

Subject: College Autism Network - July 2021 Updates
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COLLEGE AUTISM NETWORK
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College Autism Network Newsletter
July 2021

College Autism Summit Announces Speakers



Lydia X.Z. Brown [Photo: Black and white image of a young East Asian person with glasses smiling and laughing, looking slightly away from the camera. Photo by [Colin Pieters](#) for [I Identify As Me.](#)]

Join us (virtually) at the [Summit](#) October 26-29 for an outstanding professional development opportunity. We are thrilled to announce our opening keynote will be given by advocate, educator and attorney **Lydia X.Z. Brown** whose work addresses state and interpersonal violence targeting disabled people. Lydia is Director of

Policy, Advocacy and External Affairs at the Autistic Women and Nonbinary Network. Active on several campuses as an instructor, they are a lecturer in Georgetown University's Disability Studies Program.



DJ Savarese [Photo: Color image of a young white person with tinted glasses, looking directly at the camera. Pamela Harvey Photography]

Our closing speaker is **DJ Savarese**, co-producer, narrative commentator and subject of the Peabody Award-winning documentary *Deej: Inclusion Shouldn't Be a Lottery*. DJ is “an artful activist, public scholar and practicing optimist,” a graduate of Oberlin College and co-chair of the Alliance for Citizen Directed Support.



The Summit Call for Programs is Open! Deadline is August 1.

We invite proposals from practitioners, researchers, self-advocates, employers and employment specialists, mental health professionals--anyone with an interest in, and ideas about, supporting the success of autistic college students. To submit a proposal, [please visit the website](#).

Upcoming CANVAS Gathering: Friday, July 9 at 11am ET The Intersection of Libraries and Autism, with Dr. Amelia Anderson, Assistant Professor of Library & Information Studies, Darden College of Education and Professional Studies; Old Dominion University

Libraries are a comfortable place for many, and this can be especially true for autistic patrons who may appreciate the library's organization, structure, clear policies, quiet spaces (and loud spaces!), and opportunities to "geek out" around specific interests. Many autistic adults have also found careers in librarianship, from shelving books to working in upper administration. This talk describes the many intersections of libraries and autism that Dr. Anderson has explored over nearly a decade of work.

Meeting Link: <https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1450377320>

Meeting Agenda: [Sign up to attend here!](#)



Valuable Resource for Career Services Professionals

If you are one of your campus' few "experts" on autism, you may occasionally wish that some of your colleagues were a bit more up-to-speed on all things autistic. That might be especially true when it comes to career services staff who might benefit from a richer understanding of the unique talents, characteristics and needs of autistic students. [ACE](#) is for those colleagues! "[Autism Career Empowerment](#)" is a totally free, totally online curriculum designed for career services pros who might have autistic students on their caseloads. Please share this with them and encourage them to join you as one of your campus' experts on supporting autistic

students.



Singer Toni Braxton's Son Heads to Howard University

[This story highlights](#) the benefits of early diagnosis and hard work by a family to help their autistic child reach his potential. Toni Braxton's son has graduated from high school and is off to college. Family resources that allow top-notch private education make a difference. The question always is, what about the children of the not-so-famous? Here's hoping Diezel Braxton has a great experience at Howard.
