



NATIONAL
DOWN SYNDROME
CONGRESS

Open
possibilities



JULY 21-23, 2006

34th Annual Convention

ATLANTA, GEORGIA



FUN things to do in Atlanta!

As you might expect from the home of Cartoon Network, Atlanta is a great family summer vacation destination!

WITHIN A SHORT WALK OF THE HOTEL!

Georgia Aquarium – Come see the only Whale Sharks in captivity outside of Asia at the world’s largest aquarium. With over 8 million gallons of fresh and marine water, and 100,000 animals representing 500 species from around the globe, you’re sure to see things you’ve never seen before! (www.georgiaaquarium.org)

Atlanta Children’s Museum – Welcome to Imagine It for hands on Fun! (www.imagineit-cma.org)

Centennial Olympic Park – Come play in the world’s largest interactive fountain – over 82.5 feet in length in the shape of the five Olympic Rings. (www.centennialpark.com)

APEX Museum – Learn about the African American Panoramic Experience at the APEX Museum on historic “Sweet Auburn” Avenue. (www.apexmuseum.org)

A FEW MORE BLOCKS WILL BRING YOU TO...

CNN Studio Tours – You can get in on all of the action of TV news making at the headquarters of CNN and Headline News. (www.cnn.com/StudioTour)

Martin Luther King Jr. Historic Site – Visit Ebenezer Baptist Church, Dr. King’s birth home and tomb, as well as the Visitor’s Center and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change. (www.nps.gov/malu)

Underground Atlanta – Six city blocks in the heart of downtown Atlanta have been transformed into a spirited urban marketplace. (www.underground-atlanta.com)

World of Coca-Cola – Learn about the world’s most popular soft drink through memorabilia, video presentations and displays. (www.woccatlanta.com)

A SHORT TRIP VIA CAR OR MARTA (WHICH HAS A RAIL STATION ATTACHED TO THE HOTEL) BRINGS YOU TO...

High Museum of Art – The High Museum of Art is the leading art museum in the southeastern United States. (www.high.org)

Jimmy Carter Library and Musuem – (www.jimmycarterlibrary.org)

Home of the Braves, Turner Field – More than just a ballgame. Visit www.braves.com for more information.

Historic Roswell – Boasts three antebellum house museums, Barrington Hall, Bulloch Hall and Smith Plantation House, as well as other historic, park and shopping delights. (www.roswellgov.com)

Six Flags Over Georgia – Amusement park (www.sixflags.com/parks/overgeorgia)

Six Flags White Water – Offers a variety of water thrill rides. (www.sixflags.com/parks/whitewater)

Stone Mountain Park – Stone Mountain is the world’s largest mass of exposed granite. The park also offers a depiction of a small Georgia town from the 1870s, an authentic antebellum plantation, rides, a museum and the nightly Laser Show Spectacular on the side of the mountain. (www.stonemountainpark.com)

Zoo Atlanta – Come visit the giant pandas as well as 250 species of animals from all over the world living in naturalistic habitats. Just minutes from downtown in historic Grant Park. (www.zooatlanta.org)

and of course, world-renowned shopping, dining and so much more!!

JOIN THE NDSC July 21-23, 2006

AT THE ANNUAL CONVENTION

Experience the NDSC Spirit!

There is a reason why the NDSC has both the nation’s most attended national convention for parents and professionals, as well as the world’s largest annual gathering centered on self-advocacy for teens and adults with Down syndrome. It’s the “NDSC Spirit” and it brings families back year after year.



The NDSC National Convention has been compared to a giant family reunion, where lives are touched, relationships made and renewed, and a sense of warmth infuses the gathering. Self-advocates are empowered by real leadership opportunities. Siblings have the chance to share honestly with peers. Parents have an unparalleled opportunity to learn from renowned speakers and to meet and share with one another.



And, there’s no better time for you and your family to experience that spirit than this year, where you will find southern hospitality at its best in Atlanta, GA. Bring your family and come experience the “NDSC Spirit” for yourself.

*Cover photo by Frank Mullen/Matteblack (www.matteblack.com)
Cover family: Earnest and Christina King
Special Thanks to the Georgia Aquarium for their hospitality*

FRIDAY, SATURDAY
& SUNDAY

General Convention

PROGRAM PREVIEW

Check the
NDSC website,
www.ndscenter.org
for updates to
the program.

Keynoters

Katie Bartlett, Self-Advocate, has testified at a Senate committee hearing in Washington DC, lives in Arlington, MA.

Mary Falvey, Ph.D., Professor & Director of Student Services for the Charter College of Education, California State University, author of several books, most recently *Believe in My Child with Special Needs! Helping Children Achieve Their Potential in School*.

David Koppenhaver, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Language, Reading, and Exceptionalities, Appalachian State University. He is a co-collaborator of the book, *Waves of Words: Augmentative Communicators Read and Write*, Boone, North Carolina.

Carol Bishop Mills, Ph.D., Assistant Professor in Communication Studies, University of Alabama. Her research examines how verbal and nonverbal communication affects our perceptions. She has written multiple journal articles, book chapters, and refereed conference papers. She is also the mother of a child with DS.

Barbara Ransom, J.D., Attorney & legal advocate for persons with disabilities, Public Interest Law Center of Philadelphia. Former certified Pennsylvania school teacher with litigating experience on behalf of students with disabilities.

Brian Skotko, joint-degree student Harvard Medical School and Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government. He recently authored and published major research on how physicians deliver a diagnosis of Down syndrome to new parents. He has been featured in *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Washington Post*, *The L.A. Times*, and on ABC's *Good Morning America*. He has a sister with Down syndrome.



