



## SLCD Proudly Introduces Our First High School Graduating Class

### Changes by Yovanica



Coming to SLCD at fourteen years old was a drastic change from what I was used to. The environment was, and still is, very different from the school I had been at prior. I can say that the two people who helped ease the transition for me most are my best friend, Melissa, and my favorite TA, Ms. Nakhai. They were there through so much, including the most highlighted moments, like when I found out that I passed my Regents exams. This will always be one of my proudest moments. I believe that the only reason I passed was because I was so prepared by my teachers over the past years.

Now that I am in 12<sup>th</sup> grade, I am getting ready to start college in a few months, which is a very exciting time for me. I have been accepted to Manhattan Community College, although I haven't yet decided if that is where I will end up, but it is certainly a step in the right direction. SLCD is just the beginning of my journey, and I can't wait to see what the future holds for me. Thank you SLCD, for all your help.

### From the Beginning to the End by Connor



I first came to the School for Language and Communication Development in 2008. Learning was limited for me before I came to SLCD, but looking back to the very beginning of my time at SLCD makes it apparent that my hard work and the skills I learned at SLCD have helped me to succeed. Beyond my own hard work, I must thank the teachers who taught me all the things I needed to know to get me to where I am today. If it was not for the teachers in SLCD who prepared me, I would not be graduating with a Regents diploma. It was the one-on-one help that I received throughout my years at SLCD that really helped me the most, and aided in my accomplishments.

I have done a lot within SLCD, such as creating the Woodside SLCD mural of the knight, mascot, and blazer patches; designing the background for plays and school performances; and so much more. If it wasn't for SLCD allowing me to expand on what I could do in the future, I would not know as much as I do today, nor have the opportunities ahead of me. Moving on from SLCD, I will be attending Pratt Institute. I look forward to living in the dorms for the next four years and having the experience of college. I am majoring in Graphic Design and Illustration. SLCD helped me on this path, particularly with the Vocational Training Program and all the work I did with the school plays. This has prepared me for going to Pratt and moving forward in my career and life. I have conquered a lot of hurdles to get where I am today, and I have SLCD to thank for getting over them.

### Moving On by Melissa



When I first came to the School for Language and Communication Development, I didn't know anyone. Some of the students knew each other from other schools, but I was the new kid, and I felt very nervous. However, the teachers and students at SLCD made me feel comfortable and safe to be myself. Throughout the school years I have made a lot of friends and have had great relationships with many of the teachers and TAs. I like SLCD because the teachers have helped me with my school work and with preparation for my Regents exams. If I did not come to SLCD, I know that I would not have passed all my Regents exams and would not be graduating with a Regents diploma. In fact, if I did not come to SLCD, I have no idea where I would be today. The teachers I have had care so much for the students, and want to ensure that we do our best and successfully graduate from high school.

In the future, I look forward to college and getting a job where I am happy and successful. One day, when I have a career and a good life, I can look back and tell my family: if I never went to SLCD, I would not be where I am today.

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Contact us if you would like to take a tour of one of our campuses.

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 SLCD or to make a donation please contact Laura Abrams, Development Office at 516-609-2000 ext. 123.

## Message from the Executive Director

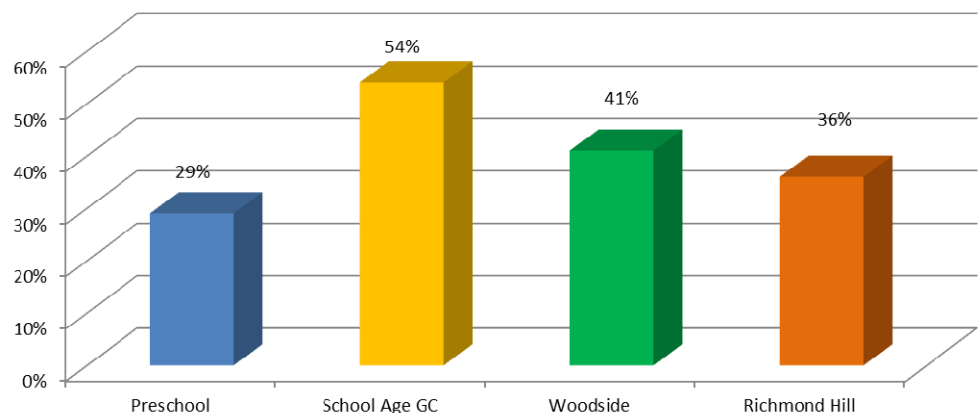
This year, we celebrated 25 years of programmatic expansion providing services to children with developmental disabilities on Long Island and New York City. We are proud to say that we celebrated our first high school graduating class this June with five students who all received Regents diplomas and were accepted to colleges throughout New York City. We have been preparing our students for lives of success and independence, and we believe that the success of our graduates is a testament to the quality of our educational program. We were also fortunate to have appeared in the New York Daily News on June 28th in an article written by Clare Trapasso describing our high school graduation as the culmination of all of our struggles and dreams.

