



Conference Issue

Concepts!

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21st CENTURY CAROUSEL OF LEARNING

CRITICAL THINKING

COMMUNICATION

COLLABORATION

CREATIVITY

**MAGC CONFERENCE
SEPTEMBER 26-28, 2012
MSU RILEY CENTER
MERIDIAN, MS**



A Message from Carol Paola, MAGC Executive Director



Although summer is almost over, you still have a little time left to make this summer a special one for your family! Go to the library...and the park for a picnic. Make this a summer you and your children will remember. Join a book club or start one of your own with your kids. I love children's literature. I am currently rereading *The Mixed up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler*, one of my favorite books. I remember reading it with my son and daughter, now 39 and 32. .

I am sure you are in a panic now that we only have a few weeks before we begin school! We are organizing our thoughts and getting a head start on things that we know will need to be done. You might want to take a look at the Common Core expectations for the grade levels you teach. It will help if you know what your teachers are teaching in their classrooms. Most of us are many years removed from the classroom, and, as the classroom teachers are being expected to bump things up to meet the expectations of the Common Core, we must be teaching things at a much higher level than we have in the past. Be proactive in making your program defensible.

While you are at it, think about something you would like to share at this year's conference in Meridian. It will be September 27th and 28th, with the preconference session to be held on Wednesday the 26th. Rhonda Denton, this year's conference chair, has many great plans for us and has received many exceptional proposals. You can be sure that the conference will be excellent, but it would be even better if you share some of your wonderful ideas and projects.

If you are new to presenting, you might want to consider presenting in a Poster Session or at the Carousel of Ideas. In the poster session, you will develop a display board which will be on display during the conference. You will be assigned a time during which you will stand with your display and explain the project to teachers in a small group setting. You might want to have a one-sheet explanation of the project or lesson. This might be an excellent way to share social and emotional activities that you have found to be good with your kids, but it is not limited in any way. It could just as easily be a really great field experience that you developed.

The Carousel of Ideas will be held during lunch on Thursday and will feature round table discussions and sharing sessions. This session could be for a particular lesson that you r kids enjoy and that you want to share with others. Remember, we LOVE getting ideas from each other. The best idea I ever got was the *Quizzle of the Week* which Joyce Youngblood shared with me in 1980! I don't know if she still uses it, but I use it every week and share it with others in every workshop I do.

If you have a great project that you do, submit a proposal for a full session! We love seeing what you are doing in your classes. I have been more fortunate than most because of the opportunities I have had to visit around the state. Send in your proposals today for a Poster Session, the Carousel of Ideas, or a full session! We can't wait to hear from you!

Would you like to be more involved in MAGC? Let us know! We are always looking for teachers around the state who are interested in serving on committees or helping with projects. E-mail our Conference Chair, Rhonda Denton, at giftedva@hotmail.com if you would like to help out with this year's conference. We can use all the help we can get!

Finally, if I can be of service to you or to your district in any way, do not hesitate to e-mail or call. Thank you for all you do to serve the needs of gifted children in our state.

Carol Western Paola, Executive Director

Cwp1gab@aol.com

228-860-1763

A Message from Melissa Pierce, Concepts Editor

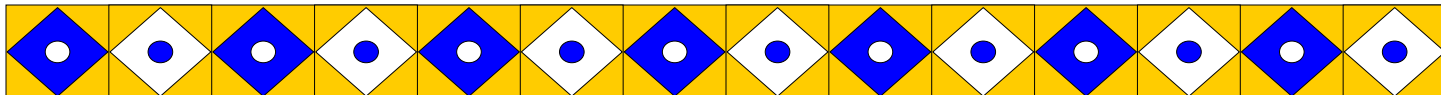
As Public Relations Chair for MAGC, I had the incredible opportunity to represent Mississippi at the 2012 NAGC State Affiliate Conference in Washington, D.C. The annual state affiliate conference gathers leaders of state gifted associations from across the country to discuss best practices in gifted education and advocate gifted education during congressional visits at our nation's capital. I can't emphasize enough how honored I was to represent our state and learn how our gifted programs stack up to the rest. Mississippi has made great strides for the betterment of gifted education through its legislation, teacher preparation, and funding, making us stand out among the best! However, as gifted educators, we cannot become complacent in our program design and delivery. With the implementation of Common Core State Standards, gifted educators must increase the rigor in a 21st century learning environment. Technology, critical thinking, project-based learning, and performance-based assessments are redefining general education, requiring teachers of the gifted to think even further outside the box. Join us for the 2012 MAGC Conference focusing on "The 21st Century Carousel of Learning," where you will learn new ways to engage, educate, and entertain the 21st century gifted learner. See inside this special issue of *Concepts* for conference forms and information.

Melissa Pierce, MAGC Concepts Editor



Pictured here with Jane Clarenbach and Karen Yoho, NAGC

Join Us for the 2012 MAGC Conference!



Going Back to the Queen City...

Dr. Frances Karnes says she remembers the first statewide conference of the Mississippi Association for Talented and Gifted (MATAG) was held in Meridian. So, we are returning to our roots. I would like to invite you to the 38th annual MAGC Conference, September 26-28, 2012 at the MSU Riley Center in Meridian, MS. A performing-arts center, a conference center, an educational center, a major downtown restoration project – these are all accurate ways to describe the MSU Riley Center.

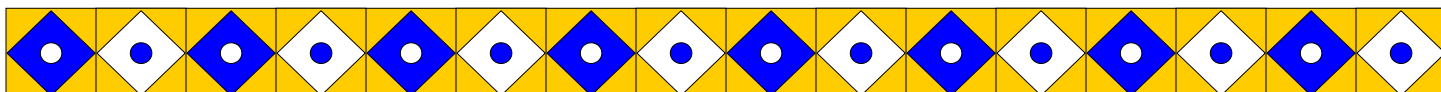
Donna Welborn, Pre-Conference Chair, has planned another packed day of information regarding, “Working with Twice Exceptional Students”, Meeting Social-Emotional Needs of Gifted Students”, “Using a Matrix in the Referral Process for Diverse Populations”, “Dealing with Bullying”, “MDE Monitor Visit Updates”, and many more important referral issues.

