Latest Starfish Award Winner!

Play "The More Kids I Could Reach with AAC, The Happier My Heart Was" video.

Congratulations to Mandy Hall, Speech Language Pathologist in Lewis Cass Schools, our latest Starfish Award winner!

She was nominated by Special Education Director, Dr. Kelly J. Grillo who has this to say about Mandy:

"Mandy is an exceptional educator. She has the ability to gather troops to help her in the plight of AAC [Augmentative and Alternative Communication]. From collaborating with general education teachers to occupational and physical therapists to ensure students have
access to high-quality AAC devices and training to fluency.

Not only does Mandy take her own personal time to research, investigate, and stay current with AAC trends, she also makes it her business to support families in funding AAC devices so that all students have a voice. Her passion for communication and leading by example is impressive.

I am truly amazed and moved at her efforts in a small town community that shows big town knowledge and determination in giving kids what they need when they need it. For more reasons than I can write in a simple recommendation I am sharing that Mandy Hall has changed a community. She works tirelessly to begin AAC with our youngest Kings so that they can have meaningful participation in the educational process and in the community at large. I’m super impressed at the impact just one educator can make!"

If you know an amazing Indiana educator like Mandy, nominate one or more for PATINS Starfish Award!

Nominate for Starfish Award

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**Announcement - Bookshare Partnership!**

The [Indiana Center for Accessible Materials (ICAM)](https://www.indiana.edu/~icam) is proud to announce that we have incorporated [Bookshare](https://www.bookshare.org) into our vast offerings!
Historically, the ICAM has included a Bookshare search when a needed title was not available from the us. Through our new partnership, a Digital Rights Manager (DRM) can order Bookshare titles through the ICAM Web Ordering System, which will simplify the ordering process!

Now, when a DRM registers students with the ICAM, the criteria to get a Bookshare account have already been met, so there is no need to create a separate account with Bookshare!

**Bookshare orders will be placed by a DRM or an educator by using the Special Request option in the ICAM Web Ordering Interface.** The ICAM will search for the title and process the order; that is, place the order with Bookshare and provide the DRM with login credentials for Bookshare and further instructions.

This partnership takes us closer to our vision of having one entity for Indiana schools to go to for all their Accessible Educational Material (AEM) needs. If you have any questions on this new Bookshare ordering process, please contact the ICAM staff.
New Book in the Lending Library

Hear directly from Therese Willkomm about her third book on Assistive Technology, *Make Stuff and Love People*. It is her most comprehensive resource to date with tons of resources and videos to help you learn and create solutions for your students!

"This book is about the joy of creating and making thousands of different assistive technology solutions to maximize independence at home, workplace, school, and communities for individuals who experience various limitations. It is the most comprehensive Assistive Technology (AT) Makers book I've ever written. I filled it with over 1500 images including over 500 QR codes for instant access to short YouTube videos and resources showing how to make the various AT devices.

The first chapter focuses on tools, materials, and techniques for the
rapid fabrication of assistive technology solutions using low-cost/no-cost materials; the last chapter provides QR code access to the tools, materials and resources described throughout the book. The chapters in between focus on the solutions and devices or modifications for smartphones, iPads; mobility impairments; self-care; eating and drinking; reading and writing; reaching and holding; communicating; solutions for blind and low vision; and assistive technology ideas for leisure and play."

You can borrow the book from the PATINS Project Lending Library for no-cost. If you would like additional ideas or help creating these solutions, please check the PATINS website or reach out to David Jackson at djackson@patinsproject.org

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**Tech Expo 2022 Registration Open!**

![Tech Expo 2022 Registration Open!](image)

April 14 | Carmel, IN

Play "Tech Expo 2022" video.
Save the Date for April 14, 2022 for PATINS Tech Expo 2022 with IN*SOURCE!

- **Preview** assistive and accessible technologies and services
- **Meet** with vendors and experts of resources designed to promote inclusion and to comply with federal and state mandates
- **Learn** about accessibility and technology supports for all students and families

**Offering you:**

- 60-minute unique vendor presentations throughout the day
- Live Exhibit Hall full of vendor/service organizations
- No registration cost
- Opportunity to win educational doorprizes donated by generous sponsors
- Summary videos for 20 presentation sessions available after the expo

**Location:** 502 East Event Centre, 502 E Carmel Dr, Carmel, IN 46032

Open to all interested Indiana administrators, teachers, family members, advocates, students, and pre-service teachers/grad students.

Register for Tech Expo 2022

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**PATINS is Hiring!**

Are you or someone you know
interested in joining the PATINS Project? Apply for the **Part Time Assistive Technology Lending Library Assistant** position!

