

The GAMbit

The Gifted Association of Missouri
Fall 2022



GAM Day

Join gifted students, parents, and teachers at the Missouri State Capitol Building on Wednesday, February 15th! Meet your state representatives and state senators and help advocate for the importance of gifted education.

Page 7

♥ Favorite!

Advocacy Agenda

GAM needs your help with important new legislative advocacy priorities. We saw tremendous success in 2022 and are excited to present our updated advocacy agenda for 2023.

Page 8

♥ Favorite!



Virtual Speaker Series

Upcoming presentation topics include current trends in gifted education, systems of support, gifted mindsets, and advocacy. Registration information enclosed!

Page 12

♥ Favorite!

Imposter or Co-conspirator?

By Tracy Bednarick-Humes



I'm writing my first GAM president's letter on the eve of my first ever National Association for Gifted Children conference. A conference where I'll also be receiving a gifted coordinator's award. I must admit that I'm experiencing quite a sense of imposter syndrome. Despite my passion for serving the needs of gifted students, their families, and their educators, it's hard to not ask myself the questions, "Do I know enough to be in this role?" and "Am I doing enough to make a difference?" And maybe it's okay to answer these questions with a, "NO," because in saying "NO," I push myself to grow and serve better. I also seek out those who can help me grow, and there are so many amazing individuals in Missouri and beyond who can help me grow as a gifted educator! I'm so excited to serve the gifted students, families, and educators of Missouri as the GAM president and embrace this role where I hope we will learn together how to expand the ways we meet the wide variety of needs of a wide variety of gifted and talented learners! With legislative support behind gifted education in Missouri, I'm eager to work with others to support this great adventure of providing leadership to our gifted community. I will remind myself that I am not imposter; I'm just one of many passionate educators and caregivers (co-conspirators) who want to do their best for all gifted individuals. Thank you for letting me serve your needs as a fellow gifted educator.

I would like to introduce myself. I come to Missouri as a lifelong resident of Michigan where I taught 5-8th grade for 14 years. Michigan does not have the same level of support for gifted learning as Missouri, so as a gifted learner myself, I worked hard to provide a differentiated classroom that incorporated a lot of choice, problem-based learning, and curriculum compacting to meet the needs of a wide variety of learners. I can't stand boredom in learning and didn't want my students to ever feel bored. I feel that the work I did with these kinds of instructional methods eventually led me to gifted education. I have a BA in English and Education with minors in Creative Writing and Science from Hope College (Holland, MI). I have a Master's in Biology Education (Grand Valley State University, Allendale, MI) and a Master's in Gifted Education from Lindenwood University. My Doctorate is in Teacher Leadership from Maryville University. Additionally, I earned my administrative certificate from GVSU and my school psychological examiner certificate from Lindenwood University. In leadership, I have worked as a science coordinator, academic and acceleration coach, and in my current role as a gifted coordinator. Beyond gifted education, I am highly interested in meeting the learning and social needs of middle school students and improving science education.

I look forward to partnering with the GAM Board and GAM members to conspire to meet the needs of gifted learners in rural communities and those from underserved populations. I'm also excited to explore ways to identify and serve the needs of our twice exceptional students. Lastly, I'd love to see gifted educators coming together with general education teachers to support our gifted students in a way that they are challenged and fulfilled the majority of their school day. Let this grand adventure begin!

GIFTED EDUCATION ONLINE

Master's degree (M Ed) in
special education with an
emphasis in gifted education



Choose your option:

MASTER'S DEGREE

An online master's degree designed to enhance the process of teaching and learning in the elementary, middle or high school classroom.

MISSOURI CERTIFICATION

The necessary gifted course work to prepare for Missouri gifted education certification — available online.

All courses listed meet requirements for Missouri Gifted Certification.

Teachers seeking Missouri Gifted Certification may enroll online as post-baccalaureate students without making an application to a degree program.

Courses may be taken in any order beginning in any semester.