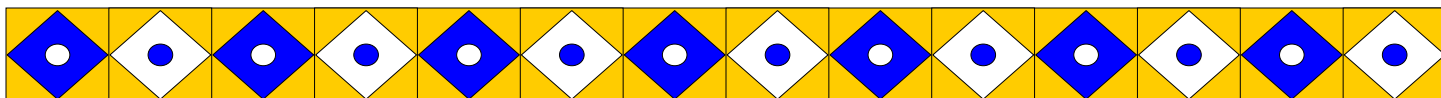
The Opening General Session will take place in the fully restored 1889 grand opera house theater that seats approximately 950. This session will be packed with information and celebrations. Chauncey Spears, Advanced Learning/Gifted Programs Division Director, will give us an MDE update on the changes in the Mississippi Gifted Regulations and Common Core/ Gifted Education. We will also have a short MAGC Business session and an Awards Ceremony. There is no food or drink allowed in the Opera House Theater so please make sure you have breakfast before you attend the session. There will be snacks available in the conference hallways following the General Session.

Sessions will start Thursday following the General Session and continue through Friday around noon. The Riley Conference Center has built-in technical features for each session room with everything needed but your “flash drive”. Classroom 3-C on the third floor has desk seating for 50 attendees with plugs for your laptops so we are planning to offer many sessions using technology. Since we are in an “art related venue” we also will be offering many sessions emphasizing integrating the Arts into the gifted curriculum. Of course there will be many other sessions regarding Social/Emotional Needs, Special Populations, Research, Leadership/Community Service and Parent Affiliate Groups.

We also will have a special treat from the Mississippi Arts Commission. Althea Jerome and Katherine Lewis have written a unit on Mississippi Watersheds which includes a book, *Watersheds and Me*. They will present this unit two times on Thursday and will give a book to each attendee however, there is a limit of 30 attendees per session.

You do not want to miss the “Carousel of Ideas” during lunch time. It will be held in the Studio Theater with around 15 ideas that you can carousel to every 10-15 minutes while you eat your boxed lunch. We are going to try something new this year called, “Poster Sessions”. If you have ever attended NAGC then you are familiar with the concept. At planned times, which will be listed in the Conference Program, you can attend a “poster session”. This will be 15-20 minute sessions of good information that you can take home with you.





We will probably not be able to offer CEUs for “poster sessions” or the “carousel of ideas” but none the less, you need to check them out. If you are interested in being a presenter in the “Carousel of Ideas” contact Cindy Steven-Pheal at cindy.stevenpheal@lamarcountyschools.org or if you would like to present a “Poster Session” please contact Svetlana Lucas at Svetlana.lucas@yahoo.com Participants will receive a \$25 reduction in Conference Registration Fees.

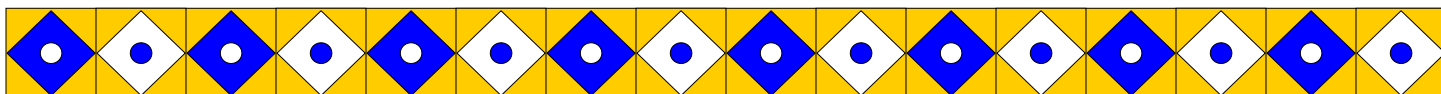
Thursday night we will have “Family Night” Activities from 6:00-7:30 p.m. Svetlana Lucas, our Parent Affiliate Chair will speak to parents about how to be advocates for their gifted child’s education and how to form parent affiliate groups. Then we will have hands-on fun activities sponsored by the surrounding schools districts for parents and their children. We will also have our MAGC Advisory Board and Past Presidents meeting from 6:30-7:30 p.m. on Thursday night, Joyce Youngblood will be in charge of the meeting.

Tamara Drake is working on the Silent Basket and Art Auction. Each district will need to bring a gift basket and also a piece of artwork. Please email her at tdrake@jackson.k12.ms.us for more information.

Debbie Holt has been working hard on getting vendors that meet the needs of our conference. The Riley Center has a great Exhibit Hall which can accommodate 30 8x8 spaces which we hope to fill with materials relevant and needed in a gifted program.

This is going to be an exciting conference. Make your plans now to attend. I will be sending out a MAGC Conference Newsletter the first week in August which will include conference schedules, reminders, and forms needed to register for the conference.

Rhonda Jo Denton
President Elect and Conference Chair



2012 MAGC Conference Registration



2012 Conference Registration Form

MSU Riley Center, Meridian, MS

September 26-28, 2012

Registration Information: Complete and return this form with your check or purchase order by 9/14/12. Registration after this date should be done on-site. Make checks payable to MAGC. A purchase order number alone is not a valid payment. You must include the actual purchase order.

Cancellation Policy: Cancellations must be received in writing by September 14, 2012, and are subject to a \$15.00 processing fee. Refunds will not be issued before November 15, 2012.

Name _____ MAGC Membership # _____

Preferred Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

E-Mail Address (Work) _____ (Personal) _____

School District/Organization _____

Relationship to Gifted Children _____

Pre-Conference Institute Registration

The Assessment Pre-Conference Institute will be held on Wed., Sept. 26, 2012, from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. On-site registration will begin at 7:00 am. All individuals interested in the referral to placement process, including examiners, counselors, contact persons, administrators, teachers, etc., are welcome. CEU's: **0.7 CEUs available separate from the regular conference upon request for \$10.**

I am planning to attend the...		
	Assessment Pre-Conference Institute (September 26, 2012)	\$60.00
	Combo: Pre-Institute PLUS Regular MAGC Conference	\$150.00

Conference Registration

The MAGC Conference will open with On-Site Registration on Wednesday, September 26th, 2012, from 4:00-6:00. The Conference Opening Session will begin at 8:30 on Thursday, September 27th, 2012. CEUs for the conference will be available upon request for \$20.00. The number of CEUs is pending.

