



Achieve with Us

2011 State Convention

Virginia Beach, VA · August 11 - 13, 2011 · Wyndham Virginia Beach

Lodging

Reservations

A block of rooms has been reserved for The Arc of Virginia State Convention at a starting rate of \$129 per night (plus tax) for August 10 - 13, 2011, at:

WYNDHAM VIRGINIA BEACH OCEANFRONT HOTEL

5700 Atlantic Ave | Virginia Beach, VA 23451

Reservations may be made by calling 1-800-WYNDHAM or by visiting The Arc of Virginia's website at www.thearcofva.org.

When making your reservation, please specify that you will be attending The Arc of Virginia State Convention to ensure you receive the group rate. Rooms can also be reserved at the reduced rate for August 7 -10 and August 13-15 if your family would like to stay for vacation before/after the Convention. Rooms in the block are available on a first-come, first-serve basis through **July 21, 2011**. If you need accommodations for accessibility, please indicate these when making your reservation.

Directions

From I-64

Exit 282 to US-13 N; Take the US-60 E/Shore Dr ramp to Beaches; Turn right onto US-60 E/Shore Dr; Follow US-60 E; Continue straight onto Atlantic Ave; hotel will be on the left.

From I-95

Take exit 84A to I-295 S; Exit 28A to I-64 E; Exit 282 to US-13 N toward Chesapeake Bay/Bridge-Tunnel; Take the US-60 E/Shore Dr ramp; Turn right onto US-60 E/Shore Dr; Follow US-60 E/Shore Dr; Continue straight onto Atlantic Ave; hotel will be on the left.

From I-58

Take US-13 N; Merge onto I-664 S; Take Laskin Rd exit; Turn left onto Pacific Ave; Continue straight onto Atlantic Ave; hotel will be on the right.

Things To Do

The Virginia Beach resort area is home to a flourishing beach culture of live music, street performers, cafés, a bustling boardwalk and beautiful, sandy beaches that go on for miles. Here are just some of the fun activities for the whole family:

Boardwalk (1.8 mi/18 blocks)
Dolphin Watching (3.6 mi)
Kayak Tours (1.8 mi)
Parasailing (3.7 mi)
Jet Skiing (3.7 mi)
Ocean Breeze Waterpark (5.8 mi)
Sailing (2.8 mi)
Grommet Island Park (3.9 mi) | fully accessible
Charter Boat Fishing (3.9 mi)
Pirate Ship Adventure (3.9 mi)
Golf (4.6 mi)
Virginia Beach Fishing Pier (2.9 mi)
Virginia Beach Aquarium (4.6 mi)
Old Coast Guard Station (2.3 mi)
Symphony by the Sea - August 11 (21 blocks)
Beach FamFest - August 12 (40 blocks)
Cape Henry Lighthouse at Fort Story (4 mi)

The hotel will be providing a complimentary, accessible shuttle to the Boardwalk (31st Street) and back for Convention attendees Aug. 11-13.

Dining, Shopping & Art

The Virginia Beach Boardwalk (2nd through 40th Streets) features forty blocks of souvenir shops, surf shops, boutiques, art galleries, craft shops and more. This is a great spot to enjoy some of the best restaurants in town specializing in seafood and other international culinary delights, with many outdoor cafés. There is also a restaurant onsite, Surf Club Ocean Grille, located in the Wyndham Oceanfront Hotel.

Other Nearby Hotels

Holiday Inn & Suites (1.3 mi) | P 757.428.1711
3900 Atlantic Ave, Virginia Beach, VA 23451

Cavalier Hotel (1.1 mi) | P 757.425.8555
4201 Atlantic Ave, Virginia Beach, VA 23451



Agenda

Thursday, August 11

1 to 2:45 p.m.

Opening Plenary

Overview of The Arc FINDS Survey, Implications for Virginia

Ann Cameron Caldwell, Chief Research & Innovations Officer, The Arc

Presentations by Virginia State Officials

The Honorable William Hazel, Secretary of Health & Human Resources; Commissioner James Stewart, Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; Members of the Virginia General Assembly (TBA)

3 to 4 p.m.

Breakout Sessions

ABC: All Behavior Communicates

Mickie Van Derwerker, Training and Technical Assistance Center at Virginia Tech

Peer-Advocacy for People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (ID/DD)

Our Voices

Understanding SSI, SSDI & Work Incentives, Part I

Community Work Incentive Coordinator (CWIC), vaACCSES & Shareen Young Chavez, The Arc South of the James

Self-Determination: It's Never Too Early to Start!

Mac McArthur-Fox, Training and Technical Assistance Center at Radford University

The Arc Board Member Training

Howard Cullum, The Arc of Virginia

4:15 to 5:15 p.m.

Breakout Sessions

Early Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) Program

Brian Campbell, Department of Medical Assistance Services

Dating & Relationships: A Session for Self-Advocates

Angela Stevens, Hope House Foundation; Paula Traverse-Charlton, Positive Behavior Supports of Virginia

Understanding SSI, SSDI & Work Incentives, Part II

Community Work Incentive Coordinator (CWIC), vaACCSES & Shareen Young Chavez, The Arc South of the James

Effective Individual Advocacy in the Adult System

Lana Hurt, Wall Residences

The Benefits of Volunteerism

Valerie Luther, Partnership for People with Disabilities

6 to 8 p.m.