SPRING SEMESTER 2023

- Research with Exceptional Children (SPC_ED 8350)
- Nature and Needs of Gifted and Talented Students (SPC_ED 8380)
- Assessment and Evaluation in Gifted Education (SPC_ED 8405)
- Practicum: Gifted Education (SPC_ED 8946)

SUMMER SEMESTER 2023

- Curriculum Methods for Gifted and Talented Students (SPC_ED 8391)
- Assessment and Evaluation in Gifted Education (SPC_ED 8405)
- High Functioning Autism (if adding all courses and not just gifted specific...)(SPC_ED 8604)
- Research (SPC_ED 8350)

FALL SEMESTER 2023

- Differentiating Instructions: Reaching Gifted, Typical, & Struggling Learners (SPC_ED 8406)
- Administration and Supervision of Gifted Education Programs (SPC_ED 8410)

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Jena K. Randolph, PhD

Assistant Professor, Special Education
Special Education Online Program Director
randolphj@missouri.edu
(573) 884-1911

LEARN MORE online.missouri.edu/gambit-su22

DESE Gifted Education Update November 2022

Christine Nobbe
Director of Gifted Education
Christine.Nobbe@dese.mo.gov



Your Input is Needed!

Senate Bill 681, an omnibus K-12 education bill, signed into law by Governor Parson will bring changes to Gifted Education in 2024-25. DESE is looking for feedback on the current Gifted Program rule, 5 CSR 20-100.110 Programs for Gifted Children, and the *Gifted Education Program Guidelines*. To provide feedback please follow these steps:

1. Read the rule by linking to [Missouri Secretary of State: Code of State Regulations](#) and looking at page 6.
2. Peruse the [Gifted Education Program Guidelines](#).
3. Complete a [brief WuFoo survey](#) with two open-ended questions.

This feedback will help DESE create guidelines that will positively impact gifted learners in Missouri. Thank you!

Portrait of a Gifted Learner and MO-GLOs

The Portrait of a Gifted Learner and the Missouri Gifted Learner Outcomes (MO-GLOs) have been posted on DESE's Gifted Education page. I've had the opportunity to talk to people about them at the first Gifted and Talented Tuesday of the year; with several school districts via Zoom or phone calls; and at several conferences including, the Secondary School Principals conference, the Missouri School Counseling conference, the Federal Programs conference, and the GAM conference. I still

have the Missouri Math conference to present at, as well as, an RPDC event. I am looking for additional opportunities to share and received a suggestion to create and post brief informational videos. I also have several ideas on next steps; for example, a document defining key terms, ideas on how to document student growth, and a media package with the colors and icons.

Missouri Scholars and Missouri Fine Arts Academies

It is time to nominate students for MSA and to help students complete their applications for MFAA! MSA will be free this year, but we have not heard about the MFAA student fee. More at these links:

<https://moscholars.missouri.edu/> and <https://www.missouristate.edu/MFAA/default.htm>

If you have not been involved with the MSA/MFAA process, please reach out and I will share more information. Students regularly say "the academy changed my life" and I want to ensure that students in every district have access.

SB 681

This omnibus bill brings big changes to gifted education! To read a summary of the bill and to download the entire bill please visit the Missouri Senate's website:

https://www.senate.mo.gov/22info/BTS_Web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=71259862. The summary states: "Under this act, if 3% or more of students enrolled in a school district are identified as gifted, the district is required to establish a state-approved gifted program for gifted children." ... "These provisions shall apply starting in the 2024-2025 school year."

Exciting News!

Dr. Tracy Bednarick-Humes, Gifted Coordinator, Lindbergh Schools has been awarded the NAGC Gifted Coordinator Award. This award is presented to a current (or serving within the past year) district gifted coordinator/administrator who has had a significant and positive impact on the gifted students in his or her district. Tracy has gone above and beyond to impact Missouri gifted students through GAM: the Speaker Series, the SEL Lesson Plan Repository and Professional Learning, and as a leader of the organization. Tracy will receive her award at NAGC's conference in Indianapolis. Congratulations to Tracy!

NAGC will be announcing the next round of awards very soon and I will share that announcement with you via the Gifted Education listserv. We have many talented educators in Missouri!

Professional Learning

As mentioned above I presented at several conferences this fall. I am also chairing the Powerful Learning Conference planning committee. Registration is now open for #MOPWR2023! If you go to the DESE webpage for the conference (<https://dese.mo.gov/quality-schools/powerful-learning-conference>), you'll find information and a registration link.

Gifted and Talented Tuesdays are rolling along with guest speakers, a book study, and Space Talks for students. **I am looking for guest presenters for January – May 2023.** (The dates are January 10, March 14, April 11, and May 9 at 9:00 AM and January 17, February 21, March 21, and April 18 at 3:30 PM.) Please reach out if you have ideas!

