

## Freedom to Communicate: A Parent's Advocacy

by Hend Ibrahim

I always assumed that deaf people communicated through sign language and thought it was a universal language. So when my husband Sanjar and I first learned that our third child, Adam, had Usher Syndrome type 2C and was profoundly deaf in his left ear, I began to learn and use American Sign Language. Adam has a moderate to severe loss in the right ear.



Front Row: Sara, Mariam, Hanna, Adam, and Hend; Backrow: Sanjar holding Layla

Learning sign was fun and easy and most signs made sense. I wanted to communicate with Adam on the same level as I communicated with my other hearing children; soon it became too difficult. I had to

pause, to search online how to sign words. It was burdensome and I just couldn't keep up. I tried attending silent dinner meetings to meet deaf, hard of hearing and hearing people interested in ASL, but I couldn't even have basic conversation. I was frustrated. As Adam grew, my lack of fluency would mean a lack of communication, which would be disastrous.

I attended a parent meeting in nearby Fairfax County at Camelot School. Parents at the meeting were sharing their experiences. Suhad Keblawi, one of the parents, began talking about Cued Speech, which I had never heard of as a communication option.

Months later, I googled Cued Speech and saw videos on youtube. I decided to give it a shot and asked Suhad to teach me. I had nothing to lose!

After my first lesson, I could cue simple words and felt confident. It took my brain time to process the cues, and put words together. Adam was 2.5 yrs old when I began cueing to him. Cued Speech is more mechanical and at the beginning he rejected it, which I found discouraging, much like an infant who is learning to use hearing aids. Adam has consistently worn hearing aids since he was three months old. He uses a Roger Pen remote microphone system in school.

I met a deaf young lady, who was cueing with Suhad. Suhad voiced for her and I was amazed by how they were communicating word to word with no hearing at all. I wanted that limitless communication, and freedom

*Freedom to Communicate, continued on P. 5*

## A Registered Nurse Shows Appreciation for Cued Speech

by Amber Kimball, BSN, RN as told to Hannah Mann

As a little girl, I loved to act with my Barbies as nurses, having them cure anyone who was "sick" with honey and home remedies. I knew early on that I cared about people and wanted to make them feel better, so of course, I dreamed about a career in medicine. The problem was, our family pediatrician finally diagnosed me as profoundly deaf at age three.

At the time, we lived in Kansas City, Kansas. Devastated at the diagnosis, my mother scoured our local library's index cards for solutions other than

American Sign Language and residential schools for the deaf. Not being fluent in ASL, my mother wanted her daughter to speak the same language she did so that she could share memories, conversations and mutual understanding.

Eventually she came across a Cued Speech program in Raleigh, North Carolina, and met a contact person, Beth, who answered her questions on Cued Speech's success rate and its fit for me. However, as a teen mother, her

*Registered Nurse, continued on P. 10*

### What's Inside

<i>President's Message</i>	2
<i>Board Slate for 2017-2020</i>	2
<i>Kindergarten Readiness for Deaf Children</i>	3
<i>Bilingualism : ASL + Cued English</i>	3
<i>Spring Camp Cheerio 2016</i>	4
<i>Camp ChiCueGo @ ISD</i>	5
<i>50th Anniversary Section</i>	6
<i>Thank You to Our Donors</i>	11
<i>NCSA Around the Nation</i>	12

# President's Message: Welcoming A New Board

The NCSA continues to be hard at work, advocating for families, professionalism in services to cuers, and legislation, just to name a few items on our plate.

In the last year, we held Board meetings in San Diego and Ann Arbor and are actively planning for the one this coming October in Dallas. At these meetings we host beginning and intermediate Cued American English classes, hold instructor workshops and give certification exams. We have been encouraged by the high attendance we are seeing as we visit each city.

We continue to support Cue Camps to foster family learning in a fun environment. We formalized a partnership with Cue College to consolidate existing educational and training materials for the

purpose of rapid access via on-line classes and outreach.

We have a committee working on making sure Cued Speech is well represented in proposed "LEAD-K" state legislation. Our academic advisory team is developing publications and some members made a return trip to Ethiopia to continue the work started there.

We celebrated the first 50 years of Cued Speech and the great legacy of Dr. Cornett. Not only does his portrait now hang at Gallaudet University but also on-line Cued Speech classes are available through the university. The 50th celebration brought together an international assembly of cuers of many backgrounds, all with personal stories of success. The most rewarding part of the weekend was seeing how the native

cuers had grown into shining examples of success, happiness and independence.

On August 30, the term of the current NCSA Board will end. A new Board slate has been assembled which is composed of a solid team of returning members and some new volunteers who will expand our expertise and collective experiences. We have modified and added some positions responsible for Public Relations, Community Engagement and Organizational Liaison to help foster collaboration with other groups. We have accomplished so much these past three years.

I look forward to working with the new board and how we can accomplish our mission in this age of instant communication and technology.

- Anne Huffman, President

## NCSA Announces 2017-2020 Board Slate

**The NCSA Nominating Committee is proud to present the following Slate for the 2017-2020 term. Thanks to Claire Klossner for her hard work chairing the committee.**

The current term for all board members ends on August 31. Board members serve a three-year term and may not stay in their same position for more than two consecutive terms. The new term begins on September 1, 2017 and ends on August 31, 2020.

