

## Autism Research — Alternative Methodologies?



*"The pair has been called everything from quacks to geniuses, but the goal of Wednesday's lecture was to give parents the opportunity to make that decision for themselves."*

— " *Staten Island Advance*, November 24, 2008

From time to time, City Access New York hosts information-sharing sessions for audiences interested in topics that range from universal design to clinical research. And so we did last month at IS24 on Staten Island. About 200 parents and advocates attended the presentation, where Dr. James Neubrandner and Dr. Philip DeFina spoke about their unconventional methods of treating autism. While CANY does not endorse the views of presenters, we were pleased to offer the opportunity for others to make up their own minds. Click [here](#) to read the full article describing the event by *Staten Island Advance* writer Amisha Padnani.

## Where You Want, When You Want



We want to make our resources easier for you to use. So now you can download CANY Podcasts at [our website](#) or at [iTunes](#), and listen to topics that matter to you, where you want, when you want. We're pleased to launch the series with two discussions hosted by the Museum Access Consortium. In the first, "Maneuvering the Department of Education's Re-Reorganization" Cathy Rikhye, Ed.D., former Director of the NYC District 75 Office of Inclusive Education, suggests ways of navigating the changing DOE bureaucracy to better connect to kids with disabilities. The second, "Welcoming Families with Disabilities: Parents Speak Out," is a lively discussion of what's been done — and what's left to do — to make NYC cultural institutions welcoming to all audiences. We think you'll find both fascinating.

Be sure to revisit the CANY website in the coming year. Or better yet, subscribe to our Podcasts, as we expand our online library throughout 2009.

## "Perspectives on Autism" — a Panel Discussion



On Wednesday, December 10 from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m., the Museum Access Consortium is pleased to present "Perspectives on Autism", hosted by The Metropolitan Museum of Art. After a brief introduction to the spectrum by Gillian J. Furniss, parents of children with autism of varying ages will share their perspectives. Panelists include Cindy Wattels, Maria Teresa and Briant Canha, and Constance Stienon. Fran Prezant, of Abilities!, will moderate what's sure to be an engrossing discussion. Participants will also view the film "Sidecars," which documents Mr. and Ms. Canha's adult son's artistic journey. The day will end with museum case studies drawing from the experiences of the Queens Museum, The Metropolitan Museum, The Nassau County Museum of Art, and The Museum of Modern Art.

Space is limited, so please RSVP by December 8. To RSVP, or to secure an access accommodation, please contact Christena Gunther at 212.879.5500 ext.3561, or e-mail [access@metmuseum.org](mailto:access@metmuseum.org).

## 'Tis the Season



The economy is frightful and times are tight, we know. Yet without the generosity of donors like you, City Access New York could not do its work. So we ask you to take a moment to consider making a tax-deductible contribution to our programs. It's as simple as clicking



[here](#). And season's greetings!

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