



SLCD Voice

School For Language And Communication Development

SPRING 2009

WWW.SLCD.ORG

Published by the School for Language and Communication Development whose mission is to identify children with language and autism spectrum disorders as early as possible to prepare them for a world filled with words, sentences, and messages.

8th Annual Chefs for Children Food & Wine Tasting 2009

The Eighth Annual Chefs for Children, Food and Wine Tasting was held on March 25, 2009 at Jericho Terrace. Over 400 people attended this delicious event to raise money for SLCD. The guests sampled fine wines and mouth-watering cuisine from 35 participants.

Dorothy Matinale, who's son Andrew attends Glen Cove, spoke at the event to extend gratitude to the school and Dr. T, as well as explain what her family went through before Andrew attended our school. An excerpt of her speech - "I would like to thank Dr. T for not only inviting me to speak with you tonight, but for having the vision and the fortitude to create a second home for my son and all of the other children who thrive because of its existence. For our family, SLCD has been the answer to our prayers. I will never forget the overwhelming feeling of relief that I felt the day we first entered the doors at SLCD. It was welcoming, safe, nurturing, productive and alive with smiling faces! It was the "AH HA Moment" I had been struggling to find for so many months and years. Thank you Dr T and all the staff for giving us back our son. He may now actually have the chance to some day be the astronomer or veterinarian that he dreams of becoming one day."



Thank you to the parents and staff of SLCD who donated more than 50 baskets.

A special thank you to those that participated in our Eighth Annual Chefs for Children Food and Wine Tasting:

Banfi Vintners
Ben's Best Kosher Caterers
Bernard's Market & Café
Blackstone Steakhouse
Boston Beer Company
The Brass Rail
Brendel's Bagels & Eatery of
New York
Burton & Doyle Steakhouse
Calageros Restaurant
Chateau Briand
Eleanor Rigby's
Epiphany Restaurant
Faropian Wine Corp.
Fox Hollow
Restaurant Catering Hotel

LaBonne Boulangerie
La Bottega Italian Gourmet
LaBussola Ristorante
La Strada Italian Restaurant
London Lennies
Manhattan Beer Distributors
Mario's Vinotheque



Martha Clara Vineyards
Marzullo's II Pasticceria
Messina Market
Mill Creek Tavern
NYIT deSeversky Center
Page One
Panera Bread
Quartz Caterers, Inc.
Riccardo's By the Bridge
Sagamore Steakhouse
Tina & Tony's Spumante
Restaurant
Uncle Bacala's
Wall's Wharf
Wild Harvest Rustic American
Grill

Famous Quotes:

Philanthropy is almost the only virtue which is sufficiently appreciated by mankind.

-Henry David Thoreau

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Founded in 1985, SLCD is a 501 (c) (3) not-for profit organization dedicated to helping children with severe language and autism spectrum disorders. It provides special education programs for preschool and school age children (K-12). At SLCD we believe language is the key to creativity, self-expression and academic achievement. SLCD is chartered through the NY State Board of Regents and approved by the NY State Education Department.

If you would like more information about the School for Language and Communication Development (SLCD) and if you are interested in making a donation please contact Laura Abrams, Development Office at 516-609-2000 ext. 123.

"Giving Our Children A Voice"

Message from the Executive Director

Times are bad. We have all heard about the doom and gloom. But there is no time for that here. We have to move on and focus on our children. We have children with special needs. From professionals to evaluation reports, the message is that our children cannot and will not succeed. But they do and they will continue to do so.

I do not want to hear about terrible news and forecasts. There is no time to pay attention to all that noise. It is very distracting to what we need to do every day. When our teachers come to work their focus is on getting children to learn. "How can Jared or Christina learn to do that task? How should the activity be broken down into smaller steps so that it is easier to learn? If this teaching method does not work then what other method will work?"

SLCD is an arboretum, a flower garden of children. We need just the right light and water and temperature to grow our children. Our children must be attended to and that's all there is to know. We need to keep ourselves focused on only one thing here. What do teachers need to do so that children, our children, can grow? So do not come to me with worries and concerns about possible rain storms and blizzards. For certain, what benefit would such predictions have to the children?

