

DIRECTORS, 2023

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who use AAC and their
families
Amy Sonntag, Secretary

July 2023

Dear Friends:

Many of us are getting ready for the long-awaited “biennial” ISAAC conference in Cancun, delayed by COVID and now it’s “here”! If you will be in Cancun, I can’t wait to see you at our USSAAC Chapter meeting, Tuesday, July 25, 2023 12:45 – 1:45 PM in Cozumel 1. If you are not traveling to Mexico, I hope to greet you at one or more of our upcoming “meet-ups” – either virtually this fall (date TBA), at Closing the Gap in October, or at ATIA in January!

Mini-grants

Amplifying AAC Voices Mini-Grants (up to \$1000) are still available! AAC Grants may address issues at the local, state, regional, or national level. Applicants must be a USSAAC member and include an AAC user in developing the application. Contact president@ussaac.org for more information and a copy of the application.

Speaker Connection

USSAAC’s Speaker Connection <https://speaker.ussaac.org> now has a roster of 30 speakers! In 2022, there were 27 paid engagements ranging from presentations for university classes, conferences, or professional development to assorted “projects” requiring the authentic voices of people who use AAC. As of June 30, 2023, there are 24 engagements that have taken place or are already booked! Do you know a person who uses AAC who should be a part of our Speaker Connection? Encourage them to make a profile today!

Member Finder

USSAAC’s Member Finder is growing! Once we hit 100 profiles, all members with profiles will be entered in a drawing for a \$25.00 gift card (Amazon or Starbucks). In Cancun, look for USSAAC

members ready to help you make your profile on the spot! It just takes a minute – you don't even need to know your ISAAC number (just be sure to use the email on record with ISAAC).

ISAAC Conference Cancún

VOLUNTEERS WANTED: Did you know that, in addition to our intrepid USSAAC conference co-chairs Miriam Boesch and Yoosun Chung, USSAAC has many members contributing to ISAAC Cancun? This includes our very own Pat Politano, who is the auction expert for ISAAC! We hope that USSAAC members will volunteer to help her out by accepting donated items and monitoring the products. USSAAC is also planning to have members at some of our corporate partners' exhibits to help people make their Member Finder profile "on the spot"! Sign up for either of these opportunities at <https://forms.gle/qvCGhSTmstbfA3X8> ISAAC has other volunteer opportunities as well. Learn more and sign up at <https://isaac-online.org/english/conference-cancun/call-for-volunteers/>

AUCTION: Speaking of the auction...think about contributing an item you can put in your suitcase and bring to the conference. The donation form MUST be completed before an item can be dropped off at the auction table at the conference. For more information and the link to the donation form go to <https://isaac-online.org/english/conference-cancun/silent-auction/>

RESOURCE EXCHANGE: Have you started packing? Don't forget to bring items to contribute to ISAAC's Resource Exchange! Learn more at ISAAC – Resource Exchange (isaac-online.org)

USSAAC "badge ribbons": Be on the lookout for a USSAAC board member and ask for your yellow USSAAC badge ribbon!

USSAAC CHAPTER MEETING: I look forward to greeting you at the USSAAC Chapter meeting, Tuesday, July 25 at 12:45 – 1:45 for the USSAAC Chapter meeting in Cozumel 1. Learn what USSAAC has been up to and how you can get involved!

Stay cool!

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amy S. Goldman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Amy S. Goldman, President

Calendar Re-Cap

July 20, 2023: Last day to enter details about your contribution to the ISAAC silent auction

July 22-23, 2023: ISAAC Pre-Conference Workshops, AAC Camp, Executive and Council Meetings

July 24-27, 2023: ISAAC Cancun Main Conference

July 25, 2023 12:45 – 1:45 PM: USSAAC Chapter Meeting, Cozumel 1

July 25-26, 2023 ISAAC Silent Auction

September 20, 2023: 7:00 PM Eastern. USSAAC Webinar: “411 on Training 911 Responders” (Mankey and Rang)

October 2023: AAC Awareness Month

October 11-13, 2023: Closing the Gap, Minneapolis, MN.

October 11, 2023: 5:30 – 6:30 PM. USSAAC Meet-up at Closing the Gap, Directors Row

January 26, 2024: 6:00 – 6:45 PM. USSAAC Meet-up at ATIA, Miami Meeting Room

Stay up-to-date on USSAAC activities through social media - Follow, like, comment and share at <https://www.facebook.com/ussaac1>

Follow ISAAC at <https://www.facebook.com/ISAACinternational>