

## The Kelly Autism Program

Clinical Education Complex  
104 14th Street  
Bowling Green, KY 42101

Phone Number: (270)745-4KAP (527)  
Email: [kellyautismprogram@wku.edu](mailto:kellyautismprogram@wku.edu)  
Website: <http://kap.wku.edu>



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### Upcoming Events

Move-in date for College Students	<b>August 16-17th</b>
Master Plan for College Students	<b>August 17th</b>
Fifth Year Celebration of KAP	<b>September 4th</b>
Guest Speaker - Temple Grandin	<b>September 4th</b>
KAP Fall Semester Starts	<b>September 8th</b>
LifeSkills Run For Autism	<b>September 13th</b>
<a href="http://www.autismrun.org">www.autismrun.org</a>	

### Mark Your Calendar!

**Guest Speaker  
Dr. Temple Grandin**



On **September 13, 2008**, LifeSkills will be hosting "2008 Run for Autism" to benefit the Kelly Autism Program. The race will begin at the Clinical Education Complex and will include an 8k Wheelchair run, 8k Run, and a 1 mile Family Walk. The run is great practice for the Medical Center 10k, and will benefit a great cause.

All participants that complete the race will receive a commemorative pin. Awards will also be given to overall winners in several categories. There will be FREE games, inflatables, ice cream, and family friendly entertainment. For more information go to **[www.autismrun.org](http://www.autismrun.org)**.

### Schedule of Event

6:00 am Check-in & Race Day Registration  
7:55 am 8k Wheelchair Start  
8:00 am 8k Run Start  
9:00 am 1-Mile Family Walk  
9:15 am Family Entertainment (TBA)

Please join us for the Kelly Autism Program's fifth year celebration at the Clinical Education complex with our Special Guest, Dr. Temple Grandin, Ph.D. on **September 4, 2008**. The celebration will begin at 9:00a.m.

Dr. Grandin is known as the "most accomplished and well-known adult with autism in the world." She is a successful livestock handling equipment designer and author of several books including Emergence: Labeled Autistic. She has written over five books discussing the topic of autism. A book signing will be taking place on the day of the celebration.

She will have two presentations held for students, parents and the community to attend. The first presentation begins at **3:00pm** and the second at **7:00pm** on September 4, 2008 at the Mass Media Technology Hall on Western's Campus.

## Rich Mancil, New Assistant Director



### New Summer Staff!

The summer session, my first in Kentucky, is coming to a close here at the Kelly Autism Program. Before beginning this fall, I would like to introduce myself to the WKU and KAP community. My name is Richmond Mancil, Ph.D. I recently moved from Orlando, FL with my wonderful wife and two lovely children, a boy and a girl. I am an Assistant Professor within the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences. I received my undergraduate degree in mathematics education and masters degree in behavior disorders from Georgia Southern University and my Ph.D. from the University of Florida with an emphasis in autism.

My primary area of research focuses on children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) and their families. I also have an interest in virtual environments and their learning and how it impacts teacher preparation. Prior to coming to WKU and KAP, I was at the University of Central Florida (UCF) where I conducted autism research and developed online autism courses. Prior to UCF, I was a research assistant at the University of Florida where I developed the autism online endorsement and worked on several research grants related to examining the social communicative behaviors of young children with ASD.

I have served on several organizational boards in many capacities such as the President of the Florida Division for Developmental Disabilities and am a member of the Division for Developmental Disabilities Publications Committee. In addition, I serve on numerous editorial review boards such as Beyond Behavior, Journal of Early Intervention, and Focus on Autism and Other Developmental Disabilities. I look forward to working with the children and their families here at KAP and WKU.



**We are pleased to have Rich Mancil as new Assistant Director at the Kelly Autism Program.**

**Kelsey Beach:** Kelsey is an incoming freshmen from Bowling Green, KY. She will be majoring in Special Education. While attending Greenwood high school, Kelsey was involved with Student Council for Exceptional Children.

**Mary Crutcher:** Mary is an art education major from Hendersonville, TN. Mary gives art lessons to children, and in the past has given lessons to individuals with disabilities. Mary will be graduating in December.

**Erin Engler:** Erin recently graduated with a double major in Exceptional Education and History. She is from Princeton, KY. Erin has been very active with the CEC Quiz bowl. In the fall, Erin will begin teaching in Elkton, KY.

**Christy Guenther:** Christy is a senior majoring in elementary education from Hendersonville, TN. Christy has tutored many children since the age of ten, and has an extensive background in music and math.

**Joe Lyon:** Joe is a graduate of Western Kentucky University, majoring in physical education and is from Hopkinsville, KY. He is seeking admission to the graduate program in exception education. Currently, Joe works at Warren East High School in a Exceptional Education classroom.

**Jamie Merritt:** Jamie is a senior communication disorders major from Whitesville, KY. Jamie is recently engaged! She looks forward to working at KAP in the fall, and has loved getting to know all the participants.

**Rachel Reetzke:** Rachel is a junior majoring in Communication Disorders from Franklin, KY. She is a spirit master and active member of Chi Omega Sorority at Western Kentucky University. Rachel is a part of Up til Dawn Fundraising for St. Junes and co-chair of Relay for Life. Rachel has loved working here this summer and looks forward to the Fall.



