

ADVANCE PRESS RELEASE

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DYSLEXIA FILM FESTIVAL
JOHN MARSHALL ALUMNUS AND DIRECTOR FEATURED AT READING CENTER EVENT
SEPTEMBER 27

October is Dyslexia Awareness Month

(September 13, 2017, Rochester, MN)

What: **Annual Bright Stars Event – Dyslexia Film Festival**

When: **Wednesday, September 27, 2017 (5-9pm)**

Location: **Wehrenberg Theater, Rochester**

Our **annual *Bright Stars* event** provides an opportunity to highlight successful adults with dyslexia. **This year our event celebrates dyslexics in the field of filmmaking.**

Please join us on Wednesday, September 27, at the Wehrenberg Theater. Starting at 6pm we will host a director's panel featuring John Marshall High school graduate Mark Brecke and Tamara Rosenfeld who will discuss their journeys with dyslexia and filmmaking.

At 7:15pm attendees can view one of four films: *American Assassin*, a new blockbuster film based on the bestselling book by the **late dyslexic author, and Minnesota native, Vince Flynn.**

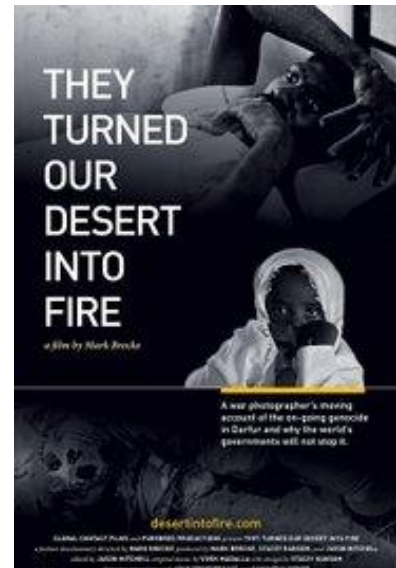
We will show **Mark Brecke's film, *The Turned Our Desert Into Fire***, about the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Sudan. Mark is from Rochester and now resides in California.

We will show two episodes of Emmy Award winning television **directed by Tamara Rosenfeld**, one from *Chef's Table* and the other from the series *Wonder Women*. And we will show the 1980s favorite, *E.T.*, **directed by famed dyslexic filmmaker Steven Spielberg.**

This event is open to the public. Tickets are on-sale now for \$10. The first \$10,000 in donation made during this event will be matched by Mayo Clinic and the Rochester Scottish Rite Children's Foundation.

***Mark Brecke and Tamara Rosenfeld are available for pre-event interviews by phone, and Sept. 27 (event day). Interviews by arrangement of The Reading Center.**

Since 1951, over 9,000 dyslexic students have been taught to read through the Reading Center.



The Reading Center is a non-profit organization that has been helping struggling students learn to read since 1951. The Reading Center provides educational testing, one-on-one Educational Therapy, an early childhood Reading Readiness program and summer Best of Basics program for children. The Reading Center also trains adults in a multi-sensory, structured approach (Orton Gillingham) to teach reading through our Basic and Advanced Institutes.

In 2016, The Reading Center tutors and trainees reached thousands of Minnesota's struggling readers. We provided 80 students with nationally-normed testing to identify their reading struggles. We screened 29 students (age 4-6) for free to determine their risk of reading failure. **23 young learners** attended Reading Clubs with their parents. **165 students attended 8,662 sessions** of Educational Therapy (tutoring) sessions to improve their reading ability. We increased the number of lessons taught **18% over last year and 28% of our sessions are now being delivered online.**

And we provided **scholarships worth \$74,907** to **61 students and trainees** last year. This is an increase of 24% over 2015. **18% of our students are receiving scholarship assistance.**

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