Sioux Falls Student Writes Children’s Book About Tooth Decay

Seventeen-year-old Brooklynn Gross hopes to be an English teacher one day, but she’s already using her writing and teaching skills to make a difference. The daughter of a dental hygienist, Brooklynn grew up learning all about having a healthy smile, but she knew there were kids in her home town of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, suffering from painful tooth decay because they weren’t taking proper care of their teeth.

With illustrations by Sandie Childs, her elementary art teacher, Brooklynn wrote a book that would show kids what happens when they forget to brush. Her book, “Billy’s Cavity Carnival,” follows two germs as they party all night in a young boy’s mouth, feeding off the sugar left behind from all the candy he ate that day. While presented in a fun way that kids love, her point is well made – daily brushing and flossing are important.

In addition to her book, Brooklynn created a program called Sugar Shock where she educates children and parents in her community about sugar. She gives presentations at local schools and community events, and even appeared in a television commercial for South Dakota Public Broadcasting highlighting good oral health and visiting the dentist.

“There is so much students can do to raise awareness about dental health,” Brooklynn said. “They can give brushing and flossing demonstrations to younger kids or educate their peers about the dangers of oral piercings and the importance of wearing mouth guards during sports. Students can make posters, give presentations, post information on their school’s website and social media, or host activities at community events.”

America’s ToothFairy caught up with Brooklynn at the Future Career and Community Leaders (FCCLA) National Leadership Conference in Nashville in July. More than 10,000 youth, teachers and advisors attended, many of them connecting with America’s ToothFairy to learn how they can promote children’s oral health in their communities. Brooklynn went home with an array of America’s ToothFairy educational materials to use in her school visits, including a ToothFairy 101 Community Education Kit and tooth puppet. “I am excited to use the kit and tooth puppet to teach children about dental health,” she said.

Brooklynn is also doing good with the proceeds of her book. She is donating 100% of the proceeds to charities that benefit underserved children in South Dakota. To order a copy of Billy’s Cavity Carnival, email Brooklynn at cavitycarnival@gmail.com.

Third Annual Sioux Empire Smiles-September 30

The Southeastern District Dental Society (SEDDS) is again hosting a free one-day dental clinic for children 21 and under. The clinic will begin at 8:30 am on Saturday, September 30, 2017 and will serve up to 150 patients with comprehensive dental care services, from cleaning and exams to surgical and restorative treatments.

The clinic will focus on providing critical dental care while placing a high priority on patients suffering from dental infections or pain and providing basic dental education and awareness to patients.

Children’s Dental Center has once again donated the used of their facility for the event. Funding for the clinic has been committed by the Sioux Empire United Way and in-kind donations of supplies and materials has been sought from dental vendors and Sioux Falls area retailers.

A clinic of this size needs the participation of many volunteers. Dentists, dental hygienists, and dental assistants are needed to make this clinic a success. There will be two shifts for volunteers: 8:30 a.m. to noon and 12:30 to 4:00 p.m. Please contact Dr. Damon Thielen at damon.thielen@gmail.com if you would like to volunteer.

This clinic promises to be a rewarding experience for all volunteers coming together with a common goal of providing dental care to underserved populations of children and adults who cannot, for whatever reason, obtain care.

In addition to receiving needed dental treatment, patients will learn the importance of good daily oral hygiene practices, healthy diet and routine preventive dental care.
2018 Annual Session Thursday Speaker

Judson Laipply is an enigma wrapped in an anomaly contained inside a quandary. Combining comedy and content, laughter and learning, energy and engagement Judson gives his audiences both instant joy and lasting impact. He’s been seen on the Today Show, Ellen, Oprah, GMA, and more. Judson is the world’s first YouTube Celebrity and his finale “The Evolution of Dance” has over a billion impressions. He’s been speaking and performing for over 15 years and has been all around the globe. Judson has a Master’s in Education from Bowling Green State University. Learn more at www.judsonlaipplly.com.

Keynote: “Life is Change”, 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

Socrates once said, “Perfection is constant change.” Life is change. Day in and day out the thing that remains constant is change. Judson combines laughter inducing stories with thought-provoking ideas to drive home the point that we are in the constant presence of change and how to accept, handle and create it.