Position Details and Application

#PatinsIcam Twitter Chat Tuesday Nights!

Join #PatinsIcam Twitter Chat on Tuesday nights at 8:30 pm Eastern/7:30 pm Central. Each week brings half an hour full of collaboration, resource/tool sharing, and supportive conversation. You will have the opportunity to grow your Professional Learning Network (PLN) and earn no-cost Professional Growth Points (PGPs).

Want to recommend a topic for the Twitter Chat? Not sure how to get started? Email PATINS Specialist, Kelli Suding, who is happy to welcome you into the #PatinsIcam PLN.

#PatinsIcam Twitter Chat Details

Register for No-Cost Trainings

Please visit our [training calendar](#) for all upcoming, no-cost trainings. Click on the links below for more information and to register
for a specific training.

All times listed are Eastern Time (ET). Professional Growth Points (PGPs) and ASHA hours are available for all training opportunities.

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**3 X 3 Mantis Braille Note Taker**

The new Mantis Braille Device from APH provides access for both 6 key and QWERTY input. Learn 3 tasks each you can teach your student users for primary, middle and secondary levels.

**AAC and Learning Series**

These live, interactive sessions will focus on evidence-based practice for students learning and using AAC in the classroom. Opportunities to meet and network with other families, educators, therapists, and other staff supporting students using AAC are built into this series.

- **Shared Reading** - February 25, 2022
- **AAC and Early Math** - March 4, 2022
- **AAC and Behavior** - March 18, 2022

**AAC Evaluations**

Where do I begin? Let's talk about where to start and what to do with your results. This session will highlight how to initiate the AAC evaluation, assessment considerations, team members, data collection and what to do next in the process. You will learn simple tools and ideas that you can implement right away!

**Autism and Assistive Technology Supports**

It is imperative that we are offering appropriate accommodations to support our students with high incidence disabilities and/or autism in
the mainstream classroom. ALL students deserve an equitable education...even during distance learning. This fast paced, beginner level webinar will explore the “why” of accessibility and model ways students can access online text independently. Attendees will leave with immediate implementation of no/low cost, simple tools for Mac, PC, iOS, and Chrome browser to turn instructional materials/documents into accessible formats/instruction.

**Basics of AT Team Development and Evaluations**
This training is for district/cooperative/building staff who would like to develop or update their assistive technology team. Each team will find direction in producing policies, procedures and forms that fit their unique needs and scale.

**Beyond Wh-Questions: Narrative Language and Story Time for Students with Intensive Support Needs**
Stories are a big part of how we understand, explain, hope, and relate to the world and a regular part of everyday classroom instruction. In this session, we will explore tools and techniques for supporting student's reading and listening comprehension within narrative language and stories for all students, in particular, those with the most intensive support needs in communication, learning, and access. Register for [February 28](#) or [March 4](#).

**Braille Note Touch Math Skills: Calculator, KeyMath, and Graphing**
This training is designed for staff working with a student using a Braille Note Touch device. We will cover math functions on the device and how the student can send assignments, including graphs to both an embosser and a printer.
**Growing Comprehension with Assistive Technology**

Using 2 assistive technology tools (word prediction and visual supports) we will explore Story Grammar intervention to address comprehension and writing with Story Champs (now in the PATINS Lending Library). Story Champs is a Story Grammar intervention for students working on skills typically covered in preschool and early elementary, whole, small, and individual instruction, available in English and Spanish.

**ICAM Digital Files: Delivery and what to do once you receive them!**

The order has been processed and the DRM has received notification. What is next? This training will demonstrate how the particular digital file ordered will be delivered and accessed by the student.

**ICAM Ordering - Answers and Problem Solving**

You have become a DRM, now it is time to order. This training will guide you through the ordering process and solve any problems you might encounter.

**Supporting Positive Behaviors for Students with Autism**

Creating structure in your classroom environment through physical design, routines, visuals, positive feedback and reinforcement can support positive behaviors for all students, especially students with autism. In this session, we'll explore ways to engage your students with autism through the structure of your space and instruction using the principles of Universal Design for Learning. Attendees will leave with use-it-tomorrow ideas for improving student behavior and access
to learning!

**You, as a Digital Rights Manager**

This training will explain the tasks required of a Digital Rights Manager (DRM) as they acquire accessible educational materials (AEM) for students with documented print disabilities through the Indiana Center for Accessible Materials (ICAM).

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See a training you would like to attend, but the date doesn't fit your schedule, or it is already full? [Request training](#) times and topics that work for you!