Join Us For An Exciting Session!

Sesame Street: See Amazing in All Children!
Friday, July 15th
1:15 – 2:30 pm
Galerie I

Come visit us in Booth #210
Welcome!

I want to welcome you to our 47th Annual Autism Society of America Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana!

This year, our conference will continue our long standing effort enabling affiliate leaders, professionals in the autism field, family members, individuals with an autism diagnosis, and others to join together for learning, networking, and celebration. As we learn and listen to each other in the beautiful and historic city of New Orleans, I am so appreciative of the work that each of you does every day to help each person living with autism to achieve the highest quality of life possible.

During this conference you will hear from five outstanding keynote speakers, all who will challenge our way we go about our daily lives, teach us new ways to help all impacted by autism, and allow us to leave New Orleans on Saturday energized by our conference experience. This year, we have a huge variety of breakout sessions that were chosen to help you learn more about lifespan issues impacting those with an autism diagnosis. Our keynotes each day are exceptional - starting with John Donvan and Caren Zucker sharing the history of autism, Alycia Halladay and research in the last five years, our own Dr. Jim Ball sharing his professional expertise, and please do all you can to be at our closing session where we will conclude our conference with an important and wonderful panel of autistic individuals discussing among other topics, autism contributions to the world and the culture of autism 2016. The panel will be facilitated by our Saturday keynote speaker, Steve Silberman.

I am also proud that our Annual Conference is so inclusive of all within the autism community and especially autistic individuals. Please be mindful of the sensory related issues impacting all of our friends and family members who have autism. As we do with each conference, we have again worked with the venue staff to limit the sensory related issues at this conference venue.

The planning for this years’ conference began the day we all left Denver where we held our 46th Annual Conference. Next year, our conference will be from July 12th to July 15th in the great city of Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Finally, I want to thank your generous sponsors, exhibitors, and each of you for being here these four days with us.

Sincerely,

Scott Badesch
President/CEO
MARRIOTT NEW ORLEANS

2nd Floor

3rd Floor
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Options Policy

The Autism Society promotes the active and informed involvement of family members and the individual with autism in the planning of individualized, appropriate services and supports. The Board of the Autism Society believes that each person with autism is a unique individual. Each family and individual with autism should have the right to learn about and then select the options they feel are most appropriate for the individual with autism. To the maximum extent possible, we believe that the decisions should be made by the individual with autism in collaboration with family, guardians and caregivers.

Services should enhance and strengthen natural family and community supports for the individual with autism and the family whenever possible. The service option designed for an individual with autism should result in improved quality of life. Abusive treatment of any kind is not an option.

We firmly believe that no single type of program or service will fill the needs of every individual with autism and that each person should have access to support services. Selection of a program, service or method of treatment should be on the basis of a full assessment of each person’s abilities, needs and interests. We believe services should be outcome-based to ensure they meet the individualized needs of a person with autism.

With appropriate education, vocational training, community living options and support systems, individuals with autism can lead dignified, productive lives in their communities and strive to reach their fullest potential.

The Autism Society believes that all individuals with autism have the right to access appropriate services and supports based on their needs and desires.

The 47th Annual Autism Society National Conference & Exposition Meeting Policy

The Autism Society is dedicated to providing a harassment-free conference for everyone. Attendees, speakers, sponsors and volunteers at our conference are required to agree with our Code of Conduct. The Code of Conduct may be seen on our website at: http://www.autism-society.org/meeting-policy.pdf and at the registration area.

The Autism Society National Conference is open to all. A unique feature of this conference is the blending of perspectives and mutual learning of various individuals, loved ones and professionals who comprise the autism community. Participants should be respectful of each other; each attendee must ensure that their interactions make other attendees feel safe, respected and valued in an environment focused on learning and networking.

Please set your cell phone to vibrate or silent mode during sessions. The distraction of incoming calls/texts can be significant for our speakers and attendees. Please do not carry on private conversations during educational sessions. Remember that the national conference is an exchange of ideas, and at times debate can and will occur; keep that debate professional and mature.

Participants have always been welcomed to bring their younger children to the national conference and into sessions, but if the child is creating a situation that is not conducive to learning, the participant should excuse him or herself from the education session and see to the needs of their child.

Enjoy yourself and make the most of your time here – you will gain much from our speakers, exhibitors and other attendees, so take full advantage of every opportunity to network and learn.
Supporting parents, educators, and service providers in the development of spaces that promote independence

Cathy Purple Cherry, AIA, LEED AP, Certified Autism Specialist, Special Needs Architect

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Application Resources for Your Community
Quiet Room for Individuals with ASD – Galerie 3
Sensory Room – Galerie 6
Visit the Quiet Room or the Sensory Room if you need to take a break, get away for a moment or avoid overload. These rooms will be available Thursday - Saturday during conference hours.

Lunch
Attendees can purchase lunch at concessions or a variety of restaurants in close proximity to the hotel.

Autism Society Exposition Hall
Visit the Expo Hall this year and mingle with a wide variety of vendors. This is a great opportunity to visit with organizations and companies who provide services or products to our community. This is free to all attendees and open to the public.

2016 Expo Hall Hours
Wednesday, July 13  4:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Thursday, July 14   7:30 AM – 4:00 PM
Friday, July 15   8:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Saturday, July 16   8:00 AM – 12:30 PM

Conference Evaluations
Your feedback is very important in helping us to improve the future of the Autism Society’s National Conference. Please take a few minutes to share your thoughts with us by completing a conference evaluation form online at www.autism-society.org/conference. You can evaluate all Breakout Sessions or other activities surrounding the conference.

Continuing Education Credits Information
Several CEU options are available pending provider approval.

Certificates of attendance are available for other professionals in the back of this program.

Special thanks goes to Future Horizons, Inc. for all their assistance is helping the Autism Society bring our attendees a wide variety of continuing educational opportunities.

American Psychological Association Credits
APA contact hours are available for those seeking credit. Future Horizons is the service provider for APA continuing education units.

Speech and Hearing Professionals
ASHA CEUs will be offered for .1 credits for each 75 minute session (Intermediate level; Professional area).

Occupational Therapy Professionals
Future Horizons is the service provider for AOTA continuing education units.

Behavior Analyst Professionals
Up to 12 Type 2 CEU credits will be offered for those who are BCBA certified. Continuing education units for BCBA are provided by the Autism Society of America.
All conference attendees must wear their official conference badges to all sessions, special events, and the Exposition. Conference volunteers and security will be looking for appropriate badges within the conference and Exposition areas. Please report any suspicious activity to the nearest AUTISM SOCIETY staff member or security personnel.

The Autism Society National Conference provides a great opportunity to connect, meet and network with others in the autism and disability community. However, we recognize that not everyone will want to interact in the same way, and we respect each attendee's personal preference on how they wish to interact with others. We are, once again, utilizing interaction badges as an optional tool.

Interaction badges are modeled after Autreat, an annual conference run by Autism Network International. This system has since been adopted in other cross-disability events. Social gatherings (such as a large conference) can create a lot of anxiety, social overload and unpredictability for some attendees. This interaction badge system helps address these concerns and allows the conference experience to be more comfortable for everyone who is participating. These badges are color-coded indications of the attendee's level of comfort in social interaction.

Interaction badge materials will be available at the Registration Table. The use of social interaction badges is/are open to all conference attendees.

I am interested in interacting with others, but have trouble approaching others and initiating interaction. Please feel free to initiate conversation with me.

I am interested in interacting with others, but only with those I’m familiar with. Please approach or initiate only if you know me.

Please do not approach or initiate interaction with me at this time.

NO BADGE: I can regulate interaction on my own and do not need guidance.

Wearing an interaction badge is not required. If you are comfortable being approached or approaching others (familiar and unfamiliar), it is recommended you do not wear an interaction badge.

If you will be wearing a badge, you may want to consider taking one of each color so you have the option of switching between different ones based on fluctuating levels of comfort in socializing.

To make the conference experience enjoyable for everyone, please respect the guidelines of the color-coded interaction badges and your fellow attendees’ interaction preferences.
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Orlando, Florida
September 23 & 24, 2016

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Lori A. Ireland
Terry Murphy
Tracey Staley
Richard Wolf

Honorary Board Members
Temple Grandin, Ph.D.
Ruth Christ Sullivan, Ph.D.

Panel of Professional Advisers
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James Ball, Ed.D, BCBA-D
Margaret Bauman, M.D.
Barbara Becker-Cottrill, Ed.D.
Eric Courchesne, Ph.D.
Geraldine Dawson, Ph.D.
Anne M. Donnellan, Ph.D.
Glen Dunlap, Ph.D.
V. Mark Durand, Ph.D.
William L.E. Dussault, J.D.
Stephen M. Edelson, Ph.D.
Judith E. Favel, Ph.D.
Peter Gerhardt, Ed.D.
Temple Grandin, Ph.D.
Doreen Granpeesheh, Ph.D., BCBA
June Groden, Ph.D.
Paul Millard Hardy, M.D.
Robert Hendren, D.O.
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Susan Kabot, Ed.D., CCC-SLP
Martin Kozloff, Ph.D.
Rebecca Landa, Ph.D., CCC-SLP
Gary LaVigna, Ph.D.
Brenda Smith Myles, Ph.D.
Cathy Pratt, Ph.D., BCBA
Christine Reeve, Ph.D., BCBA-D
Frank Robbins, Ph.D.
Stephen M. Shore, Ed.D.
Ruth Christ Sullivan, Ph.D.
Luke Y. Tsai, M.D.
Diane Twachtman-Cullen, Ph.D., CCC-SLP
Jennifer Twachtman-Reilly, M.S., CCC-SLP
Paul Wehman, Ph.D.
Harry Wright, M.D., MBA
Patricia Wright, Ph.D., BCBA, MPH

Emeritus Members:
O. Ivar Lovaas, Ph.D. (1927-2010)
Gary Mesibov, Ph.D.
Bernard Rimland, Ph.D. (1928-2006)
Eric Schopler, Ph.D. (1927-2006)
Edward Carr, Ph.D., BCBA (1947-2009)
Lois J. Blackwell (1927-2015)
Margaret Creedon, Ph.D. (1943 – 2016)

Panel of People on the Spectrum of Autism
Lars Perner, Ph.D., Chairperson
Darrius Frazier
Dena Gassner, MSW
David A. George
Kate Gladstone, MLS
Kris Guin
Sharisa Joy Kochmeister
Kerry Magro, M.A.
John Miller, M.A.
Jennifer O’Toole
Kate Palmer, M.A., CCP, CAS
Sondra Williams

