

AUTISM ALLIANCE *at Home*

a program of  **Advocates**



December Newsletter

Newly certified Autism Welcoming Business



Museum of Russian Icons
203 Union Street
Clinton, MA 01510

The Museum of Russian Icons inspires the appreciation and study of Russian culture by collection and exhibiting icons and related objects; igniting the interest of national and international audiences; and offering interactive educational programs. The Museum serves as a leading center for research and scholarship through the Center for Icon Studies and other institutional collaborations.

"We value every visitor and the worth of every individual"
~ Founder Gordon B. Lankton

The Museum of Russian Icons has met the criteria and is an Autism Welcoming business. Staff are trained and have sensory tool kits available for those that would like to sign-them out during their visit at the museum. The museum also has a [Social Story](#) and visual support for your visit. Be sure to check out the website for more details on accommodations and sensory-friendly event times available to you and your loved one when you visit the [museum](#).



Ipswich Shellfish Company is now a certified Autism Welcoming business!

The company is one of the country's leading seafood processors and distributors, and Ipswich Shellfish Fish Market is a North Shore culinary gem. The wonderful folks at Ipswich Shellfish Co. are deeply committed to increasing autism awareness. After participating in our Autism Welcoming training, they decided to pay it forward. They've made a generous donation that will allow us to provide training to many of the restaurants they supply! This investment in building a welcoming, inclusive food service industry is truly remarkable, and we're so grateful to have Ipswich Shellfish Co. in our community. For more information: [Ipswich Shellfish Co., Inc.](#)

Breakfast with Santa at The VERVE Hotel



Breakfast with Santa

Sunday, December 18, 2022
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

THE VERVE HOTEL
TAPESTRY COLLECTION
by Hilton™

Breakfast with Santa at The VERVE Hotel *Autism Welcoming certified business*
Sun, December 18, 2022, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM EST
The VERVE Hotel Boston Natick
1360 Worcester Street Natick, MA 01760

We're excited that Santa is going to return to The VERVE this holiday season. Join for breakfast, children's activities, and photos with Santa. Tickets: Adults \$44 Children under 12 years \$36.50
Family Four Pack: Four Tickets to attend Breakfast \$146 (\$36.50 each) *Tickets include gratuity and sales tax. EventBrite Ticketing Fees are additional.*

****SENSORY FRIENDLY DINING ROOM SEATING AVAILABLE THAT INCLUDES:** Quiet entrance, lowered music and lighting, Sensory friendly Santa** (Sensory Friendly option available right before you click to purchase tickets.) [TICKETS](#)

December Vacation Program



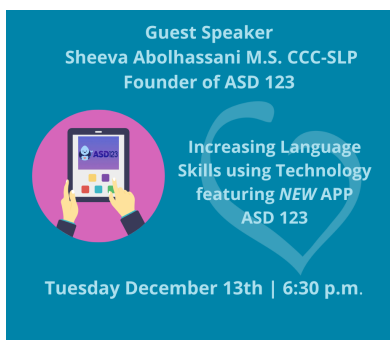
New Year Mini-Dance Party
Wednesday December 28th
Framingham Public Library
49 Lexington Street, Framingham

Ages 5-12 | 11:00am- 12:00noon
Ages 13-19 | 1:00pm- 2:00pm

Come and celebrate the new year with a fun craft and dance party count-down. We have a **limited number of slots** due to room capacity. We would like to thank the [Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation](#) for sponsoring this event.

[Learn More](#)

December Guest Speaker



Guest Speaker Sheeva Abolhassani, M.S. CCC-SLP
Tuesday December 13, 2022
6:30pm to 7:30pm EST | Virtual

This workshop will focus on strategies parents can do in the home with their child to increase language skills / using technology in a way to target their child's social skills. It will feature an app called ASD 123 which is an interactive learning platform to aid in language abilities.

[Zoom Link](#)

Parent Brain Chat Lunchtime Q & A



Autism Alliance Brain Chat featuring Coach Allison Marean
Tuesday December 20th
12:00 noon

Our virtual, monthly Brain Chat is for parents and caregivers who want more strategies and an opportunity to ask specific questions to expert Coach Allison H. Marean, M.Ed., CLY. from Successfully Social New England. This is a virtual community call that meets once a month for an hour is **FREE** and sponsored by the Autism Alliance. It is an opportunity to ask questions, be a part of our community and/or just listen and learn from others. After you sign up, a few days before the group you will receive the Zoom link.

