

FY 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

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Letter from our Executive Director

Dear SAY Community,

I'm thrilled and honored to be on board as SAY's new Executive Director as we build on the organization's powerful legacy and explore ways to expand our impact. The 2023-24 year at SAY was one of renewal. Our signature arts-based programs in New York City were back to live shows and shares in theaters after a pandemic-induced break and, as one participant said, their voices were "confident and alive." While we continued changing lives with our existing programs in DC and NYC, we also launched a new online effort, The My Stutter Project, which you'll see in this report. This program allows any young person who stutters to build community and thrive no matter their zip code. We're also proud to have a strong and groundbreaking speech therapy program that charts a course for young people who stutter focused on their goals and strengths.

Moreover, we're engaging parents and caregivers intentionally in monthly support groups—another new effort launched this past year. And as always, Camp SAY was filled with caring and meaningful relationships—truly the currency all young people need to reach their full potential. As we reflect with gratitude on the past year, and as I'm just starting my journey with this inspiring community, we know the work is only possible thanks to loyal supporters, friends, Teaching Artists, mentors, and cheerleaders

from near and far. Looking ahead, SAY is poised to meet the growing needs of our community in powerful ways. I'm energized by the possibilities and some key focus areas in the coming year: growing our funding base and moving thoughtfully to stronger financial footing; expanding our reach through strategic partnerships with other youth-serving organizations; and reaching impact at scale by engaging and supporting speech therapists in NYC Public Schools. We see and acknowledge rising reports of anxiety, depression, and a range of mental health challenges among our young people.

We know the strongest antidote to these challenges is community, especially for young people who stutter who often feel unseen and unheard. With arms locked and eyes on a hopeful horizon, let's keep building that community together.

