Do you know who your Chapter contact is?

Have you reached out to your Chapter to get involved?

How do you find out what’s happening with your Chapter?

BE IN THE KNOW—CHECK OUT BELOW!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter Name</th>
<th>Contact Person</th>
<th>Email</th>
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To submit articles for future ALTA newsletters
contact Tammy Tillotson at tammyt1@charter.net
Twenty-five Years of MSLE Instruction

In 1991, the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Associated Scottish Rite of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction decided to establish a charity that would impact the lives of many young children in need. One of those leaders, J. Philip Berquist, suggested offering treatment for children with dyslexia, referencing the Massachusetts General Hospital’s Dyslexia Unit headed by Phyllis B. Meisel. Mr. Berquist and several Masons agreed to open a center for the remediation of children with dyslexia at the Lodge in Newtonville, Massachusetts. This led to the creation of the 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children, renamed the Children’s Dyslexia Centers, Inc. in 2010.

This first center opened on July 1, 1993, in Newtonville, Massachusetts and just celebrated twenty-five years of providing MSLE remediation to children with dyslexia under the leadership of the Center Director, Lynda Pinaud. Lynda was presented with an engraved silver tray, bottle of champagne, and thunderous applause at the Directors’ Conference in May 2018. Celebrations included two delicious cakes. Congratulations!

Currently, there are 42 Children’s Dyslexia Centers located throughout the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. The program is accredited by IMSLEC at the Practitioner and Instructor of Practitioners levels. The program has finally fulfilled one of our long-term goals—to add the therapy level. Application for accreditation at the Therapy level in the summer of 2019 will be submitted.

The Children’s Dyslexia Center mission statement has three parts, as follows:

- Provide the highest quality multisensory reading and written language tutorial services for children with dyslexia
- Promote and encourage education of professionals, tutorial trainees, and the public to become resources in teaching children to read
- Advance scientific knowledge of dyslexia through support of clinical research

Since the program opened, over 13,350 children have been served and over 3450 Practitioners and 170 Instructors of Practitioners have been trained.

As this important milestone is celebrated, it’s important to acknowledge that this program stands on the shoulders of giants. Deep gratitude is extended to some individuals who have provided guidance, knowledge and support for the program: Karen Avrit, G. Emerson Dickman, Mary Farrell, Marcia Henry, Claire Nissenbaum, Joyce Pickering, and John O. Willis. And, a prayer of thanks to the late J. Philip Berquist and Phyllis B. Meisel.
This summer, the DuBard School for Language Disorders initiated the fifth cohort of the Dyslexia Therapy Master of Education program. The IMSLEC-accredited program is a collaboration between the School of Education and the DuBard School for Language Disorders in the School of Speech and Hearing Sciences at The University of Southern Mississippi. The class is expected to graduate August 2019. To learn more about the program, visit http://bit.ly/dyslexiatherapymaster.

TEXAS ALTA CHAPTER HAS BEEN BUSY

- On the Road to Success - Texas ALTA Summit - January 26th, 2019. The flyer is attached!

- Several members of the ALTA board and members of Texas ALTA have been serving on the Dyslexia Handbook update and revision committees. The State Board of Education will be making final decisions on the updates and revisions this fall. The updates will include and clarify the legislative action from the last session. The revisions will make clarifications and simplify the guidance and directions of the current handbook.

- Texas ALTA past president, Linda Gladden and vice president Rebecca Gould went to Washington DC for Dyslexia Day on the Hill. They gave a presentation on the Gold Standard of a Highly Trained Professional - CALTs / CALPS. Afterwards they visited several Texas congressmen’s offices and encouraged them join the Congressional Dyslexia Caucus.

- August 11th the Texas ALTA executive board will meet in Austin with Courtney Hoffman - governmental liaison to the Texas legislature on behalf of Texas ALTA. The meeting is to plan and strategize for the upcoming legislative session. The executive board will also make plans for Dyslexia Day at the Capital and the annual Texas ALTA Summit.
Dear ALTA Member,

As proud members, we all know the level of commitment and rigor it takes for one to earn and maintain ALTA certification. This certification reflects the highest level of professional training and standards. Some of you have asked if ALTA members need additional certification. While the decision is certainly an individual one, you have already earned credentials as CALTs and CALPs that reflect the highest standards in our field as established by our founding members 33 years ago.

