



# Dyslexia Foundation of Memphis

The Summer Saturday Program is a great way to get ready for the coming school year. Make plans now to attend!

## Thoughts from the Prez



There are many reasons I like being the Director of the Dyslexia Program. The main reason is I get to meet the new parents who come to "Check Out" our Program. Often these parents are scared for their children, confused and often frustrated with the school system. They don't know which way to turn to get help for their children. I can still remember so vividly how I felt when we came to the New Parents Meeting for parents who are interested in finding out more about the program. I was a nervous wreck. Even though I was a teacher, I had never heard the word Dyslexia much less how to "fix" a child that has dyslexia. I cried all the way through the meeting; I honestly don't remember a word that was said. I remember Mrs. Vickers trying to console me and explain that everything would be okay with the help of the Dyslexia Foundation. You know, she was right, 40 years later I realize she was right not only for our children but for the hundreds of children that have attended this wonderful Foundation since. I have had the pleasure of being a part of this Wonderful Foundation and watching the children and

*(Continued on page 3)*

## What part has the Dyslexia Foundation played in my life

Cain says I have to write 2 articles for the newsletter! I said, "Why 2?". He said, "Because you always write 2 and our readers expect you to write 2". Well, being a talkative person I guess I can write 2 because I don't want Mr. C to be mad at me; and anyone who knows me knows I love talking about the Foundation. Well, I started thinking about my life and the Foundation. What part has the Dyslexia Foundation played in my life and my family's life? The more I thought the more I realized what a big part of my life the Foundation has been. Cain and I and our two children have been involved in the Foundation

for over 40 years. And once the 3 grandchildren were old enough, they also have been involved. That is half of Cain and my life. For our kids and grandkids, it is  $\frac{3}{4}$  to all their lives. What do we have to show for all this time with the Foundation? Well for one thing, some really great friends. For another we have the knowledge that we have helped hundreds of children and their families.

I hear from many of the parents and students who have attended through the years. They tell me how much

*Foundation in my life (Continued on page 5)*

## Dyslexia Foundation of Memphis

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### Summer 2026

New Parents Meeting	May 28
Application Deadline	May 30
Tutor Workshop	May 30
Student's First Day	June 6
July 4th (Holiday)	July 4
Student's Last Day	Aug 29

### Fall 2026

New Parents Meeting	Sept 3
Application Deadline	Sept 5
Tutor Workshop	Sept 5
Student's First Day	Sept 12
Thanksgiving (Holiday)	Nov 28
Student's Last Day	Dec 5

### Spring 2027

New Parents Meeting	Jan 7
Application Deadline	Jan 9
Tutor Workshop	Jan 9
Student's First Day	Jan 16
Easter (Holiday)	March 27
Student's Last Day	April 10

## 2026 Paid Members

Congratulations... You remembered... These *smart* people remembered that dues are due the first of *each year* and they are current paid members! Is your name here or did you forget? No problem you can send a check for \$20.00 or *more* to either:

Karen Carson		The Dyslexia Foundation
7532 Hatch Circle	or	P.O. Box 240792
Arlington, TN 38002		Memphis, TN 38124

.... and pay your dues today. Dues makes it possible for us to send you Our Dyslexia Newsletter and other mailings during the year

Bennett, Sharon	Hensley, Jerry & Kristen	Roseberry Family
Bing, Cheryl & Lee Ann	Hill, Joy	Ruffell, Jeremy & Shani
Bogard, Latricia	Kennedy, Melissa	Salter, Fayzeo
Brotherton, Patsy	Landrum, Paula	Steadman, Jim & Andrea
Carson, Cain & Karen	Mason, James & Bridget	Tucker, Laurie
Cook, Kathie & Kaycie	May, Brenda	Vickers, Carolyn
DeBruler, Jennifer & Bradley	Mudder, Rachel	Vining, Ann
Fitzhugh, Linda	O'Neal, Lisa	Wakefield, Hailey & Victoria
Fogelman, Joshua	Peeples, Melanye	Wolfe, Bob & Ann
Gandara, Crystal	Perry, George & Rachel	
Hammond, Chris & Ava	Robles, Osiris	

Let's work together to make our list of paid members grow and GROW! (If you have sent in your check and your name is not here, please let us know — Errors do happen

(Continued from page 1)

parents come in at rock bottom, and searching for help for their child. Then, they start working with our program and a miracle happens. They develop hope and understanding. They learn that having Dyslexia is not the end of the world but a beginning! The next thing you know the children are learning to read, those squiggly lines become words. Not only words but words they can read! Next, they learn how to study, make passing grades in school, and often even get A's and B's. Our program really works!

