

# NORTHERN CALIFORNIA 2024 **Neurodiversity & Disability** SYMPOSIUM

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2024 • CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, CHICO • ATTEND IN PERSON • REGISTER TODAY!



## Keynote Speaker

**Dr. Temple Grandin**

### *Great Minds Don't Always Think Alike*

A world-renowned advocate and expert in both animal welfare and autism – Dr. Grandin

has a unique ability to express an “inside narrative” of the disorder. She rose to fame in the autism community as one of the first individuals with autism to share their experiences and perspectives publicly. Dr. Grandin has taught at Colorado State University (CSU) since 1990 and is a past member of the board of directors of the Autism Society of America.

Presenting her latest book, *Visual Thinking*, Dr. Grandin draws on cutting-edge research that takes us outside the box and inside the hidden gifts of people who think in pictures, patterns, and abstractions. Book sales and signing will be available after the keynote presentation.



## Plenary Speakers

**Abbey & Christine Romeo**

### *Life after 18 with Abbey and Christine Romeo*

Abbey was diagnosed with Autism at 2.5 yrs old. She has had 20 years of speech, OT, and other

interventions to be able to communicate as she does today. Christine has been a single mom to both her son, Benjamin, and daughter, Abbey, since they were 5 and 6, respectively. She has spent 22 years in the therapy rooms, IEP's, and creating individualized interventions for Abbey.

Part of the award-winning Miracle Project and later Spectrum Laboratory in LA, which uses the arts to expand creativity, social skills and musical interests, Abbey has written and performed in 5 music videos, all surrounding autism. She is a verified influencer on TikTok and Instagram and appears in the Emmy Award-winning show “Love On the Spectrum US”, on Netflix. Christine appears on “Love On the Spectrum US” with Abbey and is quite the influencer herself on TikTok, known as Abbeysmom17, sharing her autism journey with Abbey to over 1 million followers.

## Schedule at a Glance

7:30AM	Check In
8:00AM	Welcome
8:30—10:00AM	Concurrent Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sex Education &amp; Disability</li><li>• Employment Panel</li></ul>
10:15—11:30AM	Plenary Session ~ Life after 18 with Abbey and Christine Romeo
11:45AM—1:00PM	Concurrent Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Q&amp;A with Abbey &amp; Christine</li><li>• Building College Connections</li></ul>
1:00—2:15PM	Lunch on Your Own
2:15—3:15PM	Keynote ~ Dr. Temple Grandin
3:30—4:00PM	Reception & Book Signing

## Fees

- **Early Bird Rate!** (through Jan. 1): \$150
- **Regular Rate** (beginning Jan. 2): \$175
- Chico State students, staff, and faculty: \$50

## Register Today!

- **Online Registration:** Register up to 3 people at a time online if you wish to pay by credit card.
- **Group Registration:** For group discounts, or to pay by check or purchase order, use our group registration form or call **530-898-6105**.
- **Far Northern Regional Center Registration:** FNRC clients and families should complete your registration using the FNRC online form. See website for link.



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