



GAMbit

A Successful Conference!



Did you attend the Gifted Association of Missouri Conference this year? If you missed it, you missed a packed two days of learning and community! For many teachers of gifted, this is only professional development they receive all year. This year's conference included three keynote speakers, vendors, auction baskets, breakout sessions, speed geeking and an awards banquet! Where else can you go and find people that care about gifted? Make plans to attend next year on October 19-20 in Springfield Missouri. GAM needs you and so do the gifted students in Missouri!



GAM ~ 36 Years

1974

House Bill 474 establishes funding for Gifted at 50% reimbursement.

1981

GAM is formed! Steering Committee includes Dede Smith, Delma Johnson, Dalene Bradford, Shirley King, Russ Johnson, Jolene Schultz and Bob Roach as advisor. The GAMbit is distributed statewide! GAM's bank account opens with \$31! The first annual meeting and state conference is held in Jefferson City. Conference keynote is Dr. Anne Crabbe. Dr. Dee Wyckoff is elected President.

1982

Dede Smith is elected first President of GAM. Task Forces appointed to research a summer academy for gifted students and the feasibility of GAM sponsoring the Future Problem Solving competition in Missouri. State Conference keynote is Dr. Irving Sato.

1983

District directors, committees and task forces are organized. First spring conferences are held in districts around the state. The Ferman Memorial Fund for the Gifted is established. GAM State Conference is held in Jefferson City with speakers including Nancy Johnson, Dr. James Webb and Dr. June Maker. Dede Smith is re-elected as President.

1984

GAM sponsors first Missouri Future Problem Solving Bowl in Jefferson City. Governor Chris Bond signs funding bill authorizing funds for the Missouri Scholars Academy. The first New Teachers of Gifted workshop is held. A Task Force is created for Graduate Education/Certification. NAGC Annual Convention is held in St. Louis. Dede Smith is re-elected as president.

1985

Parent resources are published – *Meeting the Needs of Gifted at Home and School* and *Young Children with Advanced Abilities*. The first Missouri Scholars Academy is held at MU. The State Conference is held at Tan-Tar-A with speakers including Dr. Roger Taylor, Dr. James Kern, and Nancy Johnson. Susan Cole is elected as president.

1986

Video resource is produced – *“Don't Throw Away a Miracle”* and *“I Think I Have One”*. Student affiliate chapter of GAM is organized with Brian Clark as president. Scholarship fund for gifted students to attend summer programs is established. State Conference is held at Tan-Tar-A with speakers including Dr. Barbara Kerr, Dr. Robert Sawyer, and Dr. Walter Barbe. Dr. Ella Jones is elected as president.

1987

GAM publishes *The Counselor and Gifted/Talented Students*, and *The Librarian and Gifted/Talented Students*, and *The Handbook for New Teachers of the Gifted*. State Conference is held at Tan-Tar-A with speakers including Dr. George Betts, Patricia Bruce Mitchell, and Dr. Felice Kaufmann. GAM establishes an Early Childhood Education task force. Dr. Ella Jones re-elected as president.

1988

The first Gifted Education Week in Missouri is proclaimed by Secretary of State Roy Blunt. Legislation will provide 75% state funding for gifted programs instead of 50% (lobbied for by GAM). The State Conference is held at Tan-Tar-A with speakers including Dr. Robert Sternberg, Roseanne Bentley and Dr. Joyce Van Tassel-Baska. Dr. Carolyn Cooper is elected as president.

1989

GAM publishes *Country Connections*, created by the task force on Rural, Non-Public and Alternative programs. GAM members are appointed to a state committee reviewing certification standards for teachers of the gifted. Task forces on Secondary Education and DESE Guidelines Review are created. The State Conference is held at Tan-Tar-A with keynote speaker Dr. James Delisle. Dr. Carolyn Cooper is re-elected as president.

1990

State Board of Education adopts certification standards for teachers of the gifted. Gifted Education Week proclaimed by Governor John Ashcroft in a ceremony at the capitol attended by more than 1,000 gifted students, teachers and parents. The State Conference is held at Tan-Tar-A with speakers including Dr. Sylvia Rimm, Steven Caney, Dr. K. Medford Moreland and Joy Wayman. GAM publishes *Supporting the Gifted Reader*. Parent Network and Corporate Liaison committees are authorized. Sara Lampe is elected as president.

1991

GAM successfully lobbies to leave funding for gifted education in Foundation Formula. (This means that specific money is earmarked for gifted.) A video lending library is established. DESE guidelines for gifted programs modified as recommended by GAM. Secondary Programs Task Force hosts workshop. NAGC Convention to be held in KC with assistance from GAM members on local planning committee. Mary Kay Farrow is elected as president.

1992

Dede Smith Memorial Scholarship Fund is established. The State Conference is held at Tan-Tar-A with speakers including Dr. Susan Baum, Dr. Barbara Lewis, and Dr. Susanne Richert. GAM welcomes David Welch as Missouri's new State Director of Gifted. Mary Kay Farrow is re-elected as president.

1993

The State Conference is held at Tan-Tar-A with speakers including George Obermeier and Nancy Johnson. There is a "family special" the first day of the conference. Graduate credit is offered for conference attendees. Books to publish and Math task force started. Mary Kay Farrow is re-elected as president.

1994

The State Conference is held at Tan-Tar-A with speakers including Susan Winebrenner, Dr. Carol Tomlinson, Larry Shles, Carolyn Lesser, and Nancy Johnson. GAMbit sponsors writing contest for students. GAM also has Logo contest. Peggy Higginbottom is elected as president.

1995

A mandatory certification endorsement becomes effective September 1, 1995. Middle School and Creativity Task Forces appointed. GAM sponsors writing contest for students. The State Conference is held at Tan-Tar-A with speakers including Dr. Thomas Hoerr, Dr. Nicholas Colangelo, Dr. Sally Walker and Dr. Robert Hayduk. Peggy Higginbottom is re-elected as president.

1996

The State Conference is held at Tan-Tar-A with speakers including Dr. Jim Delisle, Dr. David Lazear, and Dr. Barbara Clark. GAM has 1300 members! Students compete in “Voyage of the Mind” boat contest sponsored by GAM. The Fine Arts Academy is established. Nancy Pate is elected as president.

1997

State Conference is held at Tan-Tar-A with speakers including Dr. Barbara Clark, Judy Galbraith, Sharon Lind, Mary Kay Shandley and Dr. Felice Kaufmann. Fine Arts Academy students provide entertainment for the conference. GAM begins planning to create a webpage. Nancy Pate is re-elected as president.

1998

GAM adds scholarships to train new teachers. State Conference is held at Tan-Tar-A with speakers including Mark Sharenbroich and Dr. James Alvino. Donna Pfautsch is elected as president. Randy Scherr becomes GAM’s legislative consultant.

1999

GAM website is established. There is an extensive review of the GAM bylaws. GAM sponsors a guest artist at the Missouri Fine Arts Academy. GAM organizes its first formal speakers’ bureau. Parent category added to membership. The State Conference is held at Tan-Tar-A with speakers including Dr. Sandra Kaplan and Carolyn Coil. The Delma Johnson Memorial Scholarship is established. A Teacher Education Committee is created. A research component to the GAM library Committee is initiated. Donna Pfautsch is re-elected as president. Kyna Iman becomes GAM’s legislative consultant.

2000

GAM hires an Executive Secretary. The 20th Annual State Conference is held at Tan-Tar-A with speakers including Dr. Barbara Kerr, Dr. Richard Olenchak and Jon Pearson. Nancy Gerardy is elected as president. It is decided the president will serve a two year term.

2001

The Norine Kerber Memorial Scholarship is established. This year has the highest number of Missouri districts offering a state approved gifted program—333 districts. The State Conference is held at Tan-Tar-A with speakers including Dr. Sally Reis, Carolyn Callahan, and Nathan Levy. Nancy Gerardy serves her second year as president.