[Brain Chat](#)

December Support Groups



Autism Alliance Support Groups

for mom's, dad's, siblings, and all who ❤️ a child with Autism

Autism Alliance support groups are for families who have children with an Autism Spectrum Disorder. Our groups are a safe and relaxed space for parent and caregivers to feel more confident and less isolated. Click below for Zoom links.

Just for Dads

December 7

Parents of children
age 10 and under
December 21

Portuguese Speaking

December 19

Sibshop



January 28, 2023 - 2:00pm to 4:00pm EST

**Pinz Bowling
110 South Main Street
Milford, MA 01757**

We are kicking off 2023 at Pinz Bowling. **Please register below for this fun event.** Our Sibshop is for brothers and sisters (age 7-12) of children with autism. This is an opportunity for boys and girls to meet one another, to talk about the joys and

December Sensory- Friendly Community Events



Morningstar Access at Boston Children's Museum **Saturday, December 3, 2022, 8:00am-10:00am**

All Masks On! All staff and visitors ages 2 and older are required to wear masks with no exceptions. Families with any types of needs must be able to follow this strict mask rule in order to maximize health safety for children with medical needs.

[Registration is required and available on the Museum's website.](#)



Apex Sensory Friendly Hour Autism Welcoming Partner **Sunday December 4, 2022, 10:00am to 11:00am**

The first Sunday of each month from 10am-11am friends and families can come visit [Apex Entertainment](#) for some fun in a sensory welcoming environment!

We want to ensure that everyone feels included and welcome at Apex Entertainment! Through the guidance of the Autism Alliance, we have created our Sensory Friendly Sundays! Every first Sunday of the month, we offer special accommodations such as: reduced lighting and sound, sunglasses, sensory toys, and quiet rooms.

We are excited to share these experiences with our community and look forward to seeing you there! If you are interested in a sensory friendly birthday party or social event, please contact us at (508) 251-8666



Autism-Friendly Evenings Autism Welcoming Partner **Saturday, December 10, 2022, 5pm to 8pm**

[TO REGISTER](#)

Come join in all the fun and explore the accessible Discovery Museum and Discovery Woods during this special evening event for families with members on the autism spectrum. Your family can play, explore, experiment, and imagine together, while we are closed to the general public and headcount is limited. ASL interpretation may be available upon request.

Dinner, including a gluten-free option, will be provided. *Advance registration is required. These Especially for Me events are offered in collaboration with Autism Alliance of MetroWest.*



NEW Sensory- Friendly Hours *Autism Welcoming Partner*

Sunday December 11th

10:00am - 11:00am

Walk-ins welcome, no registration needed.

Plaster Fun Time is a newly certified Autism Welcoming Business. Staff have been trained and we now have everyday accommodations to help make your visit more enjoyable and successful. Be sure to ask us about our visual supports and other materials we have available for your visit.

Plaster Fun Time Marlborough will host a **sensory-friendly autism welcoming hour from 10:00am -11:00am on the second Sunday of every month** featuring accommodations such as reduced lighting and noise, customized visual support, and quiet area available for those trying a new activity in the community who will benefit from a private space if things get overwhelming.

Healthy Happenings Emails



Healthy Happenings

Weekly resources targeted
to your family's unique needs.

In case you missed one, or want to check back in, our Healthy Heroes is now [Healthy Happenings emails](#) which are published weekly for up-to-date Autism Alliance programming and community resources designed to keep you connected and supported. You can find these archived on our website along with our current and past monthly newsletters.



Did you miss seeing one of our featured guest speakers? If so, click on the link and you will see the recordings on the Autism Alliance of MetroWest YouTube Channel.



***Please submit requests for accommodations, including ASL interpreters, at least 2 weeks prior to the event date to AutismAlliance@Advocates.org or (508) 652-9900**

Connect With Us



www.AutismAlliance.org | (508) 652-9900 | AutismAlliance@Advocates.org
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Our Contact Information

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