Convention Highlights

- **OPPORTUNITIES THROUGHOUT THE CONVENTION FOR SPANISH SPEAKING FAMILIES TO HEAR WORKSHOPS IN THEIR OWN LANGUAGE; ALSO THE GENERAL SESSIONS WILL BE TRANSLATED.**
- **Friday Sharing Sessions** – Informal network opportunity to interact with parents in a similar situation. Separate sessions for moms, dads, grandparents and a special session for parents whose children have a complex diagnosis.
- **Friday Opening Ceremonies** – A wonderful and inspirational kick-off to this great weekend! Experience the potential of individuals with Down syndrome as they perform at their best! Followed by an opening reception.
- **Friday Evening Dance** – Self-Advocates and their siblings dance the night away at the youth and adult mixer.
- Throughout the weekend experience the knowledge and inspiration of **over 50 presenters from across the Nation.**
- **Saturday Evening Awards Banquet and Dance** – Inspirational opportunity to experience the great accomplishments happening around the nation involving individuals with Down syndrome.



Expected attendance close to 2,000!!

Workshop Speakers

(Confirmed at time of printing)

Sharing Sessions

Friday, 4-5:30pm

Informal sharing by topic or age of child. Separate sessions for moms, dads, and grandparents. Special session for parents whose children experience complex support needs. Sessions facilitated by family member of a person with Down syndrome. Very popular and meaningful feature of the convention!

Workshop Topics

Families

Health and medical concerns, including therapies

Education, including pre-school, transition, & post-secondary

Employment

Living Options

Friendships & social relationships

Advocacy and systems change, including legislation

Communication

Leisure opportunities

Positive behavior support

Person-centered planning

The NDSC welcomes families who speak Spanish to the convention. Please indicate need for translation on registration form (pg. 14).

Campbell K. Brasington, M.S., CGC – Board Certified Genetic Counselor, Carolinas Medical Center, Clinical Genetics; coordinator CMC Down Syndrome Clinic; Charlotte, NC

George Capone, M.D., M.S. – Research Scientist, Kennedy Krieger Institute; Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Johns Hopkins University, School of Medicine; Baltimore, MD

Brian Chicoine, M.D. – Medical Director of the Adult Down Syndrome Center of Lutheran General Hospital; Faculty of Family Medicine at Lutheran General Hospital of Advocate Health Care; Clinical Assistant Professor in the Family Practice Department of the Medical College of the University of Illinois at Chicago; Park Ridge, IL

Laura Cifra-Bean, M.D. – Pediatrician in private practice, mother of son with DS; Mentor, OH

Al Condeluci, Ph.D. - CEO of UCP/CLASS of Pittsburgh; author of several books, including *Advocacy for Change: A Manual for Action*; Pittsburgh, PA

Allen Crocker, M.D. – Researcher and physician, Children’s Hospital; Boston, MA

Michaela D’Aquanni, Ph.D. - Over the last 22 years she has taught in diverse general and special education settings, been an administrator at the high school level, a state wide consultant, a university professor. She spent the last year in India where she assisted in the development and opening of an international school for children with challenges.

Diane Eldridge, B.S., R.N. - Associate degree in Occupational Therapy, Handwriting Without Tears; Manassas, VA

Mary Falvey, Ph.D. - Professor and Director of Student Services for the Charter College of Education, California State University. Author of several books, most recently *Believe in My Child with Special Needs! Helping Children Achieve Their Potential in School*; Los Angeles, CA

Susan Goodman, J.D. – Director of Governmental Affairs, NDSC, mother of son with autism; Washington, DC

Priya Kishnani, M.D. – Associate Professor in Pediatrics; Interim Division Chief, Medical Genetics, Duke University Medical Center; Durham, NC

David Koppenhaver, Ph.D. – Associate Professor, Department of Language, Reading, and Exceptionalities, Appalachian State University. Co-collaborator in organizing a collection of AAC/literacy case studies for the book *Waves of Words: Augmentative Communicators Read and Write*; Boone, NC

Libby Kumin, Ph.D., CCC-SLP – Author of *Early Communication Skills for Children with Down Syndrome: A guide for Parents and Professionals*, (2nd Ed.); Columbia, MD

James MacDonald, Ph.D., CCC-SLP – Director, Communicating Partners Center; Editor, Communicating Partners Newsletter; retired professor; Ohio State University; Columbus, OH

Dennis McGuire, Ph.D. – Director of Psychosocial Services; Adult Down Syndrome Center of Lutheran General Hospital; Park Ridge, IL

Joan Medlen, R.D., L.D. – Editor of “Disability Solutions”; author of *The Down Syndrome Nutrition Handbook: A Guide to Promoting Healthy Lifestyles*. Mother of a son with DS and autism; Portland, OR

Carol Mills, Ph.D. - Assistant Professor in Communication Studies, University of Alabama. She has written and published multiple journal articles, book chapters, and refereed conference papers; mother of a child with DS; Tuscaloosa, AL

Siegfried Pueschel, M.D., Ph.D., MPH, J.D. – Author of *A Parents Guide to Down Syndrome: Toward a Brighter Future* (2nd Ed.); researcher and physician, DS Program, Rhode Island Hospital; father of son with DS; East Greenwich, RI

Monica Purdy, M.A., CCC-SLP – TalkTools® / Innovative Therapists International; She currently maintains a clinical presence in St. Paul, MN

Barbara Ransom, B.S., M.S., J.D. – Attorney for the Public Interest Law Center of Philadelphia (PILCOP) in its Disability Rights section. Barbara represents those who seek redress from actions that violate the rights of persons with disabilities to enjoy basic civil rights; Philadelphia, PA

Richard Rosenberg, Ph.D. – Vocational and Training Coordinator for Whittier Union High School District’s Career Connection partnering with the Community Advocates for People’s Choice (CAPC); Whittier, CA

Leslie Rubin, M.D. – Developmental Physician, Medical Director for TEAM Centers and President of ISDD; Atlanta, GA

Mary Rugg, M.Ed. – Early Intervention Program Coordinator, Institute on Human Development & Disability, Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research & Service, University of Georgia; Athens, GA

Sally Shott, M.D. – Professor, University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, Children’s Hospital; Medical Center Department of Pediatric Otolaryngology Head & Neck Surgery; Cincinnati, OH

Brian Skotko, joint-degree student, Harvard Medical School and Harvard’s John F. Kennedy School of Government. He recently authored and published major research on how physicians deliver a diagnosis of Down syndrome to new parents. Brother of a sister with DS; Boston, MA

Kevin Stevenson, M.D. – Medical Director, Neuro Spine Care for Kids; Atlanta, GA

Patricia C. Winders, P.T. – Senior Physical Therapist, Kennedy Krieger Institute, PT for the Down Syndrome Clinic; author of *Gross Motor Development in Children with Down Syndrome*; North East, MD

FRIDAY 8:30AM-3PM

Pre-Conference

SESSIONS

All sessions are concurrent, please choose only one per person.

