



Apraxia Kids®  
2023 National Conference  
Plano, Texas

**July 6-8, 2023**

**Renaissance Dallas at Plano Legacy West Hotel  
6007 Legacy Drive, Plano, Texas 75024**

# **SPEAKER GUIDE**

All speaker credentials, bios, and disclosures are listed alphabetically by last name.  
For session information, please refer back to the Conference Program Book.

## **General Speaker Disclosure:**

*Apraxia Kids provided compensation to all speakers in the form of a waived conference registration fee.  
Apraxia Kids provided members of the Board and Professional Advisory Council with lodging and travel stipends.*

## **Pooja Aggarwal, MS, CCC-SLP, Recognized by Apraxia Kids for Advanced Training and Expertise in CAS**

Pooja Aggarwal is the proud Owner/Clinical Director of Progressive Speech Therapy where she gets to mentor a brilliant team of highly skilled SLPs providing cutting edge speech therapy. She has a passion for working with children and uses a customized evidence-based approach to therapy. Pooja is focused on continuing education and latest research developments and is currently participating in a Randomized Control Trial investigating intervention frequency for CAS. Pooja has 20+ years of experience helping children with communication challenges and continues to learn every day!

Pooja is a repeat recipient of the ASHA ACE award (American Speech Hearing Association - Award for Continuing Education). She was an inaugural graduate of the 2011 CAS Advanced Training Institute which aims to further elevate the clinical skills of regional experts across North America. Along with being Apraxia Kids Recognized for Advanced Training and Clinical Expertise in Childhood Apraxia of Speech, Pooja was recently an instructor for the 2021 Advanced Training Institute for CAS. She has also participated in advanced trainings in DTTC (Dynamic Temporal and Tactile Cueing) through the Once Upon a Time foundation. Pooja frequently volunteers professionally and has served as a Regional Volunteer Outreach Coordinator for Apraxia Kids.

Pooja presents both locally and nationally to a variety of audiences including parents, speech-language pathologists and medical/allied health professionals. Pooja has presented at numerous national conventions including Apraxia Kids and American Speech Hearing Association conventions.

Pooja loves working with children and and sharing her knowledge by mentoring passionate clinicians!

***Disclosures:*** *Owner/Clinical Director of Progressive Speech Therapy. Graduate from and previous instructor for Apraxia Kids Intensive Training. There are no other financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

## **Ben Akers**

Ben Akers is the 15 year old younger brother to Mikey (an adult with verbal dyspraxia/apraxia) and has grown up watching and supporting him on his journey to raise awareness of his diagnosis.

***Disclosures:*** *There are no relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

### **Mikey Akers, Adult with CAS, Founder of Mikey's Wish**

Mikey Akers is the founder of Mikey's Wish, a small organisation based in the UK that raises awareness of verbal dyspraxia/apraxia and supports families and individuals with a diagnosis of verbal dyspraxia/apraxia. He is passionate about sharing his experiences of living with verbal dyspraxia/apraxia so that others can learn how to overcome obstacles, develop close relationships, and feel empowered and supported on their journey with verbal dyspraxia/apraxia. Mikey is in the process of working with the UK government to gain more funding and change policies impacting speech and language services.

***Disclosures:** There are no relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

### **Jacquilyn Arias, MA, CCC-SLP**

Jacquilyn Arias is a certified speech language pathologist who has worked with pediatric populations in schools, clinics, and within her own private practice. She also has worked with the DUAL language research lab investigating bilingual children's communication. She has completed extensive trainings in childhood apraxia of speech and is four-time recipient of the ASHA continuing education award in recognition of her dedication to furthering her education and staying current with evidence-based practice. Her passion is empowering families and professionals to meet the needs of the whole child through naturalistic and evidence-based interventions. Habla Cadabra SLP, her company, provides Spanish resources for children with communication difficulties.

***Disclosures:** Co-founder of Habla Cadabra SLP, a company that makes Spanish resources for speech sound disorders. There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

### **Lauren Ayres, MS, CCC-SLP**

Lauren Ayres is both an ASHA certified speech-language pathologist specializing in pediatrics and the mother of a six year old daughter with Childhood Apraxia of Speech (CAS). Raising a child with CAS has profoundly enhanced Lauren's clinical understanding, ability to grasp "the big picture," and overall world view, and has also motivated Lauren to seek specialized training in diagnosing and treating CAS. Lauren holds a Bachelor of Science in Communication from Northwestern University and a Masters of Science in speech-language pathology from the University of Texas at Dallas. Lauren also completed two years toward a PhD in Communication Sciences and Disorders at Northwestern University and was the recipient of a research grant from the NIH. Lauren has worked in a variety of settings including the public schools, pediatric outpatient and private practice.

Before becoming a speech-language pathologist, Lauren worked as a theatre artist and arts educator, working to foster speech production, communication, story telling, and self-expression. As a speech-language pathologist, Lauren continues working to foster these traits, albeit in a different capacity. In Lauren's approach to treatment, Lauren seeks to combine the richness of the arts and clinical experience with the rigors of science; Lauren grounds her approach in evidence based practice. Lauren has lived all over the world and speaks Spanish and basic Mandarin. She is a native Texan, but now calls the beautiful state of Colorado home.

***Disclosures:** There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

### **Miriam Branham, MA, CCC-SLP**

Miriam (Mimi) Branham is a Speech-Language Pathologist practicing at The Carruth Center at The Parish School in Houston, Texas. Mimi graduated with her masters degree in Communication Disorders and Sciences from the University of Houston and has been a practicing speech-language pathologist for 28 years focusing on pediatric assessment and treatment in a variety of clinical settings. Mimi has mentored numerous clinical fellows and SLPs during her years of practice as well as supervised graduate clinicians at the University of Houston as an adjunct professor. Mimi has been involved in administration and management duties for the last 12 years, however, she still sees a small number of private clients to maintain clinical skills. Mimi's interest in CAS began in the late 1990's when little evidence for the existence, diagnosis, or treatment of the disorder existed. Mimi is currently the Clinic Director of The Carruth Center

which is a private outpatient clinic, located on the grounds of The Parish School, offering therapeutic services to children at the school as well as the community at large.