I am planning to attend the...		
	Regular Conference Registration Fee	\$100.00
	On-Site Registration Fee (postmarked after 9/14/12 or at conference site)	\$110.00
	Undergraduate Student Registration Fee (Must send copy of student ID)	\$50.00
	"Carousel of Ideas"/Poster Sessions - Main Presenter's Fee	\$75.00
	Breakout Presenter's Membership Fee (Main Presenter Only)	\$25.00
	Total Amount Due	

Paid by ... Personal Check # _____, School District Check # _____,

Parent Organization Check # _____, Purchase Order # _____

(Original purchase orders must be attached)

Mail completed form and payment to Lisa D. Saucier, 144 W. Main St., Florence, MS 39073

2012 MAGC Conference Carousel of Ideas & Poster Sessions

NEW!

2012 Conference
Mississippi Association for Gifted Children



POSTER SESSIONS provide an informal forum to report on or spread information about innovative classroom projects. Poster Sessions may be used to

1. critique or analyze a well-known classroom technique
2. introduce new ideas or resources, or
3. debut teaching ideas of interest to other teachers of the gifted.



GOAL

The primary goal of a poster session is to present an argument for the importance of action (classroom) research by using text and graphics in a visually pleasing presentation.

EXPECTATIONS

The Poster Displays should be prepared on a tri-fold board, similar to those used for reading and science fair showcases. Poster presenters should be prepared to give a short discussion about their work.

Ideally, poster presenters will talk informally for 20 minutes about their action research. Of course, presenters are encouraged to provide supplementary materials such as handouts, lesson plans, rubrics, or checklists to help attendees implement what is being presented.

Send proposal ideas to svetlana.lucas@lamarcountyschools.org.

OR

The **CAROUSEL of IDEAS** session will take place during lunch the Thursday of the Conference. We are scheduled to have 15 tables each containing a different "mini-session". Teachers will rotate at 15-minute intervals to listen to your presentation. That way, you will have 4 times in one hour to share your information in a more intimate setting. The Carousel is meant to be quick and informative.

We are looking for **"MINI-SESSIONS"** on

- Grants - how to write grants/funding sources
- Arts - using the arts in the classroom
- Technology-based project idea
- Field trip opportunities - affordable field trips possibly in MS or neighboring states
- Travel opportunities for teachers
- Community service projects
- Contests for students
- Interesting units
- Useful Internet resources
- Gaming



Send proposal ideas to cindy.stevenpheal@lamarcountyschools.org.

Meridian Hotels

Best Western Meridian

2219 South Frontage Road
601-693-3210
1-800-528-1234
www.bestwestern.com

Hilton Garden Inn

109 US Highway 11 and 80
601-485-3506
1-866-693-4004
www.meridian.hgi.com

Holiday Inn Meridian

100 North Frontage Road
601-693-0160
1-800-465-4329
www.lalaenterprises.com

Comfort Inn

701 Bonita Lakes Drive
601-693-1200
1-800-424-6423
www.lalaenterprises.com

Country Inn and Suites

538 Bonita Lakes Circle
601-693-3110
1-888-201-1746
www.countryinns.com

Days Inn

145 US Highway 11 and 80 East
601-483-3812
1-800-329-7466
www.daysinn.com

Drury Inn and Suites

112 US Highway 11 and 80 East
601-483-5570
1-800-378-7946
www.druryhotels.com

Hampton Inn

103 US Highway 11 and 80
East
601-483-3000
1-800-426-7866
www.hamptoninn.com

Holiday Inn Express

1399 Roebuck Drive
601-581-4777
1-800-465-4329
www.lalaenterprises.com

Jameson Inn

524 Bonita Lakes Drive
601-483-3315
1-800.526.3766
www.jamesoninns.com

La Quinta Inn

1400 Roebuck Drive
601-693-2300
1-800-531-5900
www.laquinta.com

Microtel Inn & Suites

518 Bonita Lakes Drive
601-553-8100
1-800-771-7171
www.microtelinn.com

Quality Inn

1401 Roebuck Drive
601-693-4521
1-800-521-2121
www.lalaenterprises.com

MAGC Conference - Hotel Group Rates

The following Meridian hotels are offering a group rate* for MAGC conference attendees.

Deadline to receive group rate is August 26, 2012.

Holiday Inn Meridian

100 North Frontage Road
601-693-0160
1-800-465-4329
www.lalaenterprises.com

Group Rate \$99.00

*50 Rooms Blocked

Holiday Inn Express

1399 Roebuck Drive
601-581-4777
1-800-465-4329
www.lalaenterprises.com

Group Rate \$91.00

*30 Rooms Blocked

Comfort Inn

701 Bonita Lakes Drive
601-693-1200
1-800-424-6423
www.lalaenterprises.com

Group Rate 76.50

*30 Rooms Blocked

Quality Inn

1401 Roebuck Drive
601-693-4521
1-800-521-2121
www.lalaenterprises.com

Group Rate \$65.00

*50 Rooms Blocked



2012 Conference Vendor Information

To: Prospective Vendors for the Mississippi Association for Gifted Children (MAGC Conference September 26-28, 2012)

From: Deborah Holt, Vice President MAGC 18032 Allen Road, Long Beach, MS 39560

March 5, 2012

Dear Vendors,

We are now planning the Mississippi Association for Gifted Children Conference to be held September 26-28, 2012, at the MSU Riley Center in Meridian, Mississippi. We will be using the Riley Center Exhibit Hall, which is set up for the purpose of vendor sales. The Exhibit Hall is located on the first floor of this beautiful, state-of-the-art, multi-functioning facility which is graced with the splendid architecture and style of a bygone era. Since the Exhibit Hall is located on the first floor, there is a loading dock that is available on the level for you to load and unload all of your materials, as this is your responsibility.

A few things that may be different this year in regards to vendors and your space are that we are selling 8 x 8 spaces for \$130.00 each. You may have 1-3 tables in each space, but you cannot go over into someone else's space. You may buy as many 8 x 8 spaces as you wish and indicate on the form how many tables you need in each space. We will not be using pipe and drape to divide spaces this year. All spaces have access to electrical outlets. . On the form, you will be able to indicate your 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choice in vendor space. Space is limited, so it will be assigned on a first-come basis.

