

# EXPLORING ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Thurs., April 11, 6:30-8:30 PM  
Sat., April 13, 9:30-11:30 AM

Mercy Health, 1701 Mercy Health Place  
Cincinnati, OH 45237

If you have ever struggled with finding a job, keeping a job, or even having a job you loved, you might want to explore entrepreneurship. In this FREE informational session, we will explore why this might be a viable option for individuals with disabilities, talk to some local entrepreneurs, look at what services are available, and offer some options for how to begin exploring entrepreneurship.



## ALLIE GUARD

allie art is the colorful creation of Allie Guard, a young woman with Down Syndrome from Cincinnati who is drawn to the magic of color. Using colored pencils, she fills intricate patterns with bright hues to create graphic landscapes, each with unique qualities of movement and emotion. After completing a design, the artwork is either framed for display, turned into wearable art in jewelry and accessories, or added to usable items such as book marks, key rings, ID badge reels and bottle stoppers.



## BRENT ANDERSON

Brent Anderson is a recognized role model for individuals with disabilities. A popular speaker, Brent provides valuable insight into life on the autism spectrum and teaches how he relies on humor to navigate his communication challenges. Brent is also the co-author of the entertaining and educational Unintentional Humor; Celebrating the Literal Mind® books and products. He serves as a reminder that although we have differences, we are all connected through the universal human bond - HUMOR.



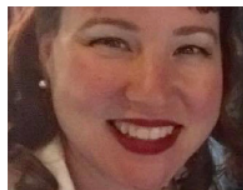
## JAMES AVANT

James Avant IV, owner of OCD Cakes, LLC. is a native Cincinnati and 2015 graduate from the McMicken College of Arts and Sciences. During his collegiate career, James' niche for baking resulted as a byproduct of his ongoing journey with anxiety. James decided to use the baking skills his grandmother taught him and start a cake business out of his small apartment near campus. He launched OCD Cakes or "Obsessive Cake Disorder" a small bites pastry shop as a way to "take the bite out of the stigma surrounding mental health."



## MICHAEL

Michael started painting while attending a program at United Cerebral Palsy in 2010 at age 14. From there he added a home studio his parents Chris and Michelle made for him so he could paint at home. After graduating high school he joined Visionaries + Voices in Northside where he is one of the studio artists there, and expanded his art into fabrics. Now, Michael has his own studio space at the Pendleton Art Center in downtown Cincinnati, Ohio. Many people ask if Michael's art is all his own. Yes, every brush stroke is his own, every part of the creative process is his own.



## EDY DREITH

Edy Dreith is a teacher, singer, entertainer, and administrator. She has written curriculum for preschool music classes, started music series and programs, and began the Queen City Sisters as a creative outlet in 2013. The business has been very successful, and has been featured in many area broadcasts and entertainment stages. Bringing high quality performances of retro music and a sense of community and family have been the driving source behind its success.

Thursday's RSVP: [tinyurl.com/Session1-April11](https://tinyurl.com/Session1-April11) Saturday's RSVP: [tinyurl.com/Session2-April13](https://tinyurl.com/Session2-April13)  
For more information, Contact Mary Helen Richer at [mhricher@autismcincy.org](mailto:mhricher@autismcincy.org)



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