The slate listed below represents a group of talented individuals who are ready to serve the NCSA as volunteers.

### Officers

*President: Anne Huffman*  
*1st Vice President: Ben Lachman*  
*2nd Vice President: Penny Hakim*  
*Treasurer: Suhad Keblawi*  
*Secretary: Claire Klossner*  
*PR Officer: Rob McIntosh*  
*Community Engagement Officer: Amy Crumrine*

### Directors

*Camps/Affiliates: Nicole Dugan*  
*Academic Advisory Committee: Dr. Polly Earl*  
*Government Liaison: Jill Keblawi*  
*Organizations Liaison: Dr. Kelly Crain*  
*Marketing: Charlie Musser*  
*Representatives: Angela Laptewicz*

### Regional Representatives

*Mid-Atlantic: Andy Payonk*  
*MidWest: vacant*  
*New England: Suzanne Flint*  
*Northeast: Grace Cogan*  
*South: Lisa Gavin*  
*Southwest: Hannah Mann*  
*Capitol: Rachel McAnallen and Maureen Bellamy*  
*Great Lakes: Nicole Frye*  
*Gulf Coast: John Veazey*  
*West: Vance Deatherage and Sarah Sizemore*  
*Upper Plains: vacant*

### On Cue Staff

*On Cue, the newsletter of the National Cued Speech Association™, is published twice a year. We always welcome Cued Speech news, calendar items, stories, and photos! Want to contribute your voice to On Cue? Send your materials to [info@cuedspeech.org](mailto:info@cuedspeech.org). Electronic photos must be high-resolution at 300 dpi.*

1300 Pennsylvania Ave  
 NW Suite 190-173  
 Washington DC, 20004

**Hannah Mann: Editor-in-Chief**  
**Sarina Roffé: Editor**  
**Aaron Rose: Layout Editor**



# Kindergarten Readiness for Deaf Children

Legislation regarding “Kindergarten readiness” for deaf children has been sweeping the country on a state-by-state basis. The premise behind Language Equality and Acquisition for Deaf Kids – Kindergarten Readiness (LEAD-K), as referenced by Sheri Farinha, Campaign Director for LEAD-K, is that deaf children should enter kindergarten having had full access to language in order to begin schooling with equivalent language development as their peers. As is well known within deaf education circles, many deaf children are language delayed when they begin formal schooling.

The National Cued Speech Association is in full agreement with LEAD-K that “when provided with access and opportunities, the Deaf child has normal ability to develop language. The Deaf child who has the foundation of language will acquire English literacy” (<http://www.lead-k.org/about/>). “For the purpose of learning to read, children must have an age-appropriate level of proficiency in the same language that is to be read and written.” (Mayer, C., &

Trezek, B. J., 2014). Signing ASL gives access to the language ASL. Similarly, cueing English gives access to English, and cueing Spanish gives access to Spanish. The sky is the limit for Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing children.

## LEAD-K and Cued Speech

LEAD-K legislation is happening on a state-by-state basis, and so each state has different bills related to kindergarten readiness for children who are deaf and hard of hearing. The NCSA has noticed that the majority of state bills have focused on access to American Sign Language and not included provisions for accessing English and other spoken languages visually, such as via Cued Speech.

The NCSA supports deaf children having access to the primary language(s) of the home, which can include English, Spanish, and ASL. As such, the NCSA believes that Cued Speech should be integrated into LEAD-K legislation so that families that have English (or Spanish, etc.) as their native language are appropriately represented. That way, deaf

children born to hearing parents can be kindergarten ready!

## NCSA LEAD-K Committee

The NCSA is actively working with state groups as we find out about them and has established a LEAD-K working committee, co-chaired by Claire Klossner and Jill Keblawi. If you would like to help or contact us about LEAD-K activities in your particular state, we want to talk to you!

Contact the co-chairs at [cklossner@cuedspeech.org](mailto:cklossner@cuedspeech.org) and [jill.keblawi@cuedspeech.org](mailto:jill.keblawi@cuedspeech.org).

## Works cited:

- <http://www.lead-k.org/about/>
- Mayer, C., & Trezek, B. J. (2014). Is reading different for deaf individuals? Reexamining the role of phonology. *American Annals of the Deaf*, 159(4), 359–371.

## Bilingualism - ASL and Cued English: A Position Statement of the National Cued Speech Association

The National Cued Speech Association (NCSA) recognizes advantages of bilingualism in English and American Sign Language (ASL) for most people who are deaf or hard of hearing.

The NCSA promotes the use of Cued Speech for the development of English language literacy for children who are deaf and hard of hearing. A visual understanding of the phonemic structure of English, as well as its vocabulary and syntax, is critically needed as the foundation for reading and writing before the child begins elementary school. The emphasis in preschool should therefore be on the acquisition of receptive and expressive English through Cued Speech, hereafter referred to as cued English. Cueing consistently and accurately allows these children to acquire English naturally on a daily basis.