The Advisory Council on the Education of Gifted and Talented Children

The Council presented to the State Board of Education on October 18th. The PowerPoint and an audio recording can be found on this page: <https://dese.mo.gov/state-board-education/agendas-minutes-recordings>

The Council meets on November 15th to discuss the focus for 2023. Please watch the listserv and the Council's website for updates. <https://dese.mo.gov/quality-schools/gifted-education/gifted-advisory-council>

Desk Audits and Data

I started the 2023 desk audits by contacting some school districts about completing Core Data Screen 25 where the identification process is briefly explained. I also compared the number of students who are receiving gifted education services this year to the prior year and contacted districts with a decrease of 20% or more. Districts are making updates.

People often reach out about data. There is quite a bit of data on the DESE Gifted Education page including a map and links to several current and historical reports in the green data tab. <https://dese.mo.gov/quality-schools/gifted-education>

Thank you for being you!

Gratitude is a quality similar to electricity: It must be produced and discharged and used up in order to exist at all. –William Faulkner

I appreciate your efforts with Missouri's gifted kiddos!



-Christine



**BUCKSBAUM EARLY
ENTRANCE ACADEMY**



HS Senior ~~Skip Day~~ YEAR

IOWA

College of Education
Belin-Blank Center

→ belinblank.org/academy



Legislative Update

Kyna Iman

PLEASE PLAN TO JOIN GIFTED STUDENTS, PARENTS, AND TEACHERS FROM ACROSS THE STATE TO ADVOCATE AT THE MISSOURI STATE CAPITOL FOR GAM DAY, ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15.

The day will begin with introductions by a State Representative in the House of Representatives (4th floor House Gallery), and then convene in the Capitol Rotunda on the first floor at 10:30am for a Legislative Briefing and Awards Ceremony. Meetings with your State Representative and State Senator will take place following the awards ceremony in your legislators offices.

To learn who your legislator is and to contact them to make an appointment to visit with them, go to: <https://www.senate.mo.gov/LegisLookup/Default>

GAM Legislative priorities are listed on GAM's Advocacy Agenda for 2023.

For more information, contact GAM's Governmental Consultant, Kyna Iman, at kynaiman@earthlink.net

GIFTED ASSOCIATION OF MISSOURI

2023 State Advocacy Agenda

The Gifted Association of Missouri requests your advocacy on the following issues:

PROTECTING GIFTED EDUCATION LEGISLATION

In 2022, GAM was successful in passing their priority legislation, that will require all school districts in Missouri to offer programs and services to students identified as gifted and talented. GAM continues to advocate for these programs, and continues to work with DESE and all school districts to implement these programs and any rules and regulations governing implementation.

MISSOURI SCHOLARS ACADEMY & MISSOURI FINE ARTS ACADEMY

Support \$850,000 in state funding for the Missouri Scholars Academy and Missouri Fine Arts Academy for June, 2024, in House Bill 2.

- The Scholars Academy is a three-week residential program at MU for 330 rising high school juniors who are academically gifted;
- The Fine Arts Academy is a two-week residential program at MSU for 150 rising high school juniors and seniors who are gifted in the arts.

MISSOURI SCHOOL FOUNDATION FORMULA FUNDING

Support increased funding for the Missouri School Foundation Formula. Support \$3.56 billion appropriation in House Bill 2 for the Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.

OTHER GIFTED FACTS & FIGURES

- \$24,870,104 was appropriated for gifted education in FY2006. There were 295 school districts with state approved gifted programs. In FY2007, this amount was rolled into the new foundation formula. Without this line item providing earmarked funding for state approved gifted programs, those funds can be spent on other programs, and there are now only 200 school districts offering state approved gifted programs.

2023 GAM DAY AT THE CAPITOL IS WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, AT 10:00 AM

You can find your legislators by visiting the Missouri Senate website.
Legislative Look-Up: www.senate.mo.gov/llookup/leg_lookup.aspx
It will give you contact information and a webpage on your Legislators.

If you have questions, please contact GAM's Governmental Consultant, Kyna Iman, at kynaiman@earthlink.net



TRUMAN
STATE UNIVERSITY

SPRING – FALL '23

100% Online Gifted Education

Learn the skills you need to better identify gifted characteristics in students, develop effective curricula, and provide support throughout the learning process. You're in control with completely online study options. Complete the full Master's program, hand-pick a single course, or anything in between.

WHY TRUMAN?