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Karen Cano, Autism Source Specialist
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Michael Leaver, Director of Development
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Margaret Miller, Vice President of Strategic Advancement
Anne Nebeker, Autism Source Specialist
Lindsey Nebeker, Development Specialist
Sarah Osborne, Autism Source Specialist
Brendan Ryan, Administrative Assistant
Sandra Smith, Affiliate Advancement Specialist
Austin Stonebraker, Communications Specialist
Wainie Youn, Director of Advocacy and Strategic Partnerships
### Autism Society Affiliates

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**TUESDAY JULY 12TH**

4:30 – 6:00  
Autism Society Board of Director’s Meeting

**WEDNESDAY JULY 13TH**

8:00 – 7:00  
Registration Open

9:00 – 2:00  
Exhibit Hall Set-Up

9:00 – 12:00  
Community Training Sessions  
Safe and Sound Training (FREE – for 1st Responders)  
Inclusive Faith (FREE- for Faith Leaders)

9:00 – 4:00  
Pre-Conference BCBA Session  
“Effectively Incorporating Behavior Analysis into Public School Culture”  
[Qualifies for BCBA credits- Additional Registration Required]

12:00 – 1:00  
Autism Society Panel of People on the Spectrum of Autism Luncheon (Private)

1:00 – 5:00  
Pre-Conference Session  
“Inclusive Theater: Evidence-based Intervention for Individuals with ASD”  
[Qualifies for CEU credits- Additional Registration Required]

1:00 – 5:00  
Self-Advocacy Pre-Conference Session  
Hosted by the Autism Society Panel of People on the Spectrum of Autism  
[Additional Registration Required]

4:00 – 8:00  
Conference and Exhibition Hall Opens

5:30 – 6:15  
New Attendee Welcome and Networking

6:30 – 8:00  
Exhibit Hall Welcome Reception

8:00 – 10:00  
Autism Society Louisiana Trivia Night

**THURSDAY JULY 14TH**

7:30 – 5:00  
Registration Open

7:30 – 4:00  
Exhibition Hall Open

7:30 – 8:15  
Exhibit Hall Opening with Continental Breakfast

8:30 – 10:20  
Mornings with Richard Wolf  
Opening Keynote: John Donvan and Caren Zucker

10:20 – 10:30 Break

10:30 – 11:30  
General Session: Alycia Halladay

11:30 – 12:30  
Book Signing with the Authors in the Exhibit Hall

11:30 – 12:30  
Lunch (Visit the Exhibit Hall)

11:30 – 12:30  
Autism Society Panel of Professional Advisors Luncheon (Private)

12:30 – 1:45  
Break-out Sessions

1:45 – 2:15  
Break (Visit the Exhibit Hall)

2:15 – 3:30  
Break-out Sessions

3:30 – 4:00  
Break-out (Visit the Exhibit Hall)
FRIDAY JULY 15TH

7:30 – 5:00
Registration open

8:00 – 3:00
Exhibition hall open

8:30 – 10:15
Mornings with Richard Wolf

Friday Keynote: Dr. James Ball

10:15 – 10:45
Break (Visit the Exhibit Hall)
Meet Julia — Walk-Around Character

10:45 – 12:00
Breakout Sessions

11:15 – 12:15
Meet Julia — Walk-Around Character

12:00 – 1:15
Lunch
Meet and Greet with Autism Society Advisory Panels — Bring your Lunch

12:45 – 1:15
Meet Julia — Walk-Around Character

1:15 – 2:30
Break-out Sessions

2:30 – 3:00
Break (Visit the Exhibit Hall)

3:00 – 4:15
Break-out Sessions

4:30 – 5:30
Panel of People on the Spectrum of Autism Town Hall Meeting

SATURDAY JULY 16TH

7:30 – 10:30
Registration open

8:00 – 12:30
Exhibition Hall Open

8:30 – 9:45
Break Out Sessions

9:45 – 10:15
Break

10:15 – 11:30
Break-out Sessions

11:30 – 12:30
Lunch (Last Chance to Visit the Exhibit Hall & Stock Up on Unique Items)
Book Signing with Steve Silberman

12:30 – 2:00
Afternoon with Richard

Saturday Closing Keynote:
Panel Discussion with Steve Silberman
Awards to be Presented at Thursday, July 14, 2016 Morning Keynote and General Session

Adam Heavner Memorial Award for Business of the Year
Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd./Autism on the Seas
Presented to an organization or company that has demonstrated an ongoing commitment to the autism community through inclusive practices and supports the advancement, effective transition and meaningful employment of individuals on the autism spectrum.

Autism Society Volunteer of the Year
Howard Miller
An award presented to an individual volunteer whose work has positively influenced the lives of individuals, parents and professionals addressing autism in his or her community or nationally.

Autism Society Affiliate of the Year
Autism Society Southern Arizona
Presented to an Autism Society affiliate that has effectively worked together to use its resources and members to positively influence the lives of individuals, parents and professionals coping with autism in their community.

Dr. Temple Grandin Award for Outstanding Literary Work Award of the Year
In a Different Key: The Story of Autism by John Donvan and Caren Zucker
Any item published or copyrighted within the last five years that positively affects the life of an individual or family member impacted by autism.

Awards to be Presented at Friday, July 15, 2016 Morning Keynote

Audrey Horne Memorial Award
Wayne Gilpin
Given to an individual or organization that has made an enduring contribution to improving adult services and the quality of life for those individuals living on the autism spectrum.

The Daniel Jordan Fiddle Foundation Leader in Adult Autism Award
Matthew Resnik
Awarded to an individual or organization that exemplifies The Daniel Jordan Fiddle Foundation vision of showcasing success stories of inspirational accomplishments and in leading society in focusing on the issues concerning adult autism.

Dr. Cathy Pratt Award for Autism Professional of the Year
Julie Donnelly
Awarded to a professional in the field of autism who has demonstrated outstanding accomplishment in terms of contributing to the life/lives of individuals with autism and/or to the cause of autism in general.

Awards to be Presented at Saturday, July 16, 2016 Afternoon Keynote

Outstanding Advocate of the Year
Ben Hodgin Jr
Awarded to an individual with ASD who has advanced the well-being of others on the spectrum. Criteria: Demonstration of exceptional dedication, effort or achievement. Areas to be considered can include, but should not necessarily be limited to: academics, the arts, athletics, community service, employment, extracurricular activities, transition or independent living, or public policy or systems change efforts.

Dr. Temple Grandin Award for Outstanding Literary Work Award of the Year
NeuroTribes: The Legacy of Autism and the Future of Neurodiversity by Steve Silberman
Any item published or copyrighted within the last five years that positively affects the life of an individual or family member impacted by autism.
Felicity House is a non-clinical community space, just for adult women with autism. It’s a place to meet, socialize, pursue interests, learn, create, laugh, and find supportive people.

CONTACT: Talk to us:
25 East 22nd Street, New York, NY
info@felicity-house.org
646.362.0002

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More than seven years in the making, IN A DIFFERENT KEY: The Story of Autism, by Emmy Award–winning correspondent John Donvan and Peabody Award–winning television news producer Caren Zucker, weaves together largely unknown stories of previously unsung heroes – many past leaders of the Autism Society. Their ingenuity, perseverance, and resilience offer new insight into some of the seminal moments of the past near-century: the rise of the disability rights movement, de-institutionalization, the effort to mainstream those on the spectrum, breakthroughs in neuroscience and our understanding of the mind, and the birth of the neurodiversity movement. Donvan and Zucker, whose own families have been affected by autism, have been on the front lines of reporting on the social, medical, and legal aspects of autism since 1999, even before it became a national topic of conversation.

As a team, Donvan and Zucker have been collaborating on stories about autism since 2000. At ABC, they created the pioneering series Echoes of Autism, the first regular feature segment in network news devoted to understanding the lives of individuals and families living with autism. Their 2010 article in The Atlantic, Autism’s First Child, was shortlisted for the National Magazine Award and appeared in the paperback anthology Best Magazine Writing of 2011. Zucker also produced the series Autism Now for the PBS NewsHour. As two journalists with a personal connection to autism, they aim to inspire acceptance of and support for people on the spectrum by telling their stories with honesty and compassion.

John Donvan is a correspondent for ABC News, and host and moderator of the Intelligence Squared U.S. Debates, which are heard on public radio and by podcast. During his journalism career, in addition to anchoring such broadcasts as ABC’s Nightline, John served as chief White House correspondent, and held multiyear postings in London, Moscow, Jerusalem, and Amman, Jordan. He is the winner of three Emmys and the Overseas Press Club Award. He became interested in autism’s impact on families upon meeting his wife, the physician and medical school professor Ranit Mishori, who grew up in Israel with a brother profoundly affected by autism. John also performs as a live storyteller with the group Story District. He has two children and lives in Washington, DC.

Caren Zucker is a journalist and television producer who has reported on a broad range of subjects both domestically and internationally. As a producer for ABC’s World News and Nightline, working alongside Peter Jennings, Charlie Gibson, and Diane Sawyer, she covered economic summits, presidential campaigns, social trends, and the Olympic Games. Emmy-nominated, she was honored for her part in ABC’s coverage of 9/11 with two of television’s most prestigious prizes, the Peabody and the Alfred L. DuPont awards. Her oldest son Mickey’s autism diagnosis inspired a new direction in her reporting: to bring a better understanding of autism’s realities. Zucker and her husband, the NBC Sports executive John McGuinness, have three children and reside in New Jersey.
Richard Wolf has been a USA TODAY reporter and editor for more than 25 years, specializing in government and domestic policy. He has covered the Supreme Court since 2012. Prior to that, Mr. Wolf covered the White House, Congress, the federal budget and economics, health care and welfare policy, state and local government, and politics. He served as congressional editor for five years. Before joining USA TODAY in 1987, Mr. Wolf was a Washington correspondent for Gannett News Service and a reporter and editor at Gannett newspapers in New York. He is married with two adult children, one of whom has autism.

Alycia Halladay has been involved in autism research for the past 15 years, starting her career working with one of the first NIEHS and EPA funded Children’s Centers for Environmental Health (CCEH). In September of 2014, Alycia became the first Chief Science Officer of the Autism Science Foundation (ASF). ASF was founded in 2009 by Alison Singer, and the organization dedicates itself to autism research by providing funding and other assistance to scientists and organizations conducting, facilitating, publicizing and disseminating autism research. ASF also provides information about autism to the general public and serves to increase awareness of autism spectrum disorders and the needs of individuals and families affected by autism. As part of the ASF team, she continues her commitment to supporting research that is targeted at the risk factors for ASD, studying differences between men and women with autism, and importantly, supporting junior level investigators who are just beginning a career in autism.