“Brains, Bias, and Behavior”, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Do you know why you act the way you do? Are some of your subconscious biases keeping you from being the best person you can be? Are some of them keeping you from giving the best service possible to your patients? In this session, you will gain insight into your biases and others and how they are formed. How they affect your daily interactions with both patients and coworkers. How our brains process information and what we can do to keep our biases from influencing our interactions. Drawing from the latest research in neurology, sociology and psychology this session will have direct impact on your daily life.

“Selling Sand in the Desert: How to Market and Sell Anything”, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

With the world moving as fast as it does marketing has become the engine that drives business. Selling is an extremely important topic for anything. Whether you are selling a product, a program, a person, or even yourself there are things that can give you the competitive edge. This discussion of branding, tag lining, and triggers will give you a better understanding of marketing and help you to gain an advantage in what you have to sell.

USD Dental Hygiene Update ~By Ann Brunick, Chair USD Dental Hygiene

Fall classes have begun and we are already seeing patients in our clinical rotations. The seniors learned a great deal from their summer internship experiences. Thank you to all who hosted a student in your office or I HS/tribal facility. They appreciate the “real world” look into dentistry and it helps them gain a broad perspective of how we serve all patients. If you are ever interested in allowing a student to observe in your office for two days in the summer, please contact the Department.

The Department will wrap up its 50th Anniversary Celebration this Fall during the 2017 Dakota Days “Backed by Tradition” festivities. A full day of continuing education is planned for Friday, October 6th at the Valiant Vineyards winery in Vermillion. Topics for discussion are: the history of our profession, the current status of drug addiction in our society, sealant use in South Dakota, an update on radiography, and strategies for effective oral health education. Please contact the Department to register for the CE program; the cost is $125 and includes lunch. A free alumni reception from 5:00-7:00 that evening will be held at the Winery, also. This will be a good time to catch up with classmates and/or faculty. The Department will enter a special float in the parade and there will be an Open House at the Department after the parade and before the football game between 11:00-1:00. Please join us for any or all of these events.

We have some new faces in the Department this year. Our new Program Assistant in the campus office is Nicole Solomon. She has acclimated well and will be a great contact for information when you call the office. We are pleased to announce that we hired Ashleigh Lingo as our Clinic Director for the Sioux Falls Clinic last January. We are also grateful for the assistance from Dr. Keith Venhuizen as our part-time dentist, and Micah Miller as our full-time dental assistant in Sioux Falls. Mrs. Tasha Wendel has assumed the duties associated with our HRSA grant. Tasha will take students to the school and nursing home rotations. Lasandra Wilson has been hired as a part-time clinical/didactic instructor on campus. Each of these individuals contribute greatly to our Department team and we are fortunate to have them.

Our 2017 graduating class had great success finding employment. Thank you for contacting the Department with openings. It is best to email the job information and it will be forwarded to the class. Faculty are able to discuss specific students with you only after the student has signed a release form. It’s never too early to start sending information; the students have their resumes ready.

Thank you for the support you give to the program in so many ways. We also appreciate the time you take to visit the student Table Clinics at the State Meeting. We’ll see you again in May. Please note that our phone numbers have changed. You can reach Nicole in the main campus office at 658-5960, Jill in the Campus Clinic reception office at 658-5959, Crystal at the Sioux Falls Clinic at 367-8046, and Ann at 658-5964 or Ann.Brunick@usd.edu.
Greetings from LATI Dental Assisting! The 2016-17 academic year had found us very busy with events that brought accolades to LATI. Last fall, the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) was on campus to evaluate Lake Area Tech for accreditation. They validated the quality of our institution as a whole; as well as, multiple aspects ranging from our academic offerings to governance and administration to our mission, finances and resources. We are pleased to report we passed and maintained our status of Continued Accreditation which was originally granted in 1980.

This May found our students walking through their graduation and completing their clinical hours in dental offices. We had 37 on campus students and 3 online students. Many of our students have secured jobs even before they graduated! We direct them to research job employment options that are posted on our LATI website. If you have a job opening, please go to the link: https://www.lakeareatech.edu/jobs/
You will be able to post about your opening, as well as upload your website for review. We refer current students AND alumni to check the site when looking for employment.

This fall semester, we currently have 29 new students enrolled into our on campus program. They are very excited to learn new skills and experience the profession. We (as instructors) would love to get the dental profession involved in their learning. If you have any way in which you may be able to utilize a group of students, such as a fluoride clinic or community event that promotes dental health, please let us know! It is our goal to have our students get involved with community efforts.

