

THE DSG News

PEOPLE WITH DOWN SYNDROME – VALUED AND INCLUDED

A P U B L I C A T I O N O F T H E D O W N S Y N D R O M E G U I L D O F D A L L A S

January 2018

Affiliate of the National
Down Syndrome Congress
and the National Down
Syndrome Society

Important Newsletter Information

Happy New Year! The New Year is always an exciting time for setting new goals and starting fresh. The Down Syndrome Guild Board of Directors, leadership committees, and staff have been hard at work to make sure that we are staying fresh and best meeting the needs of our members in our ever-changing world. With the increase in online platforms, our community as a whole is able to receive and share news, information, and support quicker than ever before. In our effort to provide accurate and current information, resources, and support for people with Down syndrome, their families, and the community, *The DSG News* bi-monthly newsletter will be changing formats starting in the New Year.

What does this mean for members?

1. If you currently have an e-mail address on file in our system, you can now expect to receive one weekly e-newsletter that contains information about upcoming DSG activities and events as well as key information and articles as it relates to education, advocacy, medical and research, and other opportunities in the community.

2. If you do not currently have an e-mail address on file in our system, but wish to be added to our new

weekly electronic newsletter, please contact Samantha at 214.267.1374 or samantha@downsyndromedallas.org.

3. If we do not have an email address on file for you or you do not have access to email, the DSG will now mail a monthly postcard with upcoming activities to the physical address we have on file for your family. No detailed paper newsletters will be mailed.

4. If you wish to no longer remain on any of our mailing lists, please contact Samantha at 214.267.1374 or samantha@downsyndromedallas.org.

Our goal is never to spam you with unwanted content, and you may opt out or change your preferences at any time. We will also continue to update our social media pages and streamline our website to better communicate and inform members on information and activities that impact your family. We have a lot of exciting plans for 2018, and we want to make sure you don't miss any of them. Please feel free to contact us at 214.267.1374 to verify your e-mail address, add email addresses, and update your preferences. Make sure you add us to your contact lists as well to prevent electronic communication from being flagged as junk.

Reunion de Grupo de Familias Unidas

Sábado, del 20 de enero
de 2018

3:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Down Syndrome Guild of Dallas

1702 N. Collins Blvd. Suite 170

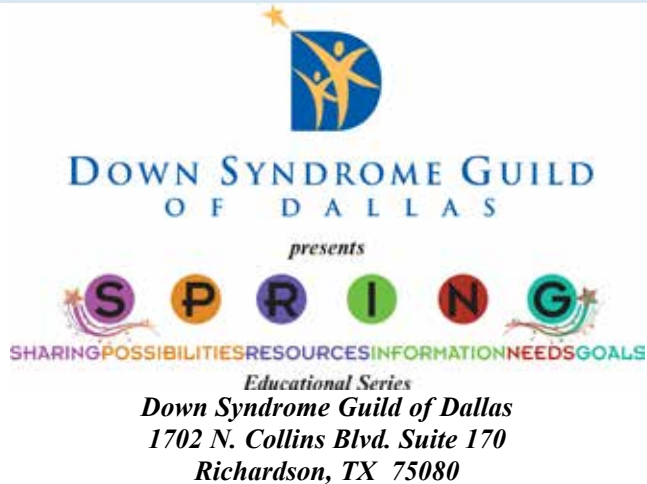
Richardson, TX 75080

Costo para Miembros de
DSG: Gratis

- Ven a conocer y reunirte con otros padres que tienen hijos con síndrome de Down
- Las reuniones son en Español!
- Toda la familia es bienvenida
- Familias Hispanas Unidas para ayudar a nuestros hijos

¿Tiene preguntas?

Comuníquese con Samantha Escherich al 214.267.1374 o a samantha@downsyndromedallas.org.



Saturday, January 27, 2018 - Contents of the IEP and the ARD Process

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Speaker: Jim Wright, Region 10 Coordinator at Partners Resource Network - PATH Project

This workshop is designed to provide parents with practical working knowledge of the contents of an IEP as defined by IDEA. Through the process of writing an IEP, we will learn to set reasonable and measurable learning goals for a child with a disability, and to state the individualized services that the school district will provide for that child. Additionally, this workshop will provide an overview of the ARD process so that parents will be prepared to participate at every stage of the process. Participants will gain an understanding of the ARD meeting agenda, as well as their procedural rights and responsibilities.

Saturday, February 17, 2018 - STAAR Testing

10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Speaker: Lorna Salgado, Special Populations Consultant, Region 10 ESC

In this session, participants will learn the differences between STAAR testing with accommodations and STAAR Alternate 2 testing. We will discuss the participation requirements for each, as well as how state testing decisions and scores affect the student in progressing to the next grade level/graduation. There will also be time to ask general questions about state testing for students with disabilities.

Saturday, April 14, 2018 – Planning for the Future, Everything You Need to Know about Special Needs Planning

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Speaker: Tres Moore Weeks, Attorney, Weeks Law Firm

Tresi explains the planning essentials involved with a special needs plan: Special Needs Trust, wills, life insurance and retirement beneficiary designations, powers of attorney, and life plan. She gives an overview on how each of the above areas relate to each other and how parents can provide for the care of their child after the parent has become incapacitated or passed away.