ALTA membership grows each year, as do the number of state and regional ALTA Chapters. ALTA credentials are being recognized in more and more states across the country along with growing connections to state legislation, licensure, and university programs. We are proud of the growth of new ALTA chapters across the country as well as increased representation around the world.

ALTA respects the standards of our fellow organizations in the Alliance; however, certifications from organizations and businesses outside of the Alliance do not meet the rigor of ALTA standards. Use of the word “Certified” has created confusion for those seeking professional expertise. There are quick ways to earn some certifications, including enrollment in college courses, product training, conference attendance, or online trainings. ALTA members should be confident that their ALTA credentials reflect the Gold Standard for professionals in our field.

All certified ALTA CALPs and CALTs are required to have extensive supervised practicum hours by certified supervisors. This important application by practice learning takes place in the professional supervised practicum; which is not required in some other training programs.

The ALTA board encourages members to use a consistent format when listing credentials to increase name recognition and branding of ALTA as a professional organization. Please take a moment to check your credentials and revise as necessary: Name, Degree, LDP/LDT, CALP/CALT. If you are an instructor, please attach the instructor designation to the ALTA designation for which it applies: CALP-ICALP, CALT-ICALP, CALT-QI. [Note: Not all designations are applicable to all members.]

Examples:
Mary Jones, Ed.D., LDT, CALT-QI
Mary Jones, M.A., CALT-QI
Mary Jones, CALT-ICALP
Mary Jones, LDP, CALP-ICALP
Mary Jones, M.Ed., LDT, CALT
Mary Jones, LDT, CALT
Mary Jones, Ph.D., CALP
Mary Jones, CALP

We are proud of our membership and applaud your commitment to maintaining these ALTA credentials. Keep up the good work!

Sincerely,
ALTA Board of Directors
August 6, 2018
The nation-wide mission of Boon Philanthropy is to provide innovative funding and stewardship solutions that enable dedicated educators to have the knowledge and skills they need to help all learners become strong readers. Boon Philanthropy created the Orton National Teacher Scholarships with the goal of giving teachers free training in explicit, multisensory literacy instruction methods.

The ALTA Foundation is honored to be chosen to distribute Boon Philanthropy’s Orton National Scholarship Grants. Boon Philanthropy’s generosity has provided the ALTA Foundation with increased opportunities to continue to train teachers in explicit, multisensory literacy instruction.

2018 marked the first year of distribution for the Orton National Teacher Scholarships. The ALTA Foundation randomly distributes the scholarship grants to IMSLEC® accredited and ALTA® associated training courses. The following training courses received scholarships to be awarded to a currently enrolled trainee: Children’s Dyslexia Centers MSLE Training Program, Colorado Literacy and Learning Center, Delaware Valley Friends School, Dyslexia Center of Austin, Multisensory Reading Centers of Puerto Rico, Neuhaus Education Center, Texas Scottish Rite Hospital Dyslexia Therapist Training Program, Scottish Rite Learning Center of South Texas, Scottish Rite Learning Center of West Texas, and Slingerland Institute for Literacy.

The ALTA Foundation appreciatively looks forward to a continued partnership with Boon Philanthropy and its commitment to provide opportunities for teachers to receive training in explicit, multisensory literacy instruction methods which have evolved from Samuel and June Orton’s research and best practices.

