

# VOICE AND MEDIA Festival

NOVEMBER 6-8

**2025**

**NOVEMBER 6 2025**  
MAISON DE RADIO-CANADA



# Voice and Media: Creating Space for People Who Stutter, Are Deaf, or Live with Tourette's

6-11-2025 @ 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

**1:00 pm to 4:00 pm**

Ouverture des portes à 12 h 30

 Maison de Radio-Canada  
1000 Papineau Avenue  
Montréal, Québec  
H2K 0C2

Maison de Radio-Canada is bounded by Alexandre-de-Sève, Papineau, Viger streets and René-Lévesque Boulevard East.

**Free and open to the public**

The event takes place in an accessible space.

 Quebec Sign Language (QSL) interpretation provided

 Event entirely in French with simultaneous English translation (textual) available via mobile app

The Voice and Media Festival in collaboration with Radio-Canada invites you to this afternoon of reflection and discussion on the inclusion and representation of people who stutter, are deaf, or live with Tourette's. Are you a journalist, content creator, media professional, or simply interested in this topic? Come meet experts, artists, and researchers and participate in an enriching discussion to advance our practices and content.

Limited spots! Reserve yours now to help amplify all voices.

**NOVEMBER 6 2025**  
MAISON DE RADIO-CANADA



## 1:00 pm: Opening remarks

1:15 –1:45 pm

### **Let's Put Stuttering on Screen: Challenges and Pathways to Inclusive Representation**

*Geneviève Lamoureux, M. Sc., speech therapist, PhD candidate in speech-language therapy and person who stutters*

Discover the findings of research highlighting the obstacles faced by people who stutter on screen and offering pathways toward fair and inclusive media representation.

#### **About the Presenter**



Geneviève Lamoureux is a PhD candidate in Speech-Language Therapy and Audiology at the Université de Montréal, where she is a member of both the Laboratoire d'innovations en orthophonie and the Labo CinéMédias. Also a person who stutters, she centers her research on reducing the stigma associated with stuttering and communication differences. Her interests focus on the intersections of representation, power, and inclusion. As part of her work, she initiated the creation of new media representations of stuttering, notably by producing "We Are the Audience" (set to be released in November 2025) — a collaborative short film developed with several partner organizations. The Voice and Media Festival is a continuation of her doctoral project, conceived as a space for creation, dissemination, and collective reflection.

1:45 –2:30 pm

### **Breaking the Glass Ceiling: Opening Media to Voice Diversity**

*Andréanne Fortin, actress and stunt performer living with Tourette's*

*Pierre Chapdelaine de Montvalon, journalist who stutters, Radio-Canada*

*Clauter Alexandre, actor who stutters*

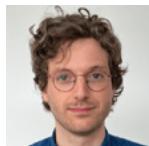
*Jérémie Bergeron, journalist-presenter living with severe hearing loss, Radio-Canada*

Working in media often requires fluent and “perfect” speech, standards that become barriers for people who stutter, live with Tourette syndrome, or are deaf or hard of hearing. Despite these obstacles, some professionals break through this invisible ceiling, sometimes at the cost of considerable effort to adapt or mask their distinctive traits, with cognitive, emotional, and even financial costs. Four guests—journalists and actors—will share their experiences, the challenges they've faced, and their reflections so that the diversity of voices, in all their forms, can be recognized in the media landscape.

#### **About the panelists**



Andréanne Fortin is an actress, stunt performer, and comedian. A graduate of the École de théâtre de Saint-Hyacinthe in 2019, she is passionate about on-camera acting, a space where her tics caused by Tourette syndrome disappear completely. As spokesperson for the Association québécoise du syndrome de la Tourette (AQST), she is committed to raising public awareness and showing that, despite differences, it is possible to achieve one's dreams. On television, she has appeared notably in STAT, Les Armes, Portrait-Robot, and of course in the role of Valérie in the series Vestiaires, among other film and advertising projects.



Pierre Chapdelaine de Montvalon has been a journalist at Radio-Canada since 2019. Now working in Montreal, he spent four years in Matane with the Gaspésie–Îles-de-la-Madeleine team, covering environmental issues in particular. He holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from HEC Montréal and a master's degree in political science from Université de Montréal.



Since his first words, Clauter has been navigating stuttering, between tides and storms. His motto: "Control your power," which for him means living fully with this fluency challenge. Clauter is an actor, host, coach, and motivational speaker. And yes, he stutters, and he's proud of it. He loves sharing his experience because he too was inspired by other people who stutter. Today, it's his turn to inspire and pave the way. Clauter has appeared in *Le temps des framboises*, *Doute raisonnable*, and *21 Thunder*, among others.



Jérémie Bergeron is a journalist and news anchor in Montreal for the news program *D'abord l'info* on ICI RDI at Radio-Canada. Before joining the Montreal team, he worked in Toronto, Winnipeg, and Ottawa, where he covered major social and political issues in Ontario and Western Canada. Living with severe hearing loss, he believes this difference has shaped his curiosity and his way of listening to and telling stories about the world.

2:30 – 2:45 pm: Break

**2:45 – 3:45 pm**

## Workshop: Open Listening, a Transformative Practice

*Aidan Sank, co-Founder and Executive Director of SPACE*

*Ingrid Verduyckt, Associate Professor in Speech-Language Therapy at Université de Montréal*

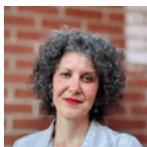
*Geneviève Lamoureux, M. Sc., Speech Therapist, PhD Candidate in Speech-Language Therapy, and Person Who Stutters*

This workshop invites participants to rethink listening. Through discussions and practical exercises, participants will learn to welcome silences, navigate discomfort, and develop attentive listening—skills useful in all professional and personal exchanges, particularly in journalism and facilitation.

