

In the Loop

Fall 2025

Welcome Letter from the Chair



Greetings Everyone!

I hope you all are enjoying the transition into fall weather! I want to take a moment and thank all those that attended the June, Online Conference Expanding Clinical Skills in Stuttering, Cluttering, and Atypical Dysfluency. With 121 individuals in attendance, the 2025 conference exceeded our expectations. The annual conference has become a valuable contribution for the ABSCF and its members as it provides accessible, research based continuing education covering a variety of relevant topics. A huge thanks to our amazing 2025 presenters including Nan Bernstein Ratner, Shelley Brundage, Kathy Scaler-Scott, Elyse Lambeth, Naomi Eichorn, Naomi Rodgers, Chaya Goldstein-Schuff, Kia Johnson, Kristin Fox Teran, and Board members of the ABSCF. We hope you will join us for the June conference in 2026!

The ABSCF is aware of the need to support and encourage more colleagues toward specialty certification in stuttering, cluttering, and fluency disorders. Given this, the ABSCF is in the process of reviewing the certification and portfolio process. The Board is considering a variety of revisions that would increase accessibility to the certification process for many, as well as provider increased clarity and guidance regarding the process for candidates and those interested in specifically certification. Any suggested changes will be submitted to ASHA for final approval. Look for more information on this in the winter and spring of 2026.

In addition, I want to take a moment and express my gratitude for the many years of support and service that Badger Bay has provided to the ABSCF. For a variety of reasons, the Board made the decision this fall to transition to a new management company with the full transition being complete by January 1st . I especially want to thank Karen Schneider, the Boards primary liaison at Badger Bay, for her dedication and support to the ABSCF over many years. Karen could always be counted on to be timely, thoughtful, and kind in all her communication with the Board, specialists, and candidates. We will miss collaborating with you and wish you all the best!

Happy Thanksgiving to you all and I hope to connect with many of you at ASHA!

Rob Reichhardt, MA CCC-SLP, BCS-SCF
Chair, the Executive Board of the American Board of Stuttering,
Cluttering, and Fluency Disorders



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

If you are interested in assisting the Board with any of our current projects, please contact us via our website: <https://www.stutteringspecialists.org>



The Board is extremely pleased to announce the following speech-language pathologists as new Board-Certified Specialist – Stuttering, Cluttering, and Fluency. Congratulations!



New Board Certified Specialists

Laura Sheppard has worked as a speech language pathologist in hospital and school settings before starting her own private practice in Dallas, Texas ten years ago, where she works with people of all ages who stutter, clutter, or present with other fluency disorders. She is a co-chapter leader of the NSA Dallas Teen Group, is involved in S-POPS, a support group for parents of preschoolers who stutter, and is currently helping organize an upcoming One-Day Friends Event in Dallas this upcoming Spring.



Laura Sheppard

Laura strongly believes in client-centered care and providing individualized support to each person who walks through her door. She is grateful for the many mentors and colleagues who have supported her throughout her journey, notably Tricia Krauss-Lehrman and Jaime Michise, whose support has shown her the importance of lifelong learning and supporting each other's growth along the way.

NATASHA GIGLIOTTI



New Board Certified Specialists

Natasha was drawn to working with individuals who stutter and clutter early on in her profession and her passion for this population has only deepened over time. She has worn many hats over the years – those of an advocate and supporter, an educator, and a dedicated clinician.

Natasha values continuously evolving in her clinical knowledge and skills and regularly seeks out opportunities for professional development and collaboration with other colleagues. She feels immense gratitude for her mentors (especially Kristin Chmela and Jaime Michise) on the journey towards board certification and beyond, her family for the constant support, and of course – for her clients – who never cease to inspire her!

