



International **DYSLEXIA** Association® *Oregon*

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

International Dyslexia Association | Oregon Branch

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

DEAR MEMBERS AND COMMUNITY,

As I'm writing the International Dyslexia Association - Oregon Branch's 2020 Annual Report, I find myself thinking of the tremendous upheaval that our community, nation, and world have witnessed in 2020. From a worldwide pandemic that has challenged our health, work environment, and norms of education, to racial injustices (both past and present), to climate change and wildfires, to ongoing threats to our democracy, few years in modern history have presented us with as many challenges.

And yet in the midst of all of these challenges, ordinary individuals in our community have set aside their worries, doubts, and apprehensions to do something quite extraordinary: they advocated for **empowerment, equity, and literacy**, three of the most important pillars of a healthy nation.

And so, I offer to you our 2020 Annual Report. This report represents the shared efforts of our Board of Directors, Advisory Council, Members, and Donors, to build a brighter future for students and adults with dyslexia: to reinforce and enhance these critical pillars, and to create an environment in which they have access to the tools and resources they both need, and deserve.

I invite you to take a look at these pages. See what we are building. Notice the ripples of transformation that knowledge and empowerment make possible.

If you are not a member of IDA, I cordially invite you to [join us](#), and add your voice to the larger movement: until EVERYONE can read!

Thank You for being a part of something extraordinary.

Sincerely,

Danielle Thompson | 2019-21 President



OUR COMMUNITY

The International Dyslexia Association (IDA) is creating a future for every individual who struggles with dyslexia and other reading differences. Founded in 1949, the oldest global organization dedicated to studying dyslexia, IDA has been the authoritative voice of reliable research and information to educate families and professionals for over 70 years. What sets the IDA apart from other organizations is our Knowledge and Practice Standards for Teachers of Reading, our Scientific Advisory Board, and Structured Literacy™.

The International Dyslexia Association – Oregon Branch is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that was founded in 1975 by Dorothy Blosser Whitehead. It is part of the IDA and one of 44 state branches in the United States and Canada, and part of 26 global partners. IDA provides educator training, publications, and information and support to help struggling readers around the world. The IDA -Oregon Branch includes Oregon plus the southwest Washington State counties of Pacific, Wahkiakum, Cowlitz, Clark, Skamania and Klickitat.

45 Years Strong!



OUR PURPOSE

Our mission is to raise awareness and understanding of dyslexia, to promote effective intervention strategies, and to support individuals with dyslexia, their families, and professionals in our community.

We strive to create a future for all individuals who struggle with dyslexia and other related reading differences so that they may have richer, more robust lives and access to the tools and resources they need.

Until Everyone Can Read!



OUR LOCAL IMPACT

130 inquiries for Information and Referrals



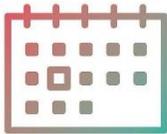
Hosted 21 Regional Events



227 Individual
10 Institutional
Members



12 Newsletters Published



36 Instagram Interviews



46 Hours of Training Provided



- 971 Followers
- 1291 Followers
- 406 Followers
- 141 Subscribers



20 Scholarship Recipients



Viewers spent 12,879 minutes watching our videos in 2020!



OUR DEMOGRAPHICS

- Population served = 4,865,633 (Oregon + SW Washington)
- There were 582,661 students enrolled in Oregon public schools on the first school day in October, 2019
- Of the 582,661 students enrolled in 2019-20, 224,404 (38.51 percent) were students not identified as “White.”
- 79% of Oregon’s school aged (5-19) population was receiving publicly funded K-12 education based on estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division
- There are 197 School Districts in Oregon

The Literacy Levels

- The 2019 Oregon Scorecard found that 53.5% of 3rd grade Oregon students are reading BELOW Grade 3 Standards (Meets/Exceeds) level in English Language Arts (ELA)
- 2019 NAEP Grade 4 Reading Results Achievement found 64% of students in Oregon have Basic or above reading levels. 36% are BELOW basic level.
- 24,979 students categorized as having Specific Learning Disability. That is 4% of the entire student population (582,661)

