

# **AUTISM SOCIETY**

*Improving the Lives of All Affected by Autism*



*Nebraska*

**MARCH 2, 2011**

**NEWSGRAM**



By the way, we love our walk logo and we LOVE that it came from you!

**Who better to speak for our community...than our community!**

The 2011 Autism Puzzle Walk is getting closer. Can you feel the excitement? We are putting the finishing touches on the brochures, posters and tweaking our web site. Soon we'll be asking you to register for the event and encouraging you to build your online fundraising pages. Every year we have had an Autism Puzzle walk video made available to try to put a face to our cause. We've included autism statistics and photos from our community. But this year we thought about why only one? Why not present several options to our participants? We all have our stories and we all have our experiences on this journey.

So we are putting a call out to YOU...the autism community! Please tell us the story of your journey! Please create a 2-4 minute video showing your journey and what supporting the Autism Puzzle Walk means to you and your family!

We would like to capitalize on our theme, "Autism is a Journey" and have videos made from within our community. We want submissions from Moms, Dads, teachers, aunts or uncles. Brothers, sisters, daughters...no matter your relationship to the autism community we would love to have you share it!

Submissions should be uploaded onto your own youtube account with the URL sent to [autismsociety@autismnebraska.org](mailto:autismsociety@autismnebraska.org). Videos must be received by Friday March 18, 2011. The Walk committee will then select the top submissions to be made available on our web site. There it will be available to all walk participants to share on their own personal Firstgiving fundraising pages.



A few rules :

1. 2—4 minute video. Posted on Youtube with the direct URL submitted to the Autism Society. Videos more than 4 minutes will not be included.
2. No music can be utilized unless it is freeware or public domain. You must show written proof of permission to use for any mainstream copy write protected music.
3. If you need additional photos of people from our community to incorporate into your video, please email [autismsociety@autismnebraska.org](mailto:autismsociety@autismnebraska.org). We will try to obtain photos from members of our community and make them available to anyone needing them. Any photos on the ASN ([www.autismnebraska.org](http://www.autismnebraska.org)) website are allowed to be downloaded and incorporated into this project.
4. The Autism Society of Nebraska reserves the right to reject any video not reflecting the spirit of the 'Autism is a Journey' theme or that isn't in the spirit of the Autism Puzzle Walk.
5. By submitting a video to this contest, you grant ASN an irrevocable, royalty free license to copy, distribute, modify, display and perform publicly, and otherwise use, as well as authorize others to use your video for any relevant purpose.

**Let the creativity begin!**

# WALK News

We are still looking for community partners to help sponsor the 2011 Autism Puzzle Walk. Are you interested in sponsoring or do you know someone who might? Our most amazing supporters tend to come from those who know our families personally.

So as a member of our community please take a few moments and consider if you might know anyone who would like to help support the Nebraska Autism Community!

[2011 Sponsorship Letter](#)  
[Sponsorship Levels](#)  
[Sponsorship Commitment Form](#)

\*\*In order to have a company's logo included on brochures and T shirts we must have their information prior to **March 4, 2011**. However, TEAMMATE (\$250) and FRIEND (\$100) level sponsorship can be taken up until the walk date!

## Pancake Feed Fundraiser for the Autism Puzzle Walk

Join UNO NSSLHA for their Annual Pancake Feed to raise funds for the Autism Puzzle Walk! Download a flyer [HERE](#).

Sunday, March 6, 2011

UNO Thompson Alumni Center

6705 Dodge St

4:00pm—7:30pm

\$5 adult

\$4 child



The 2011 Autism Walk  
will be  
Saturday, April 30th!

 **AUTISM SOCIETY**  
*Improving the Lives of All Affected by Autism*  
Nebraska

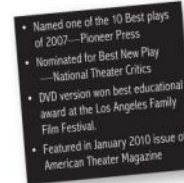


“Autistic License is a docudrama, a true-to-life play that takes audiences on the rollercoaster ride of raising a child with autism. It’s a sometimes exhausting, sometimes exhilarating, frequently terrifying trip that informs, enlightens and entertains. Dinner-Levin knows her material cold and delivers it with unflinching honesty.” ~Pioneer Press



A PLAY  
BY STACEY DINNER-LEVIN

MARCH  
4-27



Autistic License is the autobiographical account of one family’s journey to raise a son with autism. From the time that her child is diagnosed at age three, “Mom” leads us through the challenges and milestones of living with autism. An omnipresent interviewer acts not so much as a guide, but rather a sounding board, as she moves along this uncharted path. We learn from her experiences, the impact this disability has on her marriage, and family, while witnessing first hand the best and the worst of people who encounter her son in the outside world. As a result of living with disability, not only does the family come to a greater understanding and appreciation of the uniqueness of this child, they also gain greater depths as individuals.