With deep thanks,

**Russell
Krumnow**



Executive Director



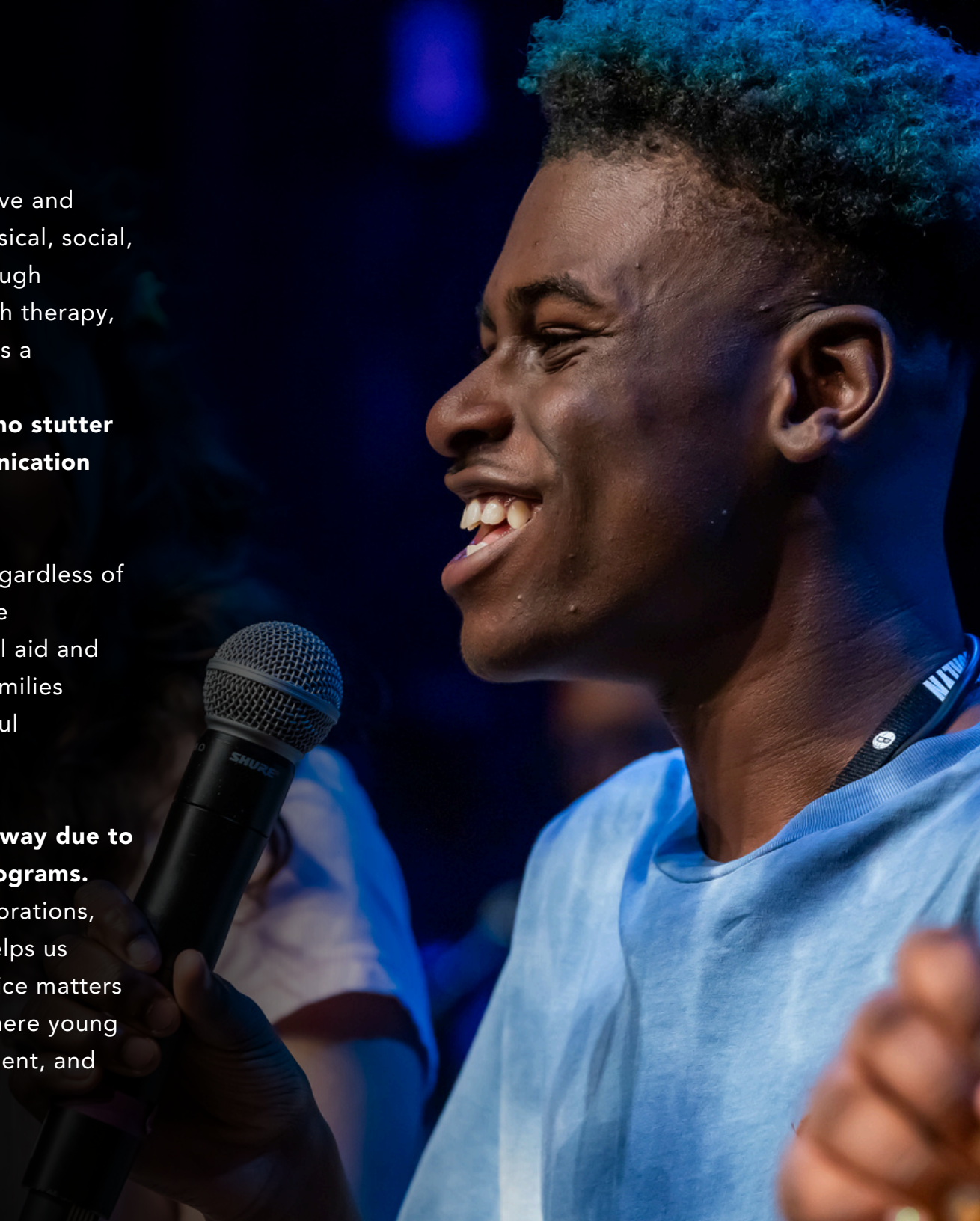
Our Mission

Since 2001, SAY has offered comprehensive and innovative programs that address the physical, social, and emotional impacts of stuttering. Through summer camp, regional day camps, speech therapy, and creative arts programming, SAY builds a community of acceptance, friendship, and encouragement **where kids and teens who stutter can develop the confidence and communication skills they need to thrive.**

SAY serves young people who stutter—regardless of their socioeconomic background. We have underwritten millions of dollars in financial aid and programming costs so all children from families seeking assistance can access our impactful programs.

To date, we have never turned a child away due to their family's inability to pay for our programs.

Passionate support from individuals, corporations, foundations, and government agencies helps us continue this legacy. We believe every voice matters and are committed to building a world where young people who stutter feel supported, confident, and empowered to share their unique stories.



CAMP SAY



SLEEP-AWAY CAMP FOR YOUNG PEOPLE WHO STUTTER

Camp SAY, an American Camp Association (ACA) accredited program, is the world's longest-running summer camp for young people who stutter. For two weeks this summer, campers developed social-emotional skills through creative and innovative camp explorations and intentional programming. **96% of campers reported Camp SAY helped them to build confidence.** Here, the transformative power of laughter, friendship, and shared experiences gave participants the chance to form new friendships, explore in a supportive space, and thrive both personally and socially.



