

NATIONAL STUTTERING CONFERENCE IN FORT WORTH JULY 6-10

More than 700 people will attend the National Stuttering Association's annual conference -- nation's largest event for people who stutter -- in Fort Worth July 6-10. It's an opportunity to raise awareness on an often-misunderstood disorder and learn about the latest research and treatment.

WHY IT'S OF INTEREST:

- About 1 percent of the population stutters.
- There is no cure, although some treatments help improve fluency and support groups build self-confidence.
- Speech therapy is improving, especially for young children. But the vast majority of children who stutter receive inadequate treatment and parents often get bad advice.
- Stutterers can lead successful lives but often face ridicule and employment discrimination.

WHERE: Worthington Renaissance Hotel, 200 Main St., Fort Worth

WHEN: Thursday through Saturday with multiple events throughout the day. (If you have a reporter or camera crew in the area, interview subjects and visual opportunities are always available.)

MEDICAL/SCIENCE WRITERS NOTE: The conference will be preceded by a high-level Applied Research Symposium on stuttering July 5-6. More info:

http://www.westutter.org/connect/2011_Applied_Research_Symposium.html

CONFERENCE EVENTS:

- Keynote speakers: David Seidler, Oscar-winning screenwriter for *The King's Speech*, and Neal Jeffery, former NFL quarterback and Dallas-area minister
- Presentations on current trends in stuttering research and treatment
- 50-plus workshops on stuttering treatment and support
- Special activities for kids and parents
- "Open microphone" sessions (an emotional high point)

INTERVIEW SUBJECTS:

- Adults, teens, children and parents who are overcoming stuttering -- including Dallas-Fort Worth area residents. Their stories are inspiring.
- Some of the nation's foremost experts in stuttering research and treatment.

REGISTRATION:

Adults who stutter, or children who stutter and their families, may attend the conference by registering on-site or at http://www.westutter.org/connect/Conference_Registration.html Registration is \$145 for the three-day conference or \$65 for one day.

WHO WE ARE:

The nonprofit National Stuttering Association is the world's largest stuttering support organization, with about 100 local support groups in the U.S. The NSA sponsors workshops and youth programs, publishes information about stuttering and provides referrals to treatment programs.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: <http://www.westutter.org/aboutTheNSA/media.html>

MORE INFORMATION:

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