



April Greeting from Janus Academy

Hello Families and Staff,

As we welcome the arrival of spring and the return of green grass, I am reminded of how quickly time passes and how important it is to pause and appreciate the little moments. I am incredibly proud of the Educational Team at Janus Academy for their continued dedication to celebrating our students' successes, both big and small. At Janus Academy, these moments are grounded in our core values, which guide how we learn, connect, and support one another each day. They are reflected in the care our staff show, the growth we see in our students, and the strong sense of belonging we continue to build as a school community.

With students returning from Spring Break, we are now entering the final term of the school year. This term promises to be both busy and exciting. Please mark your calendars for our Science and Art Fair and Bottle Drive on April 9th. Our students have invested significant effort into their science projects, and families are warmly invited to visit classrooms to view the science fair presentations. Following the classroom visits, we encourage you to stop by the Learning Commons to enjoy the remarkable artwork created by our talented students.

April is World Autism Awareness & Acceptance Month, a time to recognize and celebrate autistic individuals, their families, and the broader community. Janus Academy will be hosting an information booth as part of this month's events, sharing resources and information that promote understanding, acceptance, and inclusion. Families are also encouraged to participate in local events, including the collaborative event hosted by the Autism Asperger's Friendship Society and Autism Calgary on April 2nd, from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Calgary Stampede Youth Campus (1302 6th Street SE). This event will feature a resource fair, live local performers, art displays, and the signature bubble-blowing ceremony.

Be sure to check out the rest of this newsletter for important updates, upcoming events, and ways to stay involved. As always, thank you for being part of our school family, we're so glad you're here!

