as well as any extraordinary sighted person can..."

-- Marc Maurer, President of the National Federation of the Blind

This website (<https://nfb.org/working>) has a host of resources, which include:

For Those Seeking Employment:

- Discussion Groups (Mailing Lists)
- Divisions, Groups, and Committees
- Employment and Rehabilitation
- Networking
- State and Local Organizations
- Training Centers
- Technology Center

For Employers:

- Braille Signs Resource List
- The Courtesy Rules of Blindness
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Info About Vision Loss For...Employers
- Laws and Legislation
- Technology Center
- Web Accessibility Certification

NATIONAL CAMPS FOR BLIND CHILDREN:

A traditional camp experience. One week.

Sponsored by Christian Record Services for the Blind

Glacier View (June 28-July 5)

Ages: 9 and older

8748 Overland Road, Ward CO 80481

Camp Coordinator: Peggy Hansen

(402) 488-0981 ext.224

BE MY EYES APP

Be My Eyes is a new free IOS app which uses video chat software to connect people who are blind with a sighted volunteer to provide assistance with any number of visual tasks, for example, reading the instructions on a prescription bottle or identifying the color of a piece of clothing. Be My Eyes is seeking sighted iPhone users to volunteer as remote sighted assistants. The sighted volunteer may easily refuse a request when it is not a convenient time to help and the request moves on to another volunteer.

More information about the app and how to get involved can be found at:

<http://www.bemyeyes.org>

Technology Blurb from the Field

Diane Bruaner posted this on the AER O and M listserv and agreed that it could be shared in our newsletter. As we train teachers of the visually impaired about iPad accessibility, we are seeing a growing need for teacher resources. Tired of purchasing apps only to find out that they are not accessible or not what you need? Is it challenging to keep up with new technology as new apps are released and iOS software is updated? Some of the TVIs in our fall iPad Institutes have created and shared YouTube videos of their favorite accessible apps and training techniques.

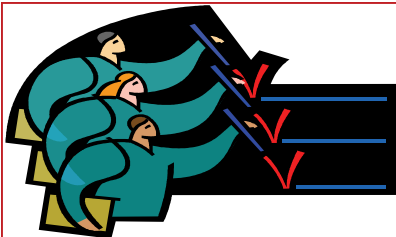
I am posting these videos on this YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSsHoghKRJ8VEm7U1s7KKjg>

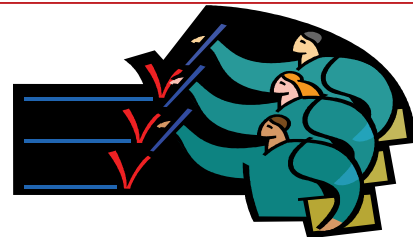
Feel free to share this link with others!

In order to make this resource truly valuable and sustainable, please consider creating a simple video and sending it to me. If you want information about how to easily edit a video, check out: Editing using iMovie App on the iPad - yes, this video is on the youtube channel! These videos do not have to be perfect- short and sweet is all we need! Video ideas - quick review of Voice Dream Writer, how about your favorite preschool tracing app (for low vision), an alligator app that works with the RBD, GPS app? How about a comparison between two apps (Read2Go and Voice Dream Reader), your favorite teaching method? How about how you scan materials and send them to the iPad?

New videos are regularly added to this YouTube Channel, so check back frequently or subscribe to the channel. Have a question or comment about a video? Be sure to leave a comment! What about when new apps are released or iOS software is updated? Let's work together to create new videos to keep up with the evolving technology. Videos on other technologies (Android tablet, JAWS, etc.) are welcome!



CHECK IT OUT!

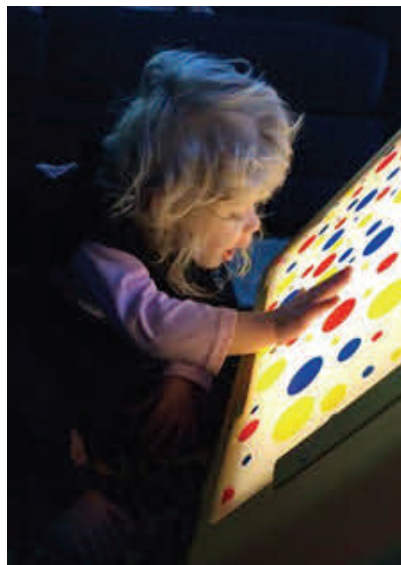


The Unforgettable APH Star Contest Is On!

