

# Fall 2021 Newsletter



UW AUTISM CENTER  
CENTER ON HUMAN DEVELOPMENT & DISABILITY  
UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON



## Save the Date

**Saturday, January 29, 2022**

### **Illuminating Autism** **Celebrating Artists**

*6th Annual Virtual Benefit and Auction  
6:30pm – Pre-Show Reception • 7:00pm – Live Program  
RSVP at [uwautism.ejoinme.org/IlluminatingAutism](http://uwautism.ejoinme.org/IlluminatingAutism)*

## Illuminating Autism: Celebrating Artists

Hosted Online  
Saturday, January 29, 2022

6:30 pm - Pre-Show Reception  
7:00 pm - Live Program

Imagine being able to help children and parents navigate through the challenges of autism. Or realize that your efforts helped advance groundbreaking research to improve interventions and create new programs. Or know that your gift helped a child enjoy the simple pleasures of summer camp.

The UW Autism Center's 6th annual benefit event, Illuminating Autism, provides the opportunity to achieve all of these dreams and more.

Come join our growing community of supporters to celebrate and enjoy presentations highlighting the Center's impact while having fun and participating in live and silent auctions.

[Register to attend](#)

ABA LAUNCH

## Learning about Autism and Understanding Neurodiversity in Children

In September 2021, UW Autism Center started a new and exciting program. ABA LAUNCH is a clinic-based, short-term, comprehensive and intensive program for children up to six years of age with a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Rooted in the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) and play based therapy, LAUNCH offers early intervention and parent education from a multi-disciplinary team to families waiting to receive ongoing therapy services. LAUNCH is offered in both our Seattle and Tacoma clinics.

Please visit our website or contact [abalaunch@uw.edu](mailto:abalaunch@uw.edu) for more information.

Thank you to all of our parents and caregivers that have made LAUNCH a huge success thus far!



To watch an orientation presentation given by the ABA LAUNCH Co-Directors, please [click here](#).

[Click here for more information](#)

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## Research



SCAN ME

## REAL-WORLD LISTENING STUDY

LABORATORY FOR AUDITORY NEUROSCIENCE AND DEVELOPMENT (LAND LAB)

Researchers at the UW are looking at how children learn to hear speech and music in noisy real-world environments, such as classrooms or playgrounds.

### WOULD THE STUDY BE A GOOD FIT FOR MY CHILD?

Your child might be a good fit if:

- They are between 7 and 10 years old
- They have a diagnosis of autism

Please contact Dr. Bonnie Lau at [landlab@uw.edu](mailto:landlab@uw.edu), 206-616-4690, or <https://sites.uw.edu/landlab/>

### WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF WE TOOK PART IN THE STUDY?

- You would come to the UW for 2 visits to participate in an EEG recording, computer listening games, and developmental tests
- Your child would receive \$100 compensation and a report signed by a clinical psychologist

Contact Dr. Lau

Congratulations to **Drs. St. John, Woods, and Estes** along with UWAC practicum students **Tammara Bode** and **Cassidy Ritter** for their recent publication in The Clinical Neuropsychologist, [\*A review of executive functioning challenges and strengths in autistic adults.\*](#)

Learn more about UWAC research

# UWAC Webinars

## UWAC Webinars

### Autism and Anxiety

January 21 and 28, 2022

<https://cvent.me/VywEmm>

Join us for this **two-part webinar** to learn about anxiety symptoms and strategies to manage anxiety.



[Click here for more recorded webinars!](#)

## Family Camp for Exceptional Families

Many thanks to the families who joined us in October at the Family Camp for Exceptional Families. The weekend was made possible by a partnership between the UWAC and the amazing folks at YMCA Camp Orkila. Families enjoyed outdoor activities, arts and crafts, and hilarious campfire skits surrounded by the natural beauty of Orcas Island. Thank you to the fabulous leadership and staff at Orkila for making this yet another wonderful and inclusive weekend for families!



## Staff Spotlight

The UWAC is excited to welcome our new LAUNCH Program Navigator, **Zach Hegemann**! A few words from Zach:

"I am extremely excited to get to work with all of you here in the LAUNCH Program at the Autism Center. Originally from Yelm, near Olympia, I attended the UW for undergrad and had been teaching special education in Buffalo, New York, as well as Seattle for the past 4 years. Outside of work I love spending time attending concerts, camping with friends, and now enjoying my new puppy at home. It feels great to be back here on the UW campus and as a part of a growing program/field, and I look forward to all of our work together. Feel free to introduce yourself if you see me

around!"



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## A UWAC Romance!

Congratulations on the recent marriage of former UWAC staff members **Madelyn and Kevin Bascom!** Madelyn and Kevin met here at the UWAC where they served as Intervention Technicians on the TADPOLE study. Both went on to attend graduate school here at the UW, and are now practicing BCBAs in the greater Seattle area. Our warmest regards to the newly wed couple!



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## Community

Public Health - Seattle King County has compiled [a list of vaccine providers offering supportive environments for youth with disabilities](#). The providers are open to the public and serve minors. The staff are trained and/or comfortable serving youth with disabilities or youth who may need additional supports.



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VISIT OUR WEBSITE