#Until Everyone Can Read

References:

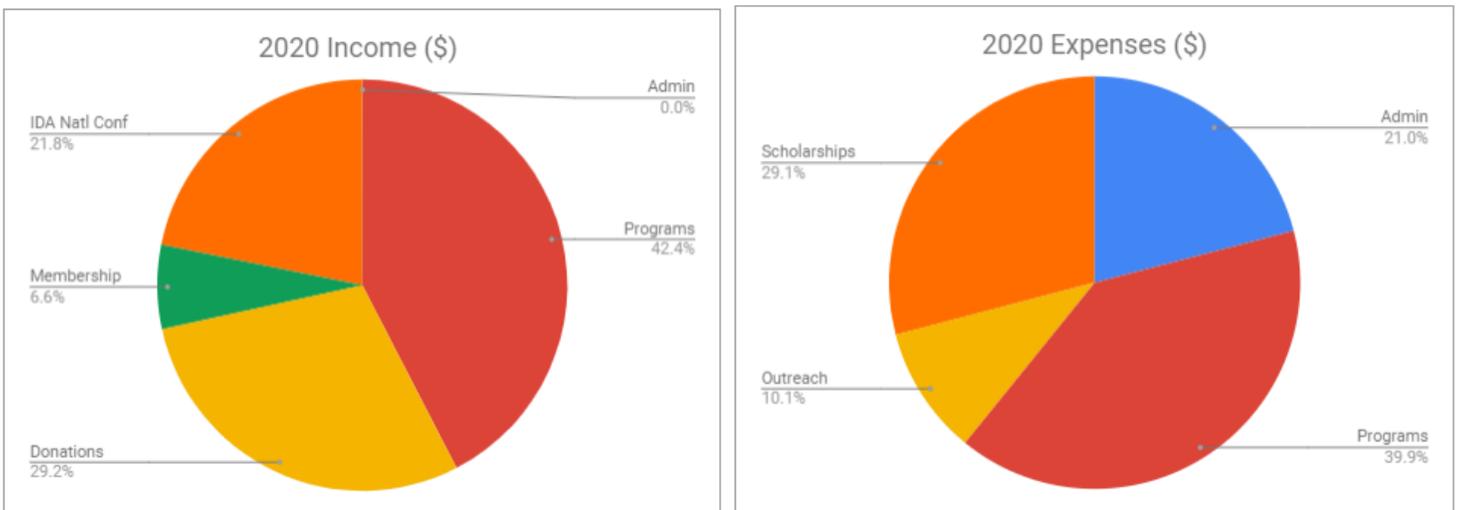
1 <https://www.oregon.gov/ode/schools-and-districts/reportcards/Documents/rptcard2020.pdf>

2 <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/OR>

3 <https://www.oregon.gov/ode/educator-resources/assessment/Pages/Assessment-Results.aspx>

OUR FINANCES

The IDA – Oregon Branch operates on a lean budget. A solid 79% of all funds goes back to the community in the form of Training (40%), Outreach (10%) and Scholarships (29%). The majority (93%) of our income comes from hosting programs/trainings and donations. Last year, due to Covid-19, we were unable to host our biggest yearly fund raiser, the Annual IDA Oregon Branch Spring Symposium. We are doubling our efforts to recover this shortfall in 2021 so that we can continue excellence for our community!



In 2021, with your help, we would like to do more and we need your support. Making a donation is a way of reaching out a helping hand. By providing even a small donation, you can be part of an effort to provide support, training and



outreach to help families and educators improve the lives of individuals with dyslexia. The Oregon Branch of the International Dyslexia Association welcomes gifts to help support our programs. We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization; donations are tax deductible.

Please consider a [donation](#) and help make an impact on our community!