Upload a video telling us about your favorite APH product and become a star!

The first place contest winner will get \$150 in cash. Other prizes include \$100 cash, \$75 cash, and a random drawing for Amazon.com gift cards. The Spring 2015 contest deadline is **May 13, 2015**, but you don't need to wait. You can start sending your videos right now.

APH CVI Web Page: Revamped-Revised-Reworked-Restored



The American Printing House for the Blind has made big changes on their CVI Website! Susan Sullivan, APH's CVI Project Leader has revamped the site to include new resources, literacy information, and suggestions for APH products appropriate for assessment and intervention. This website has been developed as an interactive resource with opportunities for educational team members to submit strategies that have been successful for them in working with children diagnosed with brain related visual impairments.

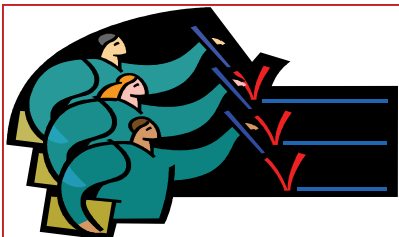
To explore, visit <http://tech.aph.org/cvi> or go to the APH website. Look at the menu choices on the left side of the screen. Scroll down to "Learn About Blindness" and click on the "CVI" tab. The website will be a continually-updated resource for vision teachers, parents, and all members of the child's team... so keep checking back!

Click on the "Contact us" tab or email ssullivan@aph.org for questions, comments, or content sharing.

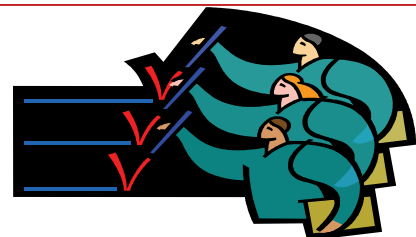
NFB Listserv for Teachers

The NFB also sponsors a listserv teachers of blind children; to subscribe, visit:

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



CHECK IT OUT!



SHORT SURVEY: Leveled Reading Assessments

APH has received a request to produce a general education leveled reading assessment in braille. Many school districts require the use of an approved assessment for the determination of instructional intervention and independent reading levels. We would appreciate your assistance in providing information such as: the program used by your school or district, and your thoughts regarding its effectiveness when evaluating the performance of braille readers. Feel free to share comments that you think might guide our selection.

Our review of materials has considered: quality and variety of content, thoroughness of skill assessment, and flexibility for use with tactile readers. We hope to offer an assessment that supports literacy instruction to the greatest number of students who read braille. Your input is vital to our process.

Please complete the short survey at <http://www.aph.org/research/leveled-reading-assignments-survey.html> and return to Susan Spicknall, Braille Literacy Project Leader at sspicknall@aph.org

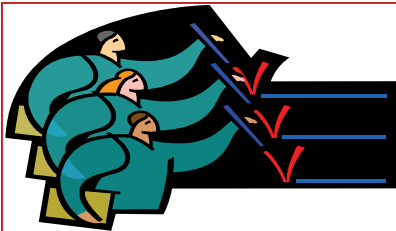
SPORTS COURTS: Touch and Play



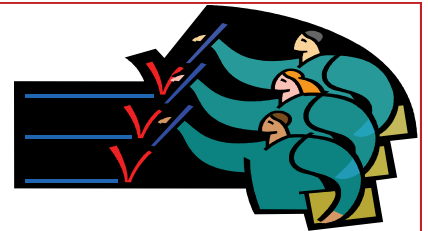
The American Printing House for the Blind (APH) is currently seeking field evaluators for SPORTS COURTS: Touch and Play. This set of materials consists of a variety of color/tactile sport courts and fields with interactive, magnetic 3-D pieces (e.g., players, nets, basketball goals, bowling pins). The 11" x 17" layouts can be used on a magnetic board or as standalone displays for demonstrating important features of each court/field, player positions, game strategies, etc. The layouts are complemented by an instructional guide that is co-authored by a true "team" of experts and provides adaptations for students with visual impairments and blindness.

