




ANNUAL REPORT FY 2025





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LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Our 2024-25 year was one of going deeper and seeing enormous payoff in relationships and impact. As we all know, kids and youth exist in a context—they live in a family, a community, a world. One reason this work has such an outsized influence is that when young people do well, we all benefit. If you're looking for a place to contribute and engage, we know investments in youth send out ripple effects in all directions—currents of hope. When young people who stutter build confidence and community, their schools and neighborhoods are enriched. None of us wants to miss out on the leadership, talent, and unique voices of any young person who might be holding back, unsure of how well the world around will listen if they stutter.

At SAY, we unlock the skills and gifts inside each of the youth we serve because space, freely offered space with no expectation but being yourself, is often simply not available to these kids. In our programs, they find it all around. Large and inviting, with enough room for everyone. There are songs and dreams and business ideas and hurts and hopes inside all of our kids. I'm so thankful that SAY does its part to make sure we hear them and learn from them.

You'll see inside this report details on our various programs. But animating all of it is the currency of a meaningful life—relationships. They bolster us when we're uncertain. They celebrate us when we stretch and try. They hold things together when life is tough. They sustain the mental health and wellness that our youth crave and deserve.

I'm especially excited that we've gone deeper this past year, not only with our SAY participants but with their parents and caregivers during insightful monthly support sessions and with the Speech Language Pathologists who most often encounter youth who stutter right inside their school. Through a growing partnership with NYC Public Schools that we hope to expand elsewhere, and monthly shares among professionals led by our staff specialist, Brooke Leiman Edwards, we are supporting practitioners who can have an impact at scale.

I'll leave you with a few words from a SAY parent who reported that Camp SAY "was LIFE-CHANGING for our son, who came home confident and excited. He constantly refers to his time at camp, and we are very grateful for the care and patience shown to him and can't wait for him to experience it again."

Join with us in the work ahead, as your support ensures programs are offered for free or on a "pay what you can" basis. Help us change more lives and create more space for youth who stutter.

In solidarity,

**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 that 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.

SAY.ORG

SAY Programs

CAMP SAY



A NEW HOME IN TEXAS

Camp SAY is an American Camp Association (ACA)-accredited, 2-week, sleep-away summer camp for young people who stutter, ages 8-18. It is also **the largest summer camp for young people who stutter in the world**. This year, Camp SAY journeyed south as we found a new home at Morgan's Camp in San Antonio, TX. Morgan's Camp is a state-of-the-art facility on 102 tree-studded acres of rolling hills, offering new spaces and experiences for our campers to explore, such as horseback riding, a brand new art studio, an extensive water-scape with a lazy river, and plenty of temperature-controlled spaces to stay cool.

Campers from across the country and beyond came together to build confidence, communication skills, and have the summer of a lifetime with a community that truly understands them. They forged lifelong friendships and participated in activities like "Mentor Time," where young campers are paired with older campers to share experiences, get to know one another, and empower each other. In the end, campers departed with enhanced self-esteem and crucial tools to advocate for themselves in their everyday lives.

96

campers enrolled

\$350,000+

in scholarships granted

28

states represented

36

staff members who stutter





"This was my daughter's 5th year, and somehow she comes home and says each year was better than the last. The two weeks of camp really do get her through the giggles and comments that she gets at school from the few kids who still choose to laugh during the rest of the year. She knows she has her people, and it rolls off her back in a way that I wouldn't have imagined 5 years ago. Camp SAY has made a life-long impact on my family and so many others."

— A SAY Parent



SAY Programs

CONFIDENT VOICES



EMPOWERING YOUNG ARTISTS

In the heart of Midtown Manhattan, young people who stutter, ages 8-18, came together this programming season to explore their creativity and ways to share their voices and stories. This season was devoted to community building, featuring art and theater activities such as popsicle stick tapestries, slime making, and theater improv workshops. These activities tapped into the natural sense of play that young people have, introducing theater as a game to be explored and enjoyed. Later in the program, focus shifted to writing and creating, where participants were assigned to small groups to start crafting short original pieces. With the help of SAY Teaching Artists and staff, **participants concentrated on developing the skills of storytelling and collaboration.** The pieces ranged from poetry to short plays to visual art to music.

