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# Kaleidoscope

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## *In this Issue*




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Forward to a friend

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It's almost here!

Make sure that you are at the summit as we reach into the future together!

[Link to the NAGC website here to register, view session schedules and so much more.](#)

We have so much more in store for you!

Don't miss Kaleidoscope's Volume Two.

Book reviews and classroom resources galore,

A distinguished student, elections and more.

In your inbox this edition soon will arrive,

Bringing you the best for which we always strive.

Letter from the CAGT President

**Would you like to Volunteer at NAGC this fall! If so download the volunteer letter below and**



I have had a theme this year in the Kaleidoscope; growing our NAGC garden. Well, the crop is in and I want to share the harvest.

**find out more about how you can help out.**

For the Javits-Frasier scholarship applications, we did an outstanding job. We got the word out across the state and our teachers responded. Of the 34 applicants, 24 were from Colorado and they represent different school districts from around the state. The primary purpose of the Javits-Frasier Scholarship Fund for Diverse Talent Development is to increase culturally and linguistically diverse students' access to talent development opportunities through educator training and support related to equity and excellence in gifted education.

Of the twelve people who received the scholarship, eight were from Colorado. Of the 16 people who were not selected, 14 are attending NAGC through the combined efforts of the GERCs (Gifted Education Regional Consultants) and the GT Directors. We are still working to see how we can fund the other 4 individuals.

Now for the next step of the growing season: Parent Day and Leadership Forum. We need to make sure that our parents attend the Parent Day session on Saturday, November, 17 and that administrative teams attend the Leadership Forum on Thursday, November 15. These two events are organized and presented by our Colorado GT team and we want to show the rest of the nation how GT programming should be done. Registration for both of these events is located on the CAGT website.

Personally, I am so excited and can't wait for November. From my small district of 14 schools, I have 24 people attending NAGC, 10 parents who will attend the Parent Day and an administrative group attending the Leadership Forum. This has been a collaborative process and my administrative team, teachers and parents have been so supportive!

Volunteer letter

Would you like to go to this year's NAGC conference but need the support of your PTA in order to attend?

Below find a link to a template you can use to petition your PTA for a grant.

Simply fill in your information and submit it to your PTA.

PTA Grant Template

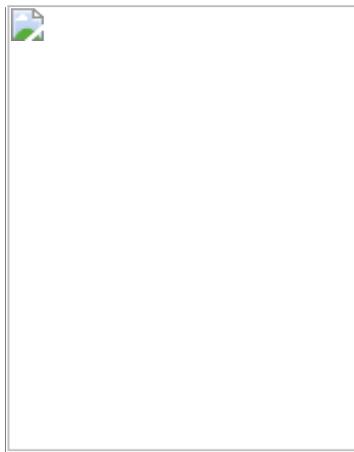
### **Getting the Most Out of the Opportunity**

The opportunities to learn and speak with others who "get it" about gifted children can be both rare and enlightening. Therefore, I believe we (families, educators, community members and other GT advocates) must fortify ourselves when we can. The NAGC Convention and "Parent Day at the National" in November 2012 brings such an opportunity for learning and support to Colorado, so it is important to attend *and* to get the most out of it!

Attendance is an investment of resources already, of course. However, putting a little further attention into some details has added to what I have personally brought away from conventions and

Cheryl Franklin-Rohr

CAGT President



**JONATHAN MOONEY  
IS COMING TO SPEAK  
AT THE NAGC  
CONVENTION IN  
DENVER!**

**WHAT PARENTS AND  
EDUCATORS SAID  
AFTER HEARING  
JONATHAN MOONEY  
SPEAK IN BOULDER  
THIS YEAR...**

*"One of the most inspiring, entertaining and insightful talks I've ever attended."*

*"I left feeling inspired to 're-imagine' education."*

*"He gives people hope."*

*"His message is simple and straightforward. He lived it, so he knows it from the inside out."*

*"Jonathan reminded us that it is our job to advocate for all of the children we are lucky enough to have in our schools."*

*"He is extremely motivating and positive."*

*"My 15-year old daughter left that evening with her self esteem boosted by at least 200%."*

**You must see Jonathan Mooney** as the closing keynote speaker at the NAGC Conference, Sunday, November 18th, 10:30am-Noon at Denver's Colorado Convention Center.

conferences. These are some of the individual investments I would suggest for you to get the most from the NAGC Convention and "Parent Day at the National" experience:

- Consider your goals: Determine ahead of time what you hope to get out of the event. Spend some time thinking or writing/drawing/talking out some priorities. How would your attendance most benefit you and the gifted children in your life? In what areas do you most want to strengthen your knowledge? What question(s) do you most want to ask?
- Do your research: It doesn't have to be a lot; focus on what is most important to you. The NAGC convention schedule will be online for those registered to attend from the 15<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>. The Parent Day schedule is also available. Take the time to read an article if it will help you better understand a session or ask a question. Look up the layout of the convention center and surrounding area. Know ahead of time where you want to be so you use your time and energy well.
- Equip yourself for success: Plan your time. Take breaks if you need them. Attend with a supportive friend or colleague (you can reflect on ideas throughout the event and afterwards). Carry small snacks and water (in Colorado you can't have enough water!!) Wear something comfortable and carry your belongings

For more information and to register go to  
<http://coloradogifted.org/component/dtregister/?eventId=15&controller=event&task=individualRegister>

**Want to go see Jonathan Mooney** but aren't going to the convention? Keynote-only admission is \$20. Tickets at the door.

**Want to bring a friend or family member** to hear Jonathan Mooney? Additional Keynote tickets are \$20. Tickets at the door.



