

AEROGRAM April 2022

Kicking off conference planning is always an exciting and busy time for the AERO Board. Our 2022 conference plans are well underway, with much work still to be done. As I speak with professionals across the field about conference interests and potential presentation opportunities, I am reminded of the many talented professionals across Ohio. This reminder also highlights how the busyness of our lives and teaching careers often keeps us isolated from one another. This isolation cannot fully be avoided due to the itinerant and individualized nature of our field; however, as we plan for the 2022 conference we hope to create a conference that will allow everyone to come together from across Ohio, learn together, and most importantly learn from one another. Building collaborative opportunities across our field through goal directed committees and teamwork opportunities is the 2022 AERO board objective.

With this in mind, you will notice the AEROgram slowly changing as we include more and more programming information from across the state. I encourage each person and organization to email over information about your programs and training opportunities to info@aerbvohio.org so AERO can help spread the word about activities around the state. Below, you will find AERO updates, statewide summer camp information, continuing education programming, information about VRT Awareness Week, ACB publications and more. Happy reading!

“None of us is as smart as all of us.” — Ken Blanchard

Stephanie Welch-Grenier, AERO Board President
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2022 AERO Board

AERO Executive Board	2022 - 2023 Board Member	2022 - 2024 Board Members
President: Stephanie Welch-Grenier President-Elect: Jordy Stringer Past-President: Staci Wills Secretary: Molley Alford Treasurer: Jordy Stringer	Andrea Jarrett Heather Reynolds Melanie Sargent Missy Wilson	Jennifer Rodocker Christopher Harrington Katie Smith Alisha Waugh Kristen Callahan

AERO Division Chairs

Education and Curriculum: Shelley McCoy
Information & Technology: Jordy Stringer & Dan Kelly
Low Vision Rehabilitation: Open
Multiple Disabilities, Deafblind, and Early Intervention: Jenni Remeis
Orientation and Mobility: Staci Wills
Vision Rehab Therapy: Stephanie Welch-Grenier
Physical Activity & Recreation: Katie Smith
Itinerant Personnel: Molley Alford

Committee Chairs

Communications & Publications: Staci Wills
Grants, Awards & Scholarships: Jordy Stringer
Public Policy: Stephanie Welch-Grenier
Membership: Melanie Sargent

**We currently have division and committee chair seats open. Please reach out if you are interested in becoming an AERO division or committee chair!

2022 AERO Board Meetings

10:30 am – 12:00 pm

At this time, board meetings are held via Zoom.

March 30, 2022 July 13, 2021² September 14, 2022 December 7, 2022

Board meetings are open to all AERO members. If you are interested in joining us, please email info@aerbvohio.org and a link will be provided.

AERO Updates and Information

Please continue to check the AERO website for updates regarding the upcoming 2022 Elections and Division Day Conference.

2022 AERO Elections

Make sure to check your email. You will be receiving a link to vote for the 2022 AERO Elections.

2022 AERO Conference

AERO Conference Planning Meeting

The 2nd AERO Conference Planning Meeting will be held in May, please stay tuned for date and time. We would love all board members and division chairs to join us for the 2nd conference planning meeting. The board is off to a great start with the planning process but like anything else, we cannot do it without all of you. As we return to an in-person conference, we hope to highlight the state of Ohio and all of the amazing professionals throughout the state that work tirelessly in our field. Please continue to check the AERO website for updates. As soon as registration is available, it will be posted on the website and a link will be shared with all members.

Ohio Itinerant Service Provider Collaboration Meeting

AERO will be hosting a monthly itinerant service provider collaboration meeting via zoom. This is a time for itinerant providers to come together and share ideas, connect with colleagues, and create professional connections. Please stay tuned for upcoming meetings. We hope to see you there!

Summer Camps

It's that time again! Summer camp registration is open across the state. Below are links to different Ohio summer camps. Please spread the word and encourage your students to sign up for summer camp.

Ohio State School for the Blind: Grades 3-12

Registration deadline extended April 15, 2022. The OSSB 2022 Summer Camp registration is now open. Our summer programming offers multiple camps to students living in Ohio who are blind or have low vision and are entering grades 3-12. All camps are residential unless noted in the registration information.

Each camp cost \$25 per camper. All required paperwork can be found on the registration page and must be returned to be considered completely registered. Contact ossbsummercamp@ossb.oh.gov with any questions. Registration Link: <https://ossb.ohio.gov/home/news-and-events/all-news/summer-camp-registration>

Cleveland Sight Center: We are proud and excited to be offering a full summer of sessions for campers of all ages.

ABCs Summer Program:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1RZdIOVXPMINUChZc3PAI_XBb1gyZtsnK/view?usp=sharing

Highbrook Lodge Summer Schedule:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1iNfOkwNZjlxXOQYgF3EVXPydQ_iQ1onG/view?usp=sharing

Summer Youth Work Experience:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wSHQ1A7qupXrqPjO6UVwLhltHCYJoba9/view?usp=sharing>

School-Age Referral & Caseload Ad Hoc Committee News

The School-aged Referral & Child Find Ad Hoc Committee meets the first Monday of every month from 4-5 PM. The team is working to address the Ohio referral process for school-aged children, address the evaluation process, and create or adopt an Ohio caseload calculator. If you would like to join this committee, please reach out Staci Wills at staci@willsmobility.com or Stephanie Welch-Grenier at sw717@live.com. We would appreciate all hands on deck to fast track this process!