These months of creative exploration culminated in a showcase at the Marjorie S. Deane Little Theater, where friends and family celebrated a robust and impactful year.

Participant Highlight

A wonderful highlight from rehearsals and performance time was seeing the developing voice of a participant named Kelly. She joined in the winter with the support of her school SLP, who played a key role in connecting her family with us. With English being her second language and meeting others who stuttered for the first time, it took a moment for her to feel comfortable and confident sharing her voice. She immersed herself in writing poetry in Spanish, later translating her work into English. Writing was the key to unlocking her beautiful, in-depth, heartfelt creative writing. It felt like she finally had a place where she could express herself freely and in her own time, resulting in a vast collection of poetry.





Participants perform spoken word during the June Showcase.

SAY Programs

SAY: DC



CREATIVITY IN THE CLUBHOUSE

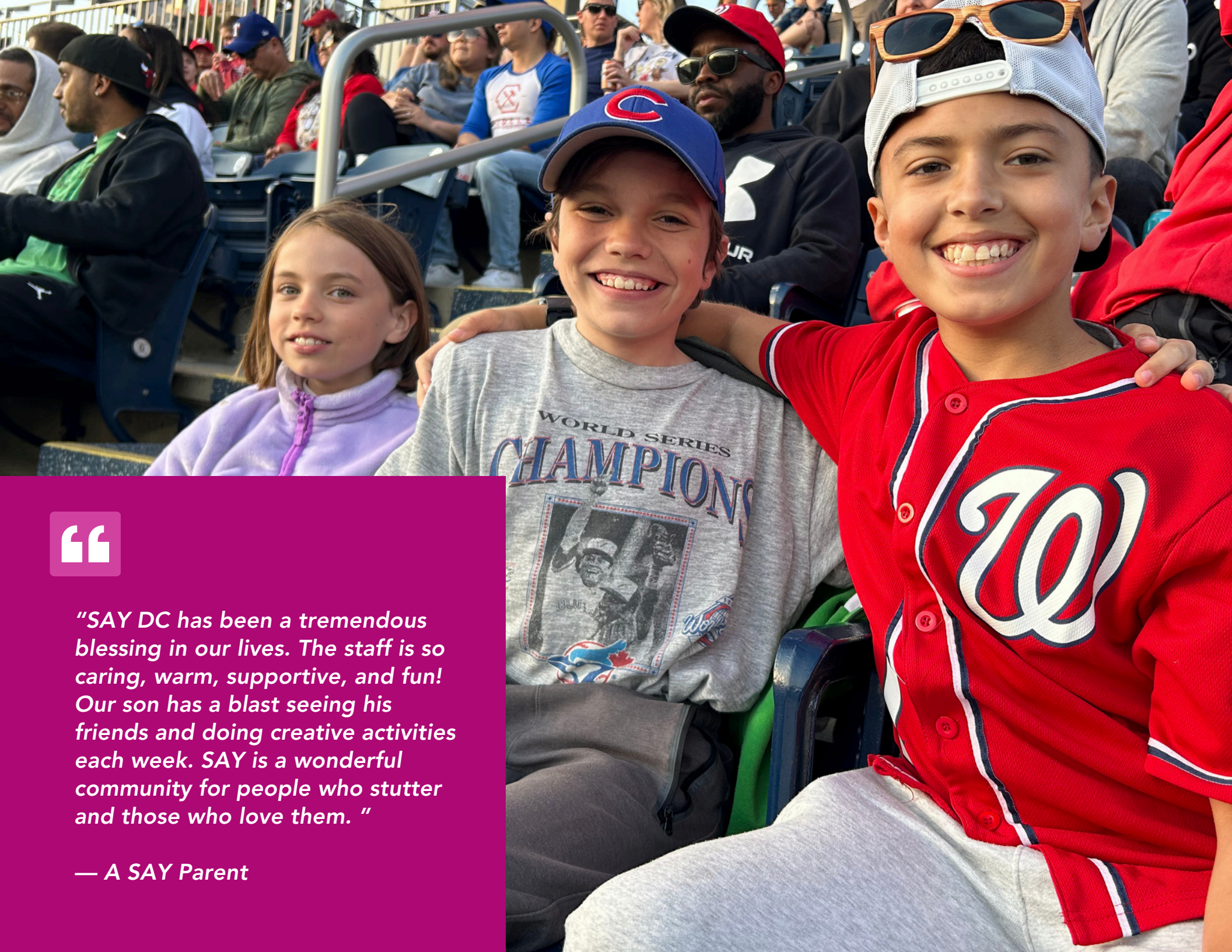
This year, SAY: DC continued to be a hub of creativity, connection, and stuttering pride. Participants explored a wide range of expressive activities, always with a focus on building confidence and celebrating each other's voices. Beyond the arts, families came together for social outings, community events, and shared experiences that strengthened friendships and created lasting memories. Every activity, whether big or small, reinforced a supportive environment where young people who stutter could grow, connect, and shine.

