



Meeting students where they are: person-centered learning and early workforce development for autistic individuals.

About

Islands of Brilliance (IOB) provides unique learning and social engagement opportunities for neurodiverse students through a person-centered approach that allows individual interests and capabilities to flourish. Our programming, rooted in art, design and STEM-based curriculum, helps children and young adults on the autism spectrum learn valuable technical skills, while practicing critical social and emotional learning competencies in a supported environment. Our education team partners with parents, educators and support agencies to identify the appropriate programming mix to meet each students' needs and goals.

Programs

From foundational workshops featuring 1:1 mentorship for students beginning at age 8; to work-based transition opportunities through our more rigorous Digital Academy program; to weekly video chats that lean into specific topics of interest or the practical life skills needed to foster independence, we offer a robust menu of programs that help build the technical and social skills needed to thrive, whether it be in the workplace or actively engaged in their community.

Funding Opportunities

- \$250** Provides monthly Doodle Lounge access for five students
- \$1,000** Supports 50 hours of 1:1 mentoring for students
- \$2,500** Provides tuition assistance to families in need through the Brilliant Fund

Mission

By using creativity, technology, and one-on-one guidance, we are positively changing personal perceptions of self and promoting broader community views of those on the autism spectrum from people with disabilities to people with capabilities.

The Need & Opportunity: Fast Facts

1 IN 44 Rate of prevalence of autism in United States
Source: Center for Disease Control (CDC), December 2021

83% Estimated unemployment rate of adults on the autism spectrum, ages 18 - 27
Source: directemployers.org; Autism Speaks

\$461B Estimated impact on U.S. economy by 2025 in direct medical and non-medical services, special education, residential care, unemployment
Source: Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders

6,008 Hours of online instruction provided since 3/2020

4,584 Student enrollments in 2021

77% Of parents report IOB workshops contribute directly to future transition success & positive post-secondary outcomes

90% Of design mentors report a change in their perception of the employability of individuals on the spectrum after workshop participation



Contact

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