Two field test opportunities are available—June-August 2015 (ideal for summer camps) and September-November 2015 (during the academic school year). The latter round will include a greater number of field test sites. The number of prototypes is limited. Field test sites will be chosen based upon location, type of educational setting, number of students per site, and age/grade level of students. Teachers who have not field tested for APH in the past are especially encouraged to participate. All evaluators will be asked to complete and return a Product Evaluation Form and related student outcome data by the end of the field test session.

If you would like to be considered as a field reviewer of SPORTS COURTS during either the summer or fall time frame, please follow this link to a short survey that should be completed and submitted by **April 24, 2015** - go to: <http://goo.gl/forms/1gu>



CHECK IT OUT!



Information Sheet on Inclusion

The American Occupational Therapy Association has just released a new information sheet, "Inclusion of Children with Disabilities: <http://www.aota.org/-/media/Corporate/Files/Practice/Children/Inclusion-of-Children-With-Disabilities.PDF>

This document is part of the School Mental Health Toolkit, which can be found here:

<http://www.aota.org/practice/children-youth/mental%20health/school-mental-health.aspx>

TSVIs Needed to Share Experiences With Students Who Use Print And Braille Survey Says! Need Your Input!

Colleagues,

We are interested in learning about your experiences as a TSVI working with students who use print and braille as their literacy medium. If you are a TSVI in the United States or Canada who has worked/is working with a student who uses both print and braille during the 2012-2013, 2013-2014 or 2014-2015 school year we invite you to take part in an online survey. **The survey will remain open until April 30, 2015.**

Please follow this link to read the consent form and if you choose to complete the survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NMKRDLG>

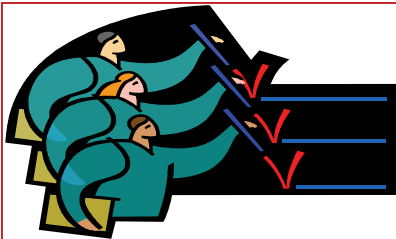
This study has been approved by the IRB at University of South Carolina Upstate. If you have any questions about this study please contact either:

Dr. Tina Herzberg
therzberg@usupstate.edu

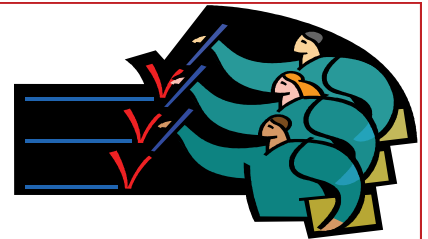
Dr. L. Penny Rosenblum
rosenblu@u.arizona.edu

CDE Webpage on Visual Impairment, Including Blindness

Tanni maintains a webpage specific to visual impairment, including blindness on the CDE website. All TVIs are recommended to have this webpage in their list of favorites! It has a host of information including the state eligibility criteria for visual impairment, including blindness; the forms for the regional low vision clinics; the braille competency testing procedures; local/state/national resources ... and a good bunch of other stuff. Please be sure to put this url in your browser: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdesped/sd-vision>



CHECK IT OUT!



Perkins Training & Educational Resources Program Presents

Teaching Math to Students Who are Blind or Visually Impaired

with Susan Osterhaus

In this webcast, Susan Osterhaus from the Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired shares her insights related to instructional strategies and resources for teaching math to students who are blind or visually impaired. She talks about the use of technology and the challenges of standardized testing for this population.

To watch webcast click on the link below.

<http://www.perkinselearning.org/webcast/teaching-math-students-who-are-blind-or-visually-impaired/>



Perkins Scout

In this growing online database, you'll find reliable, authoritative, and up-to-date resources covering a range of topics, including general information on blindness, help for families with relatives who are visually impaired, and resources for educators and other professionals.

Visit Scout and start searching today.

http://www.perkinselearning.org/scout?utm_campaign=teaching%20math%20to%20blind%20or%20visually%20impaired%20students&utm_source=webcast%20announcement&utm_medium=email

Got Five Minutes? Assessments: APH Values Your Opinion!

The American Printing House for the Blind is in the process of refining their list of priorities in the area of tests and assessments. They are asking teachers/psychologists in the field of blindness and visual impairment to provide to APH feedback. They would like to capture information about the types of assessments that are most widely used in your districts with sighted students and the ones that you consider to be most needed to be available in large print and braille.

