**Plenary Session Speaker**

**Alex Plank**

Alex Plank is the 33-year-old autistic person behind WrongPlanet.net, the incredibly popular site for individuals with Asperger’s Syndrome and Autism. Both Alex and Wrong Planet have been featured by CNN, The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Los Angeles Times, and Good Morning America. Wrong Planet has more than 100,000 registered members and its discussion forums contain millions of messages.

Alex graduated from George Mason University with a degree in Film and Video Studies. Alex’s areas of interest and expertise include public speaking, the Internet, writing, directing, and filmmaking. Alex lives in Beverly Hills, California. Alex is also a consultant and actor on FX’s hit series The Bridge.

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**Featured Speakers**

**Russ Rudin** is the founder of Rockets and Robots, a regional program that encourages and develops the natural technical abilities of children on the autism spectrum so they may be inspired and equipped to pursue a successful career in science, technology, engineering, or math.

**John Marble** is the founder of Pivot, a company that supports neurodiverse employees in a manner which fosters inclusion and belonging for all employees. He will be speaking about employing autistic individuals.

**Sara Luterman** has written for major news outlets, run social media for nonprofits, and started her own business. She is a passionate advocate for neurodiversity, autism employment, and research on autism and co-occurring mental health conditions. She will be speaking about mental health and employment for autistic individuals.

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**Session Topics**

- Employment for Autistic Adults in a Neurodiverse Workplace
- Practicing Self-Determination in a Virtual Reality Social Skills Simulator
- Social Narratives
- Strengthening Parent-Teacher Relationships
- Functional Communication Training
- Fostering Acceptance and Self-care
- Peer-Mentor Programs
- Physical Activity and Autism
- Program for the Education and Enrichment of Relational Skills (PEERS®)
- North State Trajectory: A Comprehensive Strength-Based Program to Transition Youth on the Autism Spectrum
- Financial Planning for Families with Special Needs Children
- Preparing Students with Autism for Post-secondary Transition
- Youth Outreach in Morse Communication
- and More!

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**Schedule**

**Friday:**
- 7:30 AM Check In, Coffee & Welcome
- 8:15 AM Autism Research Update
- 9:15 AM Concurrent Sessions
- 12:30 PM Lunch on Your Own
- 1:45 PM Concurrent Sessions
- 3:30 PM Plenary Session
- 4:30 PM Reception & Vendor Fair

**Saturday:**
- 8:00 AM Check In & Coffee
- 8:30 AM Keynote Address
- 10:00 AM Concurrent Sessions
- Noon Lunch & Movie
- 1:00 PM Concurrent Sessions
- 4:30 PM Closing

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**Professional Development**

Sessions for professionals on evidence-based practices will be delivered by CAPTAIN trainers. CAPTAIN, the California Autism Professional Training and Information Network, is a multiagency network developed to support the understanding and use of Evidence-Based Practices for individuals affected by Autism Spectrum Disorder across the state. Learn more at CAPTAIN.CA.GOV

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**Registration**

- Two Days: $195
- One Day: $125
- Chico State Students: $50

Register by phone, 530-898-6105, or online at ncas.csuchico.edu

Groups of 11+ can receive a 15% discount on two-day registrations.