



CAOMS

**CAOMS STATEWIDE CONFERENCE 2024  
PROGRAM**

**“O&M: THE HAPPIEST PROFESSION ON EARTH”  
HYATT REGENCY ORANGE COUNTY  
FRIDAY DECEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup> 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM  
SATURDAY DECEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup> 7:00 A.M. – 5 PM**

**FRIDAY DECEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup> 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM  
REGISTRATION AND SOCIAL MIXER  
HARBOR ROOM, NORTH TOWER, 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR**

**SATURDAY DECEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup>  
7:00 AM  
REGISTRATION OPENS/CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST  
HARBOR ROOM, NORTH TOWER, 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR**

**7:45 AM – 7:55 AM  
INTRODUCTION/OPENING ADDRESS  
NICHOLAS CASIAS  
CAOMS PRESIDENT  
PACIFIC ROOM, NORTH TOWER, 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR**

**8:00 AM – 9:00 AM – 1 CEU**  
**“ACCESSIBLE WAYFINDING TOOLS FOR EDUCATION”**  
**MIKE MAY**  
**PACIFIC ROOM, NORTH TOWER, 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR**

**9:15 AM – 10:45 AM – 1.5 CEU**  
**CONCURRENT SESSIONS (CHOOSE ONE)**

**“FROM BUSY TO BALANCED”**  
**ERICA HOGLE AND CYNDI DAVIS**  
**SALON 7 & 8, NORTH TOWER, 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR**

**“COLLABORATIVE WORKSHOP ON REVISING THE GUIDELINES FOR  
PROGRAMS SERVING STUDENTS WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENTS”**  
**ADRIAN AMANDI**  
**PACIFIC ROOM, NORTH TOWER, 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR**

**11:00 AM – 12 PM – 1 CEU**  
**CONCURRENT SESSIONS (CHOOSE ONE)**

**“GROWING THE VISION REHABILITATION WORKFORCE”**  
**ALLISON BURDETT**  
**SALON 7 & 8, NORTH TOWER, 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR**

**“RAINY DAY O&M PLAY”**  
**JAYE SHUPIN**  
**PACIFIC ROOM, NORTH TOWER, 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR**

**LUNCH  
12 PM – 1 PM  
HARBOR ROOM, NORTH TOWER, 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR**

**1:15 PM – 2:15 PM – 1 CEU  
CONCURRENT SESSIONS (CHOOSE ONE)**

**“A HAPPY INTERNSHIP SITE FOR STUDENTS IN THE  
ORIENTATION AND MOBILITY PROGRAM” –  
BRAILLE INSTITUTE STAFF  
SALON 7 & 8, NORTH TOWER, 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR**

**“THE IMPACT OF ADAPTIVE SPORTS ON  
ORIENTATION AND MOBILITY” –  
JASON ESTERHUIZEN  
PACIFIC ROOM, NORTH TOWER, 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR**

**2:30 PM – 3:30 PM – 1 CEU**

**“SUPPORTING THE MENTAL HEALTH OF  
BLIND AND LOW VISION INDIVIDUALS” –  
MAY NGUYEN  
PACIFIC ROOM, NORTH TOWER, 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR**

**3:45 PM – 5:15 PM – 1.5 CEU  
CONCURRENT SESSIONS (CHOOSE ONE)**

**“MEANINGFUL O&M FOR STUDENTS WITH  
MULTIPLE DISABILITIES” –  
STEPHANIE HERLICH AND SHELBY ZIMMERMAN  
PACIFIC ROOM, NORTH TOWER, 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR**

**“A MATTER OF BALANCE PROGRAM” –  
SILVIA VARGAS AND GRISELDA PEÑA  
SALON 7 & 8, NORTH TOWER, 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR**

**5:30 PM – 6:00 PM – 0.5 CEU  
CAOMS GENERAL MEETING  
PACIFIC ROOM, NORTH TOWER, 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR**

