

Carol Marusich, OD, MS, FCOVD
Board Certified in Vision Therapy

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Penelope Youngfeather, MS, COVT

Professional Background

Master of Science in Early Childhood Special Education / Early Intervention, University of Oregon
Certified Optometric Vision Therapist: Board Certified, College of Optometrists in Vision Development
Didactic instruction and education with Carol Marusich, OD, MS, FCOVD
Professional Development, Rudolf Steiner College, CA; Child Development & Education
Studies in Elementary Education, University of Vermont and Skidmore College
Bachelor of Science in Studio Art and Art Education, Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, New York

Professional Experience

Certified Optometric Vision Therapist, Lifetime Eye Care
Services include vision development and enhancement, learning related visual problems, and vision rehabilitation following stroke and head injury,
Faculty, Early Childhood Education; Lane Community College, Eugene, Oregon, 2002 - 2003
Lecture and Workshop Presenter: Topics include child development, parenting, early childhood education, vision and learning.
Tutor: artistic, remedial and academic programs for individuals with special needs
Performing Artist and Storyteller
Kindergarten Teacher, Waldorf School of the Rogue Valley, Ashland, Oregon
Art and Drama teacher, for children and senior citizens, Vermont
Art teacher, grades 1- 6 and special needs classes, Vermont

Seminars and Training

Neural Plasticity in Amblyopia, Dennis Levi, OD, PhD, 2009
Vision and Speech: Foundations for Mind and Behavior, James E. Sheedy, OD, FCOVD, 2009
Vision Therapy with a Vestibular Twist, Curtis R. Baxstrom, MA, OD, FCOVD & FNORA, FAAO, 2009
Vision, Behavior, and Traumatic Brain Injury, Robert S. Fox, OD, FCOVD, 2009
Clinical Discussion Forum: Prescribing Prisms for Acquired Brain Injury, Kelley Knueppel, OD, FCOVD & Brenda Heinke Montecalvo, OD, FCOVD, FAAO, 2009
Insights Into Vision and Autism: Vision Evaluations, Lenses, Prisms, and Vision Therapy, Nancy G. Torgerson, OD, FCOVD, 2009
Autism: Vision Therapy with Children and Adults on the Autism Spectrum, Nancy G. Torgerson, OD, FCOVD & Alderwood Vision Therapy Staff, 2009
Vision Transformation... The power of visualization, Lynn F. Hellerstein, OD, FCOVD, FAAO, 2009
The Neurological Basis of Vision Training, Robert B. Sanet, OD, FCOVD, 2008
Working with Families after Acquired Brain Injury, Roberta DePompei, 2008
Strategies for Managing Executive Function Impairment in Individuals with Brain Injury, McKay Sohlberg, PhD Laurie Ehlhardt, PhD, 2008
Behavioral Optometry "101," Arnold Sherman, OD, FCOVD, 2007
Nearwork-Induced Transient Myopia and Permanent Myopia: Is there a link?, Kenneth Ciuffreda, OD, FCOVD, 2007