I was talking with a parent recently that has only been in our program a short time and she told me a story about her child. Her child went to kindergarten and did well. They made satisfactory progress in everything but reading. The teacher was going to let the child go on to 1<sup>st</sup> grade; but this parent was not satisfied and because of the low grades in reading felt her child needed more help in reading. So she signed her child up for our program and Wow! The child started to learn how to read and read well. So come fall she signed her child up for kindergarten again. She put them in the same class as before with the same teacher. This time the child did great and the teacher was amazed at the improvement. She could not believe that in 3 short months this child who had struggled the year before in reading was doing so well now. Our program can work wonders and does help children who are struggling in regular school. This is just one child, but I have seen it happen many times even with adults...like me.

When my children and I came to the Foundation I already had my Bachelor's degree and was teaching. I was starting on my Master's degree and I made okay grades but nothing to shout about. After one semester at the Foundation, I started using what I learned at the Foundation to tutor in my classroom with my students and was very pleased with the results. I then used what I learned at the Foundation on ME! The results were astonishing. I started making A's in Graduate School! So it seems like an old "dog" could learn to do things differently. Why don't you give it a try!

Hope to see you during the Summer Session.

db  
qp

## Graduates from Books



The following student completed a book during the 2026 Spring Semester:

### Book A

**Marshall Smith**

### Book B

**Dalton Barton**

### Book C

**Briana Martinez Mudder**

When a student finishes a book they receive their choice of a trophy or a medallion at an award ceremony on the last day of school. These awards can be engraved for just a few dollars. We have an agreement with First Place Trophies to engrave these awards for a discounted price. Therefore should you wish to have the award your child chose engraved take it to 1st Place Awards, 377-9214 and be sure to tell them to give you the Dyslexia Foundation discount.

## Being Dyslexic

Being dyslexic means navigating the world with a brain that processes language differently, not incorrectly. For many people, reading, spelling, and writing require extra effort, but dyslexia is far more than a list of challenges. It's a different cognitive style — one that often comes with remarkable strengths. Dyslexic thinkers tend to excel in creativity, problem solving, big picture thinking, and innovation. They see patterns others miss and approach problems from fresh angles.

Living with dyslexia can be frustrating, especially in environments built around fast reading and memorization. But with the right support, tools, and understanding, dyslexic individuals thrive. Many successful artists, entrepreneurs, scientists, and leaders credit dyslexia with shaping their resilience and imagination. It teaches persistence, adaptability, and the ability to think beyond conventional boundaries.

Dyslexia is not a limitation; it's a different way of experiencing and interpreting the world. When recognized and supported, it becomes a powerful asset — one that enriches classrooms, workplaces, and communities.

## Perfect Attendance



A big salute goes out to all those who did not miss any Saturdays during the entire Spring 2026 semester! Thanks for your dedication to the Foundation.

### Students

**Briana Martinez Mudder**

### Staff

**Kun Mi Adadevoh**

**Linda Fitzhugh**

**Pauls Landrum**

**Rachel Mudder**

**Karen Carson**

**Cain Carson**

**Congratulation to all of you for your hard work and dedication to the Foundation**

## Graduates from School



These following student / tutor graduated this year.

From High School  
**Eva Hammind**

Congratulations to Eva. We are proud and you give encouragement to us all.

## *Dyslexia: Is More Than Just a Reading Challenge*

Dyslexia is one of the most common neurodevelopmental conditions, estimated to affect up to 20% of the global population. Often misunderstood as simply "reading backward," or "was for saw" dyslexia is actually a complex, lifelong language processing disorder rooted in how the brain develops and functions.

### **What is Dyslexia?**

At its core, dyslexia is a difficulty in decoding—the ability to match letters on a page with the specific sounds they make. This is known as a deficit in phonological processing. Because the brain has to work significantly harder to "crack the code" of written language, reading becomes slow, labored, and exhausting.

It is important to note that dyslexia has no connection to intelligence. In fact, many individuals with dyslexia are highly gifted in areas like creative problem-solving, arts, and strategic "big-picture" thinking.

### **Common Signs Across All Ages**

While it is typically identified during elementary school when children begin to read, signs can appear much earlier or persist into adulthood:

**Preschoolers:** May have delayed speech, trouble learning nursery rhymes, or difficulty remembering the names of colors and letters.

**School-Aged Children:** Often struggle to sound out new words, exhibit messy handwriting, and may avoid reading aloud due to frustration.

**Teens and Adults:** Might read very slowly, struggle with learning a foreign language, or have trouble summarizing stories and remembering phone numbers.

### **The Impact On Day to Day Life:**

Because literacy is central to modern education, students with dyslexia are often at higher risk for emotional challenges, including:

Low self-esteem from feeling "behind" peers.

Anxiety and depression caused by chronic academic stress.

Social difficulties, such as trouble finding the right words during conversations or misinterpreting social cues like sarcasm.