There are a variety of hotels/motels located near the MSU Riley Center or others located in the city of Meridian. Attached is a list of hotels/motels that will give a "conference hotel rate" and are in close proximity of the Riley Center. When making your reservation at these hotels, you must mention Mississippi Association for Gifted Children to receive the special rate. You must make your reservations no later than August 26, 2012 to receive this rate.

You may set up your vendor space any time after 12 noon on Wednesday, September 26, 2012. There will be a pre-conference event being held on Wednesday, September 26, 2012, from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. On Thursday, September 27, the first general session of the conference will begin at 8:00 a.m. and breakout sessions will continue throughout the day until 5:00 p.m. The conference will continue on Friday, September 28, from 8:00 a.m. until 12 noon. Vendor spaces will be open to the participants during the whole conference.

Packages may be sent to the MSU Riley Center, 2200 Fifth Street, Meridian, MS 39301. Please do not send packages prior to September 23, 2012.

Attached you will also find an Application and Contract for Vendors. The signed contract with fee is due to me no later than Friday, August 31, 2012. If you plan to submit a proposal to present, you will need to submit a registration form. As a paid vendor, the registration and membership fees would both be waived. Proposal and registration forms are included for your convenience.

Thank you so much for your support of gifted children and those who teach them. We look forward to having you as an exhibitor at the 2012 conference.

Deborah Holt

Vice President, Mississippi Association of Gifted Children 2011-2012

MAGC 2012 Conference September 26-28, 2012
The Riley Center 2200 Fifth Street Meridian, MS 39301
Application and Contract for Exhibitors

Company/Organization _____

Exhibitor Contact _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone () _____ Fax () _____ Email _____

Description of Product or Service _____

We would like to participate as a vendor/exhibitor at the MAGC Conference at the Riley Center on September 26-28, 2012, in the following ways:

Exhibit Hall		Due \$130 per 8 x 8 space	Total Amount
Number of Vendor Spaces Desired			
Number of Tables (1-3 only) Needed in Vendor Space			
First Choice Vendor Space (reference number marked on map provided)			
Second Choice Vendor Space (reference number marked on map provided)			
Third Choice Vendor Space (reference number marked on map provided)			

Conference Program Ad	\$25.00 (one-fourth page)	\$50 (one-half page)	\$100 (full page)	Total Amount
Advertisement total				

Sponsorship	Refreshments for break	Speaker	Total Amount
Dollar Amount			

Door Prizes and Items for Conference Bags	Gift Certificate(s) with catalog	Actual prizes	Total Quantity
Quantity			

_____ Enclosed is my check payable to MAGC in the amount of \$_____

Please note the following information:

- Neither MAGC nor The RileyCenter will assume liability for materials in the display area
- This is a conference center therefore you will be responsible for unloading/loading your materials

PLEASE SIGN AND MAIL YOUR CHECK TO: Deborah Holt, 18032 Allen Road, Long Beach, MS 39560

 (Signature of contact person) (Date)

Conrad Castle Teacher Grant (CCTG)
Sponsored by Mississippi Association for Gifted Children (MAGC)

The Conrad Castle Teacher Grant was developed in 2010 by Mississippi Association for Gifted Children to honor Dr. Castle's dedicated service to the gifted children of Mississippi and to assist teachers of gifted children in the acquisition of appropriate materials designed to challenge intellectually or academically gifted children.

- The CCTG may be awarded in one of two areas: regular education classroom materials or gifted education classroom materials.
- The total of the grant is \$400.00.

GRANT REQUIREMENTS:

Regular Education Classroom Materials

- Mississippi regular education classroom teachers who teach eligible intellectually or academically gifted students in the public schools in Mississippi may apply.
- The purpose of the instructional materials must clearly demonstrate the teacher's intent to teach content to the gifted student(s) that is in addition to and different from the regular curriculum.
- It must be demonstrated that instructional materials focus on the interest area(s) of the gifted student(s) and meet the advanced instructional level of the student(s) for whom the grant is being submitted.
- Field trip experiences may be the focus of the grant, if evidence of student interest and need are clearly demonstrated.
- The materials may be technology based.
- Instructional materials must be non-consumable.
- The regular education teacher submitting application for the CCTG must have letter(s) of support from the principal and a gifted education teacher of the school where the applicant teaches.

Gifted Education Classroom Materials

- Mississippi gifted education teachers who teach intellectually or academically gifted students in the public schools in Mississippi may apply.
- The purpose of the instructional materials must clearly demonstrate the teacher's intent to teach content to the gifted student(s) that is in addition to and different from the regular curriculum.
- It must be demonstrated that instructional materials focus on the interest area(s) of the gifted student(s) and meet the advanced instructional level of the student(s) for whom the grant is being submitted.
- Instructional materials must be non-consumable.
- Field trip experiences may be the focus of the grant, if evidence of student interest and need are clearly demonstrated.
- The materials may be technology based.
- The gifted education teacher submitting application for the CCTG must have a letter of support from the principal of the school where the applicant teaches.

Application

Conrad Castle Teacher Grant

Sponsored by Mississippi Association for Gifted Children

Name of applicant _____

Address _____

Home phone _____ Cell phone _____

Email Address _____

Teaching Certification Type _____

District and School of Employment _____

School Address _____

School phone _____

School email address _____

Number of years teaching (total) _____

Number of years teaching gifted (if applicable) _____

Grade level (s) currently teaching _____

Please provide the classroom type and general environment in which the materials will be used:

Describe the student(s) for whom the materials are focused. Include type of gifted eligibility and areas of interest the materials are designed to meet and the grade level and instructional level of the student(s).

Clearly and concisely explain why these materials cannot be purchased by the local school.

Explain how the use of these materials will meet the requirement that they be in addition to and different from the regular classroom materials.

Provide the following documentation:

1. Copy of Teaching Certificate and Gifted Education Certification (if applicable)
2. Copy of the student(s) Gifted Eligibility(ies) form and a statement from the parent(s)/guardian(s) providing permission for this document to be shared with the grantor(s) of the CCTG.
3. Copy of the student's(s') Interest Inventories for whom the materials will be purchased.
4. Purchase order identifying the source(s) to be used to obtain the materials, items to be purchased, amount of materials, and costs.

