

RYAN A. MILLAGER

M.S., CCC-SLP

Speech-language Pathologist &
PhD Candidate

✉ ryan.a.millager@vanderbilt.edu

id orcid.org/0000-0003-2266-9736

EDUCATION

2020 – present

PhD. in Hearing & Speech Sciences

Vanderbilt University, Nashville TN

2010 - 2012

M.S. in Speech-Language Pathology

Vanderbilt University, Nashville TN

2004 - 2008

B.A. in Music & Dramatic Arts

University of North Carolina,
Chapel Hill, NC

HONORS & AWARDS

- **Alliance for Camp Health Research Award (2022)**
Awarded for Herring et al. (2022) in recognition of advancing camp health through research
- **Certificate in College Teaching (2021-22)**
Graduate-level certification program through Vanderbilt's Center for Teaching with emphasis on teaching practices and learning research
- **Vanderbilt's Alfred J. Love Award (2012)**
For excellence in academic and clinical performance in speech-language pathology
- **Pi Beta Kappa (inducted 2007)**

SUMMARY

I am a PhD candidate at Vanderbilt under the mentorship of Dr. Robin Jones. My primary areas of research interest include multivariate contributions to developmental stuttering; diversity and representation in research and culture; and support programs for stuttering. Additionally, I have over 10 years of experience working clinically with stuttering and a long affiliation with the non-profit organization SAY: The Stuttering Association for the Young.

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS AWARDED

- **Graduate Student Research Award (\$5000)**
National Stuttering Association | 2022-2024
Funding for pre-dissertation project, "Parent-oriented features in early childhood stuttering: A pilot study"
- **Travel Grants and Awards (\$500 - \$1385 each)**
Vanderbilt Graduate School, International Fluency Association | 2021, 2022, 2023
Includes three grants (\$500-\$1000 each) from Vanderbilt's Graduate Leadership Institute for professional conferences and presentations, as well as a student bursary (\$1385) to present at the Joint World Congress on Stuttering and Cluttering 2022, supported by NIDCD training grant R13DC019265.
- **Students Preparing for Academic and Research Careers Award (\$980)**
American Speech-Language-Hearing Association | 2011-2012
SPARC Award to support Master's-level research.
- **Mildred Brown Mayo Undergraduate Research Fellowship (\$1000)**
University of North Carolina | 2007-2008
Supporting independent honors research in historical musicology.
- **Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (\$3000)**
University of North Carolina | 2007
Supporting independent summer research project.

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

ARTICLES IN REFEREED JOURNALS

Millager, R.A., Dietrich, M.S., & Jones, R.M. (2023). Behavioral and cognitive-affective features of stuttering in preschool-age children: Regression and exploratory cluster analyses. *Journal of Fluency Disorders*, 76. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jfludis.2023.105972>

Herring, C., **Millager, R.A.**, & Yaruss, J.S. (2022). Outcomes following participation in a support-based summer camp for children who stutter. *Language, Speech, and Hearing Services in Schools*, 53(1). https://doi.org/10.1044/2021_LSHSS-21-00034

Millager, R.A., Conture, E.G., Walden, T.A., & Kelly, E.M. (2014). Expressive language intratest scatter of preschool-age children who stutter. *Contemporary Issues in Communication Science and Disorders*, 41(spring), 110-119. https://doi.org/10.1044/cicsd_41_S_110

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Herring, C., **Millager, R.A.**, & Yaruss, J.S. (2023). Impacts of a support-based summer camp for children who stutter: A synopsis. *Alliance for Camp Health CompassPoint*, 33(1), 14-15.

Parsons, S., Azevedo, F., Elsherif, M. M., Guay, S., Shahim, O. N., Govaart, G. H., ... **Millager, R.A.**, ... & Aczel, B. (2022). A community-sourced glossary of open scholarship terms. *Nature Human Behavior*. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41562-021-01269-4>

Millager, R.A. (2018, April). Supporting children who stutter at school (parts 1-4). SAY homepage. <https://www.say.org/supporting-my-child-who-stutters-at-school-part-1-building-a-community-of-support/>

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS (continued)

* invited

† international

ORAL PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS

Millager, R.A., Feldman, J.I., Shibata, K., Martinez-Torres, K., Bryan, K., Pruett, D., Mitchell, J., Williams, Z.J., Markfeld, J., Merritt, B., Daniels, D., Jones, R., & Woynaroski, T. (2022, November 19). The diversity of research participants in communication sciences and disorders. 1-hour seminar presented at the annual convention of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, New Orleans, LA.

Millager, R.A. (2022, October 12). The diversity of research participants in communication sciences and disorders: Preliminary results. 60-minute presentation for Research Colloquium, Vanderbilt Dept. of Hearing & Speech Sciences, Nashville, TN.

***Millager, R.A.** (2022, September 20). Practical strategies to support children who stutter: A review of individual and group approaches. 75-minute virtual workshop for the Stuttering Foundation's Continuing Education Series.