- An emphasis on current challenges and opportunities unique to gifted education
- A combination of Truman Education faculty and active expert practitioners
- Fully online coursework combined with practical field experience
- A program designed for the working professional

MASTER OF ARTS IN GIFTED EDUCATION

Complete a 30 hour degree program and earn a Master's degree in gifted education.

GIFTED CERTIFICATION

Also available is the option to take certification courses to earn an endorsement from the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

SPRING 2023

- ED 605 G** – Psychology of Exceptional Children[^]
- ED 619 G** – Gifted Practicum[^]
- ED 632 G** – Research: Applied Education Psychology[^]

* Offered first 8-week session
 ** Offered second 8-week session
 ^ Full semester

SUMMER 2023

- ED 550 G** – Introduction to Gifted and Talented*
- ED 605 G** – Psychology of Exceptional Children (1st or 2nd 5-week)
- ED 626 G** – Creativity*
- ED 650 G** – Identification of Gifted**
- ED 652 G** – Affective Needs of Gifted*
- ED 653 G** – Programming and Administration of Gifted**

FALL 2023

- ED 550 G** – Intro to Gifted & Talented*
- ED 604 G** – Professional Learning: Gifted Policy, Practice, & Research**
- ED 605 G** – Psychology of Exceptional Children[^]
- ED 632 G** – Research: Applied Education Psychology[^]
- ED 651 G** – Curriculum for Gifted[^]

* Offered first 5-week session
 ** Offered second 5-week session
 ^ Full semester

Learn more at:
gifted.truman.edu or



Part-Time Secretary Needed

The Gifted Association of Missouri has a job opening for a part time secretary. This work for home position offers \$10,000 per year to perform the following duties:

- Send invoices for conference payments
- Manage Constant Contact -- GAM will send you what needs to be sent out: GAM Day at the Capitol, Conference announcements, scholarship requests...etc.
- Send out newsletter and bill advertisers
- Manage member list and contacts
- Help with bookings for conference
- Manage conference proposals and communication-- with help of conference VP
- Manage Eventbrite registration for New Teacher Conference and Main Conference
- Help with arranging catering for conferences with assistance with Conference Committee

If interested, please contact Dr. Tracy Bednarick-Humes at tracybednarick@lindberghschools.ws

College of Arts & Sciences

PRE-COLLEGE PROGRAMS

Continue on your path of academic discovery!



precollege.wustl.edu



Washington University in St. Louis

Gifted Association of Missouri Upcoming Virtual Speaker Series

Monday, January 23rd at 7 pm--**Trending in MO: Portrait of a Gifted Learner, MO-GLOs, and More.** Christine Nobbe, Missouri State Director of Gifted Education Gifted Education is trending in Missouri! With SB681 passed and signed into law, Gifted Education is being pushed to the top of the educational trends! In this session, we will look at the bill's wording and what is in store for gifted education. Also, we will look at the newly developed Portrait of a Gifted Learner and Missouri Gifted Learner Outcomes. Finally, we will use Padlet to brainstorm future trends.

Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/gam-virtual-speaker-series-gifted-topics-trending-in-mo-tickets-347413441957?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

Monday, February 13th at 7 pm--**Multi-tiered Systems of Support for Gifted Learners in the General Education Classroom**

Dr. Rosanne Malek, Ph.D. (Iowa Department of Education Gifted and Talented Consultant) During this session, Dr. Malek will share tips and ideas for meeting the learning needs of gifted students in the general education classroom. She will share strategies from her work on the *Advanced Learning: Multi-tiered Systems of Support Guide*. Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/gifted-speaker-series-multi-tiered-systems-of-support-for-gifted-learners-tickets-391226467897>

Monday, March 13th at 7 pm--**Literal Thinking and Fixed Mind-sets in the Gifted Children**

Maggie Dickinson, ATR, LPC Lindbergh Schools Gifted Programs Counselor Fixed thinkers can struggle with understanding other perspectives, problem solving, and unexpected transitions. This can lead to challenging behaviors and emotions. Join this presentation to learn some strategies and tools that will help your child build more flexible thinking skills. Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/gifted-speaker-series-literal-thinking-and-fixed-mind-sets-in-the-gifted-c-tickets-401242646557>

Monday, April 17th at 7 pm--**Advocating for Gifted Education: The Power of Social Media**

Stefanie McKoy (University of Arkansas Ph.D. Student, Graduate Assistant Curriculum and Instruction; College of Education and Health Professions)- Social media is a powerful tool to advocate for the gifted classroom when used correctly. Participants will learn tips and tricks for advocating for students and their program. Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/gifted-speaker-series-advocating-for-gifted-the-power-of-social-media-tickets-391230349507>

ATSU TRUMAN

HEALTHCARE ACADEMY

A.T. STILL UNIVERSITY & TRUMAN STATE UNIVERSITY



The ATSU-Truman Healthcare Academy is a partnership between Truman State University and Andrew Taylor Still University of Osteopathic Medicine.