Are we finished growing as a program? The answer unequivocally is no. We are not finished growing as a program. It is time for us to deal with another challenge which faces so many of our students with disabilities who graduate from high school. The Labor Department's Office of Disability Employment Policy recently announced that the unemployment rate for disabled Americans is 59% higher than the unemployment rate for non-disabled Americans. These statistics confirm our belief that our students will continue to need mentoring and transitional supports to ensure that they lead independent lives in community settings. As an organization, SLCD is willing to take up the challenge and to explore vocational training and assisted living placements for future graduates. Over the next year, Administrators along with the Board of Directors will discuss and plan for the development of a residence. We have always said that we wanted to grow up with our students. And we have. Now it is time to move on into adulthood.

We have been fortunate to write our own history over the past 25 years. We have an outstanding school with a proven record of educational success. Our students have a great deal to offer the world, and we want to be part of their bright future.

Dr. Ellenmorris Tiegerman  
Founder & Executive Director

Percentage of Parent Giving  
July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011



## Celebration Cruise

On June 25th, SLCD held a Dinner Cruise to celebrate its first high school graduating class. SLCD Board members, administrators, staff, friends, Richmond Hill graduates and their families enjoyed a four hour cruise along the East River, taking in spectacular views of Manhattan and Lady Liberty.

The event raised over \$50,000 and helped support our Glen Cove, Woodside & Richmond Hill special building projects.

We appreciate the generosity of our sponsors:



**Admiral**  
Hofheimer-Wright Foundation  
**Commodore**  
Ficalora Family Foundation  
**Commander**

Ellenmorris and Joseph Farber Charitable Foundation



### Lieutenant

Elena Melius Foundation  
Emigrant Savings Bank  
John James Benefits, Ltd.  
Sara Paul and Mark Nachamie  
The Wann Family Foundation



### Ensign

Gotham Government Relations  
Danielle Curi and Max Herrnstein  
John and Teri Fritz  
Jonathan S. Kingston & Associates P.C.  
**Midshipman**  
Bryan Tseng

Thank you to everyone who purchased raffles and to the donors of these wonderful prizes.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize - *4 night stay at Ocean Edge Resort and Golf Club - Cape Cod, MA - Donated by Lacoma Family*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize - *Dine Around - \$100 gift cards to Bar Frites ▪ Cipollini ▪ Bryant & Cooper - Donated by Michael Christie*
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize - *Fri/Sat stay for 2 at Glen Cove Mansion - Donated by Glen Cove Mansion*
- 4<sup>th</sup> Prize - *Swiss Legend Men's Watch - Donated by Dr. Ellenmorris Tiegerman*
- 5<sup>th</sup> Prize - *Xbox 360 Gaming Console with Kinect Sensor - Donated by SLCD Parent Raffle Fund*
- 6<sup>th</sup> Prize - *Toshiba 24" LED TV- Donated by SLCD Parent Raffle Fund*
- 7<sup>th</sup> Prize - *Dinner for 2 on Skyline Cruise - Donated by Caliber Yacht Cruise*

## Shop On-Line & Donate to SLCD!

Use GoodSearch.com on the lower left corner of SLCD's homepage for all your on-line shopping needs. You can shop at Macy's, Kohl's, Amazon, Overstock, Travelocity & many more.

A portion of your purchases will be donated to SLCD! There are also coupons & discounts for many stores through GoodSearch.com.

