

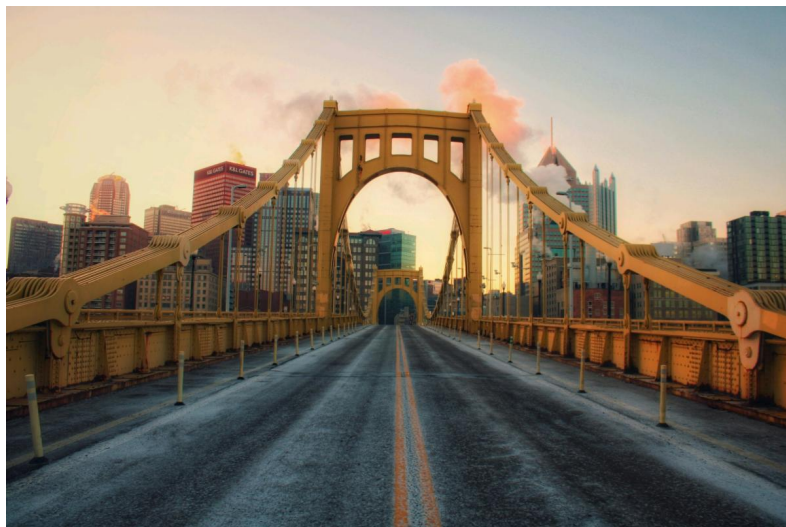
Subject: It's back to school! And CAN's September newsletter! What a week!
Date: Tuesday, September 2, 2025 at 11:43:24 AM Eastern Daylight Time
From: College Autism Network
To: brittany@collegeautismnetwork.org



College Autism Network News and Notes

September 2025

CAN YOU CARRY A TUNE? NO? WE STILL WANT YOU THERE!



We dare you--DARE YOU!--to listen to this rarity, [a song about Pittsburgh](#), and not hum it to yourself the rest of the day. Is that a good thing? We don't know. Guess it depends on what your co-workers think of your musical prowess. And music from the 1950s.

Regardless, we hope it inspires you to punch your ticket to the show...to the Big Dance...to the best little conference around. Because--Pittsburgh! See you at the Summit in

Newsletter Highlights

Sing Along with CAN. No, Really.

Some Summit Sessions on the Schedule

Summit Preconference Opportunities--Register Soon!

Seeking Undergraduate Students for Summit; Scholarships Available

September's CANVAS Call

Frist Center Hosts Neurotech Frontiers Event

Interesting Stuff from Around the Internet

Membership Option for CAN Community Members in Need



November! Early Bird Rates End September 7

[Register Here!](#)

WHO'S PRESENTING AT THE SUMMIT? AND WHAT ARE THEY TALKING ABOUT?



Our [Summit schedule](#) has been mostly built, and now you can begin to see what your time in Pittsburgh promises. Here's another batch of upcoming sessions:

- *Creating Sustainable Lives: How Autistic Students Can Thrive in Graduate School*
- *Path to Employment: Strategies and Tools to Enable Success During the Job Search Process for Neurodivergent Students*
- *Bridges to Belonging: An Innovative Neuro-Affirming Therapy Groups Program*
- *Crossing Campus Bridges: A Blueprint for Interdepartmental Collaboration*
- *Bridging the Generations: Succession Planning for Neurodivergent Student Organizations*
- *Autistic-Centered Networks: Building Constellations of Mutual Care*
- *Parent Perspectives on College Transition for Autistic Students: Insights, Assumptions, and Expectations*

And so many others! We have five “tracks” (tracksuits not necessary) to help you identify the best sessions for your professional goals: Intersectionality and Identity, Advocacy and Research, Best Practices and Innovation, Employer/Employee Support and Readiness and Campus Life. Or you can mix it up. We also have networking activities, sponsors and exhibitors eager to meet attendees, adorable therapy dogs, plenary speakers and panels, a button-maker, a Quiet Room, and posters

reflecting some of the most interesting work going on in this field.

[Registration is now open.](#) The Early Bird Deadline is **September 7**, so register soon for the best rate and a chance to book a room in our conference hotel.

SUMMIT PRECONFERENCE OPPORTUNITIES--REGISTER SOON!