Cued English and ASL are not mutually exclusive. They can be used at school, at home, at work, and in various social settings, depending on the user’s preference. The use of Cued Speech provides direct, visual, and complete access to English, therefore protecting the sanctity of the English language. It also protects American Sign Language because ASL is a language that is distinct from English. By using cues for English and signs for ASL, the distinction between the two is made completely clear.

The NCSA invites and encourages a continuing dialogue on bilingualism with and among the various organizations advocating for people who are deaf and hard of hearing.

— Revised Statement adopted 4-14-2007

# Spring Camp Cheerio 2017:

By Courtney Branscome, Spring Camp Cheerio Co-Director

Another successful year of Spring Camp Cheerio is in the books! After a year of planning and organizing, this year's camp went off without a hitch. We had over 200 participants from 13 different states and the District of Columbia for an extended weekend in May.

"What does Spring Camp Cheerio have to offer?" This is a question I get every year from new and interested participants. We have a Children's Program that has classes from infants to high school/college. Beginner, Intermediate, and Spanish Cued Speech classes are offered. There is also a Cued Language Transliterator Training Course, as well as adult programming with speakers and panels lined up throughout the weekend.

In the Children's Program, we offer canoeing, hiking, archery, climbing wall, bounce house, gym, art & crafts, a deaf motivational speaker, and many other volunteer-led activities. This year we were fortunate to have Catharine McNally, a former camper, working with the children as well as being our Keynote Speaker.

Nicole Dobson taught the Beginner Cued Speech class, which was filled with parents of deaf children, late deafened adults, siblings, and professionals, etc. Suzy Brown taught the Intermediate class. Our Cued Spanish class took off a few



Courtney Branscome, William McKendree, Catharine McNally, Andy Payonk, Sarah Craddock, and Amber Kimball pose on the dining hall deck. Photo by Charlie Musser

years ago when we realized there was a need for Spanish speaking families to learn cued speech in their language. Llanley and Angel Hernandez teach this class.



Dina Livingston cues to three young campers as they prepare to make some art. Photo by Charlie Musser

Lauren Pruett of Language Matters handled all the training for our new CLT Training program. She also coordinated all CLT/ASL requests throughout camp with our wonderful CLT and Interpreter volunteer team. The CLTs were able to expand their skills and develop more training and experience. They were able to practice during presentations and/or in the children's program. Each CLT was paired up with a mentor and mentee with valuable feedback and training provided throughout the weekend.

Our Adult Program had speakers and presenters lined up throughout the weekend. The first day started out with

introductions, orientation and "coffee talks." This gave parents and professionals a chance to get to know one another and meet new faces. On Saturday, we had our keynote speech and in the afternoon we

had "camp time" where the adults were allowed to pull their children out of class if they wish and do any camp activities offered such as putt-putt, rock climbing, canoeing etc.

On Saturday afternoon, we had our popular slip-n-slide, a huge long tarp that runs down the hill with soap and water. After dinner was our dance, hosted by Jeff Campagna. The dance was all accessible with a huge t-coil loop and with a screen which showed closed captioning of every song played. We always have a theme each year and this year's theme was superheroes. There were many children and adults donning capes and masks at the dance.

To wrap up the weekend, we had our most popular programming session Sunday morning, which is the Teen Panel and Adult Panel. These panels are standing room only and out the door. We discuss their experiences growing up as a deaf child or adult. Save the date for May 18th-20th 2018!



Catharine McNally, keynote speaker  
Photo by Charlie Musser

# Camp ChiCueGo @ ISD 2017

By Aaron Rose

For the past several years, Camp Chi-Cue-Go has alternated between Alexander Graham Bell Montessori School - Alternatives in Education for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (AGBMS-AEHI)



*Karla Geise interacting with young campers.*

in the northern part of Illinois and Illinois School for the Deaf (ISD) in the central

part of the state. In addition to hosting cue camps, both schools have worked together as partners to raise awareness of Cued Speech throughout the state of Illinois.

Camp Chi-Cue-Go hosted forty-five campers at ISD this year, including children between the ages of six months and four years old. Karla Geise, Director of Deaf Education Services at AGBMS-AEHI, served as the camp director.

Camp Chi-Cue-Go offered three levels of instruction from a diverse set of instructors. Amy Fowler of Kansas,



*A camper finding joy with shaving cream.*

also a sign language interpreter, taught the Level One course, focusing on cueing simple words and short sentences. Jill Burress, an audiologist at Rochester Institute of Technology in New York taught Level Two, which addressed fluency and automaticity with cueing. Lastly, Nicole Dobson, a speech language pathologist from New Hampshire, taught Level Three, which gave campers the opportunity to practice cuereading and conversational level expressive cueing.

*Camp Chi-Cue-Go, continued on P. 9*

## Freedom to Communicate (continued from from p. 1)

to say what I wanted without thinking. Cued Speech gave me the freedom to make silly sounds, sing silly songs and made up songs.

Soon it was time for Adam to age out of early intervention into preschool, which meant we needed an Individualized Education Plan. I expected the committee would do assessments and tell me the services he needed and what they could offer based on his individual needs. I expected them to help us on the path to success.