***Disclosures:** There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

### **Kara Cannon, MA, CCC-SLP**

Kara Cannon completed her Bachelor of Arts degree in Communicative Disorders from the University of Central Florida in 2005. She then went on to achieve her Master of Arts degree from the University of Florida in 2008. Kara's knowledge of childhood apraxia of speech took a personal turn when her own son was given the label of CAS when he was 28 months old in 2014. She took trainings and continuing education courses in order to help her son as well as other children with CAS. She started a blog 'Beach House Apraxia' in 2016 as a way to share his story. In a desire to protect his privacy, she relaunched the company in 2023 to highlight the ways Kara can help parents/caregivers with educational advocacy. As a pediatric Speech-Language Pathologist in addition to being the mother of a child with CAS, Kara brings a unique perspective to parents/caregivers.

***Disclosures:** Owner of Beach House Apraxia as well as a partner with an advocacy company. There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

### **Jillian Carlson, MS, CCC-SLP, Recognized by Apraxia Kids for Advanced Training and Expertise in CAS**

Jillian LeVos-Carlson specializes in Speech Sound Disorders. She holds a master's degree from Loma Linda University in Communicative Sciences and Disorders. For the past fifteen years, Jillian has worked in private practice and the public school system. Currently, Jillian runs a boutique private practice in the California Bay Area specializing in Speech Sound Disorders. In addition, she assists SLPs in the school system through assessment, therapy, and workshop support. She also is currently assisting as an anonymous SLP rater for NYU treatment research study. Jillian is passionate about teaching and serving families with a variety of Speech Sound Disorders, specializing in Childhood Apraxia of Speech. She attended one of the CAS Advanced Workshops in California in 2018 with Dr. Edythe Strand, and graduated from the 2021 Apraxia Kids Boot Camp. In addition, she has earned multiple ACE awards focusing on Pediatric Speech Sound Disorders. In her spare time, she enjoys traveling, visiting the ocean, and spending time with her husband and two children.

***Disclosures:** Graduate of Apraxia Kids Intensive Training Program. There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

### **Sarah Carmody, MS, CCC-SLP, Recognized by Apraxia Kids for Advanced Training and Expertise in CAS**

Sarah Carmody is a multilingual pediatric SLP who specializes in assessment and treatment of complex speech production challenges, including CAS. She owns a private practice in southern New Jersey and is an adjunct faculty member at Widener University. As a proud Apraxia Kids Boot Camp graduate, Sarah is committed to supporting apraxia stars and their families, while also working to further knowledge and awareness about CAS in the therapeutic/educational community and beyond!

***Disclosures:** Graduate from and Instructor for Apraxia Kids Intensive Training. Adjunct faculty member Widener University. There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

### **Julie Case, PhD, CCC-SLP**

Julie Case is an Assistant Professor in the Speech-Language-Hearing Sciences Department of Hofstra University. In her research program, Dr. Case studies speech motor control and motor learning in children with apraxia of speech and other speech sound disorders. Dr. Case also investigates the clinical management and treatment efficacy of motor-based intervention in young children with apraxia of speech.

***Disclosures:** Full-time salaried employee at Hofstra University. Research is funded by the Once Upon a Time foundation. There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

### **Sue Caspari, MA, CCC-SLP, Instructor and Clinical Supervisor**

Sue Caspari is a speech-language pathologist and faculty member at Temple University. Sue has over 20 years of experience working with children and adults in a variety of settings including early intervention, private practice and inpatient and outpatient hospital settings, including the Mayo Clinic. Sue has advanced training in and is nationally recognized for her expertise with respect to childhood apraxia of speech (CAS). At Temple, she teaches graduate level courses focused on CAS, and supervises the clinical work of students in the recently established Childhood Apraxia of Speech Treatment, Learning and Evaluation (CASTLE) Center. She frequently gives national and international presentations on the clinical management of CAS, and has published scientific research in top journals since 2008. Sue is a member of the Professional Advisory Council for Apraxia Kids and an instructor for the Apraxia Kids Intensive Training Boot Camp. She is the owner of Caspari and Colleagues, LLC, a group of SLPs dedicated to providing consultation, evaluation and therapy services for children with CAS and other severe speech sound disorders; and the director of an intensive 5-week summer program for children with CAS.

***Disclosures:** Donated videos to the DEMSS Training tapes. Owner of Caspari and Colleagues, LLC. Instructor for Apraxia Kids Intensive Training Program. Member of the Professional Advisory Council for Apraxia Kids. There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

### **Guillermo Cepeda, Father of a Child with Severe CAS**

Guillermo Cepeda is a Partner and shareholder of Horton International in Mexico, having joined and led the company since 2004. Horton International is one of the TOP-40 global executive search firms with more than 40 locations and 50 years of history. Before joining Horton International, Guillermo had extensive multi-country experience working in U.S. and Latin American privately held and publicly listed companies. Guillermo founded and acted as MP of eVision Partners, a private equity group focusing in Latin America and other emerging markets; founded deRemate.com, the leading on-line, consumer-to-consumer trading platform in Latin America; and previously acted as senior manager Latin America for Siebel Systems, among other senior managerial positions in Mexican companies in the Manufacturing and Hospitality industry sectors.

***Disclosures:** There are no relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

### **Alison Chamallas, MS, CCC-SLP, Recognized by Apraxia Kids for Advanced Training and Expertise in CAS**

Alison Chamallas is a speech-language pathologist with over 15 years of experience working with the pediatric population in a variety of settings including early intervention, public schools, and private practice. Alison owns Kidspeak Speech Therapy, LLC in North Reading, Massachusetts, where she works with children and their families. Alison is a recent graduate of Apraxia Kids Boot Camp and is Recognized by Apraxia Kids for Advanced Training and Clinical Expertise in Childhood Apraxia of Speech. Above all, Alison is passionate about helping children reach their full potential, while helping families understand their child's diagnosis and advocate for appropriate treatment.

***Disclosures:** Graduate of Apraxia Kids Intensive Training Program. Owner of Kidspeak Speech Therapy, LLC. There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

### **Mariana Chuy, Founder, Board Member, and Legal Director for Abrapraxia**

Mariana Chuy is a lawyer in a private office, one of the Founders and Legal Director of the Brazilian Association of Childhood Apraxia of Speech (Abrapraxia). She is Gabriel's mother, an awesome boy with CAS.

