

DANIEL (DANNY) KENTARO WHITTY

Minimally-speaking Autistic Advocate, Writer, & Friend

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dannywithwords.com

I am a proud autistic man who communicates using Spelling to Communicate (S2C). I am passionate about sharing the voices of the nonspeaking world and advocating for our rights, dignity, and well-being!

PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES

"Danny With Words" Website & Social Media

Self, 2020 - present

Sharing my writings & information on nonspeaking autistic experiences to a diverse audience, including the @dannywithwords Instagram account

Leo in Bloom online project

Self, 2020 - present

Sharing pieces on nonspeakers' experiences & perspectives in this online publication.

Co-teaching Transcending Apraxia short courses

Transcending Apraxia, 2021.

Co-teaching with ally instructors: (1) Introduction to Poetry, with Dr. Brian Laidlaw; (2) Art history of 20th Century Abstraction, with Shay Sampson

POSITIONS

- **Nonspeaking Leadership Council**, International Association for Spelling as Communication (I-ASC)
- **Board Member**, Teva Community Board of Directors
- *former:* **Board Member**, Ohana Consortium

Spellers & Allies Advocacy Network

I-ASC, 2020 - present

Advocating with a group of my adult peers and our allies for communication access & greater awareness of nonspeakers; also part of the website working group

The Ocean & Us Podcast: Co-Host

Self, 2020 - Dec 2022

Interviews with marine conservationists and sharing my own journey into ocean sports

PUBLISHED WRITINGS

- *In Press:* **Waves, Wind, and We:** early 2023. Poetry chapbook.
- **I Will Die on This Hill** book by M. Ashburn & J. Edwards: Feb 2023. Contributing author.
- **The Listening World Poetry Newsletter:** September 2022. Poem: "All I Can Say"
- **Bon Appetit Magazine:** July 2021. "For Decades, I Couldn't Communicate. Then I Found a Way Through Food."
- **OpenTable Blog:** October 2021. "How Dining Out Brings Me Joy as an Autistic Person."
- **Eat Club Food Guide:** [in German] February 2022 issue - a translation of my Bon Appetit piece plus responses to interview questions and one of my recipes
- **Art of Autism:** Peace Project 2020 - three poems
- **I-ASC Blog:** June 2021. "Words with Friends" on the importance of friendship

INTERVIEWS & PRESENTATIONS

- **The Nurturing Neurodivergence Conference Presentation:** November 2022: "Difficulties with Words in Education"
- **Functional Nutrition and Learning for Kids Podcast** *Interviewed February 22, 2022, air date TBD*
- **Uniquely Human Podcast:** Episode 35, Oct 2021: "A conversation with Danny Whitty: A talented, witty cook who communicates by Spelling."
- **Optimal Rhythms/ACCESS Academy Parliament:** Presentation, May 2021. "Diving into *The Ocean & Us!*"
- **That Au-Some Book Club:** Interview, March 2021.

OTHER ADVISORY ROLES

- ACES Talking with Doctors project
- The Reason I Jump film's education guides
- NeuroClastic's Music Media Toolbox

COMPLETED COURSES

- **Modern & Contemporary American Poetry** by U Penn on Coursera (student and community TA), 2020, 2021
- **Introduction to Sociology**, Palomar College (student), Spring 2021

OTHER I-ASC INVOLVEMENT

- Co-host (West Coast) & presenter, SpellX2020
- Presenter, SpellX2021, 2022; Boards & Chords 2021
- Four Star Spellebrity, 2020

INTERESTS

- Surfing, SUP, swimming, snorkeling
- Poetry and essays
- Social justice
- Cooking and feasting
- Mindfulness
- Being a great pet uncle