But I was wrong. I learned quickly that I needed to be my Adam's advocate and fight to obtain the services he needed. My husband and I spent a lot of time and money, only to hear educators tell us that mode of communication was a school choice. They didn't want him to use Cued Speech; they wanted him to sign.

"Just sign, give us a chance to work with your son," they said. "Give us a chance to work with your son, see if it works, we can always come back to the table."

I knew I needed Cued Speech to communicate with my son, so I stood my ground. No one in our county used Cued Speech. I refused to sign an IEP that didn't include Cued Speech as a mode of communication. To me, his right to communicate in English was a basic human right. Each time I returned home from these meetings, I saw Adam's face, and felt

renewed energy and power to continue this uphill battle.

I reached out to organizations for help and the National Cued Speech Association was very responsive to my call, and advised me of my rights. They offered to attend Adam's IEP meeting. I received tremendous emotional support from the Cued Speech Facebook group.

The school had not completed basic evaluations required for an IEP - speech and language, psychological and educational evaluations. Our advocate filed an OCR complaint and the evaluations were soon conducted. The results indicated Adam's language level and where he was academically.

Still, the school continued to ignore my requests. All I knew is that I needed Cued Speech to freely communicate with Adam. These were the critical language learning years to prepare children for school and academics. I called for mediation and we came to an agreement that included Cued Speech. Adam was 3 1/2 when we signed our first IEP.

Our county assigned a special education teacher who knew Cued Speech. They could not find a speech therapist with cueing skills, so they hired a Cued Language Transliterator (CLT). In just a few months, Adam was cue reading and watching the CLT for

information.

I communicate freely with Adam and there are no barriers due to deafness. It doesn't matter where we are, I can cue anything and we can actually have a CONVERSATION!

Adam also uses his auditory skills to get information, but when the message is unclear, he depends on cueing to get the complete information. He is now 4 1/2 and gaining language rapidly. As a result, our county decided to train more staff in Cued Speech.

My child is amazing; he inspires me. I feel God has honored me with a special gift. Adam is the smartest, funniest, and the kindest 4-year-old boy I have ever known. At bedtime every night, I always read to him and pointed to the words. He began reading by himself at three. No one taught him.

We now have Cued Speech in our county, because I believed in it and paved the way for other children to have Cued Speech in their lives. I am thankful and inspired by other parents who used Cued Speech. I see the fruit of their labor, to make laws and regulations to protect the rights of children who are deaf.

Investing in our children helps them be included so they will be productive citizens. If you believe in your child, your child will believe in himself and if he believes in himself, nothing is impossible. Adam showed me how one person can change the world.

# 50th Anniversary of Cued Speech Conference

by Sarina Roffé

Over 300 people from around the world attended the 50th Anniversary of Cued Speech Conference in Tyson's Corner, VA. A host of volunteers helped make the 2 ½ day conference a success.

Speakers and attendees came from across the globe, providing an enlightening look at Cued Speech as it is used in Europe, Asia, and Africa, as well as across the country. Topics included educational programming, bilingualism, research studies, cued Language Transliteration, teaching Cued Speech, advocacy and lifestyle issues for adult cuers.

The conference opened with a wonderful cocktail reception. NCSA President Anne Huffman welcomed everyone to the historic conference, reminiscing of her days as the older sister

discussed the evolution of French, Amharic, Farsi, Mandarin and Vietnamese cueing. The NCSA video "Cueing Around the World," produced by Simon Roffé, demonstrated cueing being used in 27 languages. Video segments were sent to the NCSA by cuers all around the world. The video can be found on youtube or with this link <https://youtu.be/xSdPAG5riYg>

## Conference Program

Several sessions were dedicated to improving the level of professionalism and excellence, as well as meeting the same standards as the sign language community expects.

There were four general sessions. Dr. Beverly Trezek, Associate Professor of Literacy and Specialized Instruction, co-director of the Reading Specialist program, presented "Cued Speech and

Michael grew up cueing in Seattle, WA. Parent/attorney Lisa Weiss discussed "Cued Speech and Your Rights Under the Law." Native cuer Feta Fernsler presented "Technology for People who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing."

## CLEAR for Teens

The 50th Anniversary of CS Conference was a special time for cue teens as well with a specially designed CLEAR (Cuers for Leadership, Education, and Advocacy Retreat), which allowed native teen cuers a chance to interact with cuers from around the nation. CLEAR for Teens helps teenage cuers learn to be effective leaders, educators, and advocates for Cued Speech, build on their personal experiences and discover ways to share their stories, as well as meet lifelong friends, role models, and mentors. Dr. Stephanie Gardiner-Walsh and Hilary Franklin served as co-facilitators of the teen program.

Young cuers attending the CLEAR for Teens program during the conference heard from a panel of deaf adult cuers who spoke on self-advocacy. Panelists included business owner William McKendree, writer/editor Hannah Mann; CocaCola executive Jeff Maslin, and IT specialist Tiffany Matthews.