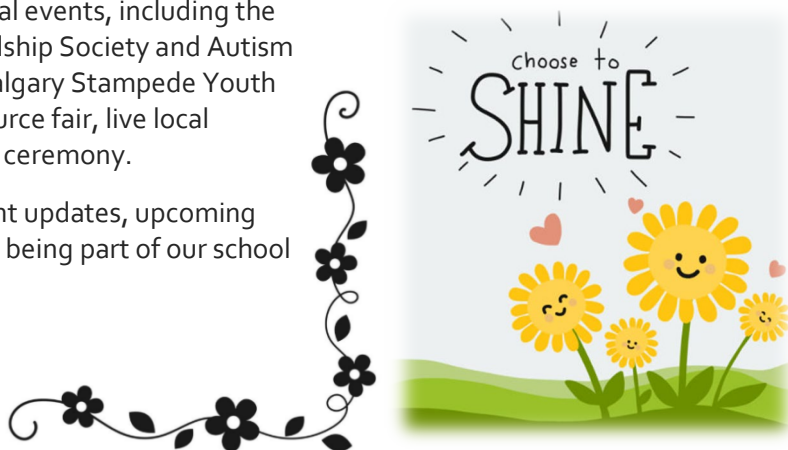
Warm regards

Paige McNeill

Program Director – Elementary

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IMPORTANT DATES

Spring 2026



Mark your calendars

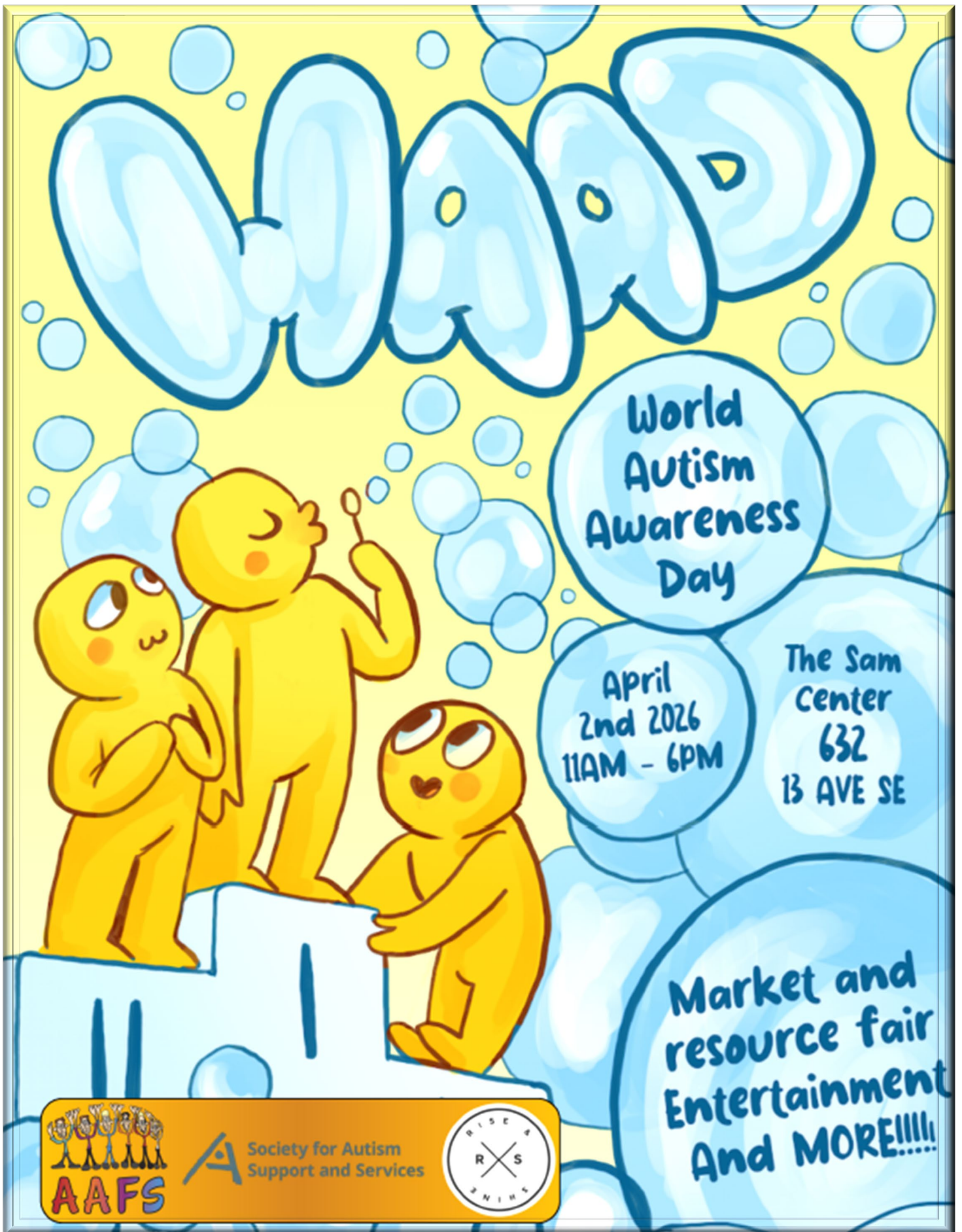
- April 2 World Autism Awareness Day
- April 3 Good Friday (no school)
- April 8 Healthy Hunger (A&W)
- April 9 Science Fair & Art Exhibition / Bottle Drive
- April 20 Non-instructional Day (no classes)
- April 24 Healthy Hunger (Edo)
- May
- May 13 Healthy Hunger (Subway)
- May 14 Parent/Teacher Conferences
- May 15 Non-instructional Day (no classes)
- May 18 Victoria Day (no school)
- May 20 All Elementary Field Trip – Calgary Zoo
- May 28 Healthy Hunger (TacoTime)
- May 29 All JHHS Field Trip – Heritage Park



Save the Date

June 11th is Janus Academy's
14th Annual Sports Day & Pledge-a-thon

Watch for further details in upcoming newsletters.





Raising Autism Awareness
COLOURING CONTEST
 April 1st - April 30th 2026

Welcome to Raising Awareness for Autism Colouring Contest. Our goal is to raise awareness for Autism by spending 20 minutes to colour. Today 1 in 59 children are diagnosed with Autism and it is the fastest growing disorder in the world. The spectrum is vast and the lifelong journey requires significant support and understanding from our community. Autistic children and their families become overwhelmed with finding and accessing the required therapeutic and educational services they need. You can help get the word out by sharing and getting your friends, family, colleagues and community colouring! So, let's colour, to enter just upload your picture through the QR code on your colouring page. Do not forget to share!!! We are excited to see your creativity.

