

April 27, 2012

Hamilton City Hall
 c/o Office of the Mayor Hamilton City Centre
 71 Main St. West
 Hamilton, ON, Canada
 L8R 2K3

Dear Hamilton City Hall,

On April 2, 2012, the international community celebrated the fifth annual United Nations-sanctioned World Autism Awareness Day. In recognition of this historic day, Autism Speaks celebrated with its third annual **Light It Up Blue** campaign. Because of your participation, it was an outstanding success!

Over 3,000 iconic landmarks, buildings, airports, bridges, sports arenas, museums, concert halls, restaurants as well as retail, corporate and media partners in over 600 cities and 45 countries on six continents around the world lit up blue for autism awareness. We could not have achieved this kind of success without the wonderful support from friends like you.

We are deeply grateful that Hamilton City Hall participated in this monumental project, and for your help in shining a powerful spotlight on autism. We hope you will take a moment to visit our initiative's website: www.lightitupblue.org to see pictures of all the Light It Up Blue participants. If you haven't already sent in pictures of your building lit blue, please send them to AutismSpeaksLIUB@gmail.com.

Right now, autism affects 1 in 88 children, 1 in 54 boys – 1% of the global population and more than 70 million people around the world. Thank you once again for helping us to better the lives of millions of families and individuals who live with autism every day.

Enclosed please find an attachment highlighting the many ways Autism Speaks celebrated World Autism Awareness Day, including a master list of all the participants around the globe that turned their lights blue. We hope you enjoyed your experience and will join us again on April 2, 2013 to help us shine a bright blue and powerful spotlight on autism. Please do so by signing and returning the enclosed form to Danielle Yango, Communications Manager, International Awareness.

Warmest Regards,

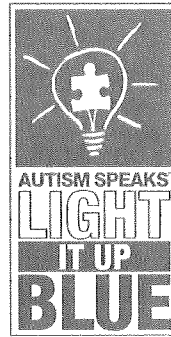
Suzanne and Bob Wright
 Co-founders

Enc.

Mark Roithmayr
 President



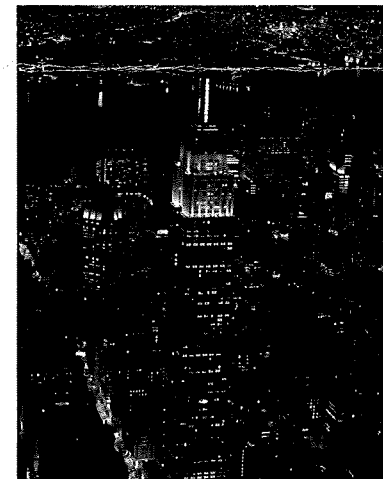
World Autism Awareness Day
2 April



Christ the Redeemer, Brazil



Family at the Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum, NYC



Empire State Building



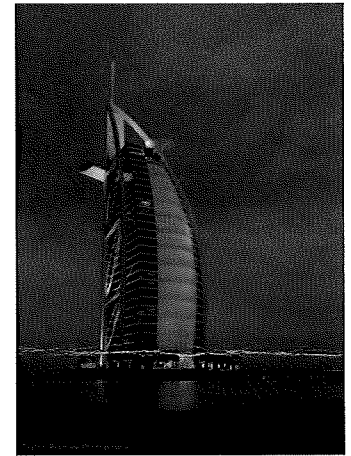
Autism Speaks would like to thank the Empire State Building for the special lighting on the evening of April 2, 2012 in celebration of the fifth annual United Nations World Autism Awareness Day on April 2. Learn more about the Empire State Building at www.esbnyc.com. The Empire State Building design is a trademark of ESBC and is used with permission.

Autism Speaks kicked off Autism Awareness Month and the 5th anniversary of the UN-sanctioned World Autism Awareness Day on March 31st at the iconic Intrepid Sea, Air and Space Museum. More than 200 guests joined us for the Autism Speaks Salutes Military Families event. Remarks were given by special guests, including emcee and ABC News Correspondent Bob Woodruff, Congressman John Larson (D-CT), Deputy Assistant to President Obama Michael Strautmanis, Autism Speaks Co-founders Suzanne and Bob Wright, Intrepid president Susan Marenoff-Zausner and Karen Driscoll, a Marine Corps wife and mother of a child with autism. Following the program, families enjoyed kid-friendly activities and tours.

