Berthold Lowenfeld (1901-1994) was born in Linz, Austria. Dr. Lowenfeld received his Ph.D. from the University of Vienna. He dedicated his life to the education of people with visual impairments and worked to have persons with visual impairments fully integrated into society. Dr. Lowenfeld focused his research on the total effect of blindness during his ten years at the American Foundation for the Blind as Director of Educational Research. He continued while a lecturer at Columbia University and as a consultant.

Dr. Lowenfeld published over one hundred articles and several books.

Dr. Lowenfeld served as Superintendent of the California School for the Blind for fifteen years. He mentored many of the current leaders in our field today.

Directions to California School for the Blind:
500 Walnut Avenue, Fremont, CA 94536, Theater Building

*From the Peninsula:* take the San Mateo Bridge (92) or Dumbarton Bridge to 880 South. Exit onto Stevenson East. Turn left at Gallaudet and right at Walnut Ave.

*From East Bay:* take 580 West or 80 East to 680 South. Turn right (North) at the Mission Blvd exit. Turn left on Walnut Ave.

*From the North Bay:* take 880 South. Exit onto Stevenson East. Turn left at Gallaudet, then right at Walnut Ave.

*From the South Bay:* take 880 North. Exit onto Stevenson East. Turn left at Gallaudet, then right at Walnut Ave.

*From BART:* take Fremont bound train to Fremont Station. The school is about one mile east of the BART station on Walnut Ave.

24th Annual Lowenfeld-Akeson Early Years Symposium

Developing Relationships and Building Social and Emotional Growth for Young Children with Visual Impairments: Focus on Infant and Family Mental Health

Saturday February 1, 2020
8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
California School for the Blind
500 Walnut Avenue, Fremont CA
Theater Building
Symposium Schedule: Saturday February 1, 2020

8:30 – 9:00  Registration
9:00 – 9:15  Welcome
10:30 – 12:00  Andrea Urqueta Alfaro, Ph.D., “Bonding and sharing attention in children with visual impairment and their caregivers.”
12:00 – 12:50  Lunch/Networking/CAPVI Meeting
12:55 – 1:15  Silverman Award Presentation
1:20 – 2:20  Lucia Milburn, Ph.D., “Early Intervention: A Parent’s Perspective and a Chance for Discussion.”
2:30 – 3:30  Parent Panel

Symposium Co-Sponsors:

Blind Babies Foundation (BBF), a Program of Wayfinder Family Services
California Association of Parents of Children with Visual Impairments (CAPVI)
California Deafblind Services (CDBS)
California School for the Blind (CSB)
Northern California Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired (NCAER)

Nancy Akeson was the first Home Counselor for the Blind Babies Foundation. Although she officially retired from BBF in 1984, Nancy remained active with the organization as a member of BBF’s Professional Advisory Committee and periodically served as Interim Executive Director.

Nancy’s publications include “Preschool Vision Stimulation--It’s More Than a Flashlight,” which she co-authored with Lois Harrell for the American Foundation for the Blind.

Nancy passed away in February, 2005. There was no one like her. She had an open heart and delighted in the uniqueness of everyone she encountered. Wherever she was, traveling and living throughout the world, she made friends. She was the greatest communicator, always speaking directly to what was important. Nancy’s bold and engaged life is an inspiration to us all.

Connect with us on Facebook at: https://www.facebook.com/Lowenfeld.Akeson