29

STATES REPRESENTED

69%

RETURNING CAMPERS

4

COUNTRIES REPRESENTED

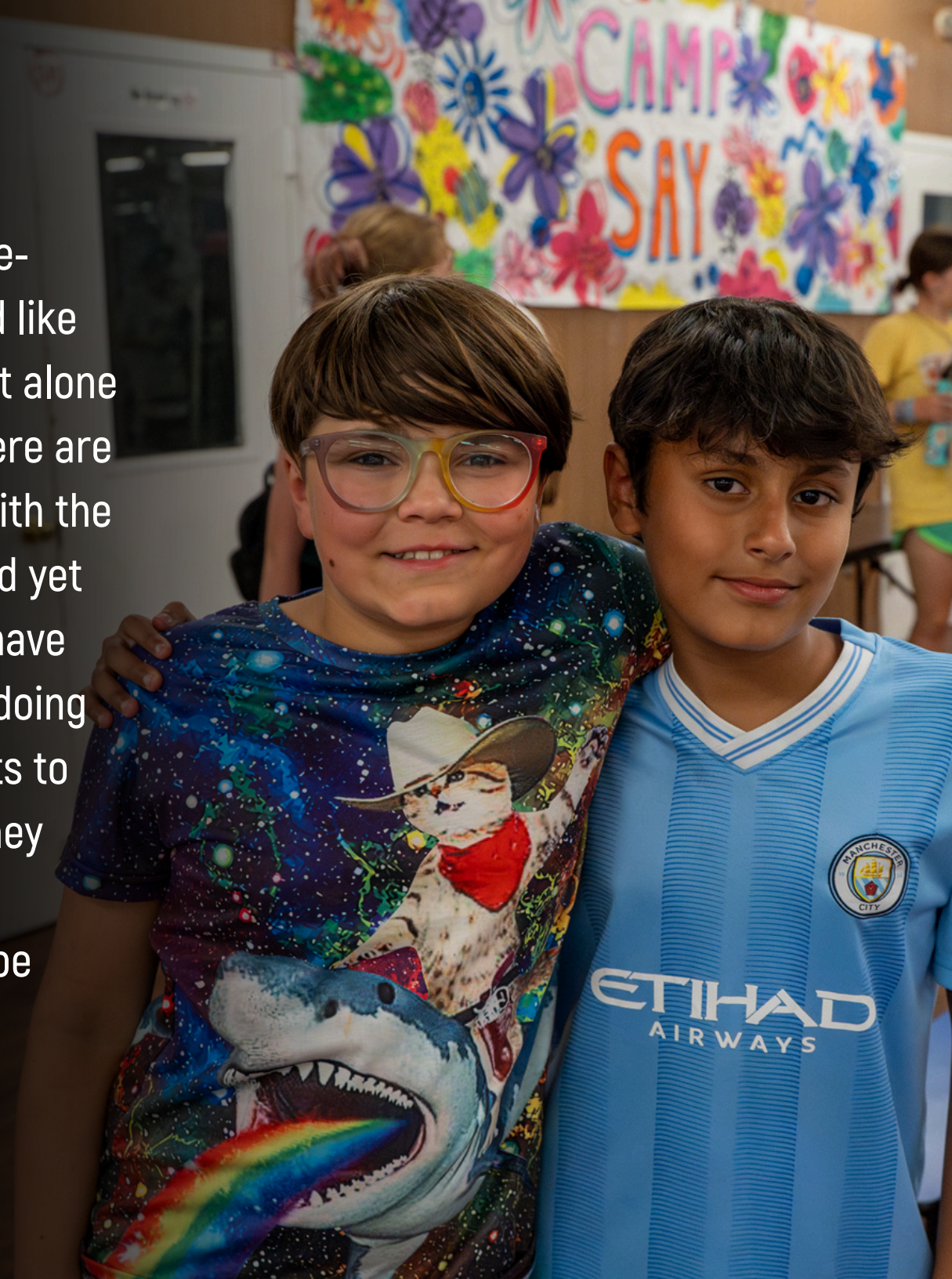
55%

OF CAMP STAFF WHO STUTTER

“

I am eternally grateful for this life-changing experience, where a kid like mine can finally see that he is not alone in this world. Instead, he sees there are other kids and adults who deal with the same struggles he deals with, and yet they are awesome people. They have huge accomplishments, and are doing careers he thought were off limits to him, and want to be his friend. They actually understand him and are patient to give him the space to be visible in this world.