Beachfront Welcome Reception & Silent Auction

Music, Cash Bar & Light Appetizers

Dr. Al Condeluci CEO, United Cerebral Palsy of Pittsburgh



Dr. Al Condeluci has been an advocate and catalyst for building community capacities and understanding culture since 1970. Al received his B.S. Degree in Psychology from Youngstown State University, and his M.S. in Social Work and Ph.D. in Education from the University of Pittsburgh. Since 1973, he has worked as an attendant, caseworker, advocate, planner, program director and now, CEO of his organization, UCP/CLASS. UCP/CLASS has created a family of corporations and is dedicated to its mission—"working towards a community where each belongs." His books have won praises and awards for their thoughtful approach to culture and community and are now used at many colleges, universities and in-service settings. Since 1975, Al has emerged as a national leader and consultant on human services and community issues.

WRETCHES & JABBERERS A Film by Gerardine Wurzburg



Website: http://soe.syr.edu/centers_institutes/institute_communication_inclusion/default.aspx

In *Wretches and Jabberers*, two men with autism embark on a global quest to change attitudes about disability and intelligence. Determined to put a new face on autism, Tracy Thresher, 42, and Larry Bissonnette, 52, travel to Sri Lanka, Japan and Finland. At each stop, they dissect public attitudes about autism and issue a hopeful challenge to reconsider competency and the future. As young people, both faced lives of isolation, unable to convey their inner intelligence. It was not until adulthood when each learned to communicate by typing—giving them a way to express their thoughts, needs and feelings—that their lives changed dramatically. After more than ten years of advocating for people with autism, they felt it was time to take their message global—to help people with autism in other countries around the world break through the isolation they both knew so well. From beginning to end, Thresher and Bissonnette inspire people with disabilities and their families with a poignant narrative of personal struggle that always rings with intelligence, humor, hope and courage. Website: www.wretchesandjabberers.org

Friday, August 12

9 to 10:30 a.m.

Keynote

Building Social Capital

Dr. Al Condeluci, UCP/CLASS

11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Breakout Sessions

Virginia Medicaid Waivers: Access & Services

Debra Holloway, The Arc of Virginia

Augmentative and Alternative Communication in the Classroom: An Overview of No Tech to High Tech Solutions & Strategies

Mary deCoen, Tobii Assistive Technology

Employment First Listening Post: A Session for Self-Advocates

Adam Sass, Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services

Pathways to Community—Strategies for Building Relationships

Dr. Al Condeluci, UCP/CLASS

Moving from Programs to Supports

Lynne Seagle, Hope House Foundation

12 to 2 p.m.

Community for All Luncheon

2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Breakout Sessions

Transition Planning & Special Needs Trusts: Part I

Tia Marsili, The Arc of Northern Virginia & Pat Hammeke, The Washington Group

Public Policy Briefing for Self-Advocates

TBA

Leadership and Skills for Organizing

Dr. Al Condeluci, UCP/CLASS

Affordable Technology with Apps

John Clem, The Arc of the Piedmont

4 to 5 p.m.

Breakout Sessions

How to Fund a Self-Advocacy Group

People for People

Transition Planning & Special Needs Trusts: Part II

Tia Marsili, The Arc of Northern Virginia & Pat Hammeke, The Washington Group

Planning Together—Emergency Preparedness

Jack Brandt & Valarie Luther, Partnership for People with Disabilities; Beth Ludeman-Hopkins, MPA, CAC

Shaping Your Child's Future, The Specialquest Way!

Cori Hill & Deana Buck, Partnership for People with Disabilities; Debra Holloway, The Arc of Virginia

Larry Bissonette Artist & Advocate



Larry Bissonette is an advocate and artist who lives in Milton, Vermont and has had his work exhibited regularly both locally and nationally. In 1991, Larry learned to communicate through typing and began combining words with his art to express his thoughts and ideas. Larry is one of the featured artists of the GRACE (Grass Roots Art and Community Effort) project based in Hardwick, Vermont. His work is in the permanent collection of the Musée de l'Art Brut, Lausanne, Switzerland and in many private collections.

Pascal Cheng Assistant to Larry



Pascal Cheng has assisted Larry Bissonette in his writings and presentations about art and disability issues since 1991. Pascal has an M.Ed. and a C.A.S. in Special Education from the University of Vermont. He has worked in the fields of education and human services for more than 30 years. He is currently an Educational and Communication Specialist for the Howard Center in Burlington, Vermont. He serves as a member of the Vermont Communication Task Force, Vermont Autism Task Force and board member for the Autism National Committee.



7 to 9:30 p.m.

Wretches and Jabberers Screening

Q & A with the cast of Wretches and Jabberers

Saturday, August 13

9 to 10:30 a.m.