### **AND GREAT NEWS FOR YOU!**

The amazing folks at SNAP Productions and the Shelterbelt Theater understand that for families living with autism every dollar matters and have graciously agreed to let the Autism Society and our extended community purchase tickets at a reduced cost!

Please join us during the opening weekend (March 4-6) for only \$7 a ticket! Be sure and come out during the opening weekend so that you can meet the playwright, Stacey Dinner-Levin! She will be having a Q & A session on March 4th and March 5th!

Can’t make it opening weekend? No problem. Let them know you are with the Autism Society and you can still get your tickets for \$10 for the remainder of the run! Visit their web site to order your tickets!

[www.snapproductions.com/season\\_2011/Autistic\\_main.html](http://www.snapproductions.com/season_2011/Autistic_main.html)

**It takes a village to raise a child and we truly have to rely on all of the villagers when it comes to our special needs children!**



**Thank you to all of the professionals out there helping serve our families!**

# 2011 State Autism Conference

## IMAGINE THE POSSIBILITIES

REGISTRATION IS OPEN! DOWNLOAD A CONFERENCE FLYER [HERE](#).

**[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)**

The 2011 ASD State Conference will feature over 25 breakout sessions. Topics and themes include: Assistive Technology, Evidence Based Practices, Positive Approaches to Problem Behaviors, Social Thinking, Communication Interventions, and much more. This is going to be a great conference so register soon to make sure you get a seat!

A Parent Breakout Strand will be offered throughout the conference with topics specifically designed for parents and family members. This strand is sponsored in part by the Autism Society of Nebraska.

A Panel of Individuals on the Autism Spectrum will discuss their experiences in middle school, high school, college and beyond.

New to the conference this year will be Networking Sessions which will include informal meeting and collaboration rooms for Parents, Support Group Leaders, Ziggurat Model Users, Best Practices in Assessment, STEPS/District Leadership Participants, and Assistive Technology.

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Scholarships for family members and individuals with ASD are available through the Autism Society of Nebraska. Learn more about our scholarship program [HERE](#).

**NEW THIS YEAR!** Autism Society of Nebraska members can save 25%! Email us today at [autismsociety@autismnebraska.org](mailto:autismsociety@autismnebraska.org) to find out how to save 25% on your state conference registration!

**NEW THIS YEAR!** Childcare will be provided by the Autism Society of Nebraska during the Thursday evening dinner/keynote presentation. This is first come first served and you must pre-register! To help us ensure adequate staffing you must complete your registration form prior to April 1st! Download a registration form [HERE](#).

# 2011 Autism Society of Nebraska Awards

## EXCELLENCE IN AUTISM Award

Every year the Autism Society of Nebraska awards an individual who shows outstanding commitment to the Autism Community. Anyone who touches the lives of individuals with ASD's is eligible. This award will be presented at the State Autism Conference on April 7th in Omaha.

Nominations should be emailed to the Nomination committee at [autismsociety@autismnebraska.org](mailto:autismsociety@autismnebraska.org) prior to March 15, 2011.

Please include the name of the person being nominated, contact information for yourself and the nominee, and a one page narrative on why you think this person should be awarded the Excellence in autism Award from the Autism Society of Nebraska.

Please help us honor those who work so diligently to improve the lives of those affected by autism!

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## Dan Archwamety Post Secondary Scholarship

The Autism Society is seeking applications for the Dan Archwamety Post Secondary Education Scholarship. A scholarship up to \$500 is available this year for an individual with a diagnosis of ASD. The scholarship must be used toward completing an accredited post-secondary course of study (educational or vocational). Applicant must be currently registered / admitted for the program.

This scholarship will be presented at the Nebraska State ASD Conference on Thursday, April 7th in Omaha. Persons who have already received this scholarship will not be eligible. Download the scholarship form [HERE](#).