**TEN  
REASONS  
Why YOU  
Should  
Attend**

***2012 Parent Day at the NATIONAL***

***co-sponsored by***

***The Colorado Association for Gifted & Talented and***

***The National Association for Gifted Children***

- 1. The event is in Colorado this year - meet us at the Hyatt Regency, Downtown Denver!*
- 2. Parents of gifted and high potential children from across Colorado and beyond will join you for the day!*
- 3. You will meet, hear, and learn from national experts in gifted education as they share their insights and expertise throughout the day.*

comfortably. At the site, ask NAGC volunteers for directions.

- Be flexible and prepared to challenge yourself a little: Ask that key question. Introduce yourself. Meet people from other disciplines and places. (There are people attending from everywhere, all interested in GT – business cards can be so useful for keeping track of the folks you meet!) Seize an opportunity to learn or do something new and perhaps even unexpected.

- Note applications: As you go along, create some form of notes about how you (or others you know) might apply what you are learning. It's easy to think you will remember but there can be so many good ideas that, by the time you get home, it can be hard to recall specifics.

These suggestions should be thoughtfully adjusted to suit your needs. The most important thing, for the sake of your child, student, and community, is to proactively attend so that you can make a difference for gifted children.

4. *You will discover new ideas, fresh perspectives, current resources, lifelong connections, and new ways to parent and advocate for gifted learners.*
  
5. *You will find you are not alone!*
  
6. *You will enjoy, be inspired, laugh, cry and gather your thoughts around a lifetime of learning, research, and expertise from those who know.*
  
7. *You will visit the exhibit hall of the Annual Convention of the National Association for Gifted Children hosting hundreds of vendors of publications, educational resources, programs, organizations, special schools and gift items for the family and for your children's teachers.*
  
8. *You will join an author or expert at your table over lunch to discuss a topic of particular interest to you and eight other parents.*
  
9. *You will attend NAGC's General Convention Session as well as concurrent afternoon sessions of your choice (dozens of sessions to choose from)!*
  
10. *End your day with celebrated author, speaker, and teacher Jim Delisle as he leads an open discussion with gifted students on a variety of topics.*

***Then come join us at an evening reception at  
the History Colorado Center!***

**Don't Miss Out! [Click here for Parent Day information](#)**

### **Affiliates with Altitude**

A positive collaboration across parents and other family members, teachers, administrators, students and community leaders is a powerful way to foster awareness of the educational and emotional needs of gifted children and gain the resources to meet those needs. A group of GT advocates can benefit greatly from understanding and supporting multiple viewpoints; it then has a stronger and more informed voice than an individual in addressing concerns and explaining the needs of gifted students to a legislator, a board of education, or the general community. The fact that education does not start or stop at school doors is particularly relevant to all adults who care about gifted students, as are the complex socioemotional issues that can face GT children in various walks of life. Further, parents and other community members, as voters, can become a supportive part of the political process, not limited by the constraints affecting professionals in education. Teamwork and understanding are what GT students need—at home, in school, and in the community.

CAGT local Affiliates offer a particularly promising opportunity for this kind of teamwork and understanding. Every local Affiliate is aligned under CAGT's mission (in turn aligned with that of NAGC), but each local Affiliate also reflects its own local GT community's particular strengths and individuality. Some Affiliates are comprised of representatives from independent schools, public schools, homeschoolers and community members as well as family representatives from all of these areas. In some Affiliates, public school representatives offer the majority of the Affiliate's impetus. Still others are made up more of concerned family members independent of their schools. Although each has its own local style and bylaws, the true value of any local Affiliate is the positive teamwork it can afford: educators, families, and community leaders all working together to support GT students.

And the NAGC convention is a great opportunity to strengthen--or even start—a local Affiliate, offering a common experience of learning, inspiration and community. Affiliate members can work together to maximize this special national event here in Colorado in a number of ways:

- Attend the full NAGC [convention](#) as a team of colleagues and advocates (Nov 15-18). Although convention attendance is largely made up of professionals in the education field, anyone interested in supporting gifted children may register.
- Family or community members can attend “Parent Day at the National” together (Sat., Nov. 17). This is a FULL day, overlapping with national convention and taking advantage of the expertise brought to Denver. There is even a reduced rate for two adults from the same household (The schedule is [here](#) and registration is [here](#)).
- Share the ride with old and new friends! Your Affiliate can organize a carpool sign-up, or a small bus back and forth.
- If you are coming from out of town for this great event, share the camaraderie and room together where the GT folks are ([NAGC convention rates!](#))
- Spread the word about the NAGC convention and about “Parent Day at the National”. Tell your friends and colleagues. Remind principals that this is coming up and get permission to put information in the school newsletter, parent updates and websites. School and community meetings and events are also places to share. [CAGT](#) can send you templates for posters, handouts, or information to post in your school, local newsletters, libraries, bookstores and other places that the GT community might take note and “tap in”.

- See if your PTO, PTA, or a local organization or business will fund registration fees.
- For those growing their local Affiliates, consider having an Affiliate member who is attending the NAGC convention go to the breakout session *How to Develop a Vibrant Local Gifted Community* (Sat., Nov. 17, 8:00 am)
- Plan to reflect on and share ALL the information gained at the convention and “Parent Day at the National” afterwards, with colleagues but also across roles. What a great foundation to support the GT students in our lives!

At CAGT we look forward to seeing you at the NAGC Convention. Please stop by at the CAGT and Affiliate tables and say hello.

**[Affiliates...If you are in need of a press release for your local paper, click here to get our sample.](#)**