Millager, R.A. (2022, August 4). Holistic treatment approaches to reduce the adverse impact of stuttering. 2-hour workshop for the 10th Annual School SLP Conference at Vanderbilt, Nashville, TN.

†**Millager, R.A.** & Jones, R.M. (2022, May). Behavioral and Cognitive-Affective Features of Stuttering in Preschool-Age Children: Correlation and Exploratory Cluster Analyses. Technical talk presented at the Joint World Congress on Stuttering and Cluttering, Montreal, Canada.

Millager, R.A. (2021, December 15). REPRESENT CSD: A discussion of future research & related topics. 30-minute presentation for Research Colloquium, Vanderbilt Dept. of Hearing & Speech Sciences, Nashville, TN.

Millager, R.A. (2020, December 9). Impact of a group program for children who stutter: A critical discussion of my pre-PhD research. 30-minute presentation for Research Colloquium, Vanderbilt Dept. of Hearing & Speech Sciences, Nashville, TN.

*Edwards, B.L., Herring, C., **Millager, R.A.**, & Williams, A. (2020, June 15). Self-help/support groups for children and adults who stutter: Resources for use during the COVID-19 crisis and beyond [invited panel discussion]. ASHA Special Interest Group Live Discussion, online.

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS (continued)

* invited

† international

ORAL PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS (continued)

Millager, R.A. (2018, April). Practical and holistic approaches to treatment of children who stutter. 2-hour seminar presented at the annual convention of the New York State Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Rochester, NY.

Alexander, T. & **Millager, R.A.** (2016, November 30). SAY Speech and stuttering. 2-hour continuing education guest lecture, Dept. of Education, Queens, NY.

Millager, R.A., Pollard, R., & Klein, J. (2016, November). Group therapy approaches for school-age children and teens who stutter. 1-hour seminar presented at the annual convention of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Philadelphia, PA.

Millager, R.A. (2016, November 7). A brief intro to SAY and stuttering treatment. 1-hour guest lecture for graduate Fluency Disorders course, Idaho State University.

Millager, R.A. & Preston, K. (2016, July). Storytelling for change. 1.5-hour parent workshop at the annual conference of the National Stuttering Association, Atlanta, GA.

Goldstein, C. & **Millager, R.A.** (2016, July). Kids: Have fun stuttering. 1.5-hour school-age workshop at the annual conference of the National Stuttering Association, Atlanta, GA.

Millager, R.A. (2015, November 3). A brief intro to SAY and stuttering. 45-minute guest lecture for graduate Fluency Disorders course, Pace University.

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS (continued)

* invited

† international

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Feldman, J.I., Markfeld, J.E., **Millager, R.A.**, LaPoint, S.C., Kouria, H., Williams, Z.J., Sandbank, M., Bottema-Beutel, K., & Woynaroski, T.G. (2023, April). *REPRESENT AIM: A systematic review and meta-analysis of the sample demographics in autism intervention research*. Poster presented at the Association for Clinical and Translational Science Annual Meeting, Washington, DC.

Millager, R.A., Dietrich, M.S., & Jones, R.M. (2023, April 5). *Behavioral and cognitive-affective features of stuttering in preschool-age children: Regression and exploratory cluster analyses*. Poster presented at the Vanderbilt Dept. of Hearing & Speech Sciences Student and Faculty Poster Session, Nashville, TN.
****WINNER: First Place, \$1000 academic travel award****

Liu, T., **Millager, R.A.**, Henderson, J., Kelly, E., & Jones, R. (2022, November 18). *The impact of Camp TALKS on children who stutter and their parents' insight and experiences*. Poster session presented at the annual convention of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, New Orleans, LA.

Millager, R.A., Dietrich, M.S., & Jones, R.M. (2022, November 1). *Behavioral and cognitive-affective features of stuttering in preschool-age children: Regression and exploratory cluster analyses*. Poster session presented at the Vanderbilt Kennedy Center Science Day, Nashville, TN.

Millager, R.A., Gerlach, H., & Sepulveda, R. (2018, November). *Impact of a group support program on the communication attitudes of children who stutter*. Poster session presented at the annual convention of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Boston, MA.

Millager, R.A. (2018, November). *Practical and holistic approaches to telepractice and stuttering therapy*. Poster session presented at the annual convention of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Boston, MA.

†Herring, C., **Millager, R. A.**, & Yaruss, J. S. (2018, July) *Longitudinal outcomes following participation in a summer camp for children who stutter*. Poster presented at the Inaugural Joint World Congress of the International Cluttering Association (ICA), International Fluency Association (IFA) and International Stuttering Association (ISA), Hiroshima, Japan

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS (continued)

* invited

† international

POSTER PRESENTATIONS (continued)

Herring, C., **Millager, R.A.**, & Yaruss, J.S. (2018, March). *Longitudinal outcomes following participation in a summer camp for children who stutter*. Poster session presented at the annual convention of the Michigan Speech Language Hearing Association, East Lansing, MI.