A **Culture, Community and Strategies for Change**

Al Condeluci, Ph.D., CEO of UCP/CLASS of Pittsburgh

Welcoming and valuing the contributions of individuals with Down syndrome in any kind of community, school, faith, recreational or work-place --- involves what Dr. Condeluci refers to as “cultural shifting”. This workshop will examine change and cultural shifting. We will explore the process and challenges of changing attitudes and practices that are barriers to community membership. We will also identify and discuss together the key elements of cultural shifting that can help create meaningful community relationship opportunities for individuals with Down syndrome of all ages.

B **Building Capacity and Supports for Families and Children with Complex Needs**

George Capone M.D., Dr. Capone will be joined by several family members whose children have experienced Down syndrome combined with other challenges.

For some families, Down syndrome brings complexity because of the particular constellation of medical-developmental-behavioral challenges that their children experience. Such challenges may involve infantile spasms and seizures, gastro-intestinal malformations, autistic spectrum characteristics, challenging behaviors, leukemia, ADHD and mood instability. Families facing these issues require significant physical and emotional energy, as well as time and means to problem-solve and access specific kinds of medical and developmental information.

This session is intended to explore some key aspects of complex needs and to help identify strategies that families and parent groups can use to help build capacity when families face more than just Down syndrome.

Very popular feature of the NDSC Convention! Terrific opportunity for in-depth learning!!

C **Inclusive Education for All Students**

Mary Falvey, Ph.D., Professor & Director of Student Services for the Charter College of Education, California State University.

This workshop will focus on strategies for implementing inclusive education from kindergarten through high school. Specific examples of lessons and instructional plans and how to make them accessible to all students will be provided. It will also address the issues related to assessment and best practices for assessing students with Down syndrome in order to effectively plan for inclusive education. Finally, this workshop will include strategies for creating school-wide inclusive practices and methods for facilitating systems change from segregated to inclusive options.

Friday, 8:30am-3pm

(Check-in for the Pre-Cons begins at 8:00am)

For those registered for the Convention

\$60 per person

For those attending ONLY the Pre-Conference

\$75 per person

D **An Effective Approach to Literacy for Students with Down Syndrome: What, How, and Why**

David Koppenhaver, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Language, Reading, and Exceptionalities, Appalachian State University.

In this session we'll discuss what literacy is, how it is learned, and why it matters particularly to individuals with Down syndrome. We'll take a look at a framework for providing a balance of literacy learning opportunities and experiences. We'll model core strategies and problem-solve around participant issues and questions. We'll focus particularly on individuals who read and/or write at emergent or beginning levels.

(An hour and a half will be provided for lunch on your own.)

Registration required by June 23rd.

Pre-Conference Sessions *(continued)*

E

Building Social and Communicative Lives in Children with Down Syndrome

*James D. MacDonald, Ph.D.,
CCC-SLP, Director,
Communication Partners
Family Center,
Columbus, OH*

The workshop will introduce the Communicating Partners programs for teaching many kinds of "late talking" children to be more social and communicative. The workshop will provide easy to use approaches that will address several issues including: problems that interfere with learning to talk in children with Down syndrome; skills needed before children naturally learn language and conversation; best practices to help children communicate; common problems that keep children from becoming fully social and communicative and what can be done to help children with non-social and autistic-like behavior.

F

Growing Up and Growing Older: Healthy Social and Emotional Functioning in Adolescents and Adults with Down Syndrome

*Dennis McGuire, Ph.D.,
Director of Psychosocial
Services, The Adult Down
Syndrome Center of
Lutheran General Hospital
Brian Chicoine, M.D.,
Medical Director of the Adult
Down Syndrome Center and on
the Family Practice faculty at
Lutheran General Hospital.*

Participants will learn the unique strengths and potential weaknesses of people with DS, with an emphasis on ways to promote healthy functioning, based on the individuals seen at the Adult DS Center in Chicago. Issues discussed will include receptive and expressive language, self talk, sensitivity to others, obsessive-compulsive tendencies, visual memory, imagination and minority status of people with DS. Participants will also learn of key relationship of physical health to mental health problems and gain a greater understanding of developmental and environmental stressors, particularly as teens enter the adult world. Finally, participants will learn to distinguish mental health conditions from health, aging and non-reversible dementias and successful treatment strategies for many mental health conditions.

G

How Transition Works from Birth to Quality of Life

*Richard Rosenberg, Ph.D.,
Vocational and Training
Coordinator for Whittier Union
High School District*

This presentation will be hands-on for all those involved in the transition process, e.g. the individual, family members, teachers, administrators, and friends. Transition is an extension of the Person Centered Planning process.

The presentation will highlight activities and services for young children, middle school and high school age students, exploring options for 18-22 students and then after high school for individuals with Down syndrome. Areas of interest to be discussed will be career and work options for individuals with Down syndrome and other challenges. The linkages with collaborative partners will also be shared.

The ITP (Individualized Transition Plan) development will be addressed from a legal as well as practical framework. What are the roles and functions of the various students, family members, community members and staff from various agencies / organizations.

H

Oral-Motor Exercises for Speech and Feeding:

*Sara Rosenfeld-
Johnson's Approach*

*Monica Purdy, MA, CCC-SLP,
TalkTools® / Innovative
Therapists International,
Tucson, AZ*

In this presentation, Monica Purdy will demonstrate how oral-motor exercises using "toys," such as horns, straws, bubbles, and Bite Blocks, when used in a therapeutic hierarchy in conjunction with traditional articulation therapy, will improve speech clarity and feeding/swallowing safety. Each exercise can be implemented easily within the school and/or home environment.

