

Global Systems: Design and Use of Symbols that Reflect Local Language and Culture

Presented by
David Banes - Consultant and Trainer
E.A. Draffan - Speech-Language Therapist

Tuesday, June 4, 2019
6:00-7:00 pm EDT

ABOUT THE PRESENTERS:

David Banes works as a consultant and trainer and was formerly CEO, at Mada, Qatar Assistive Technology Centre addressing all aspects of access and inclusion through technology. He currently is working across the Middle and Far East, Europe and Africa with a focus upon building access infrastructure from policy to practice. Recent projects include the development of a response to disruptive innovation in the access industry, identifying solutions to meeting the needs of refugees with a disability, and building a business case for public investment in assistive technology, whilst supporting entrepreneurs to bring products and services to market. He has a special interest in AAC having been a teacher of children with complex needs during the early part of his career.

E.A. Draffan trained as a Speech and Language Therapist initially working in clinics and a large general hospital and began specializing in Assistive Technology across all disabilities. She moved into education but her interests remain focused on the successful use of assistive technology strategies for those with communication and literacy difficulties with work involving the use of apps, e-books, speech generating devices, text to speech and AAC symbol support.

SEMINAR DESCRIPTION:

We will explore the development and use of AAC symbols across diverse languages and cultures. The experience of developing the Arabic Tawasol open symbol set led directly to the creation of Global Symbols with participatory approaches to localization and contextualization of symbols to reflect community needs. All symbols, tools and training resources are published openly, resulting in collaboration with international agencies to increase AAC usage globally.

CE units are available for Free to USSAAC/ISAAC members only.

Non-members pay \$25 for each webinar.

This course is offered for 0.1 ASHA CEUs (Introductory level; Professional area.)

MODERATED BY: Stephanie Meehan

PARTICIPANTS WILL LEARN:

- The importance of language and cultural influences on symbol design for communication
- How democratizing symbol design can support effective symbol sets
- The value of open licensing as the basis of extending the availability of AAC globally
- Sources of open symbols and resources

TIME ORDERED AGENDA:

- 5 minutes: Introduction of Speaker, USSAAC and Topic
- 5 minutes: Why do we need Global Symbols?
- 10 minutes: Symbol designs for language and cultural diversity - lessons learnt from Tawasol
- 10 minutes: Democratizing symbol design - The Global Symbol model and tools
- 10 minutes: Globalsymbols.com - interoperability and API
- 10 minutes: Future issues and plans - the role of AI in AAC
- 5 minutes: Summary
- 5 minutes: Q & A

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) CEUs in speech-language pathology and audiology are awarded by the ASHA CE Registry upon receipt of the CEU Participant Form from the ASHA Approved CE Provider, USSAAC. CEU Participant Forms are available onsite at Registration. ASHA CEUs are provided to full registrations. This program is offered for .1 ASHA CEUs (Introductory Level, Professional Area)

ASHA Disclosures:

- *Presenters have no financial or non-financial disclosures to report.*
- *Moderator has no financial or non-financial disclosures to report.*

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<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3477083875552362251>

PLEASE NOTE: Only the first 100 attendees to log into the webinar will be guaranteed spots.

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about USSAAC

The United States Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication (USSAAC) is the national chapter of the International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication (ISAAC). As the United States' only non-profit organization dedicated to supporting the entire AAC community, USSAAC provides an invaluable role, working to ensure that individuals who could benefit from AAC have access to the technology and services they need.

Benefits of membership include, but are not limited to:

- Free access to USSAAC webinar series with ASHA CEUs and USSAAC Twitter chats
- Advocacy for maintaining & expanding access to AAC systems and services
- Discount to 2018 ISAAC Conference – Australia
- SpeakUp publication/Blog
- Information updates on USSAAC website & social platforms
- Membership in ISAAC with their additional benefits

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