

## **Professional Experience:**

### **Jason's Connection 501(c)(3) - Cincinnati, Ohio – 2013 - Present**

Founder/Spokesperson, Chief Idea Officer, Editor and Curator for online community sharing cultural and social articles, information, and resources for the Disability, Mental Health and Aging communities, focusing on Advocacy, Disability Culture, and Inclusion

- Authors Online magazine articles
- Conducts Interviews
- Partnerships with Disability Agencies and Service Providers
- Community Consultant with local organizations

### **Living Arrangements for the Developmentally Disabled (LADD) – September 2020 – Present**

Director of Strategic Operations, a leadership team position to develop and oversee innovative strategic initiatives to empower individuals with developmental disabilities to grow.

### **HIVE Network – September 2020 – Present**

Consultant to collaborate and share expertise to mission-driven technology company whose sole purpose is to improve the quality of life and health outcomes of people.

### **Burton Blatt Institute at Syracuse University and Office of Interdisciplinary Programs and Outreach at Syracuse University – Syracuse, New York – August 2018 – July 2020**

Project Coordinator, promoted from Research Associate in 2019, with focus on supported decision-making empowering people with disabilities receiving assistance retain legal agency.

- Research and help write journal articles on supported decision-making and self-determination for publication, including “Supported Decision-Making and the Able Act” and “Supported Decision-Making: State-by-State”
- Helped edit a book on supported decision-making titled, “Supported Decision-Making: Theory, Research and Practice to Enhance Self-Determination and Quality of Life”
- Speaker and panel participant for accessibility, disability and media, and advocacy speaking events at Syracuse University and at various self-advocacy groups, including at S.I. Newhouse School, Syracuse University Library, and RespectAbility in Washington, D.C.
- Podcast and blog contributor to Southeast ADA Center

### **Summer Internship - American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD) - June – August 2017**

AAPD intern at National Disability Rights Network in Washington, D.C. Performed activities to formulate and advocate public policy to protect rights of the disabled, including conducted research, assisted in writing hearing statements and policy papers, represented NDRN at coalition and other meetings, Hill briefings, and other hearings.

### **Disability Cultural Center at Syracuse University – 2018 - 2020**

Advisory Board Member

### **Living Arrangements for the Developmentally Disabled (L.A.D.D.) – 2014 - 2020**

Marketing Committee Member

## **Educational Background:**

### **University of Cincinnati Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities – Cincinnati, OH**

- Currently Enrolled in Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disorders (LEND) 2021 – 2022 Program

### **Syracuse University – Syracuse, NY**

- M.S. in Cultural Foundations of Education – May 2018
- Certificate of Advanced Studies in Disabilities – May 2018
- Vice President of Beyond Compliance Coordinating Committee
- Clubs and Organizations: Disability Cultural Center Advisory Board; Founding Member of OTS (On the Spectrum Group)
- 3.69 GPA

### **College of Mount St. Joseph (MSJ) - Cincinnati, OH**

- B.A. in Liberal Arts with a minor in Philosophy – May 2013
- 3.2 GPA
- Academic Award – Jane Cuning Armstrong Award for Perseverance and Overcoming Adversity - 2013
- Academic Award – Department of General Studies and Philosophy Award of Excellence - 2013
- 2009 – 2013 – Dean’s List Multiple Semesters
- January 2013 – June 2013 – Semester Abroad in London AIFS

## **Speaking Engagements:**

- Cincinnati’s Over-the-Rhine International Film Festival – Moderator and participant in panels of disability advocates - 2021
- Houston ReelAbilities Film Festival – Leader of panel of disability advocates - 2021
- LADD, Inc., Cincinnati, OH – Inclusive language presentation - 2020
- Zero Project Conference 2020, Vienna, Austria – Online resources and information platforms for persons with disabilities – 2020
- Spectrum Lights Inclusion Summit - Session Self-Advocacy and Accepting Who You Are – Washington (Via Videoconference) - 2019
- American University Washington College of Law Supported Decision-Making Symposium, Washington, D.C. – 2019
- Dartmouth College Conference on Illustration, Comics & Animation, Hanover, NH- 2019
- Maxwell School of Citizenship & Public Policy, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY - 2019
- Syracuse University Librarians, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY - 2019
- S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY- 2019
- RespectAbility, Rockville, MD – 2018
- Over-the-Rhine International Film Festival, Cincinnati, OH – 2018
- ReelAbilities Film Festival, JCC Manhattan, NYC, New York - 2016
- ReelAbilities Film Festival Education Outreach- Houston, TX 2016
- University of Chicago - 2016
- NCCJ Conference: Valuing Diversity Proposal Acceptance to Conference- 2015
- Ruderman Inclusion Summit, Boston - 2015
- ReelAbilities Film Festival Houston, Boston, Richmond, NYC - 2015

