

Connecting the Pieces a Gala for Autism

Written by Ashley Crowder

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Appalachian State students will host a Gala for Autism to raise awareness and funds for Autism Speaks, North America's largest autism science and advocacy organization. The event will take place on November 9, 2012 at Chetola Resort at Blowing Rock from 6pm to 10 pm. Connecting the Pieces a Gala for Autism is the first of a hopefully annual event. The event will begin with a complimentary cocktail during the cocktail hour from 6pm-7pm. Music entertainment will be on site with the option of dancing. During this time items in the silent auction will be on site and bidding will be open. The 3 course dinner will be served at 7pm. Bidding on the auction items will close at 9:30 allowing us to follow up with the individuals that bid on items. Rooms are available at a discount rate for Friday night, following the event. For more details, contact Ashley Crowder at crowderam@appstate.edu or at (828) 467-3283.

Sponsorship, Corporate or Individually, is available through our organization. Sponsorship will not only support this event but will help us proceed through the remainder of the year. We hope to bring more community events to reach those affected by autism in the high country.

About Autism Speaks U

Launched in 2008, Autism Speaks U, an initiative of Autism Speaks, is designed to support college students, alumni and faculty in their awareness, advocacy and fundraising efforts. Student-organized events can range from hosting a 5K run, benefit concert, eating contest, panel on autism and more. While many of the students involved with Autism Speaks U have a personal connection to autism, others not directly affected have also joined the program to support the cause.

About Autism

Autism is a complex neurobiological disorder that inhibits a person's ability to communicate and develop social relationships, and is often accompanied by behavioral challenges. Autism spectrum disorders are diagnosed in 1 in 88 children in the United States, affecting four times as many boys as girls. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have called autism a national public health crisis whose cause and cure remain unknown.