



# Dyslexia Foundation of Memphis

Start the New Year with the Foundation to give your child a boost for last half of the school year.

## Why Come to the Foundation?

There are many reasons I like being the Director of the Dyslexia Program. The main reason is that I get to meet the new parents who come to "Check Out" our program. Most of the parent are confused, lost, and worried about their child. They don't know which way to turn to get help for their child. I can remember so vividly how I felt when we came to the New Parent Meeting for parents who were interested in finding out more about our program. I was a nervous wreck. 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 OK with the help of the Dyslexia Foundation. You know, she was right, 40+ years later I realize she was right then for our children but she is still right for all the hundreds of children that have attended this wonderful program since then.

I have had the pleasure of being a part of the program and watching not only myself and my children but of the hundreds of other children and their confused, lost, and worried parents transform. They start working with our program and suddenly they develop hope and they learn that having Dyslexia is not the end of the world but a beginning! The next thing you know, their child has learned to read, how to study, and they

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## Thoughts from the Prez



Cain says I have to write 2 articles for the newsletter! Two, I said why 2? Cain said, "Because you always write 2 and our readers expect you to write 2.

Besides, I need something to put in the newsletter and this way I don't have to think up anything." 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 our Foundation.

Well, I started thinking about my life and the Foundation. What part has the Foundation played in my life

and my families' 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 2 children and 3 grandchildren have been involved in the Foundation for over 40 years! That is half of my and Cain's life. For the children it is more that  $\frac{3}{4}$  of their life. What do we have to show for it? Well for one thing, some really great friends. For another, a sense of pride for having relay helped hundreds of children and their families. I often hear from former members and students. They

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## Dyslexia Foundation of Memphis

January 4, 2026

Volume 26, Issue 1

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### Spring 2026

New Parents Meeting	Jan 8
Application Deadline	Jan 10
Tutor Workshop	Jan 10
Student's First Day	Jan 17
Spring Break (Holiday)	March 14
Easter Break (Holiday)	April 4
Student's Last Day	April 18

### Summer 2026

New Parents Meeting	May 28
Application Deadline	May 30
Tutor Workshop	May 30
Student's First Day	June 6
July 4 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

## 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:

The Dyslexia Foundation  
7532 Hatch Circle  
Arlington, TN 38002

.... 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  
Bing, Cheryl & Lee Ann  
Bogard, Latricia  
Brotherton, Patsy  
Carson, Cain & Karen  
Cook, Kathie & Kaycie  
DeBruler, Jennifer & Bradley  
Fitzhugh, Linda  
Fogelman, Joshua  
Gandara, Crystal

Hensley, erry & Kristen  
Hill, Joy  
Kennedy, Melissa  
Landrum, Paula  
Mason, James & Bridget  
May, Brenda  
Mudder, Rachel  
O'Neal, Lisa  
Perry, George & Rachel  
Robles, Osiris

Roseberry Family  
Ruffell, Jeremy & Shani  
Salter, Fayzeo  
Steadman, Jim & Andrea  
Vickers, Carolyn  
Vining, Ann  
Wakefield, Hailey & Victoria  
Wolfe, Bob & Ann

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

Many famous people with dyslexia have shared their experiences, often highlighting how learning differently has been a unique strength or an asset in their lives.

### Quotes from Famous Individuals with Dyslexia



**Sally Shaywitz, MD, co-director of Yale Center for Dyslexia and Creativity**

"Science has moved forward at a rapid pace so that we now possess the data to reliably define dyslexia ... For the student, the knowledge that he is dyslexic is empowering ... [It provides him] with self-understanding and self-awareness of what he has and what he needs to do in order to succeed."  
— *Testimony Before the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, United States House of Representatives*



**Dav Pilkey, author of the Captain Underpants series**

"I try to get the point across that not everybody thinks the same way. There are obvious benefits to being 'book smart,' but I think common sense and creativity is just as good (maybe even better)."  
— *USA Today*



**Rick Riordan, author of the Percy Jackson series**

"Dyslexic kids are creative, 'outside-the-box' thinkers. They have to be, because they don't see or solve problems the same way other kids do. In school, unfortunately, they are sometimes written off as lazy, unmotivated, rude or even stupid. They aren't. Making Percy dyslexic was my way of honoring the potential of all the kids I've known who have those conditions. It's not a bad thing to be different. Sometimes, it's the mark of being very, very talented." — *RickRiordan.com*



**Bella Thorne, actress**

"I have learned to live with it and make the best of it. I read all the time. When I was diagnosed with dyslexia, I was told to read everything from street signs to cereal boxes, and that my mom shouldn't read the menu for me. I should read it to her! It has helped a great deal. I am reading well, but it is something I work on every day." — *DoSomething.org*

## Graduates from Books



The following student completed a book during the 2025 Fall Semester:

### Book A

Delores Pascual  
Rosa Pascual

### Book B

Mark Ruffell

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.