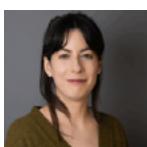
### About the facilitators



Aidan is the co-Founder and Executive Director of SPACE, a nonprofit creating more space for stuttering. He has been collaborating with the stuttering community as an ally for almost 15 years, and worked for over a decade in New York City as a theater maker and arts educator. Aidan is grateful to the many, many people who stutter who have taught him how to truly listen and communicate. He lives in Vancouver, BC.



Associate Professor in speech-language therapy at the Université de Montréal, Ingrid Verduyckt, Ph.D. (she/her), leads the Laboratoire d'Innovations en orthophonie, a research space focused on the social participation of people living with communication differences. A researcher at the CRIR and co-chair of the organization Vocavie, she is committed to interdisciplinary and inclusive approaches where the voices of those directly concerned are central.



Geneviève Lamoureux is a PhD candidate in Speech-Language Therapy and Audiology at the Université de Montréal, where she is a member of both the Laboratoire d'innovations en orthophonie and the Labo CinéMédias. Also a person who stutters, she centers her research on reducing the stigma associated with stuttering and communication differences. Her interests focus on the intersections of representation, power, and inclusion. As part of her work, she initiated the creation of new media representations of stuttering, notably by producing "We Are the Audience" (set to be released in November 2025) — a collaborative short film developed with several partner organizations. The Voice and Media Festival is a continuation of her doctoral project, conceived as a space for creation, dissemination, and collective reflection.

## SPACE

SPACE (Stuttering, People, Arts, Community, Education) is a nonprofit advancing disability justice through inclusive communication, arts, and advocacy. Founded in 2023 by Aidan Sank and a committed team of volunteers, SPACE is the only organization created on the belief that when we improve conditions for people who stutter, we make the world better for everyone. Through collective advocacy, listening equity and creative expression, SPACE models what inclusive communication can look like and offers tangible pathways for building it. Their offerings include public advocacy to challenge stigma, listening workshops to shift communication norms, and Community and Arts programs for youth and young adults who stutter. SPACE is building a world that listens better to people who stutter, and everyone else.

**NOVEMBER 6 2025**  
**CINÉMA BEAUBIEN**



# Advance Screening: We Are the Audience

6-11-2025 @ 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

**7:00–9:00 pm**

📍 Cinéma Beaubien, Theatre 1  
2396 Beaubien E Street, Montréal, QC H2G 1N2

**Free and open to the public**

The event takes place in an accessible space.

Join us for the premiere screening of *We Are the Audience*, a short film exploring the representation of stuttering through a hybrid form, blending film-style documentary and public service announcement. The film offers a rare portrayal of a group of people who stutter, gathered on screen to reflect on their experiences and how they are perceived.

The project, created through collaboration between research labs and community organizations, will be presented during an evening featuring a brief introduction of the partner organizations, the film screening, and a panel with members of the creative team. An open mic will then invite both audience members and film participants to share their thoughts.

→ For those who wish to continue the conversation, we'll gather after the screening at Bar Chez Roger, just steps from the cinema: 2300 Rue Beaubien E, Montréal, QC H2G 2K8

## We Are the Audience (Le public, c'est nous)

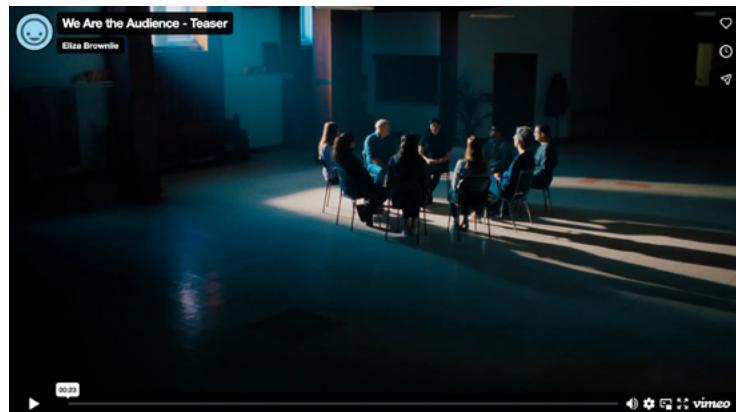
*Duration: 6 minutes*

*Original French version with English subtitles*

In the meantime, watch the trailer

*Trailer editor: Eliza Brownlie*

*Poster design: Shin Hyoun Kim*



**NOVEMBER 6 2025**  
**CINÉMA BEAUBIEN**

## Direction and Concept

Réalisatrice : Eliza Brownlie

Concept et scénario : Aidan Sank, Geneviève Lamoureux

## Production

Producers: Eliza Brownlie, Domingo Lamarre, Geneviève Lamoureux / Labo IV, Aidan Sank / SPACE

Co-producers: Lianne Becker, Collin Meath /Keep or Destroy

Executive producer: Ingrid Verduyckt/ Vocavie

## Featuring

Alexandre Cadelis, Lily Daoust, Romy Hoss, Geneviève Lamoureux, Ysabelle Trudeau, Bérénice Edima, Charles Choueiry, Denis Hamel, Alix Perini

## Participating Organizations

Laboratoire CinéMédias, Association bégaiement communication, Association des jeunes bégaiement du Québec, Fondation RÉA, Fonds de recherche du Québec, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Société inclusive, Grandé Studios, Outpost, Clinique spécialisée en bégaiement et bégaiement et bégaiement