## Sponsors and Exhibitors

The NCSA is grateful for all its sponsors and exhibitors. Nuby was the top exhibit sponsor at the Exceptional Level. The Prescott Foundation was a Platinum Sponsor; Gallaudet was a Gold

*50th Anniversary, continued on P. 9*



*Aaron Rose facilitates a CLEAR adult panel with Hilary Franklin.*

of Leah Henegar in the first cueing family in the United States. Her mom, Mary Elsie Daisey, took her place of honor and was recognized for her pioneering efforts as the first cue mom.

During the reception, previous recipients of the R. Orin Cornett college scholarship spoke of how CS changed their lives. The 2016 scholarship was presented to Thomas Salvi of northern Virginia. Simon D. Roffé produced a slide show called "Where Are They Now?" to show the accomplishments of many of the adult cuers around the country.

## International Day

The first day of the conference was focused on the international cueing theme, as presenters from many countries discussed their programs and use of Cued Speech in their native country. Presenters

the Development of Reading in English: Pointing to the Evidence." Her research focuses on reading instruction for beginning and struggling readers with a particular emphasis on investigating the role of phonemic awareness and phonics in literacy development for students with hearing loss.

Advocacy was a key theme throughout the conference. Dr. Michael Argenyi gave an amazing presentation "Advocating for a Cued Language Transliterator" about his journey and fight through medical school to acquire appropriate accommodations.



*Rebecca Jones sharing her experience as a multilingual parent.*

# Honoring Our Best and Brightest

The NCSA honored its best and brightest at its star-studded gala on July 9, 2016 during its 50th Anniversary of Cued Speech Conference in Tyson's Corner, VA.

The NCSA Gala Awards Dinner is one of the few occasions during which the organization is able to publicly recognize the accomplishments of those committed to the advancement of Cued Speech.



*Amy Crumrine presenting Sarina Roffé with a leadership award.*

Chaired by native cuer Amy Crumrine, the NCSA gave out awards for three distinct areas - Education, Service and Leadership. Educators have dedicated their lives in ways we cannot imagine by creating programs that are models in education that others can emulate. Service awards are for those who have given their time tirelessly to Cued Speech over many years, without recognition, yet have made a distinct impression on those around them.

Then there are the leaders. "Where would we be without having those willing to lead, willing to step forward, willing to speak out and advocate on behalf of Cued Speech users?" NCSA President Anne Huffman asked in her welcome. "These are the fighters, the people who create, or lead the charge. As a group, they influence legislation and policy. They present and are willing to stand for the principles that make our community strong."

Each of the people honored was truly deserving, someone who has helped others, had an impact on the lives of families or users of Cued Speech. Each has made a significant impact in their field and the



*Native cuers pose for a group picture.*

effect of their work has reverberated across the nation and world.

Mistress of Ceremonies Angela Kuhn provided humor and grace throughout the evening. Angela Kuhn is the principal of the PK-8 program at the Illinois School for the Deaf (ISD).

Dr. R. Orin Cornett's son and Robert, grandchildren attended. Lydia Cornett has taken a special interest in Cued Speech and produced a video entitled "Cueing Ashlyn,"



*Dr. Melanie Metzger and Earl Fleetwood performing a duet of "Somewhere Out There"*

and a teaser of the video was shown during the dinner. The keynote presentation by Earl Fleetwood and Dr. Melanie Metzger were the highlight of the evening as the duo cued and signed "Somewhere Out There," which was so beautifully performed the audience was mesmerized.

"50 years of Cued Speech" directed by Chett Delong as a Cue Cognatio production, reminded viewers of all that has been accomplished with Cued Speech for the last half century, while the "Cue it

Forward" video, edited by Aaron Rose, motivates the NCSA to look toward the next 50 years.

Cueing Educator Awards were presented by Dr. Daniel Koo to L'Association de la Langue Française Parlée Complétée, Beth Blair, Kathleen Bull, Dr. Polly

Earl, Lorac Hintz Lawson, Dr. Guita Movallali, Dr. Cathy Quenin Rasmussen, and Anne Worsfold.

Cueing Service Awards were presented by Dr. Gabriella Jones to Dr. Michael Argenyi, Dr. Brigitte Charlier, Nicole



*Temesgan Tadele and Ben Lachman with a gift from Ethiopia for the NCSA.*

Dugan, Catherine Hage, Angela Laptewicz, Jeff Maslin, Rob McIntosh, Courtney Branscome Poole and Lisa Weiss

Cueing Leadership Awards were presented by Amy Crumrine to Karen Doenges, Penny and Eddie Hakim, Suhad Keblawi, Kitri Kyllö, Angela Kuhn, Sarina Roffé, and Tom Shull.

After the presentations, the overflowing crowd enjoyed music and dancing. The awards and their categories were carefully selected by the NCSA Awards Committee, chaired by Pam Beck.

For more information on the award recipients and their accomplishments, go to <http://www.cuedspeech.org/nCSA/awards>.

To provide full access, the NCSA provided Cued Language Transliterators, CART and ASL interpreters. Aaron Rose and his team at Cue Cognatio provided full media coverage to record the event for posterity.