**Would you like to see your name in print?**

**We need guest columnists to contribute articles for the newsletter. No professional writing experience necessary, just a desire to share your experience with others. You can either snail mail it or e-mail it to me at [cain.carson@memphisdyslexia.org](mailto:cain.carson@memphisdyslexia.org)**

Happiness is letting go of what you think your life is supposed to look like and celebrating it for everything that it is.  
- Mandy Hale

## Perfect Attendance



A big salute goes out to all those who did not miss any Saturdays during the entire Fall 2025 semester! Thanks for your dedication to the Foundation.

### Students

Rosa Pascual  
Joseph Mason

### Staff

Paula Landrum  
Linda Fitzhugh  
Cielo Cruz  
Rachel Mudder  
Karen Carson  
Cain Carson

### Donations

Listed below are the wonderful people who made donations to the Foundation during the Fall 2024 Semester. Thanks to all of you for your help. All of the items are appreciated greatly

#### Store

Patsy Brotherton  
Hailey Wakefield  
Victoria Wakefield

#### Snacks

Victoria Wakefield  
Hailey Wakefield

#### Donations

Bob & Ann Wolfe  
Fogelman, Joshua

Jim & Ann Vining

**Please Note:** We try very hard to make sure we have not left anyone off a list and everyone's name is spelled correctly. Your generosity to the Foundation is greatly appreciated. And, in spite of that, crazy keys are still pressed and mistakes are made. Please let us know of any errors and we will try and make the corrections. We never want to leave anyone out!

**Tell me and I'll forget. Show me, and I may not remember. Involve me, and I'll understand.**

## WHICH ONE IS YOU?

"Two a's are good," the small boy cried  
His voice was filled with glee.  
His father very bluntly asked,  
"Why didn't you get three?"

"Mom. I've got the dishes done."  
The girl called from the door.  
Her mother very calmly said,  
"And did you sweep the floor?"

"I've mowed the grass," the tall boy said,  
"and put the mower away."  
His father asked him with a shrug,  
"Did you clean off the clay?"

The children in the house next door  
Seem happy and content.  
The same things happened over there  
But this is how they went:

"Two a's are good," the small boy cried  
His voice was filled with glee.  
His father proudly said, "That's great!"  
"I'm glad you live with me."

"Mom. I've got the dishes done."  
The girl called from the door.  
Her mother smiled and softly said,  
"Each day I love you more."

"I've mowed the grass," the tall boy said,  
"and put the mower away."  
His father answered with much joy.  
"You've made my happy day."

**Children deserve encouragement**  
For task they're asked to do.  
If they're to lead a happy life,  
So much depends on you!

LDA of Alabama

*"He told me that his teachers  
reported that he was mentally  
slow, unsociable, and adrift  
forever in his foolish dreams."*

*Hans Albert Einstein, on his  
father, Albert Einstein*

\*\*\*\*\*

*"I never teach my pupils; I  
only attempt to provide  
the conditions in which  
they can learn"*

*- Albert Einstein*

## Thoughts about Life

1. Life isn't fair, but it's still good.
2. When in doubt, just take the next small step.
3. Life is too short to waste time hating anyone.
4. Your job won't take care of you when you are sick. Your friends and parents will. Stay in touch.
5. Pay off your credit cards every month.
6. You don't have to win every argument. Agree to disagree.
7. Cry with someone. It's more healing than crying alone.
8. It's OK to get angry with God. He can take it.
9. Save for retirement starting with your first paycheck.
10. When it comes to chocolate, resistance is futile.
11. Make peace with your past so it won't screw up the present.
12. It's OK to let your children see you cry.
13. Don't compare your life to others. You have no idea what their journey is all about.
14. If a relationship has to be a secret, you shouldn't be in it.
15. Everything can change in the blink of an eye. But don't worry; God never blinks.
16. Take a deep breath. It calms the mind.
17. Get rid of anything that isn't useful, beautiful or joyful.
18. Whatever doesn't kill you really does make you stronger.
19. It's never too late to have a happy childhood.. But the second one is up to you and no one else.
20. When it comes to going after what you love in life, don't take no for an answer.
21. Burn the candles, use the nice sheets, wear the fancy lingerie. Don't save it for a special occasion. Today is special.
22. Over prepare, then go with the flow.
23. Be eccentric now. Don't wait for old age to wear purple.
24. The most important sex organ is the brain.
25. No one is in charge of your happiness but you.
26. Frame every so-called disaster with these words 'In five years, will this matter?'
27. Forgive everyone everything.
28. What other people think of you is none of your business.
29. Time heals almost everything. Give time time.
30. However good or bad a situation is, it will change.
31. Don't take yourself so seriously. No one else does.
32. Believe in miracles.
33. God loves you because of who God is, not because of anything you did or didn't do.
34. Don't audit life. Show up and make the most of it now.
35. Growing old beats the alternative -- dying young.
36. Your children get only one childhood.
37. All that truly matters in the end is that you loved.
38. Get outside every day. Miracles are waiting everywhere.
39. If we all threw our problems in a pile and saw everyone else's, we'd grab ours back.
40. Envy is a waste of time. You already have all you need.
41. The best is yet to come.
42. No matter how you feel, get up, dress up and show up.
43. Yield.
44. Life isn't tied with a bow, but it's still a gift."



