

Down Syndrome Community Newsletter

DECEMBER 2014

Contact Us:

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(206) 257-7191

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Join Us for the DSC Holiday Party

Celebrate the Season!

Our annual Holiday Party will be a potluck dinner on December 13th starting at 5 p.m. with a visit from Santa at 7 pm and clean up at 8 pm. Everyone is invited to bring an entrée, side or salad. DSC will provide drinks and desserts. It will be held at the Mercer Island Community and Event Center. [8236 SE 24th Street, Mercer Island 98040]

Families are asked to bring a wrapped gift with their child's name on the package. It will be distributed by Santa in anticipation of the "Grand Opening!" All gifts are distributed before any are opened - so everyone opens their gift at the same time.

Please RSVP and indicate what you intend to bring (entrée/salad/side) so we can ensure that we have enough chairs and desserts to go around.

We sincerely hope that you are able to join us. Please RSVP online at <http://tinyurl.com/DSCHoliday>



Upcoming Events:

December 3—**Board Meeting** December 13— **Holiday Party**

December 20 — **Babies & Toddlers** at Newport Way Library

January 24 — **Babies & Toddlers** at Rainier Beach Library

February 21 — **Sweetheart Dance** at the Highline Center, Redmond

March — **Annual Board Planning Meeting** to plan for the year to come

May — **Annual Meeting** to elect officers and celebrate the past year

June 27—**DSC/NDSS Conference** *Down syndrome and Aging*

Learning Program Dates: December 6, January 10 & 31, February 28, March 21, April 25, May 16 and June 6.

Living a Glee-ful Life

The Lauren Potter event, hosted by ParentMap and sponsored by the Down Syndrome Community on November 15th, was a great success. The DSC resource table at the event allowed our President, Sean King, and his family to share information about the DSC with many interested people. We hope that many of those they spoke with will join us in the DSC.

Lauren gave an inspiring talk and pleasantly accommodated all requests for photos and autographs. She is a gem and a talented Advocate. The DSC is proud that we assisted in bringing a fun and fulfilling event that will long be remembered by participants to our area. Since we were a gold level sponsor of the event, we were given 10 VIP tickets which allowed some of our teen and adult self advocates and their guests to have front row seats and attend a VIP reception with Lauren. They had a wonderful time getting to meet and spend time with her.



Lauren Potter with Ayman King

Also speaking at the event were Steve Ferreira, an inspirational, humorous and successful young man who was born with cerebral palsy and has started a non-profit called Beyond Disabilities; and Ben Wahl, the founder of Ryther's Aspiring Youth Program, which serves young people with Autism, ADHD and other neurological differences.

We hope to share more photos of this event, as well as others events held during this past year in the January newsletter, as we take a look back at 2014—A Year in Review. If you have photos to share, please e-mail them to anne@oldmillmicro.com. We will try to incorporate as many as we can!

Parent Map Events Manager, Merideth M. MacRae, shared the following with the DSC Board:

"I wanted to take a moment to thank you, from the bottom of our hearts, for your generous support and participation in our first ever Glee-ful event. We truly could not have executed this inspirational day without all of you. We felt it was a day of celebration, encouragement, and community fortitude, and we at ParentMap thoroughly enjoyed every minute. Our attendees left smiling and happy, and we hope that you did too!

"We had a great turn out, with nearly 160 people through the doors. Attendees went home with new and exciting resources to tap into. I had several people on their way out ask if there was some way to get all of your (vendor) information after the event, for those who couldn't attend. So, as a bonus to you and to help facilitate future leads/clients to you, I added all of your organization names, website links, and descriptions to our website.... Hope you enjoy!"



As you do your holiday shopping, please keep in mind that you can support the Down Syndrome Community when shopping at Amazon by using our AmazonSmile link: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/91-1565600>. Amazon donates 0.5 % of your purchase price to the Down Syndrome Community. You get the same great Amazon deals!

Thank you for your support.