



## **International AAC Awareness Month**

### **Video Collection 2009**

### **Many Methods, One Goal: To Communicate**

### **Italy**

*La voce dello sguardo: I segnali del corpo: un modo per raggiungere la comunicazione* by Valeria Gervasini.

In the last few years, I have added to my written and physical communication another mode of expression: I use color (painting is a word I still won't use). I like very much to use color, and I do so following the instruction of an art teacher who has devised for me, without requiring any type of movement, instruments and positions that allow me to use colors in a personal way. I hope that this description of my diverse modes of communication [in my story "Body signals: a way to achieve communication"], along with its accompanying video, may be of help to those who find themselves living with others who cannot communicate verbally. For me, learning to communicate has been the greatest joy.

YouTube URL: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L4SmocvQ5Z4>

### **United Kingdom**

**AAC Keys: Writing from Pathfinder to Computer** by Michael Brian Reed.

This is how I write with my Pathfinder communication aid connected to a computer with a serial cable. At the end of my demonstration it takes me a few goes to find a message that was stored 3 years ago, something that is important to me. I left my special school in July 2009. I was there for 12 years. 12 years of not talking to my friends. My teachers never learned how to help me.

YouTube URL: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4BVwyWVBqBs>



**Campaign Me** by Ben Travis, David Tait, Michael Brian Reed, Mark Bloxham, Peter Allen, John Harrison, Trevor Lynn, Victoria Surtees, Muriel Claire Winship, Paul Humby, Wayne Philips, Robert McNicholas, Rory Falconer, Idonia Kearley, Jane Wilson, Andrew Murray, Paul Strong

*Campaign Me* is election campaign sabotage. The actors are a group of young people with disabilities. We made it with Engage TV at Percy Hedley's Able 2 Day Centre, Newcastle, UK. *Campaign Me* was a MediaBox project.

YouTube URL: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r3tdnAbPHOc>

**FaCE Group Interview** by Michael Brian Reed, Gemma Coils, Andrew Murray, Robert McNicholas.

I ask my friends to support my AAC Campaign. They ask will we be able to make communication boards and communication passports for our friends, and AAC movies and animations.

YouTube URL: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TTToInmFxrJY>

**Many Stories, One Voice** by Michael Brian Reed, Andrew Murray, Gemma Coils, Jake Edward Storm Lee, Robert Mc Nicholas, Sam Grimes.

The video is my talks about AAC Month and the *Many Stories, One Voice* writing contest, with story tips, and footage of our group, FaCE, at our story writing workshops. We read our stories in 2 schools and 3 libraries during October 2008, using my Pathfinder communication aid, the ReadPlease free text-to-speech programme, and audio recorded from my Pathfinder into PowerPoint.

YouTube URL: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tpv9E97EA9Q>



**No Secrets** by Michael Reed, Melanie Bishop-Thompson, Wayne Walters, Andy Collins, Tony Stevens, Michael Robson, Ben Newton, Stephen Greenwell, Brian Devine, Robert Atkin.

*No Secrets* was made to promote the Department of Health's "No Secrets" campaign, which aims to stamp out abuse. MPs from the North East Learning Disability Parliament act out different ways people with disabilities can be abused, and how they should tell somebody about it. My part is about my communication aid being locked in a cupboard for safe-keeping, leaving me without a voice. We made *No Secrets* with Engage TV at the Innovations Centre, Spennymoor, UK. *No Secrets* premiered at The Gate, Newcastle 18 June 2009.

YouTube URL: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bibKvUYwZ6w>

**Out of the Box** by Michael Brian Reed.

*Out of the Box* is a three-minute documentary about me made for the Community Channel. It premiered at the Baltic Theatre, Newcastle 24 June 2009. Engage TV filmed me in different places and I recorded the voice over on my Pathfinder communication aid.

YouTube URL: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J2d1euofU5E>

**Piggy's AAC Phone** by Michael Brian Reed, Andrew Murray, Gemma Coils, Jake Edward Storm Lee, Robert Mc Nicholas, Sam Grimes.

Piggy's AAC Phone is a story from the *Many Stories, One Voice Online Collection* we made for International AAC Month 2008. The narrated PowerPoint was too big to email to the contest so we sent it without sound. This year we made our story into a movie for the 2009 collection, *Many Methods, One Goal: To Communicate*. See my Tutorials playlist for how to do it:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ebk7vF71sk&feature=c4-overview-vl&list=PL1DEC67BCCC17ED99>

YouTube URL: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p8BfoPCkdYU>



**PowerPoint Movie by Michael Brian Reed.**

Movie tutorial showing how to make a movie of a PowerPoint presentation or story by putting photos of the slides on the movie track in a movie editing program, and audio files to narrate the movie on the audio track. See my Tutorials playlist on YouTube for how to add sound to PowerPoint, how to make the sound files in text-to-speech software, and how to convert WAV or AIFF to MP3 in iTunes.

YouTube URL: <http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL1DEC67BCCC17ED99>

**Shine Week: Andrew Interviews Michael by Michael Brian Reed and Andrew Murray.**

Andrew interviews me about my talent for Shine Week, a national festival of young people's talent in the UK 6-10 July 2009. We are at Chilton Community College.