AERO Division News

Vision Rehabilitation: The 2022 Vision Rehabilitation Therapist Awareness Week is upon us, April 10-16. We encourage everyone to show some love to the VRT's in your life and to learn about the skill set they bring to our field. #VRTWeek:
<https://www.lowvisiontech.com/vrtweek/>

Independent Living Services for Older Blind Ohioans: Do you know someone that is over the age of 55 and living with a visual impairment? If so, call OOD: BSVI at 800-282-4536 and ask to speak to an ILOB team member.

Orientation and Mobility: Do you want more information about updates in the O&M field, or maybe you have been wanting to network with other O&M Specialists? If so, visit the Orientation and Mobility Specialists Association website and calendar. OMSA hosts Mobility Monday on the 2nd Monday of the month, and Town Hall Meeting on the 4th Monday of the month. <https://www.usomsa.org/>

Awards

Nomination Deadline August 1, 2022

- The J. Kenneth Cozier Award
- The Judy Cernkovich Excellence in Education Award
- The AERO Student of the Year Award
- The AERO Special Recognition Award

Scholarships No Application Deadline

- Personal Preparation Scholarship - \$500
- David H. Newmeyer Member Grant - \$250

****Download nomination/application form: AERO Policies and Procedures**
<http://www.aerbvohio.org/aero-policy-documents.html>

Resources from Around the Field

OCALI: PSSVI Meeting April 29th. Link to OCALI Event page. Please register to receive the zoom link. <https://deafandblindoutreach.org/meetings-events>

Shawnee State University Teacher of the Visually Impaired program information: Are you interested in advancing your teaching career and learning to support the unique needs of children who are blind or visually impaired? Shawnee State University offers a 22-credit hour program of graduate level coursework leading to licensure as a teacher of students with visual impairments (TVI). To view the full flier, please follow this link:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1eDwwPbPnJENLrKmtgh6E5QOEejhGYL-J/view?usp=sharing>

Ohio State University program information: OSU offers a variety of educational programs for individuals looking to work with students and individuals with visual impairments. Programming ranges from licensure only programs to undergraduate and graduate degree options. If you are looking to add a credential, continue your education in the field of teaching students with visual impairments, or know an individual that would be great for our field, please check out the links below and spread the word. Links to each program below:

Visual Impairment Education Minor:

<https://ehe.osu.edu/program/visual-impairment-education-minor>

TVI Licensure Only Program:

<https://ehe.osu.edu/license-only-programs/teaching-visual-impairment>

Primary Education (P-5) with Visual Impairment License, BS in Education:

<https://ehe.osu.edu/undergraduate/early-childhood-education-visual-impairment-licensure>

Visual Impairments, MEd:

<https://ehe.osu.edu/graduate/master-education/visual-impairments-med>

Orientation & Mobility Program:

<https://ehe.osu.edu/license-only-programs/orientation-and-mobility>

American Council of the Blind Ohio Connection, Spring 2022: If you missed the initial release of ACB-Ohio's Spring Connection, we encourage you to check it out because you might just see some names you recognize, like OSSB's very own Rachel Smith. ACB-Ohio meets the 2nd Sunday of each month at 7:30 PM via Zoom. You can find the meeting zoom link and full connection release here:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/19S3EhhFK_4d_0m42BErbdh51WPy4kyCu/view?usp=sharing

TVI Research Opportunity: My name is Yichen Liu and I am a research assistant and master's student in the Department of Special Education, Visual Disabilities Program at Vanderbilt University. Our study, titled, "What's Your Why for Becoming a TVI?" is a short online survey (<https://redcap.link/WhyTVI>) asking TVIs why they decided to enter the field and about their experiences in their TVI training program. We are hoping to get participation from current and former TVIs throughout the United States. Thank you for your consideration: Yichen.Liu@Vanderbilt.edu Department of Special Education; Low Incidence Program, Visual Disabilities Track, Peabody College, Vanderbilt University

Hadley School for the Blind: If you have not visited Hadley recently, then you're probably missing out! Hadley has updated their website and now offers a series of free self-paced workshops on Daily Living, Adjusting to Vision Loss, Recreation, Technology, Braille, and Working. They also offer monthly discussion groups for educators, family members, and individuals with vision loss. All workshops and discussion group information can be found under the "Learn" tab at <https://hadley.edu/>.

Inclusive and Accessible Playgrounds: Are you looking for resources to share with a family? Accessible Playgrounds now has a state specific playground directory that lists playgrounds that have inclusive and accessible features. To find a playground near you, visit www.accessibleplayground.net

Vision Refer is an online, HIPAA compliant patient referral system that helps optometrists and ophthalmologists refer their patients to blind rehabilitation services directly through their offices. Agencies who want to receive referrals must register with Vision Refer directly. Please visit www.visionservealliance.org/visionrefer to learn more.