The Dan Archwamety scholarship was created to give hope, affirmation, and some financial help to you people diagnosed with an Autism Spectrum Disorder who plan to continue their schooling after high school. Dan died on June 1, 1997, as a result of a bike-truck accident, shortly after he completed his sophomore year at the University of Nebraska—Kearney. Dan's family describes him as "an above average student who really had to study hard for the good grades he earned". Dan worked equally hard to learn how to socialize with other students, both his classmates and those who lived at his dorm.

The day after he died, two letters arrived from UNK, awarding him two different scholarships for his junior year. At his funeral service a fellow student confided that she had no idea that he had a disability. She thought he was much more mature than the other college boys because he would offer to help her and other students in the computer lab.

Dan did not live to receive his scholarships, but he would be very happy to know that the memorials people gave to honor his life are helping other deserving young people with ASD to achieve their dreams.

## **You are invited to the Capitol on March 9th**

**You are invited** to join the board members from the Autism Family Network & the Autism Society of Nebraska as we gather in support of Autism Speaks at the Capitol on March 9 at 1:30 p.m. as Governor Heineman proclaims April as Autism Awareness Month and April 1, 2011 as World Autism Day in Nebraska.

We will meet March 9 @ 1:30pm at the State Capitol in the Warner Chamber which is on the second floor across from the Rotunda. Everyone is welcome; parents, grandparents, kids, siblings, aunts and uncles and even children of those on the spectrum!

Please join us in support of those affected by autism!

Here is a copy of the proclamation:

*Autism Speaks together with The Autism Family Network and Autism Society of Nebraska would like to proclaim April as Autism Awareness Month and World Autism Awareness Day on April 1, 2011. During the month of April, local and national autism organizations will work to educate the public about autism spectrum disorders, as well as inform parents and professionals about available services. We encourage all Nebraskans to work together to ensure that individuals with autism spectrum disorders are accurately diagnosed and treated with equal rights, respect, and dignity throughout their lives. By joining autism organizations all around the world, we will give a voice to the millions of individuals worldwide who are undiagnosed, misunderstood and looking for help. Please join us in our effort to inspire compassion, inclusion and hope.*

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## **Autism Event at Lincoln Children's Museum**

**Monday, May 2**

**3:00 pm—7:00 pm**

During this event, the museum will be dedicated to families with at least one member falling on the Autism Spectrum. It will be free admission, and they will be making several unique modifications to the museum space:

- reduced lighting
  - no overhead music
  - extra building-themed activities (like Lego's, KEVA planks, Zoob, etc)
  - classrooms will be set up as "calm rooms" if anyone needs a quiet place to get away
- 

## **Parents Encourage Parents Conference (PEP)**

Are you a Nebraska parent of a child with special needs? Does your child have an IFSP or IEP? Then this conference is for you! Download a registration form and flyer [HERE](#).

MARCH 17-19

Midtown Holiday Inn

Grand Island, NE

Sponsored by Nebraska Department of Education, Office of Special Education, & ESU 16

# Discovery Toys Fundraiser

We are always thankful for our community!

Amy Schnacker is an Occupational Therapist and Educational consultant in central Nebraska. She is also a consultant with Discovery Toys. She has reached out to the Autism Society and has pledged to donate her personal commission on all sales from January 24—April 7 back to our community! Thank you Amy!

Here is a link to her discovery toys web site.  
<http://www.discoverytoyslink.com/esuite/home/amyschnacker>

And [HERE](#) is a flyer. Great products and a great cause!

(And THANK YOU Amy!)



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## OMAHA: Future Horizon's Publishing hosts Autism/Aspergers Super Conference

March 24-25, 2011

Embassy Suites, 12520 Westport Pkwy, La Vista, NE

Keynote speakers to include:

Dr. Temple Grandin  
Dr. John F Taylor  
Dr. Jed Baker  
Carol Kranowitz, M.A.

Download a flyer [HERE](#).

\*\*Please note that this is different than the Nebraska State Autism Conference. The State Autism Conference will be held April 7-8th at this same location. This March 24-25 conference is being sponsored by Future Horizons Publishing. You can learn more about them at [www.fhautism.com](http://www.fhautism.com).

## Henry Doorly Zoo Autism Overnight!



April 16 at 6pm

We will stay overnight in the aquarium and have a behind the scenes tour of some animal exhibits. You get to spend the night sleeping with the fish!

You will be able to enjoy the zoo the following day after donuts and juice. The cost of the overnight stay is \$28 per person.