***Disclosures:** There are no relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

### **Amy Clark, MS, CCC-SLP, PI**

Amy Clark is the Director of Clinical Education for the PROMPT Institute and a treatment clinician at Children's Minnesota with over 25 years of direct clinical practice experience. She has extensive experience working with children with developmental delays, motor speech disorders, autism, and language disorders in a variety of settings. She is a

member of the Apraxia Kids Professional Advisory Council. In addition, she is a nationally recognized speaker on subjects related to motor speech disorders, connecting with caregivers, communicating with colleagues, supervision, and PROMPT. She became a Prompts for Restructuring Oral Muscular Phonetic Targets (PROMPT) Instructor in 2008. Amy has a special interest in motor speech disorders and PROMPT. PROMPT is an integral part of her daily practice and allows her to help a wide variety of patients reach their full potential.

***Disclosures:** Director of Clinical Education of the PROMPT Institute and receives compensation for fulfilling this role from the PROMPT Institute. Member of the Professional Advisory Council for Apraxia Kids. There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

#### **Fabiana Collavini, Founder, Board Member, and President of Abrapraxia**

Fabiana is a business administrator, one of the Founders and President of the Brazilian Association of Childhood Apraxia of Speech (Abrapraxia). She is Ana Beatriz's mother, a lovely girl with CAS.

***Disclosures:** There are no relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

#### **Elina Csapo, Teen with CAS, Founder of Young Able Voices**

Elina Csapo is a 17 year old rising Senior at the Hun School of Princeton in New Jersey. She plays field hockey, golf, and is captain of the rock climbing team. She loves history and finding ways to help make her community a better place. Elina is an active member of the Young Women's Leadership Cohort, the National Honor Society, the National Junior Classical League, the Red Shield Society, the Model UN, and several other clubs. She has also taken part in the MLK Leadership Summit, and three Gender Equity Matters Summits. During her Junior year she took on the role of Peer Leader at Hun, and as a Teen Leader with Corner House of Princeton in a program that aims to stop hate, promote peace, combat bullying and teach the acceptance of others. Elina was adopted from Khabarovsk, Russia at two years old.

Elina developed a nonprofit ([youngablevoices.com](http://youngablevoices.com)) which seeks to help others through 'Young Able Voices' and provides a safe place for kids with hidden disabilities to connect and know they aren't alone. Elina has also won several awards in school for community service, citizenship, and more.

***Disclosures:** There are no relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

#### **Krista Davidson, MS, CCC-SLP**

Krista Davidson is a clinical associate professor at The University of Iowa in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders. She specializes in the education and supervision of graduate student clinicians in the treatment and evaluation of clients with augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) needs across the lifespan. Krista is also the instructor for Iowa's AAC course. She is a member of ASHA's Special Interest Division 11 for Administration and Supervision, SIG 12 for AAC, as well as the International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication (ISAAC). Krista enjoys being active at the local, state, national, and international level on AAC- and supervision-related topics.

***Disclosures:** There are no relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

#### **Isabelle Démosthènes, PhD Candidate, MPO, membre de l'Ordre de orthophonistes et audiologistes du Québec, Recognized by Apraxia Kids for Advanced Training and Expertise in CAS**

Isabelle Démosthènes is a clinician and a researcher interested in motor speech development and motor speech disorders. She is currently pursuing a doctorate in linguistics to improve her knowledge and her understanding of the subject. She also provides services in French to children aged 18 months to 10 years old presenting with a variety of communication challenges (speech sound disorder, childhood apraxia of speech, developmental language disorder, autism spectrum disorder, down syndrome, developmental delays, cognitive impairments) and she has extensive training in childhood apraxia of speech as well as in autism spectrum disorder.

**Disclosures:** Instructor for the PROMPT Institute for which she receives compensation, however, she was not compensated by the PROMPT Institute for this presentation. Fundings to cover travel expenses for this presentation have been granted to Isabelle by UQÀM's Centre de recherche sur le langage, l'esprit et le cerveau. Graduate of Apraxia Kids Intensive Training Program. There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.

**Peggy Earnest, PhD, CCC-SLP**

Peggy M. Earnest, PhD, CCC-SLP is the owner of Columbia Motor Speech Therapy, in Columbia, Connecticut. She has a doctorate in Communication Disorders from the University of Connecticut. She has specialized in treatment of motor-based speech disorders for the past 20 years. Peggy is the author of 'Preschool Motor Speech Evaluation and Intervention' (2000). She is also the author of an award-winning young adult fictional novel entitled 'Nonverbal' (2019). Peggy serves as a motor speech consultant to several school systems in the state of Connecticut and develops program plans for children with complex speech disorders. She is an adjunct professor at the University of Connecticut, teaching Motor Speech Disorders at the graduate level. Peggy has extensive training in several methods of motor speech assessment and intervention and has been a guest on podcasts discussing speech therapy techniques.

**Disclosures:** There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.

**Amber Echols, Author, Apraxia Parent**

Amber Echols is a writer, poet, as well as a literacy and speech advocate. She is the author of the 2022 Best Book Award Winner for "Finding My Voice With a Speech Disorder." Her children's book tells a story about her son, Damarius, and his journey on how he found his voice with a speech disorder. This journey includes the many obstacles he faced such as learning to speak, socializing with others, gaining confidence, dealing with his emotions, keeping up with his school work and more. Amber included resources in the back of her book for families in need of beginning steps for their child.

In September 2022, Amber read and gifted over 200 students at Avondale Meadows Academy with her book and other books to help the students begin or expand their home libraries; in addition to promoting literacy and speech disorders. The students were also gifted with other reading materials and Amber read her book "Finding My Voice With a Speech Disorder." In 2015, Amber was the Apraxia Walk coordinator for Indianapolis, Indiana. She was able to help raise awareness in the community and help raise over \$8,000 for children with CAS. Amber plans to continue raising speech awareness and promoting literacy!

**Disclosures:** Author of a children's book. There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.

**José Marcio Fernandes, Co-Founder, Board Member, and Research & Development Director for Abrapraxia**

José Márcio is a mechanical engineer, Co-Founder and R&D Director of the Brazilian Association of Childhood Apraxia of Speech (Abrapraxia). He is Giovana's father, a lovely girl with CAS.

**Disclosures:** There are no relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.

**Christina Gildersleeve-Neumann, PhD, CCC-SLP, PAC Member for Apraxia Kids**

Christina Gildersleeve-Neumann is Professor and Chair in Speech and Hearing Sciences at Portland State University in Portland, Oregon. She conducts research and teaches on typical and atypical speech development and disorder in monolingual and bilingual children from 3 to 10 years of age, including assessment and treatment of children with childhood apraxia of speech. She has presented and published extensively on these topics.