Applications must be received by the Vice President of MAGC by the 10th of September in the year of the application.

Following the award of the CCTG, the award winner of the grant must provide MAGC with the following:

- Paid invoices totaling the award of the grant
- A statement from the award winner describing the use of the materials
- A statement from the principal of the award winner describing the effectiveness of the materials
- A statement from the student(s) using the materials as to the benefit of the materials

This documentation must be received by the Vice President of MAGC by the end of the academic year of the application. If the documentation is not provided, teachers from the school district in which the applicant taught at the time of the award will no longer be eligible for this grant



Announcements from the Karnes Center

DAY OF SHARING FOR TEACHERS OF THE GIFTED OCTOBER 26, 2012

The Day of Sharing for Teachers of the Gifted will be held on Friday, October 26, 2012, at the Union in rooms A and B on the University of Southern Mississippi Hattiesburg campus. This conference, sponsored by The Frances A. Karnes Center for Gifted Studies, is designed to educate teachers on current curriculum and instructional issues in gifted education. Teachers of the gifted, regular education teachers, psychologists, and administrators are encouraged to attend. There is no cost for the conference.

Dr. Kevin Besnoy, Assistant Professor, Gifted and Talented Education at The University of Alabama Department of Special Education and Multiple Abilities Program will be the keynote speaker. He will present *Steps to Being a More Efficient Digital Citizen*.

Immediately following lunch, teachers will be given time to share activities and ideas. Teachers should indicate their intent to share materials on their registration form. For more information, contact The Frances A. Karnes Center for Gifted Studies at 601.266.5236, or gifted.studies@usm.edu. Information may also be found on our Web site, <http://www.usm.edu/gifted>.

PARENTING GIFTED CHILDREN CONFERENCE XXIV OCTOBER 27, 2012

The Frances A. Karnes Center for Gifted Studies at The University of Southern Mississippi will hold its 24th Annual Parenting Gifted Children Conference on October 27, 2012. The conference is offered to assist parents and other concerned adults to better understand the unique intellectual, academic, and social-emotional needs of the gifted and talented. It will be held in Joseph A. Greene Hall on the Hattiesburg campus of The University of Southern Mississippi. The cost of attendance is \$30.

Dr. Kevin Besnoy, Assistant Professor, Gifted and Talented Education at The University of Alabama Department of Special Education and Multiple Abilities Program will be the keynote speaker. He will present *Steps to Being a More Efficient Digital Citizen*.

Don't miss this opportunity to meet leaders in gifted education. For more information please call 601.266.5236, e-mail gifted.studies@usm.edu, or visit our Web site at <http://www.usm.edu/gifted>.

For More Information, Contact

The Frances A. Karnes Center for Gifted Studies

University of
Southern
Mississippi
118 College Drive
#8207 Hattiesburg,
MS 39406-0001

Phone
601.266.5236

E-mail:
gifted.studies@usm.edu

Web site:
[http://
www.usm.edu/
gifted](http://www.usm.edu/gifted)

**CAREER EXPLORATIONS FOR GIRLS CONFERENCE
November 10, 2012**

The Fourth Annual Career Explorations for Girls Conference will be conducted on the Hattiesburg campus of The University of Southern Mississippi on Saturday, November 10, 2012, from 8 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. The conference is open to all girls in grades 7-12 and each girl must be accompanied by her mother or another adult female. Girls do **not** need to be enrolled in gifted education to attend. Dr. Ann Blackwell will be the keynote speaker. Her topic will be *Have a Successful Tomorrow by Preparing Today*. Several distinguished presenters will offer practical information to help girls plan for their education and entry into prospective careers. Careers to be discussed include business, science and technology, health care, communication, interior design, education, military service, art, psychology, law, music, and sports.

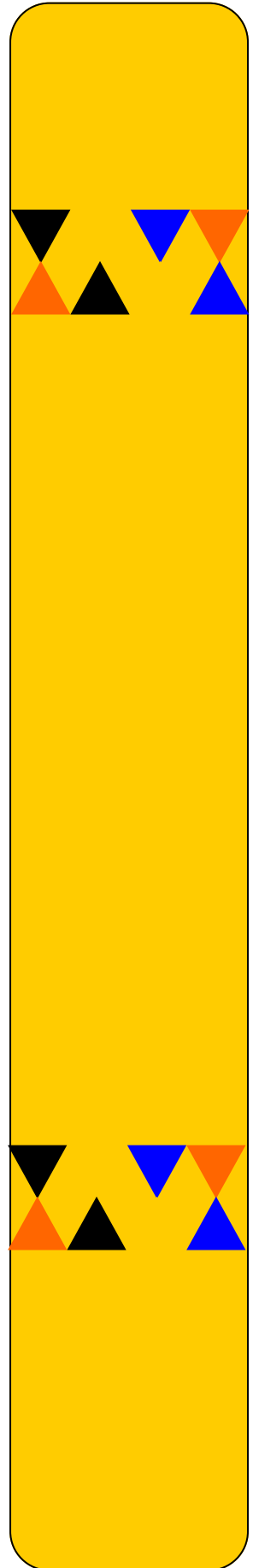
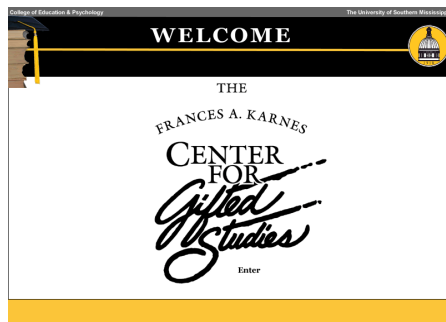
On the day of the conference registrants should sign in from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. in Joseph A. Greene Hall. There is no charge for the conference, and lunch is included. The conference is co-hosted by The Frances A. Karnes Center for Gifted Studies and the Spirit of Women at Forrest General Hospital.

To register for the conference, please call The Frances A. Karnes Center for Gifted Studies at 601.266.5236 or visit our Web site at <http://www.usm.edu/gifted>.

