

Presents

***“Your Child’s Road to Independence Begins with You”***

A Conference for Parents and Teachers

November 8, 2013

Carousel Hotel

11700 Coastal Hwy

Ocean City, MD

WELCOME TO THE MDPOBC 2013 CONFERENCE!

*\*Insider Information\**

The Maryland Parents Conference is a one day event in conjunction with the National Federation of the Blind of MD State Convention. Here are a few tips to help you stay organized and take advantage of the many opportunities that will be available.

*Seminar Day Information- Friday, November 8, 10:00 –6:00pm*

Get ready for a day of discussion and information at the Parents Seminar and Special Workshops – Room 611. Here is your chance to ask the experts: Other parents of blind children and blind persons who made it to become independent adults.

*CHILDREN’S ACTIVITIES, CHILD CARE, TEEN ACTIVITIES:*

* MDPOBC Friday –Saturday activities for children(6 wks to 9 yrs)will take place in The Washington Room. To take part, your child must be registered for child care(form enclosed).
* Tween Activities Friday- Saturday (ages 10-13)- Will include Independent Travel skills ,Pool party, ice Skating, visit to the Exhibit Hall,. Cane walk, and a Field trip tour of Ocean City on Saturday, WOW!!!
* Teens (age14-18)-will be with the MD Association of Blind Students for many activities thru out weekend, including Pool party, Finance Seminar/Luncheon, game night, Ice Skating.

*SPECIAL EVENTS & ACTIVITIES ALL WEEKEND:*

* Certain special activities for parents, children and youth are listed only in this agenda such as the Cane Walks, MDPOBC workshops and Tween and Teen Activities.
* Other activities that we encourage you and your child to attend are listed in the NFB of MD Convention agenda( this is a separate document and registration [http://www.nfbmd.org/events/2013StateConvention.html](http://www.nfbmd.org/events/2011StateConvention.html) ). ***Please register for both*** the MDPOBC conference and the NFB of MD State Convention so that you will be aware of all that is going on.
* Often many activities are going on at the same time and you and your child will have to make choices! Don’t miss all the MDPOBC activities-Listed in this agenda- and the many other fun, educational, and inspirational NFB of MD convention events listed in the Convention agenda, such as:
	+ NFB of MD convention sessions Saturday and Sunday; Banquet Saturday evening- Be sure to complete your **Banquet Ticket exchange(details at Parents Luncheon)**
	+ Pizza Night,
	+ NFB MD Division Meetings and activities such as NFB of Maryland Association of Blind Students, etc.
	+ The Exhibit Hall where you can browse, try out, and purchase the latest technology, NOPBC Table, Message Chair, and other items of interest

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**Friday November 8, 2013**

**CHILD CARE**

**9:30-10:00 am REGISTRATION- *Delaware Room***

**9:45-12:00 pm CHILD CARE OPEN (6wks-9yrs old)- *Washington Room***

 **Please pick up your children for lunch**

**1:00-6:00pm CHILD CARE OPEN – Washington Room**

**Please pick up your child at 6pm so that families can get ready for the Pizza Party at 7pm.**

**TWEEN Activities**

**Tweens (10-13 yrs of age) - This includes Blind students and/or any siblings in this age group for activities from 10:00pm to 5pm. Tweens may join The Maryland Association of Blind Students (the Students Division of NFBMD) which is for students middle school thru College, for their Student Meeting and Dinner. BISM staff and NFB of Maryland volunteers will assist with supervision for ‘Tween Activities from 10:30 until 5:00 pm. ‘Tweens are welcome to the Student Meeting and Dinner, but there will not be volunteer supervisors. Parents of 9-10yr olds should use their own discression. If your ‘Tween is not attending the MD Assoc. of Bind Students meeting, you must pick them up from the Pennsylvania Room at 5pm. For more information please contact Trudy Pickrel at 301-501-1818 or by email at tlpickrel@hotmail.com.**