2002

Legislative Advocacy is increased. The State Conference is held at Tan-Tar-A with speakers including Nancy Johnson and Carol Ann Tomlinson. Susan Berti is elected president.

2003

The State Conference is held at Tan-Tar-A with speakers including Jeanne Purcell and Deborah Burns. Susan Berti serves her second year as president.

2004

The State Conference is held at Tan-Tar-A with speakers including Nathan Levy, Dr. Jann Leppien, and Dr. Linda Smith. Sally Holt is elected as president. State aid is capped at \$24,870,104 which is 65% of reimbursement.

2005

The State Conference is held at Tan-Tar-A with speakers including Dr. Julia Link Roberts, Jan Cloninger, Nathan Levy, and Sue Winter. The Program Evaluation Task Force is formed. Sally Holt serves her second year as president.

2006

The State Conference is held at Tan-Tar-A. Gifted funding is folded into the foundation formula and no longer calculated as a percentage of reimbursement. A temporary penalty is included to deter districts from decreasing gifted program enrollment. Students and teachers in Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate classes are included in DESE gifted data. Sue Winter is elected as president.

2007

The State Conference is held at Tan-Tar-A. Sue Winter serves her second year as president. She gives testimony before the Senate Appropriations Committee as GAM works with Kyna Iman to restore the line item for gifted funding. On July 11, Kyna Iman, David Welch and Sue Winter meet with Commissioner Kent King in Jefferson City regarding funding for gifted programs.

2008

The State Conference is held at Tan-Tar-A. The Higher Education Act is signed into law at the federal level. This act requires pre-service teachers to have training in teaching gifted students. This year, for the first time, GAM awards the Nicholas Green Distinguished Student Award. Ellen Wright is elected as president.

2009

The National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC) conference held in St. Louis, Missouri. 9th and 12th grade students from Boonville High School create a grid portrait of Howard Gardner – the keynote speaker for the conference. Ellen Wright serves her second year as president.

2010

The State Conference is moved to a new location – the Holiday Inn Executive Center in Columbia. GAM is actively involved in writing a segment of the new Missouri RTI Guidance Document that explains how gifted education relates to Response to Intervention. Becky Smith is elected as president.

2011

The State Conference is held at the Holiday Inn Expo Center in Columbia, Missouri. In 2011 we see the highest number of teachers working in gifted programs (920). This includes AP and IB classes. Becky Smith serves her second year as president.

2012

The State Conference is held at the Holiday Inn Expo Center in Columbia, Missouri. Senate Bill 599 requires districts to report on their annual report card whether the school district has a state approved gifted education program and the percentage and number of students currently being served in the program. Patty Cookson is elected as president.

2013

GAM moves their State Conference to a university. The State Conference is held at Drury University in Springfield, Missouri. State Statute 161.249 establishes the Advisory Council on the Education of Gifted and Talented Children. The Council's first report is issued on March 4, 2015. Patty Cookson serves her second year as president.

2014

The State Conference is held at Drury University in Springfield, Missouri. Missouri sees the highest number of students served in programs according to data collected by DESE – 40,984 students! Lea Trimble retires from editing the GAMbit and is given a Lifetime Membership! Dr. Robin Lady is elected as president.

2015

The State Conference is held at the University of Missouri in Columbia. Dr. Bertie Kingore is the conference keynote speaker. The Advisory Council for Gifted and Talented Children creates ten recommendations for action to DESE. Dr. Robin Lady serves her second year as president.

2016

GAM celebrates 35 years! The State Conference is held at the University of Missouri in Columbia. Dr. Richard Courtright is the keynote speaker. Dr. Lenae Lazzelle is elected as president. Senate Bill 638 modifies provisions related to gifted education.

2017

Beginning in 2017-2018, districts will incur a reduction in funding if they experience a decrease in gifted program enrollment by more than 20% based on the previous year's enrollment. Students in AP and IB classes will no longer be counted as gifted in DESE core data. Changes in gifted certification requirements become effective August 1, 2017. That State Conference is held at Drury University in Springfield, Missouri. Dr. Richard Cash is the keynote speaker. Dr. Lenae Lazzelle serves her second year as president of GAM.

GAM is committed to the pursuit of appropriate educational opportunities in every Missouri school, for every student, and will perform the following mandate:

- Advocate for gifted students, their families, and their teachers
- Connect students, families, educators, and the broader community in a statewide network of stakeholders with a unified voice
- Educate by providing information and training opportunities to general and gifted classroom teachers, as well as the families of gifted students

Advocate. Connect. Educate.

The GAMbit is published quarterly by the Gifted Association of Missouri (GAM) to inform educators, parents, and others about the unique educational, social and emotional needs of gifted and talented children and the issues that impact their development.

Publication of information does not imply endorsement of programs or events by the Gifted Association of Missouri unless such endorsement is specifically stated. Permission to reprint is not required (except on copyrighted materials ©) if the reprint includes “Reprinted from GAMbit, Gifted Association of Missouri, Author (if known), Publication date,” and a copy of the reprint is sent to GAM, PO Box 3252, Springfield, MO 65808. Submissions for publication, inquiries, and comments are encouraged. Send to Sheila_Bonner@idschools.org



How do you Pour A Bowl of Cereal?

Form a team, Build your Rube Goldberg Machine™, Compete with your peers.

STEM and STEAM friendly, Rube Goldberg Machine Contests® encourage teamwork, critical thinking and out-of-the-box problem solving, in a fun, fresh learning environment and on a level playing field.



2018 RUBE GOLDBERG MACHINE CONTEST

Celebrate 30 years of fun with us. Register today and Build Your Story!

[CLICK HERE](http://www.rubegoldberg.com) www.rubegoldberg.com

YOU'RE INVITED TO JOIN

#giftedMOchat

Twitter Chat

11.9.17 | THURS | 8 PM

JOIN IN TO DISCUSS
DIFFERENTIATION WORK FOR
GIFTED STUDENTS

Questions contact: Cassie Fogel
cassie.fogel@nkcschools.org
@cassiefogel1

Searching for ways to support academically talented students?



Duke TIP can help.

Our 4th–6th and 7th Grade Talent Searches help gifted students identify their strengths, explore their interests, and celebrate their achievements. There is no fee for schools to participate. Visit tip.duke.edu to learn more.

Duke
TIP

2017 GAM Awards & Scholarships

By Jennifer Medina

Through awards and scholarships, the Gifted Association of Missouri celebrates the efforts of educators, parents, students, and friends as they continue expanding the promise of gifted education. Nomination letters are submitted to the Scholarships and Awards Committee. This committee makes their recommendation to the GAM Board of Directors. Award recipients are honored each year at our annual Missouri Conference on Gifted Education.

Nicholas Green Distinguished Student Award – McKenna Luptak



The Gifted Association of Missouri acknowledges one student each year to receive the Nicholas Green Distinguished Student Award. This award is designed to recognize student achievement in academics, leadership, and/or the arts. We believe the award inspires children to achieve their fullest potential, highlights high-ability students, and draws attention to the educational needs of our nation's gifted and talented students.

This year's award recipient is McKenna Luptak from Blue Springs, Missouri. McKenna attends school in the Independence School District and her teacher is Mrs. Melissa Barkley in the Impact Program.

At the age of 7, McKenna started a program called Kenna's Cuddles to aid and comfort sick children at Children's Mercy Hospital in Kansas City.

On her own, she packaged and delivered 25 packages to local children. The following year, she partnered with a local firemans' union to raise over \$2,000 and deliver 210 packages of stuffed animals, coloring books, and play dough. One fireman said, "Though McKenna is young, I think we can all learn a lot from her, especially in terms of her willingness and eagerness to help those who are less fortunate." McKenna loves helping others and also has dreams of helping animals in need, as well. She said, "My goal is to be like Jane Goodall and stop people from cutting down trees."