 EDUCATE 

ADVOCATE

INSPIRE

TRAINING and OUTREACH 2020

In 2020, our volunteers hosted 21 in-person and virtual education events designed to increase an understanding and awareness of dyslexia and Structured Literacy, and to support implementation of Oregon's dyslexia legislation. Our attendees hailed from a variety of disciplines and roles including teachers, parents, private tutors, school psychologists, speech language pathologists, neuroscientists, administrators, university professors, librarians, business professionals, and students.

Structured Literacy Trainings	4
Understanding and Recognizing Dyslexia Trainings	2
Simulation and Student Panel Presentations	3
Assistive Technology Presentations	4
Resource Table Events	2
Workplace/School Presentations	4
Collaboration with OHSU	1
International Conference	1
Total attendees	4600+
Average volunteers per event	4
Hours of Training	46+



LECTURE SERIES

Thanks to a generous offer from our longtime Orton Oak member, Sasha Borenstein, we were able to offer four virtual sessions on *How to Teach Reading and Spelling*. Twenty attendees from Oregon and beyond joined in these weekly workshops to learn more about Structured Literacy and the Science of Reading. Through the proceeds of this series we raised \$1200 to support our Running The Distance student scholarship fund.

For me, IDA has been the fount, the advice, the best research that I could find. I then seek to translate that research to teachers to be the bridge between research to classroom practice. IDA has been that for me. - S. Borenstein

International **DYSLEXIA** Association® **Oregon**

Mini-Course: How to Teach Reading and Spelling

**Bringing the Science of Reading
into the Classroom**

4 Part Online Lecture Series

Monday Oct 26 7-8pm	Monday Nov 2 7-8pm	Monday Nov 9 7-8pm	Monday Nov 16 7-8pm
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This series will introduce parents and educators to key components of reading and spelling individual words thoughtfully. The English spelling system makes sense if you know a few key ideas:

- What language does this word come from historically?
- How do letters and their sounds match up?
- Position – where does the sound occur in a word?
- What is the most probable spelling of a sound?
- What is the meaning of the word, its prefixes and suffixes?

These four lively sessions will help you become a word detective!



Sasha Borenstein has been a member of the International Dyslexia Association so long that she is a Golden Oak. She has been a classroom teacher, director of a clinic for children and adults with learning disabilities for 36 years, and a teacher trainer for 40 years. Her teaching marries content, how to teach reading, spelling and writing, and the processes of learning, language, memory, attention and thinking skills. www.sashaborenstein.com

or.dyslexiaida.org

DISTANCE LEARNING

Due to Covid-19 and the shift to working and learning from home, we had to reimagine how to teach and support students with dyslexia in the virtual space. On our website we curated a variety of resources for parents and teachers to support online teaching and learning. Additionally, our programs committee scheduled virtual events to help parents, students, and teachers learn more about dyslexia, assistive technology and advocacy. Led by Shelbe Park and our award-winning student empowerment panel, our virtual presentations and the video recordings have been seen by over 1000 people from across the US and the world.



IDA Oregon
Student Panel Presentation

Thursday, April 23, 2020
 7:00 pm via ZOOM

Students with Dyslexia:
 Our Journey to Self-Advocacy and the Use of Assistive Technology

Hear from the experts! Join the award-winning Student Panel from IDA-Oregon Branch as they share their journeys with dyslexia.

From reluctance to acceptance, from struggle to achievement, these articulate students will share helpful classroom practices and tools necessary for their success in school and beyond.

Resources for Education During Distance Learning

For parents, teachers and specialists seeking learning materials in these ever-changing times, we offer the following options. These resources are curated by our mission partners and other organizations to complement what your school district will provide students. The resources provided are intended for general informational purposes only, and are not intended to be a substitute for your school education.

