



COLLEGE AUTISM NETWORK

ADVOCACY | RESEARCH | TRAINING

College Autism Summit is Just 7 Weeks Away!

The fourth [College Autism Summit](#) will take place October 27-30 in a virtual setting. Presenters will share expertise, ideas, strategies and struggles through an online platform that will make it easy to learn and network with practitioners, researchers, self-advocates and families around the world. We'll have over [50 sessions](#), panels and networking sessions. Early registration rates: \$109 for NASPA/CAN members, \$209 for non-members, \$100 for family members and K-12 professionals, \$75 for students (graduate and undergraduate).

Register by October 1 for the early rate!

Summit Closing Speaker: Anthony J. Pacilio, Vice President and Global Head of Autism at Work, JP Morgan Chase



Anthony J. Pacilio

Anthony was a Summit participant and panelist last year, and returns by popular demand. At JPMC, he manages recruiting efforts, as well as developing candidate pipelines and ensuring best practices for ongoing support. Anthony has been with JPMC eight years, serving in a variety of technology roles in Consumer and Community Banking. Prior to joining JPMC, he held various positions in the finance and healthcare industry. Anthony's previous companies include MBNA America, Bank of America and CIGNA.

Summit Opening Speaker: Robia Rashid, Creator of the Netflix Series “*Atypical*”



Robia Rashid

Join Robia Rashid and College Autism Network leader Brett Ranon Nachman for a conversation about Hollywood, autism, creativity and compassion, along with insights about season 4, due to premiere in early 2021.

Upcoming Webinar: Supporting Students with Autism (and Their Parents) Remotely and On Campus

Wednesday, September 16 at 3pm ET

Join a group of seasoned autism professionals to sharpen your skills supporting students with autism. **Invite colleagues who work with autistic students but have less experience and familiarity with autism to join as well.** Participants will:

- Hear about some of the common characteristics of autism and how these are manifested during times of uncertainty and stress
- Learn several critical strategies for effectively communicating with students with autism as they plan their fall semester and beyond
- Hear about techniques program staff have used to provide support, build community and connection, and increase the chances of academic and social success on campus, including peer programs, activity nights and journaling
- Be introduced to several strategies and approaches autism professionals have adopted to build alliances and set necessary limits with parents

Our presenters:

Laurie Ackles, Director, Spectrum Support Program, Rochester Institute of Technology

Sara Gardner, Program Director, Neurodiversity Navigators, Bellevue College

Ann-Marie Orlando, Associate Director, Center for Autism and Related Disabilities, University of Florida

Edlyn Pena, Associate Professor of Higher Education Leadership and Director of the Autism and Communication Center, California Lutheran University

Registration for this Live Briefing is \$29 for NASPA/CAN members and \$99 for non-members. NASPA and CAN membership info can be found [here](#). If you'd like to find out if your institution is a NASPA member, which significantly reduces the cost of an individual membership, email [Lee Williams](#).

[Register today](#)

New Toolkit and Online Course from Vanderbilt Team Focuses on Self-Determination

We're delighted to share with you a brand-new toolkit and online course for young adults on the autism spectrum. **“Supporting Teens and Young Adults on the Autism Spectrum: Setting and Pursuing Self-Determined Goals”** was produced through a collaborative effort of the [Vanderbilt Kennedy Center \(VKC\)](#), its [Treatment and Research Institute on Autism Spectrum Disorders \(VKC TRIAD\)](#), and the [First Center for Autism and Innovation](#). This plain-language toolkit is designed to help parents and caregivers, teachers, siblings, service providers, and others who support teens and young adults on the autism spectrum as they set and pursue self-determined goals. Teens and adults on the autism spectrum may also find this toolkit helpful, as well as those who support individuals with a range of disabilities. The PDF of the toolkit is free to print and share with interested families.

[Access a PDF of the toolkit](#)

[Sign up for the Course](#)

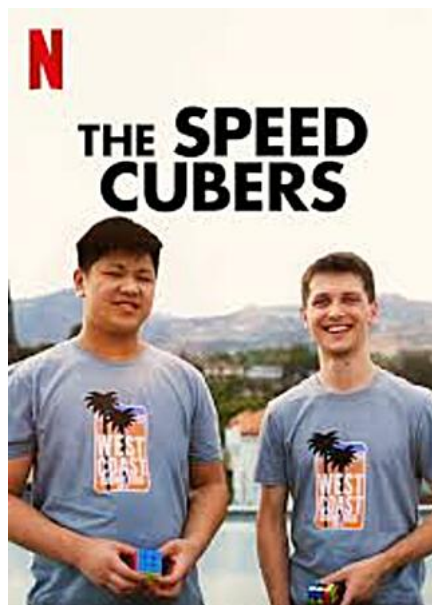
To take part in the online course, register for a free account at triad.vkclearning.org and access the information in the “Caregiver” folder. The course link is also available on <https://vkc.mc.vanderbilt.edu/vkc/resources/autism/> along with several other helpful autism resources. For a more detailed description of the project, [please watch this brief video \(less than 3 minutes\)](#) presented by principal investigator and

Vanderbilt Kennedy Center investigator Beth Malow, M.D., M.S., and First Center of Autism and Innovation director Keivan Stassun, Ph.D. In addition, [check out this blog post](#) written about the toolkit for Transition Tennessee's [Rise to Work blog series](#) by Janet Shouse, an avid disability advocate and parent of a young adult on the spectrum.

Please feel free to reach out to spectrum.forLIFE@vumc.org with any questions. We appreciate your help sharing this helpful resource with families of teens and young adults on the autism spectrum.

Netflix Documentary Worth Watching

Check out “The Speed Cubers,” a fascinating documentary on Netflix that highlights two of the world’s fastest Rubik’s Cube solvers. One of them, Max, is autistic, and his journey, and that of his family, is inspiring. And if you’ve never seen a world-class speed cuber, prepare to be awed.



[Watch the trailer](#)

The College Autism Network (CAN) is a division of [NASPA: Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education](#). If you have questions about CAN, the College Autism Summit, or would like to be added to our mailing list, please contact [Lee Burdette Williams](#).

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