WORKSHOPS & PRESENTERS

The SaywhatClub convention is a wonderful opportunity to meet and socialize with others who know what life is like with hearing loss, but that's not all our convention offers! There is an abundance of good information and insight to be mined from our workshops and presentations.

Scroll down the page to read about our scheduled workshops. At this time, details are still being worked out for some, so check back frequently for updates to this page.

Also, you can sponsor a workshop or presentation. Check out the **sponsorship opportunities** on our website.

VENDOR INTRODUCTIONS & UPDATES

TBD: Our first workshop on Thursday morning will highlight our vendors. Each will give a short introduction and update for their respective company and/or product.

RED, RIGHT, ROUND:

EXPLORING MORE ABOUT YOUR AUDIOGRAM THAN THE Xs AND Os

Many of us have learned to tell the difference between the right and left ear on our audiogram. We may have even learned the speech banana and what that means for our degree of hearing loss. However, beyond that, the audiogram is difficult to use to explain to our friends and family what our degree of hearing loss and our test results mean. Come to this session (bring your audiogram if you have it, but it's not necessary) and explore what your audiogram means and the misconceptions that the audiogram shows, that you might be unaware of.

Description: This session is designed to help you understand more about your personal audiogram. The audiogram is a great medical tool for diagnosing hearing loss, however for the common person, it means very little. Explore several modified audiograms to help you (and your friends/family) understand hearing configurations. Additionally, this session will help you to explore the pros and cons of these tools, specifically what are the things you need to know to make sure others understand your hearing needs. If you have a copy of your audiogram, bring it with-we will be able to tailor your learning to your hearing. If you don't have an audiogram, that's ok! You can use mine as an example!

PRESENTER: Stephanie Gardner-Walsh

Dr. Stephanie Gardiner-Walsh is a professor at Illinois State University in the Deaf Education program. She is a CODA, hard of hearing, and multi-modal-meaning: She can only half hear, her family can only half hear, and she can communicate using spoken English, ASL, or Cued Speech.

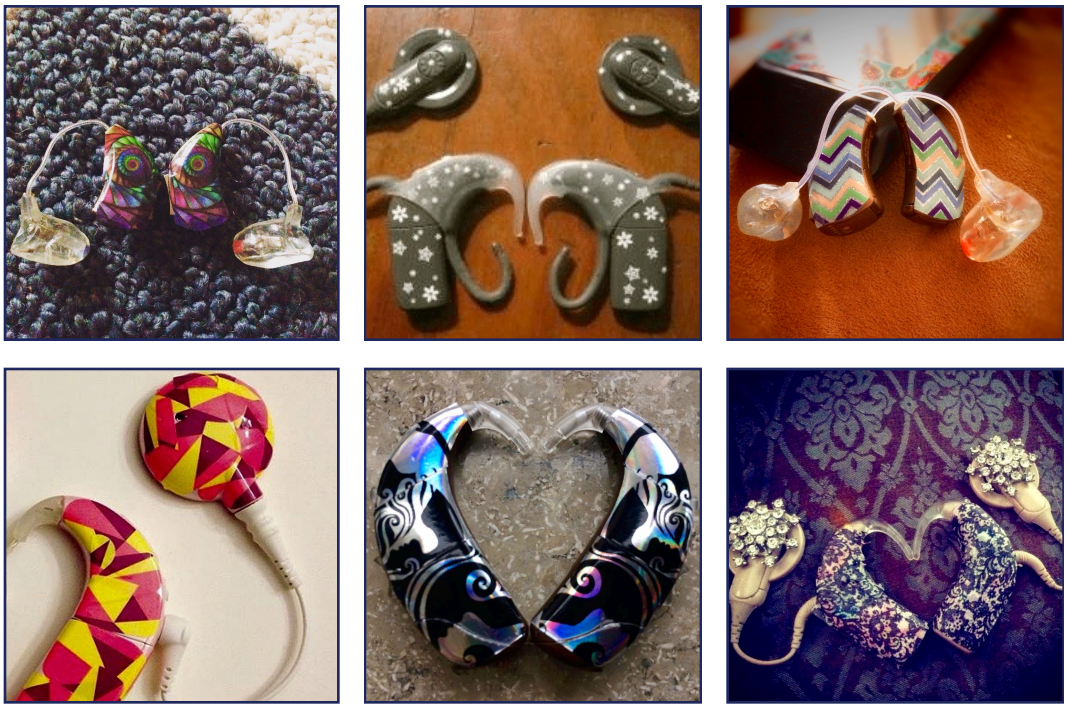
Her passion in work revolves around serving those with the ignored types of hearing loss-mild, unilateral, and late-onset. Outside of work, she calls herself a race car driver, triathlete, Mom, and cat-lady.