## Preschool Message

During the month of June our preschoolers discovered the fascinating world of the circus! They learned about circus animals like zebras, elephants, bears and horses to name a few. Using arts and crafts, they learned colors and shapes that you see at the circus.

Using their five senses, they explored how the animals felt and looked and identified the typical circus smells including cotton candy and popcorn!

The students showed off all of their hard work by marching in a huge parade in the preschool playground area, wearing colorful hats they made and listening to circus music playing.

Christine Austin  
Coordinator of Educational Services

## Preschool Moving Up Ceremony ~ June 22



## School Age Principal's Message

It is incredulous that SLCD's proud parents, staff and students participated in the Signing of the Declaration of Independence, the Writing of the Constitution, Colonial Days and the Building of the Erie Canal. It continued to be unbelievable that the explorers Henry Hudson, Magellan and Jacques Cartier were at SLCD. Would you be surprised if you saw George Washington, the first President of the United States under the Constitution in room 400? If you walked into room 402 you met inventors such as the Wright Brothers and even Lyda Newman who made the first brush with synthetic bristles. Yankee Doodle Hits the Road, Neighborhood Helpers, Recycling, Historical Figures, Countries around the World and Community Helpers became alive under our Living Museum program organized and promoted by teacher, Ms. Jamie Cusak with the invaluable creativity of our wonderful teachers and teacher assistants. You might ask what is a living museum. A living museum is a reenactment or interpretation of actual historical events and curriculum topics. Who could do it better than SLCD school age students in costume with professional representations of for example, a quill pen, the largest and most extraordinary brush one has ever seen and an Erie Canal which could have been displayed in a museum?

This brings me to my next point. The Whitney, MOMA, and the Museum of Natural History will fade in comparison as I am pleased to announce that we are creating an SLCD museum at Glen Cove. Look for our grand opening! Finally, I want to thank our truly dedicated staff for caring so deeply for each student. I want to thank each student for giving me so much joy.

Mrs. Karen Katzman

## School Age Moving Up Ceremony ~ June 22 & 23



## Middle School Principal's Message

While the staff at SLCD Woodside is always committed to academic excellence and persistence, our goal this year has also been to reinforce the need for student involvement in extracurricular pursuits. The extracurricular opportunities offered during the course of the school year have enabled our Woodside students to further develop their creative talents as well as to learn more about the communities in which they reside. Exposure to new types of experiences often result in great personal growth and help students to recognize the importance of working collaboratively on projects. Several of the current projects at Woodside that deserve mention are the Cultural Arts Program and the Woodside Charitable Donation Program.

The Cultural Arts Program is dedicated to educational excellence and to developing students' creative talents in music, art and dance. Currently at SLCD Woodside, under the direction of Ms. Sara Rhindress and Ms. Katie Fowler, staff and students are engaged in developmental work for the upcoming *The Paper Boys* and *The Glass Slipper* productions scheduled for presentation during the summer school session. Another program we are very proud of is our Charitable Donation Program, spearheaded by Ms. Danielle Polito and Mr. John Burhans. Students were educated over the course of the year on the importance of sharing with others less fortunate in our communities, as well as, on how donating monies toward school events/projects can help improve our school environment. Since its inception, donations have been collected monthly from both students and staff at Woodside and distributed to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society as well as to help support the Alley Pond Park Socialization trip and the African Dance performance.

Dr. Jeremy Tiegerman

## Upcoming Events at Woodside

July 15th ~ the 7th grade is going on a field trip to Shakespeare in the Park in Manhattan.

July 25th to 29th ~ SPIRIT WEEK.

July 29th ~ the end of Spirit Week culminates in an afternoon Field Day with fun activities and games.

July 29th ~ the 8th grade is going on a field trip to Project Adventure in Alley Pond Park.

August 5th ~ both Woodside and Richmond Hill students will participate in a Carnival Day at the Middle School.

August 11th ~ Middle School's moving up ceremony.

On March 24th SLCD's 7th grade took a field trip to the Museum of Natural History



## High School Principal's Message

It is an honor to look at our first class of SLCD graduates. They are graduating into a world of uncertainty, they look at their future with anxiety, but I do not. I know what they have already done & what they can do. SLCD has given them a solid foundation; we are optimistic about their future. Graduating is only the first step on their journey.

