

# AUTISM STORYTELLING FOR POSITIVE CHANGE

GEEK



CLUB



BOOKS



It's time for better understanding and connection. We put forth positive views of autism. Ours is a creative form of autism awareness, advocacy, and education. We tell our own stories through mobile apps and empower others on the autism spectrum to tell theirs.

*"I believe that the key to our autistic children's futures is to capture the hearts and minds of those outside the autism community and move them past 'awareness' into a deeper understanding and human connection to those on the autism spectrum."*

*Jodi Murphy, Founder*

## WHY STORYTELLING?

Research shows that narrative has a powerful impact on the brain and the actions that follow. Stories elicit empathy. Stories facilitate connection. We see the person not a disability.

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**Jodi Murphy** is the founder of *Geek Club Books*, 501c3 charity with an autism education and empowerment mission. She is also co-founder and creative director of *Zoom Autism Magazine*, a lifestyle digital magazine for the autism community. Her focus is on affecting change through storytelling and technology. She dreams of a world where those on the autism

spectrum are valued and given every opportunity to shine using their talents and abilities.

**Molly Murphy** is the author of the *Mighty League* autism story apps, writes articles for the blog, and is sibling advocate for *Geek Club Books*. She is a singer/songwriter who is interested in the connectivity of music, the art of storytelling and collaborative art making. She works for *Advance NYC*, a company that consults with cultural non-profits in New York City.

**Jonathan Murphy** is a commercial and stage actor, and voice over artist. His most notable client is California's Great America Theme Park, where he does the voice over for show intros, in park announcements, and the Halloween Haunt. Jonathan has Aspergers Syndrome and through *Geek Club Books* he shares his real life experiences with kids on the spectrum in the *Mighty League* autism story app series.

*"Jonathan is able to fluently, and with humor, describe what it looks and feels like to be a person on the spectrum."*

*Maggie DeLoach  
Stanbridge Academy*

*"It's time to hack the autism status quo!"*

1 IN 68

CHILDREN HAVE AUTISM

ANNUAL AUTISM  
GROWTH RATE IN US

10 - 17%

70%

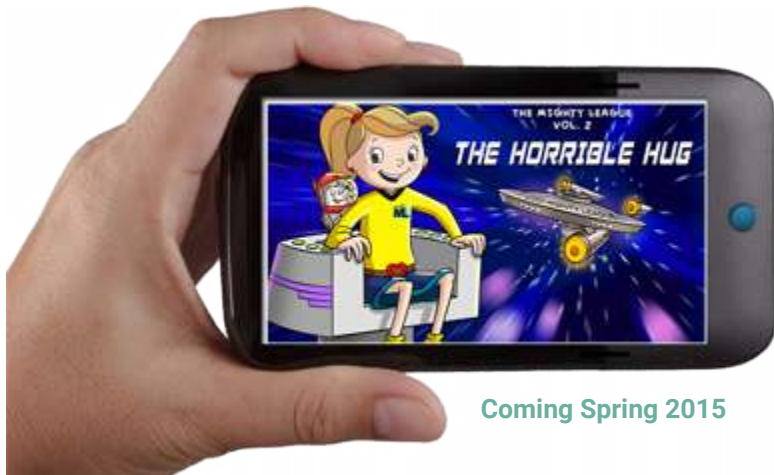
AUTISTIC STUDENTS  
REPORT BEING BULLIED &  
ISOLATED AT SCHOOL

ADULTS UNEMPLOYED  
OR UNDEREMPLOYED

90%



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Coming Spring 2015

In *Mighty League Vol. 2: The Horrible Hug* our autistic superheroes become spaceship captains and embark on a journey to an alien planet—a brand new school. It's an overwhelming, fear-of-the-unknown experience for any child—amplified when you are on the autism spectrum.

They are afraid to draw attention. They are worried that they won't fit in. And they don't understand these aliens and their horrible hugs! Are they signs of acceptance and respect?

Soon our brave captains drop their shields and learn to engage. Based on a true story.

**\*\*\*\*Mighty Powerful!** "Bullying is a huge issue in schools right now and I love that there's something like *The Mighty League* App that brings attention to the subject AND is on a kids level to help them understand and deal with it."

"My son and I just had our first look and it was like we were reading about him. **It is brilliant** on so many levels."

**Tolerance, understanding differences and bullying** are topics embedded within this lesson-filled story app."



***Mighty League, Vol. 1: The Terrible Taunting*** is a creative and interactive story APP based on the real life experiences growing up with ASPERGER'S SYNDROME. This superhero story is told by someone who sees the world from a very unique perspective. It teaches ACCEPTANCE, UNDERSTANDING and EMPATHY for those on the AUTISM spectrum.



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*"Jodi has devoted herself to incredibly meaningful projects that have a **far reaching impact** on the philanthropic community. Her latest is case in point-Geek Club Books is giving children and adults on the autism spectrum a voice. Bravo!"*

## MILESTONES

- Mighty League 1 released in 2013
- Common Core Curriculum for app
- Received Temple Grandin Award
- Toys R Us featured app in Tabeo
- Top 25 of ALL app downloads on World Autism Day
- Received 501c3 status in 8/2014
- App 2 106% funded on Indiegogo
- 5 autistic writers write for blog
- Mighty League 2 in production
- 4 autistic adults working on Mighty League 2 app
- Presentations in Virginia, San Diego, SF Bay Area & Orange County



*"I was at your presentation and wanted to let you know it was the **best one of the whole conference**. I appreciated hearing your perspective."*

*What you had to say was so interesting to me, and how you said it was **amazingly fun**. And FUN, unfortunately does NOT happen often enough at CalABA presentations."*



OC CHILDREN'S BOOK FESTIVAL



CALABA ANNUAL CONFERENCE