## Crew

Director of Photography: Domingo Lamarre

Production Designer: Evelyne Morin

Editor: Domingo Lamarre

Original Music: Luke Wyland

Sound Design and Mix: Eugenio Battaglia

Excerpt Editing: Julien Bouthillier

First Assistant Director: Aidan Sank

Production Coordinators: Rosalie Carignan, Roxana Baloiu

First Assistant Camera: Louis-Émile Bossé

Gaffer: Eric Ricky Proulx

Lighting: Renaud Lemonde

Key Grip: Eric Gagné

Sound Recordist: Robyn Forman

Make-up (focus group scene): Léa Sagnard

Cinema Technician: Adrian Manicom

Production Assistants: Alexandre Cadelis, Alix Perini, Denis Hamel, Sophie Calmettes

Color Correction: Outpost MTL

Colorist: Martin Gaumond

Assistant Colorist: Sébastien Prince

Post-production Producer: Julia Aubry

Post-production Coordinator: Delphine Cloarec

Camera and Lighting Equipment: Grandé

Extras: Alexandre Cadelis, Alix Perini, André Hamilton, Annie Carrier, Arthur Jeannot, Carolina Collados, Christophe Clément, Claudine M. Desjardins, Denis Hamel, Félix-Antoine Carignan, Hind Baba Ahmed, Ingrid Verduyckt, Judith Labonté, Maxime Jubinville, Michel Jubinville, Nakisa Nemat, Rayan Moulla, Sébastien Denicourt, Sophie Assouad, Sophie Quirion, Sébastien Finlay, Wes Megan Martin, Yana Melnikova, Ysabelle Trudeau



**NOVEMBER 7-8 2025**  
UNIVERSITÉ DE MONTRÉAL



# Talks and Workshops: Rethinking Representation, Between Care and Creation

7-11-2025 @ 9:00 am – 6:15 pm

**9:00 am to 6:15 pm**

📍 Carrefour des arts et des sciences, Université de Montréal  
Room C-3061, Lionel-Groulx pavillon  
3150 Jean-Brillant Street, Montréal (QC) H3T 1N8

## Free and open to the public

The event takes place in an accessible space. An accessibility ramp is located at 3200 Jean-Brillant Street.

🎧 Simultaneous translation available all day (English ↔ French)

手势语 Quebec Sign Language (LSQ, not ASL) interpretation provided all day

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**8:30–9:00 am: Welcome and coffee**

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**9:00–9:30 am**

## Opening Remarks

*The Festival Team*

In this brief opening address, the festival team welcomes you and introduces the spirit behind Voice and Media. Why does this festival exist? What observations led to its creation? Who is it for? What desires run through it? You'll also meet the people and organizations who made it possible. An invitation to fully step into these three days dedicated to dysfluency and its representation.

**9:30–10:15 am**

## Created to stammer: Community, freedom and self-actualisation

*Conor Foran, graphic designer and artist committed to the artistic celebration of dysfluency, and the creative mind behind the festival's visual identity.*

How can art and design inform the appreciation of one's voice? What does dysfluency look (and sound) like under a creative lens? How does community affirm a stammering pride identity?

These questions concern Conor's practice. He will present his collaborative work (Dysfluent, Making Waves, People Who Stutter Create and Stuttering Commons) in the context of community, freedom and self-actualisation.

By utilising a socially engaged practice Conor creates work that resonates with his own stammering identity and that of others.

## About the Presenter



Conor Foran is an Irish artist and designer based in London. As a proud person who stammers, he is interested in how disability intersects with creativity and how art and design can instigate social change. He leads a collaborative, creative practice about stammering called *Dysfluent* and runs a socially engaged design practice with his partner Bart Rzeznik called *Take Courage*.

**10:15–10:30 am: Break**

**10:30–12:30**

## **Speech-Language Perspectives on Representation**

Three talks that connect critical frameworks, research, and clinical practice in speech-language therapy, focusing on the social representation of stuttering in therapy and digital spaces.

**10:30–11:15 am**

### **A shifting landscape: Stammering representation across 3 decades**

*Sam Simpson, speech-language therapist, Redefining Stammering*

Stammering has traditionally been thought of as a speech defect located within an individual. This view is commonly referred to as the medical model of disability. Research from this tradition has looked to understand the cause of stammering with a view to developing therapeutic approaches aimed at reducing or remediating stammering. From this frame, professionals and academics are experts and holders of knowledge; people who stammer the recipients of this expertise and subjects of their assessments, diagnosis and therapeutic interventions.

Historically, the medical model has been the dominant model used to understand stammering however it is not the only one. The social model emerged from within the disability rights movement and offers a counternarrative. It sees the way society is structured as disabling rather than physical impairment itself. The social model highlights society's norms and values, and, in the case of stammering, demonstrates the physical, structural and cultural barriers people who stammer encounter in a world designed for fluent speakers. From this frame, people who stammer are the experts of their experience and holders of knowledge; professionals and academics are their allies, collaborators and advocates for social change.

Other emerging frameworks for understanding disability include the neurodiversity paradigm and crip theory. The former embraces diversity between individuals rather than distinguishing between the impaired and the able-bodied. People are, therefore, empowered to see their stammering as a natural variation in speech. The latter seeks to disrupt, transform and subvert in order to unsettle entrenched beliefs and make anew. From this frame, people who stammer are invited to find positive meaning in their speech. As stammering is reclaimed as a legitimate and valuable means of communication in its own right, a radical and generative conversation around stammering identity and culture emerges. People are taking pride in their stammering, and this is being celebrated in many creative ways: through prose, poetry, photography, music and art.

These new representations of stammering pose challenging questions of the foundational theories upon which stammering therapy is historically rooted. The language, hierarchical structures, power dynamics and even purpose

of stammering therapy and research are called into question. In this presentation Sam will reflect on the key influences in stammering representation that have shaped her understanding of stammering, the role of the speech and language therapist and the scope of stammering therapy across her 30-year career.

