

**Saturday,  
September 7, 2024**

**8:00am – 8:30am**  
Welcome and Overview |  
Invaluable Resources

**8:30am – 10:30am**  
Demystifying Learning Disabilities

**10:30am – 10:40am**  
Break

**10:40am – 12:15pm**  
Understanding Dyslexia  
and Dysgraphia

**12:15pm – 12:45pm**  
Lunch (on own)

**12:45pm – 2:45pm**  
Transformative Dyslexia  
Treatment Planning

**2:45pm – 2:55pm**  
Break

**2:55pm-3:25pm**  
Lived Experience

**3:25pm– 4:00pm**  
Learning Disabilities  
and OT: A Synthesis



**VIRTUAL**

OTAC 6th Annual  
**School-Based OT Symposium 2024**

**UNLOCKING THE HIDDEN POTENTIAL:  
UNDERSTANDING LEARNING DISABILITIES**

**Promoting Excellence in School-Based Practice**  
Evidence | Meaningful Occupation | Links to Curriculum | Tools to Support Practice

**Unlocking the Hidden Potential:  
Understanding Learning Disabilities**

We invite you to:

- Expand your knowledge of OT's role in supporting children with learning disabilities,
- Recognize and understand common learning disorders,
- Understand the interventions and tools to consider through the lens of an educator,
- Learn targeted, evidence-based interventions for children to support participation, and
- Expand your knowledge of resources to incorporate for everyday learning.



**Earn up to 7.0 PDUs**

**Why Attend**

Enrich your practice and  
discover new tools.

**Who Should Attend**

Occupational therapy practitioners  
and students who are interested in  
school-based practice.

# Symposium Schedule, Learning Objectives, and Presenters

## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

8:00am – 8:30am

### Welcome and Overview | Invaluable Resources

*Lisa A. Test, OTD, OTR/L, FAOTA*

This introduction will set the stage for the day, providing an overview from an OT practitioner's perspective and invaluable resources.

#### Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this presentation, participants will be able to:

- Expand their knowledge of the role of occupational therapy practitioners in supporting children with learning disabilities.

8:30am – 10:30am

### Demystifying Learning Disabilities

*Jessica M. Lascano, LEP, NCSP, BCBA*

This presentation will center on learning disabilities, encompassing various types and forms. Participants will gain insight into supporting students with learning disabilities, highlighting the importance of intervention. The presenter will dispel common myths and delve into the definition of a learning disability within the California Education Code and the DSM. Additionally, co-morbid conditions and their relevance will be discussed. Participants can expect to acquire practical knowledge applicable to their role as occupational therapy practitioners supporting students in schools.

#### Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this presentation, participants will be able to:

- Recognize diverse learning disability types and forms, enhancing awareness of student challenges.
- Learn effective intervention strategies to support students, prioritizing timely action for improved outcomes.
- Clarify learning disability definitions and dispel myths, empowering informed advocacy for students.

10:25am – 12:30pm

### Break

10:40am – 12:15pm

### Understanding Dyslexia and Dysgraphia

*Vanessa Silver, MS, BCET/AET, Fellow/OGA, C-SLDS/IDA*

By understanding the foundational research behind dyslexia's definition, participants will explore the most effective methods and strategies used to teach a student with a learning difference how to read and spell. Using dyslexia simulation exercises, the participants will experience a brief sense of what the student with dyslexia is challenged with daily.

#### Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this presentation, participants will be able to:

Understand dyslexia foundational research and definition.

- Understand dysgraphia as a co-occurrence of dyslexia.
- Become familiar with the characteristics of a student with dyslexia.
- Provide therapy using the Orton-Gillingham Principles.

12:15pm – 12:45pm

### Lunch – on your own

12:45pm – 2:45pm

### Transformative Dyslexia Treatment Planning

*Penny Stack, OTD, OTR/L, CLT*

Whether you are a fresh-faced graduate or a seasoned practitioner, brace yourself for a game-changing journey! Turbocharge your clinical prowess and ignite your analytical acumen like never before! Get ready to dive deep into the art of clinical reasoning and analysis. We're not just talking about scratching the surface – we're talking about delving into the very essence of client-centered care and transformative dyslexia treatment planning! Picture this: dissecting standardized scores, unraveling occupational profiles, and deciphering observed information like a seasoned detective cracking a case. But here's the kicker – we won't stop there! We'll empower you to harness this newfound knowledge and craft interventions that are not just effective but truly life-changing for your clients.

#### Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this presentation, participants will be able to:

Synthesize evaluation outcomes into a treatment plan.

- Identify one treatment intervention to support each deficit identified in the initial evaluation.