Please take a few minutes to complete a short survey at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/JF6SMPH>

If you have any questions, please feel free to email Carolyn Zierer, Test and Assessment Project Leader, czierer@aph.org or call 502-899-2328.



Scholarships for Doctoral Students

Have you been considering going back to school to get a doctoral degree? Recently, it was announced that the National Leadership Consortium in Sensory Disabilities (NLCS D) has been refunded by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs. The consortium will consist of universities with doctoral programs that have an emphasis in one or more of the three sensory impairment areas: deaf/hard of hearing, blind/visually impaired, and deafblindness. The University of Northern Colorado (UNC) is one of the consortium universities.

NLCS D's primary purpose is to increase the number of highly skilled doctoral scholars who will become leaders in administration, higher education, policy and education in order to significantly improve the interventions, services, and outcomes for children with sensory disabilities (deafness/hard of hearing, deafblindness, blindness/visual impairment), ages birth to 21.

Applications for the first of two cohorts of NLCS D will be accepted in early 2015 for scholars to begin their studies in Fall 2015. The consortium consists of multiple universities with doctoral programs that have an emphasis in one or more sensory impairment areas: deaf/hard of hearing, blind/visually impaired, and deafblindness.

Benefits of being an NLCS D Scholar:

- Full support (tuition and fees) at Consortium universities, for up to 4 years
- Annual stipend award \$24,000 while matriculated
- Participation in an Enrichment Program that includes a course that runs through the academic year and is delivered via distance technology and face-to-face meetings
- Mentorship by Consortium faculty from universities across the country and across disability areas
- Travel to and attendance at 1 – 2 required NLCS D meetings per year.

NLCS D Scholars will be required to:

- Be admitted to a Consortium university as well as NLCS D
- Be first time doctoral students
- Be enrolled as a full time student at their home university
- Maintain an on-campus presence
- Work no more than 20 hours/week in a position that is directly related to individual programs of study
- Upon program completion, fulfill the service obligation requirement as outlined by OSEP.

More information about NLCS D can be found at www.nlcsdproject.org

More information about the doctoral program at UNC can be found at <http://www.unco.edu/cebs/sped/prospective/doctoral/index.html>



2233 West Shepperd Avenue, Littleton, Colorado 80120
Phone (303) 778-1130 (800) 401-4632 Fax (303) 778-1598
Email: ccb@cocenter.org Website: www.cocenter.org

2015 Summer Offerings for Kids!

Confidence Camp for Kids

(elementary school day program)

June 8 – June 26

Initiation to Independence Middle School Program

(3 week residential program)

June 10 – July 1

Earn & Learn High School Program

(8 week residential program)

June 6 – August 1

Summer for Success College Prep Program

(8 week residential program)

June 5 – July 31

Contact: Brent Batron, Director of Youth Programs, 303-778-1130 ext 222, bbatron@cocenter.org

Call early to reserve a spot or email/ fax your application soon.

Applications will be reviewed in the order they are received.

The Colorado Center for the Blind is sponsoring an interactive, three week program for blind and visually impaired children ages five through eleven.

The highly qualified staff, including two certified TVIs, will work with students in a variety of age appropriate areas such as cane skills, daily living skills, Braille and beginning technology. Students will prepare lunch each day and focus on household activities like making beds, vacuuming, washing dishes, sweeping, etc. Several experienced and energetic blind role models will be paired with students as we believe that positive blind role modeling teaches success.

Not only will the students work on building their skills but, even more importantly, they will gain confidence in themselves by participating in a wide range of activities. Some of these activities will include a science fair, riding the light rail to parks and recreation centers, swimming, eating lunch at a restaurant and many more.

The students will cap off this experience by participating in a unique and fun performance that friends and families can attend. The skills and confidence they gain from this experience will be exciting.

The fee for this program is \$100 which covers all 3 weeks and all activities.

As many of you know, we normally use sleep shades in our programs but we do not require them in the elementary program. However, we will require that all students use a cane.

just for PARENTS

Parent Resources From NFB and NOPBC

Blindkid Listserv: Want to talk about your child who is blind/visually impaired with other parents?

Would you like tips from knowledgeable blind adults who have "been there, done that?"

