

**LUZ ELENA APONTE**  
P.O.Box 848065  
Pembroke Pines, Florida 33084  
(954) 696-8124 Voicemail  
[LuzZenith@aol.com](mailto:LuzZenith@aol.com)

Life's Unlimited Zenith, LLC.

**Micro-Enterprise Business**

Owner

**Graphic Designer**

I develop and design artwork with the use of Assistive Technology and the assistance of formal & natural supports. My unique abstract artwork designs are printed on a variety of gift accessories such as greeting cards, bags, tiles, water bottles and other. I also design and sell custom orders for special occasions, such as the ostrich eggs that I designed for the Broward County Award ceremony Eddie's Greene, County Action Partnership, Inc.

**Consultant/Motivational Speaker**

I lecture on the principles of self-determination, transition from school to work, Micro-Enterprise development, and other topics, using a power point presentation, support assistance & Assistive Technology. My presentations can be of interest to a wide audience consisting of college and university students, government officials, healthcare & other professionals in a variety of fields including people with disabilities, their family members and support staff. I have presented to local, state, national and international audiences. My presentations describe how with natural and formal supports and services, and the use of Assistive Technology, people with disabilities are able to attend neighborhood schools, have full participation in their community, employment and develop Small Businesses.

**Community Involvement**

July 26, 2005

White House: Guest to the Oval Office for President Bush's signing Proclamation of the 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the American Disabilities Act.

<http://www.white.house.gov/news/releases/2005/07/20050726.html> Presidents George W. Bush and George H. Bush along with the Chairs of the National Council on Disabilities, The President's Committee for People with Intellectual disabilities, the Access Board, The Ticket to

Work & Work Incentives Advisory Panel and the National Disability Organizations were also present.

July 5, 2001 Governor Jeb Bush requested that my family and I do him the honor of filing his documents to run for re-election for the second term as the Governor of Florida. He was later re-elected to serve an additional term that ended in January of 2007.

September/1998 My family was selected as the Hispanic Family of the Year for the city of Cleveland, Ohio where we resided. The award was presented by the then Cleveland Mayor George Voinovich.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

Self Determination and Micro-Enterprise Development at WSC (Waiver Support Coordinator) training. Options Support Coordination, Inc., Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

Eighth International Congress on the Inclusion of Children & Youth with Disabilities in the Community. Norway, Europe. 2004

Florida Statewide CAFE Conference. Orlando, Florida. 2004, 2002

Broward County Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors. Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

Emerging Workforce National Conference. Ft. Lauderdale, Florida 2004.

World Congress on Disabilities. Orlando, Florida 2003 & 2002

First Statewide Transition Conference sponsored by Florida Developmental Disabilities Council. Orlando, Florida. 2003

University of So. Florida, Daytona, Graduate Education students. 2003

Fiesta Educativa (Educational Festival) in Spanish, Florida Network on Disabilities, Miami, Florida. 2002, 2001

Florida 1<sup>st</sup> Statewide Self Determination Conference, Orlando, Florida, 2002

Nova Southeastern University, Graduate Communications Students, 2001

Self-Determination for Improved Transition Outcomes, Nova Southeastern Education Graduate students attending a Summer Institute. Students from all over the USA, 2001

Memorial Hospital System, Staff Training, Hollywood, Florida 2001

Passing The Light: Luz Aponte's Teaching Experience, Florida Governor's American on Disabilities Act Working Group. Orlando, Florida 2001

Interagency Collaboration & The IEP/Transition Planning. Health and Human Service National Leadership training. Washington, D.C.

Transitioning from School Life after School. Kudzu Southern National Self Determination Conference. Birmingham, Alabama

The IEP and The Transition Team. Family Care Council, District 10-Conference on Employment. Nova Southeastern University, Davie, Florida

Tools for Success in Education and Beyond. US Dept. of Education Office of Special Education Programs-IDEA Institute Series: Training for Trainers. IEP Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

### **FEATURED IN:**

Quality of Life: Equity, Opportunity and Inclusion for People with Disabilities TASH video. One of three featured in their 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary documentary. [www.TASH.org](http://www.TASH.org) (04/2004)

One Bright Shining Light-Luz's Story: A Story of family Love. Exceptional Parent Magazine. December/2001 Edition, pgs 34-37(12/2001)

**“Not being able to speak is not the same as not having anything to say, to learn or to share”**

**“ My life is my message” by Ghandi**