This event is in conjunction with our friends at the Autism Family Network and space is limited so RSVP today to [autismsociety@autismnebraska.org](mailto:autismsociety@autismnebraska.org)

**We still have a few more spaces! RSVP Deadline is March 26th**

## OMAHA: Paula Kluth—Your going to love this kid!

Date: Thursday, March 24, 2011

Location: Nebraska Children's Home Society, 4939 S. 118th St., Omaha, Nebraska

Time: 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Audience: Parents, Teachers, Special Education Directors, Principals

ESU #3 will sponsor Dr. Paula Kluth for an evening presentation. Dr. Kluth's presentation "You're Going to Love This Kid" focuses on practical ways to support special education students within a general education classroom. Topics addressed include differentiating instruction, creating more active and responsive lessons, making the classroom comfortable and providing opportunities for communication and social skill development. The session will focus on the importance of pushing beyond access and participation and asking schools to challenge students and understand each learner as complex and capable.

Dr. Kluth is a consultant, teacher, author, advocate and independent scholar who works collaboratively with teachers and families to provide inclusive opportunities for students with disabilities and to create more responsive and engaging schooling experiences for all learners. Paula is a former special educator who has served as a classroom teacher, consulting teacher, and inclusion facilitator. She works with teachers in K-12 schools, pre-schools, and early intervention programs. She also regularly works with family organizations and disability-rights and advocacy groups.

Download a flyer [HERE](#) for registration information.

# Parent/Caregiver Training Event & Safety Expo

Thursday, 4/28/11

5:30pm - 8:30pm

This event is for those who want to ensure the safety of a child or young adult with special needs.

Parents, family members, caregivers  
Educators  
Human Services Professionals  
Adult & child care workers  
College & medical students



Schedules are hectic and life is stressful. Why should you make plans to attend? This event is the first of its size in Nebraska. Not only will you be getting tips and training from national speaker and trainer Dennis Debbaudt, but there's a Safety Expo! Before and after the training session, businesses and organizations that are committed to protecting and ensuring safety of Nebraska's special needs children and young adults will be on display. The first 200 participants will receive a FREE gift bag!

Dennis Debbaudt will be conducting a training session in which everyone will walk away with ideas and plans designed to lower the risk and increase safety for every child or adult living with a developmental disability. Topics include:

How to develop an Emergency Response Plan  
Learn safety at home, on campus, and when traveling  
How to register with your local 911 registry  
Develop partnerships with emergency response agencies

This training is FREE OF CHARGE – but RSVP is required. Space is limited. Please make plans to attend and save the date!

## ASD Network: SE Regional Newsletter

The Nebraska ASD Network is an amazing resource for families and professionals in our state. If you haven't already met your regional coordinator, do it now! Also be sure and check out their statewide web site as well as their regional pages for training opportunities near you! [www.unl.edu/asdnetwork](http://www.unl.edu/asdnetwork)

[HERE](#) is the SE Region's February Newsletter. This is a great resource to check out. Print them off. Take them to school. Teachers...put them in the teachers lounge.

## **OMAHA: March Support Group—Topic: Dental Care and ASD**

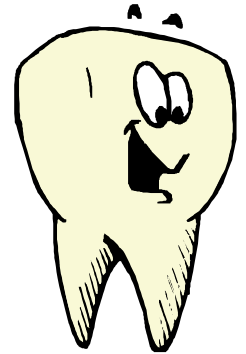
Join us at Pump It Up - The Original Inflatable Party Zone - for a night of bouncing, jumping and climbing! This will be a private event for families with children on the autism spectrum.

WHO: All Autism Families

WHEN: Monday, March 7, 2011  
6:00pm - 8:00pm

WHERE: Pump It Up 960 S 72nd (72nd and Pacific)

COST: \$5 per child (\$10 maximum charge per family)



Visit our web site at [www.autismnebraska.org/omaha](http://www.autismnebraska.org/omaha) to learn more about how this night can work for your family!

This month we will be having a guest speaker, Kristen Lorenzen. Kristen has a sibling on the autism spectrum and is completing her education in dental hygiene. Since the Autism Society listserv recently had LOTS of discussion on dental care and sensory issues, Kristen asked to come share her research on overcoming sensory issues to achieve proper oral care as well for some tips for preparing our loved ones to visit the dentist.