2:45pm – 2:55pm

### Break

2:55pm-3:25pm

### Lived Experience

*Savannah Smith, OTS*

This presentation will detail the presenter's experience as a student with dyslexia navigating social and educational experiences and her experience later in life as a school-based OTA student working with and advocating for students with learning disabilities.

#### Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this presentation, participants will be able to:

- Identify the benefits of representation for students with learning disabilities and develop strategies to set students up for success.

3:25pm– 4:00pm

### Learning Disabilities and OT: A Synthesis

*Beth Dillon, MOT, OTR/L*

This summary will provide an overview of key points and synthesize the information to apply to everyday practice. An opportunity for participants to ask questions will be included.

#### Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this presentation, participants will be able to:

- Synthesize the information to apply to everyday practice.

## About OTAC

OTAC is a 501(c)(6) nonprofit organization established in 1976. It is the collective voice that serves, promotes, and supports the profession of occupational therapy and its practitioners.

## About Our Presenters



**Beth Dillon, MOT, OTR/L**, received a master's in occupational therapy from Samuel Merritt University. She has worked in the pediatric setting with children, educators, and their families in private practice, hospitals, and primarily in public school settings. She emphasizes holistic treatment by addressing the "whole

child." Dillin has postgraduate occupational therapy training in sensory integrative principles, executive functioning concepts, visual perceptual complexities, and co-regulation.



**Jessica M. Lascano, LEP, NCSP, BCBA**, an associate professional clinical counselor, is the CEO of Strive ABC. Her company provides assessment, behavior support, training, and consultation to school districts, families, and community organizations. Lascano's credentials include being a Nationally Certified School Psychologist (NCSP), Licensed

Educational Psychologist (LEP), and Board-Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA). She has worked as a special education teacher, school counselor, school psychologist, adjunct professor, parent trainer, therapist, social skills trainer, and university-level mentor for teachers and school psychologists. Lascano is interested in helping others grow and strongly believes that working together can impact the lives of many more children than we could alone.



**Vanessa Silver, MS, BCET/AET, Fellow/OGA, C-SLDS/IDA**, has been in the field of special education for over 25 years in Los Angeles, CA. She began her career in education as a resource specialist teacher and holds current California credentials in Multiple Subject (General) Education and Special Education (Mild/Moderate),

and a Resource Specialist Certificate. Her specialty is in the field of dyslexia and dysgraphia. Additionally, Silver is a Fellow of the Orton-Gillingham Academy (OGA) and a Certified Structured Literacy Dyslexia Specialist (C-SLDS) through the International Dyslexia Association (IDA). She is an adjunct professor at Bay Path University, covering the elements of teaching students with dyslexia one-on-one in an educational therapy private practice, small groups, and classrooms.



**Savannah Smith, OTS**, is a recent Clovis Community College OTA program graduate and is preparing for the NBCOTA exam. She first discovered occupational therapy six years ago while accompanying a family member to their therapy sessions at San Jose Regional Medical Center after they suffered a traumatic brain injury.

She appreciated the holistic and client-centered care that occupational therapy provided. Smith completed her fieldwork level 2 placements in a school-based and skilled nursing setting. She is passionate about both settings and is excited to continue her journey in the occupational therapy field.



**Penny Stack, OTD, OTR/L, OTA, HWC, CLT**, is the founder and owner of DyslexiaRx and founder of Dyslexia Center of Tulsa and The Educate to Advocate Podcast. With over 35 years of experience as an occupational therapy practitioner, Stack is certified in Handwriting Without Tears and received a master's in occupational therapy at Samuel

Merritt College and a Doctorate in Occupational Therapy at Loma Linda University. She has dedicated her research to dyslexia and its impact on occupation: The lived experience. Stack has honed her expertise in supporting individuals and families with dyslexia across the lifespan. She is an assistant professor and doctorate capstone coordinator at Loma Linda University.



**Lisa A. Test, OTD, OTR/L, FAOTA**, is in private practice. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in ergonomics and master's and clinical doctorate degrees in occupational therapy and occupational science from the University of Southern California. With professional interests in children with developmental disabilities, sensory integration, autism,

play, and school-based practice, she is recognized as a leader in occupational therapy and has extensive experience delivering interventions for children with disabilities. Test has been a long time OTAC volunteer, co-chairing the School-Based OT Subcommittee and the OT School Credential Initiative. She is also the recipient of the OTAC Lifetime Achievement Award.