DESIGNED TO STAND OUT

COME DECORATE YOUR HEARING AIDS AND COCHLEAR IMPLANTS!

(safe, chemical and residue-free materials provided)

Hearing aids and cochlear implants have come a long way from the flesh and hair-color tones designed to blend in. Thankfully, the companies that manufacture hearing devices have listened to their customers and are offering more color options, demonstrating that *blending in isn't all it's cracked up to be.* You can take that even further by adding your own bling!



Description: We will be decorating our hearing devices using washi tape, stickers and nail foils. These are all safe to use, and safe to remove, materials — no chemicals or residue. Plan to attend this fun, creative, hands-on workshop to add a little personality to your hearing devices.

A group of deaf/hard of hearing children from *Minnesota Hands and Voices* will also be attending this workshop. It will be a fun time creating with these kids and also interacting with multi-generations of hearing loss.

PRESENTER: Sara Lundquist

Sara Lundquist is a Program Director and morning show radio host for KSCR Radio in Western MN, and also works as a Deaf & Hard of Hearing Role Model with Lifetrack.

Sara has a moderate severe hearing loss and enjoys decorating her hearing aids to stand out. She is married with two great kids. Her son also has a hearing loss.

CLEAR SPEECH

IT'S MORE THAN TELLING PEOPLE TO "STOP MUMBLING!"

Have you ever wondered why some people are easier to understand than others? Or why, within 30-seconds after asking someone to please talk just a little slower, they've "forgotten?" Find out the answers to these questions - and more! Learn what Clear Speech is all about and how to get people to use it when communicating with you.

PRESENTER: Mary Bauer

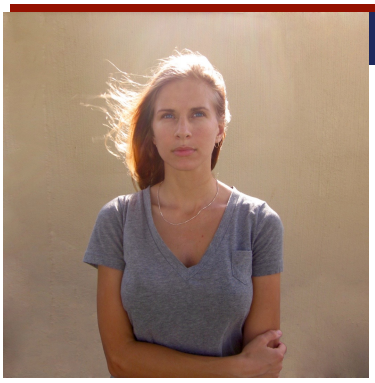
Mary Bauer works for the Minnesota Department of Human Services - Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services Division. In her position as a Deaf and Hard of Hearing Specialist, she provides: consultation, information & referral, technical assistance, and a variety of trainings regarding issues related to hearing loss. Mary is well-known for her presentations and for her sense of humor. She shares her own experiences as a hard of hearing person so that others can better understand what it is like to have a hearing loss. Mary is also proud to say she has earned a Hearing Loss Support Specialist certificate from the Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA)!

ARTIST TALK & PRESENTATION

Sponsored by: LISTEN TECHNOLOGIES

Liza Sylvestre shares briefly how she lost her hearing, how it has informed who she is as a human, and why she creates the artwork she creates. Her work is rooted in personal experience, but also embodies the larger themes of communication, understanding, language, culture, intimacy, vulnerability. Liza may enter the work through a very specific path, but anyone, despite their sensory makeup, will relate to it in an innate way.

Her future plans include creating a utopian sensory space that is equally accessed through all of our senses. What would a world look like, feel like, smell like, taste like, sound like — if we were not dominated by a visual hierarchy? How would our ideas about *disability* shift if no one needed *accommodations* because their environment was meant to be accessed equally through all senses?



PRESENTER: Liza Sylvestre

Liza Sylvestre is the co-founder of *Creating Language Through Arts*, an educational arts residency that focuses on using art as a means of communication when there are language barriers present due to hearing loss. In 2014 she was awarded both an Artists Initiative and Arts Learning grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board. Recently she has been the recipient of a VSA Jerome Emerging Artists Grant, a fellowship through Art(ists) on the Verge and an Art Works grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. She is currently an MFA candidate at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

The Movement Centric Language

Drawing on grammatical books I used to learn American Sign Language as a child for inspiration, I created my own language.