Ask questions, get and give advice, vent frustrations, brag about your child, share resources, and make new friends on this National Organization of Parents of Blind Children (NOPBC sponsored listserv).

To subscribe, visit the blindkid Web site at: www.nfbnet.org/mailman/listinfoblindkid_nfbnet.org and fill out the form provided on the page.

Parent Stories: The National Organization of Parents of Blind Children has an objective to provide parents with the tools to help their blind child learn well and live happily.

They have posted excerpts from parents at: <https://nfb.org/nopbc-new-parents>

Connecting Families

There are several organizations that can connect families to advocates in Colorado. PEAK Parent Center is Colorado's Parent Training and Information Center. PEAK has parent advisors on staff and can provide families with the names of advocacy organizations. For more information, visit:

- PEAK's website at www.peakparent.org.
- The Legal Center for People with Disabilities and Older People (www.thelegalcenter.org) and
- The Arc of Colorado (www.thearcofco.org) are other resources for families looking for advocates.

If your family is looking for support groups and/or trying to connect with other families, Parent to Parent of Colorado is a useful resource -

www.p2p-co.org.

The Parent Information and Resources page on the CDE Exceptional Student Services Unit's website has information about conferences and training opportunities. Every year CDE offers three Parents Encouraging Parents Conferences for families and educators throughout Colorado.

For more information, please visit <http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdesped/PEP.asp>

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Parents: If you are moving out of state or your child will or has graduated, please be in touch so we can remove your name from our newsletter mailing list. If your child is still enrolled in a Colorado school district and you have a new mailing address, please be in touch with your address changes.

TVIs and COMSs: If you have any changes in program contact information, please help us out and send Tanni these changes.

Thanks to everyone for helping to keep our mailing list up-to-date! Send changes to:

anthony_t@cde.state.co.us or to Tanni Anthony, CDE ESSU, 1560 Broadway, Suite 1175, Denver, CO 80202. Or please leave a voice message at (303) 866-6681. Thank you so much!



Family Learning Retreat presents...

See It My Way



June 13-14, 2015

Family Fun

Role Model Chat

Vision Loss
Simulation &
Activities

Mobility Outing

Dining in the
Dark



colorado connections

- 🔊 A Big Hats off to **Mary Chambers, Elaine Brown** , and **Brooke Miller** for earning a CDE Renewal Certificate for Braille Competency.
- 🔊 Hats off also to the following people who earned CDE renewal hours for Braille Modules: **Brooke Miller, Jeannie Lei, Karin Hensel, Mary Chambers, Elaine Brown, Anitha Muthukumaran, Rebecca Warnell, and Erin Kerr**. Thanks to proctors **Lucia Hasty** and **Brenda Shepard**.
- 🔊 Congratulations and Happy Marriage to **Abby Beaton** and **Shaun Horner**, who were married on March 28th!



Standing (l to r): Tiffany Wild, Derrick Smith, Jim Olson, Martin Monson, Larry Taylor, John Poggio; Seated (l to r): Kristie Smith, Kim Zebehazy, Annette Reichman, Laurel Nish

U.S. Reviews APH Products!

For the 9th time, the US Department of Education's Expert Review Panel met for their annual review of new products. The group was facilitated by Dr. Kim Zebehazy of the University of British Columbia, with Annette Reichman, Director/Liaison, Office Special Education and Rehabilitation Services. They reviewed products released in 2014. Product development was evaluated for Relevance, Research, and Utility. APH welcomes the oversight and insights of this expert group. We are proud to report that this review panel included our very own **Jim Olson**, from our CIMC! Thanks, Jim, for all of your great work with APH!

State of Colorado Department of Education

Colorado State Board of Education

Marcia Neal
3rd Congressional District

Angelika Schroeder
2nd Congressional District

Valentina (Val) Flores
1st Congressional District

Pam Mazanec
4th Congressional District

Deborah Scheffel
6th Congressional District

Steve Durham
5th Congressional District

Jane Goff
7th Congressional District

Robert K. Hammond
Commissioner of Education



COLORADO
Department of Education

COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Exceptional Student Services
1560 Broadway, Suite 1175
Denver, CO 80202

The contents of this handout were developed under a grant from the United States Department of Education. However, those contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.

25-43E-3401

MAIL TO: