



Elaine Miskinis is a high school English teacher, writer and advocate for dyslexic learners. She has spent 22 years in the classroom and as the parent of two high school students she is well versed on the challenges students face regarding accommodations in high school.



Hayden Miskinis is an 11th grader who began getting interventions in 4th grade. Up to that point, she could not read, but after two years of interventions, she went on to become a strong reader and a skilled writer. When she was in 7th grade, Hayden wrote an essay about her challenges with dyslexia that was published in The New York Times. She is now an advocate for students with dyslexia and an honors student. Hayden is currently illustrating a book, *Leena and The Thinking Tree*, about a young girl who is struggling with the challenges of dyslexia. When she's not drawing or advocating, Hayden is training in a pre-professional ballet program where she trains in the Vaganova technique.



Kaya Miskinis is a 9th grader who began her journey with dyslexia interventions when she was in second grade. As a result of early interventions, Kaya is now an avid reader who is especially fond of Shakespeare. Dyslexia still has an impact, though, particularly when it comes to spelling, and Kaya also struggles with dyscalculia, which impacts her ability to retain math facts.

Overall, though, Kaya is a testament to the power of early interventions, and she enjoys challenging herself with a full course load of honors classes and she was recently accepted into the Brown University Pre-College Summer Program.

When she's not at school, Kaya can be found working at a retirement home where she helps care for elderly residents or curled up with a good book.