



Concepts!

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A Journal of the Mississippi
Association for Gifted Children

2005 MAGC Conference ~ a Success ... Finally

Thank you all for supporting MAGC by your participation and contributions as presenters or exhibitors. We appreciate your understanding about the postponement of the 2005 conference and adjusting your schedules to attend four months later than originally planned.

Dr. George Betts, our keynote speaker for the 2005 conference, was a valuable source of information and inspiration as he spoke on *The Journey of Lifelong Learning* and addressed the needs of gifted children at *Family Night*. We are very proud and pleased to have hosted Dr. Betts at this conference.

This year's Business Session was perhaps the best attended in many years. Because of your interest, MAGC will continue to advocate for our state's gifted children. Your acceptance of those of us who are to continue as your officers through this year gives us all confidence to carry on.

Kudos go to DeSoto County teachers, district staff, parents and students. They showcased their gifted children and teachers, as well as musically talented students! If you missed the luncheon, you really missed a treat from the Hernando High School Madrigal Singers!

Now the 2006 conference is fast approaching! Feedback on your evaluations of the 2005 conference is most appreciated and will certainly be considered when planning this next conference. Submitting a breakout session proposal is one way you can contribute. Many of your colleagues would like for you to share ideas! Proposals as well as other conference forms are included in this issue of *Concepts!*

We are excited about having Ken Vinton as our keynote speaker in September. He is a most creative teacher and an entertaining speaker. He will be with us for breakout sessions, as well as *Family Night*. We encourage you to begin planning to join us in Jackson at the Regency Hotel and Conference Center!



2006 Conference to Feature Ken Vinton

MAGC is proud to announce the dates and keynote speaker for their 2006 annual conference. Mark your calendars for September 28-29, 2006 at the Regency Hotel-Conference Center in Jackson, MS. This year's keynote speaker will be Kenneth A. Vinton. Whose theme will be, *Every Once in a While You Get a Once in a WOW! Creativity is More Important Than... Anything!*

Creativity is one of the hallmarks of gifted production and the *Journal of the California Association for the Gifted Communicator* has its own illustrator to make readers sit up and take notice, tickle funny bones as well as make unforgettable visual reminders of the written word.

Ken Vinton is trained in art education, printmaking, and lithography and has been teaching art for more than 25 years. He has illustrated three books, the most recent being *You Know Your Child is Gifted When...* published by Free Spirit Publishing. He has presented at gifted conferences throughout the United States. He continues to create and sell his own artwork.

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From the Executive Director

I was inspired by “The Journey of Life Long Learning” – the theme for our annual conference. I felt a sense of enthusiasm for all the things that were taking place that would help us on our journey – Dr. Betts’ challenge, the sessions which provided strategies and materials, creativity night and family night which gave opportunity to gain knowledge and explore the various aspects of creativity. I would like to express appreciation to all those involved for a job well done. Margaret Snider, conference chair did a phenomenal job! In fact she did so well, she gets to repeat her performance in September. Our president Kate Brown, assisted in so many ways including preparing the hurricane relief exhibit which was one of the highlights of the conference. A special thanks goes to the group from DeSoto County for their assistance and participation in so many areas. Now we look forward to the 2006 conference September 27-29 at the Regency in Jackson.

As you know the thing that has been foremost in my mind since August has been the hurricane relief program that MAGC made a commitment to. Our desire is to

help restore materials and supplies for the gifted classrooms on the coast. We will continue this project until the end of school. It is not too late for you to be personally involved. For those of you who were unable to attend the conference, you just needed to see the videos provided by students from the coast to get a sense of reality of the situation and what you can do to help with this. This is my last opportunity to put this challenge out to you. This is your opportunity to SHARE. You can make a difference to gifted teachers and students on the coast. I promise you that it will be an enriching experience for both you and your students. Look for the sheet in Concepts which gives you “ideas” of things you can do. I look forward to hearing from MANY of you.

Thank you for the contribution you make to our student’s lives on a daily basis.

Jean C. Prather

Jean C. Prather

From the MAGC President

Dear MAGC Members,

Let me begin by recognizing Margaret Snider for facilitating an outstanding conference and by thanking so many of our members for attending and supporting the postponed event. It was a wonderful time of sharing and professional growth.

