

The SAY:Voice

The Stuttering Association for the Young

NEWSLETTER



CAMPSAY: SPECIAL EDITION
A Summer Camp for Young People Who Stutter Summer 2021

CAMP SAY: 2021

SAY was overjoyed to return to Camp SAY IN-PERSON this summer! Your continued support and dedication made it possible to safely bring 135+ young people who stutter together to form profound connections and discover their voices.

From the bottom of our hearts -
Thank you, thank you, thank you...

...for your support and your involvement

...for your vulnerability and bravery

...for your compassion and care

...for being what makes this community
so very special

YOU are the good news we need
in the world!!!



THANK YOU SAY: SUPPORTERS!

Safety measures like full camp COVID testing, pods, masks, and sanitizer, as well as high travel costs meant there was a heavy financial lift to make camp possible this year. And it happened because of you!

The vast majority of camp is made possible by SAY community members who donate. THANK YOU!

After a deeply challenging year, children who stutter were able to find their voices, thanks to you. SAY is only possible because of individuals who believe children who stutter deserve to find happiness, and it wouldn't happen without you.

SAY and the families we serve are forever grateful for our community of support!

Every day at
CAMPSAY:
was packed
WITH activities



and OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT!



Every evening at Camp SAY, the entire camp gathers together for an all-camp activity. This summer's exciting and inventive evening activities ranged from side-splitting fun to profound shares about being a person who stutters.



Stuttering Talkback



Carnival



Shark Tank



This is How We Move!



Camp SAY Project Runway

**SPECIAL THANKS
TO**



Everyone was IN!

Camp SAY 2021 was so fortunate to be sponsored in part by the incredibly generous **JOANN Fabric & Craft Stores!** JOANN provided our campers with everything a kid could dream about for crafts, costumes, games, decorations and more!

Thank you for being a model ally, JOANN!

CAMPSAY: Campfires

On the first and last nights of Camp SAY, the whole camp gathers around our campfire to connect. On the final night, the floor is opened to anyone who wants to speak. Campers are encouraged to share anything they'd like to share, in a community of total acceptance and support.

For many children who stutter, taking a step to speak openly to a group of nearly 200 people might be the bravest thing they have ever done. Whether they share or not, every camper leaves the campfire knowing that they are **seen**, they are **heard**, and they are **loved**.

They leave with a critical truth in their hearts: **their voices matter**.



Ashes Ceremony

The annual Ashes Ceremony honors our graduating campers and celebrates their final year at Camp SAY. The ceremony symbolizes life's many beginnings and endings, and that no matter where they go and what happens, they will always carry the strength of SAY love in their hearts.



This year the Camp SAY Ashes Ceremony was larger than usual - we invited campers who would have enjoyed their final year of camp in 2020 to return in 2021 so they could participate in this important and moving rite of passage.

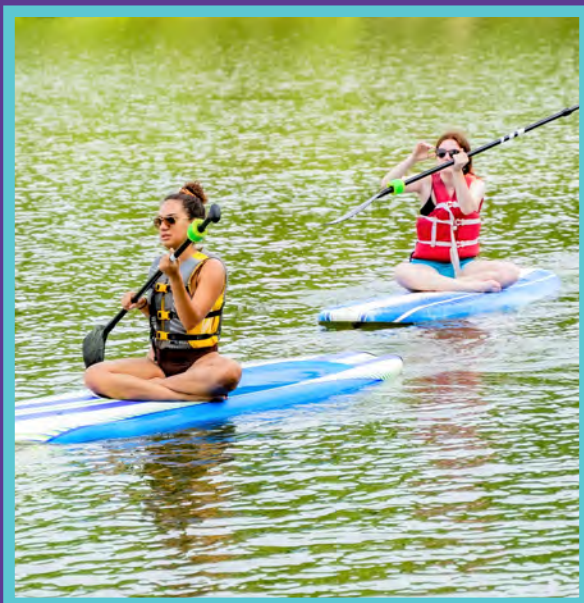
CAMP SAY:

 is an ACA-Accredited, 2-week, sleep-away summer camp for young people who stutter, ages 8-18. Camp SAY combines a high-quality, traditional camp experience with specialized programs and activities that help kids and teens who stutter develop confidence and independence, improve communication skills, and form important lifelong friendships.

Camp SAY is completely unique. While stuttering brings us all together, it is not the main focus of camp; **community** is. Children who stutter are often forced to think about their stutter all the time, every day, and how it sets them apart.

Camp SAY provides a space for a child to feel completely included, connected, and accepted. For two weeks, kids at Camp SAY don't have to worry about being 'the kid who stutters'...

they can just be a kid!



Many children who stutter feel incredibly alone. So many of our campers have never met anyone who sounds like they do, until they arrive at Camp SAY.

Camp SAY completely changes everything. The support, lessons, and friendships gained at Camp SAY can completely realign a child's negative self-perception. Their experience can open a door to a happy, loving, successful life they would never have thought possible.

Who attends CAMPSAY:?

Since its inception, no child has ever been turned away from SAY due to a family's inability to pay. SAY provides over \$750,000 in support annually so children from all backgrounds can attend Camp SAY. This year 92% of families received aid. SAY places a strong emphasis on inclusion and equity, and this year there was an extraordinary need.



Due to the pandemic, many SAY families struggled financially, lost work, suffered significant illness, and even lost loved ones.

That's why this year it was absolutely paramount that Camp SAY provide in-person access to our community of support and perseverance, no matter the cost.

WITH YOUR HELP, WE CAN DO MORE.

The power behind SAY's programs is not a secret. It is the radical belief that everyone deserves to be heard and each of us has value.

Simply put, at SAY we genuinely care about helping each other. SAY programs are a testament to the transformative power of compassion: to how much more the world needs, and to how much a little bit can do.

[SAY.org/donate](https://say.org/donate)