Do you know someone in gifted who deserves an award or scholarship? Submit their name at:

<http://www.mogam.org/awards-and-scholarships.html>

Dede Freeman Smith Memorial Scholarship – Ruth Seboldt



The Dede Freeman Smith Memorial Scholarship is awarded annually at the GAM conference. Dede served as GAM president, GAMbit editor, the first Director of Drury University’s Center for Gifted Education, and above all else, Dede was a parent and advocate for gifted children. This year, the Dede Freeman Smith Friend of Gifted Award was awarded to Ms. Ruth Seboldt from Ozark, Missouri. Ruth is a retired Kindergarten teacher who has compiled a 16-year, non-stop series of weekly volunteer hours for the WINGS gifted program at the Phelps Center of Gifted Education, in Springfield, Missouri. Every nomination letter written about Ruth mentioned her energy and stamina at 82 years of age. She has dedicated over 1,500 hours of volunteer work, awing children with stories of her experience in the Alaskan wilderness (complete with authentic costumes), organizing school supplies, and even greeting students as they walk in the door. One nominating teacher wrote, “Her compassion is second to none! Her motivation and purpose lie

deep within her heart and soul – it is a genuine spirit of service to children and families. She is truly the living ‘energizer education bunny’ with WINGS!”

Norine Kerber Parent of Gifted Award - Dr. Gary Meints



Norine Kerber and Delma Johnson were instrumental in founding the GAM organization in 1981. Their tireless work is memorialized in scholarships presented annually at this conference. This year, GAM recognized Dr. Gary Meints, parent of a gifted student at the Phelps Center for Gifted Education in Springfield, Missouri, as the recipient of the Norine Kerber Parent of Gifted Award. Dr. Meints is a professor at the Missouri State University who takes time from his busy schedule to help set up field trips to MSU’s Chemistry Department, providing experiments for the students to perform in the safety of a “real lab.” He also started an after-school advanced math group at his son’s regular elementary school to provide challenging problem solving

opportunities for gifted students and his son’s classmates with a strong interest in math. Many of those students placed in the top 15 out of hundreds of 4th graders who competed in a recent competition. Dr. Meints has shown a continued commitment to learning about the uniqueness of gifted children. Connie Petrich, Resource Teacher at the Phelps Center, said, “His sincere desire to be a knowledgeable parent deserves to be recognized as exemplary for embracing the positives and taking the challenges in stride to create balance and opportunity for his son as he continues his education journey.”

Delma Johnson Outstanding Educator - Tina Sudkamp



GAM also recognized Tina Sudkamp, from Nevada, Missouri, for the 2017 Delma Johnson Outstanding Educator of Gifted Award. Ms. Sudkamp is a high school gifted education teacher who has proven to be a great asset to the Nevada R-5 School District. “She has trail blazed in a grade level that often struggles to hold together a gifted program,” stated her gifted education colleague, Penny Pennington. She has repeatedly presented at the GAM conference to share her knowledge of high school programs and helps support programs in other districts. As a teacher, she has organized mentorships and job shadowing for her students in their junior and senior years. The success of her students is evident – her graduating class of 2017 had over \$500,000 in total scholarships. Moreover, Ms. Sudkamp

strives to make sure that her students’ achieve developmental and emotional success, as well. One parent wrote, “Mrs. Sudkamp’s room has been and is a refuge for our girls as they discovered a sympathetic mentor who guards their self-esteem, yet challenges them appropriately.” She added, “She is a stalwart rock in tempestuous seas of teenage sturm und drang and nothing less than a rock star in our eyes.”

Bob Roach New Teachers of Gifted Scholarship – Jackie McCarthy



In 1999, GAM created the New Teacher Scholarship to promote the certification of teachers in the field of gifted education. In 2007, the GAM Board voted to rename the scholarship after the Gifted Educator and Advocate, Bob Roach. In 2010, the gifted community lost this life-long educator and friend. In his memory, the Gifted Association of Missouri continues to award the Bob Roach New Teacher Scholarship each year to a teacher new to the field of gifted education. The 2015 Bob Roach New Teacher Scholarship was awarded to Jackie McCarthy from Springfield, Missouri. Jackie is just beginning her second year of teaching gifted students

at the Phelps Center for Gifted Education. She has stood out as a talent in the realm of curriculum development. Last fall she developed a class called “Life Diversified” to compare the anatomy, physiology, and behavior among animal groups and in the spring she taught a class on the science of bicycling, and she is currently teaching a unit on Science Fiction and Fact. Elicia Ligon, stated, “Jackie brings with her a high enthusiasm which is reflected in student engagement. She is a new teacher that should represent the future of gifted education programs in Missouri.”

Congratulations to all of our 2017 Awards and Scholarship recipients! Please remember to apply and/or nominate candidates for the 2018 GAM Awards and Scholarships. Information can always be found on our website: www.mogam.org.



**GIFTED EDUCATION DAY AT THE CAPITOL
JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2018**

9:30 Missouri State Capitol

Arrive and gather on the 4th floor

10:00 House & Senate Chambers

Introduction of students in rooms 414 & 416

11:00 Rotunda

Gather and be seated

11:15 Introductions & Legislative Briefing

11:30 Awards & Presentations

12:00 Visit Your State Representative & Senator

(ask them to have lunch with you!)

Please call to make appointments prior to arriving

Legislators Directory: www.house.mo.gov

Capitol Switchboard: **573-751-2000**

Questions? Contact Dr. Robin Lady, GAM Advocacy

robin.lady.gam@gmail.com



SPONSORED BY THE GIFTED ASSOCIATION OF MISSOURI

GIFTED ASSOCIATION OF MISSOURI

2018 State Advocacy Agenda

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

FUNDING FOR GIFTED EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Support legislation to increase gifted education programs in Missouri schools.

1. Support legislation that mandates every school in Missouri provide state approved gifted education programs for students identified as “gifted” under section 162.675 and that all program services are provided by teachers with a valid certification in gifted education.
2. Support legislation that requires all Missouri school districts to have a policy allowing acceleration for students demonstrating advanced performance or potential for advanced performance and the social/emotional readiness for such acceleration. The policy should include subject acceleration and whole grade acceleration, among other opportunities.
3. Support legislation that requires any district with a state-approved gifted education program to have a process that allows parents or guardians to review a determination that their child does not qualify for gifted services.

MISSOURI SCHOLARS ACADEMY & MISSOURI FINE ARTS ACADEMY

Support state funding for the Missouri Scholars Academy and Missouri Fine Arts Academy for June, 2019. The State Legislature & Governor zeroed out the June, 2018 academies.

- The Scholars Academy is a three-week residential program at MU for 330 high school juniors who are academically gifted;
- The Fine Arts Academy is a three-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 \$3.7 billion appropriation in House Bill 2 for the Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.

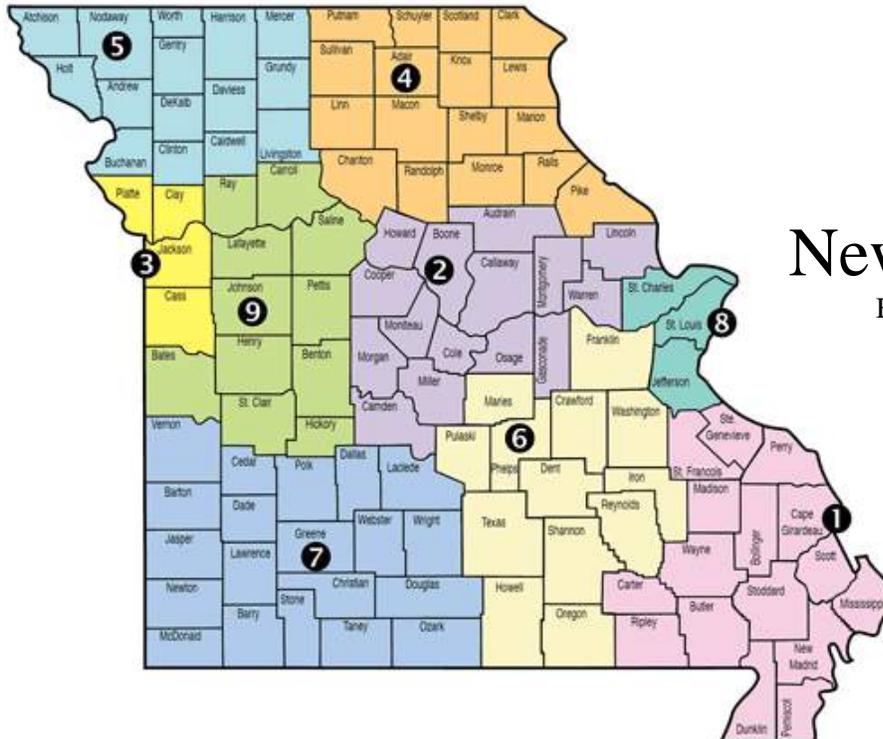
OTHER GIFTED FACTS & FIGURES

- \$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 215 school districts offering state approved gifted programs.