**TWEEN Schedule**

**10:00-10:30am Teens attend Parent’s Seminar – Delaware Room**

 **10:30-1:00pm Activities in Room 612 – includes lunch**

 **1:00-3:00pm Pool Party**

 **3:00-5:00pm Exhibit Hall and NFBMD Board Meeting**

 **5:00-6:45pm Maryland Association of Blind Students Meeting (optional)**

 **7pm Student Dinner – Room 612**

**Teens**

**Teens (ages14-18yr.) will go with MD Association of Blind Student Division for a day of activities on Friday 1:00-9:30pm**

**PARENTS SEMINAR**

**9:30-10:00 am REGISTRATION- *Delaware Room***

**10:00 am Parents Seminar Begins – Delaware Room**

**FOSTERING EXPERIENCES THAT WILL LEAD TO INDEPENDENCE: The role of MDPOBC**

 **Trudy Pickrel, President, MDPOBC**

**10:15 am DEVELOPING INDEPENDENCE THROUGH SPECIAL TRAINING PROGRAMS AND LIFE EXPERIENCE**

 **Jason Polansky- Past, Present, Future**

 **Christopher Nusbaum- 2013 Louisiana STEP Program**

**10:30- 12:00pm Workshop 1: Join the Do-It-Yourself Movement: Tools and Tips for IEP Building -Question and Answers- Delaware Room**

**10:30- 12:00pm Workshop 2: Fostering Independence with electronic products: a view from the developers-Humanware and Freedom Scientific-Rm 610**

**12:00-1:00PM LUNCH ON YOUR OWN for parents and children in child care. ‘Tweens will be making their own lunch in Room 612.**

**1:00-1:30 pm Key Note Speech: “OF TREE HOUSES, ATV’s, and INDEPENDENCE”-** Scott LaBarre Esq.- National Representative, President National Association of Blind Lawyers, a Division of the NFB, and President of the National Federation of the Blind of Colorado – ***Delaware Room***

**1:30-2:30 pm LIVING LIFE OUT LOUD:** Strategies to prepare blind children for the real world– ***Delaware Room***

**2:35-3:40 pm YOUR CHILD’S INDEPENDENCE BEGINS WITH YOU:** Degree is NOT Required– ***Delaware Room***

**3:45-4:45 pm TACTILE GRAPHICS. NEW CAPABILITIES AND MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR BLIND STUDENTS: What parents need to know.**–**Room 611**

**5:00- 6:00 pm "PLANTING THE SEEDS OF INDEPENDENCE AND NURTURTING THE GARDEN-*Delaware Room***

**7:00-8:30 pm PIZZA PARTY/ PARENTS MEET AND GREET -Bring your Ticket from Registration Packet- *Delaware Room***

**8:30-9:30 PM SKATING PARTY - $4.00 PER PERSON-Skating Rink**

**8:30-…**  **GENERAL HOSPITALITY** –**Overlook to the Skating Rink**

**WORKSHOP DISCRIPITIONS**

**"Join the Do-It-Yourself Movement: Tools and Tips for IEP Building"-**Join Carlton Anne Cook Walker as she shares her years of experience on several sides of the IEP process -- as the parent of a blind child, as an advocate for other parents, and as a teacher of blind students. **-*Instructor: Carlton Cook Walker attorney and TVI, NOPOBC President***

**Living Life Out Loud:** Strategies to prepare blind children for the real world- In this interactive workshop, participants will learn about and discuss strategies that encourage learning, exploration and problem-solving activities for blind children. The presenters will share their observations and experiences working in a summer program for blind teenagers and suggest fun and insightful activities that will encourage blind children to take on age-appropriate responsibilities and learn from mistakes. The goals of this workshop is to have parents leave with a list of relevant projects and activities that challenge blind children to become active participants at school and in their homes and communities and to have them know that they do not need to have the perfect training or background to train blind children who will become successful blind adults- **Instructor:Melody Roane, director, Virginia Rehabilitation Center for the Blind and Vision Impaired, Richmond, Virginia; president, National Association of Blind Rehabilitation Professionals & Mellisa Riccabono, President, National Federation of the Blind of Maryland**

