



OCEAN COUNTY LIBRARY

Connecting People ... Building Community...Transforming Lives

PRESS RELEASE

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Ocean County Library Autism Resources Fair 2021: Virtual Programs and Live Crafts Throughout April

TOMS RIVER – The Ocean County Library will mark Autism Awareness Month in April with the return of its Autism Resources Fair, and this year it's a month-long event.

Interested families and individuals can take part in free virtual programs, and pick up free, sensory-friendly "Take & Make" crafts at 19 Library branches.

"Trivia for Teens," packed with little-known facts about music, media, and the Ocean County Library, will be available all month at www.theoceancountylibrary.org/autism.

Registration for the free virtual program series is required. Registrants at www.theoceancountylibrary.org/events will receive links by email for:

- **"Autism Resources Fair Keynote Address"**- featuring Dr. Temple Grandin, 2 PM Saturday, April 17. A "Neighbors Connecting" program made possible in part by an OceanFirst Foundation Arts and Cultural grant, sponsored by the Ocean County Library Foundation.
- **"Navigating the New Jersey Division of Developmental Disabilities Service System"** - presented by NJDDD Quality Improvement Specialist Nkechi Okoli, 6:30 PM Thursday, April 8.
- **"Mr. Bobby, Music Therapist"** - 10 AM Saturday, April 10.
- **"How to Get a Service Dog"** – presented by Louise, Kim and Dennis Bratnick of Canine Companions, 6:30 PM Tuesday, April 13.
- **"Autism and Divorce: How Courts Address Issues Involving Children with Special Needs"** – co-presented by former New Jersey Superior Court Judge Lawrence R. Jones and Joni Jones, 6:30 PM Monday, April 19.
- **"Autism, Mental Health and Cultural Competency Issues"** - co-presented by former New Jersey Superior Court Judge Lawrence R. Jones and Joni Jones, 6:30 PM Thursday, April 29.

For more details, visit www.theoceancountylibrary.org/autism.