**CAOMS CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE  
NICHOLAS CASIAS – CONFERENCE CHAIR**

**CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

**LALO QUEZADA  
NICOLE MYERS  
XIOMARA MEJIA  
DIANA HERRERA-PEREZ  
SARAH MAJIDZADEH  
SAMANTHA STEPHAN  
KRISTA RITTER**

**CAOMS OFFICERS  
NORTHERN CHAPTER**

**MAURA WONG, PRESIDENT  
SARAH WAGNER-SHERIDAN, PRESIDENT-ELECT  
ANDREA SCARPETTA, SECRETARY  
GARY GINZLER, TREASURER  
EMILY CHAMBERS, MEMBERSHIP  
FAITH DUNHAM-SIMS, BOARD MEMBER  
JAYE SHUPIN, BOARD MEMBER**

**CAOMS OFFICERS  
SOUTHERN CHAPTER**

**NICHOLAS CASIAS, PRESIDENT  
NICOLE MYERS, PRESIDENT-ELECT  
LALO QUEZADA, SECRETARY  
SARAH MAJIDZADEH, TREASURER  
XIOMARA MEJIA, MEMBERSHIP  
VINCE FAZZI, SR., BOARD MEMBER  
DIANA HERRERA-PEREZ, BOARD MEMBER  
HANGAMEH MOUSAVI, BOARD MEMBER**

## **PRESENTER BIOS/CONTACT INFO.**

**JASON ESTERHUIZEN, PLAYER FOR THE SAN GABRIEL VALLEY PANTHERS BEEP BASEBALL TEAM AND OUTREACH AND DEVELOPMENT BOARDMEMBER FOR SOCAL BEEP BASEBALL ASSOCIATION**

**JESTERHUIZEN@WAYFINDERFAMILY.ORG**

**ADRIAN AMANDI IS THE DIRECTOR OF THE CALIFORNIA EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTER FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED AT THE CALIFORNIA SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND. ADRIAN HAS A MULTITUDE OF EXPERIENCES RANGING FROM COORDINATING THE ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY CENTER AT CSB TO IN-HOME INFANT SERVICES AT BCLC. ADRIAN IS A PROFESSOR AT SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY AND IS CURRENTLY LEADING THE REVISION OF THE CALIFORNIA GUIDELINES FOR PROGRAMS SERVING STUDENTS WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENTS. HE HAS WORKED IN SELF-CONTAINED CLASSROOMS AND ITINERANT SETTINGS; AND IS PRESENTLY WORKING AT CSB TO PROVIDE CONSULTATION, ASSESSMENT, AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, WITHOUT COST, TO THE ENTIRE STATE OF CALIFORNIA THROUGH THE EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTER.**

**AAMANDI@CSB-CDE.CA.GOV**

**SILVIA VARGAS HAS WORKED WITH ADULT LEARNERS IN PRIVATE AGENCIES AND GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS FOR OVER 20 YEARS. IN 2018, SHE BEGAN THE FALL PREVENTION PROGRAM AT THE LONG BEACH VA BLIND REHABILITATION CENTER.**

**SILVIA.VARGAS@VA.GOV**

**GRISELDA PEÑA HAS WORKED AS AN ORIENTATION AND MOBILITY INSTRUCTOR WITH YOUNG ADULTS AND OLDER ADULTS IN NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS FOR OVER 13 YEARS AND HAS WORKED FOR THE LONG BEACH VA BLIND REHABILITATION CENTER FOR OVER A YEAR. SHE HAS ALSO BEEN WORKING PART TIME AS A MOBILITY VIDEO GRADER FOR RESEARCH COMPANIES WITH PATIENTS WITH RETINITIS PIGMENTOSA FOR OVER 6 YEARS.**