The five-day Academy offers an integrated curriculum that exposes students to multiple health professions including medicine, nursing, dentistry and allied health careers such as athletic training, audiology, speech pathology, occupational therapy, physical therapy, optometry, dietetics, counseling, exercise physiology, etc.

Opportunities

- Participate in hands-on labs and stimulating discussions on both campuses
- Earn CPR, AED, and First Aid certifications
- Build connections with other students interested in healthcare
- Enjoy fun, extracurricular activities

Program Information

- June 25 – 30, 2023
- For students who have completed 9th, 10th, or 11th grade
- Live in a Truman residence hall under the supervision of resident staff and preceptors
- \$975 tuition—includes courses, housing, meals, activities, t-shirt, and related materials
- Applications due March 1, 2023

Contact Information

healthcareacademy.truman.edu/
hca@truman.edu · 660.785.5384
Truman State University
100 East Normal Ave · Kirksville, MO 63501

APPLY: Scan the QR code



Through awards and scholarships, the Gifted Association of Missouri celebrates the efforts of many educators, parents, and friends as they continue expanding the promise of gifted education. Colleagues may nominate individuals for awards and submit letters of support to the Scholarship and Award Committee. This committee makes their recommendation to the GAM Board of Directors. Award recipients are honored in February at the GAM Day at the Capitol in Jefferson City. Applications and nominations for these awards and scholarships should be submitted online (<http://www.mogam.org/award-and-scholarship-nomination-.html>) or mailed on or before **January 15th** to:

Gifted Association of Missouri Executive Secretary – Awards & Scholarships
P.O. Box 3252
Springfield, MO 65808

THE DEDE SMITH FRIEND OF GIFTED AWARD

Dede, one of GAM's founders, served as GAM president and editor. Under her insightful guidance, the Missouri Scholars Academy was established. Dede initiated and served as Director of Drury's Center for Gifted Education until her untimely death in 1991. The Dede Smith Friend of Gifted Award is awarded by nomination. GAM invites nominations of individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the field of gifted education in Missouri. An individual who is eligible to be a recipient of this award will belong to one of the following categories: legislator or other elected official, administrator, counselor, regular classroom teacher, media person, business person or mentor.

THE DELMA JOHNSON OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR OF GIFTED AWARD

The Delma Johnson Outstanding Educator of Gifted Award is for educators who have made outstanding contributions to the field of gifted education in Missouri. GAM invites eligible nominees who belong to one of the following categories: teacher of gifted, coordinator of gifted programming, or college professor directly involved with gifted students or teachers of gifted.

THE NORINE KERBER PARENT OF GIFTED AWARD

The Norine Kerber Parent of Gifted Award recognizes parents who have made outstanding contributions to the field of gifted education in Missouri. GAM invites nominees who belong to one of the following categories: parent, step-parent, or guardian of a gifted child in the state of Missouri.

THE BOB ROACH SCHOLARSHIP FOR NEW TEACHERS Sponsored by Drury University

In 1999, GAM created the New Teacher Scholarship to promote the certification of teachers in the field of gifted education. In 2007, the award was renamed the Bob Roach Scholarship for New Teachers in honor of the continuous commitment of gifted educator, Bob Roach. In 2010, the gifted community lost this life-long educator and friend. GAM honors Bob's passion for Gifted Education with a \$250 scholarship awarded annually at the Gifted Association of Missouri Conference. To apply, applicants must be in the process of obtaining certification in gifted education and in their first or second year of teaching gifted.