On April 1, The NBA lent its support by raising autism awareness at games across the country. Announcers at games broadcasted by ABC Network and coaches wore the Autism Speaks puzzle pin, and during the game between the Chicago Bulls and the Oklahoma City Thunder, announcer Mike Tirico explained the significance of the pin and autism awareness month.

On April 2, Autism Speaks opened World Autism Awareness Day at the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE). Surrounded by families and supporters, the Wrights, joined by Tommy Hilfiger and his wife Dee rang the opening bell with NYSE CEO Duncan Niederauer.

The next stop was the Empire State Building where the Wrights, Hilfigers, and the Kenyon family, a military family affected by autism, flipped the switch to light the world famous icon's tower lights blue as part of the Autism Speaks Light It Up Blue Campaign.



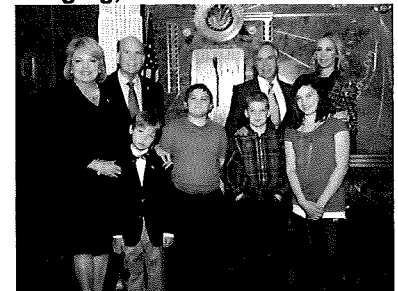
Burj Al Arab – Dubai, UAE



NBA raising awareness, TNT



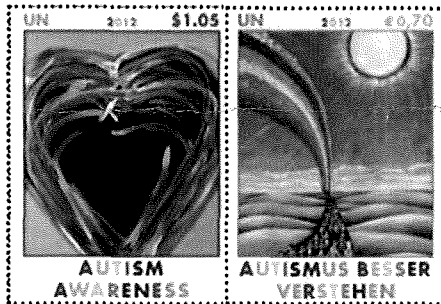
New York Stock Exchange Bell Ringing, NYC



Flipping the switch at the Empire State Building, NYC



Andrea Mitchell Reports, MSNBC



UN Postal Administration Autism Awareness Stamps

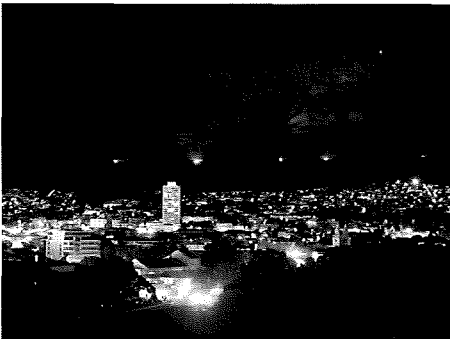


Table Mountain in South Africa



Family at the Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum, NYC

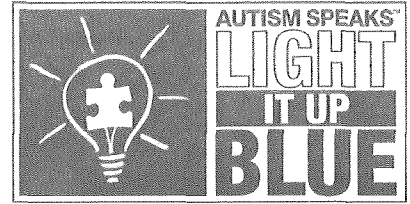
Later on April 2, Suzanne and Bob Wright were interviewed by MSNBC's Andrea Mitchell Reports regarding the newly released CDC report indicating that 1 in 88 children has autism, 1 in 54 boys, a 23% increase in two years. The Wrights discussed the impact autism has on families around the world and reinforced the importance of support for World Autism Awareness Day.

On April 3, Autism Speaks co-hosted a United Nations panel discussion, "Delivering Answers through Inclusive International Collaboration," together with the Permanent Mission of Bangladesh, the United States Mission, and the Permanent Mission of the State of Qatar to the United Nations. The event served as a platform to bring the international community together to shed light on autism's effect on families around the world, and discuss measures that must be taken by leaders to better facilitate more resources and services.

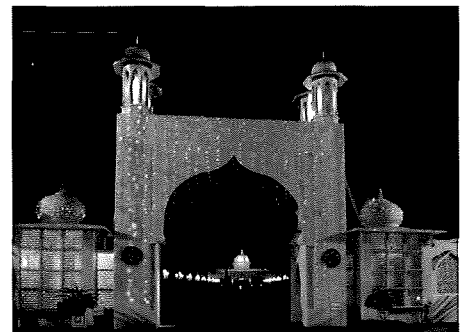
H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon, UN Secretary-General, gave remarks and unveiled special United Nations Postal Administration "Autism Awareness" stamps, designed by individuals with autism.

In its third year, Autism Speaks Light It Up Blue campaign continues to raise awareness worldwide. On April 2nd, nearly 3000 structures in over 600 cities, 45 countries and on 6 continents illuminated in blue and joined Autism Speaks to shine a bright light on autism.