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## **OMAHA: Biomedical Discussion Group**

The Biomedical Discussion group meets Thursday March 17 7pm at Whole Foods in the Lifestyle Center room. Whole Foods is located just south of the Westroads mall at Regency and Dodge. This is a discussion forum for those families currently involved in biomedical treatments. Contact Chrissy Cameron [chrissycameron@cox.net](mailto:chrissycameron@cox.net) or Karen Falconer Al-Hindi [karen.alhindi@gmail.com](mailto:karen.alhindi@gmail.com) for more information.

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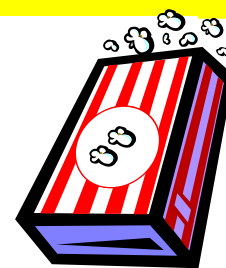
## **OMAHA: Movin' and Groovin'**

TheraPlayce is offering an exercise and fitness program for children with special needs. They will focus on getting your child up and moving in activities to help increase bone and muscle growth/strength, motor control, and function, and cardiovascular endurance. As your child's strength and endurance increases you will also see an increase in self esteem, socialization skills and attention. The classes will be run by an Occupational Therapist, Physical Therapist Assistant and a Certified Speech Language Pathologist.

Visit their website [HERE](#) for more information or to download a registration form.

## SENSORY FRIENDLY FILMS

The Autism Society is very thankful to AMC Entertainment for their leadership in bringing families affected by autism and other disabilities a special opportunity to enjoy their favorite films in a safe and accepting environment. We have now had almost two full years of Sensory Friendly Movies here in Omaha and for many of our families this has been an amazing way to overcome some of the isolation we as a community tend to experience.



A movie is something that so many in society take for granted but for those with sensory issues it can be very difficult. For some, walking into a dark theater is terrifying. For others the heart pounding sound system is too much to handle. 2 hours is an awful long time to sit still and for many of our community it is just not possible for them to be totally silent for the entire showing.

So what is a *sensory friendly* movie? This is a movie venue that is accommodating to YOUR needs! The auditorium will have their lights brought up, the sound turned down, and a silence policy will not be enforced. AMC showings do not have previews so plan to arrive on time!

We are thrilled to announce additional sensory friendly opportunities in the area! First of all, AMC has expanded their theaters there are now sensory friendly showings at the AMC –Star 17 theater in Council Bluffs! Also Marcus Theatre has recently developed their own program called **Reel Movies for Real Needs** and there are two Nebraska theatres participating. You can learn more about the Marcus Theatre program [here](#) as some of their accommodations vary.

### Mars Needs Moms

**Saturday, March 12**

OMAHA: **10:00 am**  
**Oakview 24 Theater (AMC Theatre)**  
 3555 S 140th Plaza

**COUNCIL BLUFFS: 10:00 am**  
**Council Bluffs Star 17 Cinema (AMC Theater)**  
 3220 23rd Avenue

### Hop

**Saturday, April 2**

OMAHA:: **10:00 am**  
**Oakview 24 Theater (AMC Theatre)**  
 3555 S 140th Plaza

**COUNCIL BLUFFS: 10:00 am**  
**Council Bluffs Star 17 Cinema (AMC Theater)**  
 3220 23rd Avenue

The Autism Society of Nebraska has developed a toolkit to help you approach your local theater about creating sensory friendly showings in your community! Contact us at [autismsociety@autismnebraska.org](mailto:autismsociety@autismnebraska.org) to find out more information about how to create sensory friendly showings in your community!

## **OMAHA: Sibshops at Ollie Webb**

The Ollie Webb is now taking reservations for their Saturday Sibshops workshops for Siblings of children with developmental disabilities. Download a flyer [HERE](#).

If you have been wondering if this program may be good fit for a sibling in your family, now would be a great time to get involved with the program. They have three more months of workshops scheduled— then will take a break over the summer and start up again in September.

Each workshop is facilitated by Adult Siblings. The friendships made through this program might be just what your child needs.

To make a reservation for your child ages 6-12 contact Annie at 346-5220 Ext. 23. Sibshops will be held at the Ollie Webb Center 1941 South 42nd Street, (the old Center shopping mall) lower level Suite 122.

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## **OMAHA: Autism Center of Nebraska hosts an Open House**

The Autism Center of Nebraska is hosting an open house on **Tuesday, March 8, 2011** from 3:00pm - 7:00 pm. Come learn more about what services they have in place to help our community!