Seminars and Training: continued

- New Treatment Strategies for Myopia, Earl L. Smith, OD, PhD, 2007
- Additional Therapies to Incorporate into Vision Therapy Programs, Roger Dowis, OD, FCOVD and Cami Dowis, M.Ed, COVT, 2007
- Optimizing Visual Performance through Vestibular Activation: An occupational Therapist's Perspective, Mary Kavar, MS, OTR/L, 2007
- The Pediatric Low Vision Examination, Paul B. Freeman, OD, FCOVD, FAAO, 2007
- Optometric Evaluation and Training of Visual Information Processing Dysfunction, Carl G. Hillier, O.D., FCOVD
- Sight, Sound and Motion: NeuroNet Clinical Practice Workshop, Nancy W. Rowe, MS, FAAA, 2006
- Medical Treatment for Autism Spectrum Disorder and ADHD, Mario Peterson, MD and MaryAnne Messiers, Director, UO Autism Certification Program, 2006
- Visual and Human Development in Infant and Child, Ronald M. Berger, OD, FCOVD, 2005.
- Structure to Function: Traumatic Brain Injury, Michael J. Earley, OD, Ph.D., 2005.
- Patients with Undeveloped Rapid Automatic Naming, Gary Williams, OD, FCOVD & Leeann Batten, COVT
- Hear No Evil, See No Evil: What the Ears Can Teach the Eyes, Keith Holland, B.Sc, FCOptom, 2005
- Clinical Approaches to Vision Therapy, Barry M. Tannen, OD, FCOVD, 2005
- Learning-related vision Problems: Diagnosis and Therapy, Harold A. Solan, OD, MA, FCOVD, 2005
- Symposium on Vision Therapy for Adults, 2004
- Optometric Vision Therapy for Patients with Neurological Insult, Brenda Montecalvo, OD, FCOVD
 - Adult Strabismus: The road less traveled, Gary Etting, OD, FCOVD
 - Clinical Pearls in Adult Vision Therapy, Jeri Schneebeck, OD, FCOVD
 - Who is a Candidate for Adult Visual Skills Therapy? Carl Gruning, OD, FCOVD
- The Visual Pathway: from structure to function, Michael Earley, OD, MS, PhD, 2004
- Using Central-Peripheral Integration in Vision Therapy, David Cook, OD, FAAO, FCOVD, 2004
- Exposure Anxiety and Anxiety States in Those with Autism-Spectrum Disorder, Donna Williams, 2004
- A Multidimensional Approach to the Cluster Condition of Autism, Donna Williams, 2004
- Gastrointestinal Disorders, Nutritional Deficiencies, Mercury Toxicity and Autism, James Adams, PhD, 2004
- Optometric Management of the Patient with Acquired Brain Injury; Applied Concepts in Vision Therapy Course, Irwin Suchoff, OD, DOS and Allen H. Cohen, FCOVD, FAAO, 2003.
- Symposium On Reading Related to Light and Color, 2003
- Visual Stress and Its Treatment with Colored Filters, Arnold Wilkins, DPhil, Cpsychol
 - Does Varying Wave Length Affect Learning-Related Vision Disorders, H. Solan, OD, FAAO, FCOVD
 - Tinted Lenses to Improve Reading Comfort and Performance: Necessary Intervention or are Underlying Problems Being Missed, Mitchell Scheiman, OD, FAAO, FCOVD
 - The Use of Syntonics in the Treatment of Learning-Related Vision Problems, L. B. Wallace, OD, FCSO
- Strabismus & Amblyopia: Recent Literature & It's Clinical Application, J.E. Richman, OD, FCOVD, FAAO, 2003
- The How & Why of Providing Infant Vision Care, D. Janiuk, OD, FCOVD and L. Dyson, COVT, 2003.
- Sensory Problems in Autism, Temple Grandin, PhD, 2003
- Diagnosis and Management of Special Populations, Dominick Maino, OD, M.Ed, FAAO, 2003
- Vision Therapy for Special Populations, Dominick Maino, OD, M.Ed, FAAO, 2003
- Pathway to Literacy Through Story and Play - The Storybook Journey, Sue McCord, 2003
- The Brain: Understanding Neurology and Plasticity - Why Interventions Work. Lyelle Palmer, PhD, 2003
- How the Brain Learns and Implications for Teaching, Rita Smilkstein, Ph.D., 2003
- Neurobiology and Education, Dr. Stephen Ingersoll. Regional Clinical Seminar, OEP, 2003
- The Art of Teaching, Merrill Watrous. Lane Community College Inservice, 2002
- The Role of Neurobiology and Nurturing in the Developing Mind, D. Siegal, MD and M.C. Heffron, PhD, 2002
- Sensory Processing in Schools: Identification and Intervention Planning, W. Dunn, PhD, OTR, FAOTA; 2002
- Brain Development in Children with Special Health Care Needs, D.W. Willis, MD, 2002
- Infant Development - Creating the Foundation for all Life's Learning, M. Heiniger-White, MA, OTR, 2001
- Learning Pyramid -A Foundation for Parents, Educators, & Therapists to Work Together, D.Heiberger MA.2001
- Behavioral Optometry, Arnold Sherman, OD, FCOVD, 2000
- Vision Therapy: Focus, Fixation, Fusion, Form and Fun, Claude Valenti, OD, FCOVD, 2000