We have had many questions about our online program. This program fills the need for students that may not be able to come to campus daily, whether it is a location issue or employment issue. We currently have eight online students who started in January and five of them are already employed in dental offices. They are working full-time while completing their education with us during a 16-month timespan. We require the students to participate in the coursework online and come to on-campus labs to complete their hands-on portion. It has been working well for the last 7 years and we hope to improve every year! We feel this is an excellent way to fill the need of dental assistants across the state. If you have any questions, please contact us for information and clarification.

Lastly, our program would like to thank you! Without the help of the dental community, members of our advisory board, and supporters of our program, we would not be able to graduate dental assistants and help our profession! Our students thoroughly enjoy the offices they visit, professionals they work with, and patients they see. Thank you for spreading the excitement of our profession!

August 21st marked the first day for the 2017-2018 school year at Western Dakota Tech! Our current enrollment number sits at 35 students, all of whom are eager and motivated to learn.

We had a very successful first year with 17 graduates, many thanks to the partnership with community dentists who volunteered their offices as clinical sites, the preceptors who were there to help and guide our students during their clinical externship, our dental assisting advisory board members, and the volunteer guest speakers we had on campus. Everyone has had a monumental role in the success of the first year for the Dental Assisting Program.

The next Advisory Board Meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 2nd at 6:00PM. The most important discussion will be for the approval of the curriculum changes discussed during the spring meeting; the purpose being to better align curriculum with the expectations and guidelines of CODA accreditation. There are set voting members, but the meeting is open to the public for those who would like to participate as we look ahead to the coming semesters.

One change that will go into effect for the 2017-2018 school year based on the feedback from the Black Hills Dental Society members and approved by the advisory board to begin clinical hours in the spring semester, thus relieving some of the stress on community dentists to accommodate students over the summer. Students, under the guidance of their preceptor, will be able to begin the practice of their hands-on skills in January and continue on into August. If you are not already a clinical site and would like to participate as one, please contact me immediately as we are looking for more participation with the increased number of enrollment this year.

If you would like to be a guest speaker in one of our classes, attend the upcoming advisory board meeting, volunteer as a clinical site, or just have general questions about the program, please contact me at Sarah.McCormick@wdt.edu or my office phone number, (605)786-5949. I look forward to working together with you as community members to make sure this year is a success!

Give Kids A Smile

Each year on the first Friday in February, thousands of dentists and dental team members across the country take time from their practices to help children who lack access to dental care get the treatment they need.

CONTINUING EDUCATION CALENDAR

The listing of these programs is provided as a service to SDDA Newsletter subscribers, and does not mean that these programs have been endorsed or approved by the SD Dental Association or the SD State Board of Dentistry. All members are cautioned to evaluate the programs on their own merit.

SDDA ANNUAL SESSION
Contact: Brenda Goeden 605-224-9133
www.sddental.org
May 17-19, 2018 Sioux Falls, SD
Registration forms will be in included in the Spring 2018 newsletter.

WESTERN DAKOTA TECHNICAL INSTITUTE
Contact: 605-718-2410
Third Friday of the Month, mornings
American Heart Association CPR Class for Healthcare Professionals
Third Friday of the Month, afternoons
American Heart Association Healthcare Provider CPR Recertification

LAKE AREA TECHNICAL INSTITUTE
Contact: Amy Meadors 800-657-4344, ext. 378
amy.meadors@lakeareatech.edu
Home Study Radiology Courses available:
- Radiology Safety
- Radiography Production

SDDHA
Contact: Shayna Berke
shaynardh@gmail.com

October 10, 2017: 6:30 pm; Dr. Jack Wilson, Orthodontist; “The Evolving Paradigm of Orthodontists”

SD ACADEMY OF GENERAL DENTISTRY
Contact: Brenda Goeden, 605-224-9133; brenda.goeden@sddental.org
September 29, 2017
- Mr. Steve O’Neil; “Digital Radiology in the 21st Century; Highly Diagnostic Imaging with Greater Patient Safety”
  Best Western Ramkota, Aberdeen, SD

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA
Contact: Dept. of Dental Hygiene 605-677-5379
Home Study Radiology Courses available:
- Digital Radiography, Advantages & Disadvantages
- Exposure Errors of Periapicals & Bitewings
- Processing Errors
- Occlusal Exposures for Children
- Oral Effects of Head & Neck Radiation Therapy
- Panoramic Radiography
- Radiation Safety
- Vertical Bitewings
- Fluoride Varnish, Indication & Application