Many families affected by autism feel that scientific progress is slow, and that research findings often don’t translate into practical help for people with ASD. This presentation will address these concerns by highlighting how research findings have improved: identification and diagnosis of autism; services for people with ASD; treatment options across the lifespan; educational supports; and employment opportunities. Finally, new priorities and research opportunities based on emerging needs in the autism community will be outlined with the goal of helping the autism community better understand the practical importance of scientific research and how it is informing important advancements in the day-to-day lives of individuals with ASD.
The Autism Society began in 1965 when Dr. Bernard Rimland, Dr. Ruth Christ Sullivan and a group of dedicated parents met in Teaneck, New Jersey and changed history. For thirty of these past fifty years, we have also been honored to have Dr. James Ball help lead the way. Dr. Ball will share with us his unique perspective of our history as the nation’s oldest and largest grassroots autism organization, including the development of its affiliate network throughout the United States. Integrated with this history is the history of developments in the field of autism and Dr. Ball will share his expertise in the field: the most effective evidence-based strategies; the science of applied behavior analysis; video modeling, peer-mediated instruction; and how people with ASD learn— the Autism Society and the field of autism—from then to now.

Dr. James Ball, a Board Certified Behavior Analyst-Doctoral, is the President/Chief Executive Officer of JB Autism Consulting. He has been in the field of autism for over thirty years providing preschool, educational, residential, and employment services to children and adults affected by Autism Spectrum Disorder. He sits on the advisory board for the Autism Asperger’s Digest magazine and has been a Featured Author for the magazine for the past five years. He has published in many of the above areas and authored the award-winning breakthrough book, “Early Intervention and Autism: Real-life Questions, Real-life Answers.” He is also a member of the Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee as a public member, this committee, as outlined in the Autism Cares Act, makes recommendations to the Secretary on autism research gaps and submits to the Congress and the President an annual update on the summary of advances and an annual update to the strategic plan.


Steve Silberman is an award-winning science writer whose articles have appeared in Wired, the New Yorker, the MIT Technology Review, Nature, Salon, Shambhala Sun, and many other publications. As the author of the New York Times bestseller NeuroTribes: The Legacy of Autism and the Future of Neurodiversity, he unearthed the secret history of autism.
NeuroTribes: The Legacy of Autism and the Future of Neurodiversity is a compassionate and comprehensive history of the science and culture of autism. Silberman upends conventional thinking about autism and suggests a broader model for acceptance and understanding. Silberman shares little-known stories of the clinicians who pioneered the first autism diagnoses, the parents who fought for all children’s right to an education, and the adults on the spectrum who organized to demand respect and a place at the table when policy that affects autistic people and their families is set. In an effort to shed light on the growing neurodiversity movement, Silberman discusses the evolution of the autism diagnosis and explores the need to build a more humane world in which people with learning differences and those who love them have access to the resources they need to live happier, healthier, more secure, and more meaningful lives.

Mike Buckholtz — CEO/Songwriter/Producer, Sunlight International
Multi-platinum, award winning, multi-instrumentalist and author who composed and produced music for MC Hammer. He is contributing editor for “The Hype Magazine”, ambassador to The Recording Academy, and songwriter/producer for Sunlight International. Michael founded Aid for Autistic Children to provide debt relief solutions and promote financial literacy to families and adults living with ASD globally.

John Miller, M.Ed. — ASD Teacher Language Arts, Watson B. Duncan Middle School.
John Miller has taught students with autism for over a decade. He has drawn on his own experiences of living with autism to help his students grow academically and socially and become more independent. Mr. Miller has presented at a variety of conferences on a variety of issues on autism.

Lindsey A. Nebeker, B.A. — Development Specialist, Autism Society
Lindsey Nebeker is a Development Specialist at the Autism Society and international presenter with a deep passion for music. She was diagnosed with autism at age 2. She holds a BA in Music Technology and is a Partners in Policymaking alumna. Lindsey has appeared in Glamour, Good Morning America, NPR, and Autism in Love (documentary featured in PBS and the 2015 Tribeca Film Festival).

Alexander Plank — Self-Advocate, Founder of Wrong Planet
Alex runs, owns, and develops WrongPlanet.net, a popular autism community that he started after being diagnosed with Asperger’s. He graduated from George Mason University with a degree in Film and Video Studies and started the popular online TV show, Autism Talk TV. Alex was also a consultant and actor on FX’s award winning drama, The Bridge.

Chloe M. Rothschild — Writer, Self-Advocate
Chloe Rothschild is a young adult with autism and a visual impairment. Chloe is a presenter, advocate and writer. She is managing editor for the Autism Research Institute’s Adults With Autism eBulletin and a member of OCALI and iTALK’s advisory boards.

Jeffrey Staley — Student, Majoring in Video Game Design, Marshall University
Jeffrey Staley is an aspiring video game developer on the autism spectrum. He studies to learn the tricks of many a video game developer, works to grow socially and academically, and works to become more independent various aspects of his life. Through his video game, Jeff hopes to tell an amazing story.
TUESDAY, JULY 12, 2016

4:30–6:00
Studio 6
Autism Society Board of Director’s Meeting

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13, 2016

8:00–7:00
Registration Open

9:00–2:00
Exhibit Hall Set-Up

9:00–12:00

#9287 Studio 9
Pre-Conference Community Training - Autism Society’s Safe and Sound
Safe and Sound Training (FREE – for 1st Responders)
Jimmy Donohoe, Police Officer and William Cannata Jr., Program Director Autism and Law Enforcement Education Coalition

#9318 Studio 10
Pre-Conference Community Training - Inclusive Faith
Inclusive Faith (FREE- for Faith Leaders)
Shelly Christensen, MA, Executive Director, Inclusion Innovations and Elaine Hall, Speaker, Coach, Founder, Creative Director The Miracle Project, The Miracle Project, Santa Monica, CA
Acadia/Bissonet
Exhibit Hall Set-Up

9:00–4:00

#9299 Studio 8
Pre-Conference BCBA Session (Additional Registration Required) - “Effectively Incorporating Behavior Analysis into Public School Culture” [Session has 1/2 hour lunch (lunch will be provided) and two 15 minute breaks]
Qualifies for BCBA credits- additional registration required – $200 (Plus cost of CEUs if applicable) This workshop will highlight the important components of successful integration of behavior analysis into public school culture and present strategies and supports that result in effective programming for students with ASD in both self-contained and inclusion settings.
Anne Holmes, BCBA, Vice President, Division of Autism Spectrum Disorders Consulting Services, KDH Enterprises, LLD, Robbinsville, NJ and James Ball, Ed.D., BCBA-D, JB Autism Consulting, Cranbury, NJ
Content Area: Education
Track: Lifespan 2 - School Age

12:00–1:00
Regent, 4th Floor
Autism Society Panel of People on the Spectrum of Autism Luncheon (Private)

1:00–5:00

#8946 Studio 2
Pre-Conference CEU Session (Additional Registration Required) - “Inclusive Theater: Evidence-based Intervention for Individuals with ASD” [Session has two 15 minute breaks]
Qualifies for continuing education credits (pending approval)- additional registration required – $120 (Plus cost of CEUs if applicable) Interactive workshop sharing techniques from The Miracle Project, profiled in the HBO film, Autism: The Musical, on using music, movement, and inclusive theater to enhance communication, increase self esteem and ease anxiety for those with ASD. A published study on the efficacy of these methods will be presented.
Elaine Hall, Speaker, Coach, Founder, Creative Director The Miracle Project, The Miracle Project, Santa Monica, CA, Barry M. Prizant, Ph.D., CCC-SLP, Director Childhood Communication Services, Adjunct Professor Brown University, Childhood Communication Services, Cranston, RI and Stephen M. Shore, Ed.D., Professor at Adelphi University, Adelphi University, Garden City, NY
Content Area: Social Skill
Track: Lifespan 3 - Transition
Pre-Conference Self-Advocacy Session (Additional Registration Required) presented by the Autism Society Panel of People on the Spectrum of Autism
Join the Autism Society Panel of People on the Spectrum of Autism to discuss hot topics in the field of autism.
– $25

4:00–8:00
Conference & Exhibit Hall Opening

5:30–6:15
Studio 3
New Attendee Welcome and Networking

6:30–8:00
Acadia/Bissonet
Exhibit Hall Welcome Reception

8:00–10:30
Galerie 1
Trivia Night
Autism Society Louisiana
THURSDAY, JULY 14, 2016

7:30–8:15
Acadia/Bissonet
Exhibit Hall Opening with Continental Breakfast

8:30–10:20
Carondelet
Mornings with Richard and Opening Keynote with John Donvan and Caren Zucker

10:20–10:30
Break

10:30–11:30
Carondelet
General Session with Alycia Halladay, Autism Science Foundation

11:30–12:30
Audubon, 5th Floor
Autism Society Panel of Professional Advisors
Luncheon (Private)

Acadia/Bissonet
Book Signing with John Donvan and Caren Zucker

Acadia/Bissonet
Lunch (Visit the Exhibit Hall)

12:30–1:45
#8686
Studio 4
“If Einstein Attended Community College” - Challenges and Opportunities for Autism Spectrum Students at Two-Year Colleges

More autism spectrum individuals are turning to two-year colleges as ideal settings to transition into higher education. But how can these institutions accommodate for and enhance autism spectrum students’ experiences? This presentation will enlighten educators, researchers, parents and students on how to maximize autism spectrum individuals’ opportunities at two-year colleges.

Brett Nachman, Ph.D., Student, Ph.D. Student and Graduate Student Researcher, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI
Content Area: Education
Track: Lifespan 3 - Transition

#8952
Studio 1
Autism in Your House of Worship: Cultivating a Welcoming Attitude and Meeting Needs
Learn how a house of worship can offer acceptance and caring support to individuals and families affected by ASD, resulting in great benefit to the entire worship community. A sensory-friendly worship space, adaptive religious education, and inclusive volunteer activities that showcase the gifts of those with ASD can change hearts.

Jeanne M. Lyons, B.S.Ed., Coordinator of Special Needs Religious Education, St. Peter Chanel Church in the Archdiocese of Atlanta, Roswell, GA
Content Area: Family and Caregiver Support
Track: Lifespan 2 - School Age

#9185
Galerie 4
Creating Sensory Friendly, Inclusive Spaces at Home, School and in the Community
Creating inclusive spaces that are welcoming to individuals with autism and SPD is the novel accessibility challenge of our time. Relatively simple changes to our homes, schools and public buildings may make a vital difference in the ability of this exceptional population to learn, work, interact, and be healthy.

