

FACING THE FUTURE

Programs and Events for 2017

The Foundation for Faces of Children (FFC) has planned another dynamic year of programs and events to provide education, information and fun, as well as opportunities to connect with and to learn from other families that have similar experiences and concerns. We encourage you to take part in one or more of them, most at absolutely NO COST! Please see calendar listing on back page.

**Don't Forget!
Cher Retreat
applications
are due April 1.**

Join Us for Another "Making Faces" Workshop

The Foundation for Faces of Children has invited Michael Williams-Stark of "Making Faces" to return for another FREE one-day workshop for FFC families on Saturday, April 8. Last year's program, designed specifically for children with facial differences, provided valuable messages to all who attended – FFC children, friends, family, and board members alike.

Born with a bilateral cleft lip and palate, Michael has a unique way of sharing his personal experience with loneliness and isolation and the many challenges he was forced to overcome in his youth. At the time of his birth, his was considered the worst case yet encountered in British Columbia. He spent the first few months of his life in a hospital, enduring over a dozen reconstructive surgeries. Today, Michael acknowledges that, growing up with a facial difference was a gift as it led to finding his joy in life: helping others build confidence and self-esteem through his love for theater, comedy, the power of words, and public speaking. Michael became actively involved in volunteer work with AboutFace International, and eventually founded "Making Faces." Using humor, Michael helps kids discover the strength to step outside of themselves and explore the world. FFC children and families will enjoy improvised games, tailored to encourage eye contact and improve voice quality, all while fostering teamwork, self-confidence, and self-expression.

makingfaces.ca



Sharing the fun at the 2016 "Making Faces" seminar.

Objectives of the "Making Faces" Workshop:

- Improve communication skills
- Encourage self-expression and teamwork
- Challenge and support individual capabilities
- Build confidence and self-esteem
- Inspire kids to follow their dreams
- Create an environment of acceptance and caring
- Have fun and be creative

Improv-ing self-esteem ... one smile at a time!

In 1994, Michael Williams-Stark began presenting his unique improv-based workshops for children with a facial difference. These lively and engaging workshops brought a sense of fun and inclusion to a vulnerable minority of children who typically would have shied away from participating in the school and social activities most children enjoy and take for granted. The workshops' results quickly began to speak for themselves. Kids said they no longer feared being called on in class, and shared stories about taking part in playtime activities with other children. Teachers reported increased participation in classroom discussions. Parents proudly shared their children's improved report cards and increased in social activities. One parent credited the workshops as providing her daughter with the confidence to deliver her grade 8 Valedictorian address to a gymnasium full of parents and fellow students.

Founded by Michael, Making Faces is a non-profit organization that helps children with facial differences and supports anti-bullying initiatives in schools and youth organizations through innovative improvisational workshops.



"Making Faces" Workshop with Michael Williams-Stark takes place Saturday, April 8, 10 am – 3 pm at the Embassy Suites Hotel, 550 Winter Street,

Waltham, Mass. To register for this event, please send an email to programs@facesofchildren.org with the names of all those who will be attending, specifying the ages of those in your group who are age 18 and under. This is a free family event, open to all. **RSVP by Monday, April 3.**

Lunch will be served.

Please join us!

See
inside for
more FFC
programs!

A Guide to Speech Disorders Related to Cleft Palate:

Let's Make It Simple, Because It Really Is!

Parents and clinicians are invited to attend a FREE one-day seminar focusing on cleft-related speech disorders. This seminar will take place in Flasher Conference Rooms at Boston Children's Hospital, 9 Hope Ave, Waltham on Saturday, April 29 from 10 am until 2 pm (lunch will be served). Guest speakers will discuss normal speech and the nature of speech problems associated with cleft palate. Breakout lectures will include therapy for birth to 3 years, therapy for school-age children and the role of families in the therapeutic process. The importance of parental involvement will be stressed as they are the ones who make the largest difference with their child's speech. Child care will be provided and parking is FREE.

Register by emailing programs@facesofchildren.org by Monday, April 23 with the names of those in your group and indicate if child care is needed.