CREATE A SCHEDULE!
 Kids don't need life to be perfect, but they do need it to be predictable and orderly. Work with them to find a way to map their days, create a schedule, and/or create a calendar. Examples:

ONLINE TUTORING:

Lexercise, mindplay, Nessy, Khan Academy, dreambox Learning, ALEKS, McGraw Hill Education

ONLINE RESOURCES:

Dyslexia and Reading Disabilities Resource Guide, THE READING LEAGUE, ReadWorks.org, Touch-Type Reading Typing Club, Dance Mat Typing BBC, CHILD MIND INSTITUTE, Foundations in Learning, Online Museums, Understood, Haskins Global Literacy Hub, PBS KIDS, Decodable Books, Reading Rockets

Oct 2020 or.dyslexiaida.org/stayathome-dyslexia/

Free!

Distance Learning with Dyslexia!

Join Us via Livestream

Student Panelists from IDA-Oregon will share their journeys with dyslexia and other learning differences and offer helpful classroom practices and the important tools necessary for success in the digital prepared environment.

From the Oregon Montessori Association in partnership with The International Dyslexia Association- Oregon Branch

Wednesday - September 30, 2020 @7:00-8:30 pm

IDA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Annual Reading, Literacy & Learning Conference is a source of information for anyone affected by dyslexia and other learning-based challenges. The 2020 event featured leading experts in the areas of dyslexia, structured literacy, and research who are transforming the science of reading in every classroom and into the fabric of today's educational system. For the first time, the virtual conference LIVE Streamed General Sessions, interactive symposia and breakout sessions, poster sessions, the IDA Virtual Bookstore, the Exclusive IDA Virtual Exhibit Hall, and innovative access to the IDA conference experience using a state-of-the-art and easy to use virtual community platform.



The graphic features a dark blue background with glowing light trails and several circular inset images. The images show a woman working on a laptop, a man and child reading together, and a woman smiling. There are also several small circular icons of people. In the bottom left, there is a stylized starburst graphic with the year '2020' in the center. The text 'VIRTUAL Reading, Literacy & Learning ANNUAL IDA CONFERENCE' is prominently displayed in the bottom right, with 'NOVEMBER 13-14, 2020' below it.

VIRTUAL
Reading, Literacy & Learning
ANNUAL IDA CONFERENCE
NOVEMBER 13-14, 2020

D.R.E.A.M. PROJECT

In the spring of 2020, The IDA - Oregon branch began a partnership with the Oregon Montessori Association (OMA) to research, select, and implement testing instruments to screen Montessori students for risk factors of dyslexia.

Named the D.R.E.A.M. Project (Dyslexia Readiness X Educators Advancing Montessori) and led by Dalia Avello of the OMA, we have partnered with experts in the fields of dyslexia screening, intervention, and Montessori instruction, including Dr. Joyce Pickering, Dr. Fran Bowman, Dr. Susan Bonaiuto, Catherine Massie, and Stephanie Pratt to discuss how to implement both dyslexia screening, and effective intervention, in the Montessori classroom.

Our collaboration has resulted in the tentative selection of a new, digital dyslexia screener called "EarlyBird." The screener was developed by Carla Small, formerly of Boston Children's Hospital, Dr. Nadine Gaab of Boston Children's Hospital and Harvard, and Dr. Yaacov Petscher of Florida State University. The tablet-based screener is a self-administered gamified app which analyzes a child's responses, and then highlights risk factors of dyslexia. The program then offers follow-up resources such as specific interventions, referrals, and professional development to assist the students' literacy deficits.

IDA - Oregon applauds Dalia Avello's leadership and dedication to the early identification and remediation of dyslexia, and we look forward to continuing our partnership with the OMA.



EDUCATE

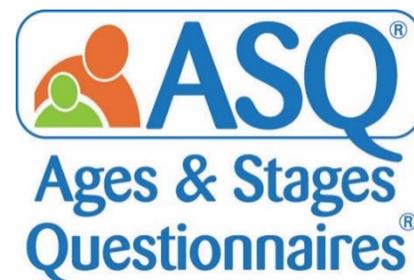
 ADVOCATE 

INSPIRE

MEDICAL OUTREACH

Used by pediatricians across the world, the Ages & Stages Questionnaires, Third Edition (ASQ-3) is a developmental and socio-emotional screening tool that tracks children's developmental progress between birth and six years old.