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

New Districts for GAM!

During the April 2017 board meeting, the GAM board voted to change the GAM districts to align with the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) RPDC. The goal of the change is to align GAM functions with regional resources already utilized within the state by school districts and help future integration of GAM's mission and goals with DESE initiatives. The new districts will go into effect at the 2017 GAM Conference.



New GAM Districts

Based on DESE/RPDC locations



Previous GAM Districts

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.

Those interested in gifted course work for Missouri certification should enroll as nondegree-seeking students at

online.missouri.edu/admissions/new-nondegree.aspx

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.

For more information, contact:

Nancy Gerardy
Gifted Education Program Coordinator
Special Education Department
GerardyN@missouri.edu
573-268-7766

SPRING SEMESTER 2018

- Research with Exceptional Children (SPC_ED 8350)
- Assessment and Evaluation in Gifted Education (SPC_ED 8405)
- Differentiating Instruction: Reaching Gifted, Typical and Struggling Learners (SPC_ED 8406)
- Practicum: Gifted Education (SPC_ED 8946)

SUMMER SEMESTER 2018

- Research with Exceptional Children (SPC_ED 8350)
- Nature and Needs of Gifted and Talented Students (SPC_ED 8380)
- Curriculum Methods for Gifted and Talented Students (SPC_ED 8391)
- Practicum: Gifted Education (SPC_ED 8946)
- Administration and Supervision of Gifted Programs

FALL SEMESTER 2018

- Nature and Needs of Gifted and Talented Students (SPC_ED 8380)
- Curriculum Methods for Gifted and Talented Students (SPC_ED 8391)
- Assessment and Evaluation in Gifted Education (SPC_ED 8405)
- Differentiating Instruction: Reaching Gifted, Typical and Struggling Learners (SPC_ED 8406)
- Practicum: Gifted Education (SPC_ED 8946)

Visit: online.missouri.edu/GAMbitF17

Greeted with a Smile!

GiftED: Building a Better Tomorrow



Conference attendees were greeted at the Holiday Inn by GAM's registration team! This is just one way GAM made it easier for our members to attend the State Conference!



Drury University hosted this year's Gifted Association of Missouri State Conference in Springfield, Missouri. Lay Hall housed the registration table, a light breakfast, breakout sessions, our advocacy table and keynote speakers.





Highlights of the GAM State Conference include the baskets for auction. Several choices were submitted from our GAM districts. An exciting surprise was the chance to bid on amusement park tickets to Disney World! You never know what you will find!

The GAM Advocacy Table was staffed by Legislative Consultant Kyna Iman (kynaiman@earthlink.net) and Advocacy Chair Dr. Robin Lady (robin.lady.gam@gmail.com). Several conference attendees wrote postcards to their legislator supporting gifted services in our state. If you would like to learn more about how to advocate for gifted, email these ladies for ideas! Also see the 2018 State Advocacy Agenda on page 14 of this issue of the GAMbit!

Vendors Worth Visiting!

Our conference attendees enjoyed visiting the many vendors GAM invited to this event. Not only were several universities present, but also teacher materials such as Great Potential Press, IPA Educational Supply, and Quirkles/Fuddlebrook School Science Series. Also in attendance were College for Kids, EverFi, Missouri Alliance for Arts Education, St. Louis Student Robotics Association, Bright Ideas, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, Mind Vine Press, Missouri Future Problem Solving Program and Jordan Essentials.



Keynote Speakers



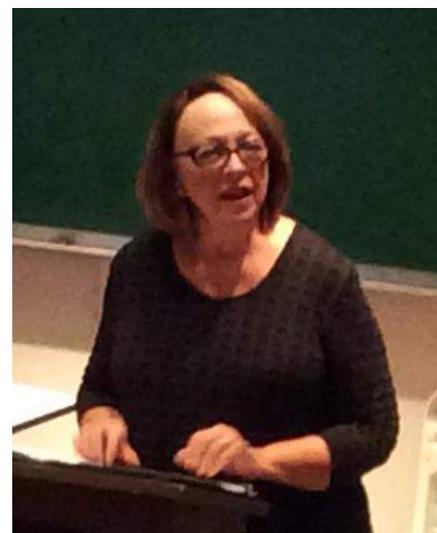
Dr. Richard Cash [@RichardCash](#)

The topic of GAM's first keynote speaker was Self-Regulation for Gifted Learners: Essential Tools for Success. Dr Cash is an award winning author and educator who has worked in the field of education for over twenty-five years. There were so many "tweetable" moments! "If it's good for all kids, it ain't gifted," was a comment that made a point with teachers. "Many gifted kids don't know what effort is" and "Boredom is a self-induced state," are traits that teachers may see in their classes. "Those kids who fail out of college in the first two years are kids who do not know how to study," showed the importance of teaching gifted students how to study.



Dr. James Webb [@JamesTWebbGPP](#)

Dr. Webb, who is the founder of SENG (Supporting Emotional Needs of Gifted Children) spoke to teachers of gifted and parents in the audience. Tweetable moment's included, "Parents make the biggest difference in a gifted child's life!" Dr. Webb explained that "Gifted = wired differently = high potential" He also talked about the need for gifted programing to "fit the child". Another insightful observation was "Most gifted children in the US are first born, other siblings may decide to be something else".



Sara Lampe [@SaraLampe](#)

Sara Lampe is a lifelong educator and an advocate for children and families. After eight years in general education classrooms, Lampe helped co-create the WINGS program in 1978 which offers services to gifted students in Springfield Public Schools grades K – 8. Sara was also elected to the Missouri General Assembly in 2004 and served four two year terms in the House of Representatives. At our closing session, Sara reminded us why we do what we do. It's was a powerful closing to an unbelievable conference.



A Peek Inside the Conference!



Speed Geeking

You may be wondering what is Speed Geeking? It is a way to quickly view a number of presentations about classroom technology within a fixed period of time. Topics included Mystery Skype, a Mindfulness App (www.calm.com/schools), WeVideo, Flippity.net and Alice.org. Alice is an innovative block-based programming environment that makes it easy to create animations, build interactive narratives, or program simple games in 3D.



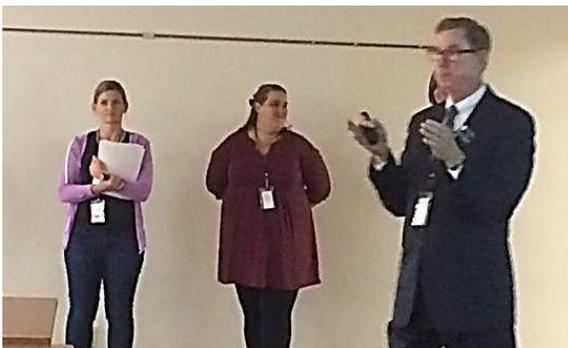
Make it Happen!

Cindy Gifford presented how her district created a universal screening that helped to identify gifted learners using the CogAT. This tool was used to provide teachers with information they could use to adapt their instruction to the needs of each student. The CogAT can also be used for special education students and English language learners to gain better insight into the needs of these students.



Teaching Your Sheldon Cooper!