*All photos by Sam Segal*

# Dr. R. Orin Cornett Portrait Unveiled at Gallaudet

It was on the Gallaudet campus that Dr. R. Orin Cornett invented Cued Speech in 1966. A half century later, his portrait now hangs in the university's Sorenson Language and Communication Center, a tribute to his genius at inventing a mode of communication now utilized around the globe and modified into over 70 languages and major dialects.

The original portrait was painted in 2006 by artist Ross Bogdan through a grant to the NCSA by Giant Food. At the time of the original presentation, Gally was under renovation, but had sent a letter that the portrait would be accepted and placed in a public space to recognize Dr. Cornett's work and contribution to deaf education.

A decade later, Gally officials were able to hang the portrait in a place of honor that dignifies the man who accomplished so much and made a difference in the lives of thousands of families with children who are deaf/hard of hearing.

The portrait was unveiled during a reception at Gallaudet University on Sunday, July 10, 2016, just hours after the end of the NCSA "50th Anniversary of Cued Speech" conference in nearby Tyson's Corner, VA. Attended by the children and grandchildren of Dr. Cornett, and a broad spectrum of the Cueing community, the reception and unveiling were a tribute to the life and work of the man whose genius changed the world.



*Adult deaf cuers posing with Dr. Cornett's portrait.*



*The first cueing family posing with Dr. Cornett's portrait.*



Ross Bogdan, artist



*Richard, Lydia, and Emily Cornett posing with their father/grandfather's portrait.*

*All photos by Charlie Musser*



## 50th Anniversary (continued from p. 6)

Sponsor. Silver sponsors were Oticon, Rob McIntosh, and the Roffé family. ASHA, MED-EL, AG Bell, the NV Cued Speech Association and the Engelman family were Bronze sponsors.

### Social Networking

The conference provided an essential social element for parents, professionals and adult deaf cuers. One evening, over 30 native cuers gathered to play the game Cards Against Humanity. The game enabled the cuers to enjoy each other's company. Many had not seen each other in years as this was the largest convergence of adult cuers in one place ever!

A tour of DC was a hit as it was a unique opportunity for DC first timers to have a transliterated tour of the nation's capital. The tour was a blast, despite unseasonably hot weather, a bus breakdown, and two people accidentally left behind! Fortunately, all took it in good spirits, and the conference proceeded more

smoothly from there on.

All over the hotel, cuers were seen visible and in strong numbers, socializing, exchanging information, sharing stories and getting an adrenaline rush from being around so many cuers. Longtime friends met for the first time in years, and many new and lasting relationships were created.

The conference was fully accessible with CLTs and ASL interpreters. CART was provided during general sessions.



*Getting ready to cool off at the pool.*

*All photo by Charlie Musser*

## Camp ChiCueGo @ ISD (continued from p. 5)

The children's program involved an animal theme with a variety of activities that incorporated cueing practice. Young campers made animal masks and practiced their cueing through songs like "Old MacDonald Had a Farm" and making different kinds of animal sounds. Other fun activities included tactile experiences with slime, shaving cream, and blowing bubbles. Overall, the children showed great effort in cueing words.

Campers came to Jacksonville with diverse backgrounds and experiences

from families to professionals as well as college students. One camper came all the way from Asia with aspirations of starting a new program using Cued Speech to help deaf and hard of hearing children as well as teach Korean English as a foreign language.



*Campers practicing their cueing.*

Looking forward to next summer, Alexander Graham Bell Montessori School and Alternatives in Education for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Individuals will hold their next cue camp in Wheeling, Illinois next summer, conveniently located near O'Hare International Airport and less than a hour from downtown Chicago.

## Upcoming Cue Camps in 2017

Cue Camps offer Cued Speech / Cued English courses, workshops, panel discussions and guest lecturers within a relaxed camp family-friendly atmosphere at beautiful locations (rivers, lakes and mountains). Students in these workshops include parents, audiologists, speech therapists, professors and cochlear implant professionals among others. Cued Speech instructors will teach the system in an easy to learn format each day to meet group as well as individual needs.

**Aug 16-20, 2017** - Camp Mechwana, Winthrop, Maine

**October 5-8, 2017** - Cue Camp Virginia, Jamestown, VA

## Thank you to a Cued Language Transliterator

Mrs. B!

What a surprise! I am so glad you're doing well! I have not forgotten about you and still think of you often! Can't believe it's been 50 years of Cued Speech! Wow! I'm proud to be part of the Cued Speech culture; in fact, I still share with others about this unique mode of communication. Without it, I wouldn't be where I am now. Your hard work has paid off, Mrs. B! You deserve to be awarded with this great achievement for being there for me during my elementary years throughout high school!

*Elisabeth Haney, to her CLT Linda Brattner*

## A Registered Nurse Shows Appreciation (continued from p. 1)

finances precluded a research trip to North Carolina. Despite having never met my mother in those pre-Internet days, Beth offered to let us lodge at her house. Even more astonishingly, she was vacationing out of town when we arrived in North Carolina, so she left a key under the mat and told us to make ourselves at home until she and her family returned. Her incredible gesture potentially set the course of my life.

We moved to North Carolina soon after the initial trip, where I received a cochlear implant. I actively used Cued Speech until 5th grade and attended various Cued Speech camps.

