

ART SPEAKS & ACT UP!

Creative Fun for Fall!

What is ART SPEAKS / ACT UP?

ART SPEAKS and ACT UP! are innovative programs created by SPEECH PATHways (pediatric speech-language pathology practice) and local artists and drama instructors. The programs are specifically designed for children with language and learning disabilities.

- Classes for Preschool & School-Age Children
- Individual and Group Instruction Available
- Low adult/child ratios
- Art instruction by local artist, instructor & studio owner
- Drama instruction by an experienced, enthusiastic instructor
- Language instruction by licensed and certified pediatric Speech-Language Pathologist
- Typically developing peer model(s) in each group



Goals of ART SPEAKS

- Improve peer relationships
- Learn to read & respond appropriately to social cues
- Learn to read & use body language appropriately
- Learn to identify, express & respond to emotions
- Learn to express self through various art mediums (emotions)
- Improve communication & social exchanges
- Build and maintain friendships
- Opportunity for children with developmental delays to experience art and various art mediums

Who Would Benefit from ART SPEAKS?

Children with any of the following challenges would benefit:

- Autism spectrum disorders (PDD, autism, Asperger's)
- Language delays/disabilities
- Social skills/pragmatic deficits
- Learning disabilities
- Developmental delays & disabilities
- Motor-planning disorders
- Sensory disorders
- Attention issues
- Auditory processing issues
- Cognitive delays
- Behavioral issues

Who Would Benefit from ACT UP?

- ACT UP! best serves children struggling with the social deficits associated with High-Functioning Autism (HFA), Asperger's Disorder (AS), Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD), Learning Disabilities(LD)—including Nonverbal Learning Disabilities (NLD)—and other Developmental Disorders.
- Participants must have some verbal skills (limited skills are acceptable).
- This program is not appropriate for children with aggressive behaviors.

What Drama Can Foster

- Self-confidence & self-discipline
- Increased awareness of self (mind, body & voice) and others (collaboration & empathy)
- Communication skills (enhances verbal & non-verbal expression, voice projection, articulation, fluency, language and persuasive speech)
- Imagination (creative choices, interpretation, cognitive “thinking” skills)
- Creativity (there is no right or wrong answer in creative expression)
- Develop respect for others’ choices & interpretations
- There is no winner or loser in drama: Everyone is an equal player!
- Cooperation/collaboration (everyone helps each other to succeed as individuals and as a group)
- Trust (facilitates positive risk-taking by developing trust in self, others and the process)
- Social awareness, social interaction & social skills
- Cognitive skills/problem solving (concentration, attention, quick-thinking solutions, memory)
- Fun (play, humor, laughter, reduce stress)
- Physical fitness (movement improved flexibility, coordination, balance & coordination)



Location/Registration

The Fall 2007 class is forming now for Thursday nights at 5pm (classes start September 13). Groups will meet at Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church in Westminster, MD. The classes will alternate each week: Sign up for just one class (come every other week) or both (come each week)! Cost is \$30 per week (per class) + a \$15 one-time materials fee for the whole Arts Speaks session. For more information or to register, contact SPEECH PATHways at 410.374.0555 or visit www.speechpathways.net.

About the Instructors

Both programs have been developed and operate under the guidance of a licensed Speech Pathologist from SPEECH PATHways. Art Speaks is taught by local artist and art teacher Carla Gray and Act Up! is guided by a drama instructor. Each of these talented individuals uses their creativity to help kids explore their own!

About SPEECH PATHways

SPEECH PATHways is the only comprehensive pediatric speech-language pathology clinic in Carroll County, Maryland, offering services since 1999. Owner Kimberly A. Bell, M.S., CCC-SLP, has been a speech and language pathologist for over ten years. She and her associates offer a wide variety of specialized pediatric programs in addition to traditional speech and language services. Each SPEECH PATHways therapist holds a master’s degree and a Certificate of Clinical Competence from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association; each is also trained or certified in various specialty treatments and techniques. SPEECH PATHways strives to be on the cutting edge of pediatric intervention. Because of the specialty services offered, clients travel from Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia and the Washington, DC, area to the SPEECH PATHways clinic.