Dr. John Bruno and Jennifer Pontello provided instructional strategies for teachers of high functioning autism students. This presentation covered the characteristics of autism, communication tools, classroom management and practical learning strategies to use right away in the classroom. In 1975 one in 5000 students were diagnosed as autistic. In 2014 that number jumped to one in 68. Teachers need to be aware of the tools available to help students with autism (communication disorder).



Mindset: Why Should I Stop Telling My Kids They're Gifted?

Too often gifted students are reluctant to engage in any rigorous learning experience in which a successful outcome is uncertain. They avoid those opportunities that may put their self-perception in jeopardy. Dr. Richard Courtright presented an overview of "Mindset" and the research findings that offer guidance for ways to interact with gifted children.



New Teacher Workshop

**By Nancy Gerardy,
Teacher Education Committee Chair**

The 2017 New Teacher Workshop was held on June 26 and 27, 2017, in Townsend Hall on the University of Missouri Campus in conjunction the MSA Teacher Appreciation Day. Twelve new gifted teachers were registered for the workshop. The New Teacher Leadership Team included:

Robin Lady, Meredith Burstin Wisniewski, Lenae Lazzelle, Peggy Pennington, Ashli Eaves, Debbie Green, Erica McConaughy, Cindy Turner, Ruthie Caplinger, Sue Peters, GAM Executive Secretary,

David Welch, State Director Gifted Education and Nancy Gerardy, Teacher Education Committee Chair.

GAM President, Lenae Lazelle, opening the workshop by welcoming the new gifted teachers. Dr. Erica Lembke, Department of Special Education Chair, and the Dean of the College of Education, Dr. Kathryn Chval brought greeting from the University of Missouri. The new gifted teachers introduced themselves in a “Getting to Know You” session facilitated by Robin Lady, Meredith Burstin Wisniewski and Lenae Lazelle. Sessions focusing on “Characteristics , Nature and Needs and Social and Emotional Issues of Gifted Learners” followed the introductions.

The 2017 New Teacher Speaker, Wendy Danner, from Cameron, MO gave a presentation on what she had learned as a new teacher of gifted. Strategies on “How to Begin” were presented by Meredith Burstin Wisniewski.

After lunch, Lenae Lazzelle, and Debbie Green, presented “Affective Curriculum Strategies” and “Communicating with Parents”. Examples of “Creativities Activities” were shared by Peggy Pennington and Ashli Eaves. The new teachers were invited to observe MSA minor classes on Monday afternoon and attend the MSA sponsored Wine and Cheese Reception at the Reynolds Alumni Center at MU. GAM members were also invited to attend the MSA Banquet following the reception. Several members of the New Teacher Workshop Leadership Team attended the MSA events.

The NTW continued on the following day with a continental breakfast featuring speaker, David Welch, State Director of Gifted Education. Sessions on “Curriculum for Gifted”, “Technology in Gifted Education”, “Curriculum /Competitions/Websites” were presented by the NTW Leadership Team.

Lunch with the new teachers of gifted, the GAM Board and MSA participants in Mark Twain Hall was hosted by the University of Missouri, College of Education. Evaluations for NTW indicated participants felt they benefitted from the sessions and overall NTW experience.

The entire New Teacher Workshop Leadership Team contributed to the success of the 2017 workshop. They volunteered their time, finances and expertise to help prepare the participants for their new positions and responsibilities as gifted teachers. Special thanks to Sue Peters for her help with registration and making the name tags, attendance certifications and online evaluations for the workshop. Also, thanks to Debbie Green for arranging the hotel for workshop registrants and the leadership team.



Adam Scimone

Kirkwood R-VII Teacher of the Year Gifted, Nipher Middle School

My first experiences as a teacher were not in a classroom. They were on a boat. My initiation into the educational field was as a naturalist at a marine science station in the Florida Keys. I had the unique pleasure of designing lessons about coral reef ecosystems and then orchestrating them in the water with my students. The joy of seeing young people learn with such passion taught *me* a valuable lesson: The most powerful learning experiences are the ones experienced when individuals

are immersed in the context of the material.

Recently I taught a class on the principles of human-centered design. It became clear that my students understood the concept of empathy, a critical part of the design process, but they were having a hard time applying it. I knew that in order for my lessons to be relevant, we needed to leave the classroom and see what it meant in real life. We developed a partnership with a nearby assisted living facility. Each week we went to the facility and became anthropologists, studying the habits and emotions of the senior residents. Only through this process were we able to gain perspective and learn the challenges other people faced, even if they couldn't individually recognize those challenges themselves. Students slowly started to understand the struggle of living in such a facility: decreased mobility, loneliness, and the harsh realities of aging. But they also found challenges they deemed worthy of solving. One group decided to create a social networking system for the residents so they could find people with similar interests. Another group capitalized on the popularity of bingo and created a version of the game that also helped residents keep abreast of happenings outside the facility. They also designed a new wheelchair ramp that afforded more residents access to their courtyard. The work done in our classroom through the partnership—designing solutions for the residents—felt urgent because students recognized the real-world application. The problems uncovered were complex, open-ended challenges with solutions that pushed students just outside their comfort zone. The project culminated with students presenting solutions to the residents and staff at the facility.

Breaking down the walls of your classroom and creating authentic learning experiences takes a huge risk, but it almost always turns out to be a win-win experience. One student wrote, "I dealt with failure, created experiences and prototypes, built collaboration skills, and made connections with people I didn't think I ever would." In addition, the residents of the assisted living facility were able to develop enriching experiences with our students. This project was not without extreme challenges (scheduling, coordinating weekly field trips, helping students organize their own ideas and, perhaps most challenging, letting go of control on my part), but it was also a perfect example of the types of open-ended experiences that our gifted students need to make them future-ready citizens.



Erin Nash

North Kansas City Teacher of the Year
Intermediate SAGE Instructor
Northland Innovation Center

Why did you decide to become a teacher?

I wanted to accomplish something noble with my life, and I intended to make a difference through my work, but when I first started college, I was not yet sure I wanted to teach. I had to work several jobs to pay for my education, and one was as an English tutor through our writing center. Through this experience, I met an older Korean woman who wanted me to help her learn to speak better English. Each week in her apartment, we worked on understanding the English language together. Helping her grow granted me the realization that teaching would allow me to help others pursue their dreams. However, even in my first year as a teacher, I still wasn't decided. I remember one difficult afternoon, crying at my desk, when my mentor came into my room. "You are meant to be a teacher," she told me, "you just have to have patience." Every day, I am reassured I made the right choice. As I write this, I picture one of my 4th grade students, who frequently told me how proud she was to work independently to make discoveries and answer her own questions. Excited, passionate students helped me fall in love with my profession and solidified that I was always a teacher, even though I didn't always know it.

Are there some techniques you use that you find particularly effective?

First, when I taught HS science, I heavily incorporated the inquiry model, based upon the constructivist theory of education. This model puts learning into the hands of my students and allows them to construct knowledge and align it with their existing schema. This is especially important in regard to the science content I teach, because structuring my lessons this way allows students to actually do the work of scientists, rather than just conducting confirmation labs. I will provide an overarching research question (factors affecting behavior) and students design their own research aligned to that question.

Next, it is important that I am prepared to always have plenty of challenging, differentiated work in a gifted education program. In order to help my students grow as learners, it is also important that they are always challenged.

Finally, I strongly believe our students need to learn to be creators, rather than consumers. Research indicates that we are preparing students for a future where automation will take over many of our current careers, so developing creative problem-solving skills is even more important. Teaching students to create can actually be very challenging,

What do you look forward to most when you enter your classroom?

My students are so excited to learn every day, and this, in turn makes me excited as well. They love learning so much, and I feel lucky to be able to grow off of this energy each day. This work feeds my love of learning and feeds my soul.

I am so proud to do the work I do in the North Kansas City school district. At a time when some areas are cutting the funding to gifted programming, NKC schools embraced it by opening our new innovation center, which is truly changing the landscape of education with its open learning environment.



