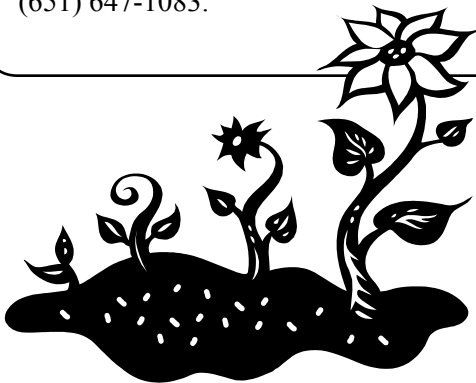


## Seeds For Success

The 2006 Minnesota Autism Conference offers many presentations to help parents, educators, caregivers, and professionals provide effective supports and interventions. The conference also features information for individuals with ASD to be more independent and successful in their future lives. Come join AuSM for an exciting, informative conference where you can network, learn new information and gain practical ideas.

**Bookstore** -- The AuSM Bookstore will be open daily throughout the conference, offering a wide selection of books and other resources. The bookstore accepts cash, checks, credit cards and purchase orders. The bookstore is both an educational service and a fundraiser for the Autism Society of Minnesota.

**Exhibits** -- A variety of community resources and products for individuals with ASD and their families will be part of the conference. For information about exhibit space, call the AuSM Office at (651) 647-1083.

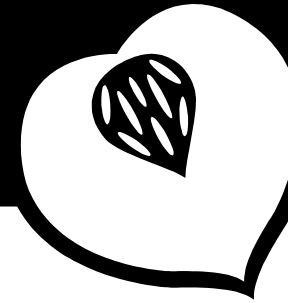


## The 2006 Minnesota Autism Conference



Autism Society of Minnesota  
2380 Wycliff Street, Suite 102  
St. Paul, MN 55114

## Seeds For Success



## The 2006 Minnesota Autism Conference

**May 3 - May 6, 2006**

**Double Tree Hotel  
1500 Park Place Boulevard  
Minneapolis, MN 55416**

Sponsored by the:

**Autism Society of Minnesota  
2380 Wycliff Street, Suite 102  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55114**

[www.ausm.org](http://www.ausm.org)

Email: [info@ausm.org](mailto:info@ausm.org)

Telephone: (651) 647-1083

FAX: (651) 642-1230

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
St. Paul, MN  
Permit No. 1062

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## **WEDNESDAY EVENING, MAY 3rd**

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6:00 -- 7:00 PM: Registration & Bookstore Open  
7:00 - 9:00 PM: Lecture

### **Making Peace With Autism**

In this lecture, author Susan Senator will share ideas that she hopes will empower parents, educators, and professionals not to shrink from autism's challenges but to meet them head on and forge a relationship that incorporates, but is not ruled by, autism.

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## **THURSDAY, MAY 4th, FULL DAY SESSION**

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7:30 AM: Registration & Coffee  
8:00 AM: Bookstore & Vendor Kiosks Open  
8:30 AM: Concurrent Workshops

### **You're Going to Love This Kid!**

Paula Kluth presents strategies on how to support and teach students with ASD in general education classrooms. The information will help in understanding how to plan lessons, support behavior, communicate with families, and foster friendships. Speaker: Paula Kluth.

--- Or ---

### **More Than Words**

Fern Sussman will provide strategies to support and develop communication in children with ASD. This workshop will help participants understand and promote communication through turn taking, games, visual helpers, music, and routines. Speaker: Fern Sussman.

12:00: Lunch

1:00 -- 4:30: Concurrent Sessions

### **Literacy for Students With Autism**

Participants will find ways to create literacy experiences that are appealing and challenging for students with ASD. Strategies include using visuals, reading aloud, offering multiple texts, writing it down, and integrating instruction across the day. Speaker: Paula Kluth.

--Or--

### **Small Talk**

Learn about communication strategies that are effective for teaching individuals with Asperger Syndrome in their everyday interactions with peers and adults. Speaker: Fern Sussman.

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## **THURSDAY EVENING, MAY 4th**

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6:45 -- 7:00 PM: Registration  
7:00 -- 9:00 PM: Lecture

### **A Whole New World**

Why can't children with autism just behave? By using a series of sketches, James Williams who has high functioning autism, illustrates why it is difficult for people who have ASD to understand what is expected of them.

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## **FRIDAY, MAY 5th FULL DAY SESSION**

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7:30 AM: Registration & Coffee  
8:00 AM: Bookstore & Vendor Kiosks Open  
8:30 AM Keynote Address

### **Current Trends in Autism**

Don't miss this opportunity to hear a review of current research findings in autism spectrum disorders by a distinguished pediatric neurologist and research investigator. Speaker: Margaret Bauman.

10:30 AM -- 11:45 Breakout Sessions

- \* Medications and Autism
- \* ABA and DTT
- \* Facilitating Friendships with Peers
- \* Relationship Development Intervention
- \* Sensory Processing Effects on Coping Behavior

12:45 Keynote Address

### **Autism Risks From Genetics and the Environment**

This presentation will explain how scientific studies help us understand the impact of immunotoxicants on the genetics of autism. Speaker: Issac Pessah.