Millager, R.A. & Herring, C. (2016, November). *Self-rated outcomes following participation in a summer camp for children who stutter*. Poster session presented at the annual convention of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Philadelphia, PA.

Herring, C., **Millager, R.A.**, & Yaruss, J.S. (2013, November). *Effects of a performing arts curriculum on communication skills in children who stutter*. Poster session presented at the annual convention of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Chicago, IL.

Millager, R.A., Ferriero, L.Z., Carter, A., & Kelly, E.M. (2013, November). *Two cases of re-emergent stuttering in Parkinson's Disease*. Poster session presented at the annual convention of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Chicago, IL.

Millager, R.A., Conture, E.G., Walden, T.A., & Kelly, E.M. (2012, November). *Expressive language intratest scatter of preschool-age children who stutter*. Poster session presented at the annual convention of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Atlanta, GA.

RESEARCH & TEACHING EXPERIENCE

SERVICE & LEADERSHIP

TO DEPARTMENT

- Research subcommittee; Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee of VUMC's Dept. Of Hearing & Speech Sciences (member, Spring 2021 – present)
- Associate director, Camp TALKS annual summer camp for children who stutter, VUMC (2021-present)

TO PROFESSION

- International Fluency Association: Junior Research Network (program leader, 2023 – present; member, 2020 – present)
- Peer review:
 - Proceedings of the Joint World Congress of Stuttering and Cluttering (2022)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Developmental Stuttering Lab (Dr. Robin Jones, PI; Dr. Edward G. Conture, PI)

Vanderbilt University | 2010 – 2012; 2020 – Present

Research Assistant for NIH-funded study into the psychophysiology of childhood stuttering, including linguistic-cognitive-emotional mechanisms. Participants chiefly children who do and do not stutter, ages 3;0 to 12;11, and their caregivers. Research tasks included speech-language assessments, measurement of brain activity (EEG), skin conductance, and heart rate.

Independent clinical research projects

various | 2014-2020

I participated in several research collaborations in association with my clinical practice. Collaborators have included: Hope Gerlach-Houck, PhD; Caryn Herring, MS; Ellen Kelly, PhD; and J. Scott Yaruss, PhD.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

TEACHING ASSISTANT - SLP 5311, "STUTTERING"

Dr. Robin Jones, instructor | Fall 2021, Fall 2022

Created and conducted lecture and hands-on learning materials for course lab section, grading weekly assignments, co-design of syllabus and materials. Typically led 60-90 mins of instruction per class meeting.

TEACHING ASSISTANT - AUD 5361, "FAMILY-CENTERED COUNSELING"

Dr. Ellen Kelly, instructor | Summer 2021

Facilitated weekly structured group discussions in support of weekly learning goals, conducted grading of online assignments.

PRE-DOCTORAL TEACHING EXPERIENCES

- March 2020 - continuing education workshop – CitySounds Speech-Language Therapy services
- Sept. – Oct. 2018 – on-site instructor – Testing & Training International, on-site support for a Fluency Disorders class through the University of Cincinnati
- May 2018 – professional development workshop – NYC Department of Education, led and planned day-long event

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

LICENSURE & AFFILIATIONS

Certificate of Clinical Competence

ASHA, Sept. 2013 – present
#14037220

Active state licensure in SLP

State	License #
NY	024488
TN	7374

ASHA Special Interest Groups

Group 4 (fluency & fluency disorders)
Member 2015-present

Group 20 (counseling)
Member 2022-present

OTHER MEDIA APPEARANCES

2021

Gielen, R. (director).
My Beautiful Stutter
[documentary film].

CLINICAL WORK EXPERIENCE

SAY: The Stuttering Association for the Young

Speech-Language Pathologist | April 2015 – August 2020

Clinician and head of the speech therapy program at SAY. Responsibilities included evaluations, treatment (in-person and via telepractice), group programs (parents and children), advocacy, and support for other professionals, support for other non-profit programming, and administrative/leadership roles.

Massachusetts General Hospital

Speech-Language Pathologist | January 2013 – January 2015

With the Dept. of Speech-Language Pathology, completed clinical fellowship with outpatient team (1/13 – 12/13) conducting primarily cognitive rehabilitation therapy. Later, joined the inpatient team (10/13 – 1/15) to conduct evaluation/treatment of swallowing disorders and cognitive-speech-language deficits.

CLINICAL TRAINING ACTIVITIES

- 2022 – present | SAY *Intervision* peer mentorship groups, bimonthly virtual meetings
- 2018 | *Avoidance-Reduction Training for Stuttering (ARTS): Advanced Clinical Training Workshop*, University of Maryland College Park, College Park MD
- 2016 | Clinical Symposium, *Person-Centered Approaches to Stuttering Treatment*, National Stuttering Association, Atlanta GA
- 2015 | *Eastern Workshop: Using Cognitive Approaches with People Who Stutter*, Stuttering Foundation & Boston University, Boston MA