Saturday, May 5, 2018 – How to Develop Time and Money Skills Through Everyday Experiences

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Speaker: Carla Austin, OTR

Everyday life experiences offer some of the best teachable moments for reinforcing math concepts needed to perform activities such as telling time and using money. People with Down syndrome can benefit from these life lessons throughout their school years extending into adulthood. Strategies will be discussed to introduce skills and offer repeated opportunities for practice. Practical suggestions, take home materials, and handouts will be provided which can be used at home and school by teachers and parents in home, school, and community settings. The goal of this session is to leave with "go to" materials and activities and to know how to incorporate them into daily routines.

Online registration is now open at <http://downsyndromedallas.org/spring-education-series>. There is no cost to attend; however, space is limited and attendees must register in advance. Childcare is NOT provided.



**NATIONAL
DOWN SYNDROME
CONGRESS**



“Dallas is a city with many sides.” That’s what makes it such a great place to visit. From shopping and sports to arts, culture and southwestern cuisine, there’s something in Dallas for everyone. **Big things happen in Dallas**, so plan on joining us for our 46th Annual Convention where you can reach for your star.

Each year, thousands of people from across the globe attend the NDSC Annual Convention. For most, it’s to hear the latest information from world-renowned experts. For others, it’s a great vacation. But, for nearly all, there’s the one-of-a-kind NDSC “giant family reunion” feeling that permeates the convention weekend.

PARENTS: Learn from the best, as internationally known experts come to Dallas to share their knowledge across the life span of individuals with DS.

SELF-ADVOCATES: Join 350 friends from across the world to learn, share, become empowered and have an amazing time!

SIBLINGS: Share and learn alongside your peers, from each other, as well as from professionals.

VOLUNTEERS: Have the experience of a lifetime by volunteering your time at our convention.



**Save the Date:
July 12-15, 2018
Convention Registration
Opens: April 2018**

Visit www.ndsccenter.org/the-convention/ often to view our growing schedule of activities. Convention registration will be required to access the NDSC room block at the Sheraton Dallas Hotel. Registration will go live in April.

CONTACT:
toll free: 800-232-6372
local: 770-604-9500
email: info@ndsccenter.org

www.ndsccenter.org



Save the Date for the 2018 Herb's Paint & Body/ Down Syndrome Guild Golf Classic



Performing Arts Class for Youth and Teens Ages 5-17

Thursdays, January 25, 2018 -
March 8, 2018
5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

North Texas Performing Arts
6121 W Park Blvd, Suite B216
(2nd floor, near Dillard's)
Plano, TX 75093
DSG Member Cost: \$25

Musical productions are unique for uniting all art forms. Through the combination of drama, song, dance, and visual art, characters and stories come to life. Ending in a short showcase, this workshop aims to give students opportunities to learn the fundamentals of putting on a production. Students will create stories, develop characters, draw and paint backdrops, and sing and dance

to a few musical numbers. Through the development of these skills and expressing creativity as a group, students further their development of social, communication, motor, and cognitive skills.

Space is limited and registration is required. Online registration is now open at www.downsyndrome.org. Registration closes Friday, January 12, 2018. Have questions? Please contact Samantha Escherich at 214.267.1374 or samantha@downsyndromedallas.org.

Please note that this event is valued at over \$125 per person and offered to DSG Members for a reduced rate of \$25 per person.

A Night Out at the DSG "Lounge" for Adult Self Advocates 18 and Older

Friday, January 26, 2018
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Down Syndrome Guild
1702 N Collins Blvd Suite 170
Richardson, TX 75080
DSG Member Cost: \$10

Self-advocates ages 18 and older are invited to come to the DSG "Lounge" for a night out. Adults will mingle, eat heavy appetizers for dinner and enjoy signature mocktails all evening. Live karaoke, performed by none other than our self-advocates, will be the entertainment for the night. It is sure to be a night out like never before.

Space is limited and registration is required. Online registration is now open at <http://downsyndromedallas.org/adults>. Registration closes Friday, January 19, 2018. Have questions? Please contact Samantha Escherich at 214.267.1374 or samantha@downsyndromedallas.org.

Please note that this event is valued at over \$30 per person and offered to DSG Members for a reduced rate of \$10 per person.

1702 N. COLLINS BLVD.
SUITE 170
RICHARDSON, TX 75080
Return Service Requested

[\(214\) 267-1374](tel:(214)267-1374)
WWW.DOWNSYNDROMEDALLAS.ORG
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/DALLASDSG

MISSION STATEMENT: THE DOWN SYNDROME GUILD OF DALLAS PROVIDES ACCURATE AND CURRENT INFORMATION, RESOURCES, AND SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE WITH DOWN SYNDROME, THEIR FAMILIES, AND THE COMMUNITY.

VISION STATEMENT: PEOPLE WITH DOWN SYNDROME - VALUED AND INCLUDED.

DOWN SYNDROME CLINIC EVERY THURSDAY AND FRIDAY AT CHILDREN'S MEDICAL CENTER.
CALL (214) 456-2357

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Down Syndrome Guild Calendar of Events

January

- January 7** - New Parent Meeting for Families with Children Ages 0-2 Years Old
- January 9** - Book Club for Adults Ages 18 and Older Begins
- January 20** - Reunion de Grupo de Familias Unidas
- January 25** - Performing Arts Class for Youth and Teens Ages 5-17 Begins
- January 26** - A Night Out at the DSG "Lounge" for Adult Self Advocates 18 and Older
- January 27** - Contents of the IEP and the ARD Process Seminar

February

- February 9** - Moms' Night Out at Pinstack - *Please visit our website at www.downsyndromedallas.org for more details.*
- February 17** - STAAR Testing Seminar