NICHOLAS GREEN DISTINGUISHED STUDENT AWARD

The Nicholas Green Distinguished Student Award is awarded to one student each year from Missouri. Recipients are given a \$250.00 scholarship along with a Certificate of Excellence by the Gifted Association of Missouri (GAM). Students selected for the award are between grades 3 and 6 and have distinguished themselves in academic achievement, leadership, and/or the arts. Nominations, application, and parental release form for the Missouri NGDS Award must be postmarked by **January 15th** to:

Gifted Association of Missouri Executive Secretary - Nicholas Green Award
P.O. Box 3252
Springfield, MO 65808

When IDK Is Your Answer for PLC or SBG

Nicole Gordon
Elementary Teacher for Gifted Students
Lindbergh Schools
ngordon@lindberghschools.ws

One size fits all. That might be true for hats or socks but it certainly is not true in education. Whether administration is talking about PLCs or standards based grading, many departments just do not fit the mold. That was true for our elementary gifted department. When we talked with curriculum coordinators and administration, they, too, were unsure, offering us some autonomy along with guidance. How do you use standards based grading for process skills like the engineering design process, creativity and collaboration? How does a professional learning community use data when standardized assessments do not correlate to your program? Also, it's not just the gifted department. Art, music, physical education, STEM teachers, and others struggle in the same way. Many educators focus on process skills, not content, which may be difficult to accurately measure. Based on my Google searches, there is not much out there for us "step" children. This is how we broke the mold.

Let's be honest. No one looks forward to meetings, especially PLC meetings, but I was determined to change the narrative. Food worked. Everyone takes turns bringing snacks, drinks or both. We start our meetings with full bellies and closed mouths. Agendas are sent out at least 48 hours before our meeting to give time to think and we plan the agenda for the next PLC as the meeting concludes.

With happy staff, we moved along to the important work. We started by digging into the standards. For our department, we were using ISTE, NAGC, MO gifted learning outcomes, computer science standards, NSTA, and Missouri Learning Standards. That's a lot of standards to muddle through, but administration gave us flexibility to determine our standards. During our PLC time, we narrowed down those standards and created grade level benchmarks with clear learning targets. We completed fidelity checks on our scoring guides to coordinate our standards and assessments. We now have 3 priority standards for the whole program based on the Missouri Gifted Learning Outcomes. We prioritized the benchmarks within those standards and created progress reports to document our observations. During individual conferences, teachers and students collaborate to share observations, goals, strengths, and areas for improvement.

To be clear, it's still messy but that mindset helped us realize that we have work to do. We also stepped away from the "what we want students to know" and focused on "what we want students to DO". That mission pushes us onwards through roadblocks, and we have roadblocks. Face it, it is difficult to specifically quantify curiosity or creativity for standards based grading. We still have work to do but the philosophy of a professional learning community has become our mindset thanks to the administration's direction. We are constantly evaluating our standards, our benchmarks, our progress reports. But more importantly, we are constantly evaluating ourselves beyond the clock of a specific PLC time. Our conversations occur organically when needed, often when things are messy. In being messy, we acknowledged our shortcomings and forged our own mold. We are incorporating more formative assessment, recording student conferences for evidence & data, and making meetings meaningful and fun. One size does not fit all, and that's how we like it.

Nominating Students for the Missouri Gifted Academies

Missouri Scholars Academy

The Missouri Scholars Academy is a three-week residential program for 330 of Missouri's academically gifted students who are ready to begin their junior year of high school. The 2023 Academy will be held June 11- July 1 on the campus of the University of Missouri and administered by the University of Missouri Honors College.

The program is based on the premise that Missouri's gifted youth must be provided with special opportunities for learning and personal development in order for them to realize their full potential. With a carefully selected faculty and staff, a specially-designed curriculum with interdisciplinary courses, and a variety of stimulating extracurricular activities, the Academy enables students to be part of a unique learning community.

In 2023, MSA will be free! Nominate a student today! Go to: <https://moscholars.missouri.edu/> and look for the Nominate a Scholar tab. Nominations are limited and are due on February 3, 2023.

Missouri Fine Arts Academy

The Reynolds College of Arts and Letters at Missouri State University is now accepting student applications for the 2023 Missouri Fine Arts Academy set for June 4-17!

The Missouri Fine Arts Academy (MFAA) is a two-week summer residential program for highly motivated student artists in visual arts, theatre, dance, creative writing, and music. The Academy offers an intensive schedule of classes in interdisciplinary and discipline-specific arts, and a wide range of co-curricular activities. The theme for 2023 is "Elevate."

Applications are due on December 4th and students submit a portfolio of work. Go to: <https://www.missouristate.edu/MFAA/default.htm> and scroll down to the MFAA 2023 Hub.