Content Area: Sensory Processing
Track: Science/Research

#9135
Studio 8
Diagnostic Disparities and Functional Challenges of African American Preschoolers with Autism Spectrum Disorder
Children of ethnic minority backgrounds receive their diagnoses of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) late. Mixed methodology was used to study diagnostic and functional challenges of African American preschoolers with ASD, with considerations for advocacy, assessment, and intervention practices discussed.

Douglene Jackson, Ph.D., OTR/L, LMT, Occupational Therapist, University of Miami, Miami, FL
Content Area: Diagnosis
Track: Lifespan 1 - Birth to 5
Studio 3

Food Exploration and Discovery (FED) Program: A Comprehensive Approach to Addressing Complex Feeding Challenges
The Food Exploration and Discovery Program is a feeding program that assists children with complex needs who have mealtime and feeding challenges. This presentation will discuss the differences between traditional and intensive therapy and the roles of the inter-professional team members.

Alexandra Besecker, MS, OTR/L1, Jessica Piatak, OTD, OTR/L2, Kristina Carraccia, M.S., CCC-SLP3, Stephanie Harrigan, M.S., CCC-SLP3, Heidi Moser, M.S., CCC-SLP3 and Jessica Scanna, M.S., CCC-SLP3

Content Area: Diet and Nutrition
Track: Lifespan 2 - School Age

Studio 6

Keeping our Communities Safe and Sound
A session with Autism Society's Safe and Sound task force members, firefighter Captain William Cannata, Jr. Retired and police officer Sergeant Jimmy Donohoe, both parents of young men with autism - This session presents information on issues such as wandering, internet safety, disclosure, as well as sharing tools available to parents to be prepared. The presentation is followed by a chance to discuss concerns with Jimmy and Bill.

William Cannata Jr., Program Director Autism and Law Enforcement Education Coalition and Jimmy Donohoe, Police Officer

Content Area: Family and Caregiver Support
Track: Lifespan 2 - School Age

Studio 7

Leaving the Nest, Not Flying the Coop: Why Letting Go is So Important...and HARD!
Parents of people with ASD play many roles—cheerleader, advocate, social director... even bulldozer. Sometimes, family identities are so intertwined that growth and change seem impossible. Learn about WHY independence is so important for the whole family, what transition means for you, and how reclaiming your individuality benefits everyone.

Nina Jonson, BS-Education, Director of Enrollment and Outreach, Minnesota Life College, Richfield, MN

Content Area: Self-Determination and Independence
Track: Lifespan 3 - Transition

Studio 10

Lifespan Planning with the Autism Society
Throughout 2015, over 150 volunteers and staff members from the Autism Society and its affiliates, along with professionals and individuals on the spectrum, came together to examine what role the Autism Society must fulfill during the next five years to best serve the growing number of individuals diagnosed with autism. Together, we determined that the Autism Society's primary focus should be helping parents and individuals proactively plan support and service needs through a lifespan model. Join us to learn about our new model for improving the lives of individuals impacted by autism throughout their entire lives.

Margaret Miller, Vice President of Strategic Advancement, Autism Society, Bethesda, MD

Content Area: Long Term Services and Support
Track: Lifespan 4 - Adulthood

Galerie 5

Minimizing Restraint and Seclusion: Safety You Can Count (On)
This presentation will fully describe the journey of one behavioral healthcare provider with a restraint and seclusion problem. Through an initiative to manage physically aggressive behavior safely without utilizing restraint or seclusion, a problem became an invention and an opportunity to assist other organizations/schools.


Content Area: Behavior Issues and Supports
Track: Lifespan 2 - School Age

Galerie 1

Performing in Musical Ensembles for Individuals with Autism
The presentation demonstrates how music can be taught to students with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) by
means of a structured curriculum enabling meaningful participation in a musical ensemble such as chorus or Jazz Band. Extending music education beyond therapeutic interventions promoting successful inclusion in other areas of life as well.

Stephen M. Shore, Ed.D., Professor at Adelphi University, Adelphi University, Garden City, NY and Kaname Ueno, MA, Director of Music of Boston Higashi School, Boston Higashi School, Randolph, MA

Content Area: Education
Track: Lifespan 2 - School Age

#9110 Studio 10

Evidence-Based Landscape Design: Sensory Play Gardens’ Value for Children with Developmental Disorders

More than just play, children with developmental disorders benefit from strategically designed sensory playgrounds and sensory gardens. This study evaluated the outcomes of outdoor play using a multiple baseline research design. The lessons are applicable to future sensory gardens and play areas for schools, early childhood and therapeutic play environments.

John McConkey, CPSI, Research Director, Landscape
Evidence-Based Treatment for Adults on the Autism Spectrum

Early intervention treatment for autism, when rooted in the principles of applied behavior analysis, is the recommended course of treatment for individuals with autism (Wong et al., 2013). There is an ongoing need for continued research to determine the most effective application for ABA treatment for adults on the spectrum. This presentation will present data from adult learners who are receiving comprehensive, intensive ABA services, utilizing a variety of evidence-based practices for autism treatment. Future directions for treatment and research will be discussed.

Whitney E. Luffman, Autism Society of North Carolina, Raleigh, NC
Content Area: Behavior Issues and Supports
Track: Lifespan 4 - Adulthood

Health Care and Service Challenges for Autistic Adults: A Call to Action

Despite the lack of evidence that less externalizing autistics still struggle greatly into adulthood, policy does not support appropriate services for this segment of the population. In this session, we will explore the multifaceted costs of failing to serve less obviously disabled persons with autism.

Dena Gassner, Ph.D., student, Director Center for Understanding, Dena Gassner, Huntington, WV
Content Area: Current Research
Track: Public Policy/Advocacy

Help... I’m overwhelmed in LIFE!... Strategies for Living with Autism

Life can be very confusing at times for everyone; but even more so for someone with autism. But, the good news is that there are strategies and supports available that can help individuals be the best they can be.

Chloe M. Rothschild, Self-Advocate, Writer, Advocate, Sylvania, OH
Content Area: Personal Perspectives
Track: Lifespan 3 - Transition

The Benefits of Contingency Contracting with Young Adults Transitioning into Adulthood [BCBA Session]

Contingency contracting is an evidenced-based behavior intervention that is effective with the general population. In this presentation I will explain how this intervention can effective when utilized by professionals and families with young adults transitioning into adulthood.

Kelly M. Stamey, BCBA, Executive Director, Beacon Transitions, Hendersonville, NC
The Changing Communication Needs of Aging ASD Adults: Utilizing Technology to Bridge Ability with Self-Determination

The Changing Communication Needs of Aging ASD Adults: Utilizing Technology to Bridge Ability with Self-Determination, by GRASP VP of Operations Lindsay Ryan, discusses the contributing factors that lead to aging ASD adults losing their self-determination and self-advocacy skills, especially as their support system changes, and how technology fills this need.

Lindsay Ryan, BA, AC, QMHP, GRASP Vice President of Operations, GRASP New York, NY and Kate Palmer, MA, CCP, CAS, GRASP President/CEO, GRASP, New York, NY

Content Area: Self-Determination and Independence
Track: Lifespan 4 - Adulthood

The Importance of Citizen Science in Advancing Autism Research

Twenty-five years after autism rates began to surge in the US, we still have few answers about the main drivers of ASDs. In this panel a research professional (Halladay) and a research philanthropist (Escher) discuss the important role for “citizen science” in spearheading innovation in research.

Alycia Halladay, PhD, Chief Science Officer, Autism Science Foundation, New York, NY and Jill Escher, MA, JD, Founder, Escher Fund for Autism, San Jose, CA

Content Area: Current Research
Track: Science/Research

Thomas, Twirling and Tea Parties: Using Play to Build Skills in Young Children with ASD

Session includes stages of play development, the critical nature of play for young children and how ASD affects play and peer interaction. Specific evidence-based strategies to teach play and social skills are presented and participants learn how to create successful classroom and home play activities for young children with ASD.

Kathy L. Gould, M.S., Program Manager, Illinois Autism Partnership at Easter Seals Metropolitan Chicago, Chicago, IL and Shelley C. Jobb, MA, Educational Facilitator, Illinois Autism Partnership at Easter Seals Metropolitan Chicago, Chicago, IL

Content Area: Family and Caregiver Support
Track: Lifespan 2 - School Age
Discover the Professional Au Pair Program, A Childcare Solution for Families with Children with Autism
[Sponsored Session]
Finding a childcare provider with the right combination of training, skills and flexibility can be challenging for families with special needs. During this session, we will explore the U.S. Department of State designated au pair program and the positive impact this intercultural, live-in childcare program has on families with children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).
Steven J. Courtney, Vice President, Field Operations, PROaupair, San Clemente, CA, Mara Work, Program Advisor, PROaupair, San Clemente, CA and Patti Rubel, Placement Coordinator, PROaupair, San Clemente, CA
Content Area: Family and Caregiver Support
Track: Lifespan 2 - School Age

Entitlements Vs. Eligibility As They Relate to Lifespan Services for Those with ASD
Individuals with ASD, their families and advocates are frequently concerned about what they should be seeking/demanding during the years of entitlement for services and during the adult years when eligibility for services becomes the new order. This presentation will articulate what should be demanded during the Entitlement and Eligibility Years.
Content Area: Long Term Services and Support
Track: Public Policy/Advocacy

School and Home Working Together: Preparing for Transition [BCBA Session]
Preparing students with ASD for post 21 life is a critical responsibility the IEP team. Many times this planning does not address all the critical areas these students need for success. This workshop will highlight the important skill areas needed and how parents and educators can work together for success.
Nina Finkler, M.Ed., LDT/C, BCBA, President Nina Finkler Autism Consulting, LLC, Nina Finkler Autism Consulting, LLC, East Windsor, NJ and Courtney Hoschek, Autism Teacher, Lawrence Township Public Schools, Lawrenceville, NJ
Content Area: Education
Track: Lifespan 3 - Transition

Siblings Speak Out: Processing Autism in the Family
As the 13-year-old sister of an older brother on the spectrum, Anna has identified with autism all her life. Though her normal was anything but to most of her friends, she eventually met other super siblings and learned a lot about how kids and families process autism.
Anna Schamens, Student, Brookfield, WI and Denise Schamens, B.S., Co-founder & Vice-President, Good Friend, Inc., Waukesha, WI
Content Area: Family and Caregiver Support
Track: Lifespan 2 - School Age

The Autistic Newly Weds - Navigating a Successful Marriage!
Internationally recognized Autistic Newlyweds share their experience of courtship, their famous ALL-AUTISTIC Wedding, and their happily ever-after advice!
Content Area: National Advocacy
Track: Lifespan 4 - Adulthood