#### **About the Presenter**



*Sam Simpson is a speech and language therapist, person-centred counsellor, supervisor and trainer living in London, England. Sam has a particular interest in critical disability studies, stammering activism and what stammering can teach us about ourselves and the world. Together with Patrick Campbell and Christopher Constantino, Sam co-edited Stammering Pride and Prejudice: Difference not Defect in 2019. They are currently collaborating on the sequel. Sam is a founder member of Stuttering Commons, an international collaboration aiming to deconstruct, unsettle and bend fluency privilege.*

**11:15–11:45 am**

## **Visuals, voices, and visibility: Representation in social media and podcasts for people who stutter**

*Dr. Erik X. Raj, speech-language therapist, associate professor, Monmouth University*

Social media platforms and podcasts have become powerful tools for people who stutter (PWS) to express themselves, connect with others, and challenge stereotypes about communication. This presentation explores how visual and audio-based media support visibility and community for PWS in meaningful ways.

Dr. Erik X. Raj will share findings from his recent study on the @juststutter Instagram account, an art-driven profile created by a person who stutters. The talk will highlight how PWS discover and engage with this account, and what their experiences reveal about the importance of identity-centered content on digital platforms. Participants will learn how visuals can serve as a bridge to reflection, dialogue, and connection. The session will also explore the growing role of podcasts as platforms where PWS can share stories, listen to diverse perspectives, and feel represented in authentic ways.

Together, these examples show how digital platforms offer more than entertainment—they create space for meaningful participation, emotional insight, and community-building. The presentation will conclude with suggestions for how clinicians, educators, and advocates can thoughtfully incorporate these tools into their work with PWS, using them as starting points for connection, conversation, and growth.

#### **About the Presenter**



*Dr. Erik X. Raj holds a Certificate of Clinical Competence from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and is a practicing speech-language therapist who collaborates with individuals experiencing various communication challenges. He currently serves as an associate professor in the Department of Speech-Language Pathology at Monmouth University in West Long Branch, New Jersey, United States, where he also directs the Meaningful Digital Experiences Research Lab.*

*Dr. Raj earned his Ph.D. in Communication Sciences and Disorders, with a concentration in digital technology, from Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan. He regularly presents interactive workshops, both nationally and internationally, demonstrating how speech-language pathologists can integrate digital technologies to engage and educate clients. In addition to creating dozens of speech therapy-related mobile apps and video games, he consults with numerous educational technology companies on research and development to advance innovative tools for speech and language therapy.*

**11:45–12:00 pm**

## **Je je je suis un podcast: seeing ourselves, learning, sharing**

*Judith Labonté, speech-language therapist, Clinique spécialisée en bégaiement et bredouillement*

Judith Labonté is a speech-language therapist, trainer, and clinical coordinator at the University Clinic for Speech-Language Therapy and Audiology at the Université de Montréal. She co-hosts Je je je suis un

podcast with Geneviève Lamoureux, a doctoral candidate in speech-language therapy and an adult who stutters. This entirely French-language podcast offers a unique space to talk about stuttering without taboo. Its goals are to inform, raise awareness, offer diverse perspectives on stuttering and speech-language therapy, and foster a better understanding of the lived experiences of people who stutter (PWS).

A study conducted by the hosts and their collaborators (Lamoureux et al., 2023) evaluated the podcast's impact through a survey of 79 respondents (mostly PWS and speech-language therapists from Québec and France). Results showed improved access to information about stuttering in French and a deeper understanding that therapeutic success is not limited to fluency. Among speech-language therapists, 62% reported having changed their clinical practices. Among PWS, 75% reported greater acceptance of their stuttering.

This presentation will share concrete examples of how the podcast can be used as a clinical resource. Whether to support the self-efficacy of PWS, inform clinical reflection, or open discussions about lived experience, *Je je je suis un podcast* is a relevant and accessible tool for enhancing interventions with people who stutter.

#### **About the Presenter**



Judith Labonté is a speech-language therapist who holds a professional master's degree from the Université de Montréal. Since 2008, she has been working with people who stutter or clutter, developing her expertise notably in pediatric rehabilitation centers, private practice, and at the intensive therapy camp run by the Association des jeunes bégues du Québec (AJBQ). She is the founder of the interdisciplinary online group intervention program for adults who stutter, offered by the Association bégaiement communication (ABC) since 2021. She is a clinical coordinator at the School of Speech-Language Therapy and Audiology at the Université de Montréal, co-host of the podcast *Je je je suis un podcast*, and co-lead of the Stuttering and Cluttering Community of Practice (Communauté de pratique en bégaiement et bredouillement), which brings together more than 250 speech-language therapists across Québec. In 2024, she founded the Specialized Clinic for Stuttering and Cluttering (Clinique spécialisée en bégaiement et bredouillement), the first interdisciplinary clinic dedicated to supporting people of all ages who stutter and/or clutter.

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#### **12–12:30 pm: Q&A session**

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#### **12:30–1:45 pm: Lunch break – bring your own lunch or explore nearby restaurants!**

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#### **1:45–2:45 pm**

#### **“Lou”: an immersive and participatory virtual reality experience about autism**

*Martine Asselin, producer and director*

The virtual reality work “Lou” offers a unique sensory immersion that allows viewers to experience the sensitivities of an autistic character. Created by Martine Asselin and Annick Daigneault, the piece aims to raise public awareness about the lived realities of autistic people and to foster an empathetic understanding of their experiences. A conversation with Martine Asselin about the media representation of difference, the inclusive co-creation process behind the work, and the use of immersion to embody another reality.

◆ Would you like to experience it for yourself? The work will be available for trial during the evening cocktail (see further in the schedule).

