

# SUMMER NEWS

Updates | Inspiration | Celebration

## Welcome New Students & Tutors

As our summer session gets underway, we are pleased to welcome 10 new students (plus 4 more in the fall), 17 returning students, and 6 new tutor trainees. We are excited to have you here!

## Outreach

Representatives from both Maine Children's Dyslexia Centers (CDC) spoke recently at the annual banquet of the Masonic Council of Deliberation. The Council is the decision-making body of the Scottish Rite in Maine, a generous supporter of both Centers. Dr. Reuben Bell, Chairman of the Portland CDC Board of Governors described the unique challenges presented to children growing up with dyslexia, and Ms. Laurie Marcotte, Director of the Bangor CDC, described the challenges of operating a dyslexia teaching center in Maine. Their talks were very well received by the 150 banquet guests, who learned a lot about the CDC.



## We ♥ Libraries

Summer vacation is a welcome change of pace for many students. Dyslexic students, in particular, may breathe an extra deep sigh of relief after expending 5 times the energy to complete mental tasks as their neuro-typical peers\* during the academic year. Balancing the need for relaxation and keeping those reading muscles engaged can be a delicate exercise. One of our favorite resources is your local public library. Libraries often sponsor a summer reading program for students, and we encourage everyone to check out what their local library is offering. Getting lost in a book can be enjoyable, even if the process of reading is a challenge. Did you know that libraries offer audiobooks? Even e-audiobooks? June is National Audiobook Month, and it's a perfect excuse to explore what's available. Your student can also download e-books. Students at the Center enjoy practicing their fluency skills by reading on a tablet. Some manipulate the font to be easier to read. E-books from the library offer all of the same functionality. If finding books





## Introducing our New Logo

Newly released by our parent organization, The Children's Dyslexia Centers, our new logo is inspired by the Tree of Knowledge. The leaves allude to the growth and depth every student experiences in our program.

Over the summer, we are also working on a new website to support our local Portland Center. We look forward to unveiling this new resource that will consolidate information for students and their families, educators, and those wishing to support our work.

## Save the Date

On November 1, we will host a silent auction at the trendy Portland Masonic. Plan to join us for a fun evening of delicious food, quality entertainment, and an opportunity to bid on some amazing items. Your support helps the Portland Children's Dyslexia Center serve Maine dyslexic students.

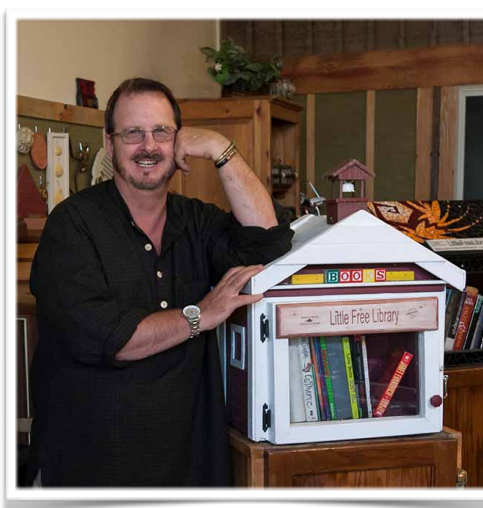
with a side of adventure is more your style, consider seeking out a Little Free Library. Little Free Libraries are free book exchanges found all over the world. The idea was originally conceived by the late Todd Bol, a dyslexic nonprofit leader. His first structure was in honor of his mother, who was an avid book lover and former school teacher. We can imagine that she spent some extra time one-on-one with her son to help him gain the skills needed to read, while also nurturing his creative and entrepreneurial spirit. You can often find great books by dyslexic authors, like Roald Dahl or Dav Pilkey. Books featuring dyslexic characters are also popular - books like the **Percy Jackson** series or **Fish in a Tree**. However you choose to spend your summer, we hope your library is a part of it.

For more information about summer learning for dyslexic students, see:

<https://dyslexia.yale.edu/resources/parents/stories-from-parents/taking-time-for-summer-fun/>

For more about Little Free Libraries, and how to find them, see <https://littlefreelibrary.org/ourmap/>

For more about library offerings at the Portland Public Library, see <https://www.portlandlibrary.com>



Todd Bol - Founder, Little Free Library

\*Binda Dyslexia Center "Facts About Dyslexia" 2014