## Symposium Committee

Amanda Cassetta, OTR/L, ATAC

Beth Dillin, MOT, OTR/L

Erin Dolin, EdD, OTR/L

Lisa A. Test, OTD, OTR/L, FAOTA

Jo-Ann Vargas, MA, OTR/L

*Our deep appreciation to Lisa A. Test, OTD, OTR/L, FAOTA, for launching the School-Based OT Symposium for OTAC and her ongoing contributions and mentoring.*



# About This Virtual Symposium

## This Symposium Will Be Recorded

Participate virtually on September 7, 2024, and then re-watch at your convenience for the life of the recording on OTAC's platform. Recordings are generally available 10 days following the conclusion of the event.

**System Requirements.** OTAC webinars are broadcast through Zoom. A broadband internet connection is required. For minimum system requirements, visit the following page:

Zoom - <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362023-System-Requirements-for-PC-Mac-and-Linux>

## Professional Development Units (PDUs) | MyOTLicense

PDUs will be entered into your MyOTLicense cloud-based PDU tracking 'filing cabinet.' (Must be an OTAC member or MyOTLicense subscriber. This service is available only to OT/OTA licensees.)

To earn PDUs, registrants must complete the post event survey that is emailed out within one week following the event.

**About MyOTLicense.** MyOTLicense is a secure, cloud-based, easy-to-use virtual information and management tracking tool to help occupational therapy practitioners manage their professional information: licenses, certificates, memberships, professional development.

You can think of MyOTLicense as your professional virtual electronic filing cabinet. This program is complimentary for OTAC members. Nonmembers can subscribe to the service.

## Symposium Disclaimer

This Symposium is sponsored by OTAC for the purpose of professional development. The material presented is not intended to represent the only or the best methods appropriate for the occupational therapy and/or medical condition or professional development issues being discussed, but rather is intended to present the opinions of the presenters, which may be helpful to other health care professionals at arriving at their own conclusions and consequent application. Attendees participating in this professional development education program do so with the full knowledge that they waive any claim they may have against OTAC and its representatives for reliance on any information presented during this educational event.

[Click here for OTAC's complete disclaimer/terms. You must agree to these disclaimers/terms. Please don't register if you do not.](#)

## Cancellation/Refund Policy

\$35 retained to cover cancellation/refund processing costs. Written notice must be received in OTAC office by September 4, 2024 to be eligible for refunds. No refunds after this date. Disclaimer: OTAC reserves the right to make changes to the program. No refunds will be made based on these changes.

**Why OTAC Symposia?** To support OTAC Core Value 7 – Professional Development: To provide quality education and resources to advance the knowledge, skills, and continued competence of occupational therapy practitioners.

**About OTAC.** OTAC is a nonprofit, 501c6. This means that end-of-year net revenue is retained for operations and benefit of the members and is not distributed to private owners. It is governed by an elected, noncompensated Board of Directors and hires a professional association management team.

**OTAC Mission Statement.** OTAC is the collective voice that serves, promotes, and supports the profession of occupational therapy.

# REGISTRATION FORM

One form per person. Please type or print clearly. Check appropriate boxes.

	OT/OTA MEMBERS	OT/OTA NONMEMBERS	STUDENT MEMBERS	STUDENT NONMEMBERS
<b>EARLY BIRD</b> Register by Aug. 5	<input type="checkbox"/> \$99	<input type="checkbox"/> \$139	<input type="checkbox"/> \$69	<input type="checkbox"/> \$99
<b>REGULAR</b> Register by Sept. 4	<input type="checkbox"/> \$129	<input type="checkbox"/> \$169	<input type="checkbox"/> \$99	<input type="checkbox"/> \$129
<b>TOTAL DUE \$</b> _____				

## EDUCATION SPECIAL 1:

Are you a nonmember who wants to join OTAC and attend the symposium? This education **special discount** includes the symposium and membership.

**OT: SYMPOSIUM AND MEMBERSHIP - \$259**

**OTA: SYMPOSIUM AND MEMBERSHIP - \$219**

**STUDENT: SYMPOSIUM AND MEMBERSHIP - \$109**

## EDUCATION SPECIAL 2:

3 or more (same physical workplace) earn a **10% Discount.** (Cannot be combined with special 1 discount package.)

**EMAIL: [shannon@otaonline.org](mailto:shannon@otaonline.org) for more information**

## REGISTRANT INFORMATION -

Mail Registration Postmark by Mon. Aug. 26

Name \_\_\_\_\_

School District \_\_\_\_\_

Where Employed \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

## PAYMENT OPTIONS – CHECK ONE

Check (make payable to OTAC)     MasterCard     Visa     AMEX

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## SUBMIT PAYMENT

Fax to: 916/294-0415, or  
Mail to: OTAC, 3620 American River Drive, Suite 230  
Sacramento, CA 95864

## REGISTER ONLINE

[www.otaonline.org/education/school-based-OT-symposium](http://www.otaonline.org/education/school-based-OT-symposium)



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