Some of the landmarks included The Great Pyramids of Giza in Egypt, Gano Bhaban – the Official Residence of the Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Christ the Redeemer Statue in Brazil, Burj Al Arab in the UAE, Akashi Kaikyō Bridge in Japan, Table Mountain in South Africa, Canton Tower in China, and the Hungarian Parliament Building among thousands of others.



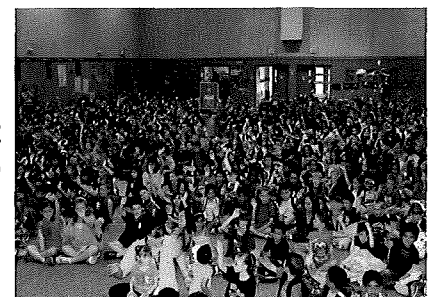
UN Panel Discussion, NYC



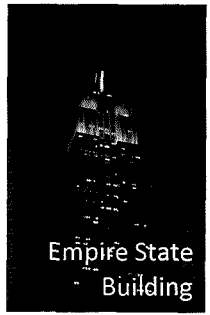
Gano Bhaban – Official Residence of the Prime Minister of Bangladesh



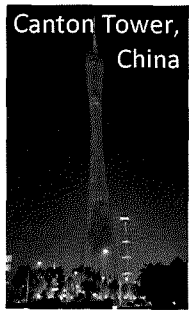
Saks Fifth Avenue window NYC



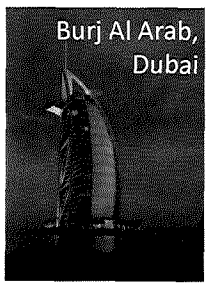
Students at Rutledge Elementary School Austin, TX



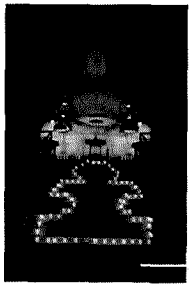
Empire State Building



Canton Tower, China



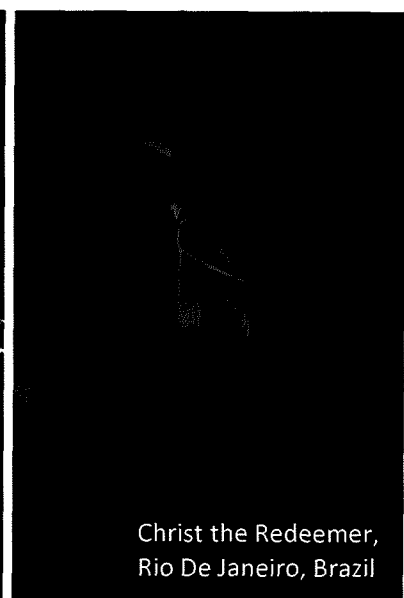
Burj Al Arab, Dubai



Great Buddha at Hyogo, Kobe, Japan



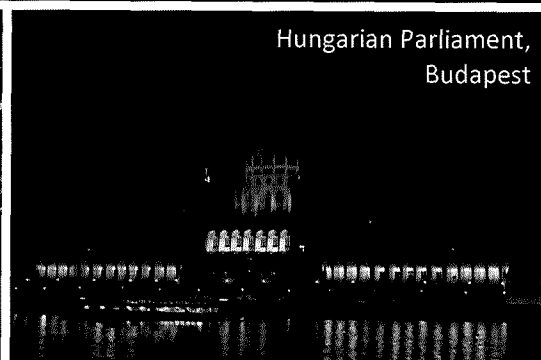
Sydney Opera House
Sydney, Australia



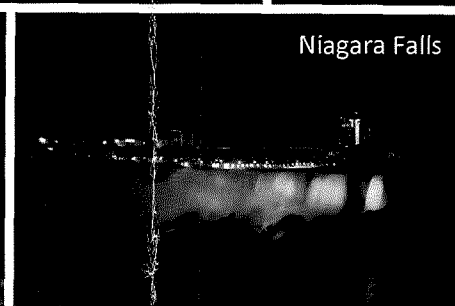
Christ the Redeemer,
Rio De Janeiro, Brazil



