



**FRIDAY, OCTOBER
8TH, 2021**

9:00 – 10:00 A.M.

**MADISON HIGH
SCHOOL GYM**

MARCELLE CIAMPI

NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH

Samantha Craft, M.Ed. (a.k.a. Marcelle Ciampi), a respected Autistic author, international ambassador, and inspirational community builder, is best known for her writings found in the well-received blog and book *Everyday Aspergers*. Craft is the Senior Manager of DEI at Ultronauts Inc., a fully remote engineering firm with an Autistic hiring initiative (featured in the New York Times), where Craft is credited for largely architecting a universal design approach to workplace inclusion. Some of her works, especially *The Autistic Traits List*, have been translated into multiple languages and widely shared in counseling offices around the globe. Her works have led 1000s to diagnoses and community. A former school teacher, Craft has corresponded directly with over 10,000 individuals on the autism spectrum and been featured in numerous articles, books, and research papers. Considered an expert in the field of neurodiversity in the workplace by key thought leaders, her knowledge is shared through training and consultancy work at Fortune 500 companies. Her upcoming book, *Autism in a Briefcase: Straight talk about belonging in a neurodiverse world*, is based on 3000 hours of study. Craft is a proud contributor to the book *Spectrum Women: Walking to the Beat of Autism* and is a doctoral student in the field of organizational leadership and social justice. Marcelle is a dyslexic, dyspraxic, hyperlexic Autistic (diagnosed Aspergers) with gifted intellect and ADHD attributes. Two of her three adult sons are neurovariant, as is her life partner J. David Hall, the CEO of LifeGuides for Autistics. They reside joyfully ever after in the evergreen of the Pacific Northwest.

Facilities are accessible to people with mobility impairments. If you need auxiliary aids or services in order to participate, e.g., sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, materials in alternative format, etc., please submit a request to Shaun Erschens at (605) 688-4280, or shaun.erschens@state.sd.us, with "AAS" in the subject line. To ensure auxiliary aids or services are available, please make the request(s) at least 10 days in advance of the meetings. This event is possible due to partners including the Board of Vocational Rehabilitation, the Board of Services to the Blind & Visually Impaired and the Statewide Independent Living Council.