

Educator's Guide to Conference



**MINNESOTA
AUTISM
CONFERENCE**

Presented by

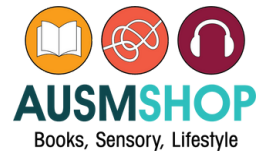
BEST CARE
YOUR CARE. YOUR WAY.

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 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 books and gifts. If you're looking for books on 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, office, or home.



Recommended Sessions for Educators

Wednesday, April 16, 12:30-4:30 p.m. Foundational Conference Workshop

Conference Keynote Presentations

- Thursday, April 17, 8-9:30 a.m.
Storytelling as Advocacy: Why Telling Our Stories Matters presented by Tiffany Hammond
- Thursday, April 17, 2:30-4 p.m.
Using Emotion (Co)Regulation to Stay Upright When You Feel Like Falling Apart presented by Anne Gearity
- Friday, April 18, 8-9:30 a.m.
Reading Between the Lines: Ableism in Literacy Education presented by Mash Makhlyagina

Conference Breakout Sessions

Thursday, April 17

10-11 a.m.

- Decreasing the Stigma – Talking to Children about Neurodivergence presented by Melissa Fischer
- Working with Culturally Diverse Families presented by Ellie Wilson and Sarah Mohamed

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

- The Quiet Revolution: Autism Specific Services in Early Intervention Systems presented by Katie Scott
- Navigating the Intersection of ADHD and Autism presented by Gerard Balan

1:15-2:15 p.m.

- Impactful Early Education for Children with Autism presented by Camille Brandt
- Strategies for Supporting Independence in Daily Living presented by Lauren Gunhus and Nicole Ogren
- Choosing Goals and Interventions for Autistic Individuals presented by Megan Helmen*
- Autism: Beyond the Male Phenotype presented by Glenis Benson

Conference Breakout Sessions (cont.)

Friday, April 18

10-11 a.m.

- Listening to Autistic Voices – Using Lived Experiences to Educate Educators presented by Tami Childs, Jill Pring, Christine Chen, Selvy Somasoundirapille, and Haniya Hopson*
- Communicating With Scripts: An Introduction to Gestalt Language Processing presented by Emily Zimmer

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

- Literacy and Nontraditional Language Learning Styles presented by Sam Stein
- Empathy in Crisis Intervention: Harm Reduction and Intersectional Approaches for Autistic People presented by Elizabeth Duffy, Santanna Ficken, Nikki Huelsman, and Aster Gallus

1:15-2:15 p.m.

- Everything That’s Wrong with IEPs (and How to Fix It!) presented by Jessica Heiser and Ryan Haenze

2:30-3:30 p.m.

- Addressing Ableism and Autistic Needs Through Trauma-Informed FBAs and BIPs presented by Elizabeth Duffy, Santanna Ficken, Nikki Huelsman, Bryden Carlson-Giving, and Kathryn O’Brien
- Pathological Demand Avoidance: Understanding, Accepting, and Supporting PDAers presented by Joe Falkner*
- Heading into Adulthood presented by Sara Swan

*Session included in the virtual package

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 for more information. Check our website for upcoming workshops, including What’s New With the Zones of Regulation?

To stay in the know, make sure you visit 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 for details.