Many attendees commented on the keynote speaker, Dr. George Betts. Dr. Betts has worked in the field of gifted education for over 30 years and brings to our field a strong background in counseling. His work emphasizes the importance of the affective domain and encourages the social and emotional development of gifted learners. For many years, G/T classrooms have focused primarily on thinking and process skills, but our new state standards clearly articulate the need for affective development in the G/T classroom. If you are interested in developing a deeper understanding of the unique social/emotional needs of gifted learners, please visit one or more of the following websites:

Supporting Emotional Needs of the Gifted

<http://www.sengifted.org>

Gifted Development Center

www.gifteddevelopment.com

National Association for Gifted Children

www.nagc.org

Hoagies Gifted Information

www.hoagiesgifted.com

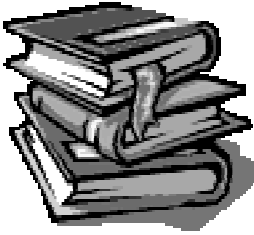
The National Research Center on the Gifted and Talented
<http://www.gifted.uconn.edu/nrcgt.html>

The Teachers of the Gifted Instructional Forum (TGIF), hosted by Mississippi University for Women, will be held at Plymouth Bluff Environmental Center on March 10, 2006. The event’s focus is “Meeting the Social/Emotional Needs of the Gifted,” and the keynote speaker is Dr. Bob Seney. For more information, please contact event coordinator Rose Goodin at 662-329-7288 or by e-mail at rmg@muw.edu.

Finally, I would like to share one additional resource with you. As teachers of the gifted, we are often called upon to provide staff development training for our colleagues in regular education. The CHAMPS Project at the Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science, funded by a federal Javits grant for gifted education, has developed a Power Point presentation entitled “Myths and Facts about Gifted Learners” to help educate regular classroom teachers about the unique learning needs of the gifted. Please feel free to download the presentation from the project website and use it to inform stakeholders at your school: <http://www.muw.edu/ccl/champs/presentations.html>.

Kate M. Brown

Kate M. Brown



The Bookshelf

By: Dr. Bob Seney

Normally at this time of year in *BookShelf*, I begin to review the Caldecott, the Newbery, and the Printz Award books. However -- regular readers of *BookShelf* may recall that I promised not to second guess the award committees any more. For the last two years, I have really missed the boat. It's a good thing that I stuck to that promise, since this year I have not read *any* of the Medal and Honor Books, and there were only three books for which I had title recognition! I admit this was a slower reading year for me (only 41 books on my 2005 recommended list) since chairing the World Gifted Conference really cut into my reading time -- in fact -- it cut into my life! But I had no idea that I had missed so many good books. By the way speaking of the World Conference, I would like to say thank you again to all the MAGC members who not only served on the Leadership and Planning Team but the volunteers who helped out during the conference. The conference evaluations from the over 750 international participants indicated that the New Orleans conference was **very** successful.

But back to our books, I have decided to share with you a book that I have just finished. Since it is the third book in a trilogy, I will address all three books. The great thing about this trilogy is that one of my kid reading buddies introduced me to the first book. I have said it before and I will say it again: "I love it when a kid points me towards a great read." The books are the *Lion Boy Trilogy* by Zizou Corder. The first unique aspect of these books is that Zizou Corder is actually a mother-daughter team. The daughter, Isabel Adomakoh Young, was just twelve years old when they wrote the first book. The mother is Louisa Young, is an author of five adult books. They decided that their names were too long for a book jacket, so they borrowed the first name of Isabel's pet lizard and created Zizou Corder, their *nom de plume*.

The books are *Lion Boy* (2003, Dial books) *Lion Boy: The Chase* (2004, Dial books), and *Lion Boy: The Truth* (2005, Dial Books). This third book of the trilogy may very well be the best of the three.

The *Lion Boy* books are set in the not-so-distant future, but political, environmental, and technological changes have brought about quite a change in the social and political order. The *Lion Boy* is Charlie Ashanti, the son of two scientists, Dr. Magdalen Start and Dr. Aneba Ashanti. Together they have developed a formula that cures asthma, an extremely important discovery because so many people are suffering from sever asthma due to the damaged environment and, as it turns out, due to genetically engineered cats created by the Corporacy to carry allergenics and spread asthmatic conditions. All of this has been done to boost the sales of their asthma medications and to gain economic and political control of the entire world. The Corporacy is the

real villain in the novels. However, its agents are the bad guys you love to hate. They are Rafi, the young tough, whose background turns out to be significant to Charlie's family and Maccomo, the cruel lion tamer.

The first book, *Lion Boy*, introduces the characters and sets up the situation. Charlie's parents have been kidnapped by the Corporacy and Charlie sets out to find them, aided by his unique gift that he and his parents have kept secret: Charlie is able to talk to cats. Charlie is then kidnapped by Rafi because the Corporacy has discovered his secret and they also want to use him to coerce his parents into doing research for them. Charlie escapes from Rafi and stows away on a ship that has been converted into a circus ship, the *Circe*. This group also plays an important role in the third book. Charlie is discovered but he is taken on as a crew member and because of his ability to relate to animals, he is given the responsibility of caring for the animals and thus he meets the lions. The lions and Charlie quickly become a team and together they plot their escape from the evil Maccomo. Then, they set out to help Charlie find his parents.