Communication has always been a vital part of my life due to the challenges I have faced on a daily basis to access the spoken language of others. Cued Speech gave me full access to spoken language prior to receiving the cochlear implant. This unique perspective allows me to think about communicative interactions among health care providers and between providers and patients differently than nurses and investigators who access spoken language via auditory perception.

Cued Speech also strengthened my vocabulary by giving me complete visual access to words and sounds that I could not access through auditory perception alone; that turned out to be an asset in research and nursing.

Through cue camps and the Cued Speech program, I met many intelligent, driven people who proactively advocated for communication access and sought solutions to bridge communication gaps with their families and peers. In 6th grade, I stopped using transliterators because I'd developed a strong language foundation through both Cued Speech and my cochlear implant, and I was able to lipread well."

Cueing provided the foundation I needed to pursue a career in nursing. After six months of working as a nurse tech at a Level 2 trauma hospital, I found that I could handle a hospital environment and decided to apply to nursing school. Several speech, hearing and special

education professionals tried to dissuade me from pursuing a medical career, although my nursing instructors and peers turned out to be quite supportive and inclusive. Even my mother was a little skeptical, although I think that was more out of concern than anything else.

Despite those setbacks, I was determined to become a nurse, and I worked diligently to find creative solutions to my challenges--like stethoscopes. Funnily enough, I didn't even think of how I'd use a stethoscope until after I'd received my acceptance letter! Fortunately, I found an amplified stethoscope that worked with my cochlear implant, but I still had some challenges there to navigate. I couldn't use disposable stethoscopes with my cochlear implant and hadn't yet mastered how to use my amplified stethoscope without contaminating my other patients. I spent hours after nursing school in the open lab donning and redonning the gowns, and testing the hospital grade cleaning wipes with my stethoscope to figure out a way I could continue to care for patients. That hard work paid off, and I was able to care for patients safely.

Although I no longer use Cued Speech actively in my daily life, I see its impact every day I work as a registered nurse. I am able to understand highly technical medical terminology from my peers, and I can lip read efficiently in loud, chaotic environments. I've found that my stronger lipreading skills also helps with patients who cannot speak clearly.

That unique perspective as a deaf cuer also gave me extra insight into communicative interactions between healthcare providers and patients-- not just auditory, but also visual. Even now, I find that deaf patients are more comfortable with me than other providers because they know I intuitively understand their communication needs and will work to bridge that information gap between them and their provider.



*Amber speaks at a cue camp: Photo by Charles Musser*

Many deaf people recognize that their disability separates them from people, and it can result in isolation if they don't make a conscious effort to connect with like-minded individuals. Cued Speech and its advocates gave me that camaraderie that I was looking for, as well as the access to language that I desperately needed to facilitate my goals as a registered nurse and researcher.

Thanks to Dr. Cornett, who invented Cued Speech in 1966, I am able to read medical books and recognize medical terminology and concepts effortlessly. I am able to focus more on the substance of speech rather than trying to figure out individual words spoken to me. As a result, I can focus more on improving patient care. This system has shaped me as a nurse, a researcher and a productive member of society.

*Amber Kimball earned her Bachelors of Science in Nursing from Winston Salem State University and currently works at Wake Forest Baptist Hospital and will be starting her Nursing PhD program at UNC - Chapel Hill on a Robert Wood Johnson Future of Nursing Scholar Fellowship this fall. Her research focus will be on improving communication in healthcare settings for people with disabilities. She is also a member of the board of directors for the Association of Medical Professionals with Hearing Loss (AMPHL).*

# DONOR'S LIST

We thank the following donors for their generosity

## 50th Anniversary Sponsorship

Devcon Services Group, LLC/Shannon Howell  
Gallaudet University  
Giant Food  
Ronald And Mary Ann Lachman Foundation  
Luv'n Care/Hakim Family  
Med-El Corporation  
Robert McIntosh  
Ohio Cued Speech Association  
Oticon, Inc  
Prescott Foundation  
Sarina and David Roffé

## 50th Anniversary

ASHA  
AG Bell Association  
Linda and Martin Brattner  
Barbara Caldwell and Joan Rupert  
Cued Speech Discovery  
Daily Cues  
Ralph and Synnove Engelman  
University of Illinois  
Language Matters Inc  
MD Cued Speech Association  
Maine CS Services  
NK Freelance Services  
Northern VA Cued Speech

## Supporting Cue Camps

Anne E. Huffman  
Duke Energy  
Luv n' Care./Hakim Family

## Major Donors to the General Fund

David Swineheart  
Irene and Edward Kaplan  
Martin L Osborne  
Suhad Keblawi

## In honor of all staff on the 2nd floor of EPCHS

Jeffrey Juarez

## In honor of Barbara Lee for introducing to CS 22 years ago!

Dylan White

## In honor of Brett Fasold and Valerie Bu

JustGive  
Michael Widner

## In Honor of Courtney Branscome

Amy Branscome

## In honor of David Roffé's 65th birthday

Linda Gamisa  
Rachell Sirota

## In Honor of Lauren Pruett

Jane D. Cooper

## In Honor of Suhad Keblawi

**CLTs in Fairfax County PS**  
Jill Keblawi and Family  
Nabeel Keblawi

## In honor of Maryanne Miller

Daniel Warren

## In Honor of Penny and Eddie Hakim

Nathan & Joyce Shamosh

## In honor of Quincie Carr

Taylor Dunkle

## In honor of Sarina Roffé

Ethel and Jacob Gold  
Meryl and Richard Glovin  
Judy and Stanley Hoffman  
Harriet Roffé  
Amsellem, Appelbaum, Barkin and Markowitz Family  
Joyce Lieb  
Nicholas & Carol Hillman  
Rachell Sirota and children  
David Roffé and Family  
Sandra & Paul Dann  
Linda Brattner