2:15 PM Breakout Sessions

- \* Incidental Teaching
- \* Social Skills Groups
- \* Teaching Speaking & Listening Skills
- \* FBA -- Now What?
- \* First Believe, Then Achieve!

4:00 Breakout Sessions

- \* Social Songs
- \* ABA and Social Skills
- \* Gluten and Casein-Free Diets

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## **SATURDAY, MAY 6th FULL DAY SESSION**

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7:30 AM: Registration & Coffee  
8:00 AM -- 1:00 PM: Bookstore & Vendor Kiosks Open  
8:30 -- 9:30 AM: Keynote Address

### **Finding Work That Works**

Discover how to find jobs for adults and youth with Asperger Syndrome and High Functioning Autism in the hidden job market. Learn tested methods of job development from a job developer who enjoys an over 94% success rate. Speaker: Gail Hawkins.

10:00 -- 12:00 Concurrent Sessions

### **Strategizing Together To Support Behavior Change**

Two presenters will model collaborative ideas on how parents, care providers and school team members can create interventions that consider multiple points of view. Speakers: Shelia Merzer and Jan Ostrom

### **The Behavior Parent**

Parents will be introduced to the basics of behavioral science and how to diffuse explosions and meltdowns. Learn about setting events, antecedents, and the concept of reinforcement. Speaker: Diane Halpin

### **Toolbox for Transition**

This workshop focuses on helping parents and educators prepare students for post-secondary options while they are still in high school. Speaker: Lisa King

### **Promoting Relaxation**

This presentation focuses on the outcomes of a Yoga project used in a self-contained autism program for children in grades K-5 promoting relaxation. Speaker: Kari Dunn Buron

### **Facilitating Friendship with Peers**

Teachers and families will receive an overview of the Integrated Play Groups Model for creating mutually enjoyed play experiences between children with ASD and typical peers. Speaker: Tara Tichel

1:00 -- 2:30 Panel of Adults with ASD

### **ASD Panel on Employment Opportunities**

Hear issues and concerns relating to employment from the perspective of adults with ASD. Facilitator: Barbara Luskin, Ph.D. Panel: Members of the ASD Adult Group at AuSM

2:30 PM Conference Concludes

## Conference Speakers

**Margaret Bauman**, M.D., is a pediatric neurologist, research investigator, and founder of The Autism Research Foundation and The Autism Research Consortium at Mass General Hospital for children in Boston. She is also an Associate Professor of Neurology at Harvard Medical School.

**Kari Dunn Buron** is an autism education specialist who has worked in special education for more than thirty years. She recently has been interested in innovative strategies for reducing high anxiety often seen in ASD.

**Diane Halpin** is the founder of The Lazarus Project and mother of a 9-year old daughter with autism. She currently is enrolled in the University of Minnesota's doctoral program in special education.

**Gail Hawkins** is an author and founder of the Hawkins Institute, an employment agency specializing in finding jobs for people who have Asperger's syndrome

**Lisa King** is a disability specialist at the University of Minnesota. Her primary research focus is on transition issues for students who have Asperger's syndrome.

**Paula Kluth**, Ph. D. is an education consultant and author of *You're going to Love This Kid!* She is an adjunct instructor at National-Louis University in Chicago, IL and a former classroom special educator.

**Sheila Merzer**, MA is a licensed psychologist who has worked in the field of autism for more than thirty years. She is in private practice specializing in providing evaluation, consultation and inservice training services to educational programs.

**Jan Ostrom**, MS is a licensed psychologist and a board certified behavior analyst. She is in private practice working with behaviorally challenging children and adults, their families and education teams to support behavior change.

**Isaac Pessah**, Ph.D., is the Director of the Center for Children's Environmental Health, at the University of California, Davis. He is the Principal Investigator of a large study on children who have autism. His team of researchers are studying the involvement of the immune system in autism.

**Susan Senator** is a writer and activist. She is the author of *Making Peace with Autism* and a columnist for *Brookline Lab*. She serves as a school board member and is the mother of three boys. Her oldest son has autism.

**Fern Sussman** is a speech and language practitioner (SLP) and Service Program Coordinator at the Hanen Centre in Toronto, Canada.

**Tara Tuchel**, MS, is an autism specialist and speech/language pathologist directing an elementary-level autism program. She and 12-year-old co-author, Jamie Lowell, recently published *My Best Friend Will*.

**James Williams** is a 17-year old individual who has high functioning autism. He has presented at several conferences, schools, and other group functions. Williams is the author and co-author of two books on the subject of autism.

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## Are You an Individual on the Spectrum?

Join us Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup> for our second annual interest fair, panel discussion and pizza social. Conference keynote speaker Gail Hawkins will talk about strategies for finding, developing, and maintaining employment. You may participate in our Interest Fair by reserving a table for your display. Contact: [bluskin@ausm.org](mailto:bluskin@ausm.org).