District G Annual Mini-Conference

Thursday, November 16

Sessions: 6-8 pm

Vendors: 5:00-6:00

Registration begins at 4:30pm



Location:

Southwest Early Childhood Center, 812 St Mary's Boulevard, Jefferson City, Mo 65109

Adult Program

DukeTip

Presented by Dr. Richard Courtright Duke TIP is a nonprofit organization dedicated to being a global leader in identifying academically talented youth and providing innovative programs to support the development of their educational potential. Learn more about this organization and the opportunities it offers for your child.

Emotional Needs of Gifted Children

Presented by Brandi Klepper

Gifted Education in Missouri *Presented by David Welch, Director of Gifted* Learn what's new in Missouri and learn what you can do to strengthen your child's gifted programming.

K-8 Program

Students' Sessions: Students will rotate through each 40-minute session.

Stories with Holes: Use your creative and critical thinking to solve famous logic stories!

Keva Blocks: Build 3-D objects from 2-D pictures. Learn the basics of how architects communicate with engineers through front, side and top views of structures. Become the engineer and practice building these structures from the plans given to you.

Instant Challenges: Use teamwork skills to complete challenges using basic supplies like straws, plates, chenille stems and spaghetti

Vendors

College for Kids

Directions: Hwy 63 turn right onto Hwy 54 -Take Missouri Blvd Exit - Turn left onto Missouri Blvd - Take the first right onto Ohio Street - Take a left onto St Mary's and an immediate right into the parking lot.

Registration Fee: \$5 per person

Family Name (s) _____ Email _____

School District _____

Students MUST be accompanied by at least one parent in attendance at the conference!

Student Name _____ Grade _____

Student Name _____ Grade _____

Make checks payable to PEER

Return form and payment to

Ruthie Caplinger, EER, 812 St. Mary's Blvd. Jefferson City, MO 65109

LINDENWOOD UNIVERSITY

*Online Degrees in the
School of Education*

ASK ABOUT OUR ONLINE GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAMS FOR TEACHERS

- MA in Education
- MA in Gifted Education
- MA in Education Technology

www.lindenwood.edu • 636-949-4933

209 S. Kingshighway
St. Charles, MO 63301

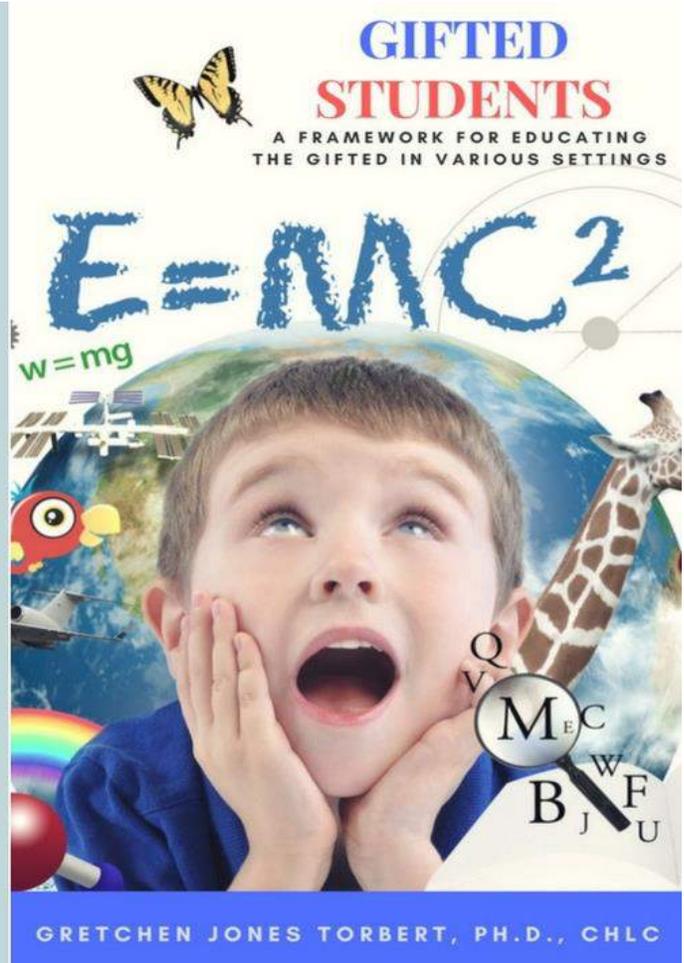


LINDENWOOD
LIKE NO OTHER



Gretchen Jones Torbert, Ph.D., CHLC
www.STEMAcrossTheWorld.com

NEW BOOK ALERT!!!!



Boliver Gifted Students Take Part in the STEAM Residency Program

Submitted by Beth Grabowski, Bolivar R-1 Schools, gifted education teacher

Fifth graders in the gifted education program of Bolivar R-1 Schools recently completed the STEAM Residency Program sponsored by Placeworks of Springfield. Placeworks' goal is to connect rural students with professionals to promote fine arts. This fall Placeworks piloted the STEAM program, and the Bolivar students actively participated in two classroom visits and two field trips that were facilitated by visual artists, poets, and scientists. The main focus was for students to discover ways that art and science are integrated. One highlight of the program was being allowed to touch "touch-me-nots" at the Springfield Watershed Center during a field trip. These plants, also known as jewelweed, have seed pods that "explode" when touched, much to the delight of the students.

To learn more about Placeworks, check out <http://www.sgfmuseum.org/224/Placeworks>. You can find information about the Springfield Watershed Center at <http://watershedcommittee.org/the-watershed-center/>.

Springfield Watershed Center
Coordinator Jeff Birchler shows Bolivar fifth graders how to identify various plants that are native to Missouri.





Speed Reading for the Gifted Child

By Gretchen Torbert, Ph.D., CHLC

drgretchentorbert@gmail.com

Gifted/STEAM Chief Officer of Academics for Teachers Across the World

Speed reading is vital in today's academic world, with the vast information that the internet offers, and the huge amounts of reading tasks an average manager or student faces, there is really no choice but to try and increase the intake of information. In the last forty years there has been an explosion of information, we are living in the information revolution and that requires a lot of young students a great deal of effort to digest this information and make good use of it.

Lack of concentration or partial/impaired concentration is an obvious problem for speed reading. The effects of the environment on one's reading rhythm can cause acceptable reading rate only in ideal situations.

Poor eye movement may cause some readers to shift their eyes to other directions and then go back to the book or paper to relocate the last point read. This problem also correlates with poor mechanical skills, which can be a real problem in speed reading.

Short attention span is a clear problem, almost everyone knows this problem; you start strong and begin to slow down as you read on. This kind of problem typically creates a situation of going back to re-read some lines over and over again, or a need to read the same sentence a couple of times for lack of understanding or losing the line of thought altogether.

Delayed reaction to information and material – This delay often comes from inattention, reading ahead or distraction. Desire to remember every word – This is loosely related to the tendency to re-read or slow down. So what can you do to increase your reading skills? To try and read faster, here are a few tips that would get you going. Think of reading as a 'pick and choose' activity, where you can choose to read the words and phrases that are critical to comprehension, and skip over the connective tissue.

One major key in speed reading is filtering out all the words that have nothing to do with the subject and naturally, there are a lot of them. Practicing timed reading is also good. Set up a timer and see how much you read in one minute, and in five minutes. Try to honestly estimate how much you understood the text (make sure this is something you read for the first time). Try to beat yourself at this over and over again, until you start to feel that you have moved up one level. Experiment with different texts, and try to find books with text that have some questions about what you just read so you can apprise your understanding. Evaluate your situation every time you do this, reading faster sometimes means that you will make more mistakes on understanding the subject, you should start making "mental notes" while reading, so you will not fail answering the questions. Train yourself to read more quickly by forced timing. If you are a runner, training for a race, you go out and run every day and you try to improve your time or your distance. Set a timer and run a reading race every day for two to four weeks. You do not have to spend more than five minutes on this exercise. You may become frustrated, at first, by the fact that you cannot read as fast or remember as much as you would like.