**Disclosures:** Employed by Portland State University. Receives a consultant fee through a research grant from NIDCD (R01 DC017768; PI: Maas). Member of the Professional Advisory Council for Apraxia Kids. There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.

### **Elisabete Giusti, PhD, SLP, Board Member and Technical Consultant for Apraxia**

Elisabete Giusti has been an SLP for over 25 years with clinical expertise acting in private clinic mainly with CAS children and others speech disorders. She also has a PhD in Linguistics with a focus on children's language. She was an associate researcher of the Speech Language Laboratory at Universidade de São Paulo. She has experience in Speech & Language, mainly: CAS, Development Language Disorder (DLD), evaluation, and diagnosis. She is certified in Hanen Method and Prompt (advanced level). Currently, she is part of the Apraxia technical board as a consultant and scientific coordinator to the CAS training program.

*Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

### **Maria Grigos, PhD, CCC-SLP**

Dr. Maria Grigos is an Associate Professor and Chair in the Department of Communicative Sciences and Disorders at NYU. Her scholarly work combines perceptual, acoustic, and kinematic methods to pursue two lines of research. The first centers on the study of speech motor control and motor learning across the lifespan in both impaired and non-impaired speakers. The second focuses on translational research where she studies the efficacy of motor-based intervention in childhood apraxia of speech.

*Disclosures: Salaried faculty member at New York University. Research support from NIH and the Once Upon a Time Foundation. Member of Professional Advisory Council for Apraxia Kids. There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

### **Ewa Grzelak, MA, SLP, Lecturer at Poznan University of Medical Sciences, Poland**

Ewa Grzelak is an SLP, AAC Trainer, Mówik AAC app trainer, lecturer, and mother to Hubert, her apraxia star who also has autism and uses AAC. Ewa is a passionate SLP skilled in treating childhood apraxia of speech and using AAC to support her clients. Her caseload is 90 percent children with apraxia, and she also works with children with an ASD diagnosis. Ewa's adventure with CAS and AAC started thanks to her son, Hubert; she learned for him and can now help other children. Currently, Ewa teaches private courses, as well as classes in universities.

*Disclosures: There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

### **Ashley Haugen, President and Founder of That Water Bead Lady**

Ashley Haugen is the President & Founder of That Water Bead Lady, a nonprofit dedicated to teaching communities how to protect their most vulnerable members while having fun. Ashley is passionate about consumer product safety, advocacy, and research. Ashley is a mom of two daughters, one who is diagnosed with apraxia of speech.

*Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

### **Paula Hill, Parent**

Paula Hill is a mom of two and fierce advocate of her 6-year-old diagnosed with Childhood Apraxia of Speech and Dyspraxia. Using her professional experience as an attorney and her personal experience as a parent, she became an advocate for apraxia and bilingualism for children with CAS since her daughter's initial diagnosis in 2019. Her own journey to find the appropriate support for her daughter in the middle of a global pandemic reinforced her commitment to spread awareness to help other parents and legal professionals understand this disorder. Her hope is that by raising awareness and sharing resources every kid with CAS will have access to the best support possible for their unique journey. She works to raise awareness in her local community and abroad in Guatemala and Dominican Republic, where she has family, by participating in Walks for Apraxia, and connecting individuals to the programs offered by Apraxia Kids.

*Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

### **Anne Hodits, MA, CCC-SLP/L, Recognized by Apraxia Kids for Advanced Training and Expertise in CAS**

Anne Hodits is a devoted speech-language pathologist (SLP) with over a decade of experience in the field and is the owner of Strive to Thrive Therapy, LLC in Arlington Heights, Illinois. She earned her master's degree in Speech, Language, and Learning from Northwestern University, and has practiced in a variety of educational, medical, and clinical settings. Anne has pursued extensive training in Childhood Apraxia of Speech, leading to her formal recognition as an apraxia specialist from the Apraxia Kids organization. She is a graduate of the Apraxia Kids "Apraxia Boot Camp", an intensive advanced training program designed to intensively train and advance the clinical expertise of selected speech therapists in the diagnosis and treatment of childhood apraxia of speech (CAS).

Anne has also been presented with an ACE Award from the national American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) for her dedication to professional learning. Along with her clinical contributions, Anne is currently serving on the Board of Directors for a special needs preschool that opened in Fall 2022.

***Disclosures:** Graduate of Apraxia Kids Intensive Training Program. There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

### **Sydney Keller, BA**

Sydney Keller is a first-year graduate student at New York University studying Communicative Sciences and Disorders. She graduated from Temple University in 2022 with a Bachelor of Arts in Speech, Language, and Hearing Science. She is a research assistant at NYU's Motor Speech Lab and is currently working on her master's thesis. Her research interests include childhood apraxia of speech treatment, survey development, and clinician training. Following graduation, Sydney intends to work with children and pursue a career in research.

***Disclosures:** There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

### **Avital (Tali) Kellerstein, S-LP (C), PROMPT Cert., Recognized by Apraxia Kids for Advanced Training and Expertise in CAS**

Tali Kellerstein is a pediatric speech-language pathologist and founder of The Speak Boutique. She is passionate about helping children improve their speech skills in fun and creative ways. Having started her career in the motor speech program at The Speech and Stuttering Institute, Tali particularly enjoys working with kindergarten and school-aged children with Childhood Apraxia of Speech. She is PROMPT Certified and a graduate of Apraxia Kids Intensive Training Boot Camp. Her Party Animals! line of products brings her insight and playful intervention style to parents and practitioners alike.

***Disclosures:** Founder and CEO of The Speak Boutique which publishes resources to support children's speech and language skills. Graduate of Apraxia Kids Intensive Training Program. There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

### **AJ Kikumoto, BA, MaEd, Author, Parent to Children with CAS**

AJ Kikumoto is the mom of 6 children, 4 of whom are diagnosed with CAS. She has 12 years of therapy experience with her children including Speech, OT, PT, Behavior Modification, and Psychology. AJ is a children's book author and created the book series "Zoey's Great Adventures - Learns to Talk." Based on their own adventures and challenges with Apraxia of Speech, Hippotherapy or horse therapy became a new modality of helping her kids learn to talk. She is also the Founder and CEO of Queen Publishing Agency. AJ volunteers extensively with numerous organizations including Sock-It-To-Em Sock Campaign, Starstruck Academy of Dance Special Angels, Special Olympics, Highlands Ranch Serves, Feeding of the 5000, local schools, and community walks including Alzheimer's, Autism Speaks, Aruna Project, but most importantly Apraxia Kids Walk!