*Why Come? (Continued from page 1)*

are making passing grades in school. Then those squiggly lines of writing become words. Not only words but words they can read! Another thing that happens is their child starts to have more self-confidence and feel better about themselves. Our program really works.

I was talking to a parent the other day 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. She 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. She did some research and signed her child up for our program and Wow! Her daughter started to learn how to read and read well. So come Fall, she signed her daughter up for kindergarten again. She put her in the same class as before and with the same teacher. This time the child did great and the teacher was amazed. She could not believe that in 3 short months the child who had struggled the year before in reading had improved so much in reading now. Our program can work wonders and can and does help children who are struggling in regular school. This is only one child but I have seen it happen many times over the years. I also know of several parents who were helped as much as their children...like me and my husband.

When my children and I came to the Foundation I already had my Bachelor's degree in teaching from college and was working on my master's degree. I made OK grades but nothing to shout about. After one semester tutoring at the foundation, I started using what I learned in my classroom with my students and was very pleased with the results. Then I used what I learned at the foundation on me! The results were astounding. I started making A's in Grad school! So it seems like an old "dog" can learn to do things differently. Our program can help everyone learn and improve.

I hope to see you all during this coming Spring Semester.

Karen Carson, Director



*Prez (Continued from page 1)*

tell me how much the Foundation has meant to them and how much support and encouragement they received. 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 started here with our children. My advice is simple "What have you got to lose?" A few hours each Saturday morning is a small sacrifice for the well-being and future of your child. So, if you are not already coming to Saturday school, give it a try. If you are already coming, keep coming. Your child is worth the effort.

I know this must look like a simple alternative, but for all the parents and students who have attended through the years and those attending now, the Foundation is willing to help any child. Through the years the Foundation has helped hundreds of children and their parents who come and tutor reach their full potential. I am the lucky person who gets to watch as the whole family get the help they need. Along with me, our supervisors begin to see the difference in the children and their family. What a great reward! So the moral of this story is...if you are out there in the world feeling like you and your child are falling the cracks of life...why not give us a try. I'll bet you will be glad you did. I know I am glad that I took the chance. I have never regretted the choice I made some 40 years ago to bring my children, grandchildren and my loving husband to the Foundation. I hope you feel the same way in the years to come. Also, I got the second article written for the slave driver editor, my husband.

God bless you all and God bless the Foundation. So until the next newsletter I hope you all have a safe, healthy, and prosperous New Year. I hope to see you during the Spring Session.

Karen Carson, The Prez

## The Dyslexia Foundation of Memphis

Dear Parents and Tutors:

We are again planning a 12 week Spring Program. It will be conducted on Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The program will run from Saturday, January 17 to Saturday, April 18, 2026 at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 6865 Poplar Pike, Memphis, TN 38119

Workshops, which are mandatory for all personnel, will be held Saturday January 10, 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 January 10, 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 Spring Program at this tuition cost.

All applications must be returned before January 10, 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 fall 2025 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

# 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: \_\_\_\_\_

## 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: \_\_\_\_\_



Name \_\_\_\_\_

(Last) (First) (Middle)

Telephone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_

E Mail Address

Please describe any previous experience working with children:

Are you a current member of the Dyslexia Foundation of Memphis?

If not, please enclose a check for dues (\$20.00). Make checks payable to: Dyslexia Foundation of Memphis.

Please read carefully before signing:

I hereby make application for employment as a tutor in the Dyslexia Foundation of Memphis program. I understand that I am required to attend all training workshops without compensation. This application, if accepted, is binding only as long as I perform satisfactory service as a tutor. If I do not meet the requirements for attendance and services, a loss of pay will result. Hired tutors will be paid by the day at monthly intervals.

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

I have tutored:            Math                            Language

None of the above

The following is for hired tutors only: Please list two references.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address	Telephone
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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address	Telephone
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To be read and signed by parent of tutors under 18 years of age:

I hereby agree to support my child in his/her commitment to the Dyslexia Foundation. I am aware that this is a one-to-one tutoring situation and that he/she is required to be present every day.

Signature of Parent or Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

### Return Applications by Specified Deadline