



# TO CONFERENCE

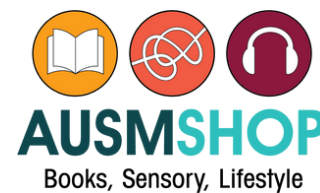
## Why should an educator attend the conference?

The Minnesota Autism Conference is a great place for educators to stay up to date on the latest best practices and research for autism. Not only will you walk away with practical strategies that will help you with everything from behaviors to social skills, you also will connect with other educators. This is THE place for an educator to be for the most comprehensive information on

autism. This guide will help you find the sessions and resources that are tailored for educators. If you're looking for ways to attend the conference at a more affordable rate, AuSM is looking for volunteers. All volunteers receive a discounted rate to the conference. Email [kulrick@ausm.org](mailto:kulrick@ausm.org) to volunteer. All participants will receive a Certificate of Attendance you can use for CEUs.

## AuSM Shop

To help you keep growing throughout the year, we've stocked our AuSM Shop with hand-selected titles to address all ages and concerns, from behaviors to sensory issues to relationships. If you're looking for help with a particular topic, visit the AuSM Shop and we will help you find the right resource. We'll also have tons of fidgets ready for any classroom.



## Wednesday, April 17, 12:30-4:30 p.m. Foundational Conference Workshop

### Conference Keynote Presentations

- ☐ Thursday, April 18, 8-9:30 a.m.  
You're Going to Love This Kid presented by Dr. Paula Kluth
- ☐ Thursday, April 18, 1:15-2:45 p.m.  
The Future of Autistic Self-Advocacy presented by Dr. Devon Price
- ☐ Friday, April 19, 8-9:30 a.m.  
Beyond Words: Exploring Autistic Multimodal Communication presented by Joyner Emerick

### Conference Breakout Sessions

#### Thursday, April 18

##### 10-11 a.m.

- ☐ How to Write a Neurodiversity-Affirming IEP presented by Maren Christenson Hofer, Joyner Emerick, and Ryan Haenze
- ☐ Trauma in Autistic Children and Young Adults presented by Beth Pitchford, Barb Luskin, and Sara Lahti

##### 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

- ☐ The Roots of Behavior: A Neurodiversity-Affirming Perspective presented by Elizabeth Duffy and Michelle Pettit
- ☐ Supporting LGBTQ+ Youth: Tools for Parents and Other Adults presented by Cat Hammond

##### 3:15-4:15 p.m.

- ☐ Taking a Person Centered Approach to ADLs presented by Nicole Ogren and Jake Archbold
- ☐ What's Behind the Mask: An Exploration of Masking, Burnout, and the Autistic Experience presented by Santanna Ficken and Sophie Tomskey

## Conference Breakout Sessions (cont.)

**Friday, April 19**

**10-11 a.m.**

- ☐ The Art of Coregulation: Strategies to Regulate Emotions from Neurodivergent Perspectives presented by Tiffany Schroeer, Chelsey Hendrickx, and Revel Weber
- ☐ Centering Joy: Lessons Learned from a Family Camp for Autistic Children in the Somali and Oromo Communities presented by Rufo Jiru, Delia Samuel, and Fatima Molas

**11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**

- ☐ Bridging Silos presented by Sara Swan
- ☐ Let's Talk About 'It': Building Comfort Around Sexuality and Development presented by Elissa Marble and Alyssa Perau

**1:30-2:30 p.m.**

- ☐ "Subtle but Significant" Autism presented by Dr. Megan Helmen
- ☐ Beyond To-Do Lists: Executive Function from an Affirming Perspective presented by Elizabeth Duffy and Santanna Ficken
- ☐ Obtaining Assent in Service Provision for Autistic Individuals presented by Rebecca Kolb

**2:45-3:45 p.m.**

- ☐ Helping Autistic Minnesotans Make Friends: Lessons Learned from Hosting Events presented by Mitchell Schaps
- ☐ Gifted and Autistic: Unique Strengths, Challenges, and Therapeutic Considerations presented by Jaime Ascencio

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### WHAT'S NEXT

If you're looking for more resources to expand your autism toolbox, AuSM is a great place to be involved year-round! Check out our ASD Direct Support Certification course, a 15-hour intensive class that will give you strategies for working with students on the spectrum. We also offer customized training on a wide variety of topics. Contact [education@ausm.org](mailto:education@ausm.org) for more information. Check our website for upcoming workshops, including Plain Language and Easy Read: An Introduction to Cognitively Accessible Formats.

To stay in the know, make sure you visit [www.ausm.org](http://www.ausm.org) to sign up for our twice monthly e-newsletter, AuSM Connections. You can find the sign up at the bottom of any page on AuSM's website.

Finally, if you're looking for a way to fill those summer hours, AuSM is currently seeking staff for our summer camps. This is a fantastic way to spend your summer at the best place in the world.

**VISIT [WWW.AUSM.ORG](http://WWW.AUSM.ORG) FOR DETAILS.**