Tool-Assisted Speech: DIY Speech Synth for AAC and Affirmation

- **Speaker**: Kasanwa-Solane Aster-Hope (KaSo)
- **Room**: 250
- **Time**: Saturday, Oct 24th 10:30 – 10:50

- **Format**: Talk (20 min)
- **Difficulty**: Moderate
- **Track**: Technical
- **Additional Tags**: AAC, Accessibility, Text-to-Speech, Open Hardware, FLOSS
- * **Experience**: Background in tech and administrator of the OctoFriends.Garden services.

Description:

For some, transforming the words in their head into audio that others can hear is a significant challenge, and sometimes the auditory properties of one's own speech can feel “wrong” or uncomfortable. To facilitate communication with more ease and comfort, the speaker has created a portable text-to-speech software built on top of open-source hardware and existing FLOSS. This session shares the development and utility of this tool as a means of Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) and personal affirmation.

Project URL: https://git.octofriends.garden/ka_so/tool_assisted_speech

Target Audience:

- Individuals using Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) tools
- Accessibility and open hardware developers
- The neurodivergent community and allies

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