Practice makes perfect, and this is the most basic thing you can do to increase your reading speed, in two weeks you should see some improvement, and you can work on the weaker aspects of your reading skills. This is the start of speed reading, and once you master the basics you will be on your way to becoming a speed reader.



MARYVILLE UNIVERSITY'S CENTER FOR ACCESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

CA²

Maryville University's Center for Access and Achievement (CA²) prepares students with the skills and abilities they need to succeed in STEM fields in college and the careers of the future through STEM education both directly and via their teachers.

For more information, visit maryville.edu/ca2

UPCOMING FOR STUDENTS

The Maryville Science and Robotics Program offers engaging opportunities this winter for students ages 5-12 who are interested in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields. The 2018 program will run Saturdays February 3, 10, 17, 24, and March 3. Registration will begin mid-November.

To Register: maryville.edu/robot

Questions: email robot@maryville.edu or call 314.281.1120

UPCOMING FOR TEACHERS

Earn a certificate in STEM Education through hands-on, real world learning experiences to integrate STEM into classrooms. This intensive, 9-credit hour program runs June 4-28, 2018 and includes courses on STEM Education for the 21st Century, Creative Problem Solving, STEM Capstone, and four electives. Electives may include: makerspace, video game design, novel engineering, robotics, plant science, automata, and the physics of toys among other exciting choices.

To Register: maryville.edu/STEM

Questions: mschoeck@maryville.edu



PROGRAM LEADERSHIP Steve Caxon, PhD, is executive director of the CA² and associate professor of education at Maryville University in St. Louis. A former classroom teacher, Steve conducts research on developing STEM talents and is author of more than 50 publications including the book *Serving Visual-Spatial Learners*.



**MARYVILLE
UNIVERSITY**

CENTER FOR ACCESS
AND ACHIEVEMENT

460 Maryville University Drive
St. Louis, Missouri 63141 | 314.629.9466



SIGN UP NOW

DON'T MISS OUT ON THE FUN!

SUMMER PALS & SUMMER QUEST
June 11-22, 2018

SUMMERSCAPE & D.L.A.
July 8-19, 2018



Drury University
Pre-College Summer Programs
900 N. Benton Ave. Lay 103
Springfield, MO 65802

How to Sign Up:

1. Go to www.drury.edu/giftededucation
2. Print application, health form, & authorization to treat form
3. Complete Forms
4. Mail Forms with Payment to:

Hurry! Classes fill quickly.

If you don't have online access or have any questions please contact me

Mary Potthoff, Director
Center for Gifted Education
417.873.7386
mpotthof@drury.edu

DRURY UNIVERSITY PRE-COLLEGE PROGRAMS

CAMP





Studies Take a Grave Turn

By Phillip Sitter, Jefferson City News Tribune

Teachers at Southwest Early Childhood Center have been taking their students this week to historical sites around Jefferson City, making the people behind the stories of monuments come alive again.

Resurrection only goes so far in a cemetery, but "the cemetery is like an outdoor museum," with stories behind each stone, Ruthie Caplinger told her students Wednesday.

Caplinger is an Exploration, Enrichment and Research teacher at Southwest. EER is also known as the program for

gifted students, serving students who qualify with high IQs in the Jefferson City Public Schools district, as well as from the parochial schools using the program.

Every day this week, Caplinger has taken students on a trolley tour to sites including the Capitol, Jefferson Landing State Historic Site, Missouri State Penitentiary, and the Woodland-Old City and National cemeteries.

The Jefferson City Cemetery Resource Board Chair Nancy Thompson was along for part of the tour. She said children are often taught to think of cemeteries as scary places, but she wants to introduce them to the idea of cemeteries as a source of historical knowledge.

Caplinger told her students the landmarks and grave markers "are a window into how people thought" and tell the stories of how they lived. "They represent real people," she said, reminding her students to "be kind by not touching" anything, as the oil on human fingers can damage objects over time.

On Wednesday, 15 third-, fourth- and fifth-grade students from St. Joseph Cathedral and Immaculate Conception schools learned the history behind various graves: for Union soldiers massacred at the hands of a band of guerrillas including Jesse James and the ensuing battle; the daughter of the governor who put a bounty on James; the Missouri Supreme Court judge who authored the majority opinion of the infamous Dred Scott slavery case; and a Confederate military leader who later became governor of the state.

Caplinger told students she views the headstones like book covers she doesn't yet know the stories of the pages beneath. "It's kind of like solving a puzzle," she said.

Gregory Medlin's EER students were also on the tour Wednesday. Medlin's students are studying architecture, and he said they'll have to design a building that could be used in Jefferson City. His students won't have to make a 3-D model, but they will have to draw the design and create an artist's rendering.

He explained landmarks they viewed on the tour are inspirations for the purpose and style of his students' architectural designs.

Caplinger said her students are using the landmarks "as a vehicle for research." Her students will write a research paper using information from primary sources at the Cole County Historical Society and Missouri State Archives, and then create informational displays they will share with Historic City of Jefferson members at their December meeting.

She also explained the volunteer work it takes to maintain many landmarks including the cemeteries is something she wants to inspire her students, too, even if they're too young to know exactly what their passions will be later in life. "We want them to use (their potential) to make their communities the best places they can be," she said, and she wants to provide examples of other people using their potential as volunteers.

St. Joseph fifth-grader Maddy Larkin said her favorite part of the Tuesday tour was "going around the cemetery and learning things about people who helped our community."

Fellow St. Joseph fifth-grader Anthony Baker said his favorite part was "probably going to see all the old fire stuff" at the Fire Museum of Jefferson City.

"I learned a lot of stuff about Jeff City," Immaculate Conception fourth-grader Cael Gibbs said.



5 great

Reasons to Pursue Gifted Certification

at
Truman State University

5. Get to work faster – and at your convenience – with fully online and accelerated courses that can get you certified within a calendar year.
4. Save money with a total course price \$420 less than the normal graduate rate.
3. Benefit from the expertise of outstanding Truman faculty and practicing gifted educators.
2. Enjoy the quality you've come to expect from a Truman education.
1. Enhance your teaching of gifted and talented students.

Annually Scheduled Accelerated Courses – ALL ONLINE!

ED 550G – Introduction to Gifted and Talented
ED 650G – Identification of Gifted
ED 651G – Curriculum for Gifted
ED 652G – Meeting Affective Needs of Gifted Children

ED 653G – Programming, Planning,
and Development: Administration and
Supervision of Gifted Programs

Most of these courses are scheduled during the summer months for your convenience.

In addition to these courses, DESE requires “Psychology of the Exceptional Child” for gifted certification, as well as a research course, and an internship. Most teachers completed the Psychology course and a research course during their initial teaching certification, which typically meets these requirements. Truman also offers these courses if you need them. You can complete your Internship through Truman at multiple points during the year.

Cost Courses are offered to Missouri K-12 teachers at a special rate of \$210 per credit hour.* That's a savings of \$420 over the normal Graduate rate!

*Online courses charge an additional \$30 fee to support technology costs.
ED graduate course fee of \$36/cr. also applies.

For More Information

PHONE: 660-785-5384
EMAIL: institute@truman.edu
WEB: pd.truman.edu/gifted

TRUMAN
STATE UNIVERSITY

Register now! Start at pd.truman.edu/gifted



Missouri Scholars Academy

2018 Guide for Missouri Scholars Academy Nominations

**2018 Missouri Scholars Academy:
June 10 - June 30 on the University of
Missouri Columbia campus**

Now in its thirty-third year, MSA is a three-week academic residential program for 330 of Missouri's gifted students who are ready to begin their junior year in high school.

Students must be nominated by their district or school. Letters will be mailed in November with the allotted number of nominees and instructions on completing the nomination and application.

Application materials and 2018 Academy details will be available at <https://moscholars.org/> in November.

Nomination materials are due February 9, 2018.



Only Missouri residents who are high school sophomores and who attend Missouri-eligible schools may apply.

