



# UNTIL EVERYONE CAN READ



## Spring 2025 Member Newsletter

### In This Issue:

IDA Membership Updated Website Scholarship Opportunities Summer Workshops  
37th Annual Symposium Survey Request Board Member Publications New on the NOBIDA Blog...  
Ohio Department of Education and Workforce Updates

### Hello IDA of Northern Ohio Community,

Happy Spring!

I am so excited that NOBIDA is offering amazing summer programming. Learn more in this newsletter and join us for Multisensory Math 1, Multisensory Math 2, and Wilson classes this summer!

IDA wants to ensure that all memberships are up to date. Please confirm yours is current so that your benefits continue.

Save the date for our annual in person Open Board Meeting October 9th at the ESC of Northern Ohio. We will be having a brief board meeting and a FREE simulation!! The event starts at 6:30 pm!

Check out our Symposium details, scholarship news, and recent publications.

Until Everyone Can Read...

Best,

Jen Scaffidi  
Board President



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## IDA Membership: Check Your Status and New Member Discount

**IDA Spring Into Learning Membership Campaign begins April 21st and runs through May 31st, 2025!**

We want you to renew or join today.

Tell us how NOBIDA has helped you!  
Inspire others to become part of our community.

Learn how you can help!

Share your own testimonial!

[Join or renew today](#) and gain the following benefits:

- Connection to our community of members in all 50 U.S. states and 50 countries
- Affiliation with your local [IDA Branch](#)
- Discounts on IDA's annual [DyslexiaCon](#) and Branch events
- Access to renowned publications
- Member rates for [IDA TV](#) and [Shop!DA](#)

**New members use code SPRING15 to receive 15% off a 2-year membership.**

IDA's Spring into Learning  
**MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN**

Become a member and make an **IMPACT** with NOBIDA!

Join between April 21-May 31, 2025 as a Teacher, Advocate, or Professional member and save 15%!

**USE CODE SPRING15**

**Benefits Include:**

**Renew or Join Now!**

**I am IDA** WELCOME TO IDA MEMBERSHIP  
Where Members Get More

The graphic features a blue diamond shape with a pink heart inside, set against a light blue background. To the right is a map of Ohio with 'NOBIDA' written inside. Below the main text is a QR code and a small image of a person.

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## Updated NOBIDA Website

NOBIDA is excited to announce our all new website!  
Check it out today and find helpful dyslexia resources and our branches' latest news.

[Click Here to Connect to Our New Website](#)

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## Scholarship Opportunities

NOBIDA is proud to offer 3 scholarships over the course of 2025. Read all about them and apply by the deadlines.

### Upcoming Deadlines:

Stephanie Gordon Scholarship  
Application Deadline: May 16, 2025

Jean Armus Scholarship  
Application Deadline: September 19, 2025

### We have a winner!

*Congratulations to Vaiva Neary,  
our 2025 Pam Kanfer Scholarship recipient!*



Vaiva Neary is a K-8 reading and ESL educator in the Cleveland Metropolitan School District. She has over 15 years of experience in literacy development and early childhood education. She will use the Pam Kanfer Scholarship to pursue certification in a structured literacy program to serve students with reading and linguistic difficulties in her district.

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## Summer Workshops

[Register Today](#)

***Marilyn Zecher, M.A., CALT***, has been an educator and teacher trainer for over 25 years. She is a *Nationally Certified Academic Language Therapist specializing in applying O-G Multisensory Strategies for teaching Math. A vibrant and entertaining instructor, she believes strongly in using pictorial math and linguistic connections in teaching to solve math problems.*

[Watch Marilyn's Special Message to NOBIDA](#)

[Read Marilyn's Interview on our Blog](#)

# MARILYN ZECHER'S MULTISENSORY MATH APPROACH 1

**JUNE 16-20, 2025**  
8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

In Person Class at  
Walsh University | 2020 East Maple Street  
North Canton, Ohio 44720

Based on the Orton-Gillingham philosophy of teaching, Marilyn Zecher's Multisensory Mathematics I applies the research-based Concrete-Representation-Abstract (CRA) approach to teaching mathematics as advocated by the National Math Panel and the NCTM. Participants learn to apply this methodology in guiding students from foundation skills and numeracy to place value, operations, fractions and decimals. Participants learn to use manipulatives effectively to reinforce concepts, aid memory and enhance performance for all students. Strategies for helping students learn and retrieve math facts are stressed as well as structured procedures for computational accuracy. This approach is effective for all students. It is especially effective with students who learn differently and ELL learners. The approach is effective for initial instruction as well as remedial work at all levels and is compatible with all curricula and programs.



**Jennifer Scaffidi, M.Ed., CALT,  
Multisensory Math QI**

Jennifer Scaffidi is a Certified Academic Language Therapist that provides Tier 3 Structured Literacy Intervention in the Plain Local School District. She is a Multisensory Math Qualified Instructor and assists with Marilyn Zecher's Multisensory Math classes.