I

Parent Group Leadership Seminar

*Coordinated by the NDSC
Parent Group Committee,
Gail Lowe, Chairperson,
Louisville, KY*

The Parent Group Leadership Seminar is an opportunity for leaders of local DS parent groups from around the country to come together and share information, resources, and concerns. This year's workshop training will focus on a common concern among parent group leaders - recruiting and sustaining of a viable volunteer force to carry out the work of the organization!

Parent groups that are current in their affiliate dues (\$50 per year) may send TWO representatives from their group to attend this pre-conference session for free. Please watch for separate mailing to affiliated parent groups.

Youth & Adults

WITH DOWN SYNDROME CONFERENCE

Carlene Mattson,
Youth/Adult
Conference
Chairperson &
NDSC 1st
Vice President



Once again coordinated by Carlene Mattson, parent, educator, and NDSC 1st Vice President and Katie Lingo, twin of a brother with DS and special education teacher.

Katie Faith Lingo,
Youth/Adult
Conference
Facilitator



The Youth and Adult Conference is designed to be fun, enriching, empowering, and safe. It is planned by and for adults and older teenagers with Down syndrome. The large group sessions are divided into youth and adults. Fifty adults and college and high school students will be on hand as volunteers to lend support.

IMPORTANT DETAILS:

The NDSC Youth & Adult Conference's popularity is fueled by the care taken to be inclusive of all persons with Down syndrome and the purposeful effort to allow all individuals with Down syndrome to grow, share and shine. To properly support everyone who wants to attend, the NDSC gathers information to help match individuals with volunteers. While this unique feature of the conference is time and labor intensive, it is another example of the family-like care the NDSC gives to those attending the conference. Because of this commitment to our youth and adults with Down syndrome, we cannot accept on site registration and we need informational gathering packets **returned on time** for individuals to participate.

There is NO on-site registration for Y/A.

Some limited scholarships are available for self-advocates who could not attend otherwise. Guidelines available from the NDSC Center.

See page 9 for times of the Y/A Conference.

Self-advocates benefit in many ways. For example, they:

- Gain empowering self-advocacy skills
- Participate in fun, interactive workshops led by persons with Down syndrome
- Have the chance to participate in a Talent Show
- Make new friends and socialize with peers from all over the country

New This Year!

Your very own
"Memory Book"

The Y/A
conference
may fill up
and close.

**Don't miss
the June 9th
deadline.**

We don't want
you to be
disappointed!

**For adults and youth with Down syndrome,
age 15 (by time of convention) and older**

**Registration deadline:
June 9th**

This year there are 4 Youth and Adult pre-cons to choose from. You can only attend one as all will be offered Friday, July 21, 8:30am - 12noon

Session #1: Believe in Empowerment!

Want to develop your leadership skills and affect system change? Join your peers in this workshop on self-advocacy. Facilitating the learning, from the Atlanta Alliance on Developmental Disabilities, is Director for the Division on Public Policy and Education, Dave Blanchard and Training and Advocacy Manager, Rita Young. Expect a lively interactive workshop where you will learn the skills to determine your choices and establish your self-advocate voice.

Session #2: I Can Draw! Yes I Can!

Develop your artistic side. Drawing is a satisfying hobby that is very portable and can be done anywhere. Try your hand in this stimulating art workshop led by educator Marie Latta, a working artist and an ADA consultant. The medium is ebony pencils and colored pencils on paper with mat board. Be sure to leave a little room in your suitcase for the masterpiece you will be creating.

Session #3: Color Your Plate with Flavor!

Healthy choices can be colorful and taste delicious! Learn from the nation's nutrition expert, Joan Guthrie Medlen, R.D., L.D., the author of *Down Syndrome Nutrition Handbook* as well as Project Director and Managing Editor of Disability Solutions. This workshop will include a cooking demonstration, taste testing, and easy ways to make healthful choices back home that are colorful, tasty, and fun! Be ready to sample what you make!

Session #4: Viva México! A taste of food, craft, music & culture

A fun and interactive opportunity to explore "South of the Border." There will be authentic food, music and dance, crafts to make, and a fun Spanish lesson.

Friday, 8:30am-12noon

**(Check-in for the Self-Advocate
Pre-Cons begins at 8:00am)**

\$40 per person

**All pre-cons have limited space –
register early to guarantee for
your first choice!**

**Registration required by
June 9th.**

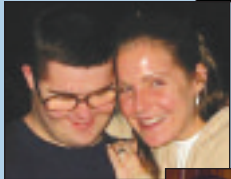


Returning once again!

Chris Burke and Joe
and John DeMasi will
perform Friday after-
noon at the Y/A Get
Acquainted Event.

Brothers & Sisters CONFERENCE

Laurie Maranian,
Brothers/Sisters
Conference
Co-Chairperson &
her brother Chuck



Alacia Trent,
Brothers/Sisters
Conference
Co-Chairperson &
her brother Carter

Marisa Sellinger,
Brothers/Sisters
Conference
Co-Chairperson &
her brother Stephen



Ryan Rotundo,
Brothers/Sisters
Conference
Co-Chairperson
& his sister Nicole

Welcome to the 2006 Brothers & Sisters Workshop!

There are many exciting changes to the Brothers & Sisters workshop this year. We asked for your advice and we listened!

For the first time ever there will be two separate workshop tracks for the brothers and sisters. There will be one workshop for the rising 6th–8th graders, led by Alacia Trent, and Marisa Sellinger, both graduate students in special education at Peabody College, Vanderbilt University. The other workshop is for rising 9th–12th graders, will be coordinated by Laurie Maranian, senior at Harvard University and Ryan Rotundo, sophomore at North Carolina State University.

With almost all new activities this year, conference participants will have the opportunity to ask tough questions, share and foster friendships with others who have a brother or sister with Down syndrome, hear inspirational self-advocates speak, and participate in creative activities which increase their knowledge about Down syndrome and disability-related issues including becoming an advocate for their brother or sister. There will also be the ever popular off-site field trip to an exciting Atlanta venue!