## About the Presenter



*Martine Asselin is a committed filmmaker and digital artist with 25 years of experience in fiction, documentary, animation, and virtual reality. Driven by insatiable curiosity, she blends narrative and formal languages to explore contemporary social issues, with a focus on innovation and human connection. Her work celebrates resilience and human diversity.*

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**2:45–3:15 pm: Coffee Break**

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**3:15–4:15 pm**

### **From Dysfluency to Dysfluent Approaches in Research-Creation by and for People with Disabilities**

*Véro Leduc, Ph.D., and Sarah Heussaff, Ph.D., Canada Research Chair on Cultural Citizenship of Deaf People and Cultural Equity Practices*

In the form of a dialogue between Véro Leduc and Sarah Heussaff, this conference-conversation draws on the concept of dysfluency to develop a reflection on the importance of dysfluent approaches to knowledge production, particularly in the field of research and research-creation. The Voice and Media Festival presents dysfluency not as the pathological irregularity of a language to be corrected, but rather as a space of embodiments and atypical representations of communication. Dysfluency thus reinterpreted can be envisioned as a spectrum of diverse embodiments from which emerge multiple ways of being in the world, of understanding it and communicating it. From these manifestations considered “non-normative” also arise critical reflections on norms, and these reflections likewise encourage a sense of pride and a spirit of epistemic community.

This is an observation we also make as disabled researchers within our respective and collaborative research. By examining various research-creation projects initiated by our subjective and embodied experiences of realities considered dysfluent or intermittent (here, Deafness, chronic illness, neurodivergence and learning disabilities), we propose to discuss what these experiences offer as new avenues in research and research-creation. They encompass themes as well as experimental methods and ethics, or the aesthetics and mediums explored. These research-creation projects include our two doctoral research projects, our exhibition and research-creation projects conducted with disability communities, and notably those developed within the Canada Research Chair on the Cultural Citizenship of Deaf People and Cultural Equity Practices (UQAM). In doing so, we wish to reflect on how Deaf and disabled cultures and their manifestations, often considered non-normative or irregular, can disrupt and disturb traditional forms in research and give rise to alternative methods of knowledge creation and original forms of dissemination. The closing conference of the day will be punctuated by the sharing of video excerpts allowing for the appreciation of the works and research-creations cited. First conducted between the two speakers, the conversation will then open to the public, invited to participate in the reflection on the importance of new paradigms in research and research-creation in order to build knowledge from not only the perspectives, but also the ways of being in the world of people from the disability community.

## About the Presenters



Multidisciplinary artist and committed researcher, Véro Leduc holds the Canada Research Chair in Cultural Citizenship of Deaf People and Cultural Equity Practices. She is co-director of the Disability, Deafhood and Innovations Laboratory (HSI Lab) and a member of CELAT (Centre de recherche Cultures Arts Sociétés). A professor in the Department of Social and Public Communication at the Université du Québec à Montréal, she teaches in the Cultural Action program as well as in the Disability and Deafhood: Rights and Citizenship program, which she co-founded. The first Deaf university professor in Quebec, her work focuses on the artistic practices of Deaf and disabled people in Canada, Deaf music, and the cultural citizenship and equity practices of Deaf people. In 2020, she received the Governor General's Medal for her outstanding work in breaking down barriers to social inclusion and strengthening access to university and culture for Deaf and hard of hearing people.



Sarah Heussaff (Ph.D.) is a researcher and curator specializing in disabled social and artistic movements. Through her research, projects, and the exhibitions she takes part in, she explores the development of a crip-feminist curatorial practice. She is also a lecturer in the Disability and Deafhood program and at the Institute for Feminist Studies (IREF) at the Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM), where she initiated the course "Feminisms, Anti-Ableism, and Body Diversity." She is Co-Coordinator of the Canada Research Chair in Cultural Citizenship of Deaf People and Cultural Equity Practices, and Coordinator of Laboratoire Handicap, Sourditude et Innovations (UQAM).

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### 4:15–6:15 pm: Opening Cocktail and Immersive Virtual Reality Experience – Lou (Room C-2081)

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Ce cocktail sera l'occasion d'échanger en compagnie des participant·e·s et des invitée·e·s du festival. Vous pourrez également vivre « Les pieds en haut : Lou », une œuvre de réalité virtuelle présentée plus tôt par Martine Asselin, qui propose une immersion sensorielle dans la perspective d'un personnage autiste.



# Talks and Workshops: Reflecting, Representing, and Creating Together

8-11-2025 @ 9:30 am – 2:45 pm

**9:00 am to 2:45 pm**

📍 Carrefour des arts et des sciences, Université de Montréal  
Room C-3061, Lionel-Groulx Pavilion  
3150 Jean-Brillant Street, Montreal (QC) H3T 1N8

**Free and open to the public**

The event takes place in an accessible space. An accessibility ramp is located at 3200 Jean-Brillant Street.

🎧 *Morning: Simultaneous interpretation (English ↔ French), Afternoon: Parallel workshops in English and French*

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**9:30–10:00 am: Welcome and coffee**

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**10:00–10:30 AM**

## **What if your favorite character stuttered? Representation according to those who live it**

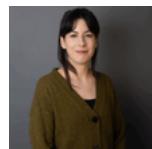
Geneviève Lamoureux, M.Sc., PhD candidate in speech-language therapy and person who stutters

This presentation reflects on a qualitative research project exploring media representations of stuttering. Five group interviews were conducted with 24 participants: primarily adults who stutter, but also clinicians and family members. These conversations created a space for reflection on lived experiences, desires, and discomforts related to how stuttering is portrayed in the media.

Participants were invited to imagine what fair and meaningful media representations of stuttering could look like. They were also encouraged to reflect on the social and relational dynamics surrounding a character who stutters, and to consider the impact such a portrayal might have on their own experiences or on public perception. Throughout the discussions, tensions emerged between visibility and stigma, realism and dramatization, highlighting the complexity of representing dysfluency in a way that is both authentic and liberating.