The Conversation

The Equalizer Room

It is very difficult for me to hear at exhibition openings. In this space I can communicate easily. In this space I am in control of the conversation. In this space, with the help of an equalizer, my hearing viewers hear as I do.

The Film and Video Poetry Symposium
2018
OFFICIAL SELECTION

Wha_i_I_old you a__ory in a language I_an_ear?

STARKEY HEARING TECHNOLOGIES FACILITY TOUR

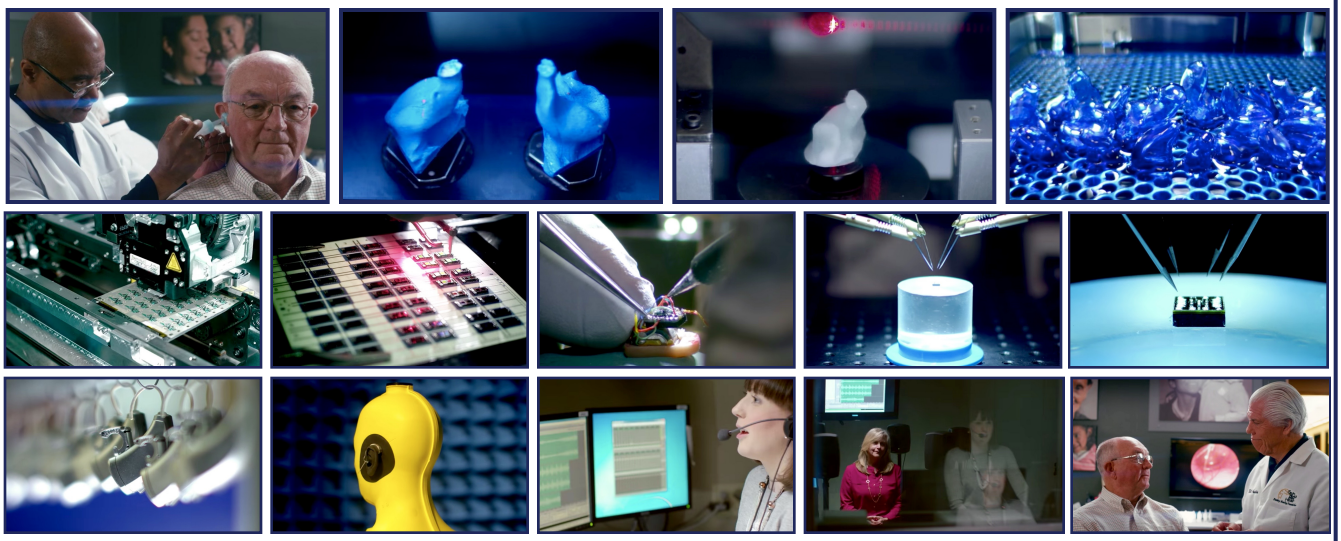
The Art & Science of Hearing: Starkey Hearing Technologies

“At Starkey, we know the art and science of hearing better than anyone else. From earmolds to custom devices, our made-for-you mentality is behind every hearing aid we create — even our standard products. All of our devices are tested clinically and in the real world to help you fit the most comfortable and personalized hearing aids on the market. Starkey is also known for our willingness to try difficult fittings when others won't. At our Center for Excellence in Minnesota, we routinely solve challenging issues for patients referred by our hearing professional partners.

“Walk through Starkey and you'll see hundreds of technicians creating hearing devices for patients. In fact, we have the fastest turnaround times in the industry while still maintaining the industry's highest standards for quality. When more challenging problems arise, our technicians collaborate with our Center For Excellence to develop the best hearing solution for your patient.

“A truly custom fit begins with an accurate understanding of your patient's ear. In recent years, Starkey has integrated breakthrough features directly into hearing aids and fitting software, allowing professionals to quickly and accurately conduct audiological best practices like real-ear measurement and live speech mapping without additional equipment. If we identify a need for a new diagnostic tool in a certain area, we have the resources and expertise to invent it.”

Starkey Hearing Technologies



Starkey Hearing Technologies is a privately owned company based in Eden Prairie, MN. William Austin bought a small ear-mold company in 1970 for $13,000 called Starkey Labs. He has developed this into a global company that had the 1st hearing aids that connect to an iPhone. Starkey has fit hearing aids for Ronald Reagan, Marlee Matlin, Bill Clinton and many many more. Come see Starkey's unique set up where you can get your hearing tested, molds made and get your new hearing aids all in one day.