Keynote

Finding Your Voice and Your Purpose in Life

Larry Bissonnette with Pascal Cheng & Tracy Thresher with Harvey Lavoy

11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Breakout Sessions

Montgomery County Schools: The Road to Inclusion

Christine Burton, Montgomery County School System

The Statewide Self-Advocacy Movement for People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (ID/DD)

Voices of Virginia

Rebranding Overview for Chapters

Shelly DeButts, The Arc

Starting a Local Chapter of The Arc, Panel Discussion

Representatives of The Arc of South Hampton Roads, The Arc of North Central Virginia, The Arc of South of the James & The Arc of New River Valley

Getting it Wrong, Where Do We Go From Here?

Lynne Seagle, Hope House Foundation

12 to 2 p.m.

Closing Luncheon

Federal-Level Advocacy

Marty Ford, The Arc

The Arc of Virginia Annual Membership Meeting & Election of Officers

Sibshop

Sibshops offer the opportunity for brothers and sisters of children with developmental disabilities to get together and obtain peer support, meet new friends and have some fun! Sibshops reflect a belief that brothers and sisters have much to offer one another—if they are given a chance.

We are excited to offer a Sibshop Session at the 2011 State Convention, conducted by staff from Children’s Hospital of the King’s Daughters. The session will be held Friday, August 12 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. for siblings ages 6 - 14 years old. A limited number of spaces are available. There will be a \$10 charge for the session. Please contact Debra Holloway with questions and to register your child: dholloway@thearcofva.org or 804-649-8481 ext. 103.

NOTE: Schedule may be subject to change.



Tracy Thresher Advocate



Tracy began typing to communicate in 1990 and was one of the first individuals with autism at Washington County Mental Health Services to be introduced to it. He has presented at local, statewide, and national workshops and conferences. He has consulted with local schools, is a member of the Vermont Statewide Standing Committee and has worked for the Green Mountain Self-Advocates in Montpelier, Vermont. In Vermont, he mentors teenagers and adults. Tracy is the lead trainer at the Institute on Communication and Inclusion at Syracuse University.

Harvey F. Lavoy Assistant to Tracy



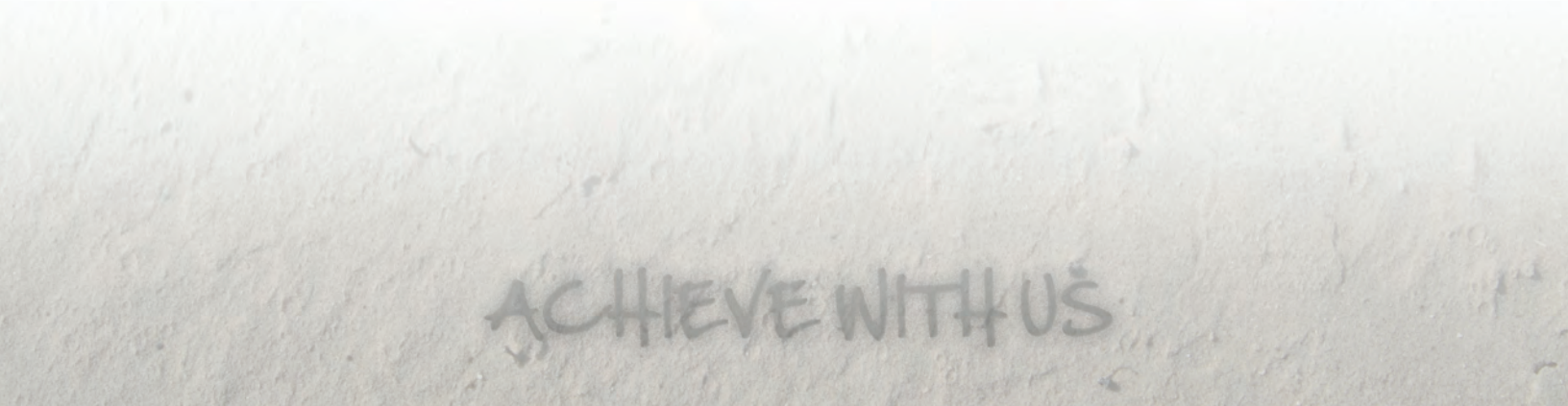
Harvey F. Lavoy has assisted Tracy Thresher in his advocacy work since 1994. Harvey has worked for Community Developmental Services (CDS), a division of Washington County Mental Health Services in Montpelier, Vermont since 1994. He has worked in the field of Human Services for more than 30 years. He is currently the Director of Communication Training and Resources at CDS. He has been a member of the Vermont Statewide Communication Task Force since 2000.



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What did attendees have to say about The Arc's 2010 State Convention?

"I learned so much here – it was moving to me."
 "So inspiring and great to connect with great people."
 "Very helpful. Enjoyed meeting new people from across the state."

"Very motivating."
 "It helped us self-advocates become stronger leaders."
 "It was a great weekend. I learned so much and came home inspired."

Thank You 2011 State Convention Sponsors



Partnership for People
 with Disabilities
 Linking people. Changing lives.



Interested in being a sponsor or exhibitor at the 2011 State Convention?

Contact Jessica Fleenor at jfleenor@thearcofva.org or 804.649.8481 ext 102, or visit our website at www.thearcofva.org.