The goal of this project is to generate concrete ideas for more just, sensitive, and nuanced portrayals of stuttering, grounded in the perspectives and lived experiences of those directly concerned. The research findings will inform awareness tools developed as part of Geneviève Lamoureux's doctoral work.

### **About the Presenter**



Geneviève Lamoureux is a PhD candidate in Speech-Language Therapy and Audiology at the Université de Montréal, where she is a member of both the Laboratoire d'innovations en orthophonie and the Labo CinéMédias. Also a person who stutters, she centers her research on reducing the stigma associated with stuttering and communication differences. Her interests focus on the intersections of representation, power, and inclusion. As part of her work, she initiated the creation of new media representations of stuttering, notably by producing "We Are the Audience" (set to be released in November 2025) — a collaborative short film developed with several partner organizations. The Voice and Media Festival is a continuation of her doctoral project, conceived as a space for creation, dissemination, and collective reflection.

10:30 am–11:00 am

## Video Project: Youth Perspectives on Representation

Amélie Fournier, MBA, MPO, Executive Director of AJBQ

Sébastien Finlay, PhD student in Speech-Language Therapy, Université de Montréal

Geneviève Lamoureux, M.Sc.

Association des jeunes bégues du Québec

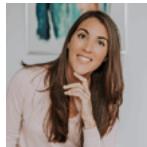
During the 2025 summer camp of the Association des jeunes bégues du Québec (AJBQ), youth aged 8 to 17 participated in creating video capsules about representation. This co-creation project, led through a partnership between AJBQ and Geneviève Lamoureux (speech-language therapist and doctoral student), aims to provide a space for expression and action within a camp already deeply rooted in the community.

Two video capsules were created with the youth:

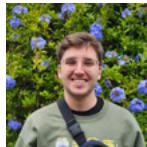
- What I wish people knew about stuttering
- Young people's perspectives on representation

The presentation will explain the process, screen the capsules, and open a reflection on the benefits of this type of project within the camp setting.

### About the Presenters



A speech-language therapist for twenty years, Amélie Fournier has also served as Executive Director of the Association des jeunes bégues du Québec (AJBQ) since 2024. Deeply attuned to the experiences of young people who stutter and their families, she is actively involved in developing projects that foster confidence, self-expression, and a sense of belonging. Among these, the AJBQ summer camp stands out as a unique experience in Quebec for youth aged 8 to 17 who stutter—one of the rare opportunities for them to come together with peers in a supportive, caring community.



Sébastien Finlay, M.Sc., is a doctoral student in Speech-Language Therapy and Audiology at Université de Montréal. He is interested in how clinical and community approaches can support people who stutter in all areas of their lives. He is currently collaborating with the Association des jeunes bégues du Québec on a project to evaluate the outcomes of their summer camp. A person who stutters himself, Sébastien aims to contribute to making communicative diversity more visible and celebrated.



The Association des jeunes bégues du Québec (AJBQ) is a community-based organization that supports young people who stutter, from ages 0 to 17, along with their families. Founded on values of empathy, inclusion, mutual support, expertise, and trust, the AJBQ accompanies youth on their journey by promoting a compassionate and inclusive approach to stuttering. Through activities, workshops, an annual summer camp, educational resources, and shared spaces, the organization creates opportunities for connection, learning, and growth. The AJBQ helps amplify the voices of young people who stutter while fostering their confidence and empowerment.

11:00-12:00 pm

## Panel: The Representation of People with Aphasia in and through Theatre

Annie Carrier, actress with Théâtre Aphasic

Isabelle Côté, director of Théâtre Aphasic

Gabrielle Boucher, speech-language therapist and doctoral student in French literature

Ingrid Verduyckt, professor in speech-language therapy sciences

Alexandra Tessier, postdoctoral researcher

This roundtable discussion will bring together five panelists to discuss the representation of people with aphasia through theatrical practice. The conversation will focus on how theatre can become a space for creation and transformation of the way aphasia is perceived.

Annie Carrier, actress with Théâtre Aphasic, will share her experience and perspective on her role as a performer. Isabelle Côté, artistic director of Théâtre Aphasic, will address the artistic challenges of this inclusive approach, as well as the reception of the works by audiences and cultural institutions. Gabrielle Boucher will present her doctoral research on the representation of people with aphasia in theatre. Finally, Ingrid Verduyckt and Alexandra Tessier will discuss the results of a research project focused on Théâtre Aphasic, exploring the unique nature of this initiative born in a clinical setting and the tensions and contributions that can arise from this dual positioning in art and rehabilitation.

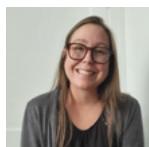
### About the Presenters



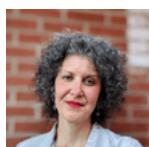
After completing a master's degree in intercultural and international communication at Laval University, Annie Carrier had a flourishing career with the federal Department of Foreign Affairs when a stroke turned her life upside down. For the past five years, she has been learning to live with aphasia and two speech disorders, verbal apraxia and dysarthria. Engaged and passionate, she has been an actress with Théâtre aphasic for two years and now sits on its board of directors. For her, theatre is much more than a stage: it's a space of freedom where words come back to life beyond physical limitations. Surrounded by people who have experienced similar hardships, she has regained confidence and a deep sense of belonging. Drawing on her journey, Annie wants to raise awareness among as many people as possible about aphasia and various disabilities, demonstrating that resilience, creativity, and solidarity can transform challenges into strengths.



A graduate of the École supérieure de théâtre at UQAM, with specializations in Acting and Drama Education, Isabelle Côté taught drama for two years before becoming the Executive and Artistic Director of Théâtre Aphasic in 1996. She leads drama workshops, creates, directs, and promotes theatrical productions, all while managing the organization.