Thoughtful Steps: A Practical Guide to Transition for Students With Autism
Transition is a very challenging process for individuals with autism. The presentation will look at transition in unorthodox fashion that emphasizes building a skill set earlier, in order to create better outcomes. Individuals will learn strategies that will help students overcome obstacles during transition.
John Miller, M.Ed., ASD Teacher Language Arts, Watson B. Duncan Middle School, Palm Beach Gardens, FL
Content Area: Education
Track: Lifespan 3 - Transition

#8776 Studio 1
Transportation and Mobility Issues for Autistic Adults and Adolescents: Review of Research and Practice
The job’s not perfect if you can’t get there. Housing options are meaningless if one can’t travel in their community. Transportation and mobility are as vital as housing and employment, and can significantly impact a person’s quality of life. This session will focus on transportation services, supports, accommodations and training.
Cecilia Feeley, Ph.D., Transportation Autism Project Manager, Rutgers University Center for Advanced Infrastructure and Transportation, Piscataway, NJ
Content Area: Long Term Services and Support
Track: Lifespan 4 - Adulthood

#8995 Studio 4
Understanding Autism at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
This session will describe autism activities at the CDC, and will answer the questions: (1) how many children are estimated to have autism?, (2) how can we learn more about possible causes of autism?, and (3) how can we best educate parents and professionals on early developmental milestones?
Lisa Wiggins, Ph.D., Developmental Psychologist, CDC, Atlanta, GA, Daisy Christensen, Ph.D., CDC and Jennifer Zubler, M.D., Pediatrician, CDC, GA
Content Area: Current Research
Track: Science/Research

#8826 Galerie 5
Unsticking the Stuck: ASD and Mental Health Counseling
The need for mental health services for individuals with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) has grown over the past decade. A barrier to their success is often a co-occurring mental health condition. This session will highlight core deficits that impact the counseling session, counseling techniques and the need for family involvement.
Chris Abildgaard, NCSP, LPC, NCC, Director, the Social Learning Center, Cheshire, CT
Content Area: Social Skill
Track: Lifespan 2 - School Age

#8758 Studio 8
When ABA Is Not an Option: Other Treatments to Consider
Many times, due to a lack of insurance coverage or geographical limitations, a family cannot access services such as Applied Behavior Analysis. This conversation will explore alternative options for these children and their families as they seek treatment of the difficult behaviors and other challenges of Autism Spectrum Disorder.
Christine Raches, Psy.D., Assistant Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, Riley Child Development Center - LEND program, Indianapolis, IN and Bill Beechler, M.D., FAAP, Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrician, Riley Child Development Center - LEND program, Indianapolis, IN
Content Area: Long Term Services and Support
Track: Lifespan 1 - Birth to 5

6:30–9:30
Creole Cottage—Arnaud’s Restaurant
Autism Society Chairman Recognition Reception and Dinner (Ticketed Event)

7:00 - 9:00
Carondelet
Film Screening: Life, Animated
An ALL NEW fundraiser that helps individuals with disabilities pursue further education.

All Online!
No Money Collection!
No Product Handling!

1. Create your account
2. Invite others to purchase popcorn on your behalf
3. A portion of your sales goes directly into your scholarship account and to the charitable organization of your choice

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For More Information on Speakers, Please Visit the Conference App
8:30–10:15
Carondelet
Mornings with Richard and Friday Keynote with James Ball, Ed.D., BCBA-D

10:45–12:00

#8512
Galerie 4
Autism in the Preschool Classroom: Cognitive/Language Strategies for Supporting Emotional Regulation
Emotional regulation is the foundational skill necessary for developing joint attention and is therefore essential to social engagement, communication, and learning. Children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) have particular difficulty staying regulated. This session will detail practical cognitive/language strategies for supporting emotional regulation in the classroom.
Content Area: Behavior Issues and Supports
Track: Lifespan 1 - Birth to 5

#8762
Studio 3
Learn to “See” How to Fit-in: Pro-Social Strategies to Decrease and/or Prevent Mental Health Issues
Many individuals with autism find it challenging to “fit into” established social norms because they cannot mentally see their future or the impact of their actions. This presentation offers visual language strategies to help students socially integrate into schools and to mitigate mental health disorders such as anxiety and depression.
Content Area: Communication
Track: Lifespan 2 - School Age

#8773
Studio 8
Low Functioning, A Bad Word? Let’s Discuss the Population Typically Not Talked About
Parent-based panel discussion centered around educating others on the vast differences across the Spectrum. Enlightening others on parental advocacy and it’s power. Highlighting residential and day program options, as ASD is not a one size fits all disability ergo these vital issues can not be a one size fits all.
Content Area: Long Term Services and Support
Track: Lifespan 4 - Adulthood

#9061
Studio 4
Making Your Case - How To Effectively Educate Legislators and Policy Makers
Making your case is the best guide on how to approach local, state or national policymakers and how to work within the system to effect change. Originally created by the partners in policy making program and the Minnesota governor’s council on developmental disabilities, IT is the standard in legislative advocacy.
Sarah Sequenzia, Parent Liaison for Orange Public Schools in Orlando, Florida, ORANGE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS, Orlando, FL and Ven Sequenzia Jr., President, Autism Society of Florida, Autism Society of Florida, Orlando, FL
Content Area: National Advocacy
Track: Public Policy/Advocacy

#9283
Studio 6
Remo Drum Table Activities Series: The Comfort Sound [Sponsored Session]
Gain an introduction and access to free, stimulating and structured rhythm activities for individuals/groups with moderate to profound developmental disabilities and autism. Have fun learning how to begin using music and rhythm based activities in the home or classroom to work
on: social skills, education goals, self-expression, behavior modification and self-confidence.

George Thompson, BS, Music & Performance Arts Director, TERI Inc, Oceanside, CA
Content Area: Education
Track: Lifespan 4 - Adulthood

#9144

Sexuality and the Spectrum: Lessons on Sex, Dating, and Love, Autism Style
Individuals with ASD are sexual beings, yet often not taught the necessary skills to be successful in relationships. This session interweaves a firsthand narrative from a woman with ASD with strategies for discussing sexuality, navigating relationships, avoiding victimization, and bolstering a sense of empowerment in children and clients.

Content Area: Self-Determination and Independence
Track: Lifespan 4 - Adulthood

#9209

SMILE Biscotti - Daniel Jordan Fiddle Foundation Leader in Adult Autism
Meet Matt Resnik of SMILE Biscotti, first recipient of The Daniel Jordan Fiddle Foundation Leader in Adult Autism Award, and learn how he and his family started a business from scratch, which now employs several people with autism and special needs. Since the business was created two and a half years ago, more than 150,000 biscotti have been sold online and through a stable of retail clients, including Peet's Coffee & Tea, Sprouts Farmers Market, among others. SMILE stands for Supporting Matt's Independent Living Enterprise. The business has not benefited from any government support or charitable contributions. Matt and his coworkers, with complementary abilities, are the most important ingredients.

Matthew Resnik, Denise Resnik, and Rob Resnik, SMILE Biscotti, Phoenix, AZ
Content Area: Employment
Track: Lifespan 4 - Adulthood

#8943

Teaching Generalization of Social and Communication Skills [BCBA Session]
The purpose of this workshop is: (1) to highlight the importance of assessing and programming for generalization of social and communication skills, and (2) to provide a summary of how various evidence-based practice may be used to teach new skills and foster generalization in individuals with autism.

Kathleen A. Quill, Ed.D., BCBA-D, Director, Autism Institute, Essex, MA
Content Area: Education
Track: Lifespan 2 - School Age

#8645

The Best Medicine: Addressing Nutrition Through the Acquisition of Cooking Skills
Adults with ASD suffer high rates of obesity and other potential health problems over the lifespan. As a merging of life-skills with health promotion, cooking can foster a change in the relationship with food and contribute to an enhanced nutritional status. A cooking curriculum and adaptive tools will be included.

Janice Goldschmidt, MS, RD, Director of Nutrition Services, Community Support Services, Inc., Gaithersburg, MD
Content Area: Diet and Nutrition
Track: Lifespan 4 - Adulthood

#9019

Training and Managing the Neurodiverse Workplace: Real World Perspectives
With a great majority of people with autism under and unemployed, autism and related developmental disabilities are a global workforce issue. This panel will report on how the SAP Autism at Work Program is overcoming barriers by providing: soft skills training, job coaching, mentoring, and management training.

Robert A. Naseef, Ph.D., Psychologist, Alternative Choices, Philadelphia, PA, Stephen M. Shore, Ed.D., Professor at Adelphi University, Adelphi University, Garden City, NY, José Velasco Sr., M.S., Co-Ordinator Autism at Work Program, SAP, Palo Alto, CA and José Velasco Jr., Student, Austin Community College
Content Area: Employment
Track: Lifespan 3 - Transition
Transition From Educational Services to Adulthood: Setting Up Young Adults With Autism For Success
The LEAP Program utilized the Practical Assessment Exploration System to train and assess skills for learners with Autism in preparing for future vocations. Students were engaged in simulated job experiences incorporating video modeling and inter-disciplinary approaches. This session will discuss how it was designed, implemented, and assessed using evidence-based strategies.

Stephen Lockwood, TOH, M.Ed., Teacher, Paramus High School, Paramus, NJ
Content Area: Education
Track: Lifespan 3 - Transition

Treatment Models for Success: Identifying Similarities and Differences of Mental Health and Autism Spectrum Diagnoses
Treatment Models for Success: How to Identify the Similarities and Differences of Mental Health and Autism Spectrum Diagnoses, by GRASP Vice President of Operations Lindsay Ryan and President Kate Palmer, is an essential and relevant presentation created to highlight the contributing factors to successful interventions of current treatment models.

Kate Palmer, MA, CCP, CAS, GRASP President/CEO, GRASP, New York, NY and Lindsay Ryan, BA, AC, QMHP, GRASP Vice President of Operations, GRASP, New York, NY
Content Area: Diagnosis
Track: Science/Research

Beyond Person-First Language: Self-Advocacy and the Words We Use
What did we never realize about “person-first” until we came to live with it? Does it documentably facilitate respect, acceptance, and fairness regarding disabilities? A disability self-advocate who is also a disability professional explores some unforeseen impacts and consequences of “person-first” for self-advocates and others.

Kate Gladstone, M.L.S., Handwriting Instruction and Remediation Provider; Self-Advocate, Handwriting Repair/Handwriting That Works, Albany, NY and James Williams, Author and presenter with autism, Northbrook, IL
Content Area: Personal Perspectives
Track: Public Policy/Advocacy

Building Family Recreational Activities
This presentation will educate the attendees “soup to nuts” on how to develop, plan, implement and fund a family peer-based recreational program. Whether indoor or out, sports, arts, or strictly social skills development, we will explore options for service delivery, outcomes for the participants, and outcomes to each family member.

