

Matteo Musso

Autism Afficionado w/ 130,000+ hours of practical autism experience



Annette Musso

MOM (Mother of Matteo),
Founder/Exec. Director of Creative Autism Solutions Team



Breakout 1

Autism Secrets Revealed: Truth from a Pre-Verbal Autist

BREAKOUT
PRESENTATIONS

I share my truth about living autistic and highlight misconceptions that even the most big-hearted professionals believe. Then I share secrets that are sure to enhance your practice or relationship with the autist in your life or at work. I love to answer questions from the audience, so please bring them to my session!

Participants who attend this presentation will be able to:

- Gain insights on what it's like living as a pre-verbal autist
- Be comfortable including autists in all aspects of life
- Enhance communication with and your relationship with an autist
- Learn what it really means to "assume intelligence"

Matteo will also be sharing his experiences and insight alongside our local teens on the teen panel!

Matteo Musso is a 16 year teen with autism. His vocal abilities are ever-increasing, but for now, he continues to communicate through his letter board, expressing himself beautifully, one letter at a time. He lives with his parents in northern California. Matteo has been invited to speak at the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota, the Lincoln Center in New York, and for autism groups, conferences, schools, colleges, universities, therapy groups, social groups, book clubs and churches. His message of "assuming intelligence even if we can't prove to you what we know," is changing the way autistic people are educated and treated on a daily basis by those who teach, care for and love them. Matteo's presentations also teach us how to deepen our relationships with those on the spectrum. He has written and published 5 books, highlighting *Handbook of Us: Understanding and Accepting People with Autism*, *Autism Secrets Revealed* and *Moments of Feeling Known*. Matteo loves art, poetry, swimming and music. He loves food, too, and is affectionately known as "The Poetic Foodie."

Annette Musso is affectionately known as MOM, Mother of Matteo. Since their autism journey began in 2005, she has been a mom on a mission. Along with so many special parents in this world Annette has devoted her life to helping Matteo, initially, with the goal of helping him thrive, live comfortably, enjoy loving relationships and contribute in meaningful ways to society during his lifetime. Since the discovery of the letter board, that goal is enhanced to include helping Matteo with his mission on this earth, which is to "be a voice for the silent ones." Annette has a Master's degree in music and has been educated on numerous autism therapies. She founded a non-profit organization called Creative Autism Solutions Team, in 2011, and is now the organization's Executive Director. Annette has also authored a series of children's books: *What If We All Looked the Same?*, *What If We All Loved Chocolate?* And *What If We All Learned the Same?*, as well as, *The Treatons Are Coming!*