The screener's ease of use and efficacy have helped countless children by pinpointing their developmental progress, and by catching potential developmental delays. Through its effective use, learning, monitoring, and/or appropriate interventions can take place.



The ASQ-3 does not, however, examine a child's familial history of reading and writing difficulties. As such, the developers of the ASQ-3 are currently piloting a question in the subsequent version, the ASQ-4, which explicitly asks parents about reading difficulties in the child's family. The impact of including this type of question, by connecting a large number of parents, pediatricians, and providers with important information about dyslexia, cannot be overstated. As such, we fully support the developers in including this vitally important question in the ASQ-4.

In addition, The Early Intervention Program, located at the University of Oregon, and funded in part by the Oregon Dept of Education, has created an Oregon Screening Project. The OSP site offers the ASQ-3 and the Ages & Stages Questionnaires: Social-Emotional, Second Edition free of charge, allowing families to self-screen at home using the automated online system.

If you use the ASQ and would like to read additional information about dyslexia in English and/or Spanish, they have recently added resources on the following websites:

- ✓ ASQ-4 Renorm Study Site - <https://agesandstagesresearch.com>
- ✓ The Oregon Screening Project - <https://osp.uoregon.edu/>

GLOBAL OUTREACH

Rare Gem Talent School

One of the many benefits that members of IDA-Oregon enjoyed from hosting the November 2019 Annual Reading Literacy and Learning Conference in Portland, was the chance to meet and get to know dyslexia activists from around the world. We were most fortunate to host Nancy Munyi, co-founder and director of IDA Global Partner Dyslexia Kenya and the Rare Gem Talent School in Nairobi Kenya. When Nancy, along with her twin sister Phyllis, discovered that they each had a son with learning difficulties, they decided to find out all they could about dyslexia and went on to acquire a great wealth of knowledge and expertise in the field. From the moment they found what could help their sons, other parents with dyslexic children sought out the Munyi sisters for help with these children whose learning needs are very little understood in Kenya. What should the sisters do but start a school!

#DyslexiaYouAreNotAlone



Rare Gem Talent School continued -

Founded in 2012, Rare Gem is the only inclusive school in Kenya that offers learning solutions to children with specific learning difficulties. It is a mixed day and boarding school starting with pre-school. A high school was added in 2017 when some of the children who had completed primary school could not get admitted to traditional high schools because of low grades arising from their learning disabilities. By March 2020 the school included 210 children with dyslexia and other special needs.

And then the COVID-19 pandemic hit. The School had to close and send the children home with no hope of on-line learning opportunities. Undaunted, and despite having no income because tuition dollars had disappeared, Phyllis and Nancy started a Global Giving campaign to reopen the school with adequate spacing and other government required COVID precautions. We are pleased to announce that the school has reopened



at a reduced capacity as of January 4, 2021. The fund raising continues an effort to increase the size and number of classrooms so more children can be served. To that end, IDA-Oregon is donating a portion of proceeds from Jared Blank's book, *Running the Distance*, and the *Running the Distance* gear in order help our dedicated friends in Kenya. Several IDA-OR members have also donated through the Global Giving campaign. More information and an opportunity to donate can be found at:

<https://www.globalgiving.org/microprojects/help-children-with-dyslexia-return-to-school/?fbclid=IwAR26MUbn9M4yGTTuk7yIZSv8moog-dsRuts1LX4Qa-JiPujW4JTqus8gVs>

PARENT OUTREACH

As a parent, it's easy to feel alone when your child begins to struggle to learn to read, write and/or spell. Many parents often know something is not right early on, but are unsure what to do. We urge parents to engage and reach out to us for support and guidance on the first steps. We created a website [PARENT FIRST STEPS HUB](#) for parents to start their journey with dyslexia. Here they will find resources from experts; help from others parents; and tools they can use to help set their child on the best possible path.

