Media Release Date: April 16, 2025 Media Contact: stepvainc@gmail.com



On the Heels of a Successful Musial, STEP VA Summer Camp Registrations to Open FREDERICKSBURG, VA—It's year-round fun with STEP VA Inc., the local 501(c)3 non-profit that empowers people with disabilities and their families through creative expression and sensory exploration. The organization brought Disney/Pixar's "Finding Nemo, Jr." to the stage last weekend and more than 650 people came to see the show—making it the most viewed musical STEP VA has hosted to date. Now, attention turns to the summer camp session.

The cornerstone program of STEP VA, summer sessions began with a single half-day camp. A dozen years later, six different summer camp options are available to members of the disability community:

- Tech Camp is open to individuals with disabilities ages 13 and up. It runs from 9 am noon at Courtland High School and will take place from June 2-5, 2025. Participants will learn what it takes to work backstage in a theater program and will create the scenery and props used in the art camp performances.
- Stafford Arts Camp is open to individuals with disabilities ages 8-23. It's a half-day camp, running from 9 am – noon, at Rodney Thompson Middle School from June 9-13. An offshoot of the original STEP VA summer session, the Stafford Arts Camp offers arts and crafts, dance and theater classes, culminating in a Camp Performance on Friday.
- The popularity of the original Spotsy Art Camp led to the first program expansion. Spotsy Art Camp is now offered from **9 am noon** for ages 8-15, and again from **1-4 pm** for ages 12-23. Both camps are held at Battlefield Middle School, will take place June 16-20, and will also have a final performance on Friday.
- STEP VA's newest summer camp is Drum Camp, offering two sessions off the bat. Open to
 participants ages 8-23 It runs July 14-18, 9 am noon *or* 1-4 pm at Spotsylvania High School. A
 collaboration with certified Drum Circle Facilitator Ray Nelson, drum camp offers inclusive and
 safe drumming experience where students learn the basics of rhythm, hand drum technique,
 simple rhythms, and percussion skills on a variety of percussion instruments as well as learning
 beginning musical concepts.

Registration for all of them open on Friday, April 18. Visit <u>www.stepva.org</u> for more information.

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STEP VA, Inc. is a 501c3 non-profit organization that provides sensory-based theater and arts programs for individuals with disabilities. Its vision is to transform the world by offering each individual the opportunity to flourish in the community.