Andrew Baumann, M.A., ICADC, FAPA, President and CEO, New York Families for Autistic Children, NY
Content Area: Social Skill
Track: Lifespan 4 - Adulthood

Empowering the Emerging Self-Advocate: Promoting Independence and Autonomy Using the ISA Curriculum
The ISA Curriculum is a technique used to teach independent initiation of communication about one’s needs, wants, and desires. The concept of self-advocacy is explored followed by an introduction to the ISA Curriculum. Empirical and anecdotal evidence is presented demonstrating the effectiveness of this program in supporting emerging self-advocates.

Susan Kelso, M.A., Staff Assistant, The Autistic Global Initiative (AGI), Boulder, CO and Valerie Paradiz, PhD, President, Valerie Paradiz, LLC, Valerie Paradiz LLC, Boulder, CO
Content Area: Self-Determination and Independence
Track: Lifespan 3 - Transition

Kernals of Hope - Discovering Business Ownership
Be inspired by Joe Steffy as he uses attributes of his Autism Spectrum Disorder to create success in his own Business - Poppin Joe's Kettle Korn. Hear his determination and discover the resources available that helped create
his business plan and provide resources to make a dream become a reality.

Joseph Steffy, Business Owner, Poppin Joe’s Kettle Korn, Poppin Joe’s Kettle Korn, Brunswick, GA
Content Area: Employment
Track: Lifespan 4 - Adulthood

#8575 Studio 3

Lions, Tigers, and Bears Oh My: Autism and Cyber Safety
Homeland Security Investigations iGuardian project helps kids and parents to be smart about online safety and stay safe from online sexual predators. This adaption of the iGuardian program, created by a father of a child with autism, addresses how children on the spectrum have a higher susceptibility to online exploitation.

David Fallon, Special Agent, DHS Homeland Security Investigations Cyber Crimes Investigations Group, Newark, NJ
Content Area: Education
Track: Lifespan 2 - School Age

#9329 Galerie 4

One More Therapy? Practical Approaches of Using Clinically Proven Sensory Enrichment Therapy
[Sponsored Session]
Temple Grandin discusses the importance of enriching the environment for people with autism, but how can parents apply that theory within their own homes? We will discuss practical ways to enrich the environment to decrease stress/anxiety, increase focus/attention, enhance sensory processing, and improve behavior in people with autism.

Whitney Louder, MOT, OTR/L, Therapy Coach, Mendability, American Fork, UT
Content Area: Current Research
Track: Lifespan 2 - School Age

#8747 Galerie 5

Speaking for Ourselves: Individuals with Autism Panel
This is our 26th Speaking for Ourselves panel at ASA. Come hear about the panelists struggles and victories and applaud their personal growth. Each year new individuals are chosen to be in the spotlight and gain confidence in expressing themselves in a supportive atmosphere. Come join us cheering them on!!

Julie A. Donnelly, Ph.D., Director, Autism Support Services, Autism Support Services, Columbia, MO, Jocelyn Eastman, Autistic Woman, Advocate, Author, Art of Autism Board Member, Matthew Prendergast, B.S., M.S. in Neuroscience, Tulane University, Marcie Tyler and Karl Wittig, P.E., Retired Engineer and Autism Advocate
Content Area: Personal Perspectives
Track: Lifespan 4 - Adulthood

#8799 Studio 2

Strategy = Success! Approaching Difficult Tasks with a Comprehensive and Strategic Plan!
Discuss a comprehensive intervention plan/framework for teaching new skills. Hear from an individual with autism
on why assistive technology (e.g. iPad/AAC, Biological monitors, PECS) can increase successful experiences. A comprehensive intervention plan with AT supports can help establish a clear action plan to increase independence and eliminate social barriers.

Brooke Olson, B.S., Organizational, Behavior, President and Co-Founder, iTalk Autism Foundation, Powell, OH and Chloe M. Rothschild, Self-Advocate, Writer, Advocate, Sylvania, OH
Content Area: Personal Perspectives
Track: Lifespan 3 - Transition

#8993 Studio 4


ASERT is a statewide collaborative of three Regions (Eastern, Central, Western), housed at regional academic institutions. ASERT functions as a supportive mechanism for BAS. This session will demonstrate how ASERT’s structure and focus has allowed for the creation of innovative projects and could be replicated in other states.

Nina Wall, MSS, LSW, Director, Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, Bureau of Autism Services, Stacy L. Nonnemacher, PhD, Clinical Director, Bureau of Autism Services, Bureau of Autism Services, Office of Developmental Programs, Department of Human Services, Lindsay L. Shea, MS, DrPH, Assistant Professor, AJ Drexel Autism Institute, AJ Drexel Autism Institute, Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA, Michael J. Murray, MD, Associate Professor of Psychiatry, Penn State Hershey, Penn State Hershey, John J. McGonigle, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and Rehabilitation Science and Technology, University of Pittsburgh and Kaitlin Koffer Miller, MPH, Associate Director, Eastern Region, ASERT Collaborative, Philadelphia, PA
Content Area: Family and Caregiver Support
Track: Public Policy/Advocacy

#8969 Studio 4

Building Blocks for the Future: An Integrated Housing System for Individuals with Autism

Discussion regarding the blue printing and development of integrated housing funded by Low Income Housing Tax Credits providing support for independent living and employment success for individual with an autism spectrum diagnosis.

Karen Markle, MA, BCBA, Executive Vice President of Education and Autism Services, NHS Human Services, Youngstown, PA, Christiana Show, MSED, ABA, Senior Director of Autism Services, NHS Human Services, Youngstown, PA and Elliot Frank, BS, Founder and President of the Autism Housing Development Corporation of Pittsburgh, Autism Housing Development Corporation of Pittsburgh, Wexford, PA
Content Area: Self-Determination and Independence
Track: Lifespan 4 - Adulthood

Julie A. Adkins, M.C.D., CCC-SLP, BCBA, Behavior Services Specialist, Arkansas Department of Education; LAMP Trainer, Center for AAC and Autism, Jonesboro, AR
Content Area: Communication
Track: Lifespan 2 - School Age

#8555 Studio 8

Assessing Autistic Communication with the Stimulus Control Ratio Equation [BCBA Session]

Communication deficits are a defining feature of Autism Spectrum Disorder. However, present methods to assess communication are largely subjective. The Stimulus Control Ratio Equation (SCoRE) is an efficient assessment of communication that yields a descriptive statistic of verbal behavior, and identifies deficits areas to be addressed through behavior-analytic intervention.

Lee L. Mason, PhD, BCBA-D, Assistant Professor of Special Education, The University of Texas at San Antonio, Lee.Mason@utsa.edu, TX and Alonzo Andrews, M.A., Behavior Analyst, The University of Texas at San Antonio, San Antonio, TX
Content Area: Communication
Track: Science/Research

#9071 Studio 7

Utilizing AAC within an ABA format using LAMP: Language Acquisition through Motor Planning [BCBA Session]

Language Acquisition through Motor Planning (LAMP) is a therapeutic approach using motor learning principles and a voice output communication to give non-verbal individuals with autism and other developmental disabilities a method to develop functional communication. Strategies to teach language/communication skills within an ABA framework utilizing AAC will be discussed.

Julie A. Adkins, M.C.D., CCC-SLP, BCBA, Behavior Services Specialist, Arkansas Department of Education; LAMP Trainer, Center for AAC and Autism, Jonesboro, AR
Content Area: Communication
Track: Lifespan 2 - School Age

3:00–4:15
Building Self-Determination: Adults With Autism
Mentoring High School Students With Autism
Learn about an innovative program in Minnesota in which adults on the autism spectrum mentor high school students with autism to help develop the students’ self-determination skills. The mentors share their own experiences, challenges and strategies, and provide support for the students as they navigate high school and beyond.

Kelly Kautz, M.Ed., High School Special Education Teacher, Minnetonka High School, Minnetonka, MN and Dianna M. Michels, M.Ed., Autism Specialist, Minnetonka High School, Minnetonka, MN

Content Area: Self-Determination and Independence
Track: Lifespan 3 - Transition

DIR/Floortime, the iPad and Augmentative Communication: Application in Children with ASD from Birth to Five
Many children diagnosed with ASD have limited verbal and/or leisure skills. These same children may have a strong interest in technology, but it is not used due to repetitive and self-directed behavior. This presentation will address using the iPad, with DIR/Floortime principles, productively with this population.

Michele C. Havens, Ph.D., Educational DIR Consultant, Imagine Academy, Brooklyn, NJ and Elisa Chrem, M.A. speech/language and ed leadership, Principal, Imagine Academy, Imagine Academy, Brooklyn, NY

Content Area: Communication
Track: Lifespan 1 - Birth to 5

Finding My Voice(s): My Personal Autism Journey towards Independence and Career in Voiceover
As an autistic child, I felt voiceless. As an autistic adult, I am the voice of a major theme park. How self-acceptance, a strong support team, a willingness to change, and stepping into my fears and anxieties put me on a path towards independence and a fulfilling life.

Jonathan Murphy, Voice Actor, Performer, Motivational Speaker, Geek Club Books, Redwood City, CA and Jodi Murphy, Mother, Nonprofit Founder, Geek Club Books, Redwood City, CA

Content Area: Personal Perspectives
Track: Lifespan 4 - Adulthood

From Inclusion to Belonging: A Paradigm Shift
This interactive discussion will examine why inclusion initiatives, programs and committees are not enough and how to create permanent internal changes in your faith community that will naturally lead to a place where we all belong.

Shelly Christensen, MA, Executive Director, Inclusion Innovations and Elaine Hall, Speaker, Coach, Founder, Creative Director The Miracle Project, The Miracle Project, Santa Monica, CA

Content Area: Self-Determination and Independence
Track: Lifespan 4 - Adulthood

Grassroots Tactics and Cultural Change: Eliminating Barriers and Making Autism Productive in Today’s Global Society
It takes a village to raise a child. It takes a child with autism to raise the consciousness of the village ... Coach Elaine Hall. This lively and highly interactive workshop explores cultural competence and how to make the village concept work for all children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD).