Luckily, parents can play an active role in the early identification of a reading problem. All that is required is an observant parent who knows what she is looking for and who is willing to spend time with her child listening to him speak and read.

– Sally E. Shaywitz, M.D., *Overcoming Dyslexia*, *Overcoming Dyslexia* 2nd Edition

Parent First Steps with Dyslexia

In the beginning it is critical to find out if your child is struggling BECAUSE of dyslexia. There are several paths you can take...

PATH 1: TALK TO YOUR CHILD'S HEALTHCARE PROVIDER

RULE OUT OTHER
ISSUES

GET REFERENCES
/ REFFERALS

PATH 2: TALK TO YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL

REQUEST SCHOOL
EVALUATION

NO

SCHOOL DENIES
TO EVALUATE

Request
Prior
Written
Notice

Find
Advocate
/ Lawyer

YES

SCHOOL AGREES
TO EVALUATE

Eligible
for
Services

Denies
Services

PATH 3: GET PRIVATE EVALUATION/ASSESSMENT

FIND TRAINED
DYSLEXIA
SCREENER

FIND TRAINED
PSYCHOLOGIST

EQUITY IN EDUCATION

The IDA-OR Equity in Education Committee was born as a reaction to dismay at the inequity conveyed in reports from the Oregon Department of Education and the National Assessment of Educational Progress in late 2019. How can it be OK that 66% percent of all 8th graders in Oregon cannot read at grade level but for Black students, that number rises to 86%, for Latinx students it is 80%. And 99% of all English Language Learners never learn basic literacy skills. It looks like no-one is reading very well, but Black and Brown children are, by a large gap, suffering the most. Most startling of all, these are numbers that have not significantly improved in 40 years.

The Equity Committee began meeting regularly in early 2020, initially to study what these statistics reveal about access to good reading instruction, and additional systemic barriers to learning this all-important skill. What followed were several months of thoughtful reading, listening, and discussion, all impacted by the murder of George Floyd and the resulting demonstrations and strengthening of the Black Lives Matter movement in the midst of a global pandemic.

Moving toward action, in 2020 the Equity in Education Committee was able to:

- ✓ Donate \$175 in carefully selected books to Y.O.U.th PDX's/Books Not Bars' COVID Slide Book Drive
- ✓ Invite Dr. Irvin Brown to speak to our committee about his experiences in education and later join the committee to help guide our efforts.
- ✓ Join in partnership with Decoding Dyslexia to share resources and ideas
- ✓ Reach out to the ODE regarding the Dyslexia Specialist position, which is temporarily filled, with an eye to supporting this person's work across the state, particularly where resources are scarce.
- ✓ Start discussions with Ebonee Bell from Multnomah County Library on how we can partner to reach out to community groups and schools that are also working to bring literacy to disadvantaged children of color.
- ✓ Propose to the Board of Directors that they begin immediately to actively recruit qualified individuals of color to fill board of directors and advisory board positions to advance the goal of empowering our organization to better understand and serve a wider community of struggling readers, regardless of socioeconomic status, ethnicity, or race.



We believe that literacy is a civil right. Our mission is to advocate for and empower individuals, especially those who have dyslexia, *Until Everyone Can Read*. As we do this, IDA - Oregon pledges to be accountable for contributing to a community where everyone is respected, included, and safe; a place where Black Lives, Black Hopes, Black Dreams, Black Education, and Black Opportunities - matter. We firmly stand against inequities, violence, and racism. We stand in solidarity with #BlackLivesMatter.

- *IDA Oregon Branch*



EDUCATE

ADVOCATE

 INSPIRE 

INSTAGRAM LIVE INTERVIEWS!