We certainly hope you can join us for this fun filled weekend. We look forward to meeting you!

For Siblings entering
6th - 12th grade September, 2006

Registration deadline: June 23th

OTHER Convention Events

CEU Documentation

Documentation for Continuing Education Units (CEUs) will be available for attendees to submit for consideration by the appropriate licensure bodies in their respective states for the awarding of units.

Compendium

Handouts submitted by presenters in advance will be published in the 2006 Program Compendium. For each registration (individual or family), one Compendium is provided at registration check-in. Additional Compendiums can be purchased in advance for \$15. *See registration form.*

Booksignings

Meet authors personally and have books autographed. Several opportunities throughout the weekend.

Buttonmaker

Always a popular item! Bring a picture of your child to transform into a button to wear during the convention. (Reminder: the picture becomes part of the button and therefore cannot be returned intact.)

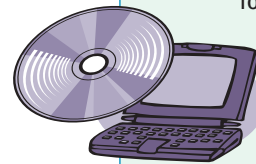
CD-ROM recording

Taking advantage of current technology, once again we are able to offer the entire convention, Saturday and Sunday, on an audio CD-ROM for only \$29.00!!!!

This is an advance purchase price for convention attendees only.

Now you won't have to miss a workshop — this is an amazing offer — a wealth of information! You will be able to order CD-ROM's at the convention for \$34 and after the convention for \$39. All prices plus \$4 shipping. Cassette tapes will NOT be offered.

Please see page 14 for ordering information.



FEATURED Convention Events

Exhibits

See the latest in books, curricula, toys, teaching aids, software and assistive technology. Interesting and helpful displays from parent groups and related agencies.

Film Festival

A wonderful opportunity to view the best films, clips, & documentaries ever produced starring individuals with Down syndrome. Available on the Marriott closed circuit TV.



Self-Advocates in the National Spotlight

An upbeat celebration of accomplishments by youth and adults. Join us for the Opening Session.

Friday 7:15-8:30pm

Opening Reception & Silent Auction

Social gathering to renew old friendships, make new ones, and gather informally with the NDSC Board members. Enjoy the excitement of our silent auction as you anticipate the announcements of the winning bids and in the process support our self-advocates. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres and cash bar.

Friday 8:30-10:15pm



Awards Banquet and Dance

Special evening to honor award recipients in many categories. Cost of tickets: \$37 for adults and \$18 for children, 12 and younger. *See registration form.*

Saturday

Banquet 7:15-9:15pm (by ticket only)

Dance 9:30-11:30pm (open to everyone)



Convention-at-a-Glance

Friday, July 21		Saturday, July 22		Sunday, July 23	
8am	Pre-con check-in	7:30am	Registration opens	8:30am-1pm	Y/A & B/S Conference
8:30am-3pm	General convention Pre-cons (with a 1 1/2 hour lunch break)	7:30am-6pm	Exhibits	8:30-9:30am	General Session
		8:30am-3pm	Y/A Conference (Youth section)	9am -1pm	Exhibits
8:30am-noon	Youth & Adult Pre-cons	8:30am-5:15pm	Y/A Conference (Adult section) and B/S Conference	9:45-11:15am	Workshops
12noon	Registration begins			11:30am-1pm	Workshops
12noon-7pm	Exhibits	8:30-10:15am	General Session		
3:45-5:45pm	Y/A Get Acquainted	10:30am-12noon	Workshops		
3:45-4:45pm	B/S Get Acquainted	12noon-1:30pm	Lunch (on your own)		
4:00-5:30pm	Sharing sessions	1:30-3pm	Workshops		
7:15-8:30pm	Opening Session: Welcome and Self-Advocates in the National Spotlight	3:30-5:15pm	General Session		
8:30-10:15pm	Opening Reception & Silent Auction	5:30-6:15pm	General membership meeting		
8:30-10:30pm	Y/A & B/S Mixer	6:30-7:15pm	Reception and cash bar		
		7:15-9:15pm	Banquet (by ticket only)		
		9:15-11:15pm	Dance (open to everyone)		

Hotel & Travel

INFORMATION



Airline Information

AirTran and American Airlines are offering special fares for our attendees:

AirTran - 10% discount on the lowest available fare - call the EventSavers Desk at 1-866-683-8368 for reservation and mention our code ATL071706.

American Airlines - 5% off of the lowest qualifying fare - call 1-800-433-1790 or www.aa.com. When prompted for the discount code - A0476AI

Ground Transportation— Two Choices

The Atlanta Link Shuttle Service
www.theatlantalink.com,
(404) 524-3400

At the airport follow the signs from Baggage Claim to "ALL PUBLIC GROUND TRANSPORTATION." When exiting the Baggage Claim doors marked "All Public Ground Transportation," The Atlanta Link Booth is located on the first service island. A sign is posted on the booth "The Atlanta Link." Advance reservations are not needed. Transportation to the Marriott every 15 minutes; 6AM – 12 midnight. \$29/per round trip, \$25 for 3 or more, \$16.50 one way.

MARTA - Atlanta's mass transit system (404) 848-5000
www.itsmarta.com

From the airport an easy ride north to the Peachtree Center station. MARTA is attached to the airport, right off baggage claim. Ride the train a few miles north and the Marriott is attached to the Peachtree Center station via a short walk. One way fares are only \$1.75, and within 20 minutes, you can be downtown.

Car Rental

Special car rental prices are available through Avis Rent A Car. Please call 1-800-331-1600 or online at www.avis.com. Refer to the Avis Worldwide Discount (AWD) J944711.

Atlanta Marriott Marquis

265 Peachtree Center Avenue
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Reservations

1-800-266-9432
1-801-832-4532 (international)

The easiest and most convenient way to make hotel reservations is through the NDSC website at www.ndsccenter.org or call the number listed above for reservations. Be sure to ask for the group rates.

Basic room rates

Single/double: \$109
Triple/Quad: \$119

All rates are per night; tax is additional. These rates are available July 19 – 24, 2006. The cut-off date for reservations is June 23, 2006, after this date space is not guaranteed – reserve early!