9012 Q Street  
Omaha, NE

Download an invitation [HERE](#).

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## **A Time for YOU: Family Caregiver Retreat**

Wednesday, April 27th—Thursday, April 28th

Anyone who cares for a person of any age with special needs. As a family or professional caregiver, you are integral to the independence and well being of a person who depends on you. But, who takes care of YOU? This two day retreat will give you emotional, physical, spiritual and mental respite that is so vital. You will have the opportunity to reflect, energize, and create.

Download a flyer [HERE](#).

## **BELLEVUE: TopSoccer Registration**

Founded in 2003, BSC TOPSoccer has had the joy of extending the sportsmanship, camaraderie and thrill of competition through soccer to hundreds of children and young adults with special needs. TOPSoccer stands for the Outreach Program for Soccer and is a national program created to give young people with differing abilities the opportunity to learn and play the game of soccer.

The goal of BSC TOPSoccer is to provide all children with physical or intellectual disabilities a place where they can safely participate and enjoy the game of soccer.

The TOPSoccer program not only gives young athletes with differing abilities an opportunity to play soccer, it also gives them a renewed sense of accomplishment and self worth. As the season progresses, we see not only improvement in athletic ability and physical stamina but also development in emotional and social well being.

BSC TOPSoccer is fortunate to have volunteers of all ages participating as coaches, buddies, team parents, field crew, committee members and fans. These dedicated people attest that in assisting our TOPS players they have experienced true joy and have learned wonderful lessons about themselves and others. They return season after season and are a valued members of the BSC Tops Family.

The TOPS community hopes that you will encourage others with differing abilities to join us and enjoy the game of soccer and all it has to offer!

Register now for the Spring season by printing forms from this link <http://www.bscneb.org/page/show/76529-tops-registration-forms> Early registration discount is available until March 8, 2011.

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## **GREटना: TopSoccer**

Gretna TopSoccer will be starting their spring season March 31st and running for 6 weeks. Their program is now 4 years old and continuing to grow. They have children (and young adults) of all ages and abilities playing on Thursday night.

The cost is \$15, the time commitment is minimal (6 hours total for the season), and each and every player will have a volunteer that will give the player as much or as little help as they need.

Visit [www.gretnatopsoccer.com](http://www.gretnatopsoccer.com) to register.

## OMAHA: Sensational Saturdays

Drop your kids off for a fun time of sensory activities; speech and language development; auditory, visual and tactile input; and gross motor activities and socialization. Multi-Sensory Saturday is \$25 per class or you can register for 4 classes for only \$90. You must register by the Thursday before the day you wish to attend. Payment is due at the time of drop off.

Theraplayce provides a variety of services and progress is due to the variety of treatment modalities and equipment they use. Sensory integration myofascial release, therapeutic listening aquatic activities and traditional land based interventions are all incorporated to each child's individualized plan of care.

Schedule	Activities during the day will include but are not limited to:
8:45am - 9:00am Drop-off	Tactile/Sensory Exploration
12:00pm - 12:15pm Pick up	Story Time
	Speech/Language Movie
	Social/Language Skills
Visit their website <a href="#">HERE</a> for more information or to download a registration form.	Crafts
	Gross Motor
	Fine Motor

## OMAHA: Social Skating for Special Needs

Theraplayce is offering a new fun way to assist with developing your child's socialization skills along with increasing their strength and balance. Ice skating is also a fun way to spend family time over the winter season and a great way to get exercise at the same time!

Social Skating for Special Needs will take place on Wednesdays from 12:00pm - 2:00pm at Moylan Tranquility Iceplex located on 127th and West Maple Road and will be taught by our Speech Language Pathologist and Physical Therapist Assistant. Our SLP has taught USFSA basic skills and both have backgrounds in skating and enjoy teaching it to others.

Your child will be learning the basic skills for skating as described by the USFSA. These skills include: balance, weight bearing, sitting and standing, marching in place, dipping in place, dipping while moving, and forward two foot swizzles (according to each child's needs and abilities). The skills that will be taught are a progressive set of skills and build on each other so it is very important that you attend each week so your child can get the maximum benefit from our program.

All activities your child participates in during Social Skating for Special Needs are therapeutic and provide input to help your child enhance their lives.

Visit their website [HERE](#) for more information or to download a registration form.

