

PRAXIS: ADVOCATING FOR NEURODIVERSITY

Sophie Greer '23

Field Site: Facilitate Joy!

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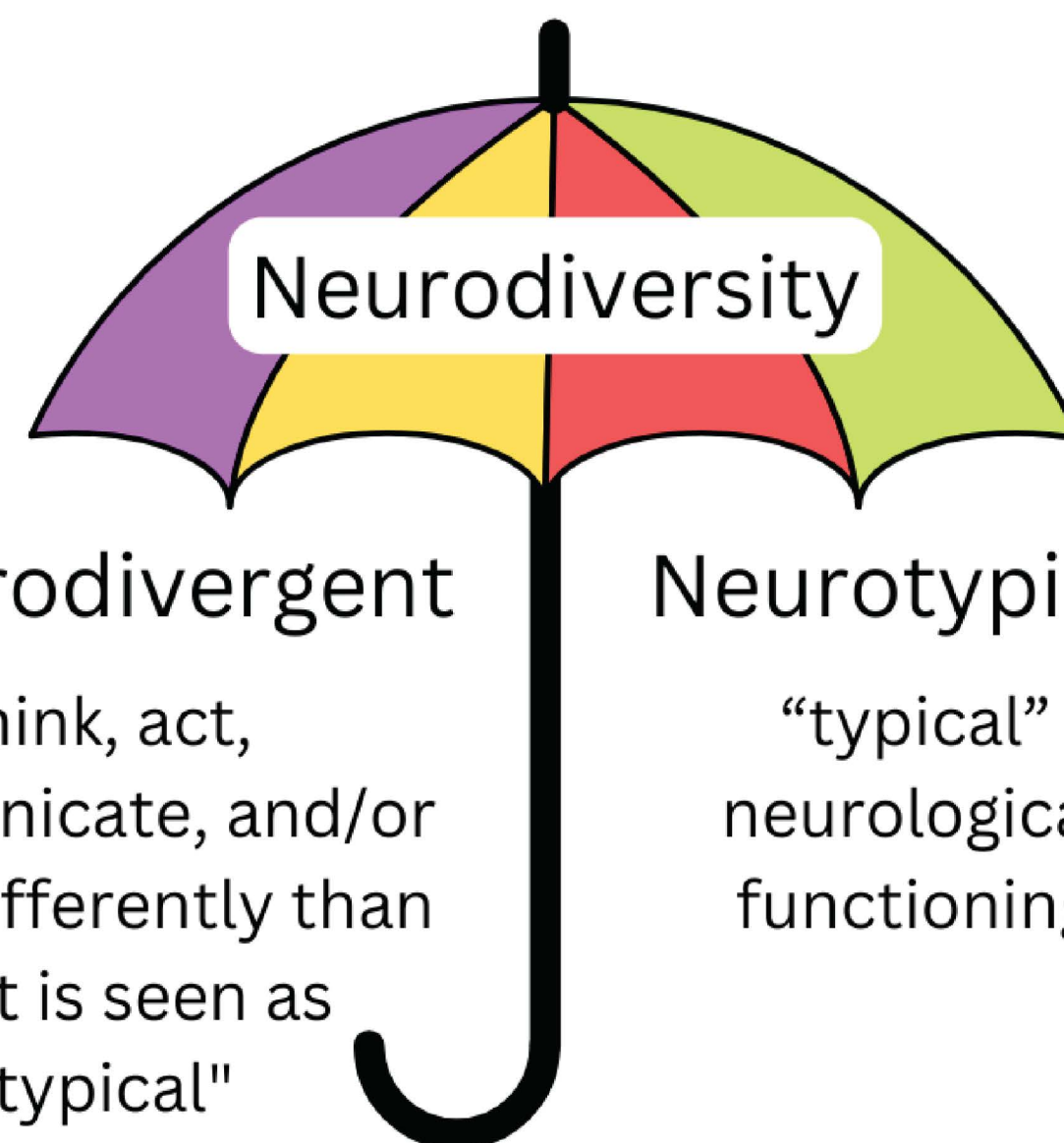
FACILITATE JOY!

Advocates for the neurodivergent (ND) community

Provides an online and in-person space for ND people to connect & build community

Provides autism and ADHD coaching

Located in Reno, NV (remote internship)



Neurodivergent conditions include autism, ADHD, dyslexia, dyspraxia, Tourette's, anxiety, OCD, and more!

NEURO-DIVERSITY IS...