***Disclosures:** Author of children's book series. There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

### **Nicole Kolenda, MS, CCC-SLP, PC**



Nicole Kolenda is a NYS licensed/ASHA certified pediatric speech and language pathologist with over 20 years of experience. Her specialty is pediatric motor speech disorders. Nicole is the lead SLP on a Childhood Apraxia of Speech treatment study at the NYU Motor Speech Lab. She also teaches at New York University and frequently writes for parenting magazines and blogs.

***Disclosures:** There are no relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

#### **Jessica Kong, RBT, Lead Special Education Teacher & Autism Mom**

Jessica Ann Kong, RBT is a Special Education Consultant at her own company, Jessica Ann Kong, and a Special Education Teacher working at Autism Solutions Academy in Utah. Jessica received her RBT certification while living in Alaska and worked with teenagers and young adults with autism utilizing ABA and PBS models. She was first introduced to Autism as a Special Needs Sibling when her brother was diagnosed in the early 1990's and later became a Special Needs Parent herself. Her oldest son utilizes a 504, while her youngest son was diagnosed with Autism and utilizes an IEP. Jessica completed the Master IEP Coach Course in 2018 in hopes of creating positive change to the Special Education System. She has extensive hands-on experience consulting parents and teachers in several states to create collaborative and inclusive environments for students with disabilities.

***Disclosures:** There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

#### **Stacey Landberg, MS, CCC-SLP**

Stacey Landberg, MS, CCC-SLP is a thought-leader, an early interventionist, a speech-language pathologist, a national guest speaker, and a part time lecturer in the communication sciences and disorders department at California State University East Bay. Stacey has spent 18 years working with families through early intervention home-visiting across Los Angeles and also in her private practice where she specializes in CAS and sCAS. She collaborates with researchers in order to disseminate evidence related to adult learning principles and family-centered practice through her professional development workshops. In 2020 Stacey secured nonprofit and university partnerships to develop a professional development learning community (Coach2Coach), which is running its fourth cohort (2023) for providing education and support to professionals working in early intervention across four continents.

***Disclosures:** Member of ASHA. Owns an early intervention professional development group and receives funds from that group. Employed by California State University - East Bay. There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

#### **Lou LaVecchia, Apraxia Kids Board Chair**

Lou LaVecchia joined Apraxia Kids as a board member in 2016. His son, Jayden, was diagnosed with severe apraxia of speech at 4 years old. Presently, Jayden has been declared resolved. Lou has a proven record of working with his school district to improve the appropriate services for children in need of speech services. He has presented seminars at the 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021, and 2022 Apraxia Kids National Conferences. He works to raise awareness through local events, including attending Walks for Apraxia.

Lou achieved a Bachelor of Science in Business Management and Organization from the University of Central Connecticut. He currently is the vice president of All Seasons Landscaping Inc. (ASL) a construction company located in Connecticut. There he is responsible for coordinating and directing all field operations as well as managing all administrative operations.

***Disclosures:** Board Chair for Apraxia Kids. There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

#### **Katherine Le, BS**

Katherine Le is a mother of a child with CAS. She graduated from Texas A&M with a Bachelors of Science in Kinesiology and Biology. She has worked as a teacher and has managed a medical practice in Fort Worth since 2014. Her 10 year old daughter was diagnosed with Apraxia at 4 years old. After her daughter's CAS diagnosis in 2017, Katherine has enjoyed being part of the planning committee for the 2017-2022 North Texas Walk for Apraxia. Katherine created a college

scholarship in 2019 for graduating seniors who were diagnosed with CAS. Since the creation of the scholarship, each year a graduating senior has been recognized for overcoming the challenges of Apraxia and these seniors have shared their own experiences with Apraxia as an inspiration to others. Katherine is passionate about educating others who are part of her child's life about Apraxia and will provide the parents' perspective of her daughter's Apraxia journey.

***Disclosures:** There are no relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

#### **Megan Leece, MS, CCC-SLP**

Megan Leece earned her master's degree in Speech-Language Pathology from Northwestern University in 1999, and moved to Central New York to start a career as an SLP. Megan completed her CF working in a health care setting, then moved to a school setting where she worked as a school-based SLP for 9 years. In 2010, Megan joined the clinical faculty of Syracuse University where she worked as a supervisor in the on-site Gebbie Speech-Language-Hearing Clinic. When Dr. Preston arrived in 2014, she became the Project Manager of the Speech Production Lab. In her time in the lab, they have been involved in multiple NIH-funded research projects studying biofeedback treatments for residual speech sound errors, including those due to Childhood Apraxia of Speech. In 2019, Megan followed her passion for research and left the clinical faculty to work in the lab full-time. In the lab, she coordinates various studies with the IRB, creates protocols, treats study participants, coordinate/train lab volunteers, manage/troubleshoot data collection, and manage social media outreach. Outside of research, Megan spends her evenings coordinating carpools with her husband getting 2 boys to various music rehearsals and soccer practices, watching cat videos on Instagram, and reading.

***Disclosures:** Receives salary from Syracuse University; salary is fully supported via grant funds from NIH/NIDCD and NHMRC. There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

#### **Josh Lowe**

Josh Lowe is a young adult who just finished his Degree at University in Digital Marketing. In his spare time he likes to play hockey and football, whilst also watching other sports. Josh and Mikey did a talk at the 2022 Apraxia Kids National Conference in Las Vegas and are excited to speak at this event again!

***Disclosures:** There are no relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

#### **Mary Maczuga, MS, CCC-SLP, Recognized by Apraxia Kids for Advanced Training and Expertise in CAS**

Mary Maczuga is a speech-language pathologist specializing in childhood apraxia of speech. After graduating from Duquesne University in 2011, Mary worked at an approved private school for children with special needs in Malvern, Pennsylvania, where she helped develop and was the lead SLP of a classroom specifically designed for students with CAS. After starting a family, Mary went on to work in early intervention, where she enjoyed educating families on CAS and coaching parents on strategies specific to CAS. In August 2021, Mary attended and graduated from the Apraxia Kids Intensive Training Boot Camp and is now Recognized by Apraxia Kids for Advanced Training and Expertise in CAS. Since completing boot camp, Mary has opened her own private practice in the Buffalo NY area, Speech Connections Therapeutic Services, and focuses on treatment of speech sound disorders.