It is also an honor to state that these students are graduating with Regents diplomas. In New York requirements for High School graduation are regulated by the Board of Regents. Through this Board, academic benchmarks are determined and reflected by Regents Examinations. By passing the following Regents Exams our graduates received the Regents Diploma distinction: English Language Arts; Algebra; Global History; U.S. History; Science.

SLCD Administration recognized the outstanding achievement of our Class of 2011 by awarding the following merits: Class Valedictorian (Highest Average) - Stacey / Class Salutatorian (Second Highest Average) – Connor / General Academic Excellence – Limmie. Dr. Tiegerman, Executive Director and Founder and Mr. Paul Rosen, Chairman of the SLCD Board of Directors presented Commemorative Medals to these distinguished students.

Robert L. Schmidt

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*Continued from cover*

### **My Journey to Success** by Stacey



When I came to the School for Language and Communication Development in 2006, I immediately felt like I belonged in this school. I had a small group of classmates in my class, and I was given a lot of attention from my teachers. I completed my homework assignments on time, and was always ready to work. The small classes encouraged me to ask questions when I was confused, or just needed more clarification of what was being asked of me. SLCD is a good school because the teachers and teacher assistants take their time to help the students and want us to succeed. The students and staff work as a team to make our school what it is today. Because of their help, I was prepared for the Regents exams and will be graduating high school with a Regents diploma.

Moving on from graduation, I look forward to getting a part time job and going to college. Eventually, I will move into my own apartment. I want to be an author and see my books sold in stores one day. I have been accepted to Borough of Manhattan Community College and am so excited to start in the fall of 2011. I want to major in English and Creative Writing. The School for Language and Communication Development has helped me achieve my academic goals as well as changed me socially. I was very shy when I started at SLCD, but now I feel more open-minded and confident, encouraged to state my opinions. I feel lucky to have had this opportunity, and am excited to see where I will go from here. This school has helped me so much. I appreciate what this school has offered me: the chance to be a great success.

### **Graduation** by Limmie



During the four eye-opening years at SLCD, I came to learn more about myself and the many trials I could endure than I ever imagined I would. Learning to face unique circumstances, both personally and academically, has changed my perception of the world greatly. Being surrounded by teachers of all types gave me a greater understanding of how abundant the field of academics truly is. Year after year, witnessing how students of SLCD grew inch by inch, gave me insight as to what direction the future is going and how I will participate in the growth of the world around me.

One bright memory from being in SLCD is that I met two people who truly took an interest in me and my development. Amy Belfiore and Dr. Jeremy Tiegerman helped make many of my days at SLCD comfortable. With them, I shared many colorful conversations. Always supportive of my art work, these two opposite ends of my personal compass have, more times than not, sent me in the right direction and showed me kindness and compassion.

For my college studies I will go to The Parsons New School for Design in order to study my chosen career path of Video Game Designer. This has been a dream of mine since I was fifteen years old. I also may choose a minor in Writing to learn more about story structure in order to one day fulfill another dream, that of writing a script for a play or film; I want to tell a story in a new and mature way.

## Sher Sparano ~ Top Woman In Business



SLCD Board member, Sher Sparano, was recently recognized by The Queens Courier and Queens Business for her achievements and community involvement during the Top Women in Business Awards and Networking Dinner on Thursday, May 19.

Sher joined the SLCD board in 2003 and has been very involved with the students at SLCD by attending their performances and events and through our "Adopt a Classroom" program. As an active member of the Forest Hills-Rego Park Lions Club, Sher has spearheaded an annual "Peace Poster" contest for our students, as well as providing holiday gifts for them.

Sher sits on SLCD's Development committee and the Nominating committee. On behalf of the SLCD family, thank you Sher for your dedication and support.