Creative, committed, and passionate about theatre and speech-language therapy, Gabrielle began a PhD in French Literature at the University of Ottawa in September 2023, focusing on the representation of aphasia in theatre. Her thesis project is titled *Les maux pour le dire: l'aphasie dans le théâtre québécois (2000-2025) [Words to Express It: Aphasia in Quebec Theatre (2000-2025)]*. Gabrielle also holds a Master's degree in speech-language therapy from Université Laval and a Bachelor's and Master's degree in theatre. She is deeply interested in the intersections between health and the arts. Over recent years, she has been highly involved with community organizations promoting the social inclusion of people who have experienced a stroke, including Théâtre Aphasic. In this context, she has written and directed theatrical productions for people living with communication differences, including aphasia.



Associate Professor in speech-language therapy at the Université de Montréal, Ingrid Verduyckt, Ph.D. (she/her), leads the Laboratoire d'Innovations en orthophonie, a research space focused on the social participation of people living with communication differences. A researcher at the CRIR and co-chair of the organization Vocavie, she is committed to interdisciplinary and inclusive approaches where the voices of those directly concerned are central.



Alexandra Tessier is a postdoctoral fellow in the speech-language therapy department at Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières. She is interested in inclusive practices and expanding the scope of practice for speech-language therapists, particularly in social environments. Alexandra prioritizes participatory research methods, a social model of disability, and projects with practical and concrete impact to create a more inclusive society for deaf and disabled people, particularly in terms of communication.



Since 1995, Théâtre Aphasique has been co-creating and producing plays with people living with aphasia. These productions—often developed over several months or even years—are then presented at festivals and major cultural venues across Québec. Over the years, the troupe has reached a wide range of audiences, including performances at Théâtre Périscope, the Monument-National, and the Gesù.

In 2025–2026, to mark its 30th anniversary, Théâtre Aphasique launched *Le silence qui parle*, a travelling exhibition that blends cultural mediation, scientific talks, theatre, and public awareness about aphasia. The exhibition has been hosted in several cities throughout Québec, including Québec City and Montréal, notably at the Musée de la civilisation and the Écomusée du Fier-Monde.

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**12:00–1:15 pm: Lunch break – bring your own lunch or explore nearby restaurants!**

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## **Co-creation workshops: Aphasia (in French) & Stuttering (in English)**

Choose between two simultaneous workshops.

**1:15–2:30 pm**

### **Experiencing Theatrical Co-Creation with Théâtre Aphasique (in French only)**

*Isabelle Côté, Executive Director of Théâtre Aphasique, with the troupe*

Dive into the creative process of Théâtre Aphasique by experiencing firsthand what actors with aphasia encounter during rehearsals. Here, aphasia becomes a source of artistic creation — a driver of expressiveness and inventiveness.

Through physical and vocal warm-up exercises, as well as activities focused on concentration, memory, listening, and expressiveness, participants will be invited to explore communication and theatre through movement, voice, body, and imagination.

#### **About the Presenters**



A graduate of the École supérieure de théâtre at UQAM, with specializations in Acting and Drama Education, Isabelle Côté taught drama for two years before becoming the Executive and Artistic Director of Théâtre Aphasique in 1996. She leads drama workshops, creates, directs, and promotes theatrical productions, all while managing the organization.



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1:15–2:30 pm

## DYSFLUENCY in MOTION (in English only)

Aidan Sank, co-Founder and Executive Director of SPACE  
and Liiiam McLaughlin, stuttering dance artist and sound creative

DYSFLUENCY in MOTION is a workshop co-facilitated by SPACE Executive Director and co-Founder Aidan Sank and stuttering artist Liiiam McLaughlin, exploring where our voices live within our bodies. Our goal is to highlight the often overlooked relationship between the voice and body, and unlock a deeper understanding of the dysfluent experience by thinking, moving, and creating together. Through conversation, reflection and physical exploration, DYSFLUENCY in MOTION builds a bridge between dysfluency and embodied expression. This workshop is open and welcome to all!

### About the facilitators



Aidan is the co-Founder and Executive Director of SPACE, a nonprofit creating more space for stuttering. He has been collaborating with the stuttering community as an ally for almost 15 years, and worked for over a decade in New York City as a theater maker and arts educator. Aidan is grateful to the many, many people who stutter who have taught him how to truly listen and communicate. He lives in Vancouver, BC.



Liiiam McLaughlin is a dance artist and sound creative based out of Brooklyn, NY, USA. His artistic practice roots itself in "stutter/dancing", a movement exploration that weaves the deeply embodied experience of stuttering into choreographic and pedagogical frameworks. By utilizing the unruly potential of stuttering, he aims to disrupt societal expectations around efficiency, communication, and clarity that so often embed themselves into everyday life. His work actively revolves around two overarching questions: What can stuttering teach movement? What can movement teach stuttering? He is very grateful to be taking part in Voice and Media and can't wait to revel in the power of dysfluency together.

