

## WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY EVENTS

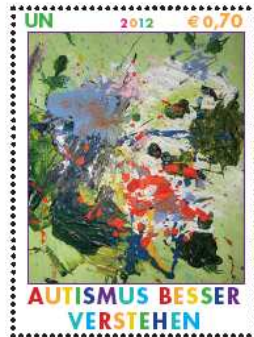
---



World Autism  
Awareness Day  
2 April

**MONDAY, 2 APRIL**

---



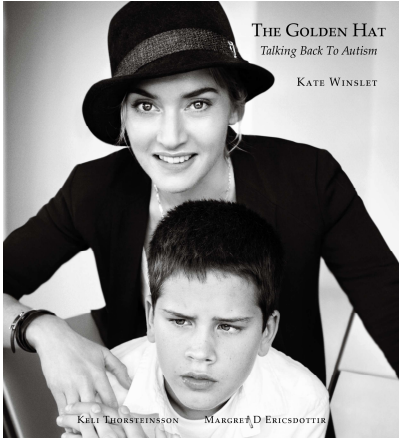
***Launch of Official UN  
"Autism Awareness"  
Stamps***

**United Nations Post  
Offices in New York,  
Geneva and Vienna**

The United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) will issue stamps and first day covers on 2 April 2012 in recognition of World Autism Day. The stamps, and the eight artists who designed them, will together raise awareness about this important global cause. The final selection of the artwork was the result of a worldwide search for talented artists with autism who were eager to share their designs with The United Nations Postal Administration. <http://unstamps.un.org/doc/Announcement/Autism.pdf>

## **MONDAY, 2 APRIL**

---



### ***Book signing by co-author Margret D. Ericsdottir of “The Golden Hat: Talking Back To Autism”***

**1 - 2 pm**

**United Nations Bookshop  
Concourse Level, GA Building**

Presented by the UN Department of Public Information, the Permanent Mission of Iceland to the United Nations, and the Golden Hat Foundation

Kate Winslet’s new book, *“The Golden Hat: Talking Back to Autism”* will be sold during the **“Meet the Author” series** on World Autism Awareness Day. This amazing new book features never seen before self-portraits of 100 A-list celebrities all wearing a magical, “Golden Hat.” The book celebrates self-expression, from the unique self-portraits and quotes of celebrities, to the writing of Keli, a 14-year-old boy with nonverbal autism. Autographed books by Kate Winslet will be available for sale on a first-come / first-serve basis. After a video presentation featuring Kate, co-author Margret D. Ericsdottir will introduce to the book and Kate’s new charity, the Golden Hat Foundation. A brief Q&A session will follow the book-signing by co-authors Margret D. Ericsdottir and her son, Keli Thorsteinsson. No RSVP required.



### ***Press Briefing “The Forgotten Half of Autism”***

**3 - 4 pm**

**Dag Hammarskjold Library Auditorium**

Presented by the UN Department of Public Information, the Permanent Mission of Iceland to the United Nations, and the Golden Hat Foundation

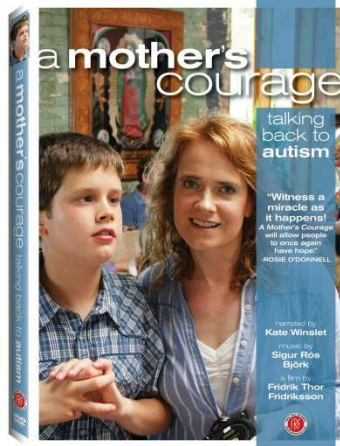
This press briefing will focus on the “the forgotten half of autism”, those without functional communication. Three researchers in the field will speak: Dr. Margret Bauman of Harvard University Medical School, Prof. April Benasich, Director of the Infancy Studies Laboratory, at Rutgers University and Prof. John F. Connolly, Chair in Cognitive Neuroscience of Language at McMaster University. For members of the Press only.

World Autism Awareness Day  
Programme of activities for April 2012 at UNHQ

---

## MONDAY, 2 APRIL

---



### ***Film Screening "A Mother's Courage: Talking Back to Autism"***

**6 - 9 pm**  
**Express Bar**  
**3rd Floor, GA Building**

Presented by the UN Department of Public Information, the Permanent Mission of Iceland to the United Nations, and the Golden Hat Foundation

Special introduction by Mrs. Dorrit Moussaieff, First Lady of Iceland. Margret, whose ten-year-old son Keli has severe nonverbal autism, travels from her home in Iceland to Europe and the United States, meeting with top autism experts and advocates to explore innovative new therapies for non-verbal autism. Margret finds hope that her son may soon be able to express himself on a level she never thought possible. A Q&A session with Margret Ericisdottir, the film's producer and mother of Keli will follow the screening. Light refreshments will be provided. Kindly RSVP to [Lisa.Helt@Goldenhatfoundation.org](mailto:Lisa.Helt@Goldenhatfoundation.org)

## TUESDAY, 3 APRIL

---



### ***Panel Discussion on "WAAD: Delivering Answers through Inclusive International Collaboration"***

**4 - 6 pm**  
**ECOSOC Chamber, North Lawn Building.**

Featuring the public unveiling of the 2012 United Nations Postal Administration Autism Awareness Stamps. Co-sponsored by the Permanent Mission of Bangladesh to the United Nations, the Permanent Mission of the United States to the United Nations, the Permanent Mission of the State of Qatar to the United Nations and Autism Speaks.

Opening remarks will be delivered by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, the President of the 66th Session of the General Assembly, the Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the UN, the Permanent Representative of the State of Qatar to the UN and Autism Speaks founders Bob and Suzanne Wright. Moderated by award-winning journalist Christiane Amanpour, of CNN International. Kindly RSVP to [RSVP@BrownLloydjames.com](mailto:RSVP@BrownLloydjames.com)

## **THURSDAY, 5 APRIL**

---

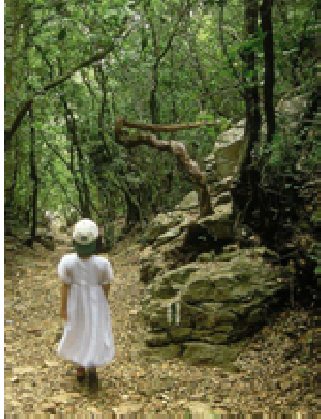


Photo © Shai Ginott

### ***Photo Exhibit of “Through Her Eyes: A view into the challenges of raising an autistic child”***

**1:15 - 2:45 pm**

**Room C, North Lawn Building**

Ms. Shai Ginott, an Israeli photographer, documents her autistic daughter’s life and presents a different kind of family album. The presentation combines photography, storytelling and social commentary, and demonstrates what it is like to raise an autistic child. Light Lunch will be served from 12:30. Moderated by Juan Carlos Brandt, Chief of Advocacy and Special Events, Department of Public Information. Kindly RSVP to: [autismday@newyork.mfa.gov.il](mailto:autismday@newyork.mfa.gov.il)

**[HTTP://WWW.UN.ORG/EN/EVENTS/AUTISMDAY](http://www.un.org/en/events/autismday)**