The IDA-Oregon Branch began conducting weekly interviews on Instagram Live to connect with our membership and community during this time of COVID-19. By sharing stories of struggle, empowerment, and transformation, our weekly guests help us all to know we are not alone! Our Vice President, Jared S. Blank, hosted 36 remarkable interviews of students, parents, teachers, advocates, and professionals in 2020, and he will continue the weekly inspiring chats into 2021.

We invite you to join us on Monday nights at 7:00 pm on Instagram by following @jaredsblank and @dyslexiayouarenotalone.

<https://www.instagram.com/dyslexiayouarenotalone>



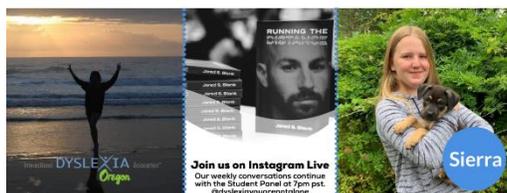
You can also find our past interviews on our YouTube page.

The IDA Oregon Branch Student Empowerment team is a group of dyslexic students that advocate for others. Serving Oregon and SW Washington.

@DyslexiaYouAreNotAlone



@DyslexiaYouAreNotAlone



@DyslexiaYouAreNotAlone



@DyslexiaYouAreNotAlone



@DyslexiaYouAreNotAlone



@DyslexiaYouAreNotAlone



@DyslexiaYouAreNotAlone

Join us on Instagram Live
Our weekly conversations continue with the Student Panel at 7pm pst. @dyslexiaouarenotalone

Connor

@DyslexiaYouAreNotAlone

@DyslexiaYouAreNotAlone

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Alex Rios

@DyslexiaYouAreNotAlone

@DyslexiaYouAreNotAlone

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Larissa Whalen Garfias

@DyslexiaYouAreNotAlone

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Imaan

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Andrew

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Kellan

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Maddox

@DyslexiaYouAreNotAlone

Join us on Instagram Live
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Jesse Rapport

@DyslexiaYouAreNotAlone

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Jackie

@DyslexiaYouAreNotAlone

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Jared S. Blank
—has the best beard for 2020

@DyslexiaYouAreNotAlone

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Chris

@DyslexiaYouAreNotAlone

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Ross

@DyslexiaYouAreNotAlone

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Anna

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Dr. Irvin M. Brown

@DyslexiaYouAreNotAlone

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Harvey Hubbell

@DyslexiaYouAreNotAlone

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Elenn Steinberg

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Judi

@DyslexiaYouAreNotAlone

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Elenn Steinberg

@DyslexiaYouAreNotAlone

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Sandra

@DyslexiaYouAreNotAlone

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Shelbe Park

@DyslexiaYouAreNotAlone

Join us on Instagram Live
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Jake Sussman

@DyslexiaYouAreNotAlone

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Ruby

@DyslexiaYouAreNotAlone

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Gareth Hood

@DyslexiaYouAreNotAlone

Join us on Instagram Live
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Xaalan

@DyslexiaYouAreNotAlone

STUDENT EMPOWERMENT

The IDA - Oregon Branch Student Empowerment Group started back in 2013 when past President Shelbe Park envisioned a group of dyslexic students, by working together as a team, could have an opportunity to advocate for themselves (and for others), to teachers, parents and interested community groups. It quickly became clear that teachers and parents listened to these young adults' stories and heard their pleas to be understood, far more succinctly than any lecture given by well-meaning adults!



The IDA - Oregon Branch Student Empowerment Group for students in grades 6th-12th is a great way to meet peers in your area, socialize and grow valuable leadership skills. It is one of our Branch pillars of importance.

In 2020 we honored our students' invaluable gift of service to our community by presenting them with the IDA-Oregon President's Award for Service. We can confidently say that the IDA-Oregon Branch's mission has been advanced and enhanced because of the contributions made by each member of the Student Empowerment Panel. They have told their stories, and bravely spoken on our behalf with humor, sensitivity, honesty, confidence, and skill.