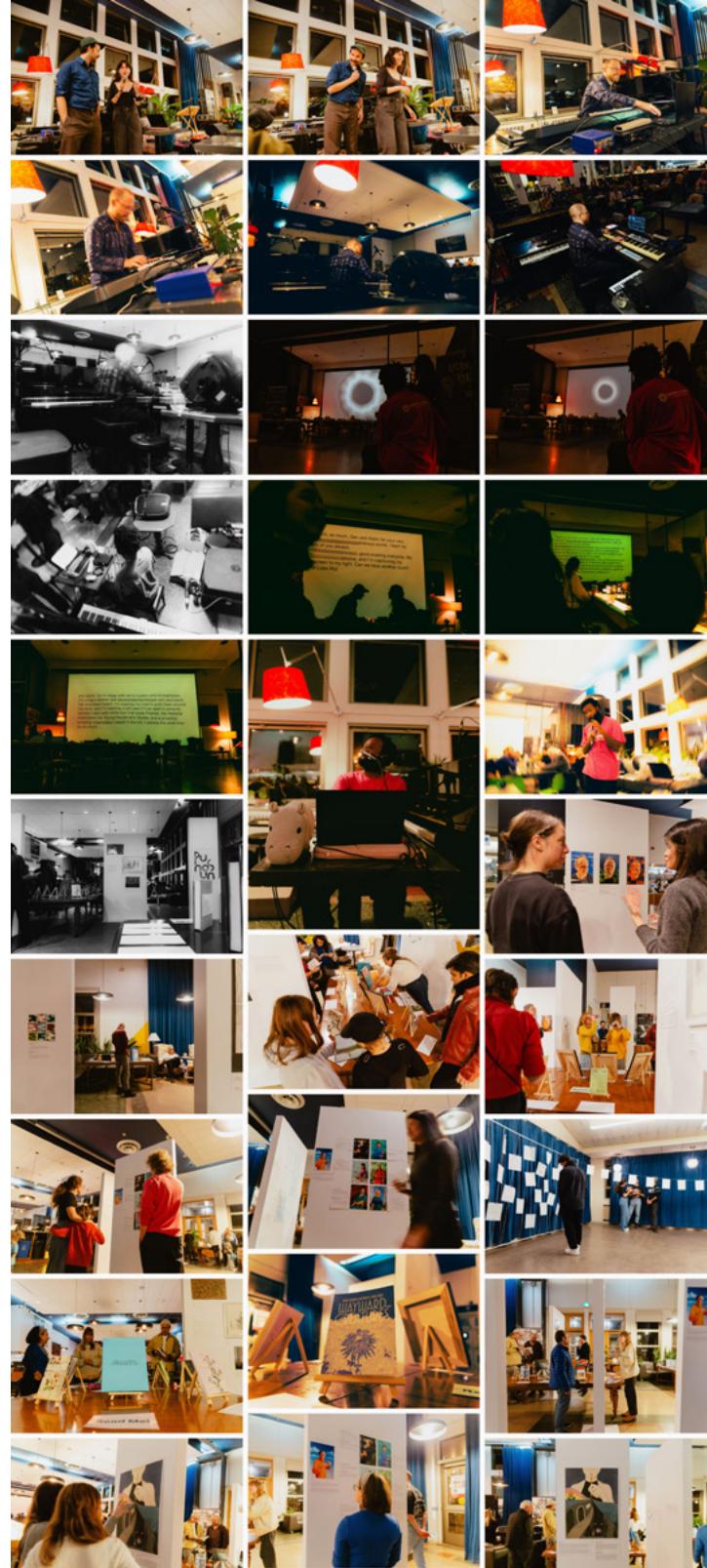
**SPACE**

SPACE (Stuttering, People, Arts, Community, Education) is a nonprofit advancing disability justice through inclusive communication, arts, and advocacy. Founded in 2023 by Aidan Sank and a committed team of volunteers, SPACE is the only organization created on the belief that when we improve conditions for people who stutter, we make the world better for everyone. Through collective advocacy, listening equity and creative expression, SPACE models what inclusive communication can look like and offers tangible pathways for building it. Their offerings include public advocacy to challenge stigma, listening workshops to shift communication norms, and Community and Arts programs for youth and young adults who stutter. SPACE is building a world that listens better to people who stutter, and everyone else.



# NOVEMBER 8 2025

## ROBIN DES BOIS CAFÉ



# Exhibition and Performances: JJJJJerome Ellis x Luke Wyland x Dysfluent art curated by SPACE

8-11-2025 @ 6:00 pm – 10:00 pm

**November 8, 2025, starting at 6 p.m.**

📍 Robin des Bois Café, Montréal  
3933 Parc-La Fontaine Avenue, Montréal, QC H2L 0C7

## Free and open to the public

The event takes place in an accessible space.

*Registration appreciated*

On November 8, from 6 to 10 p.m., join us at Café Robin des Bois for a festive and welcoming closing night of the festival.

In a warm, accessible space, this evening celebrates the richness of dysfluent voices through art and music.

The exhibition *What I want you to know about my voice* will be on view throughout the night, alongside performances by Luke Wyland and JJJJerome Ellis, who each explore stuttering as creative expression.

*Food and drinks will be available for purchase. We kindly encourage guests to arrive fragrance-free, if possible, to ensure everyone's comfort.*

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## Pop-up exhibition

### WHAT I WANT YOU TO KNOW ABOUT MY VOICE



A one-night collective installation presented by SPACE, showcasing the creativity of the dysfluent community.

Poems, paintings, and visual works share the experience of speaking differently and invite the public to rethink listening and communication.

Previously shown at the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York, this exhibition brings together contributions from artists and people who stutter across North America and Europe.

**6:00 – 10:00 pm**

*Presented by SPACE*

**NOVEMBER 8 2025**  
ROBIN DES BOIS CAFÉ

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Live performance

**LUKE WYLAND**



An interdisciplinary artist and musician from Portland, Luke Wyland transforms stuttering into sonic and visual art. His “voice portraits,” inspired by the Library of Dysfluent Voices, weave together rhythms, silences, and the cadences of speech to create unique musical landscapes.

**7:00 – 7:45 pm**

**NOVEMBER 8 2025**  
ROBIN DES BOIS CAFÉ

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Live performance

**JJJJEROME ELLIS**



Grenadian-Jamaican-American poet and composer JJJJJerome Ellis transforms stuttering into a creative space where fluent and dysfluent voices meet.

Winner of the 2022 Anna Rabinowitz Award, they blend poetry, electronics, and meditative silences to explore identity, memory, and belonging.

**8:15 – 9:00 pm**

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**We're looking into a second edition for 2027. See you soon!!**

