

Mark Steidl (they/them/their) is a 29 -year-old with Cerebral Palsy, living in Pittsburgh, PA. In 2020, they graduated from Community College of Allegheny County (CCAC), majoring in social work foundations. In addition to serving as vice-president on student government at CCAC, Mark participated in the Gender & Sexuality Alliance (GSA). Mark works part-time in technical support at Tobii Dynavox, has taught music appreciation at the Woodlands Foundation, and is the program manager for Self-Advocacy Voices, a public speaking and empowerment program. Self-Advocacy Voices empowers adults with disabilities to give voice to their interests, passions, knowledge and experiences through public speaking within a supportive environment of peers and mentors, in order to increase opportunities for participants to attain valued roles within the broader communities of their choice. Their hobbies include going to concerts and musicals, listening to wide variety of music, and traveling to new places. Mark loves to listen to showtunes! "People say don't judge a book by its cover -- that goes for people too," Mark says, adding that labels automatically go on everyone but they want to be seen as "more than a person in a wheelchair."