SEMINAR GUEST SPEAKERS



Eileen Marrinan, MS, CCC, MPH, Director of the Upstate Cleft and Craniofacial Center at SUNY Upstate Medical University and speech pathologist at the University of Rochester Golisano Children's Hospital, received her Masters of Science in Speech Pathology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and her Masters of Public Health degree from Harvard University. Eileen conducts clinical research and has published peer-reviewed papers and chapters in the area of cleft palate and related craniofacial disorders, including 22q deletion syndrome, lecturing nationally and internationally in these areas. She has taught graduate level courses at a number of universities and currently teaches the Cleft & Craniofacial course at Syracuse University.



Liza Catalozzi, M.S., CCC-SLP, Boston Children's Hospital received her Masters of Science in Communication Disorders from Emerson College. Liza works at Boston Children's Hospital in the Cleft and Craniofacial Clinics, Velopharyngeal Dysfunction Clinic, and Voice Clinic. She has lectured locally and nationally in the areas of cleft palate and related craniofacial disorders and velopharyngeal dysfunction. She also supervises speech pathology graduate students during their externships at BCH.

BCH Welcomes a New Professional to the Team!

Robyn Snyder, CCLS, is a certified child life specialist working in the cleft and craniofacial clinic at Boston Children's Hospital. Child life specialists are trained professionals who focus on the psychosocial needs of children, and promote effective coping with medical experiences through play, preparation, support, and education. Robyn was first a special education teacher and then a behavior specialist prior to discovering and entering the field of child life.

Robyn has worked at Boston Children's Hospital for over eight years, after completing her child life internship and then working as a child life specialist at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. She's very excited to join the cleft and craniofacial team during the Friday clinics, and is enjoying getting to know and supporting the patients and families during their visits.

Robyn is mom to two young children, a four-year-old daughter and a four-month-old son. In her spare time (ha!), Robyn enjoys traveling, reading, taking walks, and spending time with her friends and family. 📷



FFC Scholarship Awards to be Presented as We Celebrate our 30th Anniversary



FFC is excited to be combining our 30th anniversary celebration with the 2017 scholarship awards presentations. We invite you to join us as our guest for hors d'oeuvres and cocktails at this event on Saturday, June 24, 2017 at 6:00 pm at the Embassy Suites, Waltham, Massachusetts.

FFC's Scholarship Award Program was established in 1999. Since then, 59 scholarships totaling \$104,000 have been distributed. The Program recognizes promising students born with a facial difference by annually awarding post-secondary educational scholarships for college or vocational/technical training.

The Foundation selects award recipients based on their academic performance, extracurricular activities and community service. The Jane C. McDaid Memorial Scholarship will be

awarded to the applicant with a history of substantial community service.

The Barbara Seltzer Memorial Scholarship will be awarded solely to an applicant with cleft lip/palate who has been active in the arts or who will be pursuing a career in the arts. The Dorothy MacDonald Scholarship will be awarded to an applicant seeking a career in the healthcare profession. The Dr. John B. Mulliken Scholarship will be awarded to one who demonstrates excellence in academic scholarship and leadership.

To assist us with the event planning, please **RSVP by Sunday, June 18 to programs@facesofchildren.org** with the names of those who will be attending. If you have questions, call us at **617-355-8299**.



Stress Management and Resiliency Training (SMART) *A Relaxation Response Resiliency Program*

The Foundation for Faces of Children would like to encourage young adults (must be 18 years of age) as well as parents to participate in this mindfulness program offered by the Benson-Henry Institute for Mind Body Medicine, 151 Merrimac Street, 4th floor, Boston, MA 02114. Participants will have an initial visit with one of the doctors (covered by most insurances); an assessment visit (covered by most insurances); and 8 two-hour group sessions (approximate value of \$500 which includes a manual and recorded meditations). FFC will reimburse participants after completion of the program. SMART is designed to help participants regain control and build resilience through a variety of mind body principles and self-care interventions, leading to reduced medical symptoms and enhanced quality of life. Perfect for the young adult and/or parents. **Call BHI at 617-643-6090** to register and be sure to mention you are with the Foundation for Faces of Children.