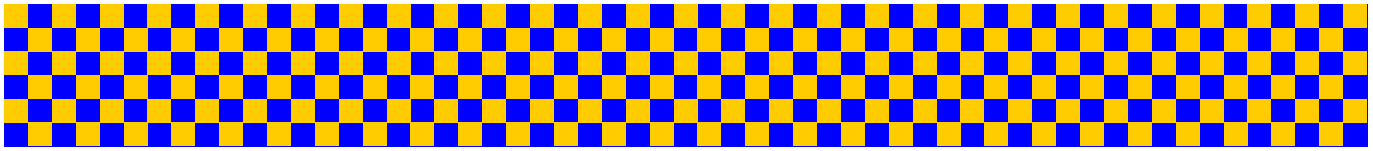
**SATURDAY GIFTED STUDIES PROGRAM
JANUARY 19 – MARCH 2, 2013**

The Saturday Gifted Studies Program, co-sponsored by the Frances A. Karnes Center for Gifted Studies, Purple Parrot Café, Crescent City Grill, and Coldwell Banker, will be conducted January 19 - March 2, 2012 at The University of Southern Mississippi. The program is designed to enhance cognitive and affective abilities of gifted students through planned enrichment/acceleration programming. The courses are scheduled for 9 a.m.-noon on each of the seven consecutive Saturdays. The application deadline is November 15, 2012.

Applications may be obtained through local school personnel or online at <http://www.usm.edu/gifted>. For more information, contact The Frances A. Karnes Center for Gifted Studies, at (601) 266-5236, or gifted.studies@usm.edu.



New Publications from Karnes Center

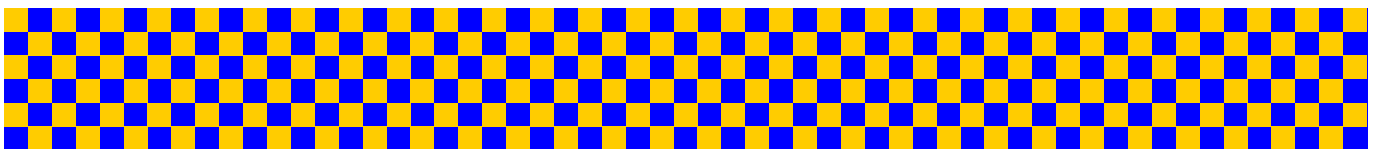


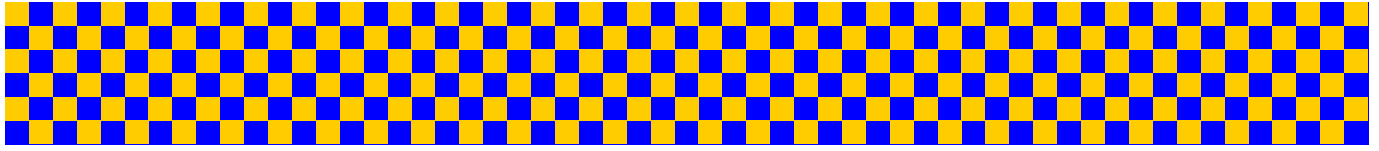
Press Release

Dr. Frances A. Karnes, distinguished university professor at the University of Southern Mississippi, and Dr. Kristin R. Stephens, assistant professor at Duke University, have co-edited another book in the Practical Strategies Series in Gifted Education published by Prufrock Press. The book, *Language Arts for Gifted Learners*, was authored by Lauren Miller and Emily Lubkert, two elementary teachers, writing specifically for classroom teachers. Language arts is a complex subject area that includes multiple domains (reading, writing, speaking, and listening) and can be infused into many other content areas throughout the school day. Students who are gifted in any area of the language arts need consistently challenging and stimulating instruction. Designed to be an initial resource for teachers seeking to add to their instructional repertoires, it provides specific strategies that teachers can use to meet the needs of their gifted students both in the language arts classroom and beyond.

Press Release

Dr. Frances A. Karnes, distinguished university professor at the University of Southern Mississippi, and Dr. Kristin R. Stephens, assistant professor at Duke University, have co-edited another book in the Practical Strategies Series in Gifted Education published by Prufrock Press. The book, *Science Strategies for Students with Gifts and Talents*, was written by Dr. Michael S. Matthews, associate professor of gifted education at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Effective teaching and learning in science is vital to our economic future and to our ability to perform effectively as citizens in a democratic society, but all too often, science education in the schools is not as effective as it might be. This book examines some common pitfalls in how we teach science in schools and then suggests ways teachers can improve their practices in this area. Specific sections cover elementary, middle, and high school science instruction, with a focus on how teachers can be effective in meeting the needs of the academically advanced and high-ability learners in their classrooms at each of these levels.



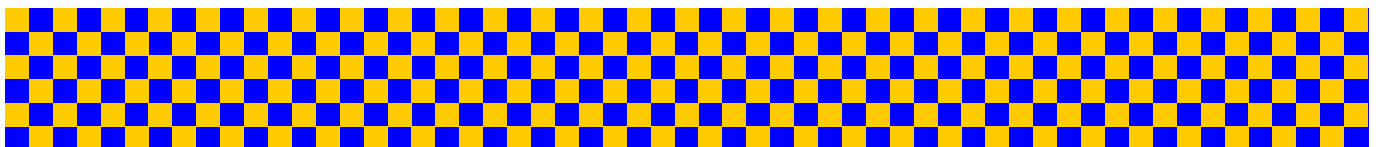


**GRADUATE DEGREE IN CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, AND SPECIAL EDUCATION
WITH AN EMPHASIS IN GIFTED EDUCATION**

The University of Southern Mississippi and the Department of Curriculum, Instruction, and Special Education offer masters, specialist, and doctoral degrees with an emphasis in gifted education. Five courses are offered for anyone interested in beginning an advanced degree program or in earning certification to teach the gifted.