## Elementary Summer Program!

This summer the elementary group had loads of fun! Each week, the participants focused on a topic from the Bernstein Bears book series, such as Being Messy, Going to the Doctor, and How to be a Friend. They also created a number of beautiful art pieces each day from American flags made with tissue paper to homemade instruments made out of dried beans.

Music time is also a major part of the summer with singing and dancing to our favorite songs such as, "Sally the Camel", and "Brown Bear, What do you see?". The participants even had a full week where Very Special Arts (VSA) came to KAP and showed new art ideas to everyone. Also, don't forget all the socials either! Which included the Imagination Station, bowling and pizza, and Dinosaur World. This summer has definitely been a smash hit and everyone can't wait to see what's in store for the Fall!



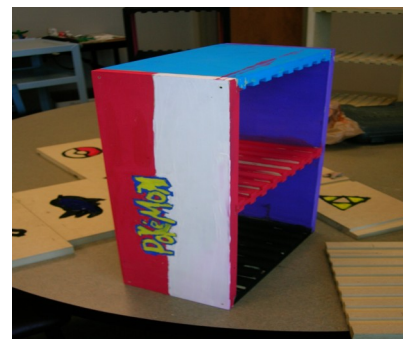
**Elementary participants: Henry Pepper, Michael and Will Sutkowski work during arts and craft time with staff, Joe Lyon.**



## Middle School and High School Summer Program!

This summer at the Kelly Autism Program participants focused on was improving their job skills and job responsibilities. For at least an hour out of the day twice a week the middle school and high school participants traveled to their designated job sites. The middle school age participants were escorted to their job site by a staff member where they worked as a volunteer. As for the high school participants, they received payment for their work and were able to work independently from KAP staff. By sending the participants out into the community to work KAP staff anticipated that in return the participants would learn several important life skills. For example, they learned the importance of hard work, time management, helping, patience, pride, and much more. Also the participants had a great time simply interacting with the staff and the other KAP participants while working. Dillon Grimes a KAP participant could not help but tell all his friends about how much fun he had had at his job. Westen Williams another participant said he loved helping people find books at his job site. As a whole, going to the different job sites was a wonderful experience for the participants and the staff.

**We would like to give  
a  
"THANK YOU"  
to Ricky Grider, for  
cutting all the wood  
for our DVD shelves,  
and our soap box  
derby cars.**





## Getting Paid!

**Jack Felter** was a very busy man working over 20 hours a week. He worked at the computer lab in Tate Page on restoring computers and upgrading them.

**James Townsend** experienced just what a future career as a librarian might be like by working at the WKU Cravens library helping with the circulation desk. He also assisted in the shifting books to make room for new books. James enjoyed his job, and looks forward to hopefully having one of his own books published soon so that it can be in the library.

**John Michael Huffman** was a counselor at Camp Happy Days along with his job coach, Blake Render.



**Tom Durkin and Adam Glass** worked with the Bowling Green Orchestra helping with their fund raising events. They put up event posters, moved them into their new facility, and prepared mail for upcoming events.

**Jamie Greenwell, Markita Wesley,**

**Alex Embry, Nic and Lucas Littrell and Charlie Carter** worked at Camp Courageous helping them get ready for arriving campers. They worked on getting the dining hall organized, prepared the laundry for the next campers, and got the saddle polished for riding lessons.



**James accepts his check from his supervisor at WKU Cravens Library where James worked at the circulation desk.**



**Jamie and Markita worked hard at sweeping the floors at the Camp for Courageous Kids. They also loved helping in the horse stables with Camp Counselor Kate. Their hard work paid off once they received their check from Camp Courageous.**

## Director's Corner

Another summer has come to an end at KAP, and what a summer it has been! Over 76 students were involved in the program, which keep everyone busy. All participants over the age of 16 earned paychecks for their work thanks to the Daniel Jordon Fiddle grant, while the younger students were actively involved in the community. The staff would like to extend a heartfelt "Thank You" to all of the businesses which provided these opportunities including:

- Bowling Green Parks and Recreation "Camp Happy Days"
- Camp for Courageous Kids
- Helping Hands
- St. Vincent DePaul
- Humane Society
- WKU Library Services
- College of Education & Behavioral Sciences
- WKU Gifted Program
- Re-Pets
- Alive Center
- Bowling Green Chamber Orchestra

Now the staff is preparing for the Fall semester as it will be a busy one as well. First, KAP will be celebrating its fifth anniversary with a visit from Dr. Temple Grandin on September 4. Then, Lifeskills and Kiwanis are sponsoring an 8K walk/run with all proceeds going to KAP on September 13.

Besides all of the planned activities, KAP will have 22 college students who will participate in the "Circle of Support" program. This truly will be an exciting time as there will also be all of the younger participants as well. For the first time, KAP will have over 100 participants! Also work continues on the Nation Marketing Program, and the pilot program at the Wendell Foster Center in Owensboro.

The future truly looks very bright for the Kelly Autism Program, the participants and their families!

## VSA Arts Week!

The participants thoroughly enjoyed the VSA arts program this summer. Prior to beginning the art projects, two artists were showcased, both whom are diagnosed with autism. The two artists were Alonzo Clemons (sculpture) and Stephen Wiltshire (drawing). After seeing these amazing individuals create art, the KAP participants created their own drawings and sculptures.



## Scholarships and Charitable Giving

As always, we ask that everyone remember KAP and the benefits that are being brought to the community. KAP has an endowment fund or consider us in estate planning and other forms of giving. KAP can also grow through your effort of time, talent, and treasure.

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