## *Evening of Honor Gala*



*October 21, 2011*

*Jericho Terrace, Mineola, NY*



### *Honoree's*

*Bruno Macinovich – The Joseph and Alice Ficalora Philanthropic Award*

*Paul Rosen – The Mario and Pia Fischetti Humanitarian Award*

### *Tickets & Sponsorships are available*

*Please contact Laura Abrams at 516-609-2000 x123 or labrams@slcd.org*

*Journal ads can be purchased on [www.slcd eveningofhonor gala.com](http://www.slcd eveningofhonor gala.com)*

## ***12th Annual Golf Outing***

August 15th ~ The Creek, Locust Valley, NY

*18 Holes Of Golf, Steak & Lobster Fest On The Beach, 400 - Prize Raffle, & Silent Auctions!*

Individual Golfers ~ \$600 / Foursome ~ \$2,300 / Steak & Lobster Fest Only ~ \$200  
Sponsorships are still available.

Please contact Kelly Peters for more information  
516-609-2000 x214 or [kpeters@slcd.org](mailto:kpeters@slcd.org)

## THANK YOU!

Thank you to Steve Satz of Hard to Hold in Great Neck for his support of SLCD and the many patrons of Hard to Hold who have made contributions as well!

Thank you to John Camiolo (John James Benefits Ltd.) and his son Adam for donating 10 netbooks to our students.

Thank you to all of the SLCD families who participated in the PTFA parent survey.

## TOP DONOR LIST - July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011

<p><b>Children's Angel (\$50,000 - \$99,999)</b>            Cross County Federal Savings Bank            The Ficalora Family Foundation</p> <p><b>Children's Champion (\$20,000 - \$49,999)</b>            George Raptis and Irene Draga            Goldman Sachs Gives            Hofheimer-Wright Foundation            Michael Gordon Foundation</p> <p><b>Children's Advocate (\$15,000 - \$19,999)</b>            New York Community Bank Foundation            O'Donovan Family Fund            Star Toyota</p> <p><b>Children's Benefactor (\$10,000 - \$14,999)</b>            Farber Rosen &amp; Kaufman PC            Ellenmorris and Joseph Farber Charitable Foundation            Frank J. Antun Foundation            John and Teri Fritz            Pall Corporation</p> <p><b>Children's Hero (\$5,000 - \$9,999)</b>            Laurence and Kim Bambino            Bear Givers/JBS Financial Services            Biordi Construction            DY Design, Inc./Yehuda Family            John James Benefits, Ltd.            Mario Fischetti Nursery, Inc.            Anthony and Josephine Milone            Quadrant Construction, Ltd.            Esme Usdan and James Snyder            Sterling Builders Group, Inc.            Toyota Motor Sales            Verizon Foundation</p> <p><b>Children's Friend (\$1,000 - \$4,999)</b>            Accord Contracting, Ltd.            Rick Albert and Anne Balaban            Sarah Anderson            Alicia and Ross Andrus            Astoria Federal Savings            BDO USA            Ben's Best Delicatessen</p>	<p><b>Children's Friend Cont...</b>            Georgiana and Ray Benatti            Dino and Linda Biordi            John and Debbie Bowman            Bob Sy Company LLC            Stacey A. Suecoff and Dwayne Breining            Jennifer Brown            Brooklyn Queensborough Elks No.878            John and Caryn Camiolo            Capital Markets Consulting Group            Margie Cohan            Crown Auto Parts Inc.            Draga-Gergoudis Families            ECI Building Corporation            Richard and Karen Elder            Elena Melius Foundation            Emerson Reid &amp; Co. Inc.            Emigrant Savings Bank            Farrell Fritz, PC            Flushing Savings Bank            Eileen Fontanetta            Leroy Foster            Johannes and Lauren Gabel            Brad and Cheryl Gerstman            Jay and Annie Gilbert            GLM Security &amp; Sound, Inc.            Gold Coast Cruisers            Goldberg, Weprin, Finkel &amp; Goldstein LLP            Gotham Government Relations LLC            Gundermann &amp; Gundermann Inc.            Herrnstein Family            Joshua Hirschel            Holtz Rubenstein Reminick            Hyundai Motor America            Infionic            Jamaica Wire and Metal/Oliviero Capacchione            Jericho Terrace            Jonathon Kingston &amp; Associates/Miketka Family            Marvin and Karen Katzman            Kilpatrick Stockton LLP            Knoll            John Koufakis            Michael and Lynne Koufakis</p>	<p><b>Children's Friend Cont...</b>            Linda Kadluboski and Eric Lacomia            Joseph and Helena LaForgia            Lagalante Family            Zalmen Lazaroff            Scott And Sheila Liewehr            Cathy Lin            Liubicich Family            Theresa Mais            Helene Mermelstein            Metzger-Price Fund, Inc.            Virginia Monta            David Nachamie            Mark Nachamie and Sara Paul            National Marketing Services Ltd.            Jose and Rosa Negron            Newsday            John and Hiromi Oropello            Eve W. Paul            Pergolis Swartz Associates, Inc.            Orazio and Anna Petito            Edmund and Viviana Phelps            James D. Power III            Richard Provenzano            Christine Radziewicz            Robert and Nancy Rella            Paul and Nancy Rosen            Peter and Rosa Scala            John and Irene Scalfani            Robert L. and Anita Schmidt            Claire and Melvin Shulman            Marcin Stefaniak            Diana Sun, M.D.            Superior Auto Restyling            Brenda Tai            Bryan Tseng            T.F. Cusanelli &amp; Filetti Architects, P.C.            The Dorsey Whitney Foundation            The Wann Family Foundation            Thornburg Investment Management            Wesley and Melissa Wright            Yilmaz Family            Adam and Ellen Zion</p>
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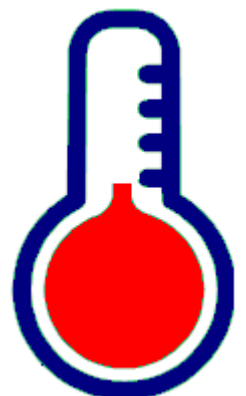
### Special Building Projects Fundraising Update

