

## **KEYNOTE**

### **Create Your Awesome: Use What You've Got, and You've Got More Than You Know**

Jonathan Rivero

**Bio:** 2016 TED Summit Talent Showcase Winner, Spoken Word Artist, Children's Author, Beatboxer Philanthropist and Martial Arts Master that changes the world one audience at a time. In 2006, he was the recipient of the Alberta Rehabilitation Coordinating Council Sunrise Therapist Award, which recognized him as the top clinician contributing to rehabilitation medicine within their first 2 years of practice. As the Founder and CEO of Qi Creative Inc. ([www.qicreative.com](http://www.qicreative.com)) he integrates his creative talents and passions to inspire children, adolescents, families, and schools living with special needs and trauma by celebrating their talents and strengths to overcome challenges. Jon Jon co-authored the International Children's Book, My Name Is Trauma ([www.mynameistrauma.com](http://www.mynameistrauma.com)) and conducts seminars, keynotes, and resilience training in disaster relief areas. He is featured internationally at educational and leadership conferences around the world. As a spoken word artist and producer, he has collaborated with thousands of youth activists and leaders from various countries to use their strengths and talents to promote peace, creativity, and unity in their respective local communities. Jon Jon is the founder of the Balikbayan Project Philippines ([www.balikproject.com](http://www.balikproject.com)) and is committed to working with youth and families living with trauma in Tacloban, Leyte by collaborating with orphanages, rehabilitation medicine clinics, and schools to create safe and meaningful art forms of therapeutic healing through self-expression. As an author, 5th Dan black belt Master, musician, and filmmaker, Jon Jon is committed to positively influencing the world, one community, one family, one child at a time.

#### **Abstract:**

CREATE YOUR AWESOME: "Use what you've got, and you've got more than you know" promotes proactive mental health awareness to inspire thousands of caregivers, families, educators, and people living with special needs around the world to grow their talents and skills in service to others. Through collaboration, creativity, coaching, and celebration people can achieve meaningful success in their respective homes, schools, and communities.

## **SESSION 1A**

### **Head and Neck Cancer: A Patient's Journey to Rehabilitation**

Shannon Kerr, R.SLP (iRSM)

**Bio:** Shannon joined the iRSM team in 2011, upon completion of her Masters of Health Science degree at the University of Toronto. Her main responsibilities including assessment of speech, voice, resonance and swallowing function of head and neck cancer patients. She is also involved in research projects performed in the HNSFAL laboratory at iRSM. Her main interests include assessment and rehabilitation of voice and swallowing disorders. Using her undergraduate education in music (jazz vocal performance), Shannon is interested in using singing to improve quality of life and speech/voice outcomes in her patients.

**Abstract:** This presentation will delve into SLP involvement with the Head & Neck Cancer patient population, including speech and swallowing assessments, speech/resonance prostheses, speech and swallowing therapy, and implant-supported dental prostheses. Follow the treatment pathway of a Head & Neck cancer patient to see how the work of a speech-Language Pathologist can assist the patient in their post-treatment rehabilitation.

## **SESSION 1B**

### **There's an "app" for that: Parent and SLP use of the iPad to support language and speech development**

Lu-Anne McFarlane, R.SLP

**Bio:** Lu-Anne McFarlane is an Associate Professor and Academic Coordinator of Clinical Education at the University of Alberta, Department of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology. She has worked with graduate students on two research projects examining iPad use in SLP. Professor McFarlane's teaching skills have been recognized by receipt of the Graduate Student Teaching Award (1992), Faculty Teaching Award (2001), Graduate Student Association Academic Staff Award for the University of Alberta (2012) and Award for Excellence in Graduate Teaching (2016).

**Abstract:** Discover the benefits, challenges and pitfalls of integrating the iPad into work with a pediatric population. This participatory workshop will provide examples of high quality apps and resources. Participants will explore apps developed for use in speech-language pathology (SLP) and apps that can be adapted for use in SLP. The focus is on using clinical judgment and "best practice principles" to evaluate apps and to identify the strengths and limitations of apps currently available. Clinicians will obtain direct experience and resources to assist them in informed and effective use of the iPad while maintaining commitment to best practice principles in SLP. Parents will learn what to look for when selecting apps to use with their children.

## **SESSION 2A**

### **Real World Cognitive-Communication Therapy: Practical Strategies for Supporting Participation in People Living with Dementia and Beyond**

Rhonda Kajner, R.SLP and Tracy Dow, R.SLP;  
Speech-Language Pathology Consulting Services in Continuing Care, Facility Living, Alberta Health Services – Edmonton Zone

#### **Bios:**

##### Tracy Dow, R. SLP

Tracy graduated from the UofA SLP program and spent six years with clients living with brain injuries at the Halvar Johnson Centre for Brain Injury. She joined the SLP Consulting Services in Continuing Care team in 2009. The most rewarding part of her job is coaching students and families how to make and retain connections with people with diverse and complex communication challenges. When Tracy is not at work, she is challenged and amazed by her three energetic kids, aged 2-6.

### Rhonda Kajner, R. SLP

Rhonda graduated from the University of Alberta MSLP program in 2002. Rhonda began her career working in a long term rehabilitation inpatient brain injury program with both dysphagia and communication. She then moved to an inpatient stroke program, again working in the areas of dysphagia and communication. She also had the opportunity to work in outpatient dysphagia and communication clinics. Rhonda began the Continuing Care service in 2008. The program addressed the gap in SLP services in continuing care and also increased adult placement options for students. Though the bulk of her career has been with the adult population, Rhonda has worked as an SLP in Kindergarten and has held a variety of professional roles including manager of a community SLP program serving preschool and school aged clients. Rhonda was very excited to recently re-join SLP Consulting Services in Continuing Care this summer.

**Abstract:** Many students embarking on their adult externship placements may become anxious or apprehensive when reviewing a file or referral with a “dementia” or other cognitive impairment diagnosis. While theories and knowledge about impairments and standardized assessments are usually familiar, students are often at a loss when asked to utilize practical and dynamic strategies to identify and treat responsive behaviors such as calling out, repetitive question-asking, or reported aggression during ADLs. This 50-minute presentation will use video and case examples to discuss practical assessment and intervention tools and techniques to use with people with cognitive communication challenges. A resource handout of relevant books, videos and websites will also be provided.

### **SESSION 2B**

#### **How to Survive the Application Process**

Vicki Trombley

**Bio:** Vicki is the highly valued Administrative Coordinator for the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders. She supports staff and students throughout the program and the application process. And for all the prospective students in the audience, Vicki is the person to deliver the good news that you’ve been accepted! The program would not run as smoothly as it does without her.

**Abstract:** Get all the information you need to put out your best application for the MSc-SLP program. Learn about the do’s and don’ts and the tips and tricks of applying from someone within the department, and have your questions answered in this 50 minute presentation.