Hotel Information

404-521-0000
1-888-855-5701
www.atlantamarquis.com

Guest Services Transportation

For guests of the Marriott, the Guest Services department is available to assist with all transportation, including trips to and from the airport and local attractions.

Dining Options

To provide maximum flexibility to families, the NDSC does not include meals in the cost of registration. The hotel will set up cash food concession areas for breakfast and lunch on Saturday and Sunday. Meal options include a large variety of restaurants within and near the hotel. A listing and map will be included in your registration packet.

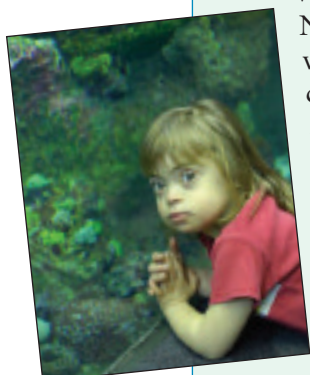
Hotel Parking

Reduced valet parking rate of \$14/day with in and out privilege for NDSC attendees.

Travel



Hotel



Opportunities

FOR INVOLVEMENT

The NDSC offers many opportunities for involvement in the annual convention.

These include

- recruitment of volunteers
- sponsorship
- supportive messages placed in the program booklet, the Souvenir Journal



Call for Volunteers

More than 300 volunteers are needed for a successful convention. You are key in helping us find them! You can assist in their recruitment by putting your friends and family members in the Atlanta area and the NDSC in touch with one another!

Some jobs can be completed ahead of time, and some will occur at the convention. Shifts can be as short as four hours or as long as all day. Volunteers can be high school, college, or grad students; family members; neighbors; friends; seniors—any civic-minded individual willing to share their time for a great cause.

Volunteer jobs for the General Convention Include:

Registration tables and other check-in stations.

Youth/Adult Conference

Have the time of your life assisting individuals with Down syndrome at the Youth and Adult Conference.

To learn more about volunteering, contact Jennifer Carroll – Volunteer Coordinator, phone 770-998-1703
Email - jenniferofroswell@msn.com

Sponsorship

For firms, organizations and individuals **OPPORTUNITIES**

Visible Sponsorship Credit for your business

- **Platinum, \$10,000** – Printing of Convention Materials
- **Gold, \$7,500** – Opening Reception and Silent Auction
- **Gold, \$7,500** – Youth/Adult Conference focusing on self-advocacy
- **Silver, \$5,000** – Tote bags for all attendees and volunteers
- **Silver, \$5,000** – Souvenir Journal – the Program Booklet
- **Bronze, \$2,500** – Awards Banquet and Dance
- **Bronze, \$2,500** – Brothers/Sisters Conference
- **Phoenix, \$1,000** – Supporting our Volunteer lunch
- **Supporting, \$500 - \$1,000** – Outreach scholarships for families
- **Customized Sponsorships** – additional sponsorship opportunities and related benefits may be customized just for you!



For more information about convention sponsorship opportunities, please call David Tolleson, Executive Director, at 1-800-232-6372.

Convention Program Booklet

The National Down Syndrome Congress invites exhibitors, speakers, vendors, families, and others interested in supporting the work of the NDSC to place appropriate messages in the convention program booklet, the Souvenir Journal.



The inclusion of your message in the Souvenir Journal shows your support for the work of the NDSC and all of its parent groups and assists us to better serve persons with Down syndrome. Messages may provide information, recognition, good wishes or may memorialize an individual. Business logos and photos may be included. Each of the expected 1,800 attendees will receive a copy of the Souvenir Journal.

Message Options	Size of "Live Area"
A \$500* Back cover (2 color)	7-1/2" x 10"
B \$400* Inside covers (2)	7-1/2" x 10"
C \$400* Facing inside covers (2)	7-1/2" x 10"
D \$400* Full page (adjacent to program)	7-1/2" x 10"
E \$300 Full page	7-1/2" x 10"
F \$200 1/2 page	5" x 7-1/2"
G \$100 1/4 page	3-3/4" x 5"
H \$50 1/8 page	3-3/4" x 2-1/2"

*Verify availability with Convention Coordinator. Bleed ads are not permitted.

Complete and mail the application form below and follow any additional instructions for your selected layout option.

Layout Option 1: Donor will provide final camera ready artwork. *Preferred:* high-res (300 dpi) black & white electronic artwork submitted as a mac quark, illustrator, tiff, jpeg or pdf file to Denise at denise@ndscenter.org. *Acceptable:* film or hard copy can be mailed to the address below.

Layout Option 2: Donor will email message copy to be typeset. Please email message copy to Denise at denise@ndscenter.org.

Layout Option 3: Donor will provide copy, images, logos, etc. and wishes assistance with message design and layout. Please contact Convention Coordinator for details (additional charges may apply).

Deadline for submission of message layout or copy and payment in full is May 26, 2006.

The National Down Syndrome Congress is a nonprofit organization registered with the IRS to accept tax-deductible contributions. All funds received will be used to further the purpose of the NDSC. The NDSC reserves the right to accept or reject any message.



Souvenir Journal Application (Convention Program Booklet)

2006 SOUVENIR JOURNAL MESSAGE APPLICATION

Deadline for submission of message layout or copy and payment in full is May 26, 2006.

Send payment in full (checks made out to NDSC), completed form, & copy to:

Denise Dreyer, Convention Coordinator
 1370 Center Drive, Suite 102
 Atlanta, GA 30338
 770-604-9500 • 800-232-6372
 fax: 770-604-9898
 email: denise@ndscenter.org

Payment must be made in US funds.

MESSAGE OPTION (CHOOSE ONE) **A B C D E F G H**

LAYOUT OPTION (CHOOSE ONE) **1 2 3**

DATE _____ DONOR _____

ORGANIZATION CONTACT _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

DAYTIME PHONE _____ FAX _____

EMAIL _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____ CHECK MASTERCARD VISA

CARD # _____ EXPIRATION DATE _____

NAME ON CARD _____

SIGNATURE _____

C O N V E N T I O N R E G I S T R A T I O N F O R M

3 Ways to Register

START HERE

Please read through this entire form (all pages) before filling in your information. Please type or print legibly (your name badge(s) will be created from this form).