We grow lives here. That's our job. We also have great successes here. There can be no waiting. We need to keep going. Our children need all of the help they can get from us. This is their time. They need positive support and encouragement because the world outside is not the arboretum that we have here. The world outside has little patience for our children and their learning problems. We need to prepare our students for the realities of the future.

Time is short. We need to make sure that our children can make it outside. Our children are not going to disappear. So do not let anyone use the economy as an excuse for not helping!



Dr. Ellenmorris Tiegerman, Ph.D.
 Founder and Executive Director
 of the School for Language &
 Communication Development

We Want to Hear from Our Alumni!

Two years ago we announced an Alumni Story Contest, and since we enjoyed it so much, we're holding it again.

In the 24 years since this school has been open we've had hundreds of students graduate and we LOVE hearing the stories of their accomplishments. Nothing fills us with greater happiness and pride than hearing about students who went on to achieve their goals and succeed.

Amanda Draghi won the contest in 2007 and Jonathan Davis in 2008. Please visit our website, www.slcd.org, to read their stories.

If you would like to enter your story please contact Kelly Peters at 516-609-2000 x214 or e-mail her at kpeters@slcd.org. We prefer that all stories be submitted electronically or typed. The winning story will be selected by a group of parents & staff, and will appear in our next newsletter and on our website. The winner will receive a check for \$150.

—Deadline is May 15, 2009—

High School Students & Regents Exams

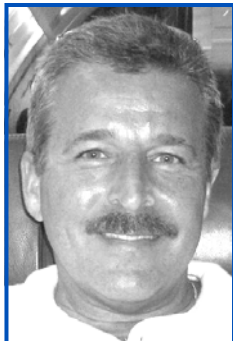
We are so proud to share with everyone that many of our students took the RCT and Regents' Examinations for the first time in the following subjects: Earth Science, Algebra & Global Studies. We would like to congratulate all of our students for their hard work. It is an amazing accomplishment just to study and take these State examinations. Special commendations should go to **Yovanica Jean Marie, Stacey Santana, Julius Sevilla, Limmie Snoddy, Melissa Vargas, Sophia Melki, and Tyrone Senra.**

I want to remind everyone that SLCD opened its Middle High School Program in September 2006. In 2007, the entire High School curriculum was reviewed and approved by the New York City Department of Education's Office of Accountability and as a result, SLCD became a registered high school. We believe that the success of our students is closely tied to the excellent teachers and specialists along with an outstanding instructional program. So, I would like to applaud the efforts of Mr. Robert Schmidt, Principal, Dr. Jeremy Tiegerman, Coordinator for Psychological Services, Mrs. Theresa Mais, Coordinator for Educational Services, and my entire teaching staff for their dedication to our students. At SLCD, we believe that every student should be given the opportunity to meet the challenge of RCT and Regents' Examinations.

Board of Directors Update

The School for Language and Communication Development (SLCD) has officially named Paul Rosen of Huntington Chairman of SLCD's Board of Directors. Previous Chairman, Mario Fischetti of Glen Head, was appointed to Chairman Emeritus. In addition, Tanya G. Hunte, of Manhattan, Scott Liewehr of New Hyde Park and John Meindl of Rockville Centre join SLCD's current Board of Directors as their newest members.

"We are truly excited to have Mr. Rosen take on this new leadership role within our Board of Directors," said Dr. Ellenmorris Tiegerman, Founder and Executive Director of SLCD. "We thank Mr. Fischetti for his continued support of SLCD and look forward to continuing to give our children a voice with the help and dedication of Ms. Hunte, Mr. Liewehr and Mr. Meindl."



Mr. Paul Rosen,
Chairman

Mr. Rosen (at left) has been on the Board of Directors of SLCD since 1990. His daughter, Lauren was diagnosed with a language disorder and attended SLCD from 1987-1993. Mr. Rosen is the co-owner of DGR Contract Furniture in Jericho. His daughter attended Syosset High School and is a talented artist who designed all of Dr. Tiegerman's textbooks.