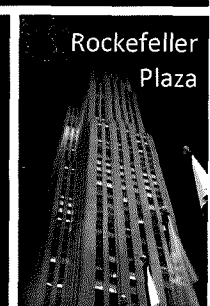
BC Place Stadium, Vancouver



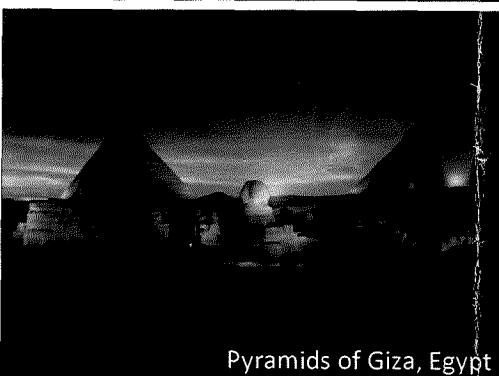
Hungarian Parliament,
Budapest



Niagara Falls



Rockefeller
Plaza



Pyramids of Giza, Egypt

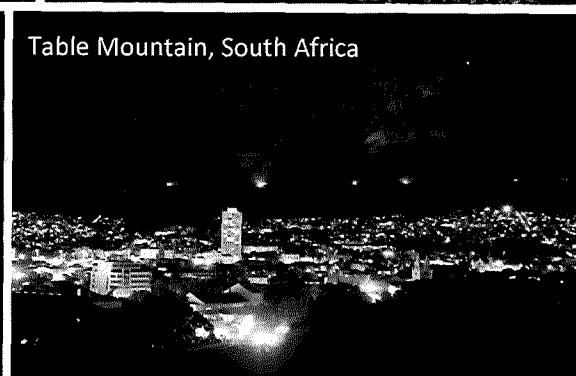
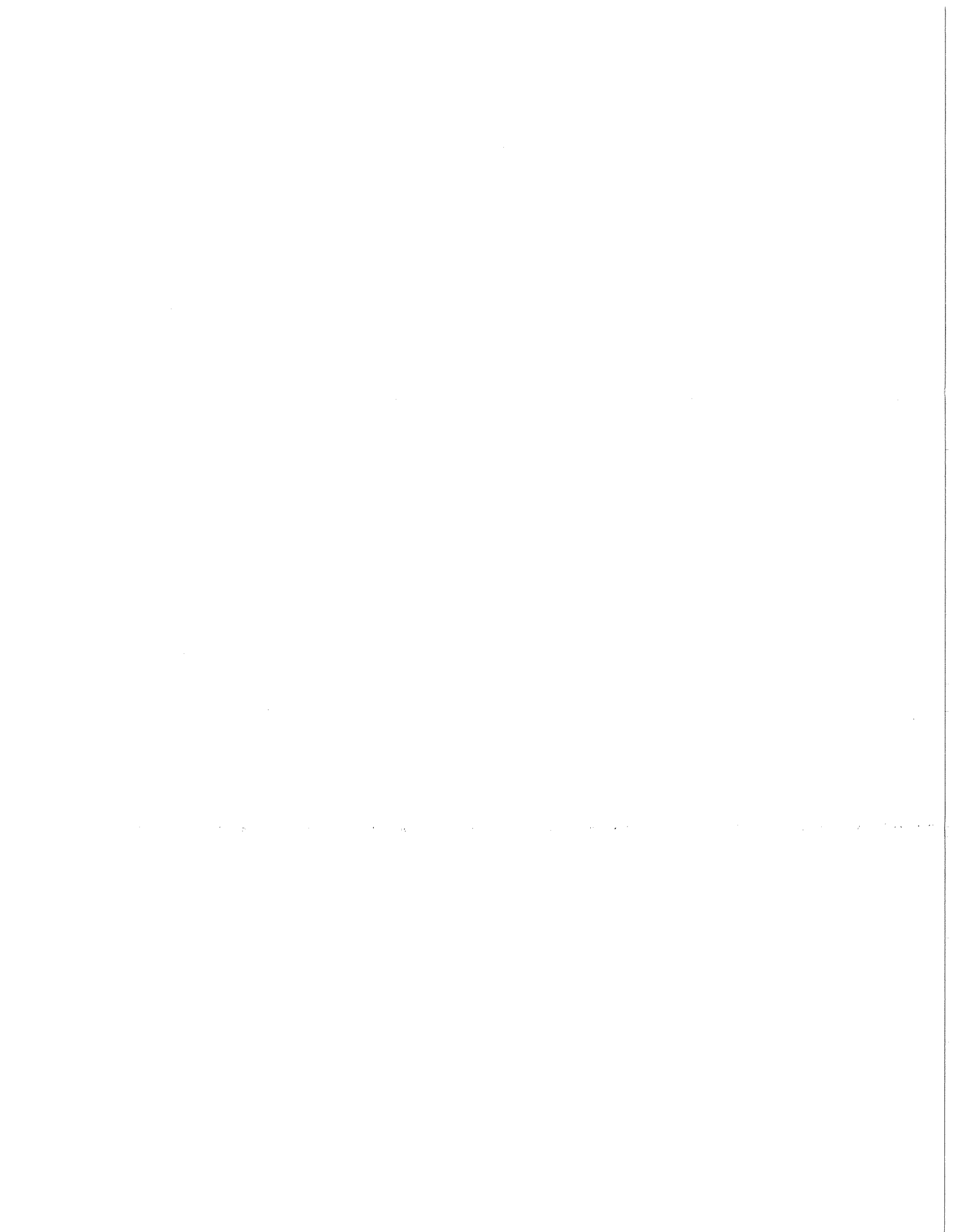


