



What's been happening at [Welcome Change](#).....

***The Collector of Bedford Street* wins "Best Story" award at BOSI International Film Festival in Belgrade!**

"BEST BOSI FEST 2010 STORY PLAQUE is awarded to the film, The Collector of Bedford Street, director: Alice Elliott, New York, USA, for the successful and touching story of a man (Larry Selman), who although not able to care for himself, has a huge Emotional Intelligence and cares for other members of society."

[CLICK HERE](#) to read more about the festival.

Alice and Larry with their newest award! Congratulations!



Leadership Training in Development

Thanks to a generous grant from the Fledgling Fund, Alice will be developing a self advocacy leadership training video. More info to come, stay tuned!

Thanks, Fledgling!

Callicoon Center Band is now on Facebook!



Come check out the new page for Alice Elliott's upcoming film, [Everything You Always Wanted to Know About the Callicoon Center Band](#).

[LIKE](#) us on
facebook

[Become a fan](#) of Body & Soul: Diana & Kathy on Facebook!



[Follow](#) Body & Soul:

Over 800 learners using *Body & Soul: Diana & Kathy* through the College of Direct Support!



Film for Thought (FFT) Courses

Film for Thought (FFT) Courses are specialized courses in the College of Direct Support. Film for Thought courses focus on one film. They help learners connect the story in the film to the competencies and skills learned in the College of Direct Support curriculum.

It connects CDS courses, content, and learning to the main themes and story line of each film chapter. It then asks learners to reflect on their CDS learning and the film. Learners are also asked to integrate this with their work as a Direct Support Professional or Frontline Supervisor. FFT courses will help learners see, hear, and feel how many of the issues are played out in the real lives of people with disabilities.

FILM FOR THOUGHT: BODY AND SOUL: DIANA AND KATHY

This first FFT course is about the story and lives of Diana Braun and Kathy Conour in Alice Elliott's film "**Body & Soul: Diana & Kathy**" as they come alive in this course. The Film for Thought is a specialized type of course within the CDS that focuses on one film and uses it to help the learner connect the story within the film to the competencies and skills they have learned in the CDS.

[CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

News from Uzbekistan

Alice and Diana have been back for a while now, but news keeps pouring in about the incredible impact of their visit. An Uzbek blog called "Uzbek Disability Movement" posted an article with some great pictures about their visit. In a blog post titled, "[Meeting with Hero of Unique Documentary](#)" the author reviews the event:

"The interactive Q&A, photo sessions and quizzes with gifts were unforgettable moments for all the participants. The most participants expressed their desire to organize more similar demonstrative and educational



Diana & Kathy on Twitter!

Keep up with Larry and see his latest fundraising totals



[Follow](#) him on twitter!



As of June 2011,
\$1,112.00 to the BBC Block
Association

\$918 for Autism Research

[Join](#) Larry's fanclub
on Facebook!

events. The SHG "Istiqbol" members thank and pass their appreciation to the organizers of the events, particularly Public Affairs Section of US Embassy."

Check out the "[Uzbek Disability Movement](#)" Blog!

Alice Elliott is now on [Twitter!](#)

Want to hear about all the cool stuff Alice does? Conferences, screenings, panels, parties and more! Keep up with the glamorous and exciting life of Alice Elliott @ElliottFilm - [CLICK HERE](#) to follow!

Thanks to everyone who came out to the BBC Block Fair!



The block fair took place on a beautiful Saturday last month. It was a huge success. Thanks everyone for your donations to Larry's Trust!

Larry enjoying a visit from friends at the block fair.

Looking for the perfect belated Father's Day gift?



[CLICK HERE](#) to purchase [Body & Soul: Diana & Kathy](#)

[CLICK HERE](#) to purchase [The Collector of Bedford Street](#)

Alice's Recommendations

Check out this great new (to us) disability blog!

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/issues/Disabilities>

"The White House Blog: Disabilities" is produced by the Obama administration and provides news and updates from Washington, D.C. as well as opportunities to take action. Most recently, the blog has put out a call for nominations for [Champions of Change](#). The Champions of Change program highlights Americans that are "doing extraordinary things in their communities to out-innovate, out-educate and out-build the rest of the world. Click [HERE](#) to check it out and nominate a Champion today! (Hint - Nominate Larry and Diana!)"

ATTN: Filmmakers

Submit your films to the [Normal Festival in Prague!](#)

Deadline: July 31, 2011

"The Normal Festival shows professional art dedicated to lives of people with learning disabilities, as well as art made by them. The festival brings together feature films, animated films, documentaries, theatre plays and art exhibitions about, by and for people with learning disabilities. We believe that the art we will be presenting has both informational and artistic value. Art should never make us feel pity for an author who seems disadvantaged to us. However original, experimental and groundbreaking it is, it should let us respect the artist's personality, no matter if we praise or criticize his/her work."

[CLICK HERE](#) for more information

In the News...

Celebrating Victory, Honoring Leadership, Remembering Justin Dart, Jr. by Sarah Peterson, Former JFA Moderator

June 22 is a historic day for the disability community. Not only does it mark the anniversary of the 1999 Supreme Court Olmstead decision which affirmed the right of people with disabilities to live in their homes and communities, but it also marks the anniversary of the death of Justin Dart, Jr. who is widely recognized as "the father of the Americans with Disabilities Act," "the godfather of the disability rights movement," and co-founder of Justice for All.

In a time when the rights of many people with disabilities are in peril, it is important to remember the strength of our collective roots, acknowledge our current allies and rededicate ourselves to the work ahead.

Justin taught us: "Get involved in politics and advocacy as if your lives depended on it. They do, and the lives of our grandchildren."

As we face major reductions in services at the national, state and local levels, as Congress considers deep cuts to Medicaid, Medicare, food stamp programs, TANF and Social Security, these words are as applicable today as they ever were.

[Click here to read the full article from the Justice for All Blog](#)

Upcoming New York City Event

National Down Syndrome Society's NYC Buddy Walk

Saturday, September 24, 2011

ABOUT BUDDY WALK

The Buddy Walk[®] was established in 1995 by the National Down Syndrome Society to celebrate Down Syndrome Awareness Month in October and to promote acceptance and inclusion of people with Down syndrome. Today, the Buddy Walk program is supported nationally by NDSS and organized at the local level by parent support groups, schools and other organizations and individuals.

Over the past sixteen years, the Buddy Walk program has grown from 17 walks to nearly 300 expected in 2011 across the country and around the world. Last year alone, 285,000 people participated in a Buddy Walk! They raised more than \$11.2 million to benefit local programs and services as well as the national advocacy initiatives that benefit all individuals with Down syndrome.

The Buddy Walk is a one-mile walk in which anyone can participate without special training. It is a wonderful, heart-warming event that celebrates the many abilities and accomplishments of people with Down syndrome. Whether you have Down syndrome, know someone who does, or just want to show your support, come and join a Buddy Walk in your local community!



Check out the website and register for the 2011 Buddy Walk: <http://www.buddywalk.org/>

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