This is where the second book, *Lion Boy: The Chase*, begins. Charlie and the lions escape but they follow a false lead to Venice. Again, they are "imprisoned" but this time in a luxurious palace. They become involved in a political scheme to overthrow the corrupt Doge of Venice. With the help of the gondoliers, the Doge is overthrown and Charlie and his lions are able to continue their search for his parents. Much of the second book involves the exciting and many faceted aspects of this chase. At the end of this book, Charlie is reunited with his parents, but danger lurks and Book Two leaves us hanging in anticipation of the third book.

In *Lion Boy: The Truth*, the trilogy comes to its exciting and almost unexpected climax. Charlie is again captured, this time by Maccomo. Maccomo takes him to the island of San Antonio, the Corporacy Headquarters, and his parents set off after him. It is here that we discover the evil intentions of the Corporacy and the depths to which they will go in order to gain world dominance. It is so easy to fall into the trap of telling you too much and perhaps I already have, but this is such a fun adventure that you and your students must read it for yourselves.

While the books could be read independently, since the authors provide background in each book, I recommend that you read them in order. This is fun and exciting adventure reading at its best. We can imagine that the fresh and wonderful ideas and situations come from Isabel's young creative mind, but they are crafted by a trained and very capable writer who is careful not to lose the fresh and exciting voice of her daughter. *The Lion Boy Trilogy* would be excellent in any English class that is investigating styles of writing.

And now a quick note: In the next issue of *Concepts*, I will begin to review this year's award winners which should set up your summer reading. The books have been ordered and I assure you they will be read as soon as possible. In the meantime, Happy Reading!

Bob Seney

Happenings at the Karnes Center

LEADERSHIP STUDIES PROGRAM, JUNE 18 - 23, 2006—This program is a one-week residential program designed for students in grades 6-11, who are recommended by school officials and who have a desire to develop and enhance their leadership abilities. Students will be housed in dormitories on the USM campus in Hattiesburg, MS. Tuition includes room, board, recreational activities, and limited accident insurance. **Leadership I** has a specific emphasis on leadership skills. Training will include: fundamentals of leadership, written and oral communication, group dynamics, problem solving, planning, personal skills, and decision making. Avenues for becoming leaders in the school, community, and religious affiliation will be utilized. **Leadership II** is a continuation of the program, with Leadership I as a prerequisite for entry. Emphasis is placed on the psychology of leadership, assertiveness training, and situational leadership. **Leadership III** is an extension of the program, with Leadership II as a prerequisite for entry. Training will focus on the legal aspects of leadership, responsibilities of various positions of leadership, developing personal power, and leadership for the future. The students also have the opportunity for informal interaction with adult leaders. Financial aid is available based on need on a limited basis.

SUMMER GIFTED STUDIES PROGRAM, JUNE 25 - 30, 2006—This is a one week residential program designed for intellectually gifted students in grades 4-8 with IQs of 120 or above on an individually administered test, or the 90th percentile or above at the national level on an achievement test. The program enhances the cognitive abilities of gifted students through enrichment/acceleration activities. Content areas are combined with processing skills to enable students to explore a wide variety of topics. Students will be housed in dormitories on the USM campus in Hattiesburg, MS. Instructional activities will be conducted in classrooms and labs on the campus. Recreational activities and cultural events will be included based on availability. Tuition includes room, board, recreational activities, and limited accident insurance. Financial aid is available based on need on a limited basis.

Summer Program for Academically Talented Youth, JULY 9 - 28, 2006—This is a 3-week residential program designed for students in grades 7-10 who qualify based on SAT or ACT results. A variety of intensive, fast-paced courses will be offered, such as algebra I and II, geometry, trigonometry, modern analysis, physics, anatomy/physiology, marine biology; forensic science, polymer science, psychology, creative writing, southern writers and literature, debate, public speaking, mythology, journalism, genetics, human geography, and foreign languages. The program is designed to include appropriate academic, cultural, and recreational experiences. The Univ. of Southern MS offers this program through cooperative efforts with the Duke University Talent Identification Program. Tuition includes the instructional program, books, room and board, recreational activities, and limited accident insurance. Financial aid is available based on need on a limited basis.

Advanced Degrees in Gifted Education—USM and the Department of Curriculum, Instruction, and Special Education, offer a Master's Degree, Specialist's Degree, and a Ph.D. in curriculum, instruction, and special education with an emphasis in gifted education. Five courses are offered for anyone beginning an advanced degree program or in getting certified to teach the gifted.