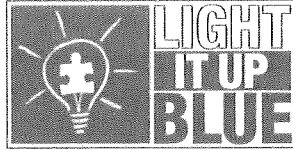
Table Mountain, South Africa



Palacio de Bellas Artes,
Mexico City

Light It Up Blue 2012





AUTISM SPEAKS CELEBRATES WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY WITH 3rd ANNUAL *LIGHT IT UP BLUE* CAMPAIGN AND A SERIES OF AWARENESS EVENTS

***Nearly 3,000 Iconic Buildings and Landmarks in Over 600 Cities and 45 Countries
Worldwide Shine a Bright Blue Light on Autism***

NEW YORK, N.Y. (April 3, 2012) – On April 2, Autism Speaks, the world's leading autism science and advocacy organization, celebrated the United Nations-sanctioned World Autism Awareness Day with a series of high profile awareness events and the launch of its third annual *Light It Up Blue* (LIUB) campaign, a global initiative to raise funds and increase awareness of autism as a growing public health crisis now affecting 1 in 88 individuals, and 1 in 54 boys in the United States.

For the fifth consecutive year, Autism Speaks Co-founders Suzanne and Bob Wright rang The Opening Bell at the New York Stock Exchange to officially kick off the celebration of World Autism Awareness Day and Autism Awareness Month. They were joined by Duncan Niederauer, CEO of NYSE Euronext, and fashion icon Tommy Hilfiger and his wife Dee. Executives from other world autism organizations also rang either the opening or closing bell at NYSE Euronext markets in Amsterdam, Brussels, Lisbon and Paris in recognition and support of all those affected by autism.

On the evening of April 2, nearly 3,000 structures in over 600 cities and 45 countries illuminated in blue and joined Autism Speaks to shine a bright light on autism. To launch this global awareness effort, the Wrights were joined by the Hilfigers and the Kenyon family, a military family affected by autism, at the Empire State Building and "flipped the switch" to light the world famous icon's tower lights blue. Other participating landmarks around the world include the Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum in New York City, the Wrigley Building in Chicago, Aspen Mountain in Colorado, Elvis Presley's Graceland in Memphis, Tokyo Tower in Japan, Christ the Redeemer Statue in Brazil, and the Sydney Opera House in Australia – as well as airports, bridges, museums, concert halls, schools/universities, restaurants, and retail stores around the world.

The public can actively participate in LIUB by visiting LightItUpBlue.org. The website provides a number of fun and creative ideas, from downloading the *Light It Up Blue iOS or Android App* -- allowing users to turn their own pictures blue -- to hosting autism-themed gatherings, wearing the Autism Speaks puzzle piece pin, and purchasing specially marked blue light bulbs and LED lanterns, sold exclusively at The Home Depot, to turn whole neighborhoods blue. The site also accepts donations to fund Autism Speaks' awareness and research efforts.

On March 31, Autism Speaks hosted the *Autism Speaks Salutes Military Families* event at the Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum, as part of its ongoing military initiative to advocate for the passage of the Caring for Military Kids with Autism Act (CMKAA), federal legislation that would assure access to autism benefits for active duty and retired personnel alike, including "Wounded Warriors" who currently lose services for their children with autism once they retire. Congressman John Larson (D-CT), Deputy Assistant to President Obama Michael Strautmanis, retired NASA astronaut Jeffrey Alan Hoffman, event emcee ABC News Correspondent Bob Woodruff, and Susan Marenoff-Zausner, president of the Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum, joined the Wrights, and many military families and individuals with

autism for a fun-filled day featuring activities for kids and a resource fair. The event also featured the debut of a video greeting from Astronaut Dan Burbank aboard the International Space Station. This special salute from NASA sheds light on autism as a growing global health crisis, and emphasizes the need for international cooperation to make widespread change and progress in meeting the needs of individuals with autism.