## **LINCOLN: PUMP & JUMP DANCE CLASS**

Dance class for boys and girls 8 years old and up with special needs. Class will consist of Hip Hop, Jazz, and Musical Theatre. Students may wear tennis shoes for class. Children will have a buddy to help them during the class.

Feel free to try the class first but please let Tracey know you'll be coming so we'll have enough buddies.

When: Saturdays 1:00-1:40 (beginning in January)

Hart Dance Academy  
3534 South 48th Street Suite 2  
Lincoln, NE 68506  
402-488-9444  
[www.hartdance.com](http://www.hartdance.com)

Registration: \$15.00

Tuition: \$65.00 per quarter (2 month session)

For more information contact: Tracey Hart at the dance studio or Christy Champoux at 890-8023

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## **OMAHA: Step by Step Dance Class**

Step By Step is a Movement/Dance Class for Kids with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Come and dance in a fun, safe, class! They'll stretch their bodies, work general coordination and even do fun acting and creative movement to fun music in a sensory safe environment!

Come learn some basics to ballet, tap or even hip hop! The class is designed for ASD students needing extra help with motor skills, or have trouble assimilating with peers in other dance classes, or just want to have fun. And this is open to both BOYS and GIRLS!

The Broadway Connection Dance Center is located at 2329 N. 90th St. (90th & Blondo next to Hobby Lobby)

Sunday 12 noon-1pm  
\$35/ month

For more information call 402-571-4446 or visit [www.thebroadwayconnectiondance.com](http://www.thebroadwayconnectiondance.com)

## Autism Society of America Membership

The Autism Society, the nation's leading grassroots autism organization, exists to improve the lives of all affected by autism. We do this by increasing public awareness about the day-to-day issues faced by people on the spectrum, advocating for appropriate services for individuals across the lifespan, and providing the latest information regarding treatment, education, research and advocacy.

Founded in 1965 by Dr. Bernard Rimland, Dr. Ruth Sullivan and many other parents of children with autism, the Autism Society is the leading source of trusted and reliable information about autism. Through its strong chapter network, the Autism Society has spearheaded numerous pieces of state and local legislation, including the 2006 Combating Autism Act, the first federal autism-specific law. The Autism Society's website is one of the most visited websites on autism in the world and its quarterly journal, [Autism Advocate](#), has a broad national readership. The Autism Society also hosts the most comprehensive [national conference](#) on autism, attended by 2000 people each year. Our [information and referral](#) team, our program staff, and our strong chapter presence serve thousands of families each year who are searching for help in their journey with autism.

When you join the national Autism Society of America you become a member of your local Autism Society chapter here in Nebraska as well. In fact, the Autism Society of Nebraska receives 60% of those dues paid to the Autism Society of America. ASA forwards those fees on to the local chapter so that we can carry out our local mission here in your neighborhood! The Autism Society of America is committed to helping the grassroots grow in strength and they recognize that those in the local community have the best understanding of the local needs.

The Autism Society of Nebraska has the benefit of being part of a well respected national organization yet we are still able to keep 100% of all of our local fundraising efforts here in Nebraska.

So are you a member yet? It's not too late...you can join online [HERE](#) or download a form [HERE](#).

**Join the Autism Society of Nebraska and help us make a difference here in Nebraska!**

With ASA membership you will receive ASA's quarterly magazine, The Autism Advocate and 60% of your membership dues come back directly to our Nebraska chapter!

It is a win-win for everyone!

Join the Autism Society of Nebraska on Facebook!  
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## Help us make this Newsgram relevant to you!

We rely on our community to help us find useful information to share with you through this Newsgram. If you have an event that you would like added to the Autism Society of Nebraska Newsgram please email us at [autismsocietynewsgram@autismnebraska.org](mailto:autismsocietynewsgram@autismnebraska.org).

You are our eyes and ears across the state. Please help us help you AND your neighbors by sharing your resources and contacts with us!



To have your event added to the Autism Society Newsgram and calendar please email [autismsociety@autismnebraska.org](mailto:autismsociety@autismnebraska.org) or you can post it directly to our calendar at [www.autismnebraska.org](http://www.autismnebraska.org). Please be aware that it may take 24 hours for your event to appear on the site.

### Autism Society of Nebraska

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We appreciate your help including our statewide community events! Please help us help you AND your neighbors!



All information on this Newsgram is also available by visiting our web site at [www.autismnebraska.org](http://www.autismnebraska.org)