



Arkansas Speech-Language-Hearing Association

SOUND EXPRESSIONS

Vol. 19, Issue 3



President's Message

Rachel Glade, PhD, CCC-SLP, LSLC Cert. AVT

Hello Magnificent Members!

As always ArkSHA has been hard at work advocating, collaborating and networking for members, professionals in the field, and the families we serve. We want to take a minute to highlight the recent work of ArkSHA as well as tell everyone how amazing our 2020 ArkSHA Convention is going to be. Before we get to that, we want to say, "THANK YOU! We are proud of you!"

Oftentimes being an audiologist or speech-language pathologist can be a thankless job. We want you to know we see you and are supporting you. We are proud of the school-based SLPs and educational audiologists who are putting in countless additional hours to make sure IEPs and 504s are addressed during the pandemic. We are proud of the audiologists and SLPs working with individuals in the geriatric population in medical and rehabilitation settings who have had to get creative and advocate for evaluation and intervention services during this time. We are proud of the SLPs and audiologists working in the early intervention settings who have had to spend extra hours brainstorming how to provide needed services to little ones while also educating families. We are proud of all SLPs and audiologists who have faced the challenges presented by COVID-19 and responded with an ever-present commitment to make sure the people that need us most receive the services they deserve. Thank you. We are honored to call you colleagues, members, and friends.

What has ArkSHA been up to lately?

1. ArkSHA collaborated with leaders from the Arkansas Occupational Therapy Association (ArOTA) and the Arkansas Physical Therapy Association (ArPTA) to meet with representatives from Medicaid to advocate for the provision of telepractice beyond the pandemic.
2. ArkSHA was invited to participate in the Arkansas Therapy Coalition. This is an advocacy group of state associations and groups across Arkansas who provide therapy or rehabilitation services across the

lifespan. One of the goals of this coalition is to identify how we can work together to advocate for the individuals we serve through policy development.

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Connect with ArkSHA on Social Media!



Be sure to use #ArkSHA when connecting with us!

Check out our website, www.arksha.org, where we will continue to make updates.

VIRTUAL

ArkSHA Annual Convention

October 12-15, 2020

Sharpen Your Skills



**Arkansas
Speech-Language-Hearing
Association**

[Register](#)

Register by October 7th to receive the best rate!

Can't attend live? All sessions will be available until November 15th to view the recordings. Registration will continue to be open during this 30 days.

I Can't See Your Mouth

~ Donna Fisher Smiley, PhD, CCC-A
ArkSHA VP for Audiology

By this time, we are all very aware of the struggle of understanding speech through a face covering. There are two things that happen when one is wearing a face covering: no access to visual cues from the mouth and the acoustical signal intensity is diminished. All of us are experiencing challenges in hearing and understanding speech in this time – but this is especially true for individuals with hearing loss. As speech language pathologists and audiologists, we are all seeing individuals with hearing loss (some identified and some not identified).

Thanks to the Danish Association of the Hard of Hearing for sharing the infographic here. These tips for better communication are useful for all of us in all types of settings.

Communication tips when using face masks

Face masks are particularly challenging for people with hearing loss. Here are some tips for how you can improve communication when wearing a mask.



Be attentive

If the person you are talking to has a hard time understanding you, rephrase the sentence instead of just repeating it.



Be patient

Face masks make lip reading impossible and muffle the sound. Therefore, be patient with the person you are talking to.



Use other forms of communication

Communicate using pen and paper, use your mobile or tablet audio recorder, or use virtual assistant.



Be mindful of distance

As the distance between two people increases, the sound level drops, and visual signals are harder to decipher.



Be visible

Make sure you face the person you are talking to. Avoid talking as you walk away from the person or turning your face in a different direction.



Be clear and distinct

Speak loudly, but do not shout. Focus on speaking slowly and clearly, but do not exaggerate your words. Use plain language.



Ensure that you have been understood

Check understanding by asking the person to repeat information back.



Eliminate background noise

Reduce ambient noise or move the conversation to a quiet place if possible.



Join the conversation

Offer to accompany the person with hearing loss for an appointment where face masks are worn, to help them hear.



Use a speech-to-text interpreter

Speech-to-text interpretation is available via mobile phone apps and can be used in everyday interactions to provide live captioning of the conversation.



Courtesy of the Danish Association of the Hard of Hearing



ArkSHA Charitable Fund

In December of 2019 the ArkSHA board started the 'ArkSHA Charitable Fund' with the Arkansas Community Foundation to provide our members and supporters with a tax-deductible way to support ArkSHA's initiatives. This will allow ArkSHA to provide grant funds

for educational/research purposes as requested and the board sees fit.

This fund is not going to replace the **Betty Bass Scholarship Fund** at this time. We would still like to encourage members to donate to ArkSHA directly so that we can continue to give out a \$1000 student scholarship each year.



Donate to the Charitable
Fund Now

Member of the Moment

Professional



[Jessica Danley, MS,CCC-SLP](#)

Jessica moved to Northwest Arkansas from Austin, TX in 2013 but is originally from Anchorage, Alaska. She provides clinical services to adults in an inpatient rehabilitation setting and has over 10 years of experience. She earned her Master's Degree from Tennessee State University. Although Jessica began her career treating school-aged children she later transitioned to medical services and has also gained experience in both acute care and skilled nursing settings. She is a clinical educator with special interests in dysphagia, instrumental studies, and student supervision. She is a wife to Brendan, mother to Miles and Evelyn, and loves knitting in her spare time.