- SPE 560 Characteristics of the Gifted
- SPE 661 Methods and Materials for Teaching Gifted Students
- SPE 662 Curriculum Development in Gifted Education
- SPE 663 Atypical Gifted Students
- SPE 664 Practicum with Gifted Students

The Frances A. Karnes Center for Gifted Studies at The University of Southern Mississippi has \$500.00 scholarships available for persons enrolled in graduate degree programs in gifted education for the summer of 2013. To qualify, the student must meet the admission requirements of the university for masters, specialist, or doctoral programs with an emphasis in gifted education. Consideration will be given to graduate students in specialized programs in elementary and secondary schools and for the college and university positions in the field of gifted education. For more information contact The Frances A. Karnes Center for Gifted Studies at The University of Southern Mississippi, 118 College Drive #8207, Hattiesburg, MS 39406-0001 or (601) 266-5236, gifted.studies@usm.edu.



Gifted Teacher and Student News

Petal Elementary 4th Grade Gifted Students learned about business and marketing through the *BizWorld* Foundation and raised \$500.00 for March of Dimes!



4th grade workshop students at Petal Elementary School created their own friendship bracelet companies through the BizWorld program. The students spent 13 weeks learning about starting a business and becoming entrepreneurs. At the end of the program, the students held a sales bazaar and sold all of their friendship bracelets to raise money for the March of Dimes. The students raised \$500.00 for the March of Dimes in honor of PES student Lane Brewer.

The Bizworld Program is an excellent teaching tool for gifted educators. It addresses many of the 21st Century Skills such as communication, collaboration, innovation and ethics. The Bizworld Foundation's mission is "To challenge and engage children across the cultural and economic spectrum through experiential learning programs that teach the basics of business, entrepreneurship, and money management, and promote teamwork and leadership in the classroom." To learn more about this program and free materials available, visit www.BizWorld.org.

Mary Smith Roberts is a gifted education teacher at Petal Elementary School, who was recently nominated "Teacher of the Month" by the Bizworld Foundation for her contributions to the friendship bracelet sales bazaar where students raised \$500.00 for the March of Dimes. She received a \$250.00 gift card as well as recognition of her award on the Bizworld Foundation facebook page.



Mississippi's National History Fair

Winning Teams

Gifted students from the Pascagoula School District recently participated in Mississippi's National History Fair. Colmer Middle School's Kendal Eubanks, Parker Jones, Reece Laws, and Ashley Murphy won 2nd place for a Junior Group Documentary. Summer Beale, another CMS gifted student, was presented with a Spirit of History Day award. Many Trent Lott Academy students were also named winners at NHD. Hunter Blades and Noah Williams won first place for a Junior Group Website. Frederick Reynolds won 2nd place for his Junior Individual website. TLA also took home 3rd place for a group website created by Bailey Bass, Kaitlyn Parker, and Audrey Sykes. Other awards were presented to Frederick Reynolds from the World War II Society, Hunter Blades for "The Spirit of History Day", and 3rd place for "Best School" to Trent Lott Academy. Congratulations to all!



Gifted Teacher and Student News

MPEUE LIFT Students Explore Mississippi

LIFT Students at Moss Point Escatawpa Upper Elementary recently completed a unit of study about the state of Mississippi. During this study, each student completed a project about a famous Mississippian, wrote and published a book of Mississippi fables, and visited Jackson, the State Capitol. The students also participated in classroom Quiz Bowl competitions, in order to learn facts about their state.

The book of fables that was published “UpLIFTing Mississippi Fables”, contain original writings by the students that center on morals, animals, and customs that are indicative to various areas of the state. During their study of famous Mississippians, the students shared excerpts of their fables with Robert Khayat, former Chancellor of The University of Mississippi. Research about the life and career of Mr. Khayat was conducted by Diona Watson. While visiting the class, Mr. Khayat gave the students words of encouragement about pursuing their dreams and goals in life.

A visit to the state capitol gave the students the opportunity to meet State Senator Manly Barton, and State Representative Billy Brumfield. The students were able to visit the House Chamber, sit in the seats of legislators, and ask questions about how our state is governed. The visit concluded with a visit to the Old Capitol Museum, and the Natural Science Museum. LIFT teachers at MPEUE are Sonja Boone and Kimberly Hansel.



MPEUE students and teachers, Sonja Boone and Kimberly Hansel, stand on the steps of the Capitol building in Jackson, MS.

Gifted Teacher and Student News

Representative Billy Broomfield gave students an overview of state government during a question and answer session in the House Chamber.



Former Ole Miss Chancellor Robert Khayat listens attentively as Hannah Maki reads excerpts of her fable.

Gifted Teacher and Student News



Dr. Marla Rayner-Sumrall

Dr. Marla Rayner-Sumrall completed her doctoral work with graduation on April 27, 2012, from Jackson State University when she received a Doctorate of Philosophy in Educational Administration. Her dissertation was entitled, “Teachers’ and Administrators’ Perceptions of the Preparedness and Effectiveness of Substitute Teachers in a Selected Mississippi School District in Mississippi.” Along with this degree, Dr. Rayner-Sumrall holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education from the University of Southern Mississippi (1991) and a Master of Education Degree in Special Education with an emphasis in Gifted Education from the University of Southern Mississippi (1994).

Dr. Rayner-Sumrall is a licensed psychometrist and she has worked in the field of education for over twenty years being employed by Jones County School District, Rankin County School District, Petal School District, and Hancock County School District. She has held numerous creditable offices in educational organizations such as the Mississippi Association for Gifted Children’s Executive Board. She is married to Mark Sumrall, and they have four children: Dalton Runnels, Marleigh Rutland, Levi Sumrall, and Wyatt Sumrall.

Currently, Dr. Rayner-Sumrall teaches in the gifted program at West Jones Elementary School and is a licensed psychometrist for Jones County Schools.

Gifted Teacher and Student News

A 5th grade student, Clay Mitchell, in Shirley Hardman's gifted class at Woolmarket Elementary in Harrison County decided the school needed a basketball court and wrote the principal suggesting it. She concurred but told him there was no money in the budget for such a plan. Not content to let it go – he wrote a business plan and with the help of the gifted program, and the PTO he was able to make his dream come true. Picture here are Clay Mitchell and Trace Cunningham who were on hand to greet the Geo pave earth moving equipment used to level the ground.