**Your Childs Independence Starts With You- Degree is NOT Required-** A Continuation from LIVING LIFE Out LOUD- **Instructor: Amy Phelps, CRC, NOMC, Assistant Director for instruction, Virginia Rehabilitation Center for the Blind and Vision Impaired**

**"Planting the Seeds of Independence and Nurturing the Garden"--**Susan Polansky and Carlton Anne Cook Walker discuss how and why to focus upon independence throughout your child's school career.**--*Instructors: Carlton Cook Walker, Attorney and TVI, NOPOBC President, & Susan Polansky, Parent & 1st Vice President MDPOBC***

**Tactile Graphics: Do your own thing! New capabilities and more opportunities for blind persons**- Learn how to use E.A.S.Y. LLC’s inTACT™ sketchpad to do your own STEM diagrams and freehand art. Correct and edit with our inTACT™ thermal eraser. Transmit digital copies of your drawings over the internet for distance learning and collaboration with colleagues. Come one, come all! **Presenter: Dr. Al Maneki, Chairman, Board of Advisors, E.A.S.Y. LLC; Senior STEM Advisor, NFB Jernigan Institute, Columbia, MD**

***Saturday November 9, 2013***

**7:00am Breakfast in Hospitality Room 612**

**7:15 am- 8:00am Bell Student Reunion (includes breakfast for BELL parents and students) – *Rm 611***

**8:00am- 8:45am Cane Walk- in front *Rm 611***

**8:30 am – 12:00pm Child Care open- *Washington Room***

**9:00 am - 12:00pm General Session *Maryland and Virginia Rooms***

 **(all parents should attend)**

**10:00 -11:00am Tween/Teens** Learn how to use E.A.S.Y. LLC’s inTACT™ sketchpad to do your own STEM diagrams ***Rm 611***

**11:00 -2:30pm Tweens Walking tour of Assatteague State Park-** *(ages10-13yrs.)* ***includes lunch -Meet in RM 611***

**12:00-2:00pm Child Care –** *Includes lunch for kids. This is only available to parents who attend one of the special luncheons sponsored by our state divisions.*

**12:00-1:30pm Parents Luncheon- Sponsored by the MDPOBC-Pennsylvania Room -***Enjoy some inspiring words by our Outstanding Educator for 2013.*

*Luncheon tickets are in your NFBMD Registration packet or may be purchased at the NFBMD Registration table. Don’t forget to bring your Banquet ticket so that all of the parents can sit together.*

**2:00 pm -5:00pm Child care open- *Washington Room***

**2:00 pm- 5:00pm General Session- *Maryland and Virginia Rooms***

 **(all parents should attend)**

**6:30 pm – 10:00pm Child care open (includes supper for kids)**

**7:00 pm – 10:00pm Banquet- *Pennsylvania Ro*om**

***Sunday November 10, 2013***

**7:00am Breakfast in Hospitality Room – *Room 612***

**7:00am-8:45am MDPOBC Board Meeting- *Washington Room***

**9:00am – 12:00pm General Session – No Child Care - *Maryland and Virginia Rooms***

***MDPOBC Seminar Registration***

Adult #1: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Adult #2:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Phone: Home \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Cell or Work \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email address:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Check all that apply:

 Parent \_\_\_ Family Member \_\_\_Teacher \_\_\_\_ Paraprofessional \_\_\_\_\_\_

 Administrator \_\_\_\_ Student \_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_\_

Need Childcare? Yes \_\_\_\_No \_\_\_\_

Please complete the childcare registration form

Tween 10-13 #\_\_\_ Ages\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Teens 14-18 #\_\_\_\_ Ages\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Mark number attending the sessions you plan to attend:

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Workshop I: "Join the Do-It-Yourself Movement: Tools and Tips for IEP Building"

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Workshop II: Fostering Independence with electronic products: a view from the developers-Humanware and Freedom Scientific

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Workshop III: Living Life out Loud: Strategies to prepare blind children for the real world

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Workshop IV: Your Childs Independence Starts With You-hands on training for everyday activities

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Workshop V: Tactile Graphics: Do your own thing! New capabilities and more opportunities for blind Students.

