

Evolving Perspectives: Autistic Thinking in Changed Times

Middletown Centre for Autism will present its fourth international conference online on **Friday 23 and Saturday 24 April 2021**.

OBJECTIVE

The conference will address the post-COVID world with a panel of speakers who will facilitate a reflection on growth, adaptation and resilience in a changing and changed world.



SPEAKERS

BARRY PRIZANT



Barry Prizant with 50 years' experience, is among the world's leading authorities on autism, and is recognized as an innovator of respectful, person and family centered approaches for individuals with autism and neurodevelopmental conditions.

RICHARD GRINKER



Richard Grinker Author of the highly acclaimed book 'Nobody's Normal', Richard is Professor of Anthropology at the Geo Washington University in Washington.

MAJA TOUDAL



Maja Toudal An autistic psychologist, speaker, self-advocate and author, Maja has worked in autism communication for more than a decade.

STEPHEN SHORE



Stephen Shore A professor at Adelphi University, Stephen's research focuses on matching best practice to the needs of people with autism. He shares examples from his own life, as a academic, on the autism spectrum.

JED BAKER



Jed Baker Jed Baker the director of the Social Skills Training Project, an organisation serving individuals with autism and social communication problems.

JODY O'NEILL



Jody O'Neill Jody is an award-winning autistic writer and performer with over 15 years' experience working in the theatre, film and TV sector in Ireland and internationally.

Schedule-Day One

DAY ONE | Friday 23 April 2021

09.15 Check in
 09.30 Welcome and Introduction - Gary Cooper, CEO, Middletown Centre for Autism
 09.40 Keynote: Neurodiversity in Action - Barry Prizant
 10.40 Break
 11.00 Seminars
 ONE - Barry Prizant leads a workshop entitled Uniquely Human
 TWO - The Middletown team will discuss the Centre's recently published book on Autism and Anxiety Management
 12.00 Break for Lunch
 12.45 Keynote: Nobody's Normal - Richard Grinker
 13.45 Middletown Centre for Autism's work and resources: this session focuses on The Centre's work in schools
 14.15 Comfort break
 14.30 Keynote: Being Autistic in a Time of Uncertainty - Stephen Shore
 15.30 Question and answer session
 16.00 Close

Schedule- Day Two

DAY TWO | Saturday 24 April 2021

09.00 Check in
 09.30 Welcome and Introduction - Gary Cooper, CEO, Middletown Centre for Autism
 09.40 Keynote: Quality of Life and Stress Management in Autism - Maja Toudal
 10.40 Break
 11.00 Seminars
 ONE - Maja Toudal provides further detail on stress management strategies
 TWO - Autistic writer and performer Jody O'Neill discusses her recent production 'What I (Don't) know About Autism'
 12.00 Break for Lunch
 12.45 Keynote: What I (don't) Know About Autism - Jody O'Neill
 13.45 Middletown Centre for Autism's work and resources: this session focuses on The Centre's work with families
 14.15 Comfort break
 14.30 Keynote: Practical Strategies for Managing Anxiety - Jed Baker
 15.30 Question and answer session
 16.00 Closing remarks

Frequently Asked Questions...

Is the conference free?
 Yes all you have to do is register using this link:
<https://eventfulbelfast.eventsair.com/mca/register/Site/Register>

How long does it take to sign up?
 No more than 5 minutes!

How is the conference being held?
 Online

How do I join the conference?
 A link to join event will be issued a couple of days prior to the event.

How long do I have to view recordings and materials?
 Recordings and materials from the sessions will also be available for two weeks after the event.

If you have any questions ahead of the event, please email:
info@event-fair.co.uk



Department of
Education
www.education-ni.gov.uk



An Roinn Oideachais
 Department of Education

www.middletownautism.com
 35 Church Street, Middletown, Co. Armagh BT60 4HZ Telephone: 0044 (28) 3751 5750