***Disclosures:** Graduate of Apraxia Kids Intensive Training Program. There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

#### **Tricia McCabe, PhD (BAppISP), FSPAA, CPSP**

Professor Tricia McCabe's research, clinical practice, and teaching are focused on improving speech pathology treatments for children and adults with moderate-severe speech disorders including apraxia, dysarthria, and phonological disorders. She is interested in the application of the principles of motor learning to speech pathology in

speech, voice, fluency, and swallowing. She uses biofeedback (eg ultrasound) as a means of improving therapy outcomes. Professor McCabe is a member of the board of speechbite.com and as a result, does research into E3BP.

Tricia McCabe is Professor of Speech Pathology in the School of Health Sciences at the University of Sydney. She is also Honorary Professor of Speech Pathology in South Western Sydney Local Health District, and a member of the External Advisory Committee for the CUHK Department of Speech Pathology. In 2019 Tricia was awarded Fellow of Speech Pathology Australia and Senior Fellowship by the UK Higher Education Academy.

***Disclosures:** Member of the Professional Advisory Council for Apraxia Kids. AI on a grant about CAS to Highman from Apraxia Kids. There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

### **Angela McKee, Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA), Licensed Behavior Analyst (LBA), M.Ed Special Education**

Angela McKee is a professional in the area of Special Education, as well as a parent of a child with Childhood Apraxia of Speech. Professionally, Angela has worked in the field of special education for 12 years as a classroom teacher, behavior specialist, and currently as a Board Certified Behavior Analyst for Mansfield ISD. Her areas of expertise include the Individualized Education Plan process and development as well as behavior analysis and interventions specific to social-emotional development. Angela also has a 12-year-old son with CAS and has spent years working and collaborating with various educators and parents regarding best practices for a child with CAS in the school system in regard to IEP goals, academic and behavioral accommodations, and interventions that go beyond speech and language deficits. In her free time, she enjoys traveling the country with her family and working out with Camp Gladiator.

***Disclosures:** There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

### **Natalia Mir, MS, CCC-SLP, PI**

Natalia Mir is an ASHA certified bilingual speech-language pathologist in Florida. She completed her Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology at University of Buenos Aires, Argentina. She is licensed in Florida and in New York State as a Speech-Language Pathologist and as a Teacher of Speech and Language Disabilities. Natalia earned her New York State Bilingual Certification at Teachers College, Columbia University. She has more than 20 years of clinical practice working in the NYS Early Intervention program, schools, and hospital settings. She has also taught as teaching assistant at the University of Buenos Aires. She became a Prompts for Restructuring Oral Muscular Phonetic Targets (PROMPT) Instructor in 2010 and is an international speaker. Natalia has worked with a variety of disabilities including motor speech disorders, developmental language delays, and Autism.

***Disclosures:** PROMPT Institute contract employee, which entails conducting PROMPT Instructor responsibilities. There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

### **Elizabeth Murray, Speech Pathologist, PhD in Childhood Apraxia of Speech**

Dr. Elizabeth (Liz) Murray is a Certified Practicing Speech Pathologist who works in clinical practice and is the director of Remarkable Speech and Movement in Sydney, Australia. She is also a researcher in Childhood Apraxia of Speech (CAS) working with The University of Sydney and funders, The Once Upon a Time Foundation in the US, and the National Health and Medical Research Centre in Australia. She has attracted over 3 million dollars in research, has over 20 research publications, and her work is widely cited. She has completed 4 systematic reviews, multiple diagnostic papers, and the world-first randomized control trial in the Nuffield treatment versus the Rapid Syllable Transition treatment. She now works with an international team on diagnosis and treatment using Dynamic Temporal and Tactile Cueing. She is passionate about helping children with CAS and families get the best outcomes possible through effective diagnosis and evidence-based and data-driven treatment and translating research into practice.

***Disclosures:** Owner of Remarkable Speech and Movement, a private practice in Australia. Honorary lecturer at The University of Sydney. There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

### **Aravind Namasivayam, PhD, SLP(C), Reg.CASLPO**

Aravind Namasivayam received his PhD in Speech-Language Pathology with a specialized certification in Neuroscience in 2008 from the University of Toronto. Dr. Namasivayam is currently a Research Associate at the Department of Speech-Language Pathology, University of Toronto. He has published 40 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters and has over 60 international conference presentations and workshops. Dr. Namasivayam is also a reviewer for several speech-pathology journals. Dr. Namasivayam has received several awards at the national and international level from various organizations, such as the American Speech-Language and Hearing Association (USA), Stuttering foundation of America (SFA), Apraxia Kids (formerly known as CASANA), and more recently the prestigious National award for Excellence in Applied Research (2016) and the Mentorship award from the Speech-Language and Audiology (SAC), Canada. He is also the recipient of the Teaching Excellence award (2018) and the Distinguished Service Award (2019) from the Department of Speech-Language Pathology, University of Toronto. His clinical and research interests include motor speech disorders, sensory-motor integration, and motor skill learning. He routinely teaches speech physiology, research methods, and speech sound disorders in children at the University of Toronto. In 2018, he founded the Speech Research Centre Inc. which is a knowledge translation and implementation science group with the aim of making evidence-informed practice accessible to frontline clinicians worldwide. Dr. Namasivayam is also the co-founder of Hear2Speak.org, a nonprofit organization for improving speech pathology and audiology services in majority countries.

***Disclosures:** Received grants from Kaufman Center and Prompt Institute between 2013 and 2021, although unrelated to this Ministry of Children and Youth Services, Government of Ontario Funded study. There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

#### **Marcus Neal, MS, CCC-SLP, PCI**

Marcus Neal is the owner of two private practice clinics in Austin, Texas, where he and his colleagues provide speech-language services to children ranging in age from 2-14 years old with a wide variety of motor speech, language, and developmental disorders. He is a PROMPT Instructor and has spoken around the country. Marcus strives to ensure a compassionate and family-focused therapy experience that integrates all aspects of PROMPT in order to provide the highest quality treatment possible. He graduated from the University of Texas and later received his Master's degree from the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP). He holds his national Certificate of Clinical Competence and is licensed in the state of Texas.