SPE 560 Characteristics of the Gifted

SPE 661 Methods and Materials for Teaching Gifted Students

SPE 663 Atypical Gifted Students

SPE 664 Practicum with Gifted Students

SPE 662 Curriculum Development in Gifted Education

The Karnes Center has \$500.00 scholarships available for persons enrolled in graduate degree programs in gifted education for the summer of 2006. To qualify, the student must meet the admission requirements of the university for master's, specialist's, or doctoral programs with an emphasis in gifted education. Consideration will be given to graduate students in specialized programs in elementary and secondary schools for the college and university positions in the field of gifted education. For more information contact The Karnes Center at the numbers given below.

For More Information Contact

The Frances A. Karnes Center for Gifted Studies ▪ The University of Southern Mississippi
118 College Drive #8207 ▪ Hattiesburg, MS 39406-0001 ▪ (601)266-5236 ▪ fax (601)266-4978
E-mail: gifted_studies@usm.edu ▪ <http://www.usm.edu/gifted>

Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Young Scholars program

The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Young Scholars program selects high-achieving youth with financial need and provides them with individualized educational services throughout high school that will enable them to develop their talents and abilities. The Foundation collaborates with regional talent centers at Duke, Johns Hopkins, and Northwestern Universities, and the Univ. of Denver to answer inquiries about the program, administer the application

process, and counsel Young Scholars. Applicants need not be part of the talent centers' programs to be eligible for or participate in this program. Students in the 7th grade—or who will enter 8th grade next fall—are eligible to apply.

For information visit: www.jackkentcookefoundation.org

Or contact:

Sarah Jo Thompson/Outreach Specialist
(919) 668-9100 jkcfc@tip.duke.edu

Duke Talent Identification Program

The Duke TIP 4th/5th Grade Talent Search season is here! This program provides recognition, support and encouragement to about 40,000 academically talented 4th and 5th graders each year.

About the Talent Search: Now in its 13th year, the 4th/5th Grade Talent Search is run by the Duke University Talent Identification Program, a non-profit educational organization committed to serving the educational needs of gifted youth. The purpose of the talent search is to identify, recognize and motivate students for continued or improved academic achievement during this critical time in their development. Participants also receive:

- Recognition for their achievement
- Newsletters with articles on many interesting topics
- Informative resource guides (for parents and students)
- The option to participate in a writing contest
- The option for above level testing

To view a PowerPoint presentation about the 4th/5th Grade Talent Search, go to http://www.tip.duke.edu/talent_searches/grades_4-5/DukeTIP_4th-5th_TS.ppt

How students qualify: 4th/5th grade students usually qualify to participate by scoring at or above the 90th percentile on any subsection of a grade-level standardized test, taken within the past two years. However, several other

tests and criteria may be used to qualify a student. Please go to http://www.tip.duke.edu/talent_searches/grades_4-5/enrollment_criteria.html for a full listing of qualification guidelines and acceptable tests.

How to register: Parents may register their children online at http://www.tip.duke.edu/talent_searches/grades_4-5/, or by filling out a paper application, which can be obtained through their school or by calling our office.

Deadlines: The deadline for registration is **March 1** for paper applications, and **March 17** for online applications.

More information: Please visit our web site (http://www.tip.duke.edu/talent_searches/grades_4-5/) for more information, or contact Barbara McHugh, Coordinator of the 4th/5th Grade Talent Search at bmchugh@tip.duke.edu or **919-668-9100**.

The Duke TIP Talent Search Staff

Main Office:
1121 W. Main Street
Durham, NC 27701
919-668-9100

Satellite Office:
406 E. 11th St., Ste. 301
Austin, TX 78701
512-473-8400

www.tip.duke.edu

MAGC must plan conferences years in advance so that meeting space is obtained. Due to the catastrophic conditions on our Gulf Coast, our 2007 conference has been cancelled there. The next three annual conferences will be held in Jackson.

Dates and locations for future MAGC conferences:

September 28 – 29, 2006	The Regency Hotel and Conference Center, Jackson
September 27 – 28, 2007	The Regency Hotel and Conference Center, Jackson
September 25 – 26, 2008	The Regency Hotel and Conference Center, Jackson

Mark Your Calendars!

The next Creativity Exploration at William Carey College is scheduled for July 17-19, 2006

For more information call Dr. Read Diket at 601-318-6205 or visit the William Carey web site at <http://www.wmcarey.edu/academics/education/diket%20wd.shtml>.

Dear MAGC Board and Members,

It is such an honor to be recognized with the Frances Karnes Award by MAGC. The composition of the organization is synonymous with excellence and integrity in education making my receipt of the award a very humbling experience. I know that the day-to-day efforts of MAGC's members benefit our children in ways I can only aspire to achieve. I am proud of my affiliation with the organization and will continue to assist its members and their students throughout my career.

