SFA Announces First Annual Award Winners In Journalism

The Stuttering Foundation of America recently announced its 1992-93 Awards for excellence in reporting that furthers the public’s understanding of this complex disorder.

“We are very pleased by the increased attention that print and electronic journalists are giving to the causes and treatment of stuttering,” said Jane Fraser, president of the non-profit foundation. “The numerous entries reflect clearly that stuttering is receiving much more professional and serious attention from the news media.”

Four journalists in distinct categories are equally honored this year for their outstanding contributions. They are:

- **Dawn Drago of The Reading Eagle/Times** in Pennsylvania for her article entitled “Struggling to Speak.”

Winner in our larger print publication category, this article provides several suggestions to parents on what to listen for if they think their child is stuttering and may need speech therapy. Additionally, it offers ideas for speaking to someone who stutters and points out parental behaviors that can help the child.

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The Today Show Features Bob Love and SFA Toll-free Hotline

During the month of June, an unprecedented 11,430 calls came into the SFA hotline as on June 1st NBC The Today Show aired a very moving segment on National Stuttering Awareness Week Chairman Bob Love and his struggles and success in dealing with stuttering.

NBC Host Bryant Gumbel announced, “Bob Love works closely with an excellent group, the Stuttering Foundation of America.” The toll-free 1-800-992-9392 was then highlighted.

Almost instantaneously, the phones lit up. At midnight, SFA’s Joe Fulcher was still responding to back-to-back calls, and for weeks the entire staff was working overtime.

WGN Focuses on “Chicago’s Very Own”

Hundreds of calls came in from Chicago superstation WGN viewers nationally when Maureen Wolf’s fine segment on Bob Love also included SFA’s toll-free number.

20/20 Segment Inspires Thousands

Dean Irwin of 20/20 produced a stirring and inspirational segment on Bob Love. Excellent footage showed Bob’s early career, his days at Nordstrom’s, his work with speech-language pathologist Susan Hamilton, and his successes with the Chicago Bulls.

20/20 operators have given ABC viewers the SFA hotline number and as a result, calls are still coming in from people all over the country who were touched by Bob’s courage and determination.

Eighth Edition of Self Therapy Now Available

The 192-page **Self Therapy for the Stutterer** by Malcolm Fraser is now in its eighth edition. Since its first edition in 1978, it has reached over 500,000 individuals.

The eighth edition is attractively illustrated. An updated question and answer section includes “Some Final Thoughts about Stuttering,” by Dr. Charles Van Riper, “What Causes a Child to Stutter,” by Dr. Edward G. Conture, a current list of support groups and many other topics of interest.

The book has been translated into French, German, Japanese, Flemish, Persian, and Lithuanian and has been distributed in 59 countries around the world.
Stuttering Foundation and Northwestern University Host Eighth Workshop

JULY 12–24, 1993

The Memphis-based Stuttering Foundation of America and Northwestern University hosted their eighth annual instructional workshop for speech-language pathologists specializing in stuttering from July 12 through July 24, 1993.

Each year, 21 speech pathologists from around the world with a special interest in stuttering are accepted to participate in the workshop. Under the leadership of Dr. Hugo Gregory, the workshop is organized to focus on therapeutic skills and techniques for intervention with children and adults.

The amount of information I’ve learned is tremendous,” said Steen Fibiger of Denmark. He notes that in Denmark, with far fewer speech pathologists, getting new ideas is difficult.

This unique workshop has gained international recognition for its excellence in the post-graduate study of stuttering.

Special Donation From Class of 1993

This year’s class of 1993 made a generous donation of $250.00 to the Stuttering Foundation of America to honor Dr. Hugo Gregory, director of the workshop. “This gift is particularly meaningful to us,” said Jane Fraser, president of SFA. “It acknowledges the confidence the workshop participants place in the work we are doing on behalf of those who stutter,” she added. The gift was presented by Karin Wexler of New York during the closing ceremony.
SFA-Fountain Valley Conference in Long Beach is “Hot!”

The program, the participants, and the weather were all hot on June 11-12 in Long Beach, California for the Stuttering Therapy: Practical Ideas for the School Clinician SFA Seminar! Co-sponsored by the Stuttering Foundation of America and the Fountain Valley School District this year, the annual seminar, designed expressly for speech language pathologists in the schools, was held at the Long Beach Sheraton Hotel. Over 135 school-based professionals heard and interacted with fluency experts and clinicians—Peter Ramig, Barry Guitar, Dean Williams, June Schroeder, Sonia Daniels, Mary Johns, Mark Power, Richard Forcucci, Ellen Bennett, and Susan Cochrane.

Dr. Judy Montgomery greets participants at lunch during Long Beach Conference.

The unique format of presentation followed by discussion groups received rave reviews, and networks of clinicians and researchers quickly formed. Participants also responded enthusiastically to the

Dr. Richard Forcucci uses lively graphics to make his point.

Saturday morning case presentations which highlighted successful fluency programs actually operating in schools in 5 states. The videotapes of students in pre and post intervention sequences were dramatic and reinforced the important role of school SLP’s for children and adolescents who stutter.

Thank you to all the presenters and participants for an outstanding professional event.

—Judy K. Montgomery, Ph.D.

SFA Addresses Advisory Council of NIDCD

On May 20th, 1993, Jane Fraser and Joseph Fulcher of SFA addressed the Advisory Council of the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders on the programs of the Stuttering Foundation and their relevance to the NIDCD.

Ms. Fraser’s presentation included a brief history and an overview of Foundation programs. Mr. Fulcher discussed how Foundation projects are financed and gave an explanation of the “private operating foundation” 4942(j)(3) status and how it benefits SFA.

In a recent letter, John C. Dalton, Ph.D. of NIDCD, wrote, “On behalf of Dr. Snow and the NIDCD, I thank you for your excellent presentations to the Council.”

The Stuttering Foundation of America is a tax-exempt organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and is classified as a private operating foundation as defined in section 4942(j)(3). Charitable contributions and bequests to the Foundation are tax deductible, subject to limitations under the Code.
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• Natalie Pardo of The Chicago Defender for “Experts Speak Out About Stuttering.” Recipient in the smaller print publication category, this excellent feature piece vividly describes the emotions and thoughts of two Chicago young people who are coping with a stuttering problem. It also provides solid information on the facts and myths surrounding stuttering, and provides information on how the local public can make contact with qualified speech clinicians.

• Robert A. Wallace, Ed.D., of Tween 12 and 20, a syndicated column of the Chicago Tribune Media Services. Winner in the syndicated column category, Dr. Wallace’s advice to teenagers appears in over 100 newspapers nationwide. On four separate occasions, he has answered questions on stuttering, provided solid advice about its treatment at an early age, and specifically referred his readers to additional publications and sources of information on how to contact speech clinicians.

• American Medical Television for the segment entitled “Living Well America! — Stuttering.” Winner in the foundation’s electronic media category, this half hour program provides a news magazine format that focuses one segment on young people who stutter and showed therapy being conducted in a speech-language clinic. “Living Well America!” is broadcast on CNBC every Saturday and Sunday and is produced by American Medical Television, a partnership between the American Medical Association and NBC Cable.

Each of the Stuttering Foundation of America 1992-93 winners received a cash award of $250.