

E-CONNECTOR



BULLETIN BOARD

Notes and Notices from Colorado Parents of Blind Children (CO-POBC)



Dear Reader:

Please contact us if you have an announcement you would like to tack up on our bulletin board, or if you would like to add a friend or family member to the e-mail list. Direct all communications to: copobc.newsletter@gmail.com, attention Julie Hunter, editor.



PINTEREST AND BLIND KIDS

Here's a message from the mother of a blind teenager who is also a teacher of the visually impaired: "Parents and/or Teachers of Students with Visual Impairments: Are you looking for 'how-to' ideas for children who are blind or visually impaired? If so, go to Pinterest (www.pinterest.com) and check out my boards: Braille, Orientation & Mobility, Blind or Visually Impaired Ideas, Toys and Games for Blind or Visually Impaired, Technology for Blind or Visually Impaired, Blindness Publications and Organizations, Articles about Blindness, Crafts for Blind or VI, Time for Blind or VI, Guide Dogs & Horses, Sports for Blind or VI, Science for Blind or VI, Math for Blind or VI, DeafBlind, Cooking for Blind or VI, Low Vision, Braille All

Around Us, Sensory for Blind or VI, Music for Blind or VI, Crafts & Holiday Craft Ideas for Blind or VI, Braille Jewelry, Expanded Core Curriculum...and more." Merry-Noel Chamberlain, Mother of a Blind Teenager (MBT), TVI, NOMC



FITNESS FUN

Find Your Fit is a fitness, exercise and wellness seminar for all ages. " This is a full day, high energy, interactive seminar. Come sample goalball, dance, yoga, guide running, self defense, tandem cycling, beep ball and more. You can try it all! Each participant will also receive a healthy breakfast, lunch, and snacks. No matter your age or ability level, you will leave with practical tools that will help you

live the life you want through exercise and physical activity. Registration is \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door." Register online at www.wefitwellness.com/services/findyourfit. For more information contact Cheryl Gross at 866-543-6808.

May 9, 2015
8:00am-4:00pm
Colorado Center for the Blind
2233 W. Sheppard Ave.
Littleton, CO



CELEBRATING BRAILLE

In honor of last month's Read Across America Day, also known as Dr. Seuss Day, a group of BELL teachers wrote a poem in honor of Braille and Dr. Seuss. A modified version of that poem follows. It has been shortened to fit in this newsletter with apologies to the authors.

DALE, GALE, AND THEIR BRAILLE TALE

I am Dale and I read Braille.
I am Gale. What is Braille?

Braille is dots, lots and lots.
Each dot has its special spot.

Why read Braille?
Inquires Gale.
Those little dots are hard to see.

Large print is fine, so let me be.

How about that silly print?
Could you read in a tent?
Could you read it in the night?
Could you read it without light?

I could read Braille at the park!
I could read Braille in the dark!

My darling Dale, I think I see.
Won't you teach that Braille to me!
They tried to teach me in my school.
But I told them it wasn't cool.

I was wrong. I don't want to fail!
I think it's time I learned to read Braille!

Bumps and dots are cool to read.
With this Braille we will succeed



INTRODUCING THE COMPUTER TO PRE-SCHOOLERS

Sonokids is an organization dedicated to the development of innovative, educational computer programs that are accessible and fun for young blind or visually impaired children. Many of Sonokid's Ballyland computer games are designed to introduce children to keyboarding skills on the desktop or laptop, as well as books and games that are

interactive on mobile touch screen devices such as the iPad. For example, the interactive audio e-book "Stay Still, Squeaky!" utilizes narration, song and sound effects which encourage the child to interact with the story via the touch screen. Learn more at Ballyland.com.



INEXPENSIVE COMPUTERS

Computers for the Blind offers laptop and desktop computers to the blind and visually impaired for a minimal price. Desktops (with monitor, keyboard and mouse) are available for \$110 and laptops for \$160. The computers come loaded with Windows 7, a demo version of JAWS (screen reader software), NVDA (screen reader), MAGic, a screen magnification program, TypeAbility, a demo version of a typing tutorial. Upgrades from demo versions to licensed versions of any of the software are available at a discount from Freedom Scientific.

(The CCB Equipment Fund grants assistance for purchasing adaptive technology to those who cannot afford it. There is an application and approval process. For more information contact Lorinda Riddle: lriddle@cocenter.org or 303-778-1130, ext. 236)



DESCRIPTIVE MOVIES LIBRARY

[Computers for the Blind](#) also offers a library of over 200 descriptive movies on video and DVD for loan. For a one-time fee of \$25 patrons can borrow any movie in the library for up to two weeks at a time. Some titles for children include *101 Dalmations, Aladdin, Babe, Bambi, Star Trek, Sister Act, Finding Nemo, The Nutty Professor* and many more. For further information go to computersfortheblind.net.



SUMMER CAMPS

The March edition of the *e-Connector* had a detailed article about the summer programs offered by the Colorado Center for the Blind and the NFB. To review that article, [click here](#).

In short...

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND PROGRAM:

[BELL: A Summer Braille Camp](#)

BELL is a one-week Braille enrichment camp for kids ages 4-12. There will be two sessions, one in Colorado

Springs and one in the Denver Metro area. See attached flier for more information

COLORADO CENTER FOR THE BLIND SUMMER PROGRAMS --

CONFIDENCE CAMP:

Elementary age. June 8-26. Five days each week. Fun activities and outdoor experiences.

INITIATION TO INDEPENDENCE

CAMP: Middle School age. June 10-July 1: Three week residential program.

EARN AND LEARN: High School age. June 6 – August 1 (Residential)

SUMMER FOR SUCCESS:

College Prep. June 5-July 31 (Residential)

Contact Brent Batron 303-778-1130 ext. 222 or bbatron@cocenter.org for more information.

OTHER CAMP OPPORTUNITIES

NATIONAL CAMPS FOR BLIND CHILDREN: GLACIER VIEW

A traditional camp experience. One week. Sponsored by Christian Record Services for the Blind

Glacier View (June 28-July 5)
Ages: 9 and older
8748 Overland Rd
Ward CO 80481
Camp Coordinator: Peggy Hansen

(402) 488-0981 ext.224
Registration Closes: May 28, 2015



APRIL CALENDAR

*No *FAST* Saturday this month

****TUESDAY, APRIL 7

Charlotte's Web at the Arvada Center for the Arts: Audio described performances at ten a.m. and noon. Tickets: 720-898-7200

****SUNDAY, April 12 (Also on April 19 and April 26))

Goalball for Kids

4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Colorado Center for the Blind
2233 W. Sheppard Ave.
Littleton, CO 80120

****TUESDAY, APRIL 28

Tiny Tot's "Inside the Orchestra": For ages 6 and under. Sit on the floor surrounded by a 30 piece orchestra. Interact with the conductor and the musicians while learning about the instruments.

Temple Emanuel
51 Grape St.
Denver, CO 80220

To purchase tickets (\$9.95), go to the [Orchestra website](#).