We are offering three preconference activities on Sunday afternoon, November 2:

- *Program Leaders' Collaborative*: a chance to network, learn from and encourage one another, sponsored by Dell Technologies;
- *Employers Connection Series*: a collection of sessions, conversations and networking opportunities for those who have neuroinclusive employment initiatives and those who want to have them (Sunday afternoon and all day Monday), sponsored by PNC Bank;
- *Summit Student Experience*: a learning and networking opportunity for autistic undergraduates who want to become leaders and scholars in this field, sponsored by Mansfield Hall;

Join us in Pittsburgh, November 2-5, for an outstanding professional development opportunity. [Register now](#) to get our early rates and a reasonably-priced Heavenly Bed™ at the Westin!

Special thanks go out to our Diamond Sponsor, Landmark

College, our Platinum Sponsors LifeWorks and PNC Bank, and our Student Scholarship Sponsor, the Frist Center for Autism and Innovation.



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**SEEKING STUDENTS TO ATTEND THE
SUMMIT**



If you know an autistic or similarly neurodivergent undergraduate student who is interested in developing their national network and leadership skills, please encourage them to attend the College Autism Summit.

Our Student Experience track is designed to connect autistic students across the country and beyond and amplify autistic voices in campus conversations.

We offer travel stipends of \$500 each and a registration waiver for ten students. We also offer a 50 percent registration discount (\$250) for undergraduates who participate in the Student Experience at the Summit.

For more information, visit our [website](#).

UPCOMING CANVAS CALL, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18



Join the CANVAS (CAN Virtual Association of Scholars--one of our best acronyms) on Thursday, September 18 at 12 pm ET for a research talk: *“Belonging on Their Terms:*

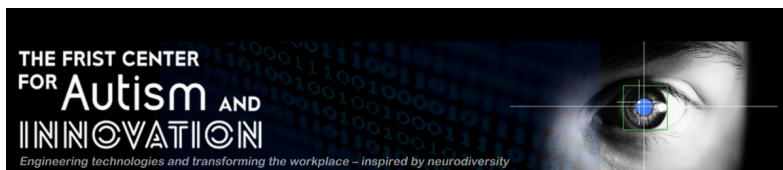
Friendship Experiences of Autistic College Students” with Katie Tobin McDermott (Consultant) and Dr. Karly Ball Isaacson (Michigan State University).

Meeting Link: <https://pitt.zoom.us/j/94625574235>

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

If you are not currently on the CANVAS list, please [email Dr. Brett Nachman](#) to be added to the list. You’ll then get reminders of each presentation with a link to join the session.

FRIST CENTER HOSTS NEUROTECH FRONTIERS EVENT OCTOBER 10-12 IN NASHVILLE



[Neurotech Frontiers Summit 2025](#) is a national gathering where researchers, technologists, entrepreneurs, clinicians, and neurodivergent individuals come together to shape the future of assistive and inclusive technology.

Presented by the Frist Center for Autism and Innovation at Vanderbilt University, this event showcases advances in artificial intelligence, robotics, software platforms, and assistive devices that empower individuals with autism, ADHD, learning differences, and other forms of cognitive diversity. [Get your ticket and more info here.](#)

INTERESTING STUFF FROM THE INTERNET



From the “Things We Pretty Much Already Know But It’s Nice When Research Confirms It” department, [here’s a story](#) about recent research that shows autistic students experience depression and anxiety more than their neurotypical peers. Why do you suppose that is?

The “ongoing survey of college students in America” referenced here is the National Study of Student Engagement, and if you want to read the actual article, not just the media-friendly précis, *and* your institution has a Springer subscription, you can access it [here](#).

MEMBERSHIP OPTION FOR CAN COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN NEED



If you have lost your position or your program has lost its funding due to the current political climate, we’ve got you covered. You can join or renew your CAN membership for just \$25 for the coming year. We want to keep you connected to the CAN community!

This newsletter is published monthly by the [College Autism Network](#), 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 3000 self-advocates and professionals. Send it [to Lee](#) 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. [Send us a note.](#)

If you appreciate our work, please consider [joining CAN](#) to receive additional information and discounts on some of our resources and to support our work. Individual and organizational memberships are available.

The [College Autism Network](#) is supported by the [Frist Center for Autism and Innovation](#) at Vanderbilt University.

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