

WIBIDA

Wisconsin Branch of the International Dyslexia Association



June 2015 News & Notes

Greetings from president, Tammy Tillotson

With the onset of summer comes the hope for change, growth, and flourishing. We are feeling that as well in our organization. There is a tremendous amount of wonderful things happening locally and nationally with our organization that will help us to grow, change, and flourish as individuals, a branch of IDA, and an organization as a whole. If you haven't yet, please check out the new IDA website www.eida.org

While at the Branch Council meeting this spring, I had an opportunity to meet the new executive director for IDA. Rick is a fabulous addition to our team and has a wonderful vision that holds the essence of what we "out in the field" are striving for. In the coming months we will learn more about our IDA Destiny Plan which aims to make IDA, and the branches, the elite go-to organization for everything dyslexia related. We are looking at training models, certifications, and most importantly, the priorities of our members. It is with these things in mind that the following priorities have been established as our guide for change, growth, and flourishing:

- All stakeholders **will realize their potential and advance our mission.**
- Everyone will know about IDA, dyslexia **and the scope of our challenge.**
- IDA will be the **"Go-To" organization** internationally.
- We will advance our brand with **unprecedented impact and speed.**
- We will articulate with impatience that **reading is a civil right.**
- We will **generate whatever funds are necessary** to create a world where the appropriate resources are available to families, children and school systems.

We are excited about all of the happenings at the national level but these happenings are only good if we embrace them locally. The WIBIDA board is thrilled to introduce *two more new board members*, **Sarah Adamovich** and **Loucricia Carson**, to our team and we welcome others to join us in moving the mission forward. As we look to the future, we have the Annual meeting in October, **our annual WIBIDA conference on April 23, 2016 in Marshfield**, a Regional conference to be held in Wisconsin Dells in the fall of 2016, and a multitude of other local events such as the Experience Dyslexia Simulations

throughout the year. We invite you to get involved and be a champion for dyslexia!

Meet the WIBIDA Board of Directors!

With the addition of Sarah and Loucricia, your WIBIDA board is now at 12 members!!! This is the largest it has been in many years. As we add members, we continue to span the state in city of residence as well as experience and background that each member brings to the group. The WIBIDA website www.wibida.org, includes bios for all of the board members but I've listed them here along with where each of them live. Please visit the website to get to know more about each one, read info about the conference this last April and keep up to date about the happenings around the state

- **Sarah Adamovich**, Eagle River, WI
- **Jayne Black**, De Pere, WI
- **Loucricia Carson**, Milwaukee, WI
- **Kimberly Chan**, Madison, WI (*Treasurer*)
- **Connie Day**, Appleton, WI
- **Pat Dunham**, Grafton, WI
- **Patti Huse**, Eau Claire, WI (*Secretary*)
- **Laura Kulp**, Stratford, WI
- **Darlene Larson**, Wausau, WI
- **Ann Malone**, Madison, WI
- **Tammy Tillotson**, Chippewa Falls, WI (*President*)
- **Libby Wallace**, Menomonie, WI

Follow WIBIDA on Pinterest and Facebook

As the board grows – we are also able to branch out into social media. Look for a WIBIDA presence on some of your favorite sites!

Pinterest: <https://www.pinterest.com/wisconsinbranch/dyslexia-resources-information/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/International-Dyslexia-Association-Wisconsin-Branch/652672688188213>

Dyslexia Awareness promotion in Wisconsin – Thank you Jayne!

One of the WIBIDA Board members, Jayne Black, was recently crowned **Mrs. Royalty International Classic**. Jayne has been involved with pageants for a number of years and has discovered that they are a wonderful opportunity to promote community service work and her “Dyslexia Awareness” platform. She will spend the year promoting dyslexia awareness and *Creative Kids Rock*, a program

she co-founded with Madyson Friese. Madyson is twelve years old and was diagnosed with dyslexia two years ago. Please check out more about their program at: www.creativekidsrock.org

As voluntary spokespeople for WIBIDA, Jayne and Madyson will also spend the year creating awareness about the valuable resources and tools WIBIDA provides to families and children with dyslexia. Jayne's dedication to promoting dyslexia awareness began over fifteen years ago when her son, then in second grade, was diagnosed with dyslexia. At that same time, Jayne was also finally diagnosed. She refers to this as one of the best days of her life because it was the piece of the puzzle that made everything make sense. Dyslexia was the reason she had struggled during her school years and why she is challenged every day to take in information, process it using the tools she has learned, and make sense of that information.

Even though a person with dyslexia typically finds it hard to read and write, Jayne wrote a children's book titled *Why Do I Learn Differently?* She uses her passion to help children get diagnosed at an early age and to help break the stereotypes and myths about this disability. She has also published many magazine and online articles on the subject. Jayne said in the 15 years since her diagnosis some things have changed, one of them being that many school districts now will not use the word dyslexia instead they say reading challenges or reading disability. Dyslexia is more than a reading challenge. It affects lives in every way -- not just reading. Jayne believes that when you do not put a true name to what a child actually has, you take away their ability to identify and understand their disability.

Knowledge is power! Her advice is: Be proud of who you are! The world would not be the same without dyslexics such as Walt Disney, Henry Winkler and Albert Einstein, just to name a few. A dyslexic has an amazing ability to think outside the box and to use their creativity to change the world! Encouraging children to love themselves, know they are special, and treasure their own uniqueness, is why Jayne co-founded Creative Kids Rock! Jayne is excited to be Mrs. Royalty International Classic because it is a wonderful pageant system. The system has many divisions, for children as young as age 3 on up to married women 40 years and older. Jayne says that pageants are wonderful for children and women with learning disabilities because they will challenge them to grow in their confidence, speaking skills, and people skills. More information about Miss Royalty International Pageants can be viewed at: missroyaltyinternational.com