Testing is required in two areas:

1. **Aptitude:** ACT, SAT, PSAT, or pre-ACT scores will be accepted.

AND

2. **IQ:** WISC IV, WISC V, WAISIII, or WAIS IV scores will be accepted.

Students must sign up in advance for testing! *Nominations without aptitude or IQ test scores from the past three years will not be accepted.*

Contact us:
(573) 882-2909
moscholarsacademy@missouri.edu

little medical school®

Kansas City



Little Medical School® brings medicine, science, and the importance of health to children in an entertaining, exciting, and fun way. Children learn and have fun as they dress up like doctors, learn how to use instruments doctors use, and understand how the body works!

We offer after school programming, summer camps, Girl and Boy Scout badge classes, birthday parties, and special events that we can customize to fit your needs. All of our curriculum is aligned with STEM objectives.

Let your child come and experience Little Medical School®.



Inspiring tomorrow's healthcare providers *today!*

Our Programs...



little
medical
school.



little
veterinarian
school.



little
pharmacy
school.



little
nursing
school.

...and more!

Contact us
to find out how
you can help inspire
our youth!
Call

913-485-6684

Visit us: www.littlemedicalschool.com/kansascity



DOES YOUR 4TH – 7TH GRADE STUDENT EXCEL IN MATH?

Project MEGSSS challenges gifted students through unique math curriculum. We discover, develop, and inspire the next generation of great math minds!

Choose the right program for your student:

Elements of Mathematics

Summer and after-school high-ability programming for qualified students. Students are nominated (by parents or teachers) and qualify by testing, which is held in the spring.

MathJam

Two-week summer camp offered to current 4th – 7th graders looking for challenging and fun experiences in math, no qualification necessary.

For more information, www.megsss.org or email nomination@megsss.org

Tuition fees apply. Financial available for students who qualify.

PARENT INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS:

November 12, 3 p.m. – 4 p.m. at Maryville University.



Check www.megsss.org for additional meeting dates and locations.

Articles needed for the GAMbit!

Let other GT teachers, classroom teachers, administrators and GT families know about the great things that are going on in your district! Submitting an article is easy! Email your article in size 12 Times New Roman font to Sheila_Bonner@idschools – don't forget the pictures! (A title and "by line" is nice too.)

Student Work is Celebrated in the GAMbit!

Do you have a student who has written an amazing poem or article? We would love to include it in the GAMbit!

Apply for GAM Scholarships and Awards

The Nicholas Green Distinguished Student Scholarship

The Nicholas Green Distinguished Student Award is awarded to one Missouri student each year. Recipients are given a \$250 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 **June 1**.



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 dedication 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. **Submit by September 1**.



The DeDe Smith Friend of Gifted Award

Dede, one of GAM's founders, served as GAM president and GAMbit 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. **Submit by September 1**.



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 to apply: teacher of gifted, coordinator of gifted programming, or college professor directly involved with gifted students or teachers of gifted. **Submit by September 1**.



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 to apply: parent, step-parent, or guardian of a gifted child in the state of Missouri. Submit by September 1.

The student award must be submitted or postmarked by June 1, 2018.
The adult awards must be submitted or postmarked by September 1, 2018.

Submit nominations to:

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

Please see the GAM website for directions on how to nominate and submit information.
We look forward to recognizing those who have worked hard for GAM.



**Did you know GAM is on
Facebook?**

**Keep up with what is going on in gifted
by liking us on Facebook!**

<https://www.facebook.com/MissouriGifted/>

GAM Board of Directors

<u>Name, Title</u>	<u>GAM District</u>	<u>Email</u>	<u>Home Town</u>
Lenae Lazzelle, President	7	llazzell@drury.edu	Springfield
Peggy Pennington, Exec. VP	7	ppennington@penningtonweb.net	Nevada
Sue Peters, Exec. Secretary	7	suepeters16@gmail.com	Springfield
Shannon Fuller, Finance VP	3	mrssfuller99@gmail.com	St. Joseph
Ashli Eaves, Conf. VP		aeaves@camdentonschools.org	Camdenton
Meredith Burstin, Membership VP	7	mburs10@hotmail.com	Springfield
Ginger Beard, Secretary	1	beairdg@bernie.k12.mo.us	Bernie
Sheila Bonner, GAMbit Editor	3	sheila_bonner@idschools.org	Oak Grove
Jennifer Medina, Scholarship Chair	3	jmedina@bssd.net	Lee's Summit
Nancy Gerardy, Teacher Ed. Chair	2	gerardyn@missouri.edu	Columbia
Melanie Orr, Parent Network Chair	7	melanienorr@hotmail.com	Springfield
Seth Jaeger, Tech/Website Chairperson	7	sethjaeger@gmail.com	Nixa
Robin Lady, Advocacy Chairperson	8	robin.lady_gam@gmail.com	Grover
Kris Wiley, Higher Ed. Chair	7	kwiley002@drury.edu	Springfield
David Welch, DESE Director of Gifted		David.welch@dese.mo.gov	Jefferson City
Kyna Iman, Legislative Advocate		kynaiman@earthlink.net	Jefferson City
Crystal Koeng, Regional Dist. 1 Director	1	ckoenig@pcsd32.com	Perryville
Anne Crader, Assist. Dist. 1 Director	1	acrader@sikeston.k12.mo.us	Sikeston
Ann Seider, Regional Dist. 2 Director	2	ann.seider@catnet.gen.mo.us	Centralia
Andrea Love, Assist. Dist. 2 Director	2	Andrea.love@boonville.k12.mo.us	Boonville
Cassie Fogel, Regional Dist. 3 Director	3	Cassie.Fogel@nkschools.org	NKC
Tori Wellman, Assist. Dist. 3 Director	3	Victoria.Wellman@raypec.org	RayPec
Ellen Stuhlman, Regional Dist. 4 Director	4	stuhlmane@palmyrarl.us	
Jill Huwe, Assist. Dist. 4 Director	4	jhuwe@kirksville.k12.mo.us	Kirksville
Breanne Preston, Regional Dist. 5 Director	5	bpreston@stewartsville.k12.mom.us	
VACANT – Assist. Dist. 5 Director	5		
Sara Young, Regional Dist. 6 Director	6	youngs@sullivan eagles.org	
Jennifer Hawkins, Asst. Dist. 6 Director	6		
Erica McConnaughey, Reg. Dist. 7 Dir.	7	edmcconnaughey@spsmail.org	
Holly Graves, Asst. Dist. 7 Director	7	hollyg@strafordschools.net	
Sarah Ludlow, Regional Dist. 8 Director	8	skludlow@gmail.com	
Amanda Clark, Asst. Dist. 8 Director	8		
Christa Bell, Regional Dist. 9 Director	9	bellc@huskersk12.org	Higginsville
Amanda Trelow, Asst. Dist. 9 Director	9	trelowa@smithon.k12.mo.us	

Have you thought of becoming more involved in GAM?



GAM Membership Application

- I am a new member
 I am renewing my membership

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

School _____

District _____

County _____ GAM District _____

E-mail address _____

Telephone Numbers:

Home (_____) _____

Work (_____) _____

Please check appropriate one: (You can also pay for 2 yrs!)

Educator/Individual/Parent . . . \$30

Sponsor . . . \$100

Lifetime . . . \$500

I am a (n): (Please check all that apply)

Teacher of Gifted Education

Elem. MS HS Admin.

Teacher in the Regular Classroom

Elem. MS HS Admin.

Parent _____

Other _____

Why join the Gifted Association of Missouri?

GAM is the only organization in the state that advocates for gifted programs and provides support and resources to gifted teachers, students, and parents. We work at the district and state level to lobby for funding for gifted programs, create networking opportunities for parents, and support teachers in the development and implementation of curriculum.

We truly cannot do this with you; your membership makes a difference!

To join, visit
www.mogam.org
 and click on
 "Join GAM Today!"



Mail to: Gifted Association of Missouri
 P.O. Box 3252, Springfield, MO 65808