*With gratitude,
Judy Couey*

Hall of Honors

Judy Couey Wins 2005 Karnes Award

The winner of the 2005 Frances A. Karnes Award for Excellence in Gifted Education is Judy Couey. Ms. Couey has a rich experience in various arenas of education. She has served as a teacher, principal, adjunct professor and director with the MS Dept. of Education. As bureau director of Curriculum and Instruction, she has supervised the area of gifted education for the past 5 years. She has been a strong advocate of equity among programs, including gifted programs, and has recently been involved in the new standards for gifted education and the revision of the state standards. Ms. Couey also serves on the MAGC advisory board. Congratulations to Judy Couey and thanks for all of her work for gifted education in Mississippi.

Karnes Co-Edits Five More Gifted Education Books

Dr. Frances A. Karnes, Director of The Frances A. Karnes Center for Gifted Studies and Dr. Kristen Stephens, Editor-in-Chief, Duke University Gifted Letter, have co-edited five more books in The Practical Strategies Series published by Prufrock Press.

This series offers teachers, counselors, administrators, parents, and other interested persons up-to-date instructional strategies and information on a variety of issues pertinent to the field of gifted education. Each addresses a focused topic and is written by an expert in the field. The newest additions to the series will be released this spring. They are:

- Working with Gifted English Language Learners
- When Gifted Students Underachieve: What You Can Do About It.
- Assessment in the Classroom: The Key to Good Instruction
- A Menu of Options for Grouping Gifted Students
- Successful Strategies for Twice Exceptional Students

Harrison County Students' Artwork on Display in D.C.

Gifted students in the Journey program at Woolmarket Elem. School and North Woolmarket Middle School have created hurricane art to be displayed within the next few months at the World Bank in Washington, D.C. The project's goal is to raise awareness for the need of a healing arts program for children affected by disasters. The multi-media art depicts students' feelings and observations during and after Hurricane Katrina.

The International Child Art Foundation is responsible for the Katrina Healing Arts Program. The program aims to bring Art Therapists to work with children on the coast. Dr. Ashfaq Ishaq, the Executive Director of the International Child Art Foundation thanked the students for sending their "amazing works of art." The art will also be displayed on the International Child Art Foundation's website at www.icafo.org.

GT Students Win Awards in Entergy Poster Contest

Each year the Mississippi Development Authority's energy division sponsors a student poster competition. The goal of this competition is to foster energy awareness. Winning designs from each grade level (4th—6th) are published on a full color wall calendar. This year's theme was "Not in use? Turn off the juice."

Five of this year's winners are gifted students from the Harrison County School District. Those students are Christian A., and Hayden L. of Orange Grove Elementary and Raven B., Forrest C., and Sarah S (overall winner) of Lyman Elementary. Their teacher is Helen Donohoe.



Do you know Mississippi gifted students and teachers that have won honors? We'd like to recognize them in *Concepts!* Just send info and digital or printed pictures to Lisa Saucier at lsaucier@jackson.k12.ms.us or 1120 Riverside Drive, Jackson, MS 39202.

TGIF—The Teachers of the Gifted Instructional Forum

The Teachers of the Gifted Instructional Forum will be held March 10, 2006 from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. at Plymouth Bluff Environmental Center.

The title of this year's program is, *The Key to Success: Meeting the Social/Emotional Needs of the Gifted*. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Bob Seney, who will be retiring at the end of the academic year. His presentation will be titled, *Which Key Fits*.

The forum is also featuring, *A Workshop for Gifted at Risk* led by: Kevin Besnoy from the Francis A. Karnes Center for Gifted Studies at the University of Southern Mississippi. CEU credit is available for those in full attendance, including lunch. These credits will cost an addi-

tional \$20.00.

Pre-Registration is \$15.00 and on-site registration is \$20.00. Both fees include lunch. Pre-registration is preferred to insure the appropriate number of lunches

Registration and payment should be sent to the address below. Make checks payable to: MUW-TGIF. For more information or for a registration packet, please contact Rose Goodin at (662) 329-7288 or email at rmg@muw.edu.

TGIF, Mississippi University for Women
1100 College St. MUW Box-1637
Columbus, MS 39701-5800

Jackson Gifted Students Send Quilts to Afghanistan

Students from Spann Elementary School in the Jackson Public School District recently mailed 2 quilts to Afghanistan. They're being sent through the humanitarian agency More Than Warmth. Students designed quilt squares, and Becky Starling, a member of Northminster Baptist Church & one of Spann's adopters, pieced & sewed the quilts. The quilts will be sent to needy children in the war torn country and serve as symbols of community building for the world. Shown here is Chancellor H. with one of the quilts.