**Woodside:** Lunchroom air-conditioning – The fundraising goal for this project has been met. The air-conditioning project in the lunchroom has been completed. Due to extreme temperatures we completed the lunchroom air conditioning with wall units using the \$27,500 raised instead of waiting to meet our initial goal of \$65,000 for central units. A new Building project will be announced shortly.

**Glen Cove:** Playgrounds – We have raised \$53,000 to date for the playgrounds. The preschool playground has been completely resurfaced along with the purchase of new equipment and a fence. We need to raise an additional \$47,000 for the school age playground since material costs increased since we began fundraising.

**Richmond Hill:** Minibus – We have raised \$32,000 for a minibus/van. We need to raise an additional \$28,000 in order to purchase an 18-passenger vehicle.

Please help us raise funds that directly impact our students  
 Go to [www.slcd.org](http://www.slcd.org) for additional updates



Ellen Morris Tiegeman, Ph.D.  
~ Founder & Executive Director

Mario Fischetti  
~ Chairman Emeritus

Steven Weiner  
Bryan Tseng

Sher Sparano  
Georgiana Reese-Benatti

Darius Mathews  
Scott Liewehr

Tanya Hunte  
Norma Giacalone

Teri Fritz  
Peter Fischetti

Joseph Farber, Esq.  
Toya Davis

Michael Christodolou  
~Chairman

Paul Rosen  
~Chairman

Board Members

100 Glen Cove Avenue  
Glen Cove, NY 11542  
School for Language and Communication Development

### SLCD Partners Program

SLCD is looking for places to display our students' artwork. If you have an office or lobby that could use a boost of color while supporting our program at the same time, contact Laura Abrams at 516-609-2000 ext. 123. Photos from our 3rd Annual Student Art Show can be found at [http://www.jbsfinancial.com/gallerySLCD\\_2011.html](http://www.jbsfinancial.com/gallerySLCD_2011.html).

We are pleased to announce a wonderful new **Weekend Respite Program** for community children who are approved through OPWDD.

The recreation program will operate on Saturdays from 10 am until 12:30 pm at SLCD 100 Glen Cove Avenue Glen Cove, NY from September through August ( 46 weeks). Students ages 3 to 15 years old will be provided with physical education, dance, music, art, sport activities, and socialization experiences.

In order to participate, a child must be approved by OPWDD have a documented diagnosis of a developmental disability. For an application to participate in SLCD's Weekend Respite Program please contact Danielle Macpherson at (516) 609-2000 x157 or [Dantonelli@slcd.org](mailto:Dantonelli@slcd.org)

### School for Language and Communication Development

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