The variety of ways to think, act, learn, and communicate

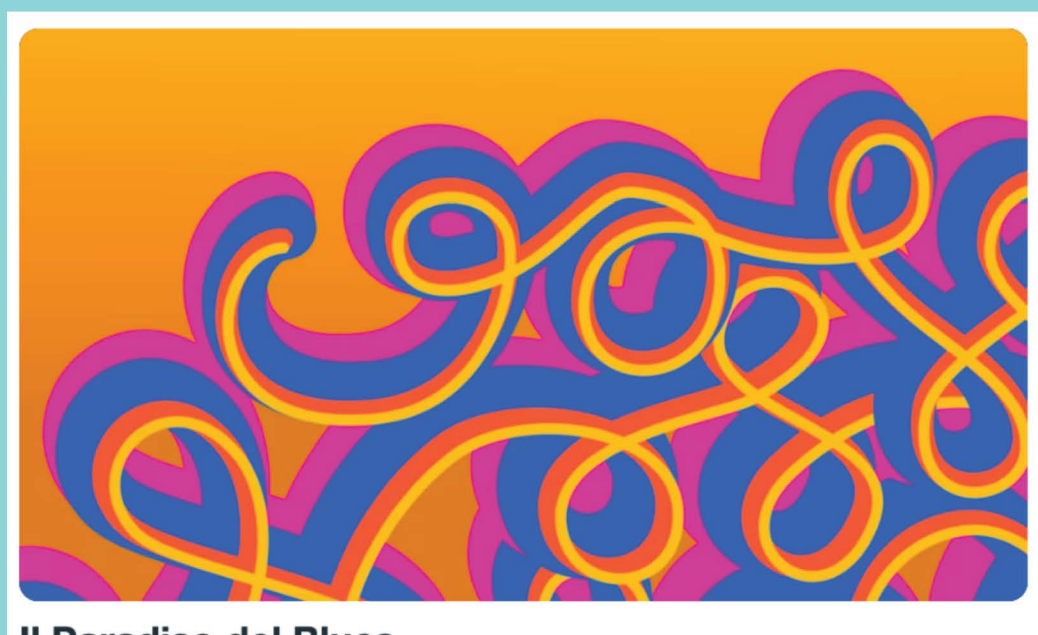
A form of biological diversity

Something that adds to humankind's creativity and diversity

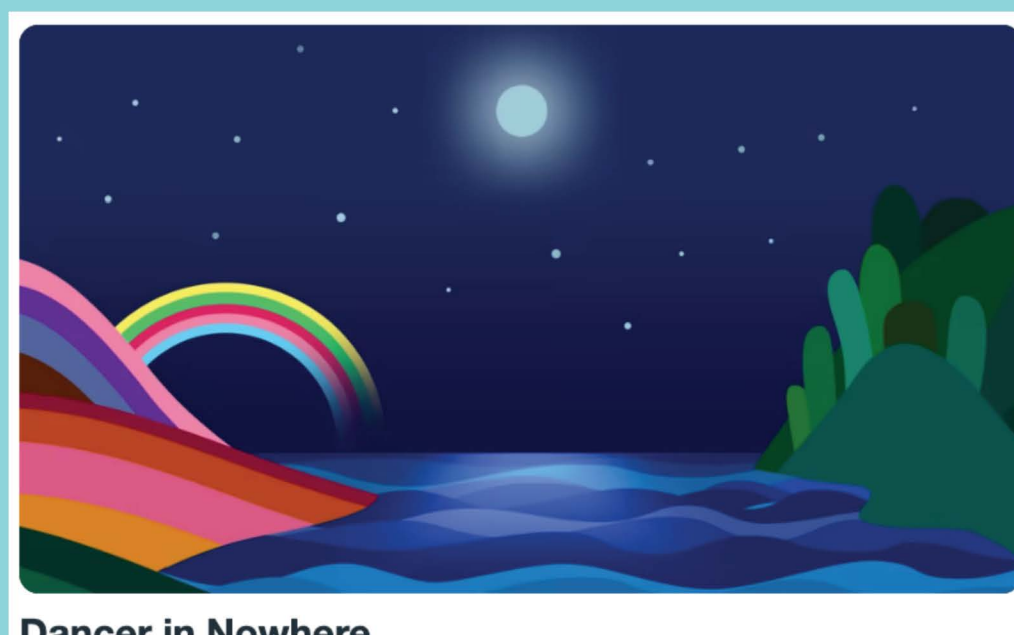
FUN FACTS

Synesthesia involves the **overlapping of senses**. One type of sensory input stimulates another sense. (This condition affects the way your brain processes information, not your vision/eyes).

Ex.: a synesthete may **see sounds** or **taste names**.



Il Paradiso del Blues



Dancer in Nowhere

Animations from Michal Levy, a synesthete, representing how she "sees music": <https://vimeo.com/michalevy>

MY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Research ND conditions and related traits
- Raise awareness by educating the public
- Give a presentation on "Less Well-Known Neurodivergent Conditions"
- Collect resources for ND people and those who love them

TOPICS I LEARNED ABOUT

- Interoception
- Alexithymia
- Synesthesia
- Aphantasia
- Dyscalculia
- Motion blindness
- Face blindness
- ADHD and maladaptive daydreaming

ND RESOURCES THAT I FOUND

- Prosopagnosia: Parent's Support Group/Raising Kids with Facial Blindness (Facebook group)
- PatientsLikeMe, a website that people with a wide variety of medical issues can visit for support, advice, and community
- "Dyscalculia: 'Numbers look like a foreign language to me'", YouTube video from Rose, BBC Young Reporter, 2022
- Natural Reader, text-to-speech online tool

WHAT I LEARNED

- How to communicate complex, nuanced medical topics to the public in an accessible and educational way
- How to convey information to people in different ways (i.e., verbally, via slides, via videos, via graphics)
- About neurological conditions and related traits
- Tips & tricks that some ND people use to manage their conditions & quirks
- About ND resources