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Thank you for considering becoming a speaker at the 2023 Autistic Community Summit!

Please fill out this application so the summit committee can consider your presentation.

Some people like to work on this application a little bit at a time, or work on the applications with others. This Microsoft Word version is here to help you: feel free to save your answers here and copy and paste into the online form when you’re finished.

**You will need to submit your final application online** [**here**](https://ausm.org/events/autistic-community-summit/apply-to-speak-at-the-autistic-community-summit/)**.**

If you have questions about completing this application or your presentation, please email Zephyr at [zjames@ausm.org](mailto:zjames@ausm.org). Zephyr can also support you in filling out the application if you need help.

Breakout sessions will happen during the day at the Autistic Community Summit. The event date is not completely determined yet, however we anticipate it will be either October 14 or October 21, 2023. The Summit Committee will schedule each session for a specific time slot. This year, speakers can present for 20 minutes, 30 minutes, or 1 hour. There will be an in person, live event, however presenters are welcome to present virtually if they are more comfortable. and will be held in person with a live audience. There are 12 breakout sessions at the Summit, which means that we will likely need to turn down some of our applicants.

If you get chosen and present at the Summit, you will get paid $50 and you will get to attend the rest of the Summit for free. All speakers will be paid, no matter how long you speak for.

Participants of the conference appreciate clear topic descriptions of what to expect during your session. If selected, your presentation must be consistent with the description provided in your proposal.

Giving clear descriptions of your topic and what to expect during your presentation is very helpful for the people who will attend. If we choose you to present, your presentation has to match what you said you would cover.

You should turn this form in by Friday, June 30, 2023. You have to include your email address, because we will send you an email to tell you if we choose you to present.

**Presenter Roles & Responsibilities**

All presenters will:

* Tell us that you are still able to present and want to present within one week after we tell you we have chosen your presentation.
* Keep the title and the content of the session the same after the proposal has been accepted. The committee may ask you to make some adjustments to your title or description. We will ask you when we tell you your proposal has been accepted.
* Provide a PowerPoint presentation by Oct. 6, 2023 if you will be using one during your presentation. We will make your slides into PDF handouts and put them on the websites for the people who attend to print out.
* Follow the Universal Design Guidelines, which are ways to make your presentation more accessible. We will send you these guidelines if we choose you as a presenter.
* Every room at the summit will have a projector and a microphone for you to use. If you need any other equipment to present, you will need to bring it yourself. If you use a Macbook computer, you might need to bring an adapter to connect your Macbook to the projector.
* Follow all deadlines we give in this proposal form.

**Factors Affecting Selection**

The purpose of the Autistic Community Summit is to provide a space for community building and sharing the things we know for the Minnesota autistic community. Our goal is to give helpful information for people at all levels, including those who are new to autism and those who have years of experience. It is our goal that all presenters are neurodivergent. The following things will be considered when we choose presentations:

* Filling out all the sections of the form, following directions, and giving thoughtful answers.
* How helpful the information is to the people who will attend.
* Number of presentations on the same or similar topics and/or subtopics.
* What other topics will be covered in other presentations. We aim to include presentations that cover popular topics our audience requests.
* How much you seem to know about your topic. This is not measured in formal education or letters after your name. It can be from lived experience, a special interest, or your job.
* Having presenters that are diverse in race, gender, and disability, and topics that show that diversity.

If you have questions about the submission process or your presentation, please email Zephyr at [zjames@ausm.org](mailto:zjames@ausm.org).

**Application Questions**

**Presenters**

* Main Contact First and Last Name
* Address
* Email
* Phone (Please note that we will not use your phone unless we need to contact you the day of the event.)
* Please give a short biography of the presenter. 100 words or less. If it is longer than that, we will edit it. This will be included on the conference website and in the program if your presentation is chosen. You will be asked for a biography for each person who will be presenting.

You can add as many presenters to the application form as you would like. Each one will need to include first and last name, email, and a bio.