Mr. Fischetti has been on SLCD's Board since 1993. He successfully built his own business, Mario Fischetti Nursery, Inc. and is deeply involved with his community. He believes that success in business must extend beyond the boundaries of his own family. Mr. Fischetti has been honored on many occasions by the Knights of Columbus, Town of North Hempstead, City of Glen Cove, and Village of Williston Park by Nassau County.

Ms. Hunte is the Founder, President & CEO of ELD, one of the top litigation support firms in the country. She is a featured partner with the Good Ground Project - a New York based non-profit that exposes urban youth to entrepreneurship, and a member of the Unites States Women's

Chamber of Commerce. Ms. Hunte is an accredited Essayist with a number of works published in recent anthologies, and is the author of the forthcoming book, "Slay the Dragon, Sing the Song: An Affirmation of Khalil Gibran."

Mr. Liewehr founded Onesta in 2006 and leads the Strategy Practice. He has served as an executive and strategist for the past eight years of his career, working primarily with Fortune 100 companies and government agencies, and is a recognized thought leader in the field. Mr. Liewehr is actively involved in his local community, having served as a youth football coach for six years as well as religious education teacher for high school students.

Mr. Meindl is founder and president of SPORTS BRANDED MEDIA, INC. He is presently an Asst. Professor of sport marketing - having recently developed a new sport business management curriculum for a NY area graduate school. With almost 20 years in the sports business, he is a published writer and speaker in the areas of sports marketing and sports production. Mr. Meindl has been a strong advocate for inner city and underprivileged youth. He is the youngest board member appointed to the Nassau County Sports Commission and has also served on the Business Advisory Board, LIU-Southampton College, and the Board of Directors for the YMCA of Greenpoint, NY.

Doing Our Part for the Environment

Did you know that up to 70% of the trash from schools, like ours, is paper that can be recycled?

In an effort to reduce waste and conserve valuable natural resources SLCD has implemented a recycling program. A blue waste receptacle has been placed in every classroom, office and common area for paper, empty lidless coffee cups, magazines, cardboard and so on. As well as a receptacle for empty bottles and cans in the staff lounge & children's cafeteria.

Let's all do our part and remember to recycle!

SLCD's 10th Annual

Golf Outing

AUGUST 17, 2009

THE CREEK CLUB

LOCUST VALLEY, NY

Please call Kelly Peters in the Development Office
at 516-609-2000 ext. 214 for more information

Kids Corner

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day at Woodside

The Music and Social Studies Departments hosted an assembly in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on January 21, 2009. Tkai Allah gave the history and background, and Dumie Carnegie and Daiquan Stewart recited portions of Dr. King's "Let Freedom Ring" speech, while our students played their instruments. Ms. Brooks wrote a poem dedicated to Dr. King, which was accompanied by the student's choir and band. Mrs. Davis recalled her story of when, as a teenager, she attended Mr. King's speech during the march on Washington in 1963.



It was not only educational, but quite moving as well. Thank you Ms. Mattia, Mr. LaForgia, Mrs. Davis, Ms. Brooks and all the students involved.

Children's Art Show

On Thursday, April 23rd our children will be displaying their art in a gallery in New York City. They were invited to do so by Joseph Sprung, founder of the Bears 4 Kids Foundation. There will be a celebratory reception for children whose art is displayed and their families from 6:30 to 8:00 pm.

The art will be for sale, with the proceeds going towards purchasing items for the children of SLCD.

If you would like to attend the art show and show your support for our talented artists please call us at 516-609-2000 x214. The gallery is on Madison and 49th Street.

Peace Poster Contest

On February 24th our Woodside school held a ceremony for the participants of The 2008 Peace Poster Contest sponsored by the Rego Park Forest Hills Lions Club. This contest is held annually by the International Lions Clubs. Various clubs throughout the world sponsor schools to participate.



The winner was Mariel Lechner (her photo below). This winning poster went on to be entered into the State Contest. SLCD Board Member, Sher Sparano said "The evening was a great success. There was a tremendous amount of talent. We would like to thank Principal Robert Schmidt for his graciousness & support, and teacher Carla Mattia for her work & enthusiasm."