***Disclosures:** PROMPT Institute contract employee, which entails conducting PROMPT Instructor responsibilities. There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

#### **Samantha Novick, MS, CCC-SLP, Recognized by Apraxia Kids for Advanced Training and Expertise in CAS**

Samantha Novick is a speech-language pathologist and owner of Bridge Therapy, a private speech therapy practice in South Florida. She is Recognized by Apraxia Kids for Advanced Training and Expertise in Childhood Apraxia of Speech and served as the Volunteer Walk Coordinator for the 2022 South Florida Walk for Apraxia. Samantha is a LAMP Certified Professional. She graduated from the University of Florida and earned her master's degree in speech-language pathology at Nova Southeastern University with high honors. Samantha serves as President of The Friendship Journey, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that creates authentic connections amongst friends of all abilities through meaningful experiences. In 2020 during the peak of the Covid-19 crisis, Samantha developed a virtual summer camp for teens and adults with disabilities, Camp Wings of Friendship, at no cost to campers. Camp Wings of Friendship has since served hundreds of families from over 20 states across the country. Samantha is passionate about amplifying the voices of others and cultivating accessible spaces through her professional and volunteer work.

***Disclosures:** Graduate of Apraxia Kids Intensive Training Program. There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

#### **Irina Podda, SLP**

Irina Podda is a speech-language pathologist who provides assessment and therapy to a pediatric population with speech and language disorders in Genova, Italy. She holds a research contract with the Stella Maris Foundation in Calambrone, Pisa, Italy, a university hospital serving children with neuropsychiatric conditions. She is involved in

research projects funded by the Italian National Ministry of Healthcare and by private institutions (i.e. the PROMPT Institute) aimed at studying in a multidimensional perspective (speech, language and neuropsychological profiles, neuroimaging and genetics), Childhood Apraxia of Speech and Dysarthria.

***Disclosures:** PROMPT Certified Instructor. There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

#### **Amy Pollpeter, MS, PhD Student**

Amy Pollpeter is the mom of two amazing boys, aged 9 and 7. Her 7 year old Apraxia Star was diagnosed with Apraxia at the age of 4.5 after 3 years of speech therapy with little success. At 4.5, he had approximately 5 intelligible words, and a few others that only family could understand. Now at the age of 7, he is 80-90% intelligible (still working on some specific sounds and sound transitions), but loves to talk and rarely stops! After working in forensics for 10 years, Amy is currently pursuing a PhD in Bioinformatics and hoping to pursue an academic position after completing the degree.

***Disclosures:** There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

#### **Caitlin Raaz, PhD, CCC-SLP**

Caitlin Raaz is an Assistant Professor of Communication Sciences and Disorders at the University of Northern Colorado. Her research interests include evidence-based treatment for children with severe speech sound disorders, genetic etiologies of communication disorders, and novel service delivery models for the treatment of speech and voice disorders.

***Disclosures:** Receives a salary from the University of Northern Colorado which will be referenced in this presentation. There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

#### **Shivani Raina, Speech-Language Pathologist**

Dr. Shivani Raina is a licensed speech-language pathologist and New Jersey certified speech-language specialist. Dr. Raina evaluates and treats articulation, language, and cognitive communication disorders, as well as neurogenic stuttering. She practices at the Speech Language Institute in New Jersey. Her research work focuses on culturally responsive intervention and treatment practices.

***Disclosures:** There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

#### **Jennifer Sakowicz, MS, CCC-SLP, Recognized by Apraxia Kids for Advanced Training and Expertise in CAS**

Jennifer Sakowicz is a pediatric speech-language pathologist specializing in apraxia and language-literacy who owns her own practice, Pediatric Communication Center, in Rocky Hill, Connecticut. She is a graduate of Apraxia Kids Boot Camp, a volunteer for the Greater Hartford Walk for Apraxia, and has presented on CAS at both the 2019 and 2020 Apraxia Kids Conferences. She has also presented at the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association's (ASHA) National Convention with colleagues on the role of speech-language pathologists' involvement with literacy. Jennifer is PROMPT Level 1 trained and has completed the Social Thinking Level 1A Training in Boston, Massachusetts.

***Disclosures:** Graduate of Apraxia Kids Intensive Training Program. There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

#### **Amy Salera, Community Engagement Manager for Apraxia Kids**

Amy Salera is a staff member at Apraxia Kids and a parent of a child with apraxia of speech. As a staff member, she focuses on awareness and fundraising efforts, including the Walk for Apraxia and Be the Voice programs. She values these programs as a way to connect the apraxia community, educate others, and sustain the mission of Apraxia Kids.

Amy has also utilized many other resources offered by Apraxia Kids when supporting and advocating for her own child, and uses her experience as a parent to assist those who are on the same journey. She is passionate about apraxia of speech becoming recognized and accepted so that others understand the common complications of this disorder and is always willing to answer questions, share ideas, and tell her story in order to motivate a positive change for future generations.

***Disclosures:*** Staff member for Apraxia Kids. There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.

#### **Jocelyn Stargell-Zachery, Author, Advocate, and Walk for Apraxia Coordinator**

Jocelyn Stargell-Zachery is a US-based author, mom, advocate, and the current Atlanta Walk for Apraxia coordinator. She published the children's book "Tristan Finds His... Voice" in 2021 which was written based on the true story of the author's son, who was diagnosed with apraxia of speech (CAS). The book's sole purpose is to raise awareness about this neurological speech disorder and give hope to parents and caregivers as well as children struggling with this disorder. "This disorder has taught me many things, but patience has to be the skill that I am most grateful for." She attended Savannah State University where she graduated Magna Cum Laude with her BA in Mass Communications and has worked in digital marketing for over 5+ years.

***Disclosures:*** Author of a children's book. There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.

#### **Ruth Stoeckel, PhD, CCC-SLP**

Dr. Ruth Stoeckel is a Mayo Clinic emeritus SLP. She has worked as a clinician and independent consultant in schools, private practice, private rehabilitation agency, and clinic. Dr. Stoeckel is on the Professional Advisory Council of Apraxia Kids. She has presented nationally and internationally on motor speech disorders and related developmental issues and served as instructor of the Apraxia Kids Intensive Training Institute. Dr. Stoeckel has contributed as a co-author to multiple scholarly articles on the topic of childhood motor speech disorders.

***Disclosures:*** Medbridge revenue share. ASHA remuneration for presentations and webinars. Instructor for Apraxia Kids Intensive Training Program. Member of the Professional Advisory Council for Apraxia Kids. There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.

#### **Edythe Strand, PhD**

Dr. Edythe Strand is Emeritus Professor of Speech Pathology, Mayo College of Medicine. Her publications include many articles focused on assessment and treatment of acquired, progressive and childhood apraxia of speech. She is an ASHA Fellow and has been awarded Honors of the Association by ASHA, as well as the Frank R. Kleffner Lifetime Clinical Career Award.

