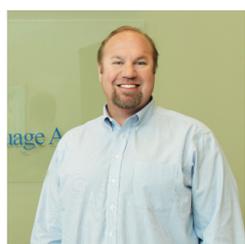




WORDS FROM CEO Brett Bachmann



The ever popular children's book writer, Dr. Seuss, once said, "Why fit in when you were born to stand out?" Our students not only stand out, but they show me their courage and competency everyday. Our students don't fit the mold – they make their own way each and every day. My role at HHI, takes me on journey after journey, where I'm reminded of the miracles taking place right under my watch. It's a wonderful ride.

Nonetheless, as I admire their endurance, I am saddened to see 12 students graduating at the end of this month. It never is easy to watch them grow so much and then go, but I am proud that our teachers and staff have had such a powerful impact on their individual journeys and ultimately their future. As many of them leave, just like a butterfly formed from a cocoon, we anticipate others coming home to visit. In August, we will host the second annual "HHLA Alumni Day," as graduates are invited back to share their memories with their friends and family.

I am excited to announce the next recipient of our ListenUp Project -- Ann Morrison, who will receive new hearing aids thanks to the generous efforts of her niece, Jillian, who has volunteered for community service on behalf of her aunt. We will continue to add more and more participants in the coming months to this exciting initiative!

Congratulations to our HHI Junior Board who recently hosted its 1st fundraiser – a dance – at our downtown campus. Funds raised will help with classroom and art supplies. Thanks to our team members from all of our schools and their parents for volunteering to host this successful event! And many thanks to The Norton Foundation for their generous donation of \$15,000! We couldn't do this work without the support of such a dedicated community partner.

We continue to reach out to the community where we participated in Mayor Fischer's Give a Day of Service program the week of April 16 and we hosted two health fairs in Bardstown and at The Louisville Presbyterian Seminary, "Healthy Me" Event. Finally, join me in celebrating "Better Hearing & Speech Month" this month of May. This national day will celebrate healthy hearing and speech during the entire month. Stay tuned as we spotlight some of our success stories and more this month and beyond! Oh, the places we will go! Stay tuned!

-Brett



MAY IS NATIONAL BETTER HEARING & SPEECH MONTH

Protecting and preserving your hearing health is one of the most important things you can do. When your hearing is not quite right, we want to help! Heuser Hearing Institute (HHI) would like to remind you to make an appointment with your hearing professional as soon as you detect a problem with your hearing health. Our trained staff and audiologists can diagnose and treat your hearing issues and help you come up with the best plan for your needs.

Contact HHI to schedule your appointment today at 502-584-3573.



NORTON FOUNDATION GRANTS HEUSER CHILDREN GIFT OF ART

At Heuser Hearing & Language Academy, art, music and dance transcends deafness. Through the arts, the children learn language, vocabulary, turn taking, and self-advocacy skills. Children also work on balance and coordination needed to function with their hearing peers. The Arts Program at Heuser Hearing & Language Academy serves as a critical therapy program that the children with hearing loss find highly motivating and essential to their development.



This month, the Norton Foundation donated \$15,000 towards to support of the Arts Program. This grant will ensure the children will receive art therapy, music therapy, and dance for the 2016-2017 school year. Thank you to the Norton Foundation for their generosity.

HHLA TEACHER PROFILE Jill Hedges, Art Therapist, HHLA



S. Jill Hedges is a board certified, licensed professional art therapist in Kentucky, licensed counselor, and registered play therapist who has specialized in trauma, bereavement and attachment issues. She is the Art Therapist at Heuser Hearing & Language Academy, where she developed an art therapy program for pre-schoolers and kindergartners who are deaf and hard of hearing. Some of Hedges techniques include painting, ceramics, collage, paper-mache, sculpture and environmental art. She has a Masters in Education in Counseling Psychology and Art Therapy from The University of Louisville (2008) and an undergraduate degree from Indiana University – Bloomington in Fine Arts (1978) and further studied painting at The Academy for Visual Arts (HfbK), Hamburg, Germany and The Taos Art Institute, Taos, New Mexico.

As an artist, Hedges' work permanently hangs in The Jeffersonville (IN) City Building and is shown by the Southern Indiana Council on The Arts. She was a participating artist in Louisville's "Gallapalooza" creating "Schimpff's Candy Dapple" in 2004. She joined HHLA in 2008.

When asked why she pursued her role at HHLA, Jill is modest. She remembers overhearing a mother of one of her students talking to a child's teacher after the child had just had surgery for her second hearing processor. The mother was saying that her child had filled up one drawing pad and demanded another drawing pad. The mother related how quickly the child was recovering from surgery and that drawing helped ease the pain. Jill heard this and stopped in her tracks. "It was then I knew I was in the right place and that art therapy had a positive effect on medical patients," said Jill. Jill follows the doctrine that little children transform in the art room into individuals who are part of a family, a classroom, and a community. "They learn to build their own narrative and discover their own identity, and I love every minute of what I do," adds Jill.

JUNIOR BOARD DANCE

The HHI Junior Board hosted its first fundraiser on Friday, April 22. The event was fun and well attended with students approximately 50 students from all junior board schools represented. Thanks to the parents for working the door and volunteering as chaperones!



HEUSER EVENTS

May 26th, 2016
HHLA Graduation
 1:00pm | HHLA Downtown campus
 For information contact Debbie Woods or Wende Elkins at 502.584-3573.

May 21st, 2016
Cochlear Americas Presentation
 10am-noon | 111 E, Kentucky Street
 Childcare will be provided. Contact pcarby@gmail.com to register for childcare.

Lyndon Location
 417 Benjamin Lane,
 Louisville, KY 40222

Dupont Location | 502-584-3573
 3900 Dupont Square South, Suite D
 Louisville, KY 40207

Downtown Campus
 111-117 East Kentucky St.
 Louisville, KY 40203