**Presentation Information**

* Title of presentation (12 words or less):
* Summary of presentation. Please summarize your presentation in 100 words or less. This will be included in the Summit program and on the website if your session is selected. This is what the people who attend will look at and use to decide whether to go to your session. Summaries may be edited by AuSM.
* The people who attend the Summit like sessions that teach them strategies, skills, or clear knowledge. Please share what you hope people will take away from your session. You can share in a paragraph form or in bullet points. For example: participants will learn the most effective way to write budget line items in a waiver, or participants will have new strategies for using a planner to support executive function.
* This year, we will have sessions that last 20 minutes, 30 minutes, and 1 hour. Below, please rank how long you would like to present for. Please rank each of the time options from 1-3. 1 is your first choice and 3 is your last choice. If there is a time length that you do not want to present for, put an x next to it.
* Experience Level: Share how much background knowledge your presentation will assume that people have. This information will be shared in the conference program to help people select sessions.
  + New to autism: no background autism knowledge is needed to attend this presentation.
  + Some experience: basic autism information will not be explained during this session.
  + Long time advocate: this session will discuss detailed or high-level topics that require a solid understanding of autism basics.
* What format will your presentation take?
  + Panel (several people answering questions)
  + Presentation (one or more people teaching information)
  + Interactive Session (any presentation that asks the audience to participate, like a demonstration or discussion)
  + Other
* Content area: what topics will your session cover?
  + Advocacy
  + Communication
  + Community Building and Equity
  + Current Research
  + Diagnosis
  + Disability and Intersectionality
  + Education
  + Emotion Regulation
  + Employment
  + Executive Function
  + Housing and Residential Concerns
  + Medical Needs and Services
  + Parenting/Caregiving
  + Personal Stories
  + Self-Determination
  + Sensory Processing
  + Social Skills
  + Other

**Demographics**

It is very important to the Autistic Community Summit committee that this event includes diverse speakers and participants, and that it includes diverse representation. We know that the autism community includes people from all kinds of backgrounds, and we want to open conversations about all those experiences. To help us

We think it is important to represent those who have not been allowed to speak in the past. We want to give these people chances to be heard, to help their messages reach more people, and learn from what they teach us. To help us include diverse topics and diverse speakers, please answer these two questions about demographics.

* We expect all the presentations to talk about developmental disabilities like autism. Please tell us if your presentation will also cover any of the following topics:
  + Complex or multiple disabilities
  + Mental health conditions
  + Non-speaking communication or AAC
  + LGBTQIA or gender diversity
  + Racial or cultural diversity
  + Aging
  + Greater Minnesota or Wisconsin/rural communities
  + Other
  + None of the above

To help the committee understand your presentation better, share some information about how your presentation will include the diverse groups you checked in the previous question. What issues will you address? How is it relevant to these groups?

* We want the people who present to be as diverse as our community is. To help us do that, we ask that you share more information about your identity, if you are comfortable doing that. Please select the groups you identify with:
  + I have a developmental disability (for example: autism, ADHD).
  + I have a physical disability.
  + I have complex or multiple disabilities.
  + I have a mental health condition.
  + I am non-speaking, unreliably-speaking, or use AAC.
  + I am LGBTQIA+.
  + I am a person of color or otherwise identify as a racial minority.
  + I am a senior/part of the elderly community.
  + I live in a rural community.
  + I prefer not to answer.

**Supports and Accommodations**

* To help support speakers, the Autistic Community Summit is offering help with putting together a presentation. We will host a short training about creating a presentation (which will be recorded for later viewing) and offer speakers the option to work one on one with a committee member to answer any questions or help organize their presentation. Please check which support options you would be interested in.
  + I would like to attend a group training
  + I would like one on one support
  + I don't need either option
* Do you require accommodations during your presentation (for example: technology support, a particular timeslot, etc.)? *Please don’t ask for a particular timeslot unless you need one as an accommodation.*
* If your presentation is not selected, we may have other opportunities for you. Please check the opportunities you would be interested in if you are not selected.
  + I would like to be an alternate. You can contact me if another presentation falls through and I would like to fill in.
  + I would be interested in speaking on a panel.
  + I am not interested in these opportunities.
* I would like to be an alternate. You can contact me if another

By typing your name here you agree to all of the above and confirm that you are available to present during the 2023 Autistic Community Summit. This typed name represents your signature.