Activities Included:

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

At the beginning of the year, the youth we serve in the metro area shone brightly on stage at our **first-ever gala in Washington, DC**, plus an end-of-year art show, which built an even stronger sense of connection and bolstered participation in programming this year.





“

"SAY DC has been a tremendous blessing in our lives. The staff is so caring, warm, supportive, and fun! Our son has a blast seeing his friends and doing creative activities each week. SAY is a wonderful community for people who stutter and those who love them. "

— A SAY Parent

SAY Programs

MY STUTTER PROJECT

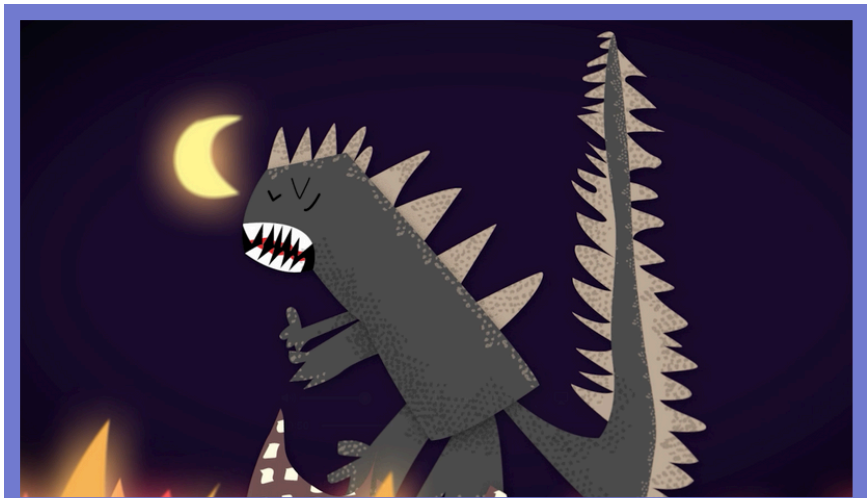
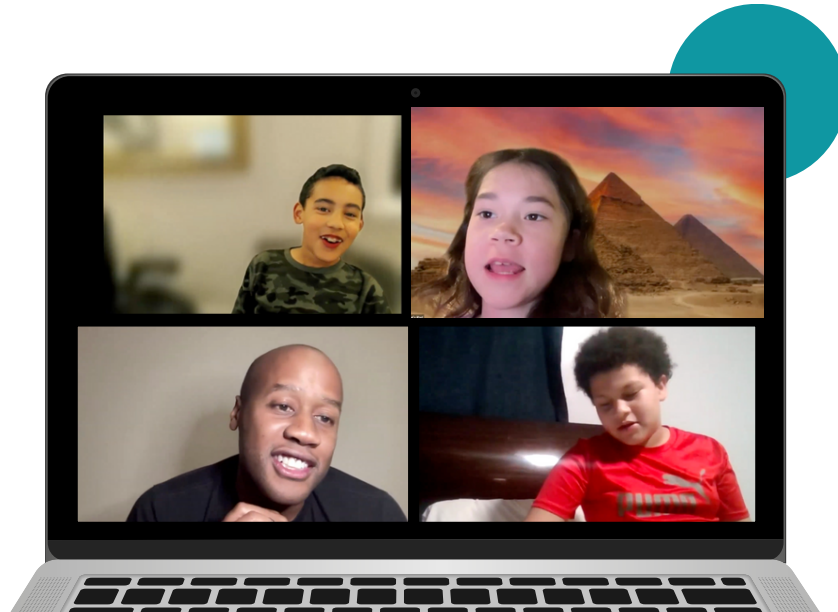