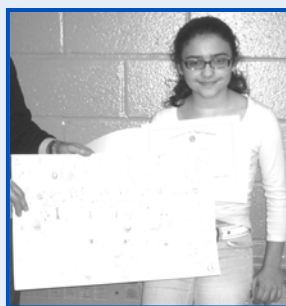
Scott Liewehr, one of SLCD's newest Board Members, said "It was an amazing experience," he was "not only impressed with the artwork but with the thinking that went into the concepts." He also noted that this was his first interaction with the children of SLCD and it "helped to remind him of what we're here for."



The Rego Park Forest Hills Lions Club President Grace Libin made a commitment to sponsor SLCD in the 2009 Peace Poster Contest.

The following students' work were honored and displayed:

Nina Gengo, Mariel Lechner, Tiffany Than, Conner Owens, Tymel Bishop, Marcus Laforesterie, David Ruiz, Tygene Fox, Daquan Bolton & Taj Davila.



Top to bottom: Tiffany Than, Tygene Fox, Connor Owens and Mariel Lechner

SLCD's Own Election!

SA3 went to several of the school aged classrooms to teach the other classes about voting and election. The class was divided into four groups and each group worked very hard! The groups researched all the facts and created beautiful posters. The posters included facts and pictures about their specific topic. The first group researched the voting process. They discussed who can vote, where to vote and the Electoral College. The second group worked on how to become the president. One of the facts included that the president must be at least 35 years old. The third group researched and discussed the political parties. They included pictures of the symbols of the political parties and what the parties stand for. There were also pictures of the candidates that were running for both the president and vice president. The last group discussed the two major candidates and their policies on the economy, education and health care. We were very proud of all their hard work. They all did a great job educating the other classes!

Kids Corner

Bears 4 Kids



The gift of giving is something that we here at SLCD experience each time we receive a donation from a kindhearted person. It is also a lesson we are sharing with our students. In an effort to teach them what it feels like to give to others we've partnered with the Bears 4 Kids Foundation.

Bears 4 Kids is a non-profit organization founded by Joseph B. Sprung. Committed to bringing joy to the lives of children and adults alike with the gift of a teddy bear, they believe that the altruism of some can affect the lives of many.



With this in mind, SLCD joined the Bears 4 Kids Empowerment Program. Each student involved gives away a bear and they are rewarded with one for themselves. Every class chose a geographic location to

research and they selected a charitable institution to receive their bears. The classes are keeping a journal on why they selected a particular organization and what it feels like to give a teddy bear to someone in need.

The following Glen Cove classes have selected these charities:

- Montifiore Children's Hospital in the Bronx- SA 1
- Hogar Infanti Orphanage of Mexico- SA 2
- Hope Institute of Illinois- SA 3
- Project Sunshine of Connecticut- SA 4
- Children's Charity of Southern California- SA 5
- Boys & Girls Club of Baton Rouge- SA 6
- Boys & Girls Club of Glen Cove- SA 7
- Make-a-Wish Foundation of NY- SA 8
- Lupus Alliance of Long Island- SA 9
- Children's Charity of Pittsburgh, PA- SA 11
- Hasboro Children's Hospital of Rhode Island- SA 12
- Institute for Cancer & Blood Disease of Staten Island- SA 13
- Make-a-Wish Foundation of Ohio- SA 14
- National Children's Leukemia Foundation of Brooklyn- SA 15
- Smile Train of New Jersey- SA 16
- Salina Regional Health Center of Kansas - SA 17
- St. Jude's Ranch of Nevada- SA 18

Artist of the Month



Zachary Barbosa 8 years old SA 13B

Grease is the Word!

We are excited to announce that our Middle/High School music production this year will be Grease. The performance will be Friday May, 29th at 12:45pm at the Woodside Middle/High School in the Gymnasium. We will announce ticket and other information about the show shortly. Any questions please call Carla Mattia at ext.432, or email her at cmattia@slcd.org.

Author Visits

Friday, April 24, 2009:

Tracey Delio- The Secret Adventures of Louie V

Friday, May 15, 2009:

Jim Peluso- The Purple Porpoise Preserves the Planet with a P

Wednesday, May 20, 2009:

Nick Agro- My First Picture Book of Boating Words

All books will be available for purchase following the book presentation. Pre-orders will be taken as well.