Over the past decade, I have served students in public schools, patients in skilled nursing facilities, clients in private practice, and individuals through home health in my role as an SLP. My path to BCS-SCF was marked with incredible support and expertise from my mentor, colleagues, family, and friends. I owe a great deal of thanks to everyone who allowed each opportunity to grow and learn, including all of the students, clients, and families who have given me the chance to be part of their stories! So much has happened personally all throughout the process of submitting my final portfolio for board review - chiefly getting married to my best friend Alex and welcoming our little blessing Ross into the world! I'm looking forward to carrying on the legacy of the brilliant SLPs who blazed this trail - it's with deepest gratitude that I celebrate joining this group of distinguished professionals who share my love for partnering with those who stutter!

KOLBY SCHERR





MEET THE BOARD Q & A

Tricia Krauss-Lehrman



Q. Where do you live and where do you practice

A. I live in Dallas, Texas and have a private practice devoted to individuals of all ages with fluency disorders I operate out of my home.

Q. How long have you been on the board and what position/s have you held?

A. This is my 6th and final year on the board (each term is 3 years in length) and I chose to serve 2 terms. For the first 5 years, I was the board member in charge of Marketing and Public Relations. For this past year, I was asked, along with Risa Battino, to serve as Certification Coordinator.

Q. Why did you choose to become a board specialist?

A. When the option of pursuing board-certification became available, I was interested in the possibility. I felt strongly that consumers needed a way to identify clinicians who had special training and in-depth experience and knowledge working with individuals with fluency disorders. While I was a bit reluctant to apply, I was encouraged by several individuals who stutter that I knew from the self-help world in Dallas. With their encouragement, I decided to move forward with the process. I felt it would be a wonderful way to enhance my skills in this area and would allow me to work with a larger number of individuals with fluency disorders. I was in the initial cadre of fluency specialists, becoming board certified in the early 2000s.

OTHER HAPPENINGS

Here are a few upcoming events sponsored by various organizations in the stuttering community. If you have anything that you would like highlighted in a future newsletter, please reach out to Robyn Martin (robynwmartin@gmail.com).

FRIENDS

Friends One-Day Events

No matter where you live, you have Friends! Join us for a one-day workshop filled with support and information for young people who stutter, their families, and professionals. SLPs can earn CEUs, and we also welcome both undergraduate and graduate students! Registration is opening soon for these locations and dates in the spring:

San Francisco Bay Area, CA. Saturday, March 7, 2026

Raleigh, NC. Saturday, March 7, 2026

Philadelphia, PA. Saturday, March 28, 2026

Dallas, TX. Saturday, April 18, 2026

For the more information, visit friendswhostutter.org/one-day-events



29th Annual Friends Convention

Save the date for our annual summer convention in Chicago from July 23–25, 2026. This is a three-day opportunity for education, growth, laughter, and support in our stuttering community.

Children, teens, and adults who stutter learn about stuttering while increasing their confidence, meeting others who stutter, and finding role models who stutter.

Parents and caregivers share experiences and gain support from each other, and learn about stuttering experiences from panels of young people who stutter. Parents join roundtable discussions and learn how to better support their child.

SLPs (earn 1.2 CEUs) and graduate students receive invaluable education from leaders in the adult stuttering support community and from experts and researchers. They gain more confidence in working with people who stutter and their families, and they leave with effective social-clinical strategies and knowledge about support services.

Learn more at friendswhostutter.org/convention



Friends Virtual Groups

Whether or not you are able to attend one of our programs in person, we also welcome you to join us virtually at one of our free monthly groups. We know that stuttering can sometimes feel isolating and that no one else understands. Our virtual groups for children, teens, young adults, and parents offer a space to:

Connect with similar-aged peers who also stutter

Share feelings, experiences, and concerns with people who understand them

Learn more about yourself in a caring and accepting environment

Be a part of building a supportive community

Learn more at friendswhostutter.org/virtual

SAY – THE STUTTERING ASSOCIATION FOR THE YOUNG

Come join host Brooke Leiman Edwards MA, CCC-SLP, BCS-SCF at SAY: Speech's Virtual Intervision lunch! Intervision is a peer-led learning method in which a small group of speech-language pathologists that share a passion and interest for working with people who stutter meet to enhance the quality of their work. Intervision uses a systematic (yet flexible) approach that involves learning through case presentations and break out discussion groups. Participating clinicians will receive a certificate for 1 professional development hour (PDH) to use towards your continuing education requirements! It is FREE to join! Our next two meetings will be on Friday, December 19th and Friday, February 27th at 12pm ET. Find more information and the link to register at: www.say.org/programs/sayspeech/.