**GGARCIA2529@GMAIL.COM**

**KAREN ESQUIVAL-MAYES IS THE ORIENTATION AND MOBILITY TEAM LEAD FOR BRAILLE INSTITUTE. AS LEAD, KAREN CREATED PARTNERSHIPS WITH CAL STATE LA, SAN FRANCISCO STATE AND THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURG'S SPECIAL EDUCATION/O&M DEPARTMENTS TO USE BRAILLE INSTITUTE AS AN INTERNSHIP SITE WITH SEVEN LOCATIONS TO CHOOSE FROM ACROSS SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA. KAREN IS A MEMBER OF LOS ANGELES METRO'S ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE. SHE HAS PARTNERED WITH METRO ON SEVERAL PROJECTS AIMED TO INCREASE ACCESSIBILITY OF ALL RIDERS ACROSS THE NUMEROUS TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS IN GREATER LOS ANGELES AS WELL AS PROVIDE SENSITIVITY TRAINING TO BUS OPERATORS. KAREN BRINGS TWELVE YEARS OF EXPERIENCE AS A CERTIFIED ORIENTATION AND MOBILITY SPECIALIST IN A NON-PROFIT SETTING. KAREN HOLDS A MASTER'S DEGREE IN SPECIAL EDUCATION IN VISUAL IMPAIRMENTS IN O&M FROM CAL STATE UNIVERSITY, LOS ANGELES.**

**MARISSA SYLVESTER, MARTHA NERI, KEEMA MCCLUNG, TZENG HAW-YEN PROVIDE O&M INSTRUCTION TO ADULTS AND/OR SENIORS ADJUSTING TO AGE-RELATED VISION LOSS THROUGH BRAILLE INSTITUTE**

**KKMAYES@BRAILLEINSTITUTE.ORG**

**JAYE SHUPIN IS A CERTIFIED ORIENTATION & MOBILITY SPECIALIST WHO GRADUATED FROM THE SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY O&M PROGRAM. SHE HAS BEEN AN O&M SPECIALIST AT VARIOUS SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA FOR ALMOST 25 YEARS. WHILE SHE WORKED WITH ADULTS DURING THE FIRST 3 YEARS OF HER CAREER, HER PASSION ALWAYS HAS BEEN HER O&M WORK WITH CHILDREN, MOSTLY BECAUSE SHE LOVES TO PLAY. JAYE ALSO HOLDS A MASTERS OF SOCIAL WORK DEGREE. BEFORE BECOMING AN O&M SPECIALIST SHE WORKED FOR 15 YEARS IN THE SOCIAL SERVICE SECTOR SUPPORTING INDIVIDUALS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES. IN ADDITION TO PLAY, JAYE'S HOBBIES ARE PLAY, PLAY, PLAY, PETS, PLAY, AND READING.**

**MOBILITYJ@GMAIL.COM**

**ALLISON BURDETT IS CHIEF PROGRAM OFFICER FOR BRAILLE INSTITUTE AND BRINGS MORE THAN FIFTEEN YEARS OF EXPERIENCE WITHIN NON-PROFIT DISABILITY SERVICES, INCLUDING CERTIFICATION AS AN ORIENTATION AND MOBILITY SPECIALIST. PRIOR TO JOINING BRAILLE, SHE LED ALL STATEWIDE BVI PROGRAMS AT WAYFINDER FAMILY SERVICES FOR TEN YEARS, AND WORKED IN EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES FOR THERAPEUTIC LIVING CENTERS FOR THE BLIND IN RESEDA, CA. SHE HAS SERVED ON THE BOARD FOR THE CALIFORNIA AGENCIES FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED AND ALSO THE CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF PRIVATE SPECIAL EDUCATION SCHOOLS. ALLISON HOLDS A MASTER'S DEGREE IN SPECIAL EDUCATION FROM SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY AND A BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN KINESIOLOGY FROM WESTMONT COLLEGE.**