Seminars and Training: continued

Visual Attention: Its Pervasive Influence on Vision and Reading, Scott B. Steinman, OD, PhD, 2000
Neurology of the Visual System Related to Neuronal Plasticity & Perceptual Learning, T. Albright, PhD, 2000
Vision Training Techniques for Success, Arnold Sherman, OD, FCOVD, 2000
Diagnosing and Treating Visual Perceptual Issues in Gifted Children, Linda K. Silverman, PhD, 2000
Neurodevelopmental Disorders: Observational Assessment and Drug-Free Treatment; Judith Bluestone, 2000
Behavioral Optometry & Educators: A Necessary Partnership for Managing Learning Related Vision Problems;
Cami Dowis, COVT and Dr. H. Laukenen. NW Vision Therapist's Symposium, 1999
Diagnosis & Management of Visual Information Processing Dysfunctions; R. Dowis, OD, FCOVD, 1999
Vision and Reading; Ralph Garzia, OD, 1998
Management of the Patient with Esotropia; Grand Rounds Panel, 1998
Role and Relationship of Impulsivity and Automaticity; Jack Richman, OD, 1998
Accommodation, Nearwork and Myopia; Kenneth Ciuffreda, OD, Ph.D., 1998
Reading Eye Movements; Kenneth Ciuffreda, OD, Ph.D., 1998
Lenses, Prisms and Strabismus and Amblyopia; Richard Glonek, OD, 1998
Key to Achievement in School and Life; Albert Sutton, OD, MS, FCOVD; OEP, RCS, 1998
Amblyopia, Off and On; L. Sanet, COVT & R. Sanet, OD, FCOVD 1997
Optometric Management of the TBI Patient; Irwin Suchoff, OD, FCOVD; OEP, RCS, 1997
A Management and Prevention Program for Serving Young Children with Challenging Behaviors; Early
Intervention Council, 1997
Oregon Association for the Education of Young Children, Planting a Seed for Tomorrow, 1997
Identifying and Referring Children with Special Needs, Florian Deurloo, M.Ed., 1997
Engaging Children's Minds: Brain Development and Learning in the Early Years; J.M. Healy, PhD, 1997
Balometric Learning Breakthrough Program; Dr. Frank A. Belgau, 1996
Curative Education Study Group: Eugene Waldorf School (EWS), 1994 - 1996
International Waldorf Kindergarten Conference: Human Development in The Early Years, 1989
Prenatal, Birth and Early Childhood: The Impact upon Development; Helmut von Kugelgen, MD
The Role of the Kindergarten Teacher in Nurturing Healthy Childhood Development; Dr. Werner Glas
Working with Movement and Sense-Damaged Children; Alice Stamm
Observing the Child, Identifying Special Needs, Implementing a Plan; Dr. Charles McWilliam, 1987
Faculty Studies in Curative Pedagogy, Waldorf School of The Rogue Valley: 1986 -1990
Laterality, Directionality, Bi-laterality and Dominance
Special Needs and Learning Challenges of Children of Abuse and Dysfunctional Families
Integration and Performance: Meeting Demands in the Classroom
The Role of Temperament in Learning Styles
Northwest Curative Conference: Waldorf School of the Rogue Valley, 1987
The Significance of Sense Development and Integration; Dr. Charles McWilliam
Waldorf Kindergarten Conference, Rudolf Steiner College, 1986
The Power of Observation; Supporting Healthy Development; Elizabeth Moore-Haas
Three Phases of Childhood Development; Freya Jaffke
Observing and Identifying Children with Special Needs; Dr. Christa van Telligen
First-Grade Readiness; Bronja Zahlingen
Stages of Development as Reflected in Children's Drawings; Audrey McAllen
Early Childhood Development; Dr. Christa van Telligen
The Impact of Early Academics on Childhood Development; Joan Almon

Courses, Lectures and Training Presented by Penelope Youngfeather

Vision and Learning: a developmental model of vision. Set II Human Growth and Development, Oregon Registry,
Oregon Center for Career Development in Childhood Care and Education, 2010
Vision Development in Early Childhood. Lane Family Connections, Set I Human Growth and Development;
Oregon Registry, Oregon Center for Career Development in Childhood Care and Education, 2010
Vision Affects Learning. Guest Speaker, Continuing Education for Lane County Educators, PSU, 2010