Gindy O'Neill is the head of the New Avenues Dyslexia Program at The Walker

School in Marietta, Georgia. Ms. O'Neill received both her bachelor's and master's degrees from Florida State University. She also continuously participates in extensive training and certifications to provide the most up to date evidence-based foundation for faculty and students. Ms. O'Neill is certified at the Associate Orton Gillingham Level, Wilson Reading System Level II, and is a Multisensory Math educator. Prior to joining the Leadership Team at Walker, Ms. O'Neill served as the Director of the Academic Resource Center at Pace Academy in Atlanta, GA. She also worked at The Atlanta Speech School for 18 years, where she served as a classroom teacher and reading specialist for grades K-6, revamped the school's Learning Lab, and developed the curriculum for the summer program.

**Cindy O'Neill, M.S.D., OGA, W.D.P.,  
Multisensory Math Practitioner**



Cost: \$1,000 Non-Members  
\$950 IDA Members

Early Bird Discount available  
until April 30, 2025: \$950

**Register Today at  
noh.dyslexiaida.org**



Questions? Call 216.556.0883 or  
Email [contact.us@nobida.org](mailto:contact.us@nobida.org)

**Lunch, Course Manual and  
Starter Kit of Math Materials  
All Included!**

Discount hotel rate of \$99 per night at  
Hilton Garden Inn, 5251 Landmark Blvd., North Canton, Ohio 44720  
330-966-4907 | Rooms are blocked under NOBIDA

**30 CEUS!**

# MARILYN ZECHER'S MULTISENSORY MATH APPROACH 2

**JUNE 23-27, 2025**

8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

In Person Class at  
Walsh University  
2020 East Maple Street  
North Canton, Ohio 44720

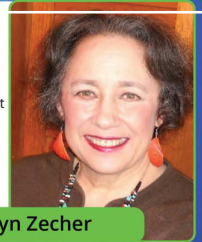
Marilyn Zecher presents the follow-up course to Multisensory Math 1. This course incorporates Marilyn Zecher's Orton-Gillingham Multisensory Math Approach adapted for higher level math concepts. It utilizes findings from Neuroscience, the principles of the Science of Learning and recommendations from the Institute for Educational Sciences as well as best practices in mathematics instruction.

Participants will learn to utilize a vertical approach to math which addresses unfinished learning even while teaching grade level content in pre-algebra, algebra and geometry for general, ELL or neurologically diverse classrooms.

Expect to use manipulative objects, concise mathematically accurate language, graphic organizers, gross motor activities and multiple representations to cement long term comprehension and memory of core concepts for secondary student success.

MSM 1 is a required prerequisite.

A nationally certified Academic Language Therapist and former public-school classroom and demonstration teacher, Ms Zecher is a specialist in applying multisensory strategies to a variety of content areas. Her graduate level Multisensory Math courses have been used as methods courses at the university level and she is a frequent speaker at local, national, and international conferences. Her presentations and professional development workshops and classes for teachers incorporate general multisensory instructional strategies, Orton-Gillingham strategies, the principles of UDL, and recommendations from the NCTM, the IED-The What Works Clearinghouse and the Common Core State Standards and research informed information from neuroscience. She is an honorary Fellow of the AOGPE in the area of Mathematics.



**Marilyn Zecher**

Cost: \$1,250 Non-Members  
\$1,200 IDA Members

Early Bird Discount available  
until April 30, 2025: \$1,200

NOBIDA 2024 MSM1  
Participant: \$1,200

**Register Today at  
noh.dyslexiaida.org**

Questions? Call 216.556.0883 or  
Email [contact.us@nobida.org](mailto:contact.us@nobida.org)



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North Canton, Ohio 44720  
330-966-4907  
Rooms are blocked under NOBIDA

## Register for Multisensory Math 1



**WILSON**  
LANGUAGE TRAINING®

## WILSON READING SYSTEM ADVANCED STRATEGIES FOR MSL GROUP INSTRUCTION

**JUNE 17, 18, 19, 2025**

This three-day course provides strategies, modeling, and practice as participants learn about the critical aspects of WRS small-group instruction, including how to optimally deliver WRS Lesson Blocks 1, 2, and 3. Participants learn about advanced and differentiated instruction for students to further develop vocabulary, comprehension, and fluency skills. This course prepares participants to implement WRS in a small group setting, teaches how to properly monitor student progress, and provides the prerequisite for the WRS Group Mastery Practicum.

### PREREQUISITES

WRS Level I Certification  
Bachelor's degree in  
education or a related field

### GRADUATE CREDIT

One graduate credit (optional) is available through Fitchburg State University, Fitchburg, MA, upon completion of course requirements. Please see Process for Graduate Credit for details.