## In memory of Alex Kovalsky

Debra L Kovalsky

## In memory of Bill Krause

Mary Krause

## Cornett Scholarship Fund /In memory of Paulette Dissoubray

Rebecca Jones

## In memory of Carol Shuler and Kris Wilson

Dennis & Judy Broselle

## Kris Wilson Scholarship

Barbara Hester  
Will Wright

## Sponsor a Student

Mark & Patricia Fasold

## To Support Cued Speech Workshops

Ronald And Mary Ann Lachman Foundation

## General Fund

Joanne Webb-Barnum  
Charles Bell  
Maureen Bellamy  
John Blair  
Ernest William Brach  
Karen Koehler-Cesa  
Donna Consacro  
Jason Curry  
Emma Curry  
Jay Diamant  
Karen Doenges  
Elizabeth Dohony  
Michelle Dunaway  
Brett Fasold  
Andrea Forges  
Carole Griffin  
Martha and Kirk Franklin  
Virginia Gleeson  
Robert and Joan Gonsoulin  
Michael & Fanchon Halacka  
Deborah Howard  
Jeanette Jarvis  
Deanna M. Jordan  
Candace Katz  
Jill Keblawi  
Claire Klossner  
Preeti Kochar  
Maureen Kovalovich  
Ben Lachman  
Barbara LeBlanc  
Elizabeth Lehman  
Maryland CS Association  
Robert McIntosh  
Alina Mills  
Susan Mochinski  
Amanda Naso  
Janet Nelson  
Clifford & Mary Nemeth  
Maria Prokop  
Shelley Powsner  
Jerry Pucciarelli  
Ana Ramswamy  
Cathy Rasmussen  
R. S Rhodes  
Susan Russell  
Joan and Stan Rupert  
Ronald & Teresa Schier  
Thomas Shull  
Carl Sechrist  
Changwon Seo  
Lisa Udkoff  
Lisa Weiss

Includes Donations from January 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017

Welcome to  
**amazon**smile  
You shop. Amazon gives.

Shop Amazon? Use Amazon  
Smile and designate the NCSA, we  
will get a percentage of the sale.  
Go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com)



## National Cued Speech Association

1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Suite 190-713

Washington, DC 20004

**FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED**

## NCSA Around the Nation

The NCSA has been spreading word about Cued Speech at exhibits during conferences with presentations and by offering free CS classes. At the same time, we have been working to advocate for cuers in legislation.

The NCSA is a member of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Alliance (DHHA), a group of deaf related organizations who share a common interest. For the past several months, DHHA, has been working on the reauthorization of the Early Hearing and Detection Intervention Act.

The NCSA has joined the Coalition for Future Mobility, to ensure that the

transportation industry keep in mind the unique needs of users who would benefit the most from autonomous vehicles.

The NCSA is advocating for inclusive technology and utilizing universal design to benefit people who are deaf because existing self-driving vehicles are limited in their user experiences.

A new exhibit was created for the 50th Anniversary of Cued Speech conference. Annually, the NCSA exhibits at ASHA, AG Bell, Hands & Voices and EHDI. There are also many smaller state conferences and deaf expos, where the NCSA sends its exhibit.

We depend on our volunteers to work at the exhibit booths. This past year alone, we attended conferences in San Diego, CA; Denver, CO; Atlanta, GA; Louisville, KY; Harrisburg and Philadelphia, PA; as well as Arlington and Charlottesville, VA.

The NCSA has been spreading the word about CS by offering classes simultaneous to its twice a year board meetings. The most recent board meetings have been in Natick, MA, San Diego, CA; and Ann Arbor, MI. Working in partnership with a local university, classes are taught in state of the art facilities.

At the same time, social events, such as Cues on Tap, enable the board to interact with and form relationships with locals who are using or are interested in cueing. In all three locations, the NCSA was able to offer Beginner Cued American English, and Advanced Beginner classes. Classes held in Ann Arbor were so popular, the NCSA offered two beginner classes!

Look for our next classes to be held in Dallas, TX!

### MEET US IN DALLAS!

<b>Fri/Sat - Oct 20-21, 2017</b>	NCSA Board meeting
<b>Fri/Sat - Oct 20-21, 2017</b>	Basic Instructor Workshop
<b>Fri/Sat - Oct 20-21, 2017</b>	Beginner Cued American English
<b>Fri/Sat - Oct 20-21, 2017</b>	Advanced Beginner CAE
<b>Sun - Oct 22, 2017</b>	Instructor Certification Exam