



Spring 2010 Newsletter

May 1, 2010

Dyslexia Dash

When **Saturday, May 1, 2010**
 9:00 am-12:00 pm

Where **Coyote Point Park**
 1701 Coyote Point Drive
 San Mateo, CA 94401



NCBIDA presents its first ever **Dyslexia Dash!** It offers a chance to jog or walk a 5K course while raising money for a wonderful cause. Show your support for individuals with dyslexia by joining us for fun-filled morning along the San Francisco Bay.

We especially encourage parents and kids to make the Dash a family outing, and teachers and tutors to run or walk with their students. Our purpose is to increase awareness of dyslexia and raise funds to support our branch's programs, including scholarships for teacher training in multisensory reading instruction. Signs along the course will list intriguing facts about the many facets of dyslexia.

We will also have educational tables, special guests, entertainment, refreshments, giveaways, and prizes. Help us raise funds by creating an on-line fundraising page and emailing your friends asking them to support you, or by making a donation. This promises to be a very enjoyable event, but we need your help to ensure its success.

For more information or to register, check out www.dyslexia-ncbida.org/events.html.

We'll see you there!

Thank you to our sponsors!



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Morrissey-Compton Educational Center - Reading & Spelling Solutions
The Reading Clinic - Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic - Wilson Language Training**

President's Letter

Dyslexia Dash 2010

As the days get longer and the weather warmer, do your thoughts turn to spending time outside, getting unplugged, and getting in shape? If so, we have just the event for you!

NCBIDA presents its first ever **Dyslexia Dash** on Saturday, May 1, at Coyote Point Park in San Mateo. It is a chance to jog or walk a 5K course, and also raise money for a great cause. These fun-runs have been sponsored around the country by local branches of the International Dyslexia Association (IDA). They are designed to provide a community activity and fundraising event for the benefit of individuals with dyslexia and the educators, family, and friends who support them. Our branch is excited to be presenting a Dyslexia Dash in the Bay Area. We hope you will join us!

EdRev 2010

NCBIDA will have an information booth at the April 17 **EdRev 2010** at AT&T Park in San Francisco, sponsored by Parents Education Network. For details about this exciting local event, visit the PEN website at www.parentseducationnetwork.org. We will be holding a raffle with some valuable prizes, so please stop by the booth.

A Successful Winter Event

Many thanks to all who helped make the February event a big success. Barb Langeloh and Katie Bond organized an informative and well-run day. It was particularly exciting as NCBIDA was able to premiere its newest version of the simulation, **Experience Dyslexia**[®], to excellent reviews. Thanks to the hard work of many people, in particular Cindy Schlichte, Leslie Woodward, and Nancy Cushen White, the revisions are complete and the production nearly finished. NCBIDA was very pleased to offer the event in Marin County and hopes to have a bigger presence there in the future.

New Board Members

Katie Bond, Kelli Takushi-Geyrozaga, Maria Pevzner, and Sherry Sachar were unanimously approved as Board members at the Annual Meeting on February 6. We welcome the unique qualities and experience each of these people brings to the board and look forward to our work together. Katie is joining Barb Langeloh on the Events Committee, Kelli is teaming with John Osner on our Resource Line, and Maria and Sherry, mentored by Christine Goias, will head up the Volunteer Committee. Welcome to all!

Spotlight on a Volunteer

In this edition, we spotlight **Heidi Renner**, long-time member and volunteer with NCBIDA. There has not been a time in the history of NCBIDA that Heidi and/or her mother, Martha, have not been key players in the organization.

Summer Teacher Training and Scholarships

Several summer Slingerland teacher trainings will be offered in the San Francisco Bay Area. Please check the teacher training website at www.dyslexia-ncbida.org/scholarships.html for dates and locations for summer training of all local MSLE trainings, as well as information on scholarship applications. Last year we were able to give partial scholarships to seven teachers, and we hope to equal or surpass that this year.

Summer Opportunities for High School Upperclassmen and Graduates from Landmark College

I had the opportunity earlier this year to visit Landmark College in Vermont, a two-year college dedicated to working with LD and ADD students. The number of students with identified learning and attention difficulties attending college has grown hugely in the last decade, and it is very encouraging to see a

school dedicated to researching what tools these students need to succeed, and then putting their research into practice on their campus. This college also offers summer programs to high school students, and a transition program to students already accepted at four-year institutions. For the first time ever, several of these summer programs will be offered on the west coast, one here in the Bay Area at the University of San Francisco (USF). For dates and more information, visit their website at www.landmark.edu/summer/index.cfm.

Sincerely,
Nancy Redding
NCBIDA President

NCBIDA's Revised Simulation Invites You to *Experience Dyslexia*[®] by Leslie Woodward

NCBIDA is pleased to announce that it has revised its popular dyslexia simulation and reissued it under the new name **Experience Dyslexia[®] – Learning Disabilities Simulation**. The six-station simulation is a hands-on experience that lets participants experience some of the challenges and frustrations faced by people with this language-based learning disability. The updated simulation, formerly known as “Put Yourself in the Shoes of a Person with Dyslexia,” provides a lively, thought-provoking activity for teachers, parents, or anyone interested in better understanding the lives of individuals with dyslexia.