#StudentEmpowerment



BRANCH SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships are a critical component to our community education. We are grateful to our generous sponsors and donors who allow the opportunity for many teachers to earn professional development in dyslexia and Structured Literacy, and for our students to pursue their post-high school dreams.

Scholarships Awarded!

For the Annual International Dyslexia Association's Virtual Conference, we were proud to offer 17 scholarships from the Cherida Collins Smith fund.

- Ms. Collins Smith has been providing grants for teachers to attend the national conference since 1987 in honor of her mentor, Gloria Zeal Davis. This year 17 scholarships were awarded to teachers within the branch boundaries.



RUNNING THE DISTANCE SCHOLARSHIPS

In 2018 Jared S. Blank completed the World Marathon Challenge, running seven marathons on seven continents in seven days, while raising over \$50,000 for The International Dyslexia Association. A portion of those funds became our Branch's Running the Distance Student Scholarship fund.

In 2020 we were honored to award scholarships to three students to help them achieve their post-high school dreams. One student is studying Microbiology at Oregon State University, one student is studying Athletic Training and Physical Therapy at the University of Idaho, and one student is enrolled in the WSU ROAR program. We wish them all the best as they run their distance.

We look forward to meeting the next round of applicants in 2021 and supporting the next generation of students. Please help support the three yearly scholarships by **DONATING** to IDA Oregon.



RUNNING THE DISTANCE

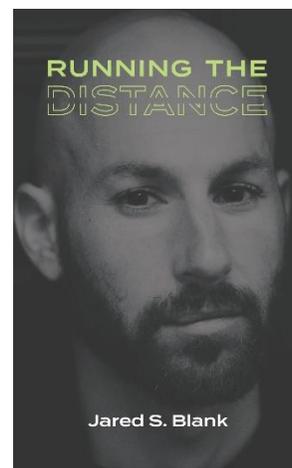
RUNNING THE DISTANCE



Jared Blank was only five years old when he realized something was different. He was having trouble learning to read, holding a pencil, using scissors, and tying his shoes. As it turned out, Jared had dyslexia, and he still does. With the help of his family, friends, teachers, and mentors, Jared learned to see his learning obstacles as opportunities. Jared's journey with dyslexia has resulted in an amazing early life... against the odds, Jared graduated from USC and then went on to earn two Masters degrees, ran the World Marathon Challenge, wrote a book, and became ordained; Jared is an inspiring mentor and advocate for dyslexia around the world.

In addition to book sales, this year we are pleased to offer Running the Distance apparel. 100% of the proceeds go toward helping students with dyslexia run their distance and achieve their dreams.

"It is important to me that we continue to find ways to support students locally as well as globally." Jared S. Blank



Click [HERE](#) for more information on Jared Blank and Running the Distance.



LOOKING AHEAD TO 2021

2021 marks the 45th Anniversary of IDA-Oregon! Our Branch carries forth the mission begun in 1976 by our founder, Dorothy Blosser Whitehead. This year we honor and build on the work of those who have served before us by striving to close the opportunity gap and the achievement gap. Our areas of focus will be to support these IDA National goals:

- Accreditation & Standards with University Programs and Teacher Training
- Digital Expansion
- Mission Partnerships
- Promote Structured Literacy in every Classroom
- Increase Representation and Information & Support in Underserved Areas

Additionally, we invite you to check our website for more information and events throughout the year including:

- 45th Virtual Symposium with Dr. Charles Haynes on April 17, 2021
- The Oregon Dyslexia Professional Network for adults 18+. Monthly meetings begin February 2nd.

High Quality Information + Support = Empowerment & Transformation
Locally. Nationally. Globally.



or.dyslexiaida.org

Thank You!

2020 - IDA OREGON BOARD OF DIRECTORS



✕ Special thanks to Elizabeth Dove for her years of dedication and leadership. ✕

2020 - IDA OREGON ADVISORY COUNCIL



FOR MORE BOARD INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT:
<https://or.dyslexiaida.org/about-us/board-of-directors/>

IN APPRECIATION



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