A GLOBAL COMMUNITY OF SUPPORT

This year, the My Stutter Project continued to grow and inspire, offering two sessions of our online creative arts program—from fall to early winter, and again from winter through spring. Hosting two sessions allowed us to connect with new families midyear and keep engagement strong. Based on family feedback, we also piloted midweek Wednesday sessions to better fit participants' schedules.

Each session began with fun connection-building activities like Stuttering Jeopardy, a lively online game that encouraged participants to share their knowledge about stuttering. As the weeks progressed, participants created and rehearsed original works, ranging from songs and "Shark Tank" inventions to short plays and stories. **A highlight of the year was the introduction of short animation projects led by Teaching Artist Elijah Duncan,** whose expertise helped bring participants' original characters, scripts, and voices to life in animated form.

Each session culminated in an online showcase, where participants proudly shared their original pieces with family and friends. These virtual performances concluded with a talkback, offering audience members the chance to engage directly with our young artists, celebrating not just their finished projects but also their confidence, courage, and authentic self-expression.



*Clip from "A Game of Thrones"
animation created by participants.*

SAY Programs

SAY: SPEECH



THE SAY WAY

SAY's speech therapy program is led by speech-language pathologist and board-certified stuttering specialist Brooke Leiman Edwards, MA, CCC-SLP, BCS-SCF. This year, we continued to offer individualized and holistic speech therapy to families across NY, DC, and MD. The SAY approach incorporates education and advocacy, fear and avoidance reduction, physical strategies to make speaking easier, family and community integration, and a focus on overall communication skills. In addition to meeting individual families, Brooke also introduced "Stuttering Meet and Eats," a mentorship offered to New York City Public Schools speech pathologists to learn how to better support young people who stutter in school settings.

This year, SAY: Speech continued to advance awareness and advocacy for people who stutter. Our team was honored to share SAY's "Intervision" program—a peer mentorship group for speech professionals—at the ASHA Conference in Seattle. We also served as subject matter experts for the ASHA Health Care Economics Committee, advising on CPT code construction that impacts insurance coverage for people who stutter, and for the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, providing guidance on stuttering and insurance access. In addition to these advocacy efforts, SAY: Speech developed and hosted the first annual Allies & Advocates program, a two-night experience at Camp SAY, and introduced the "Valued Voices" column in the camp newsletter to highlight participants' stories. Staff also shared insights and expertise through a presentation at the Katzen Foundation, further advancing SAY's mission to support and empower young people who stutter.

20

new speech therapy clients

17

mentored speech professionals

629

therapy sessions held

3000

school-based SLPs in NYC offered specialized stuttering support





"The kind, affirming, and empowering approach to speech therapy at SAY: Speech has been incredible. My son is regaining his confidence and ability to work through his speech and to feel comfortable with his communications, whether he may stutter or not. Many thanks to SAY for providing this incredible resource!"

— A SAY Parent



SAY: PARENTS

This year, SAY: Parents connected with families from across the globe, with **199 parents and caregivers signed up for these sessions**. Over the course of the year, including three special presentation events featuring Nina Reeves, Ryan Pollard, and a panel of young adults who stutter, parents engaged in meaningful conversations about stuttering and support.

We introduced various distinguished co-hosts and guest speakers from the stuttering community, covering topics such as navigating school-based speech therapy, managing adverse listener reactions, understanding the fluctuations of stuttering, building confidence and acceptance, exploring change, allyship, and advocacy, and defining success for the school year.