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Workshop VI: "Planting the Seeds of Independence and Nurturing the Garden"

Mail to MDPOBC1886 Mosser Rd, McHenry, MD 21541, email tlpickrel@hotmail.com 301-501-1818

MDPOBC Workshop Free But you need to also register for The State Convention

Convention Child Care (Provided by the Maryland Parents of Blind Children)

Child-care for (name)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ age\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 2nd Child\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ age\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3rd Child \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ age\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Times: (please check)

\_\_\_\_\_Friday 9:30- 6pm childcare is available only to parents attending parent workshops

\_\_\_\_\_Saturday: 8:30 am – Noon \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_Saturday: Noon - 2:00 pm Includes lunch for your child. This is only available to parents who attend one of the special luncheons sponsored by our state divisions.

Please note if the child has any food allergies:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_Saturday, 2:00 pm -5:00 pm

\_\_\_\_\_Saturday Banquet, (includes supper) 6:30 pm until 10:00 pm

Name of parent/responsible adults who are allowed to pick up child from the child care room (No more than 2 names):

1.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Special considerations/needs/anything we should know about your child/children (allergies, blind/visually impaired, sighted, difficulty walking, etc) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Recommended fee/donation per child\*\*

Friday: $10/single child, $ 20 two or more children

All day Saturday including lunch and the banquet: $30/single child; $40 two or more

1/2 day no lunch: $15/single child; $25 two or more

Banquet only: $10/single child; $20 two or more

\*\*The MDPOBC will make every effort to provide childcare for members who need it regardless of ability to pay. For more information please contact Trudy Pickrel at 301-501-1818 or by email at tlpickrel@hotmail.com

Please make checks (for child care only) payable to MDPOBC and mail to MDPOBC 1886 Mosser Rd, McHenry, MD 21541

**Parental Release Form**

**Friday November 8th & Saturday, November 9nd in connection with the NFB of MD State Convention**

**For youth ages 10 -18.**

**Advanced registration is required by October 30, 2013**

I give permission for my child \children to participate in

\_\_\_\_\_ Going off Ground on Friday Nov 8th11:00am-1:00pm to the Grocery Store to do independent travel and shopping for lunch

\_\_\_\_\_ Go Swimming at the Student Division on Friday Nov 8 at 1:30-3pm in the Hotel Pool with BISM Staff

\_\_\_\_\_ Go on the Walking Tour of Assatteague, a Maryland Parents of Blind Children (MDPOBC) sponsored event on Saturday, November 9, 2013. **Cost per student $3.00 for Pizza and Drink (bring with you)**

I release the Maryland Parents of Blind Children, its Officers, Board of Directors, and BISM and Volunteers from responsibility should my child be injured in any way while participating in this event.

Those Attending the Assatteague walk Saturday Nov 9th, 2013, will meet in Rm 611 at 11:00 for Pizza, and then leave Hotel at 12:00 PM to go Assatteague State park for the tour.

 The tour will be guided by a park ranger, starting at the visitor center and touch tank ending with a walk at the Marsh/Board Walk. This is a 1 hr walking tour which will occur rain or shine. Appropriate clothing and shoes should be worn. Participating blind youth must use their canes. Age appropriate siblings and other age appropriate youth attending convention may also register. Youth will be supervised by adults who will be encouraging good cane technique and offering pointers along the way.

Register by returning this form separately to: MDPOBC, 1886 Mosser Rd, McHenry, MD 21541. You may also register by calling Trudy at 301-387-4182 or email at tlpickrel@hotmail.com. If you register by phone or email a signed permission form will need to be received prior to the event [can be signed the day of the event].

Name of child/children: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature parent/guardian**:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_