Mindfulness Retreat

Sunday, August 6 –
Tuesday, August 8

Kripalu Center for Yoga & Health,

57 Interlaken Road,
Stockbridge, Massachusetts

Breathe. Connect. Move. Discover. Shine.

Explore the power of you.

FFC is pleased to sponsor up to 15 young adults for a stay at Kripalu, a scenic retreat in the Berkshire Mountains of Massachusetts. The opportunity is open to those born with a craniofacial difference who are now at least 16 years of age and

residents of New England. FFC's sponsorship covers tuition, housing and meals (approximate value of \$335). Attendees are being asked for a non-refundable commitment fee of \$25 per person.

Kripalu teaches skills for optimal living through education for the whole person: body, mind, and spirit. The focus of our program will be mindfulness, stress management, and meditation. Kripalu is the largest and most established retreat center for yoga, health, and holistic living in North America. Please **RSVP to programs@facesofchildren.org as soon as possible but no later than Saturday, May 20.**



YOUR DONATION DOLLARS AT WORK

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS FFC HAS PLANNED FOR YOU IN 2017!

Saturday, April 1

Deadline for applications for one of two sponsorships from FFC to the **2017 Cher Family Retreat and Educational Symposium**. Retreat is sponsored by the Children's Craniofacial Association.

Saturday, April 8

"Making Faces" Workshop with Michael Williams-Stark
Embassy Suites Hotel, Waltham, Massachusetts 10:00 am to 3:00 pm (lunch will be served)

Saturday, April 29

"A Guide to Speech Disorders Related to Cleft Palate: Let's Make It Simple, Because It Really Is!"
Flasher Conference Room, Boston Children's Hospital, Waltham, Massachusetts,
10:00 am to 2:00 pm, (lunch will be served; parking is free)

Saturday, June 24

30th Anniversary Celebration and 2017 Scholarship Awards Presentation
Embassy Suites Hotel, Waltham, Massachusetts at 6:00 pm

Thursday, June 29 –
Sunday, July 2

27th Annual Cher Family Retreat and Educational Symposium
sponsored by the Children's Craniofacial Association in Reston, Virginia

Sunday, July 23

Pawtucket Red Sox vs. Norfolk Tides at McCoy Stadium, Pawtucket, Rhode Island at 1:35 pm
RSVP by Sunday, June 25 to programs@facesofchildren.org

Sunday, August 6 –
Tuesday, August 8

Mindfulness Retreat for Young Adults: Explore the Power of You.
Kripalu Center for Yoga & Health, 57 Interlaken Road, Stockbridge, Massachusetts

Sunday, August 13

Lowell Spinners vs. Auburn Doubledays, LeLacheur Park, Lowell, Massachusetts, at 5:15 pm
RSVP by Sunday, July 16 to programs@facesofchildren.org

Sunday, September 24

21st Annual Paces for Faces Walk and Family Picnic Celebration
Lake Quannapowitt, Wakefield, Massachusetts, 10:30 am to 2:00 pm (lunch will be served)

TBA, December

Merrimack Men's Ice Hockey Game at Merrimack College, North Andover, Massachusetts

We hope to see you at one or more of these events!



FOUNDATION FOR
Faces of Children

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info@facesofchildren.org
www.facesofchildren.org

The Foundation for Faces of Children is dedicated to improving the lives of children with craniofacial differences, including cleft lip, cleft palate, and other head and facial conditions. Our mission is to:

- Provide patients and families with the most accurate, up-to-date, and accessible information about facial differences.
- Advocate for the best care possible for children with facial differences.

We achieve this by:

- Collaborating with leading specialists.
- Endorsing the team approach to care.
- Partnering with individuals and organizations with similar goals.

We are a not-for-profit organization entirely supported by private donations, grants, and fund-raising initiatives. Please contact us if you would like to participate in or sponsor a fundraising event.

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