199

unique emails registered

8

countries represented

42

states represented

14

co-hosts & guest speakers from
the stuttering community



"This group has been a source of strength, comfort, and inspiration. Having a community that understands the joys and challenges of raising a child who stutters has been invaluable. I walk away from each night that I've attended feeling supported and empowered. SAY has given us a space where we feel understood, and I am beyond grateful for the opportunity. Thank you, SAY, for making this difference in our lives."

— A SAY Parent

EVENTS & MILESTONES

First Ever DC Benefit Gala

On January 23, SAY proudly hosted its inaugural Benefit Gala in Washington, DC, at the Klein Theatre. The evening was filled with inspiring performances, heartfelt connections, and unforgettable moments, including an exceptional mini-concert by host Kelli O'Hara.

8th Annual George Springer Bowling Benefit

SAY's National Spokesperson, George Springer hosted his 8th Annual Bowling Benefit for SAY in Toronto, supported by TD Bank and Jays Care Foundation.

23rd Annual SAY Benefit Gala In NYC

On June 2, SAY's Gala was hosted by Broadway star Kelli O'Hara and featured unforgettable performances. The Gala honored our incredible SAY: Hero Award recipients Mitch Guerra and Shachar G. Scott, as well as our beloved Budd Mayer Advocacy Award recipients Richard Kind and Tom Kitt, raising crucial funds for SAY programs.

11th Annual Paul Rudd Bowling Benefit

On October 21, SAY celebrated our Annual Paul Rudd All-Star Bowling Benefit with our host, Paul Rudd, by our side. The night featured celebrity guests, generous sponsors, and our beloved supporters. Special guests included Richard Kind, Chris Meloni, and Jenna Leigh Green. We raised funds to support our efforts to provide life-changing experiences for the young people we serve.





Camp SAY Moves to Texas

Camp SAY made our Texas debut this July, hosting campers for two weeks at Morgan's Camp in San Antonio, Texas. From floating down the lazy river to horseback riding, our campers embraced every adventure with courage and joy.

SAY Performs at Find Your Light Gala

In October, SAY was honored to receive a grant from the Find Your Light Foundation. Alongside Josh Groban and SAY's Musical Director Everett Bradley, SAY participants and alumni took the stage at the FYL Gala for a magical performance at the iconic Jazz at Lincoln Center.



Camp SAY: Toronto

In partnership with SAY: Canada, young people who stutter in Toronto came together with their families for a day of friendship, creativity, and self-expression. Some participants even had the chance to cheer on George Springer at a Blue Jays game, thanks to the Jays Care Foundation.

Camp SAY Reunion

In March, the Camp SAY family reunited in NYC for a day filled with laughter, games, and much-needed catch-ups! For many, it was the first time seeing their camp friends since summer, a beautiful reminder that the friendships built at Camp SAY last long beyond the season.



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

FY2025: September 1, 2024 - August 31, 2025

SAY continued its legacy of access for all families, no matter their financial background. School year-round programming was again offered at no cost, and both Camp SAY and our personalized speech therapy program were offered on a "pay what you can" basis, allowing youth who stutter to access these high-quality programs regardless of their ability to pay. This commitment to our core belief that every voice matters means the team here at SAY relies on supporters of all stripes to underwrite those program costs through giving. One of the best ways you can contribute to this work is to become a recurring donor at whatever level works with your budget.

THIS PAST YEAR, SAY SUPPORTERS CONTRIBUTED \$1.9 MILLION THAT WENT DIRECTLY TOWARD PROGRAM COSTS.

We're so grateful for this generosity from individuals, foundations, corporations, and government agencies. Some donors in our network faced challenges during this fiscal year and, as a result, we are working hard to broaden our funder prospect pool during FY26. With your help, we aim to reach dozens of new individual and foundation prospects this year who align with our mission, plan to add new board members to broaden our network, and hold more in-person touch points for donors to see their impact up close.

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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 the generous donors who supported SAY with a gift of \$500 or more from September 1, 2024, to August 31, 2025.

\$50,000 & ABOVE

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