These students, in Ms. Vicki Latham's gifted classes, have been studying immigration. Two Afghani immigrants came to speak to their classes, and they raised money to fill backpacks with school supplies. The backpacks will be sent to students who are new citizens of the United States.



MAGC Sponsors Hurricane Relief Efforts

If you have not already done so, it is not too late to get your students involved in hurricane relief efforts. MAGC is matching gifted classrooms from the gulf coast with teachers and students who want to help out. If you are interested in participating in this project, contact Jean Prather, MAGC Executive director, at jprather@jam.rr.com. Just let her know how you would like to help and she will pair you up with a classroom in need. Some suggestions for help are listed below.

Area I: Teaching Materials/Books

- Books to supplement/enhance units of study.
- Books with brainteasers, logic, etc.
- Resource books.
- Instructional Units for G/T learners
- Literature books for kids to read.

Area II: Hands On Teaching Materials

- Manipulatives – Tangrams, Pentominoes, etc.
- Exploratory Materials/Supplies – science kits, etc.

- Art materials

Area III: Supplies

- General school supplies – Paper, pencils, scissors, etc.
- Office Supplies—Tape, stick on notes, paperclips, etc.
- AV Equipment—CD Player, headphones, etc.

Area III: Individual Kids' Kits Ideas (store in mesh tote, backpacks, bags)

- **School Kits:** Backpack filled with various school supplies
- **Personal:** Toys, stuffed animals, blankets, socks, personal hygiene items, gift cards, etc.

Area IV: Monetary Donations

- Cash donations can be made through MAGC. We are a 503c organization and if needed can supply our ID number for tax purposes. Please designate on the check that this is for hurricane relief.

Area V: Gift Certificates/Cards for Teachers/Students

- Places that are available to most of the areas are: Wal Mart, Target, Home Depot, Staples, Target, McDonalds, Burger King .

INTRODUCING....

MAGC is pleased to announce that Joyce Youngblood has accepted the position of 2006 Conference Chair. Joyce is a veteran teacher of the gifted from Gulfport. She and her district are recovering from Katrina. Joyce will share the conference planning responsibilities with Margaret Snider.



Micro-sats with Macro-potential

By Patrick L. Barry

Future space telescopes might not consist of a single satellite such as Hubble, but a constellation of dozens or even hundreds of small satellites, or "micro-sats," operating in unison.

Such a swarm of little satellites could act as one enormous telescope with a mirror as large as the entire constellation, just as arrays of Earth-bound radio telescopes do. It could also last for a long time, because damage to one micro-sat wouldn't ruin the whole space telescope; the rest of the swarm could continue as if nothing had happened.

And that's just one example of the cool things that micro-sats could do. Plus, micro-sats are simply smaller and lighter than normal satellites, so they're much cheaper to launch into space.

In February, NASA plans to launch its first experimental micro-sat mission, called Space Technology 5. As part of the New Millennium Program, ST5 will test out the crucial technologies needed for micro-sats—such as miniature thrust and guidance systems—so that future missions can use those technologies dependably.

Measuring only 53 centimeters (20 inches) across and weighing a mere 25 kilograms (55 pounds), each of the three micro-sats for ST5 resembles a small television in size and weight. Normal satellites can be as large and heavy as a school bus.

"ST5 will also gather scientific data, helping scientists explore Earth's magnetic field and space weather," says James Slavin, Project Scientist for ST5.

Slavin suggests some other potential uses for micro-sats:

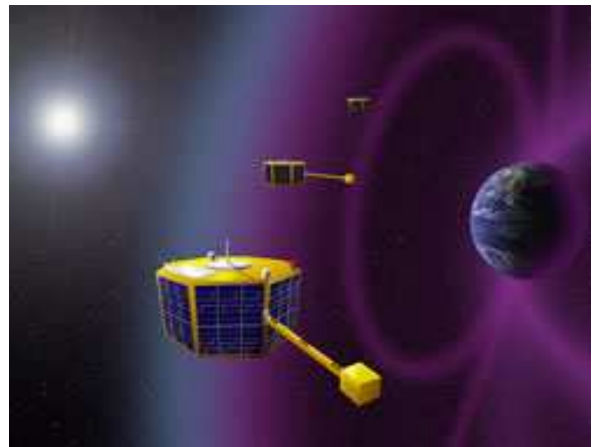
A cluster of micro-sats between the Earth and the Sun—spread out in space like little sensor buoys floating in the ocean—could sample incoming waves of high-speed particles from an erupting solar flare, thus giving scientists hours of warning of the threat posed to city power grids and communications satellites.