The following Woodside classes have selected these charities:

- East Talbot Community Center of Israel- HR 1 and 2
- The Children's Home of Tampa Florida- HR 3
- Bronx Psychiatric School- HR 4
- Adoption Rescue Network of Minnesota- HR 5
- Phoenix Children's Hospital of Arizona- HR 8
- Children's Hospital of Providence in Alaska- HR 9
- Condon's Boys & Girls Club of Massachusetts- HR 10
- Providence Tarzana Medical Center of CA- HR 11

Book Review :Alphabet Kids-From ADD to Zellweger Syndrome

I just finished Alphabet Kids-From ADD to Zellweger Syndrome: A Guide to Developmental Neurobiological and Psychological Disorders for Parents and Professionals by Robbie Woliver. It contains a great deal of information that all parents who have children with developmental disabilities should have. It is easy to use, very well organized and is extremely readable. It provides parents with “signs and symptoms” as well as diagnoses and treatments related to a range of disabilities from A to Z. The book also contains case studies of families who have children with disabilities to provide parents with inspirational life stories related to each disorder. This presents the clinical information within a context that parents can more readily understand. Having written several textbooks myself, I know the amount of work that went into this wonderful book. I recommend it highly to parents.

Dr. Ellenmorris Tiegerman
 Founder and Executive Director

Save the Date

Carousel in the Park ~ Casino Night

Friday, June 5, 2009

Carlyle on the Green Bethpage State Park

Please visit the event webpage at www.slcdcasinonight.com
 for event information and easy registration.

Tickets are \$250 per person (black tie). Auction item donations are graciously accepted

Donation ideas include:

- Electronics (TV's, iPods, GPS)
- Sports equipment (golf, ski)
- Gift certificates to restaurants, spas, etc.
- Travel (hotel stays, airline tickets)
- Tickets to sporting events or theater
- Wine & liquor baskets

If you are interested in donating a casino night prize, please visit www.slcd.org/news/donations
 for a donation form or call the Development office at 516-609-2000 x123.

Honorary
 Chairperson

Joseph B. Sprung
 President &
 Founder of Bears 4
 Kids
 Foundation



Excerpt of Jonathan's Blog
 from January 19, 2009:

Jonathan Davis Speaks

<http://slcd.org/JDblog/>

Tomorrow will be a day that will live in lore forever. It will open a door that Americans, particularly African Americans have waited for a long time. This will begin a journey that will change our society forever. It will officially announce to America and the world a change has taken place. However, tomorrow will also bring into full focus the great challenges the incoming President will be facing.

On January 20, 2009, millions will be gathered in Washington, DC, as well as those that like myself, will be watching on television to see the swearing in of the 44th President of the United States, and it's first African American - Barack Obama.

On Tuesday, the country will see the swearing in of a person we will entrust to end two wars abroad, to fix a crippled economy, homeowners are losing their homes in record numbers. Those that still own their homes are having trouble heating them and keeping food on the table. Families cannot send their children to higher education because they don't know if they will have a job. People are resorting to working two part-time jobs to keep their heads above water.

Besides the loss of jobs, the crippling economy, the confidence of the American people must be restored.

To read more of this & Jonathan's other blogs please visit www.slcd.org.

Educational Spotlight

The Big Pink Elephant

There it is the Big Pink Elephant! Do you see it now? I see it and you see it but the State Education Department denies that it exists. It is inconceivable that with all of the documentation that exists about the Big Pink Elephant, Department officials continue to deny the special education needs on Long Island. Hundreds of students with disabilities are sent off of Long Island to New York City, Westchester and out-of-state schools because our programs are all artificially closed by CAPs “to keep the numbers down.” This has been going on for over a decade and it’s getting worse with the increase in the number of children with autism spectrum disorders. But it’s also a secret. We can’t talk about it. And since the State Education Department denies that the problem exists then everyone is supposed to believe that there is no problem. Well if you are a parent of a child with a disability struggling to find services on Long Island then you know the truth. The Big Pink Elephant is alive and well sitting right in your living room. Your child has been turned away from special education programs on Long Island not because they are not appropriate but because of CAPs.