Darrius R. Frazier, BS, BA, Co-Host and Resident Historian, Forum to Achieve Altruism, Compassion and Tolerance, Charleston, IL and Ruth M. Fairfax Frazier, MSHSA, Founder, President, and Executive Producer, Forum to Achieve Altruism, Compassion and Tolerance, Chicago, IL

Content Area: Personal Perspectives
Track: Lifespan 2 - School Age

Guided Play: Smart Toys for Behavior Assessment and Intervention [Sponsored Session]
Guided Play is a technology developed by Fujitsu Laboratories of America that uses instrumented games or toys as sensors to assess early behavioral markers of Autism Spectrum Disorder and facilitate behavior intervention during play. This presentation will describe the Guided Play system, including the design and implementation of a prototype on iPad and initial evaluations and insights. This technology can be applied to tangible objects such as smart toys for a natural human-computer interface.

Cong Chen, Ph.D., Member of Research Staff, Fujitsu Laboratories of America, Sunnyvale, CA

Content Area: Technology
Track: Lifespan 2 - School Age
Ignorance to Curiosity: An Analysis of the Portrayal of Autism in Entertainment and the Media.
In the past, in film individuals with autism were interpreted in a simplistic and stereotypical fashion. Where as in the media, autism is viewed in alarmist and negative terms, at times. The presentation will examine how perceptions have changed in both mediums, over time.

John Miller, M.Ed., ASD Teacher Language Arts, Watson B. Duncan Middle School., Palm Beach Gardens, FL
Content Area: Personal Perspectives
Track: Lifespan 4 - Adulthood

Teaching and Accommodating Executive Functioning Skills Across the Lifespan
An often overlooked difficulty in people on the Autism Spectrum, Executive Functioning can create huge hurdles for children and adults alike. Learn how to identify Executive Functioning difficulties; create and evaluate plans to target barriers; and using high tech and low tech solutions, design individualized accommodations.

Melody Latimer, Autistic Self-Advocate
Content Area: Self-Determination and Independence
Track: Lifespan 3 - Transition

The Father Factor: Engaging Fathers and Strengthening Families
This workshop explores the male experience when a child has autism. How does a man deal with a problem he cannot fix? The presenter is the father of an adult child with autism and provides insight into the challenges involved in the father-child relationship and developing male parent involvement.

Robert A. Naseef, Ph.D., Psychologist, Alternative Choices, Philadelphia, PA
Content Area: Family and Caregiver Support
Track: Lifespan 2 - School Age

Top Five Tips for the Balancing the Roles of Parent & Professional
Recently, parents of children with ASD are transforming their personal experiences with ASD into professional careers. This workshop discusses the unique duality of parent and professional offers many advantages as well as challenges, with a particular emphasis establishing a strong ethical foundation while maintaining your identity as a parent.

Maleita Olson, LCSW, BSL, Executive Director, Spectra Support Services LLC, Broomall, PA
Content Area: Personal Perspectives
Track: Public Policy/Advocacy

Making Inclusion Meaningful since 2007

Good Friend, Inc.®, a nonprofit organization focusing on autism awareness, acceptance, and empathy, created two original peer sensitivity films (We ALL Fit, 2014; Choosing To Be a GFF [Good Friend Forever], 2011) to give all learners social emotional tools to build friendships.

Mention this Autism Society ad now through Sept. 2 to get the Conference & Expo discount on our award-winning educational short films on DVD for elementary and middle school populations.
A Framework for Decreasing Meltdowns: The Cup Kid

Meltdowns often occur because a series of situations have caused feelings the child cannot adequately control. Identifying these contributing factors; developing a proactive plan for removing, lessening, or building tolerance of them; and scheduling effective calming activities will decrease the frequency of the meltdowns.


Content Area: Behavior Issues and Supports
Track: Lifespan 2 - School Age

Effective Use of Behavior Contracts to Facilitate Independence and Self-Sufficiency [BCBA Session]

Attendees will gain skills needed to develop successful, unique behavior plans that promote learning and maintaining independence, self-care, organizational, and time management skills. Behavior contracts can be suited for developing critical independence skills in children, teens, and adults, and may be used in clinics, schools, home, and places of employment.

Alfred Tuminello Jr., BCBA, LBA, Executive Director, McNeese Autism Program, McNeese Autism Program, Lake Charles, LA

Content Area: Self-Determination and Independence
Track: Lifespan 3 - Transition


This session will provide an overview of the use DIRFloortime® with children on the Autism Spectrum. “D.I.R. Floor-time” is an intervention based on the DIR® model developed by Dr. Stanley Greenspan. The “D” stands for Developmental: promoting each person’s development to their fullest potential. The “I” stands for Individual Differences: understanding each person’s unique characteristics. The “R” stands for Relationship-based:

using the power of the relationship between the individual and their parent, teacher, therapist, or other caregiver. Recent research has provided an evidence-base that supports this model which has been effectively helping children with autism for more than 20 years. More than simply a technique to change behavior, DIRFloortime® is a method for understanding and promoting each child’s development to their fullest potential.

Jeffrey Guenzel, MA, LPC, Professional Counselor, ICDL and Gilbert Tippy, Psy.D., Clinical Director, Rebecca School, New York, NY

Content Area: Current Research
Track: Lifespan 1 - Birth to 5

ExerciseBuddy, an iPad App, Teaches Individuals with Autism to Exercise

ExerciseBuddy solves the difficult problem of introducing exercise to individuals with autism. Utilizing four evidence-based practices (exercise, visual supports, video-modeling, technology-aided instruction), ExerciseBuddy is being used by six universities. Coach Dave will share how ExerciseBuddy is engaging parents, teachers, support staff and typical developing peers to make a difference.

David S. Geslak, B.S., ACSM, EP-C, CSCS, President & Autism Fitness Specialist, Exercise Connection Corporation, Chicago, IL

Content Area: Technology
Track: Lifespan 2 - School Age
#9314  Galerie 1

Getting to Yes – Supporting Your Advocacy with High Impact Strategies to be an Effective Advocate
This session will be an informative and interactive workshop on how applying the advocacy cycle principles to your advocacy toolbox can get you to a yes of support for enacting systems change at the local, state, and national levels. Today, the lives of people affected by autism are dictated by different and varied legislation and policies on all levels of government. By understanding how to gather both qualitative and quantitative information to support your case, you can become an effective advocate and thought leader in your community.

Susan Kabot, Ed.D., CCC-SLP, Director, Clinical and Therapeutic Services, Mailman Segal Institute Autism Center of Nova Southeastern University, Ft. Lauderdale, FL and Tonia Ferguson, Autism Society, Bethesda, MD
Content Area: National Advocacy
Track: Public Policy/Advocacy

#8866  Galerie 5

Mardi Gras and ASD: Let the Good, Sci-Fi Times Roll!
This year, the first walking Krewe for young people with autism marched in the sci-fi themed Mardi Gras parade, Chewbacca. Aided by local musicians, artists and therapists, kids socialized, acquired visual and performing arts skills, and actively contributed to the city’s mainstream arts culture. Adaptive sensory measures facilitated participation.

Kate Lacour, ATR-BC, Art Therapist, NOLArts Learning Center, New Orleans, LA
Content Area: Sensory Processing
Track: Lifespan 2 - School Age

#8858  Studio 6

There’s a Fine Line... (Understanding Inappropriate Communication and Behaviors in Relationships)
Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder are often accused of stalking or sexual harassment when romantically interested in someone because of deficits in the area of social communication. This session will focus on strategies to help participants recognize underlying reasons for these behaviors and how to address them.

Eszter Kiss, M.A., LPC, Licensed Professional Counselor, West Virginia Autism Training Center, College Program

#8849  Studio 1

Inclusion Time, It’s Critical: Strategies for Academic and Social Success for All Levels of ASD
This session will examine typical school schedules and discuss the plethora of inclusionary opportunities available to students with ASD of various functioning levels. The planning process and necessary steps to take to ensure success will be discussed. Areas of IEP’s that address inclusionary time, and possible language will be presented.

Shannon Urquhart-Vaught, M.A., Special Education Area Administrator, Washoe County Schools, Sparks, NV
Content Area: Sensory Processing
Track: Lifespan 2 - School Age

#8855  Studio 3

Guy Stuff - Sexuality and Relationship Education for Boys with ASD
Individuals who present with Asperger's Syndrome and Higher-independence ASD need much more comprehensive information around puberty, sexuality and relationships. This session will help you understand how to teach this information in order to help develop a sense of safety, social appropriateness and avoid engaging in illegal behaviors.

Ryan Wexelblatt, LSW, Director, Center for Social and Executive Function Skills, Narberth, PA
Content Area: Social Skill
Track: Lifespan 2 - School Age

#8954  Studio 4

The Wallet Card: A Way to Safely Disclose Your Disability to Law Enforcement
This presentation will teach how to interact successfully with police. Applicable laws are explained using both concrete examples and hypothetical scenarios. Suggestions regarding how to safely and effectively disclose a diagnosis of ASD using our wallet card will be included. The seminar will end with a question and answer period.

Diane Adreon, Ed.D., Associate Director, UM-NSU Center for Autism & Related Disabilities, Coral Gables, FL, Bart Barta, Lieutenant, Special Investigations Section, Coral Gables Police Department, Coral Gables, FL and Matthew Dietz, Litigation Director, Disability Independence Group, Miami, FL
Content Area: Self-Determination and Independence
Track: Lifespan 4 - Adulthood

#8535  Studio 3

Guy Stuff - Sexuality and Relationship Education for Boys with ASD
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Content Area: Self-Determination and Independence
Track: Lifespan 4 - Adulthood
for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder at Marshall University, Huntington, WV and Bianca Hynes, M.A., Student Support Specialist, Marshall University, Huntington, WV.

Content Area: Social Skill
Track: Lifespan 4 - Adulthood

#8749

Utilizing Appreciative Inquiry in Transition Coaching for Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder in Post-Secondary Education
Many traditional models of service focus on “fixing” what is “wrong.” By accepting disability as a variation of being, one that comes with many great gifts, skills, and untapped potential, we can help students develop a stronger sense of self while acquiring new skills and knowledge to achieve success.

Joanna L. Ale, M.S., LMHC, CIC, Ed.D.(C), Co Owner of The STRENGTHS Initiative, The STRENGTHS Initiative, Neptune Beach, FL and Brian James Ludden, M.S., LMHC, Ed.D.(C), Lead Clinician, The STRENGTHS Initiative, The STRENGTHS Initiative, Neptune Beach, FL

Content Area: Self-Determination and Independence
Track: Lifespan 3 - Transition

10:15–11:30

#9142

Galerie 5

Anxiety Overlooked: Identification and Treatment of Anxiety in Children with ASD
This presentation reviews research regarding symptoms of anxiety shown by children with ASD, which have been found to differ from symptoms shown by typically developing children. Recommendations for assessment, intervention, and caregiver strategies will be provided. Additionally, research regarding parent experiences of reporting on their child’s anxiety will be presented.