– Laurie, Parent of a Camper



LISTEN
Ing. is
* COOL *
sayDC



SAY: DC

CREATIVE ARTS STUDIO IN THE HEART OF DC

SAY: DC was abuzz with creative energy and stuttering pride all year. Whether participants were drawing, writing poetry, making music, practicing new dance moves, sculpting miniature scenes out of clay, or constructing handmade books, the emphasis was always on everyone **supporting each other, learning how to sharpen their expressive capabilities,** and building confidence and communication skills. We also hosted regular community gatherings to go skating and attend local sporting events, where SAY: DC families could socialize and build friendships with each other.



ACTIVITIES INCLUDED:

- art-making
- creative writing
- printmaking
- original songwriting
- sculpture
- painting
- collaging

LOVE YOURSELF

By Michaela, Written at SAY:DC

Love yourself

Don't let anybody bully you
because you stutter

Let people be nice to you
And you'll be nice to them too

Love yourself

Make your own opinion

I had a dream I liked myself 'cause
I was me, I was me, only me



CONFIDENT VOICES



A RETURN TO IN-PERSON PROGRAMMING

SAY's award-winning creative arts program returned to in-person sessions this year, working to empower, embolden, and inspire. Guided by expert Teaching Artists and musicians, participants explored a variety of creative forms—including music, visual art, movement, poetry, creative writing and more.

The season culminated with a 2-day showcase of our participant's original work on an off-Broadway stage.



“

I went to Confident Voices on Saturdays, and I loved it. I got to meet so many great people and people that were so accepting...something I hadn't experienced before.

And that's pretty much what SAY has been for me, unconditional love and acceptance and support. And, that's really what I needed at that time.

– Nathanael, 18



SAY: SPEECH

SAY: Speech has continued to support children who stutter and their families by addressing their individual needs and goals for change. Because stuttering and its impact vary so much between individuals—and even from day to day as a child grows—we embrace a flexible approach to speech therapy that aims to meet each child and family where they are in the moment. By drawing on a range of evidence-based therapy approaches as well as the child and family’s input, SAY individually tailors therapy to achieve the best outcomes.

In addition, **Director of Speech Brooke Leiman Edwards, MA, CCC-SLP, BCS-SCF**, developed and recorded a stuttering evaluation and therapy 101 webinar for the NYC Public Schools, which was published on their website as **“Evaluation and Treatment of School-Aged Children Who Stutter: A Three-Question Guide.”**

558

SPEECH THERAPY SESSIONS

20

NEW CLIENTS SEEN



NEW PROGRAMS



THE MY STUTTER PROJECT

SAY is now a global community! We recently expanded our online programming to offer community, support, and creative workshops for young people who stutter worldwide. Through weekly Zoom sessions, participants have a creative outlet to share their stories and learn new ways of advocating for themselves. During our first year,

80 PARTICIPANTS were enrolled from **13 STATES AND 7 COUNTRIES.**

SAY: PARENTS

In 2024, SAY kicked off our new monthly meetings for parents and caregivers of young people who stutter. We believe an integral part of empowering and creating a supportive community for our children and teens is ensuring their parents and caregivers are empowered and have a supportive community. On average,

56 PARENTS REGISTERED to participate in each Monday Night group session. Parents have registered from 15 states and international locations including Ontario, British Columbia, Nova Scotia, and Germany.



Events & Milestones

PAUL RUDD BOWLING BENEFIT

The 10th Annual Paul Rudd All-Star Bowling Benefit raised funds to help send kids to Camp SAY. Hosted in NYC by Brandon Victor Dixon and Christopher Jackson, with many celebrity guests!



SAY RINGS BELL AT NASDAQ

SAY had the honor of ringing the closing bell at NASDAQ in Times Square surrounded by participants and their families.



ANNUAL BENEFIT GALA

The 22nd Annual Benefit Gala for SAY was hosted by Kelli O'Hara and Brandon Victor Dixon honoring Noah Cornman (**SAY: Hall of Fame Inductee**) and Freestyle Love Supreme (**SAY: Budd Mayer Advocacy Award**).

DIRECTOR OF SPEECH COLLABORATION WITH NYC PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Brooke Leiman Edwards, Director of Speech, partnered with NYC Public Schools to provide training and resources to over 3000 staff therapists.