Or perhaps a string of micro-sats, flying single file in low-Earth orbit, could take a series of snapshots of violent thunderstorms as each micro-sat in the "train" passes over the storm. This technology would combine the continuous large-scale storm monitoring of geosynchronous weather satellites—which orbit far from the Earth at about 36,000 kilometers' altitude—with the up-close, highly detailed view of satellites only 400 kilometers overhead.

If ST5 is successful, these little satellites could end up playing a big role in future exploration.

The ST5 Web site at nmp.jpl.nasa.gov/st5 has the details. Kids can have fun with ST5 at spaceplace.nasa.gov, by just typing ST5 in the site's Find It field.

This article was provided by the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, under a contract with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.



The Space Technology 5 mission will test crucial micro-satellite technologies.

Want to know more about gifted programs in Mississippi and throughout the nation? Visit these web-sites!

MAGC's Official Web Site—www.msms.k12.ms.us/MAGC/
The Frances A. Karnes Center for Gifted Studies—www.usm.edu/gifted
NAGC's Official Web Site—www.nagc.org
Duke Talent Identification Program (TIP) - www.tip.duke.edu

Mississippi Association for Gifted Children

Teacher Grant Application - Deadline: April 15, 2006

The MAGC Executive Board will award two grants this year of up to \$300 for course study. One grant will be presented to an experienced teacher or administrator with gifted certification to pursue additional training in gifted education. The other will be awarded to an experienced regular classroom teacher to pursue gifted certification. The grants will be forwarded to the recipient upon verification of course completion and are limited to actual cost of the course, up to \$300. Previous grant recipients are not eligible for this award.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS: (Please check the grant for which you are applying.)

GRANT FOR TEACHER/ADMINISTRATOR WITH GIFTED CERTIFICATION

- 1. MAGC Member,**
- 2. At least two years of teaching experience in the area of gifted education,**
- 3. Be currently enrolled or planning to enroll in a course/workshop for advanced study of gifted education, &**
- 4. Have a history of attendance at conferences and/or workshops that pertain to gifted education.**

GRANT FOR TEACHER TO PURSUE GIFTED CERTIFICATION

- 1. At least two years of teaching experience in the regular classroom, and**
- 2. Be currently enrolled or planning to enroll in a course of study for certification in gifted education.**

Teacher's Name: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Name of School/Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ **Work Phone:** _____

Please Attach the Following:

1. Letter(s) of recommendation/support from a superintendent, principal, program coordinator, and/or other supervisory personnel,
2. Autobiographical statement (200 words or less) describing areas of interest, honors, achievement, and past experiences of workshop and conference attendance, and
3. Brief description of the course/workshop for which the grant would be used.

Please mail completed application form and other required attachments to:

Kenneth Griswold
3063 Plantation Circle
Tupelo, MS 38804

Mississippi Association for Gifted Children

Summer Gifted Studies Program Scholarship Nomination Form

(Deadline: March 15, 2006)

Nominee's Name: _____

(Prior MAGC scholarship recipients are not eligible to receive this award.)

Grade: _____ Age: _____ Program Choice: _____
(must be a Mississippi program)

Address: _____

School: _____

School Address: _____

Nominating Teacher: _____

Teacher's Email Address: _____

Signature of Nominee: _____

To the Nominating Teacher:

Please include the following information with this nomination form:

1. A narrative describing student's special interests, school and community involvement, honors, and your reasons for nominating this student;
2. A copy of the student's G.P.P.D.S. verifying eligibility; and
3. A narrative from the student stating his/her areas of interest and choice of program if awarded the scholarship.
4. Additional letters of support may be included.

Please mail completed nomination form and other required attachments to:

**Kenneth Griswold
3063 Plantation Circle
Tupelo, MS 38804**

Thank you for taking advantage of this opportunity for your students.

Nicholas Green Distinguished Student Award 2005-2006 School Year

(Application Packets must be postmarked by May 15, 2006)

MAGC is pleased to announce the continuance of the NAGC-Nicholas Green Distinguished Student Awards for the 2004-2005 school year. The awards are designed to recognize excellence in young children. The awards, which include a \$500 U.S. Savings Bond, may be made to students in grades 3-6 who have distinguished themselves in academics, leadership, or the arts. Nominations will be accepted from the students themselves, parents, teachers, peers, and community and civic groups.

