



Charity



*"I am only one; but still I am one.
I cannot do everything, but still I can do something;
I will not refuse to do the something I can do."*

- Helen Keller

This month's *Embrace the Lace* theme is Charity, and we felt that there couldn't be a better way to celebrate Charity and everything it encompasses than to support an organization that is near and dear to our hearts ~ *Autism Speaks*. With autism spectrum disorders now diagnosed in 1 out of 150 children nationally, it's critical for organizations such as *Autism Speaks* to receive support from the community. Supporting *Autism Speaks* contributes to autism research, awareness, advocacy, and family services – and provides hope to those who are affected by this disorder.

Our wonderful dyer this month, Catherine from Mama Llama Knits, has a young son with autism. She and her husband Chris write about their son Hillard...

Someone once said that the autistic brain is like Swiss cheese...that is why each autistic child differs. It is a great analogy if you think about it; Hillard is way ahead of other autistics in some aspects but lacks a great deal in other ways; I guess that is why it is so hard to pinpoint, diagnose and cure a disorder like this one. There is no comparison, each child is truly unique.

Being the parent of an autistic child is, in a lot of ways, exactly the same as being the parent of a non-autistic child; milestones like their first smile and first steps are celebrated and having the goal of an independent productive life for their child.

What differs are the expectations for the future. We have no illusions that Hillard will ever be able to drive a car, get married, have kids, or hold a job. We have come to terms with this reality but the disappointment for this realization is easy to overcome. Just one look in his eyes, or one peek at his broad smile, and you will see a smart, sweet, good-hearted kid. He touches everyone he meets in a special way.

We are anxious to see what kind of adult Hillard will grow to be, but we look forward to each day and the milestone it will bring..... Like all parents.

Autism Speaks is dedicated to changing the future for all who struggle with autism spectrum disorders and to raise public awareness of the disease. *Autism Speaks*. It's time to listen.



AUTISM SPEAKS™
It's time to listen.

Woolgirl has joined with many of the *Embrace the Lace* designers, dyers & artists to create some gorgeous prize packages for your support to *Autism Speaks* (<http://givenow.autismspeaks.org/woolgirl>). Starting today and through June 30th, for every \$5 you donate to *Autism Speaks*, your name will be entered to win one of the following prize packages:



choice)

- 👉 2 skeins of sock yarn from Madelinetosh
- 👉 1 set of Tranquility Heart stitch markers from Spindle Cat Studio



- 👉 1 skein of sock yarn + a set of stitch markers from Mama Llama Knits (4 of these will be awarded)
- 👉 2 skeins of "Yet" Merino/Silk Lace Weight yarn from Miss Babs (colorways: Bluebell & Plum)
- 👉 1 shawl or sock kit from Oceanwind Knits
- 👉 A designer tote bag from Timeless Totes (2 of these will be given)
- 👉 1 skein of pure silk lace from Madelinetosh (in winner's color

- 👉 1 Copper Heart Marker Keeper/Pendant from Spindle Cat Studio
- 👉 \$25 gift certificate to Knitspot
- 👉 A set of 6 knitting patterns from Sivia Harding



- 👉 \$30 gift certificate to Woolgirl (2 of these will be awarded)
- 👉 1 month free Embrace the Lace membership package (2 of these will be awarded)
- 👉 A gorgeous knitting accessory bag from Julip bags
- 👉 A designer knitting accessory bags from Amy Thornton (3 of these will be awarded)



- 👉 A set of 6 patterns from Gardiner Yarnworks
- 👉 A 14 oz bottle of SOAK (4 of these will be awarded)
- 👉 2 skeins of baby camel (in natural) from Lobster Pot (5 of these will be awarded)
- 👉 A set of stitch markers from Crimson Orchid (2 of these will be awarded)
- 👉 A set of 6 Goddess Knits patterns

- 👉 A set of 6 Jolene Trace patterns
- 👉 A gift package from Woolgirl which will include a Woolgirl tote, accessory pouch, and all sorts of extra Woolgirl goodies, including a skein of *Woolgirl* from Union Center Knits.
- 👉 3 skeins of Malabrigo lace in winner's color choice (2 of these will be awarded)



- 👉 Plus more prizes added throughout the course of the next couple of months...updates will be listed on the Embrace the Lace Blog.



How do you donate?

Go to the *Autism Speaks* (<http://givenow.autismspeaks.org/woolgirl>) website to make donations of \$20 or more online. If you are donating less than \$20, you can donate by completing the attached donation form and we will be notified of your donation amount once it's received by *Autism Speaks*. Remember, for every \$5 you donate, your name will be entered to win a prize package. So, for instance, if you donate \$20, your name will be entered 4 times.

All details and forms will be listed on the Embrace the Lace blog at <http://www.embracethelace.blogspot.com/>.

Drawings for prize winners will be held on July 1, 2009, and all winners will be notified via email and announced on the Embrace the Lace blog. In addition, as we get them, photos of all prize packages will be shown on the blog.



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