### The Saturday Schedule

7:30 -- 8:30	Registration & Coffee
8:30 -- 9:30	Keynote Address <i>Finding Work that Works</i>
10:00 -- 12:00	Interest Fair
12:00 -- 1:00	Pizza Social
1:00 -- 2:30	ASD Panel Presentation on Employment

There is no charge to attend this Saturday event if you are an individual with ASD. Others are welcome to join you, but must be paid and registered attendees of the conference. Please use the form below to sign up. Be sure to check the correct box under **Workshop Selection**.

Conference Location:

**Double Tree Hotel**  
**1500 Park Place Boulevard**  
**Minneapolis, MN 55416**

Special conference rate: \$104.00 plus tax for a single or double room. This offer is available until 4/11/06

**Call: 1-800-245-9190.**

## Become a Member of the Autism Society of Minnesota

By joining the Autism Society of Minnesota, you will help ensure that vital programming and resources are available to the wide network of families and professionals who support the autism community. You will also receive discounted rates to this conference as well as the many workshops and other programming offered throughout the year. Children of members can take part in our summer camp programs.

- \$80 Family (ASA and AuSM)
- \$60 Individual (ASA and AuSM)
- \$30 Student (ASA and AuSM)
- \$30 Individual Contributor (AuSM)
- \$40 Family Contributor
- \$100 Agency (AuSM) (1-9 employees)
- \$300 Agency (AuSM) (10+ employees)

# REGISTRATION FORM

NAME (First, Last) \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ DAY PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

I am a:     Parent     Caregiver     Educator     Clinician     Other Professional     Individual with ASD

## WORKSHOP SELECTION

- Evening Opener, Wednesday, May 3, 2006**  
*Making Peace with Autism* Book Lecture
- Thursday May 4, 2006 Full Day Session**  
**AM**    *You're Going to Love This Kid!* or  
            *More Than Words*  
**PM**    *Literacy for Students with Autism* or  
            *Small Talk*
- Thursday Evening May 4, 2006 Lecture**  
*A Whole New World*
- Friday May 5, 2006 Full Day Session**  
*Current Trends in Autism*  
Choice of Five Breakout Sessions  
*Autism Risks from Genetics & The Environment*  
Two Sessions of Breakout Sessions
- Saturday May 6, 2006 Full Day Session**  
*Finding Work that Works*  
Choice of Concurrent Sessions
- Saturday May 6, 2006 Adults with ASD Interest Fair**  
*Finding Work that Works*, Poster Session, Lunch and Panel

## REGISTRATION FEES

(The following fees are for registrations received by **4/21/06**  
Rates after this date are **\$125/day**.)

Event	Member Rate	Non-Member Rate	Volunteer Rate**
Wed. Evening	\$25	\$35	N/A
Thurs. Evening	\$10	\$15	N/A
1 Full Day	\$80	\$100	\$50
2 Full Days	\$150	\$190	\$100
3 Full Days	\$210	\$275	\$150

Pizza & Panel Event\* No Charge (Pre-registration Required)

\* Pizza/Panel event is available at no charge to individuals with ASD only. To accompany an individual with ASD, please complete a separate registration form with payment. (See the description above for more information on the Saturday event.)

\*\*To qualify for the volunteer rate, you must be a member and attend training sessions on May 3, 2006.

## POLICIES

**Registration Deadline:** 4/21/06. Confirmations will be sent 4/26/06. Registrations will not be confirmed without payment or a copy of your purchase order.

**Cancellations:** All cancellations must be called into the AuSM Office by May 2, 2006. No refunds will be given after this date. AuSM will keep a \$25.00 processing fee for all cancellations made before May 2, 2006.

**Volunteer Rate:** To qualify for the volunteer rate, you must be a member of AuSM and attend a training session on May 3rd at 5:30 PM.

**Saturday Event for Members of the ASD Community:** There is no charge for attendees with ASD, but pre-registration is required. Individuals who wish to accompany an individual with ASD must be a paid and registered conference attendee.

## SAVE TIME! REGISTER ONLINE

Registration is a simple click away. Go to our website below to sign up and pay online. Confirmations will be sent by email. Bring your printed confirmation to the conference.

**www.ausm.org**

## CALCULATE YOUR TOTAL

Number of full days selected @ rate \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(See the chart on left.)  
 Wednesday Evening Book Event \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Thursday Evening Lecture \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Membership Option \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## METHOD OF PAYMENT

I am paying with:  
 Check (Payable to AuSM)  
 Purchase Order (A copy must accompany registration form.)  
 I am paying \$ \_\_\_\_\_ on my:  
            VISA     MasterCard     Discover Card

Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

## MAIL OR FAX THIS FORM TO:



**AUTISM SOCIETY  
OF MINNESOTA**

Autism Society of Minnesota  
2380 Wycliff Street, Suite 102  
St. Paul, MN 55114

FAX: (651) 642-1230