**ABURDETT@BRAILLEINSTITUTE.ORG**



**MAY NGUYEN IS A LICENSED EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGIST AND NATIONALLY CERTIFIED SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST SERVING THE CALIFORNIA SCHOOL OF THE BLIND ASSESSMENT CENTER. TO GIVE BACK TO THE FIELD, SHE SERVES AS A NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS (NASP) BVIPSYCH INTEREST GROUP CO-COORDINATOR AND HAS BEEN AN ADJUNCT FACULTY MEMBER FOR THE SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY PROGRAM AT CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, EAST BAY. SHE ALSO CO-FOUNDED RESILIENT MINDS COLLECTIVE, A PRIVATE PRACTICE OF LICENSED EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGISTS WHO PROVIDE ASSESSMENTS, MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT, AND EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES TO INDIVIDUALS WITH DIVERSE NEEDS.**

**MNGUYEN@CSB-CDE.CA.GOV**

**ERICA HOGLE IS CURRENTLY THE SHORT-TERM PROGRAMS COORDINATOR FOR THE CALIFORNIA SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND AND HAS BEEN A COMS FOR OVER TEN YEARS. HER INVOLVEMENT IN THE FIELD INCLUDES TEACHING UNIVERSITY COURSES FOR THE O&M PROGRAM AT SFSU AND DELIVERING SERVICES ABROAD, INCLUDING PLACES SUCH AS ARGENTINA, LEBANON AND URUGUAY**

**EHOGLE@CSB-CDE.CA.GOV**

**SHELBY ZIMMERMAN (TSVI, COMS, GDMI) WORKS ON THE ASSESSMENT TEAM AT CALIFORNIA SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND, WITH OCCUPAWS GUIDE DOG ASSOCIATION, AND AS A LECTURER AT SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY. ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE INCLUDES TEACHING ORIENTATION AND MOBILITY AND INDEPENDENT LIVING SKILLS TO CHILDREN AND ADULTS, SUPERVISING UNIVERSITY STUDENT TEACHERS, AND DEVELOPING A GUIDE DOG INSTRUCTOR TRAINEE PROGRAM IN URUGUAY.**

**SZIMMERMAN@CSB-CDE.CA.GOV**

**MIKE MAY HAS BEEN A PIONEER IN NEW PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT SINCE 1980 AND WAS INDUCTED INTO THE CONSUMER TECHNOLOGY HALL OF FAME. HE HAS WORKED FOR THE CIA, BANK OF CALIFORNIA, TRW, ARKENSTONE, AND WAS FOUNDER AND CEO OF SENDERO GROUP, DEVELOPERS OF THE FIRST ACCESSIBLE GPS. HE WAS THE CEO OF THE SEATTLE LIGHTHOUSE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF ENVISION WIC AND CHIEF EVANGELIST AT GOODMAPS INDOOR NAVIGATION. MIKE CURRENTLY CONSULTS FOR THE AMERICAN PRINTING HOUSE. HE HAS BEEN THE PRINCIPLE INVESTIGATOR ON SEVERAL US FEDERAL GRANTS TO ADVANCE WAYFINDING TECHNOLOGIES AROUND THE WORLD.**

**MM@MIKEMAY.ORG**

**STEPHANIE HERLICH, MA, A TEACHER OF STUDENTS WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENTS AND ORIENTATION AND MOBILITY SPECIALIST FOR 20+ YEARS, COORDINATES THE ASSESSMENT CENTER AT CALIFORNIA SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND, IS AN EDUCATIONAL CONSULTANT FOR EXCEPTIONAL TEACHING, AND LECTURES AT SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY. SHE AUTHORED THE MANGOLD BRAILLE PROGRAM, UNIT 3 UEB (EXCEPTIONAL TEACHING), CO-AUTHORED GETTING TO KNOW YOU: A SOCIAL SKILLS CURRICULUM FOR STUDENTS WHO ARE VISUALLY IMPAIRED AND THEIR SIGHTED PEERS (APH), AND WAS A CONTRIBUTING AUTHOR OF LEARNING TO LISTEN LISTENING TO LEARN, (APH) AND ECC ESSENTIALS; TEACHING THE EXPANDED CORE CURRICULUM TO STUDENTS WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENTS (APH).**

**SHERLICH@CSB-CDE.CA.GOV**

**ALSO A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR VENDORS:**

**GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND**

**GLIDANCE.IO**