



CONFERENCE SCHEDULE
Friday, February 28, 2025
Doors Open at 7:30 am
Exhibits Open 7:30am

Time	Title	Presenter	Cont. Ed. Units	Location
7:30am – 8:00am	REGISTRATION AND NETWORKING			
8:00am-8:15am	Opening Remarks and Instructions	Jackie Smith, MRCA President	N/A	Ballroom
8:15am – 8:45am	Opening Plenary	Reese Blankenship, Entrepreneur and Self-Advocate	N/A	Ballroom
8:45am – 9:00am	Break			
9:00am-10:15am	<i>The IEP – Developing and Implementing the SpEd Teachers’ Most Useable Classroom Tool</i>	Kim Smith, D.Ed, BCBA Janese Mithchel, MS	GSU, BCW	Ballroom
	<i>Music Therapy</i>	Kelsey Adams, MT-BC	N/A	Classroom 1
	<i>All About Georgia’s NOW/COMP Waiver</i>	Rev. Danny Adams Edwards, MSW and Felicia Nelson, MSW	GSU	Classroom 3
	<i>Parents’ Best Practices for IEP – How to be your Child’s Advocate</i>	Nicole Koplik, MRCA Advocate	GSU, BCW	West Wing Classroom
10:15am-10:30am	Break			
10:30am-11:45pm	<i>WTF: What’s the Function? Putting the FUN back in Behavior FUNctions!</i>	Amy Karnes, MS, BCBA Kristen Uyehara, BCBA IBA	GSU, BCW	Ballroom
	<i>The Pharmacology and Genetics of Autism Spectrum Disorder</i>	Dr. Joseph Cubells, MD	GSU, BCW	Classroom 1
	<i>Supporting Siblings of Children with Special Needs</i>	Shauna Joye, PhD; Courtney Zents, PsyD; Shaqueena Moore, PsyD	GSU, BCW	Classroom 3
11:45pm-1:00pm	LUNCH AND LEARN – <i>Planning and Navigating Post Secondary Success – A Panel Discussion</i> *** Shenequa Gresham (Facilitator), Lou and Reece Blankenship, Derek and Teresa Heard, Ann and Rachel Lutz GSU			Ballroom
1:00pm-2:15pm	<i>Special Needs Financial Planning – Beginning NOW!</i>	Sheila Shepherd	N/A	Ballroom
	<i>Identifying Choice Reinforcers for Differential Reinforcement Interventions using Concurrent Operant Analyses</i>	Kayla Randall, BCBA, MEd, PhD	GSU, BCW	Classroom 1
	<i>Realignment – Putting Rights of Passage where they Matter for People at the Tail of the Bell Curve</i>	Matthew Weneta, MEd	GSU, BCW	Classroom 3
2:15pm-2:30pm	Break			
2:30 pm – 3:30pm	KEYNOTE ADDRESS – Great Minds Are Not the Same Followed by Book Signing			
5:00 pm	CONFERENCE CLOSED			