Selection Criteria:

- Students must be in grades 3 through 6 at the time of the nomination.
- Outstanding student accomplishment may be in the areas of academics, the arts, or leadership.
- Student applicants must submit a written composition about why they feel their effort is important and how they got interested in the area for which they are being recognized. Compositions should describe (1) the activity or interest area for which the student is being nominated; (2) how the student got interested/involved in the activity; (3) what impact the activity has had on the student and on others; and (4) how the student's future plans and goals have been affected by this activity or interest area.
- At least one letter of recommendation, from someone other than a nominee's family member, explaining why the student nominee is deserving of the award, what sets him/her apart from other students, and how the student is impacting others.

Submission to MAGC:

- Completed Student Nomination Form including the signed publicity release form.
- Copy of the student's composition.
- Letter(s) of recommendation.
- Self-addressed, stamped postcard, which will be used to acknowledge receipt of the application packet.

Mail completed packets to: Kenneth Griswold 3063 Plantation Circle, Tupelo, MS 38804
Nicholas Green Distinguished Student Award Application Form 2005-2006

Student Name _____ Social Security # _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____ E-mail _____

Age _____ Birth Date _____ Grade at Time of Application _____

School Name and Address _____

Teacher's Name _____ Name of Parent/Guardian _____

Name of Person Nominating Student _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Relationship to Nominee _____ E-mail _____

Release Form: I hereby give the National Association for Gifted Children permission to use my child's photo* and composition, submitted in connection with the NAGC Nicholas Green Distinguished Student Award, in any publicity or announcements NAGC may make about the award or the award winners, should my child be selected for the award. I further grant permission to NAGC to use my child's name, school name, and city/state in any publicity or announcements that uses his/her photo or composition, and to make edits to the length of the composition as may be necessary. I understand that neither my child nor I will receive any remuneration in connection with this permission and understand that the photo and the composition will not be returned to me.

Signature _____ Printed Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____ Relationship to Nominee _____

*NAGC will request a photo of the award winners for use in award publicity and announcements. Do not send a photo with the application packet.

CALL FOR PROPOSALS: 2006 MAGC CONFERENCE

The conference will be held **September 28-29** at *The Regency Hotel and Conference Center, Jackson, Mississippi*. Completed proposals must be post marked no later than **April 30, 2006**. *You must be a member of MAGC to present*. Please update your membership before submitting. Note that the conference registration fee will be waived for only **one** presenter per session.

Name _____

Institution Affiliation _____ Position/Job Title _____

Home Address _____
(street) (city/state) (zip code)

Email _____ Telephone _____

The title of my proposed presentation is: _____

Below is a typed abstract (75 words or less) of the concurrent session I wish to present.

Co-presenter: _____ (Registration fee will **not** be waived.)

- | <i>CATEGORY for PRESENTATION</i> | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| <i>PRESENTATION</i> | <i>Intended AUDIENCE for</i> |
| ___ Social/emotional needs of gifted students | ___ Elementary Teachers |
| ___ Differentiating curriculum and instruction | ___ Secondary Teachers |
| ___ Creativity and/or the arts | ___ Parents of Gifted Children |
| ___ Evaluating student progress | ___ Administrators and/or counselors |
| ___ Special populations | ___ Other _____ |
| ___ Developing leadership | |
| ___ Other _____ | |

MAGC CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

September 27-28, 2006

Regency Hotel and Conference Center, Jackson, Mississippi

Registration Information: Registration includes MAGC membership for one year. Complete and return this form with your check or purchase order. Make checks payable to MAGC. 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 19, 2006, and are subject to a \$15.00 processing fee. Refunds will not be issued before November 15, 2006.

Transportation and Parking: Shuttle transportation to and from the Jackson airport is complimentary. Ample parking surrounds the hotel. There is no fee for parking.

Lodging: Complete separate lodging reservation form and send it directly to The Regency.

MAGC Membership card # _____ expiration date _____

Name _____

Preferred Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

School District/ Organization _____

Relationship to Gifted Education _____

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION AND/OR MEMBERSHIP FEES		AMOUNT
SELECT ONE ONLY	Early Registration Fee..... \$90.00 (must be postmarked by September 1, 2006)	\$
	Regular Registration Fee \$95.00 (must be postmarked by September 15, 2006)	\$
	On-Site Registration Fee (after September 15, 2006) \$100.00	\$
	Undergraduate Student Registration Fee \$30.00 (must show student ID at registration)	\$
	Main Presenter Membership Fee \$25.00	\$
	Family Night ONLY \$3.00 per person or \$5.00 per family	\$
TOTAL AMOUNT DUE		\$

AFTER SEPTEMBER 15, 2006, BRING THIS FORM WITH YOU FOR ON-SITE REGISTRATION.
FORMS POSTMARKED AFTER SEPTEMBER 16 WILL BE ASSESSED A \$5.00 ON-SITE SURCHARGE.

Mail completed registration form and payment to: Carol Paola, 1513 Westward Dr., Gulfport, MS 39501

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