Student



[Micah Wylie, graduate student at the University of Arkansas](#)

Micah Wylie is a Ninja. He graduated from Northwestern University with a Bachelors of Science in Speech. After a few gap years he completed a post-baccalaureate program in Speech-Language Pathology at the University of Arkansas, where he is currently a Master's student and Graduate Assistant. He recently helped ArkSHA with tasks for the convention. In a previous life in Los Angeles he

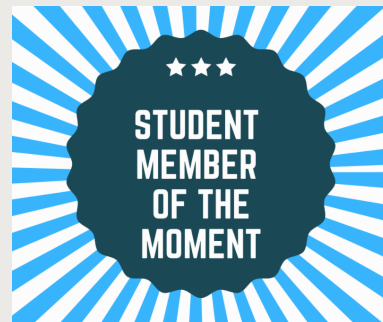
worked at Peace Arch Entertainment, producer of the Showtime series, The Tudors. In his spare time, he joined forces with some of his cohorts from Northwestern to produce an assortment of plays with their company, Needtheater. The company sought to bridge diverse communities in Los Angeles by producing theater that spoke to life, cultivated social dialogue, and expanded the role of theater in society. This effort resulted in four LA Weekly Awards and a positive notice in Variety. Micah also enjoys distance running. He ran the Honolulu Marathon and loved it so much that he signed up for the Los Angeles Marathon, where he shaved 30 minutes off his finishing time. He is also a certified Classical Pilates teacher and operated his own company, Wylie Moves, teaching private clients and groups in studios and homes all over the city. Life is much quieter and more peaceful for Micah here in Arkansas. He currently lives on the lakeside with his family and is a doting dog daddy to a beautiful white Maltese named Trixie.



Nominate Today!

Want to nominate a student or professional member of the moment?

Select the image to the side to be taken to the nomination form.



Nominate Today!

INTRODUCING ArkSHA's Gift-to-Grad

PROGRAM

GRADUATE STUDENTS THAT HAVE BEEN A MEMBER OF ARKSHA FOR 2 YEARS WILL RECEIVE THEIR FIRST YEAR AS AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF ARKSHA FOR **FREE**. STUDENTS CURRENTLY IN THEIR 2ND YEAR OF GRADUATE SCHOOL WILL BE GRANDFATHERED IN & ONLY REQUIRE 1 YEAR OF MEMBERSHIP PRIOR TO JOINING AS AN ACTIVE MEMBER.

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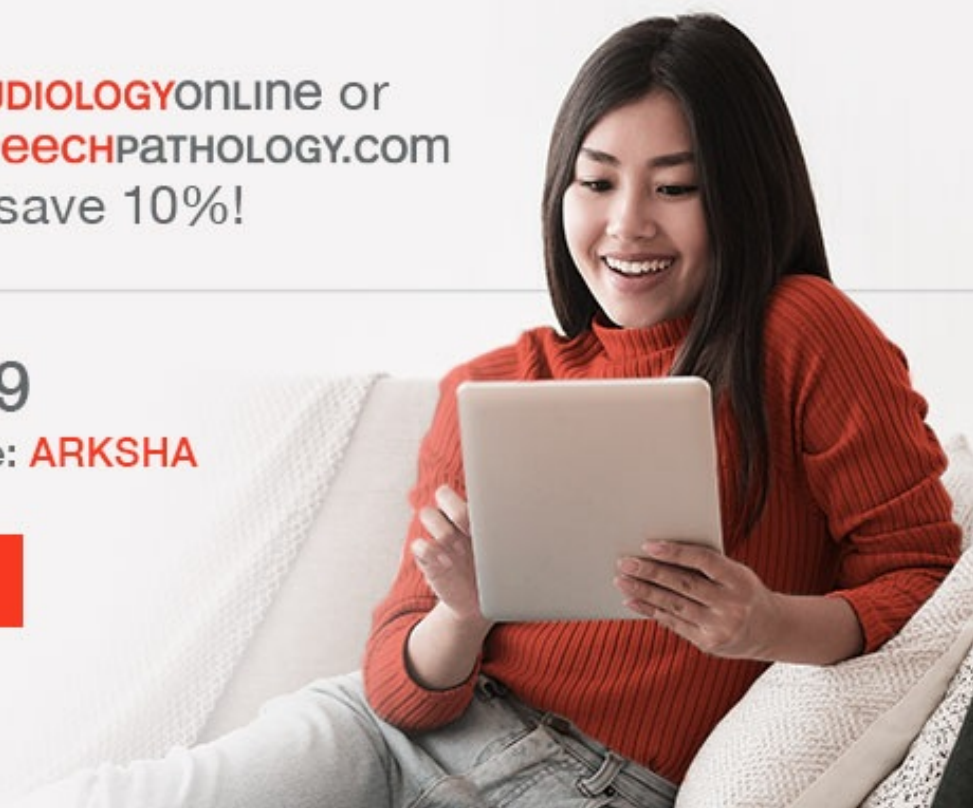
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ArkSHA Mission Statement

Connecting, learning and communicating with audiologists, speech-language pathologists, future professionals and consumers through:

Advocacy
Education
Mentoring
Networking
Resources

Connect with
us

