

PRESS KIT



JULY 2-6, 2025 SHERATON DENVER DOWNTOWN

WeStutter.org

MEET THE NSA

The National Stuttering Association is the largest non-profit organization in the world dedicated to bringing hope and empowerment to children and adults who stutter, their families, and professionals, through support, education, advocacy, and research.

Nearly 100% of those supporting our work—either as board members, staff, or other supporters—are people who stutter, family members of people who stutter, or speech professionals.

WHAT IS STUTTERING?

Stuttering is a speech disorder that causes interruptions in the natural flow of speech. It can show up as repeating sounds or syllables, stretching out certain sounds, or getting "stuck" on a word with a noticeable pause or block. Everyone stumbles over their words sometimes, but for people who stutter, these disruptions happen more often and can make speaking feel like a challenge.

While stuttering varies from person to person, one thing is clear—it doesn't define intelligence, personality, or capability.



JOIN THE LARGEST GATHERING OF PEOPLE WHO STUTTER

The NSA's 42nd Annual Conference is coming to Denver from **July 2 - 6, 2025**. At this unique annual vibrant conference, attendees will meet others who stutter from all over the world, learn more about stuttering, as well as connect with others who understand life as a person who stutters.

Our Annual Conference creates a transformative space where people who stutter can find confidence, support, and community.



OUR GOALS

1

CREATE A COMMUNITY WHERE PEOPLE WHO STUTTER THRIVE

At its heart, the NSA is a place where people who stutter are embraced, supported, and empowered—because everyone deserves to be heard.

2

LEARN, GROW, AND BE INSPIRED

From interactive workshops to expert-led sessions, our Annual Conference is packed with opportunities to gain knowledge, share experiences, and discover new ways to navigate life with confidence.

3

MAKE UNFORGETTABLE MEMORIES!

Laughter, dancing, and adventures—our conference isn't just about learning; it's about celebrating! With exciting off-site excursions and plenty of chances to connect, this is an event like no other.

“Similar to many at the NSA, my son met someone who stuttered for the first time at the conference. The joy and extroverted enthusiasm I saw in him while we were there was a true gift.

I left feeling less fearful of what my son faces in the future and feeling as though we now have a community.”

--Kelly H., mother of a child who stutters

WHY COVER THIS EVENT?

Largest Gathering of People Who Stutter

The NSA Annual Conference is the biggest event of its kind, bringing together hundreds of people who stutter, their families, speech-language pathologists, and researchers. The sheer size and impact make it a significant event in the speech community. From keynote addresses to talent shows, open mic nights, and social events, the conference is a dynamic and uplifting experience, making for **compelling visuals and soundbites**.

Expanded Understanding of Stuttering

Despite affecting over 3 million Americans, stuttering is often misunderstood. Media coverage can dispel myths, educate the public about the condition, and highlight the importance of inclusive communication. With increased visibility of people who stutter in movies, TV, and politics, **this event offers a timely angle** on how public figures and media representation influence the stuttering community.

Opportunity to Highlight Human Stories

Covering this event highlights **powerful personal stories** of confronting stigma and embracing self-acceptance. Attendees include children, teens, and adults who stutter, many of whom have faced bullying at school or discrimination in their careers. Their stories make for engaging human-interest pieces.

PAST MEDIA FEATURES



WHAT TO EXPECT

This event will welcome 800+ attendees over a four-day period from July 2 - July 6, 2025.

Attendees will attend a mix of presentations, interactive sessions, and large social events. A program detailing the sessions, workshops, and events available throughout the duration of the Annual Conference will be available in mid-April.

We're committed to creating a safe and comfortable environment for everyone.

That means actively listening, allowing people who stutter to speak at their own pace, and resisting the urge to finish their sentences.

Interview subjects will be available.

Representatives of the press who would like to speak with a member of the stuttering community should contact NSA Communications Director, Sarah Armstrong: sarah@westutter.org or (224) 305-2701. Interviews may be conducted with:

- People who stutter, including teens and adults
- Parents of children who stutter
- NSA board members
- Subject matter experts, including speech-language pathologists and academic researchers



EXAMPLES OF PAST SPEAKERS

Our 2024 Annual Conference in St. Louis brought together a dynamic lineup of speakers, offering a glimpse of the energy and inspiration you can expect at our 2025 Annual Conference in Denver.

- **Mason Massey**, a NASCAR driver and person who stutters
- **David Alpuche**, a photographer/entrepreneur from Mexico City and person who stutters
- **Denise Deitchman**, the proud mom of a teenager who stutters
- **Tim Flynn**, a school-based speech-language pathologist and a person who stutters
- **Ashleigh Givens**, a fashion photographer and multimedia artist and person who stutters
- **Ezra Horak**, leader of Stutterology and person who stutters
- **Cameron Joyce**, a recent college graduate, Senior Consultant for Booz Allen Hamilton in its national security sector, and person who stutters
- **Jim McClure**, a retired newspaper reporter, public relations manager, independent consultant, author, Navy reserve captain, and person who stutters
- **Dr. Sandra Russell-Smith**, a former elementary principal and person who stutters
- **Matt Maxon**, a speech-language pathologist and life-long person who stutters



MORE INFORMATION

The National Stuttering Association's Annual Conference is all about belonging, growth, and fun.

This one-of-a-kind event offers visitors and media representatives the chance to experience firsthand the welcoming, dynamic, and relaxed atmosphere that draws attendees from across the nation.

Be part of the experience—learn more about stuttering and connect with the vibrant, inclusive stuttering community.



Learn More

[WeStutter.org/Conference](https://westutter.org/conference)

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Promo Video

<https://tinyurl.com/westutter>