Nebraska ASD Network's
13th Annual Conference
April 7th & 8th, 2016
Embassy Suites, La Vista NE

Register Soon!
Early Bird Registration Ends February 2nd, 2016

Keynote Speakers

**Kari Dunn Buron** taught in the K-12 public school system with students on the autism spectrum for 30+ years and was a founding member of the MN Autism Project. She developed an Autism Spectrum Disorders Certificate program for educators at Hamline University in St. Paul, MN and is on the Advisory Board for the Autism Society of Trinidad and Tobago; Life College in MN and the Autism Society of MN.

Kari is the co-author of The Incredible 5-Point Scale (Revised Edition), and the author of When My Worries Get Too Big (Revised Edition and winner of the 2013 Mom's Choice Award), A 5 Could Make Me Lose Control and A 5 is Against the Law! (2008 ASA literary award winner).

**Dr. Adolph Brown** is the Founder, President, and CEO of The Leadership & Learning Institute. As a former public school educator & credentialed administrator, full tenured university professor, university dean & businessman, Dr. Brown has studied and worked alongside highly successful leaders & educators. He has taken his 25+ years experience and has developed core competencies that are expressed in everything successful business leaders and educators do.

Kari Dunn Buron
Thursday Keynote
8:30-10:00 AM

Dr. Adolph Brown
As a noted business and education humorist, Dr. Adolph Brown entertains you as he relays his professional experiences coupled with his evidence-based & data-driven research in his hilarious and heartwarming style. His mantra upon entering each new venue is, "Learn More & Laugh Louder!™"

Dr. Lynn Kern Koegel, the Clinical Director of Autism Services in the UCSB Autism Research Center and the Director of the Eli and Edythe L. Broad Center for Asperger's Research, has been active in the development of programs to improve communication in children with autism, including the development of first words, grammatical structures, pragmatics, and social conversation. In addition to her published books and articles in the area of communication and language development, she has developed and published procedures and field manuals in the area of self-management and functional analysis that are used in school districts and by parents throughout the United States, as well as translated into other major languages. Dr. Lynn Koegel is the author of Overcoming Autism and, most recently, Growing Up on the Spectrum with parent Claire LaZebnik.

Matt McNiff, PhD, is a behavior consultant with the Educational Service Unit No. 5 in Beatrice, NE where he works with nine school districts to help teachers and administrators develop ways to help students with behavior concerns. With over 20 years of experience in the field, Dr. McNiff has worked with thousands of students with behavioral challenges and grades ranging from early childhood to high school and transitional programming. Dr. McNiff specializes in helping teachers to develop programs that will reduce problematic behaviors and increase academic time. His presentations are known for being positive, humorous and engaging and are full of easy to use strategies and examples that can be used quickly with even the toughest to reach children. He also speaks to groups around the nation on how to reduce rude and defiant behavior in children.

Brenda McNiff, EdD is the special education director

Friday Keynote
8:30-10:00 AM

Dr. Lynn Koegel
Friday Keynote
2:15-3:30 PM

Matt and Brenda McNiff
Thursday Evening Dinner Keynote
6:00-7:15 PM

Both Brenda and Matt share a life with two talented and energetic young boys, Jackson and Ben. At the age of 1 year, Ben was diagnosed with classic autism and he opened their world to a new viewpoint by being parents of a child with special needs. Their
for the Educational Service Unit No. 5 in Beatrice, NE. Dr. McNiff has had a long history of working with children with special needs as a high school teacher, guidance counselor, principal, transition specialist, professional developer and special education director. Dr. McNiff's research focuses on communication between school districts and families with the IEP process and she has a passion for creating innovative ways to bring schools and families together to work as partners to improve programming for students with special needs.

journey has led them to a better understanding of how to improve communication and establish partnerships between schools and families to receive the best services possible for special needs students. Together, they enjoy the opportunity to share their story with other families and professionals in order to show the value of what working together can do to change the life of one.

Conference Basics

**Schedule:**
In addition to Keynote presentations there will be a variety of breakout sessions on Thursday and Friday, including a strand for Speech Language Pathologists. A detailed conference schedule with breakout session information will be sent out prior to the conference.

**Continuing Education Units (CEUs):**
The ASD Network conference will provide an opportunity for those who attend to earn continuing education credits through a variety of licensing boards. To facilitate this, a certificate of attendance will be given upon completion of the conference enabling each person to share this information with their professional organization. We are applying for ASHA CEUs for this conference.

**New this year:**
A conference App will be available to all attendees. The app will contain conference session handouts as an alternative to printed materials. Information on downloading the app will be sent out in March.

**Materials:**
If you would like a printed version of the conference handouts one can be purchased for $10 at the time of registration.

Spanish translation services will be provided for all keynotes and select breakout sessions at the conference.
Registration Information

To Register: [https://cehssecure2.unl.edu/ccp/asdnetwork](https://cehssecure2.unl.edu/ccp/asdnetwork)

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For more information please visit our website at: [www.unl.edu/asdnetwork](http://www.unl.edu/asdnetwork)

Hotel Accommodations

**Embassy Suites**

- Conference Rate
  - $144.00
- Reservation Webpage
  - Group code: ASD
  - rate valid until 3/7/16
- Phone Number
  - 402-331-7400
- Address
  - 12520 Westport Pkwy, La Vista, NE

**Courtyard by Marriott**

- Conference Rate
  - $124.00
- Reservation Webpage
  - Group code: ASDR
  - rate valid until 3/14/16
- Phone #
  - 402-339-4900
- Address
  - 12560 Westport Pkwy, La Vista, NE

Registration fees are used to cover the cost of all food expenses. No food expenses are paid for with federal grant funds.

Conference Registration Grants for Family Members and Individuals with ASD are available through the Autism Society of Nebraska for more information please visit their website: [www.autismnebraska.org](http://www.autismnebraska.org)

*conference grants are for registration costs only

This material was developed under a grant from the Nebraska Department of Education, IDEA parts B and C from the U.S. Department of Education. However, this content does not necessarily represent the policy of the U.S. Department of Education and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.

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