### LOCATION

Summit Educational Service Center  
420 Washington Avenue  
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44221

Instructor:  
Ellen Brick, Wilson Certified Trainer

Cost to Attend:  
\$650 Non-Members | \$625 IDA Members

Early Bird Discount available until  
April 30, 2025: \$625

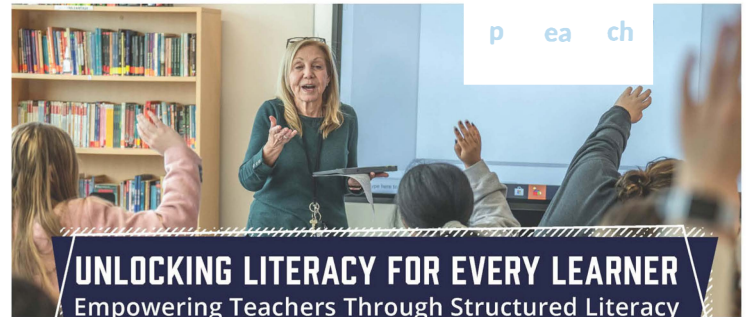
**SCAN FOR COURSE OBJECTIVES  
& REGISTRATION FORM**



<https://nobida.memberclicks.net/wilson-reading-system-advanced-strategies>

Register for Wilson Advanced Strategies

## Register for Multisensory Math 2



REGISTRATION OPEN NOW  
[commerce.cashnet.com/SLSC](http://commerce.cashnet.com/SLSC)



July 30, 2025, 9 AM - 4 PM  
The University of Akron Jean Hower Taber Student Union Ballroom  
and breakout classrooms on 3rd floor

Cost:  
Teachers from Akron Public Schools: \$75  
Teachers from districts that are not Akron Public Schools: \$100

**Keynote Speaker:**  
Jan Hasbrouck is a leading researcher, educational consultant, and author who works with schools in the U.S. and internationally.

**Keynote Presentation Title:**  
"The Essential Role of Teachers...for All of Us"

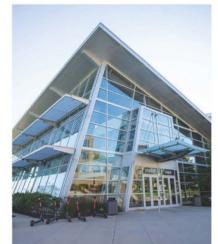
**Food offerings:**  
Morning refreshments, lunch & snack

**Come hear national literacy expert Jan Hasbrouck, participate in amazing breakout sessions presented by local, regional and state experts and enjoy breakfast, lunch and many giveaways by vendors with your colleagues. We hope to see you there!**

Contact [mevans1@uakron.edu](mailto:mevans1@uakron.edu) for more information.



**Akron Public Schools.**



Register Today!



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## 37th Annual Symposium

### *Celebrating Differences: Literacy That Empowers Every Learner*

SAVE THE DATE!  
November 14, 2025  
Location: Walsh University in North Canton

#### Speakers:

- Carolyn Denton - *When Students Don't Make Sufficient Progress*
- Sarah Powell - *Literacy in Math: A Focus on Vocabulary and Word Problems*
- Amanda Nicherson - *Twice Exceptional: Empowering Gifted Students with Dyslexia to Thrive*



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## Survey Request

A student named Lilo from NHL Stenden University of Applied Sciences in the Netherlands, studying to become an International Primary School Teacher, would like you to complete her survey.

As part of her personal and academic development in her second year, she has chosen to explore dyslexia and its impact on students—a topic that is particularly close to her heart, as she is dyslexic.

To gain a deeper understanding, she has two surveys in need of respondents: one for teachers who have worked with dyslexic students and another for adults with dyslexia reflecting on their school experiences.

Offer Lilo feedback for her research!

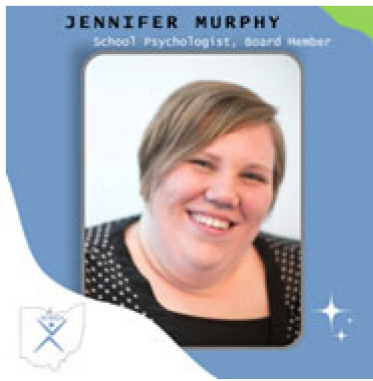
[Survey for Teachers](#)

[Survey for Adults with Dyslexia](#)

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## Board Member Publications

Board Member, Dr. Jen Murphy has a wealth of knowledge to share! Please check out her latest articles and feel free to offer them to whomever you think will benefit.



OP-ED: Combining Forces to Address Lagging Reading Skills

NEO-Parent: Supporting Your Child's Literacy

NEO-Parent, Is a Special Education Evaluation Right for Your Child?

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## New on the NOBIDA Blog...

### Finding Adult Literacy Support Within Our Community

When struggling to read and write as an adult, everyday tasks such as reviewing instructions or ordering from a menu are overwhelming. Facing lifelong literacy challenges leads these adults to create coping strategies that don't fully eliminate these stressors. For those living with literacy challenges, an important first step is understanding your learning style...



[Read the Full Article](#)

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## Ohio Department of Education and Workforce Updates

Ohio continues working on its Read Ohio Initiatives and monthly Read Ohio Webinars.

[Find the Latest Resources and Updates on Our Website](#)



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[Learn More About IDA of Northern Ohio](#)