To download the coloring page, link on the link below:

<https://mortgagetree.ca/autism-awareness-colouring-contest-homepage/>

Bonus, for an additional entry upload to your [Facebook](#) and remember to [#autismcolouringcontesttyc](#) to enter. Do not forget to

**Come and join us for our
 Annual Science Fair & Art Exhibition
 on April 9, 2026**

Doors open at 1:30 pm for viewing of the Art displays in our Common Areas giving you time to enjoy the creativity and hard work of our students before the Science Fair begins.

Student science demonstrations will take place in their respective classrooms starting at 2:00 pm and will run for 30 – 40 minutes. Be prepared to be wowed at this amazing event.

Class of 2026

Come and Celebrate

Janus Academy's 2026 Graduation

**TUESDAY
JUNE 2, AT 10:30 AM**

Loose Moose Theater
1235 26 Ave S.E Calgary



Bottle & Clothing Drive Thursday, April 9th

Save your bottles and used clothing and bring them in on April 9th (same day as the Science Fair and Art Exhibition)!

Please ensure that everything is placed in labelled garbage bags. Janus recycling bags will be available outside our door on the 2nd floor. We will also send one home in your child's backpack starting in April. **If you would like a small flyer to take around your community, please email teresa.reynolds@janusacademy.org.**

Drop off location will be right outside the main doors (ground level). *We are unable to accept and store your donations prior to April 9.*



Through the generosity of donors, in 2025 Kids Up Front was able to award Janus families a total of 427 FREE tickets, that is up from the 2024 tickets issued. These tickets were for various events throughout the city of Calgary, and included everything from theatre plays, musical events, holiday parties and festivals to all kinds of sporting events. The total value for these tickets was \$22,666! Thank you to the donors and the team at Kids Up Front for providing these great opportunities to our students and their families. And thank you to the families for providing those thank you notes, cards, photos & emails. They let the donors know their tickets made a difference and help to create smiles on the faces of children.

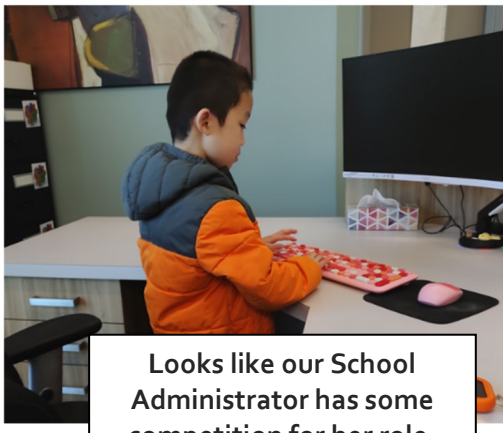


Kids Having Fun!

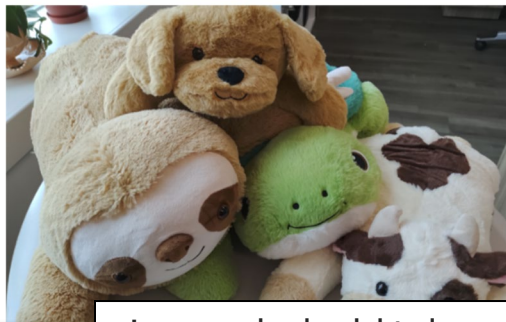
March saw big brothers taking little sisters to see Flames games. Such a wonderful sibling experience.

Around The School

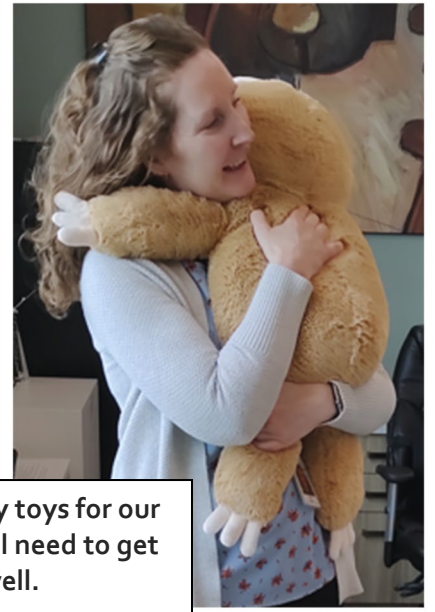
March was a short month that was packed with excitement and wonderful learning opportunities for students and staff.



Looks like our School Administrator has some competition for her role.