GEORGE SPRINGER BOWLING BENEFIT

SAY's National Spokesperson George Springer hosted his 7th Annual Bowling Benefit for SAY in Toronto, supported by TD Bank and Jays Care Foundation.

DIRECTOR OF SPEECH AWARDED TOP CLINICIAN AWARD

Brooke Leiman Edwards, MA, CCC-SLP, BCS-SCF, Director of SAY: Speech, was honored with the prestigious Clinician Award by the World Stuttering and Cluttering Organization (WSCO).



CONFIDENT VOICES ONE-ACT SHOWS

Our One-Act Project participants JP, D'Amari, and Nathanael crafted original pieces that were showcased during a 2-day performance. These inspiring teens guided professional actors to bring their visions to life.

MY BEAUTIFUL STUTTER DOC ON AMERICAN AIRLINES

The award-winning documentary "My Beautiful Stutter" became available on American Airlines flights and streamed for free on Amazon Prime!



CAMP SAY: ACROSS THE USA - MEMPHIS

Camp SAY: Across the USA returned to Memphis in partnership with The Orpheum Theatre. This free, 2-day camp for kids and teens who stutter focused on connection, creativity, and empowerment.

FINANCIALS

FY2024: September 1, 2023 - August 31, 2024

It was a solid fundraising year at SAY, with a modest increase in the size of our budget over the past two fiscal years. This was largely driven by individual giving and successful special events that bring in critical revenue while also serving as awareness-raising and community-building opportunities.

TOTAL FY2024 INCOME

\$2,445,149

SAY continued to underwrite the vast majority of program costs, so families from all financial backgrounds could benefit from SAY programs.

This remains a pillar of our values as we make our high-quality, year-round programs available at no cost. We continue to make Camp SAY and our speech therapy program available at a pay-what-you-can rate for many low- and moderate-income families, opening doors of opportunity for more young people who stutter.

TOTAL FY2024 EXPENSES

\$2,418,785

Taken together, this means the philanthropic support we raised resulted in over \$2 million of program costs underwritten in FY2024. **Looking forward, we hope to increase foundation and corporate support alongside continued robust giving from our dedicated and essential individual donors.** We are also finding ways to reduce administrative expenses where possible, serving as careful stewards of the gifts we receive to maximize their impact.

SAY is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization.

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

We are truly grateful for every one of our incredible individual, foundation, corporate, & government donors who make our life-changing work possible. This list reflects generous donors who supported SAY with a gift of \$500 or more from September 1, 2023 - August 31, 2024.

\$50,000 & ABOVE

Common Sense Fund
Gene Ford, Jr.
Mariska Hargitay
& Peter Hermann
Moglia Family Foundation
Maria Sarath Ragucci
& Fred Ragucci
The Nanette & Budd Mayer
Memorial Fund
The New York Community Trust
Tides Foundation

\$25,000 - \$49,999

Riki Alexander
National Endowment for the Arts
New York State Council on
the Arts
New York City Department
of Cultural Affairs
Timothy Pfeifer
Barbara Scott
Jenny & Jon Steingart
The Pinkerton Foundation
Marcia Withers

\$15,000 - \$24,999

Caimi-Markis Family Fund Trust
Will Edwards & Emily Barreca
Elaine Dannheisser Foundation
Richard Ferraro
Joni Corn & Tim Frank
Leslie & Bernard Friedman
Jeff Gramm
John G. Tolan Family Fund
Thomas Kail
Alexandra Pizzo
& AJ Melaragno
Park Studio NYC
Debra Fram & Eric Schwartz

Sher Tremonte LLP
The Joseph Leroy
& Ann C. Warner Fund, Inc.
Tom Viola, Broadway
Cares/Equity Fights Aids