### **Support and Success**

There is no "cure" for dyslexia because it is a brain difference, not a disease. However, with the right support, people with dyslexia can become highly successful. Effective strategies include:

**Specialized Instruction:** Programs like we use here at the Dyslexia Foundation of Memphis which use multisensory techniques to teach phonics.

**Accommodations:** Extra time on tests, the use of audiobooks, and speech-to-text software help "level the playing field".

**Focusing on Strengths:** Encouraging talents in art, sports, or science can build the resilience needed to manage academic hurdles.

Many world-renowned figures have succeeded with dyslexia, including Albert Einstein, Jennifer Aniston, and Sir Richard Branson, proving that a different way of thinking can lead to extraordinary achievements.

Would you like to know more about specific classroom accommodations or specialized reading programs? Check out our webpage [www.memphisdyslexia.org](http://www.memphisdyslexia.org) or contact us at 901-671-7399.

## The Great Library Mix Up

Foundation in my life (Continued from page 1)

There was once a man who had always loved the library—mostly because it was quiet, and partly because nobody questioned why he walked straight past the “Fiction” sign and ended up in “Friction” instead. Dyslexia made reading an adventure for him, but sometimes it made *signs* a little too exciting.

One Tuesday, he marched up to the front desk and announced, “I’m here to return this book on *time traveling chickens*.”

The librarian blinked. “Sir... that’s a cookbook.”

I looked down. Sure enough, the title was: “*Thyme Traveling Chicken: A Culinary Journey*.”

“Well,” he said, “the plot was a little dry, but the character development was excellent.”

The librarian stared, unsure whether to laugh or call someone.

The man continued, “Also, I’d like to check out that new mystery novel—*The Man Who Vanished Into Thin Air*.”

“You mean *Thin Air*?”

“Do I?” He said, shrugging. “Honestly, both sound equally suspicious.”

In the end, he left with three books: one mystery, one cookbook, and one he thought was about astronomy but turned out to be about astrology. He decided that was fine. Stars were stars, and he’d read them however they showed up.

As he walked out, he muttered, “Reading may not always go smoothly... but at least it’s never boring.”

And the universe, in all its cosmic humor, agreed.   d b  
                                  q p

the Foundation has meant to them. So many times, a family comes to the Dyslexia foundation as a last resort. They have tried so many things and nothing seems to work for their child. They have all but given up hope that their child can be helped. I know I felt that way when we found the Foundation and the help our children needed. What have you got to lose? What is the value of your time spent on Saturday mornings tutoring and learning about your child as compared to the self-esteem and future of your child? So, give us a chance to help your child. Through the years, many families have found our willingness to help all children, our positive attitude that they are smart and just need to learn a little differently than others. Many families come and their children get better, plus the parents of came and tutored realize that not only did the Foundation help their child, it helped them understand and they had helped many other children along the way.

I am the lucky person who has been lucky enough to watch as the whole family gets the help they need. Then after a few Saturdays, our supervisors begin to see the difference in the students and the families.

The point of this story is...if you are out there in the world feeling like you and your child are struggling and falling through the cracks of life, why not give us a try. I think you will be glad you did. I know I’m glad that I took the chance and I have never regretted the choices I made some 40 years ago to having my children come to the Foundation. I hope you will feel the same way in the years to come.

God Bless you all and God Bless the Dyslexia Foundation!

So, until the next newsletter, have a wonderful remainder of the summer. I hope to see you during the Fall semester.

As Ever,  
Karen Carson, President

## The Dyslexia Foundation of Memphis

Dear Parents and Tutors:

We are again planning a 12 week Summer Program. It will be conducted on Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The program will run from Saturday, June 6 to Saturday, Aug 29, 2026 at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 6865 Poplar Pike, Memphis, TN 38119

Workshops, which are mandatory for all personnel, will be held Saturday May 30 2026, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Lord of Life Lutheran Church. BRING A LUNCH!!!!

The Dyslexia Foundation's own language curriculum is used for instruction. Students MUST take part in the full curriculum for the entire 12 week period.

The following policies must be understood by all who apply to the program - - as tutors or students:

1. Students who are having difficulty in school with reading, spelling, math, or have been diagnosed as Dyslexic are accepted. Please contact a Director if you have questions about being accepted.
2. All tutors must be sixteen years of age or older.
3. All participants must be current members of The Dyslexia Foundation of Memphis. Dues are \$20.00.
4. A certain dress code will be observed by everyone.
5. WORKSHOPS ARE MANDATORY FOR ALL TUTORS.
6. All personnel must fulfill all obligations as set forth in the application contract.

Please apply for the subject you prefer to tutor, math or language. New parent-tutors apply only for reading. The following areas require tutors:

1. Reading (All tutors tutor Language)
2. Math

Workshops and daily staff meetings will provide instruction in the use of the materials. Supervision will be given over all areas of instruction.