Revisions to the kit include:

- Updated fact sheets in the facilitator's packet
- New station names
- Clear description of how each task relates to dyslexia
- Rewrite of Station 2 so that it is more in keeping with a classroom experience

How the simulation works

Participants rotate among six learning stations that simulate language-related tasks that may be encountered in the classroom and workplace. Station leaders guide participants through each 10-minute station.

- **Station 1: Learn to Read** simulates a beginning reading problem
- **Station 2: Listen to Me** simulates an auditory figure-ground problem
- **Station 3: Write with Mirrors** simulates a visual-motor and writing problem
- **Station 4: Name That Letter** simulates a letter-word identification problem
- **Station 5: Write or Left** simulates a copying and writing problem
- **Station 6: Hear and Spell** simulates an auditory discrimination problem

The simulation has been shown to be an effective teaching tool. A 2008 study from researchers at Southeastern Louisiana University (SLU) using materials from the NCBIDA simulation clearly showed that participation increased awareness of dyslexia among teachers-in-training. See a review of the study at www.dyslexia-ncbida.org/articles/fall09/benefits_of_dyslexia_simulation.html.

Experience Dyslexia[®] is available as a reusable kit for purchase, allowing your school or organization to lead its own simulations, or as a workshop led by NCBIDA volunteers. Visit the simulations website at www.dyslexia-ncbida.org/simulations.html for more information.

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Summer 2010 Teacher Training Scholarships

NCBIDA is pleased to announce that during Summer 2010, we will once again be offering scholarships for training in multisensory structured language education (MSLE) approaches. We will be distributing a number of partial scholarships for trainings in the Bay Area this summer.

Scholarships are only awarded for training programs that adhere to the principles outlined by (the International Multisensory Structural Language Education Council (IMSLEC) (www.imslec.org/standards.html) and the Orton-Gillingham Academy (www.ortonacademy.org). In addition, training courses must contain a practicum that gives trainees the opportunity to apply what they are learning during the program.

Go to our Teacher Training website at www.dyslexia-ncbida.org/scholarships.html for information on eligible courses and to download an application form. Check the website regularly for additional courses as we add them.

In awarding scholarships, we are looking for the “multiplier effect.” That is, we strive to fund multisensory language education for those teachers who will reach the most students over the length of their career. For this reason, first priority for scholarships will be given to classroom teachers, especially those working with children in grades K-2. However, educational therapists and other professionals are also encouraged to apply. After completing the training program, scholarship recipients are asked to conduct a teacher in-service at their school (or for a group of other professionals), highlighting what they learned in their summer training program, with the goal of encouraging other teachers to seek out MSLE training.

Applications postmarked by Saturday, May 1, 2010, will be given first priority. Later applications are welcome and will be considered until all funds have been granted. Please be aware that there are two separate processes: 1) applying for and enrolling in a teacher training course and 2) applying for a teacher training scholarship. Time is critical with both, as spaces and funding are limited. Proof of enrollment in one of the eligible courses is required in order to apply for one of our partial scholarships.

Scholarship recipients will be notified by the end of May if they have been awarded a scholarship. Please see the time-line below for further details.

March 2010	Scholarship applications available
May 1, 2010	Scholarship applications due
May 2010	Scholarship recipients are selected and notified of their awards. Recipients will be notified no later than May 31, 2010.
June-July 2010	Teacher training programs take place
August 31, 2010	Scholarship recipients return course verification forms no later than August 31, showing that they have completed coursework. Once these forms are received, scholarship checks are sent out to reimburse recipients. Please note that a portion of the scholarship amount will be held back until the inservice presentation (see below) has been conducted.
Fall 2010	Recipients conduct their teacher inservices and report back to NCBIDA, highlighting what they learned in the MSLE training program. Inservice reports should be submitted no later than October 31, 2010. At this point, the remainder of the scholarship will be disbursed.

For more information, contact scholarships@dyslexia-ncbida.org.

Spotlight on a Volunteer

by Nancy Redding, M.Ed.

Heidi Renner has been an integral part of NCBIDA for many years. She laughs when asked how she first got involved, and says she was “born into it.” Martha Renner, her mother, was very much the backbone of the group beginning in the 1970’s.

Heidi is an Art and Educational Therapist and has been in private practice on the Peninsula for over 20 years. She first entered the field when her own son was in kindergarten and one of his friends was struggling in school. She began working with him, using Orton-Gillingham methods. Only weeks after she began her intervention, the young boy started to learn to read, and Heidi says she knew then she had found her calling.

Heidi has come full circle in the organization, as her first job was membership chair, a position which she holds today. She is also currently serving on the Steering Committee of our first ever Dyslexia Dash. In the intervening years, she has held a variety of offices, including branch president. On the national level, Heidi served as Pacific regional representative for over six years.

When asked what she has gained from working with NCBIDA, Heidi replies that she has found invaluable knowledge, wonderful networking, and lifelong friends. She encourages anyone who is working to help struggling readers to get involved by familiarizing themselves with the wonderful people in this organization. We at NCBIDA appreciate the longevity that Heidi has with our group, making her the unofficial historian. Additionally, we value her as a person who will always “step up to the plate” when needed.

Welcome to Our Newest Members!

Please welcome the following members who joined our branch in January and February, 2010.

Erin Farber
Rosemary Gretton
Jan Hudson
Belinda Lesser
Marte Matthews
Joyce Meyer
Racheal Siegal
Cherita Smith
Angie Stalder
Kelli Takushi-Geyrozaga

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