- 1 Mail completed registration form and payment to: 1370 Center Drive, Suite 102 Atlanta, Georgia 30338
- OR
- 2 Fax completed registration form to: 770.604.9898
- OR
- 3 Online Registration Online registration is fast and easy and it helps us to keep our cost low. Please check out online registration at www.ndscenter.org

Registration Deadlines
 June 9 - Youth/Adult Conference and Youth/Adult Pre-conference
 June 23- General Conference, General Pre-conference and Brother/Sister Conference

DATE SUBMITTED _____

General Convention Registration

GENERAL CONVENTION	<p>Friday Noon - Sunday 1:30pm <i>Registration Deadline June 23.</i></p> <p>This section is for general convention attendees only. Youth/Adult and Brothers/Sisters attendees should register on page 15.</p> <p>Individual: you are the only one attending (other than a Youth/Adult or Brothers/Sisters attendee).</p> <p>Family: family members in addition to you (living in your household only) are attending (other than a Youth/Adult or Brothers/Sisters attendee).</p> <p>Member: Applies to current NDSC Member or anyone renewing on page 14. <i>Note: Membership in local parent groups doesn't constitute membership in the NDSC.</i></p> <p>Non-Member: Registration fee at non-member rate includes one year membership in the NDSC.</p>	YOUR NAME (FIRST) _____ (LAST) _____ MAILING ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ DAYTIME PHONE _____ EVENING PHONE _____ FAX NUMBER _____ E-MAIL _____ <input type="radio"/> INDIVIDUAL <input type="radio"/> FAMILY List other family members participating in the convention (and living in your household). If you are registering anyone for Y/A or B/S, use form on p. 15. NAME _____ RELATIONSHIP _____ NAME _____ RELATIONSHIP _____ NAME _____ RELATIONSHIP _____ AGE OF FAMILY MEMBER WITH DOWN SYNDROME _____	FEE COLUMN General Convention Registration ↓ \$	
	<input type="radio"/> CURRENT NDSC MEMBER(S) <i>To determine member status, see mailing label with expiration date.</i> <input type="radio"/> NON-MEMBER(S)	Individual Fee \$85 Family Fee \$150	Individual Fee \$115 Family Fee \$180	\$

Pre-Conference Registration

PRE-CONFERENCE	<p>Friday 8:30am-3pm <i>Registration Deadline June 23.</i></p> <p>Available only for adult attendees.</p> <p>Registered for the Convention 5-hour sessions - \$60 per person</p> <p>Attending Pre Conference ONLY 5-hour sessions - \$75 per person <i>(All above fees include materials and morning coffee.)</i></p> <p><i>Session I is free to two (2) persons from NDSC affiliated parent groups through a separate mailing. Others may register here and pay the appropriate fee.</i></p>	<input type="radio"/> ATTENDING PRE-CONFERENCE ONLY <input type="radio"/> ATTENDING GENERAL CONVENTION <i>See pages 5-6 for detailed session descriptions.</i> Session A: Culture, Community and Strategies for Inclusive Change Session B: Building Capacity and Supports for Families and Children with Complex Needs Session C: Inclusive Education for ALL Students Session D: An Effective Approach to Literacy for Students with Down Syndrome Session E: Building Social and Communicative Lives in Children Session F: Growing Up and Growing Older Session G: How Transition Works Session H: Oral-Motor Exercises for Speech and Feeding Session I: Parent Group Leadership Seminar	Total for Pre-Conference Registration ↓ \$
	NAME _____ Will Attend SESSION (A) (B) (C) (D) (E) (F) (G) (H) (I)	NAME _____ Will Attend SESSION (A) (B) (C) (D) (E) (F) (G) (H) (I)	\$
			Page Subtotal \$

All sessions are concurrent; please choose only one per person.

C O N V E N T I O N R E G I S T R A T I O N F O R M

(CONTINUED FROM OTHER SIDE)

Banquet Tickets

B A N Q U E T	Cash Bar: Saturday 6:30pm Banquet: Saturday 7:15pm		Subtotal (from other side)
	Tickets are to be picked up on-site after check-in.	# of Adult Tickets _____ x \$37 = _____	\$
	Availability of extra tickets on-site is not guaranteed.	# of Children's Tickets (age 12 and under) _____ x \$18 = _____	Total for Banquet Tickets
	Adults: \$37 per person Children (age 12 and under): \$18 per person	NAME(S) Needs a Vegetarian Meal _____	↓
	NAME(S) Needs a Kosher Meal _____	\$	↓

Extra Compendium

C O M P E N D I U M	Both Individual and Family registrations receive only one compendium (collection of all handouts and documentation to accompany workshops). If you and a family member will be attending different workshops, you may want an additional compendium so each person has access to workshop handouts.		Extra Compendium
	Compendium fee is \$15.	# of Extra Compendiums _____ x \$15 = _____	\$

Translation

S P A N I S H	<input type="radio"/> I will need translation into Spanish. — Se requiere traducción al español.	No Charge
		↓

Conference CD-ROM

C D - R O M	We are able to offer the entire convention, Saturday and Sunday, on an audio CD-ROM for only \$33, shipping included! This is an advance purchase price for convention attendees only. Now you won't have to miss a workshop — this is an amazing offer — a wealth of information!		Conference CD-ROM
	Conference CD-ROM \$29 + \$4 shipping (each).	# of Conference CD-ROMs _____ x \$33 = _____	\$

Membership Renewal

R E N E W A L	Renewal for those with membership expiration date of July 2006 or earlier on mailing label.		Membership Renewal
	Membership fee is \$25.		\$

Youth/Adult or Brothers/Sisters Registration


Y / A - B / S	Please register Youth/Adult and/or Brothers/Sisters attendees by completing the form on page 15. Then, carry over your Youth/Adult and/or Brothers/Sisters Registration total to this box. Be sure to send in the Youth/Adult Brothers/Sisters page also.		Total from page 15
			\$

