**Subject:** College Autism Network News and Notes

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**From:** College Autism Network

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## College Autism Network News and Notes

August 2023

### SOME SUMMIT PROGRAM TITLES TO WHET YOUR WHISTLE



#### Join us at the Summit! October 18-20 in Nashville TN

The College Autism Summit is a conference for professionals who support autistic college students and employees, researchers who focus on neurodiversity in their work, and autistic and neurodivergent self-advocates who want to inform the conversations taking place on campuses and in workplaces. We're excited about the

#### Newsletter Highlights

Some Summit Program
Titles to Whet Your Whistle

Early Bird Summit registration ends Aug 15

CANVAS Call on Resilience and Resistance Among Autistic Students

September Webinar will Explore HEARTS Healthy Dating Curriculum

Landmark College Offers ND Certificate and Courses

Mitchell College Gets a Pat on the Back from Yahoo, College of Staten Island Gets Big Grant from NS







quality and diversity of our programs, and hope you will be too. Here are a few of the 40 sessions you won't want to miss:

- Nothing About Us Without Us: Examining Sense of Belonging and College Success Through the Experiences of Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Effective Collaboration Between Faculty & Staff in Expansion of Neuro Inclusive Programming
- The Comprehensive Career Readiness Program: A Scaffolded Model for Neurodivergent Students
- Is Some (Somewhat Risky) Help Better than No Help?: The Perils and Rewards of Large Language Model Use by Autistic Workers
- London: As Experienced By Autistic Travelers

The deadline for Early Bird Registration is August 15. We hope to see you in Nashville on the beautiful Vanderbilt University campus. Many thanks to our platinum sponsors Wells Fargo, the Frist Center for Autism and Innovation and The Precisionists, Inc. for recognizing the importance of our conference.

Starting a new program? *Thinking about* starting a new program? Or looking to grow the one you have? You'll want to sign up for our preconference session, "Building, Expanding or Improving a College Program for Students with Autism," a three-hour workshop presented by Jane Thierfeld Brown and Amy Rutherford. Pre-registration is required.

#### CANVAS CALL ON RESILIENCE AND RESISTANCE AMONG AUTISTIC STUDENTS



Our next CANVAS call, open to all with an interest in the topic and in research:

Date: Friday, August 11 at 2 pm ET

Title: Acts of Resilience and Resistance: Persistence by

**Autistic College Students** 

Presenter: Dr. Carolyn O'Laughlin, Instructor, St. Louis

University

Description: In her recent narrative inquiry, multi-modal dissertation study, O'Laughlin critically examined the experiences autistic college students identify as leading to their persistence. In this presentation, she will focus on three points:

- Methodology: Specifically, ways that she considered her positionality as a non-autistic researcher and her commitment to an empowering experience for autistic participants.
- Findings: As a narrative inquiry study, the focus was on student stories. The resulting findings (Belonging, Relevance, and Making Space) are structured and presented using theater conventions.
- A look to the future: Suggestions for practical implications in postsecondary education and suggestions for future research.

Meeting Link: <a href="https://ncsu.zoom.us/j/97734485188">https://ncsu.zoom.us/j/97734485188</a>

Meeting Agenda: Sign up here

#### SEPTEMBER WEBINAR WILL EXPLORE HEARTS HEALTHY DATING CURRICULUM



Mark your calendar for Wednesday, September 6 at 4 pm

#### ET!

If you are seeking a tool to recommend to your students who are exploring dating and relationship strategies, HEARTS might be it.

As part of CAN's Foothills Academy webinar series, we invite you to join us for a one-hour webinar with Dr. Emily Rothman, co-developer of HEARTS, who will describe the content of the HEARTS class (a 12-session workshop for autistic adults who would like to learn about, and talk about, healthy friendship and dating relationships), how facilitators are trained, and how students can enroll in the October session.

This webinar is free for members of the College Autism Network. Register (or join CAN) here: <a href="https://collegeautismnetwork.org/home/training/foothills-collection/">https://collegeautismnetwork.org/home/training/foothills-collection/</a>

### LANDMARK COLLEGE OFFERS ND CERTIFICATE AND COURSES



August 20 is the application deadline for fall courses in Landmark College's highly-regarded online <u>certificate</u> <u>program in Learning Differences and Neurodiversity.</u>
Participants can take individual, 8-week courses or pursue a graduate-level certificate with a choice of specializations in Autism on Campus and Online, Executive Function, or Postsecondary Disability Services.

The certificate program draws an engaged group of educators, counselors, disability services professionals, parents, and neurodiversity advocates. Fall courses running September 8 - November 5 are:

- "Understanding and Supporting Diverse Learners"
- "Student Engagement, Self-Regulation, and Motivation".

Check out the certificate <u>website</u> or contact Carol Beninati, Certificate Program Coordinator, at <u>institute@landmark.edu</u> or (802) 387-1662

# MITCHELL COLLEGE GETS A PAT ON THE BACK FROM YAHOO, COLLEGE OF STATEN ISLAND GETS BIG GRANT FROM NSF



We love it when CAN member schools gets recognized for doing outstanding work supporting autistic and other neurodivergent students. This month we give two tips of the hat, one to <u>Mitchell College</u> in New London, CT, and the other to <u>College of Staten Island</u>, especially Dr. Kristen Gillespie-Lynch, for winning a \$1.3 million grant from the National Science Foundation for a program that pairs autistic college students with autistic high school students to support STEM interests.

This newsletter is published monthly by the <u>College Autism Network</u>, an independent 501(c)3 organization supporting the success of autistic college students and the professionals who work with them. Want to share an article? Feature an upcoming event? Post a job opportunity in autism support services? Our monthly newsletter reaches over 2000 self-advocates and professionals. Send it <u>to Lee</u> and we'll share it.

Was someone nice enough to forward this newsletter to you? We're happy to add you to our mailing list to receive it directly. <u>Send us a note.</u>

If you appreciate our work, please consider <u>joining CAN</u> to receive additional information and discounts on some of our resources and to support our work. Individual and organizational memberships are available.

The <u>College Autism Network</u> is supported in part by the <u>Frist Center for Autism and Innovation</u> at Vanderbilt University.

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