The Department sees the Big Pink Elephant. The Department knows that parents see the Big Pink Elephant. Parents know that the Department knows that they see the Big Pink Elephant. The question is why does the Department continue to deny the existence of these children and their needs on Long Island? The answer is that the information concerning these children has been very difficult to obtain. Other than parents of children with disabilities, the general public really has been left in the dark by an agency that denies the existence of a moratorium and program CAPs on Long Island. The effect has been to eliminate educational options for Long Island parents and their children when appropriate programs are available but CAPPED. Why live on Long Island? Why should Long Island families be discriminated against? New York City students with disabilities can attend Long Island special education schools but Long Island students cannot? Does that make sense? Does it make sense either educationally or fiscally?

Well that Big Pink Elephant has been sitting in the living room of parents of children with disabilities for over a decade and parents should not tolerate it anymore! It is time for Legislative hearings to address this issue. Children with disabilities are being used to “keep numbers down.” Educational services for children with disabilities are supposed to be based on what’s appropriate and not based on a numbers game. There is something quite disturbing and unhealthy about a governmental agency which continues to deny what parents know to be true. This particular agency is supposed to represent our children and their educational interests. Really? This agency has an obligation to be transparent and accountable to the public. Really? The denial of the Big Pink Elephant forces families to seek services off of Long Island. Are the educational interests of our Long Island students being appropriately represented when there are no options on Long Island? Parents speak out!

Dr. Ellenmorris Tiegerman, Ph.D.
Founder and Executive Director



Evening of Honor Gala~ Save The Date

Thursday, October 22, 2009

Carlyle on the Green at the Bethpage State Park

Honoring

The Joseph & Alice Ficalora Philanthropic Award recipient

James Carpenter

Senior Executive Vice President & Chief Lending Officer,
New York Community Bank

SLCD Board Members

Dino & Linda Biorci
 Toya Davis
 Joseph Farber, Esq.
 Mario Fischetti, Chairman Emeritus
 Peter Fischetti
 Leroy Foster
 Teri Fritz
 Tanya Hunte
 David M. Katz
 Scott Liewehr
 Nancy Marino
 John R. Meindl
 Mario Moretto
 Georgiana Reese
 Paul Rosen, Chairman
 Sher Sparano
 Dr. Ellen Morris Tiegerman, PhD

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**SCHOOL FOR LANGUAGE AND
 COMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT**

Language Learning for Lifelong Success

100 Glen Cove Avenue, Glen Cove, NY 11542



SAVE THE DATE!
Upcoming Events & Dates of Interest

<u>FUNDRAISING EVENTS</u>		<u>PTFA EVENTS</u>		<u>SLCD EVENTS</u>	
April 24, 2009	Student Art Show	April 3	Glen Cove Talent Show	April 24, 2009	Author Visit- Tracey Delio
June 5, 2009	Casino Night	April 8	Woodside Spring Social	April 30, 2009	Spring Fling
Aug. 17, 2009	10th Annual Golf Outing	April 27	PTFA Mtg. Glen Cove	May 15, 2009	Author Visit- Jim Peluso
Oct. 22, 2009	Evening of Honor Gala	May 5	PTFA Mtg. Glen Cove	May 20, 2009	Author Visit- Nicholas Agro
		May 6	Mother's/Father's Day Boutique	June 4, 2009	Field Day
		May 7	PTFA Mtg. Woodside Mother's/Father's Day Boutique	June 24, 2009	PS Graduation
		June 4	PTFA Mtg. Woodside	June 25, 2009	SA Graduation
		June 15	PTFA Mtg. Glen Cove		
		June 19	Woodside Summer Social		
<u>SCHOOL CLOSINGS</u>		<p>Contact the Development Office for more information on Events and Sponsorship Opportunities at 516-609-2000 ext. 123.</p>			
April 9, 2009- April 17, 2009	Passover Holiday				
May 25, 2009	Memorial Day				
<p>Box Tops Update: <i>A big thank you to all of our parents, students and staff. Out total Box Top money earned for the 2008-2009 school year is a grand total of \$664.00!!</i></p> <p>Remember that Box Tops can be sent in all year long!</p>					