PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Gifted Regional Trainings - Letters regarding the fall trainings will be sent to school superintendents and gifted/special education coordinators no later than next week. We are offering eight trainings this year. Dates and locations for the trainings are:

- August 16-17, 2011 Cypress Auditorium, Mobile County Public Schools
- August 18-19, 2011 Lincoln Center, Birmingham City Schools
- August 23-24, 2011 Enterprise City Schools Service Center
- August 25-26, 2011 Transportation Dept., Tuscaloosa County Schools
- August 29-30, 2011 Shelby County Instructional Services Center
- August 31-September 1, 2011, Marshall County Technical Center
- September 6-7, 2011 Regional In-Service Center & AMSTI Building, Athens
- Sept 13-14, 2011 Bellinger Hill, Montgomery County Schools

Topics include Gifted Updates, Monitoring, and Achieving Racial Equity, Critical and Creative Thinking Skills, Thinking Like a Disciplinarian, and Working with Twice Exceptional Students.

Registration on STI-SETS will begin the week of July 25, 2011.

AAGC Annual Conference—Gifted! Stand Up and Speak Out! - on September 22 and 23, 2011 has many surprises this year. First, there are three keynote speakers. On Thursday Dr. Jack Naglieri will present in the morning and on Friday Dr. Del Siegle will present in the morning with Dr. Tommy Bice presenting after the morning break. Friday will also feature a few sessions for parents. Breakout sessions will be on both days. Wednesday is the Pre-Conference Workshop. This year AAGC will present “How to Score the Torrance Test for Creative Thinking” with Dr. John Kauffman of Scholastic Testing. We strongly recommend that you attend this training if you have not been trained on scoring this creativity test.

Door prizes this year are incredible. One lucky attendee will go home with an iPad 2. However, you must be present to win the prize, which will be given away Friday afternoon.

CONTESTS & OTHER REAL-WORLD AUDIENCES

AAGC – Student Contest

Gifted! Stand Up and Speak Out! September 22 and 23, 2011
Gifted Student Project Contest

In 101 Words/30 seconds or Less: Tell the World What it Means to be Gifted!

Choose one of these formats for your product:
- Written Words (comic, essay, poem, rap, song)
- Media (video on YouTube, etc.)
- Graphic Design (bumper sticker, advertisement, poster)

Winners will be announced at the AAGC Conference on Friday, September 23, 2011 and shared at the Conference.

Contest Rules and Information:
- Contest is open to all gifted students in K-12. Participants must be students in the state of Alabama. Children of AAGC board members and judges are not eligible to participate.
Check out Dr. Ted Sweet’s blog post, *Challenging the Talented Child*, at [http://www.eimacs.com/blog/?p=211](http://www.eimacs.com/blog/?p=211)

Make sure to read the comment posted by Julie. This is what we, gifted specialists, have known. You may find words to use when consulting and collaborating with general education teachers and administrators.


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- Winners will be selected in each of the following grade groups:
  - K-2, Written, Media, and Graphic Design
  - 3-5, Written, Media, and Graphic Design
  - 6-8, Written, Media, and Graphic Design
  - 9-12, Written, Media, and Graphic Design

- Contest registration form and URL and/or Word document must be received by **September 15, 2011**
  - Written Word should be typed in Word and no more than 101 words.
  - Video media should be no longer than 30 seconds and should be posted on YouTube or something similar.
  - Graphic Design should be uploaded to Glogster or some other website for easy viewing.
  - All winners will have their products posted on the AAGC Website (alabamagifted.org).
  - By submitting a product for consideration in the Contest, you grant AAGC a royalty free and irrevocable right to reproduce, publish, display, broadcast, stream or otherwise use your product in whole or in part, in any media including the internet.
  - There are no fees associated with this contest.

**CONTEST AWARDS:**
- **Grand Prize – Apple IPAD**
  1st Place in each category, $50.00 Apple Itunes Card
  2nd Place in each category, $25.00 Apple Itunes Card

Send the following form with your product URL and/or Word document to: [audrey.fine@gmail.com](mailto:audrey.fine@gmail.com), President AAGC

The 2011 AAGC Gifted Student Project Contest Registration Form can be downloaded at [http://alabamagifted.org](http://alabamagifted.org)

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**RESOURCES**

- **Livebinders**
  To find free RtI resources and fabulous Web 2.0 tools go to Shirley’s Livebinders-online bookmarks. [http://www.livebinders.com/shelf/search?search=&terms=shirfarr&type=1](http://www.livebinders.com/shelf/search?search=&terms=shirfarr&type=1)
  There’s also a P2LN- Professional, Personalized Learning Network-to find professional development opportunities on the Web!

**SPACE SHUTTLE**

An end of an era happened on Friday, July 8, 2011, when the last shuttle mission blasted into space. Here are a few Space Shuttle resources:

- **Last Shuttle Mission video:** [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3deA3BXAnHs&feature=youtu.be](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3deA3BXAnHs&feature=youtu.be)
- **Washington Post Infographic by Alberto Cuardo:** [http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-a3Bv55vcotE/ThMnjIM4GXI/AAAAAAAAAil/hh1zd_Ig9aA/s1600/shuttle-g.jpg](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-a3Bv55vcotE/ThMnjIM4GXI/AAAAAAAAAil/hh1zd_Ig9aA/s1600/shuttle-g.jpg)