Gifted Association of Missouri Sticker Contest, 2023

Submission Instructions: Ready in just 3 STEPS!

STEP 1: You (student) design the sticker using this year's theme:
"Celebrate Gifted!"

STEP 2: Your parent/guardian will complete the release form.

STEP 3: Your teacher or parent/guardian submits the sticker and release form on your behalf. Entries can be submitted on the GAM Sticker Contest Google Form at **bit.ly/GAMSticker23**

If you have any questions, please email meredith.gam@outlook.com

**** Please have all entries include the sticker design with release form, with all appropriate signatures of approval. ****

GAM Sticker Contest 2023



Design a sticker that:

- Encourages students to become knowledgeable about Gifted Education
- Uses all-original text and imagery (no previously published material or trademarks)
- Measures no bigger than 3"x3" (stickers will be printed as a circle)
- Incorporates the theme: Celebrate Gifted! (or your gifted program)
- Does not promote any particular political party or disparage any person or group

All entries must be uploaded by **5:00 p.m. CST on January 13, 2023 to: bit.ly/GAMSticker23**

Contest Rules:

- Entrant must be a legal resident of Missouri
- One student entry per person
- Parent permission/release form
- GAM Board members will be voting on the winning design
- Winning design will be shared on GAM Day, February 15, 2021 and posted on the GAM website after that day.
- Prizes:
 - **Winner-** Receive set of stickers with the design; Recognition on GAM website and GAMbit Newsletter
 - **Runner ups-** Recognition on GAM website and GAMbit Newsletter

Requirements of Entries: Entry may not contain, as determined by GAM in its sole discretion, any content that:

- Promotes any activities that may appear unsafe or dangerous;
- Promotes any particular political party/candidate;
- Is suggestive, violent or derogatory of any ethnic, racial, gender, religious, professional or age group, profane, etc.;
- Defames, misrepresents or contains disparaging remarks about other people/groups;
- Contains trademarks, logos or trade dress owned by others (excluding those of GAM, which will be permitted);
- Contains any person or any personal identification such as personal names or email addresses in the design;
- Contains copyrights materials owned by others;

Judging Phase:

All eligible Entries received throughout the Entry Period will be judged based on the following judging criteria: 1. Originality 2. Creativity 3. Represents the theme

If you have any questions, please email meredith.gam@outlook.com



Gifted Association of Missouri Sticker Contest Release Form

By entering the Gifted Association of Missouri™ Sticker Contest, I give GAM permission to publish my work on their website, in other media, and for any purposes. I also authorize the use of my photograph (if applicable). I understand that my work and my photograph (if applicable) may be supplied to media outlets, which may elect to publish my work as well. I understand that I will not be paid for the use of my work. All files and submissions, including any photos taken of me, will constitute the property of the Gifted Association of Missouri and may be used in publications, web publications and any other media for purposes of this contest or related organizational activities. I retain all other rights to the work.

By signing the Verification of Authenticity and release form, the student and teacher agree to the terms set forth.

A completed Entry with release form is required for each individual student entry no later than 5pm CST on January 13, 2023. Student and teacher signatures are required. We prefer to receive each entry via Google Form. The winning design will be shared on February 15, 2023 during GAM Day.

Instructions: Please complete the Verification of Authenticity and Entry with release form. Submit to GAM via the Google Form.

TO BE COMPLETED BY STUDENT: Verification of Authenticity

I, _____ (signature), Date _____
_____ (printed name) have created the following creative sticker. I have not copied any parts of it from another source or used copyrighted materials. I verify that this is my work. I assume all responsibilities and consequences if my work is found to be otherwise. The Gifted Association of Missouri will not be held responsible if legal action results from publication.

TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENT/GUARDIAN:

I, _____ (signature), Date _____
_____ (printed name) verify that my child has created the following creative sticker. They have not copied any parts of it from another source or used copyrighted materials. I verify that this is their work. I assume all responsibilities and consequences if their work is found to be otherwise. The Gifted Association of Missouri will not be held responsible if legal action results from publication. I give permission for GAM to use the artwork and photographs as stated above.

Save The Date - February 15, 2023

GAM Day at the Capitol is back!



**Join us for our rally in the rotunda -
we've got a lot to celebrate this year!**

**More information on #GAMDay23
coming soon...**

*Happy
Holidays!*

