

President's Message



Advocate, educate, and disseminate -- that's what NHIDA is all about. This year our branch has been working actively and aggressively in each of those areas.

Beginning in the fall of 2015, NHIDA joined with Decoding Dyslexia NH and others to **advocate** for the adoption of a dyslexia law. Those efforts came to fruition on June 16, 2016 when Governor Maggie Hassan signed that bill into law. (See article below.)

NHIDA's **education**-related activities to date so far this year include:

- the "Report Form" webinar offered in January,
- a dyslexia presentation for educators and the general public in April in April, and
- dyslexia simulations for two community/school groups this spring.
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Upcoming events include a presentation on **technology resources** that can make life easier for individuals with dyslexia. This free event scheduled for Saturday, November 5th, is for adults with dyslexia and parents of middle to high school aged students with language based learning disabilities. We will begin accepting registrations shortly, so please stay alert for our emails.

NHIDA's biggest undertaking each year is its **fall educational conference**. This year's event will be on September 23rd and features master Orton-Gillingham trainer Ron Yoshimoto. This conference met with unprecedented interest and sold out months in advance. It was very hard to turn away so many people. If you were not one of the lucky 120 who were able to register, perhaps you could attend IDA's conference in Orlando at the end of October. Yoshimoto will be presenting a two hour workshop on morphology on Thursday of that event. Registration and program information is provided below.

Throughout the year, NHIDA **disseminates** information about resources for dyslexic individuals through our website (www.nhida.org), Face Book page (please like us!), and in response to email (contact@nhida.org) and telephone inquiries (603-229-7355 to leave a message). If we don't have the answer right away, we work hard to find it.

NHIDA is dedicated to serving the dyslexic community in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont, and we value our members from each state. While New Hampshire and Vermont are represented on NHIDA's Board of Directors, Maine currently is not. We would like to see that change so that NHIDA can continue to expand its advocacy, education, and dissemination efforts in all three states. **If you are a Maine resident and member of IDA**, please consider serving as Director of NHIDA. You can email us to express your interest at contact@nhida.org.

If you are already an IDA member, heartfelt thanks to you for your support! If you are not, please consider becoming a member. Doing so is remarkably inexpensive. You get good value for your dollar in the form of excellent publications and reduced event fees and, in the process, support IDA's efforts to make this world a better place for individuals with dyslexia. To become a member, [Ctrl+ click here](#). You won't regret it.

All my best,

Anne Eaton

President, NHIDA