"We are grateful to these landmark buildings for illuminating blue on World Autism Awareness Day to help spread awareness to millions of people around the world as we light the skies like a beacon of hope for all those affected," says Suzanne and Bob Wright, co-founders of Autism Speaks. "As autism prevalence continues to rise, it is critical we continue to work together, nationally and internationally, to help make widespread change and progress in meeting the needs of individuals with autism."

On December 18, 2007, the United Nations General Assembly, by unanimous consent, passed the resolution designating April 2 as World Autism Awareness Day in perpetuity starting in 2008. The Resolution encouraged UN Member States to take measures to raise awareness about autism throughout society, to promote early diagnosis and early behavioral intervention and acknowledges the high rate of autism in all regions of the world and the consequent development challenges to long term health care, education, training and intervention programs. The UN continues to support World Autism Awareness Day and will hold an awareness event on April 3 jointly sponsored by the Permanent Mission of Bangladesh, the United States Mission to the UN, the Permanent Mission of the State of Qatar, and Autism Speaks. UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, Ambassador Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser – President of the 66th Session of the UN General Assembly – and Ambassador Susan Rice will speak at the event, among others. The event will also include a panel discussion featuring six-time Grammy Award-winning singer-songwriter and parent advocate Toni Braxton and moderated by Christiane Amanpour, award-winning anchor for ABC and CNN.

A list of buildings around the world participating in *Light It Up Blue* is available here:
<http://www.autismspeaks.org/liub-2012-buildings>

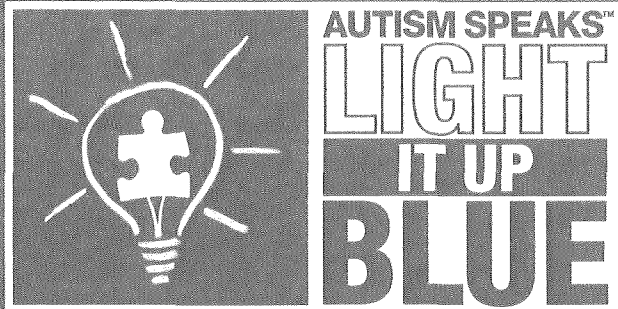
About Autism

Autism is a general term used to describe a group of complex developmental brain disorders – autism spectrum disorders – caused by a combination of genes and environmental influences. These disorders are characterized, in varying degrees, by social and behavioral challenges, as well as repetitive behaviors. An estimated 1 in 88 children in the U.S. is on the autism spectrum – a 100 percent increase in the past 40 years that is only partly explained by improved diagnosis.

About Autism Speaks

Autism Speaks is the world's leading autism science and advocacy organization. It is dedicated to funding research into the causes, prevention, treatments and a cure for autism; increasing awareness of autism spectrum disorders; and advocating for the needs of individuals with autism and their families. Autism Speaks was founded in February 2005 by Suzanne and Bob Wright, the grandparents of a child with autism. Mr. Wright is the former vice chairman of General Electric and chief executive officer of NBC and NBC Universal. Since its inception, Autism Speaks has committed over \$173 million to research and developing innovative resources for families. Each year *Walk Now for Autism Speaks* events are held in more than 95 cities across North America. To learn more about Autism Speaks, please visit www.autismspeaks.org.

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2013 Light It Up Blue PARTICIPATION FORM

Thank you for your interest in Autism Speaks' Light It Up Blue campaign which will take place on Tuesday, April 2, 2013. To confirm your participation, please email Danielle at LIUB@autismspeaks.org and/or fax this form to 212-252-8676.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Building/Business Name (As it should be listed in Press)

Business Type: _____

Contact Name: _____ Contact Title: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Tel: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

PARTICIPATION OPTIONS

My building or landmark will *Light It Up Blue* on the following dates: _____

Participation Description: _____

My business would like to be a *Light It Up Blue Partner* by conducting an in-store fundraising promotion in support of Autism Speaks. Program Description: _____

Program Time Frame: _____

My business would like more information on how to order *Light It Up Blue* merchandise from Autism Speaks.

My business would like to make a donation in the amount of \$_____ to support Autism Speaks.

Payment Information: Check # _____ (made payable to Autism Speaks) Credit Card

VISA MASTERCARD DISCOVER AMEX

Credit Card #

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Expiration Date:

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CCV #:

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Signature: _____

Date: _____

To participate and get more information, email LIUB@autismspeaks.org and visit www.lightitupblue.org.