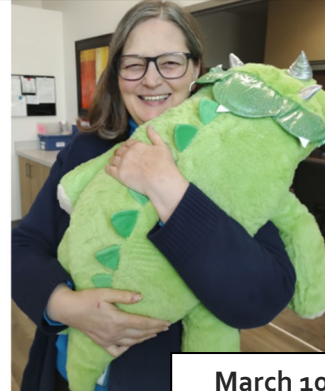
Janus received weighted sensory toys for our students, but it looks like we will need to get some for the staff as well.



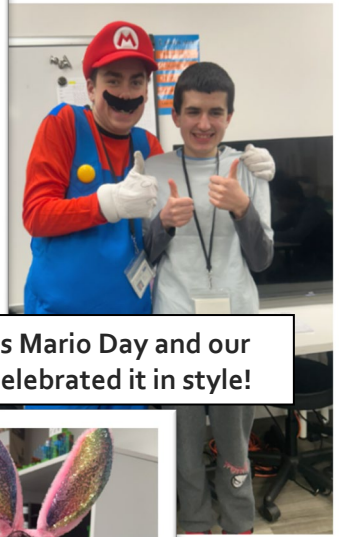
The warmer weather lifted everyone's spirit, especially during student arrival.



At Janus, anyone can be part of a book club.



March 10 is Mario Day and our students celebrated it in style!



Everyone at Janus is working hard to prepare for our Annual Art Exhibition.



Our Sr. High Students were eager to participate in the weekly martial arts classes held in March.



Students & staff started celebrating the Easter holiday a bit early this year.



Classroom 7's start to the day:

Every morning our students do their morning work consisting of tasks created by our Group Instructor Furtuna. Following this we have a morning meeting where we discuss the schedule of the day and important items (trips, special events, birthdays, weekend plans). After this, we break into smaller educational groups where our students are given more focused class instruction. Our main focus is creating a learning space that is supportive and engaging with independence as our goal. Special occasions such as birthdays are always celebrated.



Staff:

Paul A. Moscarella
Shy Tumber
Furtuna Hansom
Kenndra Black
Tara Munroe
Salome Shaibu and Refaat Gerges

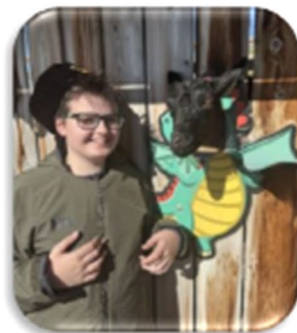
Classroom 7



Language Arts: We are working on reading comprehension, story sequencing, and grammar skills aligned with the Alberta Education curriculum. **Social Studies:** We just completed the Alberta Education unit on Japan: *From Isolation to Adaptation*. **Science:** In Term 1 we studied the Grade 8 Alberta Education unit on *Mechanical Systems*. For Term 2 we are studying *Cells and Systems*.



Independent Living & Life Skills: (Led by our Group Instructor Kenndra) We are working on *Restaurant Upkeep and Healthy Boundaries*. **Math:** Our students are meeting the Alberta curriculum math targets appropriate to their grade level.



YOLANDE DALEY, DIRECTOR OF TRAINING

THE LEARNING CORNER

GROWTH AND MOMENTUM

March was a month of learning and fresh perspective. We had the opportunity to attend two dynamic conferences in Edmonton. The College of Alberta School Superintendents (CASS) Conference and Ignite School Age Care Conference increased Janus organizational visibility, strengthened relationships with education system leaders, and validated our training approach. We gained valuable insights on the emerging priorities to support Early Childhood Educators, and Educational Assistant (EA) training.

The experience created new opportunities to connect with educators and system leaders seeking sustainable training that builds consistency, strengthens capacity, and is replicable. Janus Academy is aiming to grow its professional development footprint across Alberta.

