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Educating Children Through the Magic of Puppets

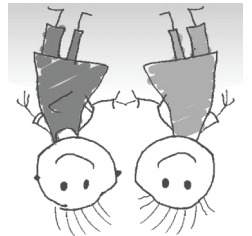
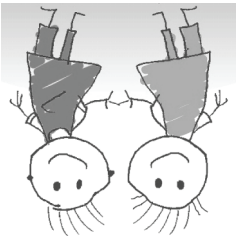
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**Presented by Puppets in Education, Inc.
(Umbrella organization of Kids on the Block-Vermont)
Friday, November 20, 2009**

**A Conference with Heather McCracken
Friend 2 Friend Social Learning Society
*Creating a Culture of Inclusion***

**Helping Children Understand
Autism Spectrum Disorder**



Helping Children Understand Autism Spectrum Disorder

Creating a Culture of Inclusion

Doubletree Hotel
South Burlington, Vermont
Friday, November 20, 2009

About the Presenter

Heather McCracken is the founder and executive director of the Friend 2 Friend Social Learning Society and mother of three children, one on the autism spectrum. As the creator of the Friend 2 Friend Model and programs, she is a sought after international speaker. Heather delivers programs to children in schools and other community settings and lectures throughout Canada and the US. Her work is widely published and includes: *That's What's Different About Me, Helping Children Understand Autism Spectrum Disorder; The Friend 2 Friend Follow-Up Guides; The Friend 2 Friend Simulation Game; Can I Play Too? The Friend 2 Friend Puppet Presentation Program; and The Autism Code* (in press). She is also a contributing author of the book *Learners on the Autism Spectrum*, the Autism Society of America's pick for the 2009 Outstanding Literary work of the year.

Attendees will learn:

- The special needs of children with autism
- How to communicate these needs to build empathy and foster caring relationships
- The concepts and components of the Friend 2 Friend Model
- How to foster peer socialization and integrated play between children with ASD and their typically developing peers

To read more about Heather McCracken visit:

www.friend2friendsociety.org or
www.KidsontheBlockVermont.org

Conference Agenda

7:30 — 8:00

Registration

Coffee, tea, muffins, and fruit

8:00 — 9:30

What Does it Feel Like to Have Autism?

The Senses; Communication; Self-Regulation; Affinities and Friendship

9:30 — 9:45

Break

9:45 — 11:30

The Friend 2 Friend Model

Key Learning Goals; Prosocial Communication Strategies; Overview of F2F Programs

11:30 — 12:15

Lunch

Included with registration

12:15 — 12:30

F2F Puppet Presentation

The North American East Coast Debut!

12:30 — 2:15

The Nature of Play and Friendships

Characteristics and Benefits of Play and Friendships; Social Play Styles; The Social Void; Attitudes and Perceptions

2:15 — 2:30

Break

2:30 — 3:30

5 Strategies for Fostering Peer Play and Friendships

Demystification; Scaffolding Social Interactions; Program Design Principles; Regular and Continuous Support

**PLEASE FEEL FREE TO COPY AND
DISTRIBUTE THIS FLYER**

Registration

Please Detach and Return

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

— **\$150 individual by 10/9/09**

— **\$125 each for groups of 3 or more attendees from the same organization by 10/9/09**

— **\$175 all registrations after 10/9/09**

Note: \$50 administrative fee for any cancellations.

No refunds will be given after 10/30/09

Please make checks payable to KOBVT and return with registration form to:

KOBVT/ F2F Conference

Suite 125

294 N. Winooski Ave.

Burlington, VT 05401

Inquiries concerning conference registration, sponsorship, or exhibitor space may be directed to Sarah@KidsontheBlockVermont.org

802.860.3349

7 professional development contact hours for Educators
6 CEU credits from The National Assoc. of Social Workers
6 credit hours from Board of Psychological Examiners
4.5 credit hours from Board of Allied Mental Health Practitioners