Gifted Teacher and Student News

Germantown Middle School Wins Second Place in Personal Finance Challenge Twenty teams competed for state championship and scholarships

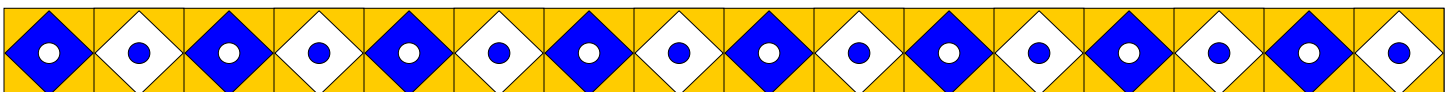
JACKSON, Miss., May 18, 2012 - Germantown Middle School captured second place in the Mississippi Financial Literacy Challenge in April at Millsaps College in Jackson. They emerged from a field of 20 middle school teams to win scholarships. Students compete on the topics of Spending & Credit, Saving & Investing, Income & Money Management, and a Quiz Bowl.

This was the second annual in-person Personal Finance Challenge offered by the Mississippi Council on Economic Education (MCEE). This event was made possible by funding from Security Ballew, Wells Fargo Bank, Community Foundation of Greater Jackson, Millsaps College and the Mississippi Council on Economic Education with support from BancorpSouth. The Financial Literacy Challenge gives schools a chance to showcase their brightest students who have worked hard in the area of Personal Finance at their prospective schools. With Mathematics being an area where most school districts have poor grades, this activity shows that children are willing to learn if the information is interesting and interactive to them.

Each member of the second place team receives a \$200 scholarship. Scholarships are provided by Security Ballew and the MS Council on Economic Education. This scholarship money will be placed in a MACS account. MACS is Mississippi's College Savings 529 savings plan. This state-sponsored education savings program specifically helps Mississippi families save for future college expenses. It allows individuals to save for a child's college tuition, as well as qualified expenses such fees, required books and supplies, and certain room and board cost. These accounts are offered by the Mississippi Treasurer's office.

Coaching the second place team was middle school Gifted teacher, Deborah Morali. Students are best prepared by being taught the Financial Fitness for Life curriculum provided by the Mississippi Council on Economic Education. Morali states, "Participating in the Financial Literacy Challenge was a very rewarding experience for my students. Throughout the year, I strive to incorporate real-life learning experiences in my classroom. The programs sponsored by MCEE help me to design lessons to reach this goal. Students enjoy the hands-on activities and the competitions offer an extra incentive that encourage my students to remain focused and on task.

We begin the year learning about basic financial terms and concepts. The 'Banker in Every Classroom' offered by the Mississippi Council on Economic Education and the Mississippi Bankers Association was very beneficial this year and I hope that is an option next year. Once students have a basic understanding, they participate in the Stock Market Simulation. We opt for the Spring Component because during the Stock Market game they learn about entrepreneurs and this is the spring board into an exciting activity where they build a city and each student runs a business in the city for one day. This city serves as our main fundraiser for the year and generated funds we used to update our classroom technology, pay for transportation costs for class trips and registration fees for class competitions. It is first person experience in financial literacy and generating profits. Thanks to MCEE for providing so many opportunities and materials at no cost to our schools."



Gifted Teacher and Student News



2012 Mississippi Personal Finance Challenge Second Place Team

"The student scores on the assessments this year were most impressive. It is important to know that Mississippi children at the middle school level can learn financial literacy. Our teachers now have skills and curriculum to deliver a meaningful material as part of all subject areas at the middle school level. The state's economic development is improved when teachers and their students know how personal finance effects the economy," said Selena Swartzfager, president of the Mississippi Council on Economic Education.

The council has reached more than 8,000 teachers with professional development and the research-based lessons published by the Council for Economic Education. 418 teachers now hold the Master Teacher of Economics certification provided by the council in cooperation with the Mississippi Department of Education. The MCEE's fundamental goal is to provide every Mississippi student with a sound non-partisan understanding of basic economic principles and how economics relates to their lives as workers, citizens and consumers in a global economy. MCEE is a state-wide organization with 42 members of the Board of Directors, composed of business and education leaders from throughout the state. MCEE is affiliated with the 60-year old Council for Economic Education based in New York.

The second place winners of the MCEE division are shown in the front row: Tyler Burlison, Joe Han, Katie VanNorman, and Austin Lathem with their teacher, Deborah Morales. In the back row are James Wilcox, USM Center Director; Matt Ballew, Chair of Security Ballew and MCEE Board Member; Selena Swartzfager, President of MCEE; and Dr. Brent Hales, USM Chair and Associate Professor and MCEE Board Member.

For more information, contact Selena Swartzfager at swartsc@millsaps.edu <<mailto:swartsc@millsaps.edu>> or 601-974-1325.



2011-12 MAGC Executive Board



Pictured left to right: (Back) Méchellé Ramshur, Cindy McPheal, Joyce Youngblood, Dr. Sandra Manning, Melissa Pierce, Carol Paola, Donna Welborn, Margaret Snider; (Front) Lora Beasley, Debra Holt, Rhonda Denton, Glenn Nobles, Pam Pape.

ELECTED OFFICERS:

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Vice President: Deborah Holt deboraholt@aol.com
Recording Secretary: Lora Beasley
Corresponding Secretary: Margaret Snider msnider@jackson.k12.ms.us
Treasurer: Pam Pape ppape@jackson.k12.ms.us
Immediate Past President: Dr. Sandra Manning sandra.manning@usm.edu
Past President: Sherry Willis sherry@rcrotorworld.com

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Affiliates: Svetlana Lucas Svetlana.lucas@yahoo.com
Legislative: All Board Members
Publications (*Concepts*): Melissa Pierce magc.concepts@aol.com
Public Relations: Melissa Pierce melissa.pierce@petalschools.com
Supportive Funding: Tamara Drake
Advisory Board: Joyce Youngblood jly1272@gmail.com
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Assessment: Donna Welborn dwelborn@jackson.k12.ms.us
Website: Sherry Willis sherry@rcrotorworld.com
MAGC Executive Director: Carol Paola cwplgab@aol.com

FOUNDER AND PERMANENT MEMBER:

Dr. Frances Karnes, Hattiesburg