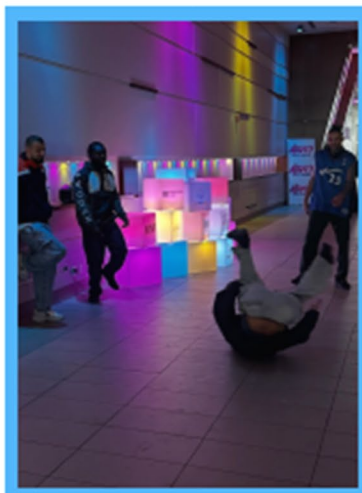
VALIDATION OF OUR WORK

The challenges and priorities discussed at the conferences strongly align with our current training focus, reinforcing that:

- Our content is relevant and timely
- Our approach is well positioned to address real system needs



FUNDRAISING UPDATE



Thank you to our incredible families, staff, Board of Directors, gala committee, and all who supported this year's Spring Gala. It was truly a wonderful evening, and we are so grateful for the time, energy, and generosity that made it such a success. An extra special thank you to Kenndra, Lenzei, Tamara D., Tamara S., Tara, Sumati, Stacey and Frejya for their help leading up to and at the Gala!

We deeply appreciate everyone's contributions and feedback, and we're already looking forward to planning our milestone 30th Spring Gala in 2027!

Fundraising Highlights:

Ticket sales were at 370 this year
 Fundraising games raised over \$11,000
 Silent auction raised over \$22,000
 Live auction raised over \$15,000
 Fund A Need raised over \$46,000
TOTAL RAISED = \$155,000



THANK YOU FOR AN UNFORGETTABLE EVENING!!!

THANK YOU

Thank you to Mel, Sophie, Shy, Cheyenne, Stacey, Paige and Koren for putting together a wonderful Spring Showcase — your creativity, dedication, and hard work truly shone through, and with the incredible support of the classroom staff, the event was a beautiful success.

Thank you to Dan Clark for generously providing additional painting motifs for our school!

Thank you to Chris Parker for ongoing maintenance support here at Janus.

Thank you to the Olwen Priestnall Memorial Fund at Calgary Foundation for donating over \$1,500 to Janus Academy

We gratefully acknowledge a mystery donation of toys and books—these items have been well loved & greatly appreciated across our classrooms.



Board of Directors

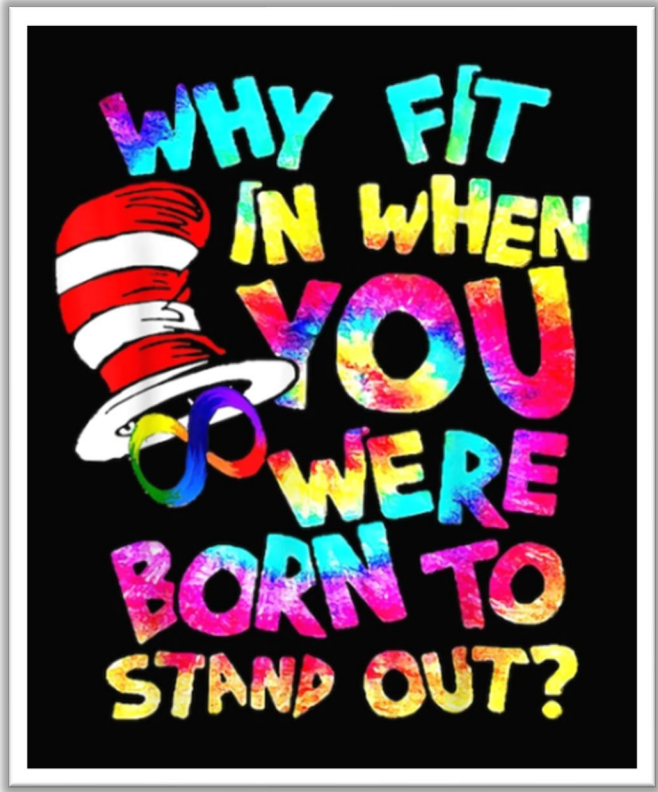
Chair	Servejit Massey
Treasurer	Cecilia Chen
Secretary	Jennifer Tinkler-Chirvaiu
Director	Jeff Meidinger
Director	Riley Dearden
Director	Jake Surrey
Director	Jonathan Moser
CEO	Carlene Chrumka

Our Vision

To be recognized as a leader in specialized education and the facilitation of lifelong community integration of persons with autism

Our Mission

To empower and support persons with autism and their families, maximizing their quality of life by providing the model learning environment that meets their academic, social, and emotional needs.



Janus Academy Society

200 – 403 33 Street NE
 Calgary, AB
 T2A 1X5

P: 403.262.3333
 F: 403.693.2345