\$10,000 - \$14,999

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American Chai Trust
Jennifer Carr Brod
Casey Close
Excel Sports Management
Lisa Hertz
Sally Kovler
Karen Lotman
Patricia, Eric, & Dylan Price
Murar Foundation, Inc.
Bennett Smith
The Glastenbury Foundation, Inc.
UltraCamp Foundation
Justin Waller & Michael Stehlik

\$5,000 - \$9,999

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Foundation
MaryAnn Archambo
Axe-Houghton Foundation
Neil Barth
Benevity
Mina Bentsen
Lackland H. Bloom III
Jaclyn D. & Arnold J. Civins
Kerry & Noah Cornman
Amanda Croix
Brandon Victor Dixon
Elroy and Terry Krumholz
Foundation, Inc.
Find Your Light Foundation
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Chad & Kim Morganlander
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& Arthur Herskowitz
Claudia & Mark Negron
Netflix
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Harriet & Douglas Rachlin
Gerald & Jenny Shimizu Risk
Marta Rudolph
Maxine Roth Schweitzer
Shachar & Jason Scott
Robert Searing
Keira & Brian Smith
Drs. Jill & Michael Stifelman
The Dr. Cyrus Katzen Foundation
The Hyde and Watson Foundation
The Thomas & Agnes
Carvel Foundation
United Talent Agency
Megan & Marc Vetri
Adam Wallach

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Kathleen
& Ernest Abrahamson
Anonymous
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& Scott M. Delman
Evan & Barbara Bell
Lindsay Ferraro Bennett
& Stephen Bennett
Randi & Andrew Berdon
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Jared & Casey Cooper
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Memorial Foundation
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Foundation
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#40, Bob Walsh
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& Michelle Vigod
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Renee & Carl Landegger
Howard Lang
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Ken & Pat Lore
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Lucille Lortel Foundation
Jennifer McGrath
Anonymous
Metzger-Price Fund, Inc.

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& Dr. Michael Heaney
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Audra Ottaway
Roland Pointner
Barbara & Alan Polinsky
Joseph Popovich
Elsa Simo-Ramirez & Julio Ramirez
Sherry & Brian Ramsay
Alysia Reiner & David Alan Basche
Kyle Rhoads
Lawrence Roman
Lili & Judah Rosenberg
Nancy & Charles Rosenblatt
Aaron Sanfield
Maria R. Santos Valentin
Monica & Ed Sapone
Carol Sarath
Shack Sackler Foundation
Jesse Shapiro
Riki & Michael Sheehan
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& Jonathan Marc Sherman
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Singola Consulting
Nina Skoko
Emma Smith
Ann Starer & Michael Faust
Pam Sugarman & Tom Rosenberg
Helen Lang Suskin
Arielle Tepper Madover
Liz Tuccillo
Patrick Tully & Erin Fitzsimmons
Sarah Upbin
Ellen Wingard
Larry Witzer
Orna & Keenan Wolens
Susan Ziskin & Daniel Ginsberg

\$500 - \$999
Paula B. Adams
Jane Alexander
Anonymous
Itir Aydin
Marvin Baker
The Balan Family

Maggie & Millard Bennett
Maya Bernstein
Amy & John Budetti
Loyal Carlon
Jessica & Michael Ciccarelli
Alyssa & Scott Clarke
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Michael Williams
Anonymous

Vision for the Future

As we look toward the future, SAY's vision remains unwavering: **a world where every young person who stutters is celebrated, supported, and empowered to express themselves freely.** We envision a community that embraces the unique voices of young people who stutter, providing a safe space where they can build confidence, develop friendships, and discover the power of their own stories.

In the coming years, we're committed to expanding our reach, innovating our programs, and creating more opportunities for connection and growth. From in-person camps and creative arts programs to online workshops that unite young people across the globe, we strive to bring SAY's mission to even more families, communities, and supporters. **Together, with your continued generosity and support, we're building a future where every young voice is heard, every story has a place, and every child who stutters knows they are not alone.**



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