Throughout my life, and especially since the inception of this magazine, I’ve had the pleasure of meeting so many people with ASD. All have touched my heart in some way. I’ve met people from what seems like every part of the spectrum. It is my belief that people with autism have unique perspectives to offer us and unique ways of looking at life.

I chose to put Johnny Seitz on the cover of this issue because he, like so many other individuals with autism, has been able to impart some of his talents and make a noticeable contribution to others. Even though his gift has garnered visibility, gracing two covers of magazines, we must never lose sight of the small, gentle gifts that others contribute to those around them from the meaning of life and love, to reminders of life’s simple pleasures and remember the ripple effects that are set in motion when one is touched by those with special challenges. Autism has many faces, and we want to educate people about this fact.

Publication could not have been possible without the generosity and kind cooperation of so many people...I’d like to thank the amazing all volunteer Advisory Board members, our advertisers, Janine Wolf, Janice Mathieu, Paul Lariviere, Sharon Hensel-Cohen, Denise Cavanaugh, Keri Bowers, Bill Stillman, Carolyn Krugman, Donna Richards, Hillary Manning, Doug Merrill, David Grace, Christina Liu of The Law Firm of Loeb & Loeb LLP, David Nadel, ColorFX, Inc., Sonia Cabrera, Cheryl Raver, Larry Kaplan, Lenny Schafer, Ed Arranga, Teri Small, Johnny Seitz, Cheryl Ocampo, Esther Hess, Susan Schmidt-Lackner, Annette Bennett-Bready, Anne Sutcliffe, Macy Jozsef, Shari Dolan, Helen Irlen, Donna Ross Jones, Prudence Baird, Claudie Gordon-Pomares, Susan Sherkow, Emily Iland, Toni Gage, Marisol Villamil, Elizabeth Ortiz, Karra Barber, Maureen Fitzgerald, Eric Chessen, Deanne Wenger, Barrie Silberberg, Leigh Stutesman, Sydney Edmund, Donna Williams, Stephen Shore, Michele Iallonardi, Mary Beth Palo, Jill Bullwinkle, Areva D. Martin, Laura Shumaker, Chris Seitz, Stanley I. Greenspan, Lynne Glucoft, Barbara King, Lindsey Geher, Deborah Thomas, Sara Lind

As always, we want to say an extra special thank you to the subscribers for supporting our efforts. We hope you continue to support us this year as we continually work on providing you with a publication worthy of your time.

...and finally, this magazine is dedicated to my sweet Danny Boy

With Deepest Gratitude,

Nicki Fischer