Courses, Lectures and Training Presented by Penelope Youngfeather: continued

When a Reading Problem Really a Vision Problem. Public Presentations, Eugene Public Library, 2009-2010
Vision and Learning. Altrusa International of Corvallis, 2009
What We Need to Know about Vision and How Children Learn. UO Education Dept, Teacher preparation, 2008
Vision is More Than 20/20: How vision affects learning. Cesar Chavez and Family Schools, Eugene, 2008
Children and the Media Flood. Keynote "Turn-off the TV" Week, Eugene, OR, 2007
Vision Development: The Impact of Vision on Learning, Performance and Behavior. Seminar for Occupational Therapists of Lane County, 2005
Vision Development in Early Childhood. Lane County Early Intervention Council, Eugene, OR, 2005.
Storytelling and the Power of Imagination: visualization and cognition. Village School, Eugene, Oregon, 2005
A Teacher's Guide to Vision and Learning, O'Hara School faculty, Eugene, Oregon, 2005
Storytelling with Young Children: A Pathway to Learning. Lane Community College, 2005
Vision is Learned, Vision is Developed: A Developmental Model of Vision. Oregon Association for the Education of Young Children (OAEYC) Spring Conference, 2005
A Developmental Approach to Learning Related Vision Problems. Co-presenter therapists' education, College of Optometrists in Vision Development (COVD) annual international conference, Cancun, Mexico, 2004
Vision and Learning: A Literature Review from Learning and Education Journals. Therapists' education, COVD annual international conference, Cancun, Mexico, 2004
Does Vision Impact Learning Abilities? Whitaker Middle School, Salem, Oregon, 2004
Vision and Learning: Signs and Symptoms in the Classroom. Santiam Christian School, Corvallis, 2004
Activities for Visual - Motor Development for Ages 3 months to 6 Years. Lane Community College Child Development Center staff training, 2004
Vision Screening: The Success of Every Student is in Sight. Oregon PTA Annual Convention, 2004
Storytelling in Early Childhood Settings: Developing the Mind's Eye. Lane Community College Early Childhood Education Program, 2004
Creating Healthy Media Habits for Your Family. Eugene Waldorf School Community Education, 2004
Vision and Autism. Bridgeway House, Eugene, Oregon, 2003
Vision Development in Early Childhood. Lane Community College, 2003
See! I'm Ready to Learn: Visual Motor Development in Early Childhood Settings. OAEYC Conference, 2003
Infant / Toddler Environments. Lane Community College Early Childhood Education Program, 2003
Child Care and Guidance. Lane Community College Early Childhood Education Program, 2002, 2003
Vision and Learning. Corvallis Waldorf School Adult Education, 2002
Creating Healthy Media Habits for Your Family. Sacred Heart Medical Center, 2002
Television, Media and Childhood Development. The Village School: Adult Education Series, 2002
Recognizing Learning-Related Vision Problems. St. Paul School Faculty, 2002
Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum in Waldorf Kindergartens and Pre-School Programs. UO Early Childhood Special Education Master Degree Program, 2000, 2001, 2002
Vision and Learning Related Vision Problems. Corvallis Waldorf School, 2000
Vision and Learning - Understanding Your Child's Vision Development. Lifetime Eye Care, 2000, 2001
Moving and Doing, Seeing and Learning. co-presenter, OAEYC, 2000
Computers, Media and Childhood Development. Corvallis and Eugene Waldorf Schools, 1999, 2000
Creative Play and Brain Development. South Eugene High School Child Psychology classes, 1997
Creative Play, Language and Movement - The Developmental Imperatives of Early Childhood. OAEYC, 1997
Seeing with the Mind's Eye - The Role of Storytelling in Waldorf Schools. Corvallis Waldorf School, 1996
Creative Play and Your Child's Development. Birth-to-Three parenting group, 1996
Television and Media: The Impact on Childhood Development. Pendleton Public Library, 1996
Creative Play, Television and Childhood Development. Lane County Chapter OAEYC, 1996
Television and Your Child's Development; Corvallis Waldorf School, 1996
Movement, Play and Your Child's Development; Tiny Tots Parent Association, 1995
Television, the Media and the Growing Child; Eugene Waldorf School (EWS) public presentation, 1995
Toys and A Child's Play - Preparations for Life; EWS parent education program, 1994
Birth to Nine - Your Child's Development; EWS parent education program, 1994
The First Seven Years - Who is the Young Child; Waldorf School parent education, Ashland, 1990

Courses, Lectures and Training Presented by Penelope Youngfeather: continued

Creative Living with Two to Seven Year Olds; Waldorf School parent education, 1987 - 1990
The Waldorf Kindergarten - A Developmental Approach to Early Childhood Education; Southern Oregon State
College, Early Childhood Education class, 1988
Stages of Development Reflected in Children's Drawings; Ashland High School, 1988

Professional Organizations

Early Intervention Council of Lane County, 2002 - present, Co-Chair, 2004 -2007
UOregon Project PASS, Preparing Autism Specialists for Schools, Board of Directors, 2004 - 2005
Oregon Association for the Education of Young Children, Oregon, 1996 - 1997, 2000 - present
College of Optometrists in Vision Development, Vision Therapist, 1996 - present
Willamette Valley Vision Development and Rehabilitation Study Group, 1996 - present

Community Involvement

Volunteer Presenter for schools and community organizations, 1985 -Present
Inservice Programs and Training for the NYSOA Vision Screening Battery, 1997-present
Oregon Association for the Education of Young Children, Volunteer Speaker, 1997 - present
Storyteller, 1977 to Present
Toastmasters International, 2004 to 2007. CTM, 2006. President local club, 2006.
Eugene Storytellers Guild, 1994 - present
Tellers in Concert, co-producer of story festivals, 1994-1996
Stretching the Truth, newsletter for northwest storytellers, assistant editor, 1994-1996

Personal Background

My husband, Robert Sposato, is an educator and sports camp director. We have lived in Oregon since 1981 and in Eugene since 1990. We have three sons, Raman, Tai and Nikolai.