- St Louis University talk, Missouri - 2015
- ReelAbilities Film Festival *Invisible Disabilities* – San Francisco, CA – 2014
- ReelAbilities Cincinnati – Emcee at Teddy Cramer Event - 2014
- ReelAbilities Film Festival Education Outreach – Cincinnati, Hyde Park School - 2014
- ReelAbilities Film Festival Opening Night Festivities – New York, NY – 2013
- ReelAbilities Film Festival College of Mount St. Joseph – Cincinnati, OH – 2013
- ReelAbilities Film Festival – Columbus, OH – 2013

### **Interviews Conducted by Jason Harris for Jason’s Connection:**

- Dr. Tony Atwood – British Psychologist notable for Asperger Syndrome Work - 2019
- Katie Guest Rose Pryal - Assistant Law Professor UNC Chapel Hill – 2014
- Richard Bernstein – Disability Activist and Michigan Federal Supreme Court Judge – 2014
- Rick Guidotti – Professional Photographer – 2014
- Issac Yablonski – Film Festival Founder, NYC – 2014
- Gloria Walker – Founder Urban NAMI of Cincinnati – 2014

### **Publications:**

#### **Cincinnati Enquirer – 2020**

Published work – Opinion, Your Turn – *Voting Can Be Dehumanizing Experience For The Disabled*.  
Opinion article Your Turn, for *Cincinnati Enquirer* newspaper 10/23/20 edition, focusing on accessible voting rights for the disability community.

#### **University of Minnesota Institute on Community Integration - 2019**

Published work – Impact Magazine Fall 2019 – *Jason’s Connection Giving And Getting The Support We All Need*. Article for Feature Issue: Self-Determination and Supported Decision-Making for People with Intellectual, Developmental, and Other Disabilities

#### **National Resource Center for Supported Decision Making - 2019**

Published work – 2019 - *ABLE Accounts and Supported-Decision Making: Building a Pathway to Independence, Inclusion, and a “Decent Quality of Life”*

Research and Policy paper in Collaboration with Jonathan G. Martinis, for National Resource Center for Supported Decision Making, a project of Quality Trust, Burton Blatt Institute, and University of Kansas Life Span Institute

#### **The Huffington Post - 2017**

Published work – February 2017 - *On Fortune Cookies, Neurodiversity, and Accessibility*

Article for Huffington Post in Collaboration with Diane Wiener Director of Syracuse University Cultural Disability Center

#### **The Mighty - 2015**

Published work - August 2015 - *I’m an Adult on the Spectrum, so Please Stop Treating Me Like a Child*  
Online magazine focusing on improving the lives of people facing disease, disorder and disability

#### **StoryCorps – 2015**

Personal interview of Jason Harris that is in the Library of Congress for the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ADA

### **Articles:**

- Anxiety and Depression in the Disability Community
- Autism and Identity: Disability-first or Person-first Language

- Bullying: Is It Just For Kids?
- How Should We View Stephen Hawking?
- “I Can’t Believe You Have Autism”’: The Compliment That Isn’t
- I’m Coming Out: The Truth about Coming Out of the Closet with an Invisible Disability
- I’m Sorry for Saying “Sorry” – Breaking the “Sorry” Habit
- My Experience with Harassment – Jason’s View
- Moving Forward from Autism Awareness, Acceptance, Empowerment and Advocacy to Include Autistic Pride
- Peer-to-Peer Mentoring: A New Model In Providing Support
- Sharing Perspectives For High School Students With Disabilities Thinking About College
- Self-Care: Knowing your Limits and Setting Boundaries
- Supported Decision Making in My Life
- Supported Decision-Making: State by State (research and writing contributions)
- The Frankenstein Effect- Society is Creating its Own Monsters
- The Freedom to Vote: Ensuring Accessible Voting
- The Haunted House Effect: Understanding Sensory Overload
- What if Martin Luther King was White” Why Who Leads a Social Movement is so Important
- What “Warm Bodies” Teaches Us about Humanity and the Treatment of People with Disabilities
- “You’re So Inspirational”’: Disability and the Overall Culture of Inspiration
- Why Experiences Like Mine Show We Need More Than Autism Awareness

### **Projects:**

#### **President’s Council on Disability Inclusion in Philanthropy – Borealis Philanthropy Disability Inclusion Fund’s Grantmaking Committee - 2021**

Grantmaking committee made up of disability justice advocates

#### **YES! Youth Employment Solutions Center – 2020**

Focus group to create manual for youth career development

#### **SUNY Upstate Medical University – 2019**

Barriers to Accessibility related to medical facilities

#### **Archie Comics – 2018 - Present**

Autism consultant to Co-CEO

#### **ReelAbilities Film Festival Speaker – 2011 - Present**

Nationwide events related to Disabilities Film Festival

### **Honors/Awards:**

- "100 Best Blogs for Disabled" - Stairlift Reviews - 2017
- Nomination for President’s Council on Disability, Washington, DC, by Senator Sherrod Brown, OH - 2015
- Jane Cunning Armstrong Award for perseverance and overcoming adversity - College of Mount St. Joseph - 2013
- Department of General Studies and Philosophy Award of Excellence - College of Mount St. Joseph - 2013
- Venue Media Civic Leadership Award, Cincinnati – 2014