Invite parents and family members to our SAY: Parents Monday Night Group! Parents and caregivers are invited to join us on the first Monday of the month at 8pm ET for our FREE monthly online parents' and caregivers' group. SAY: Parents strives to create a fun, safe and consistent space to learn and grow as allies. This event is hosted by Brooke Leiman Edwards MA, CCC-SLP, BCS-SCF alongside a number of wonderful co-hosts each month. The next meetings will be held on December 1st and January 12 (*special 90 minute event with Scott Yaruss talking to parents on the topic of teasing/bullying!) at 8pm ET. Visit www.say.org/parents/ for more information and the link to register.



SPERO

New Video for Clinical Supervisors Working with Graduate Students who Stutter
Join six speech-language pathologists who stutter as they share practical guidance for clinical supervisors supporting graduate students who stutter. Panelists Chris Constantino, Derek Daniels, Kyle Pelkey, Jack Henderson, Lauren Schlemmer, and Mandy Rodstrom, who collectively serve as private practitioners, researchers, professors, researchers, professors, and advocates, share their own journeys through graduate training and draw on their experiences as clinical supervisors. Moderated by Spero Stuttering president Ana Paula Mummy, this conversation offers actionable insights for creating supportive clinical training environments.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N-1akX7qmME>

STUTTERING FOUNDATION OF AMERICA

Virtual Learning by The Stuttering
Foundation

Understanding Fluency: A First Principles
Approach

Speaker: Evan Usler Ph.D., University of
Delaware

Tuesday, November 25, 2025, 5:15-6:30 PM
EST

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/1P_W8_Z9SemYU2_qeDYN7Q#/registration

FACEBOOK PAGE

Please visit the ABFFD Facebook page.
Send Shelby Potts, M.S., CCC-SLP, BCS-
SCF, Social Media Director
(shelbypotts@oakcityspeech.com)
information regarding upcoming
presentations, publications, events, or
accomplishments so that we can keep
our members informed!

NATIONAL STUTTERING ASSOCIATION

Explore Upcoming Stuttering Events and
Workshops

<https://www.westutter.org/our-events>

ABOUT THE AMERICAN BOARD OF STUTTERING, CLUTTERING AND FLUENCY DISORDERS

The American Board of Stuttering, Cluttering and Fluency Disorders was the first clinical specialty program approved by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association in 1998. The idea of a specialty program was driven by the need to give consumers access to professionals with advanced knowledge and skills, and to educate and recognize expert clinicians. The specialty program, initially known as the Specialty Board on Fluency Disorders, came into being through the efforts of both professionals and consumers. It was championed by ASHA's Special Interest Division 4, Fluency and Fluency Disorders, with support from the National Stuttering Association and the Stuttering Foundation of America.

BOARD

Robert Reichhardt, M.A., CCC-SLP, BCS-SCF
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Christopher Anderson
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Tricia Krauss-Lehrman, M.M.S., CCC-SLP,
BCS-SCF
Certification Coordinator

Kristin Chmela, M.A., CCC-SLP, BCS-SCF
Historian

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the American Board of Stuttering, Cluttering, and Fluency Disorders (ABSCEF) is three-fold: *To promote among speech-language pathologists the highest standards for training and service delivery to impact positively the communication skills and thereby the lives of those who demonstrate fluency disorders. *To verify knowledge of fluency disorders and mastery of skills of professionals who seek and maintain the credential of Board-Certified Specialist-Stuttering, Cluttering and Fluency Disorders. *To publicize the benefits of working with specialists in fluency disorders and to provide an up-to-date listing of individuals who maintain the status of Board-Certified Specialist-Stuttering, Cluttering, and Fluency Disorders.