The tuition is \$300.00 per student plus a \$75.00 registration fee and \$20.00 for dues. If Parent, Friend or Sibling **Can Not** Tutor; Registration fee \$75.00, Tuition \$300.00, Yearly Dues \$20.00 Paid Tutor \$480.00 (\$40.00 a Saturday) The entire amount is due with the application before May 30, 2026. It cannot be refunded. Remember parents who tutor must fill out an application. The above figures require an enrollment of 40 students in order for the Foundation to offer the Summer Program at this tuition cost.

All applications must be returned before May 30, 2026. If you are unable to meet this deadline please call and notify the Director of your intentions. Neither students nor tutor applications will be accepted after that date unless verbal approval has been made. An exception will be made for new families who were tested during the Spring 2026 semester.

If you have any additional questions, please contact the director before the application deadline.

Sincerely,

Karen Carson, Director  
901 671-7399

SEND APPLICATIONS TO:

Dyslexia Foundation of Memphis  
7532 Hatch Circle  
Bartlett, TN 38002

WAIVER OF LIABILITY

In partial consideration of the willingness of Lord of Life Lutheran Church to allow its facility to be used by The Dyslexia Foundation of Memphis, of which my child is a participant, the undersigned parents or guardians of the child(ren) listed below, acknowledge that Lord of Life Lutheran Church shall be free from all liabilities and claims for damages and/or suits for or by reason of any injury or injuries to me, my child(ren), or property, from any cause or action whatsoever while in or upon the property of Lord of Life Lutheran Church during any and all functions of The Dyslexia Foundation of Memphis held on said premises.

I further agree to indemnify and hold harmless Lord of Life Lutheran Church from all liabilities, charges, expenses (including counsel fees) and cost on account of or by reason of any such injuries, liabilities, claims, suits or losses however occurring or damages growing out of same.

Children: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signed this day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

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RELEASE

I, individually, (and/or as parent, and/or guardian of the named minor) for and in consideration of the acceptance of my application to enter and my receiving permission from The Dyslexia Foundation of Memphis, hereinafter called "Foundation", to participate in the succeeding Dyslexia Summer and/or Saturday School, do hereby release, remise, waive, surrender and forever discharge The Dyslexia Foundation of Memphis together with all of their officers, agents, officials, directors, supervisors, tutors and employees, collectively hereinafter called "Foundation", from any and all liability, claims, demands, actions, or causes of action whatsoever arising out of or related to any injury, illness, loss or damage, including death, relating to participation in the succeeding Dyslexia Summer and/or Saturday School.

I further agree that in the event of any injury or emergency requiring medical attention that if I am assisted by the Foundation in receiving treatment and willingly accept such treatment that I will in no way hold the Foundation responsible for the consequences of my treatment of any problem resulting there from, whether administered by the Foundation or a third party called by the Foundation. Should I become unconscious or unable to give my consent for medical treatment and it becomes necessary for the Foundation to render assistance or have a third party administer medical treatment, I agree not to hold the Foundation responsible for the consequences of my injuries or any claims, losses or damages arising there from. I further agree that I will be responsible for any medical bills incurred in my treatment, and will not hold the Foundation responsible therefore.

Student(s) and/or Tutor(s) name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of parent(s) if under 18: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Dyslexia Foundation of Memphis

## Student Application

Semester: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_ Dominant Hand \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_ Glasses Yes / No

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_ Dominant Hand \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_ Glasses Yes / No

Parents Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

E Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

My child has permission to be given (if needed): Tylenol Yes/No

Please list any allergies or other medical information that might be needed:

Has your child been tested and recommended for admission into this program? \_Yes / No

If so, Where? \_\_\_\_\_ Year? \_\_\_\_\_

Enclose the Registration Fee for each child with the application to hold your child's place in our program. The tuition is due at the beginning of the fall semester or alternate arrangements can be made by contacting the Director.

If Parent, Friend or Sibling (16 or Older) **Can** Tutor:

Registration fee \$75.00, Tuition \$300.00 Yearly Dues: \$20.00 for a total of \$395.00

**NOTE:** If tutor is absent and the student attends, there will be a \$40.00 additional charge for each Saturday the tutor is absent and the student attends.

If Parent, Friend or Sibling **Can Not** Tutor

Registration fee \$75.00, Tuition \$300.00, Yearly Dues \$20.00 Paid Tutor \$480.00 (\$40.00 a Saturday) for a total of \$875.00

### Fees are not refundable

If you have any questions call  
Karen Carson at 901 671-7399

Dyslexia Foundation of Memphis  
7532 Hatch Circle  
Arlington, TN 38002

Signature of Parent and/or Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Return Applications by Specified Deadline

**Notice** of Nondiscriminatory Policy as to students: The program admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students in the program. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, or other programs.

Emergency Contact Information: Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