ALTA Foundation Board of Directors, 8/6/2018
On the Road to Success
Regional Dyslexia Summit
DALLAS, TX
calread.org/regISTRATION.asp

Exhibitors:
Bookshare

SPONSORED BY:
Texas Scottish Rite Hospital Dallas (in kind)
IPW Learning Center
Shelton School
Rawson Saunders School and Institute
McKinney Christian Teacher Training
LEAD/Literacy Education and Academic Development, Inc.
Scottish Rite Learning Center of South Texas
West Texas Learning Center

SATURDAY
Jan. 26, 2019

Scottish Rite Hospital for Children
2222 Welborn Street
Dallas, Texas 75219

Registration
7:30 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.
Conference
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

SUNDAY AGENDA

8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.
Welcome
Welcome Libby Grau, President Texas ALTA

8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
Understanding Developmental Dyslexia
Timothy N. Osgood, PhD, CALP

10:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.
Break and Exhibits

10:15 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Scottish Rite Hospital – Early Identification and Assessment
Dr. Sue Jones

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Lunch and Exhibits
Lunch provided by Panini (Sponsored by Bookshare)

1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Breakout Sessions
1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Breakout 1: Courtney Hoffman – Update from Austin: How to get Involved
2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Breakout 2: Dyslexia Coordinators – From the trenches: How do you lead?
BY Mary Yara, Theresa Houston
Tammy Spencer, Houston ISD
Cheryl Howell, Irving ISD
 Roxanne Eurofice, Plano ISD

2:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Break and Exhibits

3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Center for Brain Health, Dallas *Giving Students a SMART Edge: How thinking skills can motivate the classroom?
Dr. Jacqueline Fossivi

3:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Break and Exhibits

4:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Closing Remarks

6.5 CEUs available for ALTA members

altaread.org/registration.asp

On the Road to Success
Regional Dyslexia Summit
DALLAS, TX

EXHIBITORS:
Bookshare

SPONSORED BY:
Texas Scottish Rite Hospital Dallas (in kind)
IPW Learning Center
Shelton School
Rawson Saunders School and Institute
McKinney Christian Teacher Training
LEAD/Literacy Education and Academic Development, Inc.
Scottish Rite Learning Center of South Texas
West Texas Learning Center

MAIL REGISTRATION TO:
ALTA National Office
14070 Preston Rd.
Ste 100, L.B. 9
Dallas, Texas 75244

REGISTER ONLINE AT:
calread.org/registration.asp

No on site Registration.

Saturday, January 26, 2019
Scottish Rite Hospital for Children | Dallas, Texas 75219

Early Registration
($45.00)
Late Registration
($45.00)

ALTA Members:
$145.00
Non-members:
$165.00
Support members:
$145.00

Name ____________________________________________
Address __________________________________________
City State Zip Code ______________________________
Home Phone ( ) Work Phone ( ) Email ____________________
School District __________________________ Campus __________________________

Conference registration will be confirmed by e-mail.

Please check one box that best describes you:
ALTA member Non-member Support member

If registering for more than one person, please include all names below.

* There are 200 seats available. ALTA highly recommends early registration.
* Registration fees include boxed lunch.
* If you require special accommodations or have dietary restrictions to fully participate in the meeting, please call us prior to the early bird deadline at 972-333-9807 to make arrangements.

Payment is accepted by check or credit card. PO’s will not be accepted for this event.

I have enclosed a check payable to the Texas ALTA conference in the amount of ____________

I would like to pay my account with my credit card in the amount of ____________

Credit Card Type MC, VISA, AMEX
Credit Card Number __________________________ Expiration Date ________________

2543-7890-1234-5678
ABOUT ALTA...

The Academic Language Therapy Association® (ALTA) is a non-profit national professional organization incorporated in 1986 for the purpose of establishing, maintaining, and promoting standards of education, practice and professional conduct for Certified Academic Language Therapists. Academic Language Therapy is an educational, structured, comprehensive, phonetic, multisensory approach for the remediation of dyslexia and/or written-language disorders.

The name, Academic Language Therapy Association, represents and identifies the profession and the professionals who are its members. “Academic Language” denotes that services offered to clients are educational and emphasize reading, spelling, handwriting, and written expression. “Therapy” indicates that those services are intensive and therapeutic rather than tutorial. At the present time there are almost 2,600 ALTA members in 43 states and Colombia, Hong Kong, India, and Singapore.