Chelsey Morrison, Psy.D., Pediatric Psychology Fellow, USC UCEDD Children's Hospital Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA

Content Area: Behavior Issues and Supports
Track: Lifespan 2 - School Age

#8689

Autism Adulthood: Insights and Strategies for a Fulfilling Life
Many of us believe that stepping into autism adulthood is like falling off a cliff. In this presentation, families, caregivers, and self-advocates can learn how others already living with autism in adulthood are creating their own meaningful lives in terms of housing, finding staff, relationships, work, and play.

Susan L. Senator, author, speaker, mother, Author of, Brookline, MA

Content Area: Personal Perspectives
Track: Lifespan 4 - Adulthood

#9175

Beyond Transition: Meeting the Service and Support Needs of Older, High-Functioning ASD Adults.
Drawing upon personal experience, expertise, and experiential knowledge, our mother/son joint presentation elucidates the myriad problems facing older, high-functioning ASD adults and their caregivers as it advocates for developing innovative solutions that could benefit this particular cohort now as well as other ASD individuals in the future.

Ruth Elizabeth Burks, Ph.D., and, Ed.M., Retired, Bedford, MA and Gyasi Omari Burks-Abbott, M.S., Writer/Speaker/Researcher, Bedford, MA

Content Area: Personal Perspectives
Track: Lifespan 4 - Adulthood

#8909

Born Anew at 32 - A Strange Journey of Autism in Women
Females on the autism spectrum exist, but misconceptions about what it means for a woman and diagnostic criteria set up for males make the journey for a diagnosis difficult. Join Jocelyn as she shares her story and information for professionals, parents and other girls and women. Content note: Mature content.

Jocelyn Eastman, Autistic Woman, Advocate, Author, Art of Autism Board Member, Oneida, NY

Content Area: Personal Perspectives
Track: Lifespan 4 - Adulthood
Healthcare Transition: From the Peds Office to Adult Care
An often-overlooked part of transition is the necessary preparation of youth with disabilities and/or special healthcare needs for the world of adult healthcare. The American Pediatric Association and other health-related organizations recognize healthcare transition as a significant issue for young people and their families. Early preparation allows for quality outcomes.

Linda H. Starnes, BS, Family Advocate, Parent Educational Network of Florida, Longwood, FL
Content Area: Education
Track: Lifespan 3 - Transition

Playing with Intention to Increase Communication [BCBA Session]
There is a need to provide effective therapy for students with varied communicative issues. Behaviors are used to communicate. We provide strategies that replace behaviors with functional communication so clients can access their environment successfully. Therapy methods address various problem behaviors and are appropriate for students of various ages abilities.

Amy Prince, MA-CCC, SLP, BCBA, Clinical director, speech pathologist, The TALK Team, Fresno, CA and Amber Ladd, MA-CCC, SLP, BCBA, Clinical co-director, speech pathologist, The TALK Team, Fresno, CA
Content Area: Communication
Track: Lifespan 1 - Birth to 5

Technology As Storytelling: Using Technology to Help Build Capacity and Engage a Community
This interactive and engaging session will share best practices using technology and data to develop a training program about autism for first responders. Attendees will learn how public relations, media and video technology can be used to efficiently and effectively educate a larger audience of community members.

Suzanne L. Potts, LMSW, MPH, Executive Director, Autism Society of Central Texas, Austin, TX, Angela Hale, Founder, Managing Partner, Red Media Group and Susan Risdon, President, Red Media Group
Content Area: Technology
Track: Lifespan 4 - Adulthood

The 3 Rs of Transition to Adulthood for Students with Autism: Responsibility, Regulation, Relationships [Sponsored Session]
Transition to Adulthood has significant challenges for young adults with autism and other learning differences. Experience a unique approach involving classes for active skill building in independent living, social skills, self-management and self-advocacy combined with peer mentoring in real life settings. Learn how college and business partnerships foster success.

Nancy DeSando, BS, RN, Director of Innovations and Community Support, Transitions, Gloversville, NY and Shaloni Winston, MS, Clinical, Psychology, MBA, Executive Director Lexington, Transitions, Gloversville, NY
Content Area: Self-Determination and Independence
Track: Lifespan 3 - Transition

The Bully Project: Using Applied Drama to Empower Young People on the Spectrum
Although bullying happens across cultures and classes, it is two to three times more prevalent in special needs populations. Participants will explore applied drama techniques that can empower students to share their bully stories and collaboratively rehearse alternate outcomes through guided dramatic play. Adaptable for elementary through high school ages.

Wendy S. Duke, MA in Theatre; Licensed in Theatre Education, K-12, Co-Founder/Artistic Director, Center for Applied Drama and Autism, Akron, OH and Laura Valenzia, MFA in Acting MA in Special Education; Certified Intervention Specialist, K-12, Co-Creator/Co-Artistic Director, Center for Applied Drama and Autism, Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Content Area: Social Skill
Track: Lifespan 2 - School Age

The Pursuit of Self-Employment: Feeble or Feasible?
In this program we will discuss, challenge and ultimately educate individuals with disabilities, their parents, caregivers and professionals on the pursuit of self-employment as a feasible alternative to traditional employment for anyone with a disability, regardless of the severity of impairment.
Jennie Troccio Kirkland, Ph.D., Instructor, Picasso Einstein, LLC, Pembroke Pines, FL
Content Area: Employment
Track: Lifespan 3 - Transition

#8543 Galerie 1

The Trauma Experience of Autism: Treatment Implications and Methods
Research is beginning to show that sensory issues trigger a trauma response in the brain creating an increase in cortisol and alerting the reactive limbic region. By teaching basic mindfulness techniques we can begin to assist individuals in controlling the assaultive environment and moving towards emotional regulation.

Robert Cox, M.A., PLPC, NCC, Mental Health Counselor, Life Recovery Consulting, Liberty, MO
Content Area: Behavior Issues and Supports
Track: Science/Research

#8813 Galerie 4

Which Bridges to Cross and Which to Burn: Using Transition Assessments to Plan for Adulthood
What is an appropriate Transition Assessment? Which tools, strategies, and methods are “age appropriate”, and will these provide the data needed to create meaningful educational and vocational plans? An Advocate and Psychologist discuss legal requirements, methods of assessment, and how to use data to create and monitor transition plans.

Ann Simun, Psy.D., Licensed Psychologist specializing in Neuropsychology, Neuropsychology Partners, Inc., Los Angeles, CA and Sandra Shove, Non-attorney Special Education Advocate, Vice President, Autism Society of Santa Barbara, 1st Vice Pres., Autism Society of CA, Special Education Advocacy, Santa Barbara, CA
Content Area: Education
Track: Lifespan 3 - Transition

11:30–12:30
Acadia/Bissonet
Book Signing with Steve Silberman
Acadia/Bissonet
Lunch (Last Chance to visit Exhibit Hall and Stock up on Unique Items)

12:30–2:00
Carondelet
Afternoon with Richard and Closing Keynote - Panel Discussion with Steve Silberman

This is what success looks like...

This is what an adult living with autism looks like!

Building successful futures for adults living with autism takes innovative program development, advocacy, funding – and a belief in their strengths, talents and promise.

The Daniel Jordan Fiddle Foundation Signature Programs provide the blueprints that create opportunities for the diverse population of adults living with autism to build rewarding futures.

To learn more about The Daniel Jordan Fiddle Foundation visit: www.djfiddelfoundation.org
To contact us, email: info@djjfiddelfoundation.org
Become a FAN of The Daniel Jordan Fiddle Foundation on: Facebook
Sessions by Track

**Lifespan 1 - Birth to 5**
*Track Sponsored by ICDL*

Autism in the Preschool Classroom: Cognitive/Language Strategies for Supporting Emotional Regulation
July 15th, 2016, 10:45 AM - 12:00 PM

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July 14th, 2016, 2:15 PM - 3:30 PM

When ABA Is Not an Option: Other Treatments to Consider
July 14th, 2016, 4:00 PM - 5:15 PM

**Lifespan 2 - School Age**

10 Basic Financial Steps for Special Needs Caregivers [Sponsored Session]
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A Framework for Decreasing Meltdowns: The Cup Kid
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A Teen and His OT Present: Executive Function and Organization
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Autism is a Family Affair: Creating a Quality Life through Positive Supports and Person-Centered-Planning
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Discover the Professional Au Pair Program, A Childcare Solution for Families with Children with Autism [Sponsored Session]
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Lifespan 3 - Transition Track Sponsored by Raising Opportunities

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Never Too Old for a Diagnosis
Thursday, July 14, 2016: 2:15 PM-3:30 PM

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July 16th, 2016, 10:15 AM - 11:30 AM

The Autistic Newly Weds - Navigating a Successful Marriage!
July 14th, 2016, 4:00 PM - 5:15 PM

The Best Medicine: Addressing Nutrition Through the Acquisition of Cooking Skills
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There’s a Fine Line... (Understanding Inappropriate Communication and Behaviors in Relationships)
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Transportation and Mobility Issues for Autistic Adults and Adolescents: Review of Research and Practice
July 14th, 2016, 4:00 PM - 5:15 PM

Public Policy/Advocacy Track Sponsored by NYFAC

Beyond Person-First Language: Self-Advocacy and the Words We Use
July 15th, 2016, 1:15 PM - 2:30 PM

Entitlements Vs. Eligibility As They Relate to Lifespan Services for Those with ASD
July 14th, 2016, 4:00 PM - 5:15 PM

Getting to Yes – Supporting Your Advocacy with High Impact Strategies to be an Effective Advocate
July 16th, 2016, 8:30 AM - 9:45 AM

Health Care and Service Challenges for Autistic Adults: A Call to Action
July 14th, 2016, 2:15 PM - 3:30 PM

Making Your Case - How To Effectively Educate Legislators and Policy Makers
July 15th, 2016, 10:45 AM - 12:00 PM

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Top Five Tips for the Balancing the Roles of Parent & Professional
July 15th, 2016, 3:00 PM - 4:15 PM

Science/Research

Assessing Autistic Communication with the Stimulus Control Ratio Equation [BCBA Session]
July 15th, 2016, 3:00 PM - 4:15 PM

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The Trauma Experience of Autism: Treatment Implications and Methods
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Treatment Models for Success: Identifying Similarities and Differences of Mental Health and Autism Spectrum Diagnoses
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Current Research

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The Importance of Citizen Science in Advancing Autism Research
July 14th, 2016, 2:15 PM - 3:30 PM

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**Personal Perspectives**

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July 14th, 2016, 12:30 PM - 1:45 PM

Low Functioning, A Bad Word? Let’s Discuss the Population Typically Not Talked About
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When ABA Is Not an Option: Other Treatments to Consider
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