***Disclosures:*** There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.

#### **Melissa Taberski, MS, CCC-SLP, Recognized by Apraxia Kids for Advanced Training and Expertise in CAS**

Melissa Taberski graduated from Penn State University in 2006. After spending time as an SLP in the school setting, she settled into her private practice in 2019 with a focus on speech sound disorders and Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC). Her private practice is located in Rochester, New York but she provides teletherapy to clients in New Hampshire and Maine. Melissa attended the Apraxia Kids Boot Camp in 2021. As the mom of a son with Apraxia, this is both a personal and professional passion for Melissa.

***Disclosures:*** Graduate of Apraxia Kids Intensive Training Program. There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.

#### **Priscila Tamplain, PhD**

Dr. Priscila Tamplain is an Associate Professor in the Department of Kinesiology and the Director of the Developmental Motor Cognition Lab at the University of Texas at Arlington. She holds a B.S. and M.S. in Kinesiology from the Federal University of Parana and a Ph.D. in Motor Neuroscience from Texas A&M University (2011). Her research focuses on motor development specific to assessment, mechanisms, and interventions in typical and atypical development, and is particularly interested in children with Developmental Coordination Disorder (DCD) and related conditions. She is also the founder of the Little Mavs Movement Academy (LMMA), a community-based motor skill intervention program for children and adolescents with movement/coordination difficulties. She is extensively published in the motor development field, and has been the recipient of the Lolás E. Halverson Motor Development Young Investigator Award (2013), a distinction given in recognition of outstanding contributions to her research in motor development and learning, and the Early Career Distinguished Scholar Award by Naspasa (2017), for outstanding achievement of scholars who are still in the early stage of their scientific careers.

***Disclosures:** There are no relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

#### **Juliane Tosin, Founder, Board Member, and Vice President for Apraxia**

Juliane Tosin is a mechanical engineer. She is one of the founders and the Vice President of the Brazilian Association of Childhood Apraxia of Speech (Abraproxia). She is Giovana's mother, a lovely girl with CAS.

***Disclosures:** Graduate of Apraxia Kids Intensive Training Program. There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

#### **Alayna Townsend, PhD, CCC-SLP, Recognized by Apraxia Kids for Advanced Training and Expertise in CAS**

Dr. Alayna E. Townsend is a clinical educator and lecturer at the University of Houston in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders. She specializes in the assessment and intervention of infants and young children with suspected or diagnosed autism spectrum disorder (ASD). She has experience in providing school based speech and language intervention to children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. She had been recognized by Apraxia Kids for Advanced Training in childhood apraxia of speech. Dr. Townsend earned her master's degree at the University of Cincinnati and her doctoral degree at Howard University. She completed her postdoctoral clinical fellowship in the early diagnosis of ASD at the UT Physicians Center for Autism and Related Conditions.

***Disclosures:** Graduate of Apraxia Kids Intensive Training Program. There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

#### **Hannah Valentine, MS, CCC-SLP, Doctoral Student**

Hannah Valentine is a speech-language pathologist and doctoral student at New York University. Hannah works in the Motor Speech Lab in the Communicative Sciences and Disorders Department under advisement from Maria Grigos, PhD, CCC-SLP. Hannah's current research projects focus on early identification and intervention for childhood apraxia of speech. She specializes in perceptual, acoustic, and survey methods.

Hannah received her masters in speech-language pathology from University of Washington and her bachelors in speech, language, and hearing sciences from University of Colorado in Boulder. Hannah worked as a clinical speech-language pathologist in early intervention for three years before returning to academia to pursue research.

***Disclosures:** Doctoral student at New York University and receives a fellowship stipend. This project is supported by a grant from Apraxia Kids. There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

#### **Shelley Velleman, PhD, CCC-SLP, ASHA Fellow, FNAP**

Shelley Velleman is a member of the Professional Advisory Council for Apraxia Kids, and Professor of Communication Sciences and Disorders at the University of Vermont. Her work focuses on speech development in children with pediatric motor speech disorders, especially childhood apraxia of speech. She also specializes in neurodevelopmental syndromes

including 7q11.23 duplication syndrome, Williams syndrome, autism spectrum disorder, and Down syndrome. She presents at scientific conferences and workshops around the U.S. and the world and has published many articles and three books. She is a Fellow of ASHA and the National Academies of Practice.

***Disclosures:** Member of the Professional Advisory Council for Apraxia Kids. Received funds from various institutions/agencies to study speech development and disorders, including from Apraxia Kids. There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

### **Breanna Waldrup, MS, CCC-SLP, Recognized by Apraxia Kids for Advanced Training and Expertise in CAS**

Breanna Waldrup is a speech-language pathologist and the owner of Apraxia Dallas. She is a graduate of the Apraxia Kids Training Institute and is recognized as having Advanced Training and Expertise in Childhood Apraxia of Speech (CAS). Breanna has specialized in the diagnosis and treatment of CAS for over 11 years and has attended numerous continuing education courses on CAS. She has presented at a number of regional and national conferences and provided trainings for school districts on the diagnosis and treatment of CAS since 2016.

***Disclosures:** Owner of Apraxia Dallas. Volunteer Walk Coordinator for North Texas Walk for Apraxia. Graduate of Apraxia Kids Intensive Training Program. There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

### **Emily Wang, CCC-SLP**

Emily W. Wang is a PhD candidate in the Department of Communicative Sciences and Disorders at New York University under the advisement of Dr. Maria Grigos. Her research interests include speech motor control and development, with a particular interest in best practices for assessing and treating bilingual speakers, as well as exploring clinical outcomes for children diagnosed with motor-based impairments.

***Disclosures:** Recipient of Apraxia Kids Doctoral Student Research Grant. There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*

### **Eddy Wong, Speech Therapist in Hong Kong**

Eddy CH Wong graduated from the University of Hong Kong and qualified as a speech therapist in Hong Kong in 2007. He later obtained his Master of Philosophy from the Chinese University of Hong Kong. He is currently pursuing a PhD on apraxia of speech at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University. Eddy has extensive clinical experience in managing children with speech sound disorders, especially assessing and treating Cantonese-speaking children with childhood apraxia of speech. Eddy teaches at universities, speaks at continuing professional development events, and supervises student clinicians in both general speech therapy clinical placements and specialty clinics. Eddy also publishes and reviews papers in peer-reviewed journals, as well as presents at local and international conferences.

***Disclosures:** There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.*