YouTube URL: <http://www.youtube.com/user/michaelbrianreed#play/uploads/24/0z7tENoPggo>

**Shine Week: Andrew's Talents by Michael Brian Reed and Andrew Murray.**

Michael interviews Andrew about his talent for Shine Week, a national festival of young people's talent in the UK 6-10 July 2009, and then films Andrew at his Rookies lesson.

YouTube URL <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZuZdScWk-gM>

**Willow Dene School AAC Examples:** Pink class is a class of lower key stage 2 children with complex health needs who are working at an early level of development (p1-4). They include children with hearing and vision impairment, sensory sensitivity and all of them have some degree of physical disability.

The videos included are an example of how we use AAC to support communication in the context of game playing. They aim to develop skills in anticipation, recognizing cause and effect and initiation. Above all they help children become aware of how communication and AAC can give them control in a given situation, provoke a response and draw attention to themselves. They are also planned to be fun, motivating and a tool for bringing adults and children together.



1. AAC Example 1: This game is an adapted version of the game ‘port and starboard’. Children have a phrase recorded on their Big Macks, which provoke an unusual vocal response from the surrounding adults. Each child has a different phrase which provides a different vocal response i.e. smelly feet gets a shout of ‘phew!’ and the surprise provokes shouts of ‘boo!’ <http://www.vimeo.com/6569959>
2. AAC Example 2: This game gives the children direct control over the actions of an adult. Each single message device holds an instruction for an adult to do something – from spinning to jumping or dancing: <http://www.vimeo.com/6570034>
3. AAC Example 3: An adapted version of “What’s the time, Mr. Wolf?” The wolf has a step-by-step communicator, which counts up the hours till “dinner time” and the other children hold Big Macks with “What’s the time Mr Wolf?” recorded on them: <http://www.vimeo.com/6570130>
4. AAC Example 4: <http://www.vimeo.com/6570192>

## United States

**Party Foods** by David Blake, Michael Chaney, Amberly Creighton, Carl Fjetland, Sara Hunter, Lalena Manuel, Travis Messner, Sara Perkins, Ericka Rivera, Magdalena Serda, Gilbert Steve, Lora White, and Julie Wolfe.

Every month we do cooking class at the Adult Day Program. Everyone votes on the ingredients using their AAC devices. In this group, we have people using Dynavox V, Dynavox Vmax, DynaMyte, MT4, Dynavox 3100, Vanguard, Vantage Lite, ECO-14, and Tango. We use an adapted pouring cup and ECU box so we can plug in switches to participate. After cooking we look at the pictures and vote on which ones should be in a PowerPoint story. We write a story together. We vote and edit as a group, using the SmartBoard. Once we have a story, it is printed and laminated. Then a group gets to go to the elementary school nearby and read the story to kindergarteners.

YouTube URL: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VqRoN9iT\\_oQ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VqRoN9iT_oQ)

**Many Methods: One Goal, Communication** by Sam Buswell.



Last year, Sam submitted (with Kerri as co-author), a MSOV story entitled, “Taffy the Dog goes on an Airplane Trip”. This year, for MMOG, Sam shares his story on video, (on YouTube), using signs, gestures, speech, assistive technology, and maps. Listen to Sam’s story because “awareness happens when you share a story.”

YouTube URL: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wCfC4ew8i08>

### **Hall of Fame** by Luis Clemente.

Luis was born in Puerto Rico where he was never afforded access to augmentative communication and assistive technology services. When he came to New York in 1992, he communicated through gestures and guttural vocal sounds and used a walker. At that time, he was monolingual. Luis came to AHRC NYC Bronx Day Habilitation (BD) Program in June, 2000, bringing with him a communication book. At BDH, Luis saw other individuals using communication devices and power wheelchairs and he immediately began advocating for the same services for himself. Within six months he received a DynaVox MiniMo and his first power wheelchair. After a few months working with the DynaVox, Luis was able to learn English. He now formulates sentences and communicates effectively with people in both English and Spanish using his DynaVox V. Luis has become an advocate for individuals with developmental disabilities. He encourages and assists one of his peers who uses a Dynavox to become a better communicator. Luis also addressed a legislative meeting in the Bronx to increase awareness for the need for assistive technology services for individuals with IDD.

### Description of Film

The Hall of Fame for Great Americans at Bronx Community College, founded in 1900, is the original "Hall of Fame" in this country. This hall of fame honors prominent Americans who have had a significant impact on this nation's history. The Hall of Fame serves as a focus for educational reinforcement and a stage for related programs and exhibits at BCC. Earlier this year, AHRC NYC individuals, including Luis, visited the campus on a weekly basis to participate in a research and study project where they would eventually become co-leaders of guided tours for the Hall of Fame for Great Americans. Luis had the option of selecting Great Americans of choice, whom he researched, and presented at community tours. Luis co-led tours using a DynaVox V, mounted on his power-wheelchair. The short film to be entered in the contest documents this process and its end result.

YouTube URL: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-9XFvZbBHWA>