Payment Method

P A Y M E N T M E T H O D	To avoid on-site registration delays and additional charges, register by these deadlines:	PAYMENT METHOD: <input type="radio"/> CHECK (Payable to NDSC) <input type="radio"/> MASTERCARD <input type="radio"/> VISA	Add \$25 fee (If registering on-site only)
	June 9 - Youth/Adult Conference & Youth/Adult Pre-Conference	<input type="radio"/> VOUCHER/PURCHASE ORDER # _____	\$
	June 23 - General Conference, General Pre-Conference & Brothers/Sisters Conference	CREDIT CARD # _____ EXPIRATION DATE _____	Total (US Funds Only)
	After the deadline, general convention registration will be on-site <i>only</i> and a \$25 fee will be added.	NAME ON CARD _____	↓
	SIGNATURE _____	Registration will be considered complete and will be processed only when payment in full has been received.	\$
		Refund Policy: Banquet tickets are non-refundable. Registration fees are non-refundable after July 7, 2006. A \$25 processing fee will be deducted from all requests for refund of registration fees.	\$


Fill out for Youth/Adult or Brothers/Sisters attendees only.

Youth/Adults Conference

YOUTH / ADULT CONFERENCE	Friday 3:45pm - Sunday 1:00pm For specific times each day, see Convention-at-a-Glance, pg. 9. Registration Deadline June 9th! Registration fee is \$75 per person and includes snacks, Sunday breakfast, materials and entertainment. <i>(Attendee must be 15 years old by July 21, 2006.)</i> Additional information to solicit individual's needs for support will be sent following receipt of registration form and payment. No on-site registration available.	NAME (FIRST) _____ (LAST) _____ <input type="radio"/> MALE <input type="radio"/> FEMALE DATE OF BIRTH (must be 15 by July 21, 2006) _____ AGE ON 7-21-06 _____ HAVE YOU ATTENDED THE YOUTH/ADULT CONFERENCE BEFORE? <input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME _____ ADDRESS _____ <small>(if different than address on page 13)</small> CITY/STATE/ZIP _____ PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____	Youth/Adults Conference Registration  \$
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PRE-CONFERENCE	Friday 8:30-12noon Registration Deadline June 9th. 3-hour session - \$40 July 21, 8:30am-12noon No on-site registration available.	Session 1: Believe in Empowerment! Session 3: Color Your Plate with Flavor!	Session 2: I Can Draw! Yes I Can! Session 4: Viva Mexico!	Total for Pre-Conference \$
	NAME _____ 1st Choice _____ 2nd Choice _____ 3rd Choice _____ 4th Choice _____			Y/A Total \$

Brothers/Sisters Conference

BROTHERS / SISTERS CONFERENCE	Friday 3:45pm - Sunday 1:00pm For specific times each day, see Convention-at-a-Glance, p. 9. Registration Deadline June 23. Registration fee is \$75 per person and includes snacks, Sunday lunch, materials and off-site trip. <i>(Attendee must be entering 6th-12th grade in September 2006.)</i> Additional program information will be sent following receipt of registration form and payment. No on-site registration available.	NAME (FIRST) _____ (LAST) _____ <input type="radio"/> MALE <input type="radio"/> FEMALE DATE OF BIRTH _____ AGE ON 7-21-06 _____ GRADE ENTERING SEPTEMBER 2006 (must be entering 6th-12th grade) _____ HAVE YOU ATTENDED THE BROTHERS/SISTERS CONFERENCE BEFORE? <input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME _____ ADDRESS _____ <small>(if different than address on page 13)</small> CITY/STATE/ZIP _____ PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____	Brothers/ Sisters Conference Registration  \$	
				Page Subtotal (carry over to page 14) \$

Hope to see you in Atlanta
 July 21 – 23 for an outstanding convention!

Dear Members AND FRIENDS OF THE NDSC,

An NDSC Convention is like no other event. When we come together, we literally transform the world. The Spirit and enthusiasm of our Youth is indescribable. Brothers and Sisters shine with pride. Parents and professionals smile with deep satisfaction and beam with joy. The workshops are life changing, the speakers are inspiring, the unique exhibits are exhilarating, the networking with friends from across the country and around the world is phenomenal. If you've never come, you may think I'm exaggerating. If you've been before, you know of the miracle that can occur.

Make plans now to attend the NDSC's 34th Annual Convention on July 21-23, 2006 in the heart of southern hospitality, Atlanta, GA. It is the only national conference on Down syndrome to be held this year in the United States.

Registration Deadlines

June 9th –
Youth/Adult &
Youth/Adult
Pre-conference
*On-site registration
not available.*

June 23rd –
General Convention
Pre-Conferences &
Brothers/Sisters
*After June 23rd, all
registration will be
on-site and a \$25
fee will be added.*

Our theme is "Open Possibilities" and during the weekend you will see the myriad opportunities open to you and your family. You will also have the chance to learn concrete strategies to make your vision a reality. And, you will be able to do it at an affordable price, because the NDSC works hard to make this convention accessible to as many families as possible.

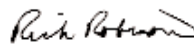
I was sitting at a lunch counter during one of the first NDSC Conventions I ever attended. A stranger said to me, "this sure

p: 800.232.NDSC (6372)
f: 770.604.9898
info@ndsccenter.org
www.ndsccenter.com

is a friendly city, aren't there are a lot of people with Down syndrome around here?" I replied, "I think this is such a friendly place because there are so many folks with Down syndrome here!"

I look forward to seeing you in Atlanta.

Sincerely,



Rich Robison, President

PS. Our hotel is just a couple of blocks from Centennial Olympic Park, the Atlanta Children's Museum and the amazing new Georgia Aquarium (the world's largest and the only one outside Asia to house whale sharks!). Consider staying a day or two afterwards for an exciting family vacation!



O P E N P O S S I B I L I T I E S

July 21-23, 2006
34th Annual Convention
ATLANTA, GEORGIA



1370 Center Drive, Suite 102
Atlanta, Georgia 30338

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