



July 2013



Dear {FIRST_NAME|Member},

As summer winds down, we'd like to introduce you to our new board members, share some useful online resources, report on Confratute, inform you of events you can look forward to, and much more. As always, contact us with questions at info@ctgifted.org.

CAG Selects New Board of Directors



The Connecticut Association for the Gifted (CAG) is pleased to announce the election of a new Board of Directors for the 2013-2014 fiscal year. The Board represents a diverse array of talents committed to improving educational opportunities for gifted and talented students. Leading the Board are co-presidents

Sue Dinnocenti and John Pellino, skilled and highly respected educators. Visit our website to learn more about your [CAG board](#), new executive committee members and responsibilities, and the schedule of [board meetings](#). CAG members are invited to attend all CAG board meetings.

Candy For The Brain: Plan on Attending One of Our MIM's



Over 900 children and 500 parents and teachers benefited from the unique programming of MIM events during the 2012-2013 school year. We are excited to let you know we have a growing lineup of MIMs for 2013-2014. The confirmed dates for 2013-2014, with many more locations under discussion, are: October 5, Madison; October 26, Monroe; November 16, Greenwich; March 22, Westport; April 26, Canton. Calendar one or all these events for your children. Sponsorships and exhibit space are available, and volunteers are welcome. Learn more at ctgifted.org, or contact programcoordinator@ctgifted.org.

Help Make CAG A Top-Rated Non Profit at Greatnonprofits.org



Help the Connecticut Association for the Gifted increase donations. Take a few minutes to nominate CAG for a 2013 Top-Rated Award and you could help us gain online promotions worth \$20,000! All you have to do is write a new, positive review (4 or 5 star) for CAG at



[Greatnonprofits](#), and CAG will be Top-Rated for the year, and eligible for prizes if CAG receives at least 10 new, positive reviews. We are close to having 10 reviews now - we need a couple more to go!! Add your voice to the crowd of CAG fans. Just visit CAG at www.GreatNonprofits.org and write a positive review. This is CAG's first try; let's make CAG a winner!

Neag School Hosts 35th Year Of Confratute At UConn



For over 35 years, Storrs, Connecticut has attracted more than 20,000 educators worldwide for a highly acclaimed, enrichment-based program sponsored by the [Neag Center for Gifted Education and Talent Development](#) at UConn. Sold out and attended by 700 educators, an increase of 100 over last year, from across the US and 15 countries around the world, this year's Confratute was a blending of educators interested in gifted education, differentiation of instruction and curriculum, and creativity and innovation in education. Did you attend Confratute? Share your pictures and let us know what you learned at info@ctgifted.org. We'll publish your ideas in the next newsletter.

Use This Brilliant Idea For Your Math or Science-Savvy Teen



BRILLIANT Check out www.brilliant.org, a new website that challenges 12-18 year-olds with tough problems in math and science.

Founded by novice entrepreneur Sue Khim, www.brilliant.org is designed for the world's most promising young minds. Teens can visit the online hub to come together, connect, and see how they measure up against one another. Brilliant gives a diagnostic exam to new users, and then begins delivering tricky, difficult questions written by math and physics teachers. Try it, and let us know what you think.

How to Hold Onto a Kid's Natural Genius



Encourage and develop skills that will be valuable well beyond the classroom. This article supports the idea that natural genius, the qualities that make a child unique, is something to hold on to and nurture. Learn the 3-step process to [encourage your young genius!](#)

Teacher Prep Programs Don't Make the Grade



Having an effective teacher is important, but there seems to be little consistency in how we train teachers, according to a new study by the [National Center on Teacher Quality \(NCTQ\)](#). The [NCTQ Teacher Prep Review](#) came out recently, rating teacher prep programs from 1,130 academic institutions across the nation and overall, the results were dismal. Connecticut's ratings wavered between mediocre and terrible. Only one program received 3 out of 4 stars, placing them on the Teacher Prep

Review's Honor Roll. Listen to how 5 teachers speak up for great teacher prep, on the NCTQ website. Read the Center's 6 core design principles. CAG has advocated for more teacher preparation, especially in the gifted and talented field. Tell us how you feel CAG can help improve teacher prep and quality.

Online Resources, Brought To You By CAG



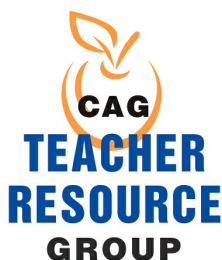
Are you looking for some inspiration? Visit CAG's [Online Resources](#) section by scrolling to the bottom of the left column. It's full of unique websites for children, parents, teachers and administrators. Does your child have an affinity for writing, math, or science? Check out all the [Enrichment](#) offerings we have posted. There are links for those interested in Conferences, Publishers and Exceptionalities / 2E. Interested in global attitudes toward gifted and talented education? Visit the [World Council for Gifted and Talented Children](#) in [Resources and Organizations](#). CAG's Online Resources section is rich with information and will keep you busy for weeks on end.

Join Connecticut Invention Convention Teacher Training Sept. 28



The [Connecticut Invention Convention](#) is an educational organization started in 1983 as part of the Connecticut Educators Network for the Talented and Gifted. The program is open to Connecticut K-8 students and their teachers, and is designed to develop, encourage, and enhance critical thinking skills through hands-on STEM education. Since its inception, an estimated 250,000 children have experienced locally driven CIC invention programs. On September 28, CIC will hold a Teacher Training Workshop at Talcott Mountain Science Center titled "***How to Use Inventing to Reach Students: A Fun and Effective Way to Meet CT Common Core and New National Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)***". For more information, check out their website [here](#). Find the workshop under Teacher Training Information.

Join CAG's Teacher Resource Group: It's For Parents Too!



CAG's Teacher Resource Group (TRG) is a statewide network of parents and teachers to share research, resources, and ideas, and to establish professional relationships. And you don't have to be a teacher to join CAG's TRG. Check out the TRG's interactive website [here](#) for more information. Join this free site and immediately receive information about free webinars and other opportunities through **edWeb**, the professional social network for the education community. Free monthly webinars hosted by national experts and contributors in gifted education begin in September. And, edWeb will offer CE's free too. For questions or to join the [TRG](#), contact John Ryan at Teaching60@gmail.com.

Learn From CAG's Best



Is your school looking to develop or strengthen a gifted program, better serve gifted students in the general classroom, utilize gifted pedagogy to help ALL students, or educate parents about the needs of gifted children? CAG can help. CAG has broadly experienced professionals with a wealth of knowledge to share with your group. Our trainers are experienced educators, researchers, and advocates with practical, hands-on skills and backgrounds; one's just right for your needs. Let **CAG PDP** presenters share their expertise with your school district today. For more information visit [CAG Professional Development](http://www.ctgifted.org) or contact info@ctgifted.org.

Volunteers Wanted!



Want to help CAG support educators and parents to meet the needs of Connecticut's gifted, talented, and high-potential children? We have volunteer opportunities in Facebook, fundraising, communications, advocacy in Hartford, technology, and grant writing. If you'd like to share your skills and your expertise we'd be delighted to have your assistance. Let us know at info@ctgifted.org.

Register for the New England Conference on Gifted and Talented in Maine October 24-25



The New England Conference for Talent Development and Gifted Education will be in Portland, Maine this October 24-25. **"Creating Strong Roots: Nurturing the Growth and Development of the Whole Child"** is the theme this year. Mark your calendars to join CAG and educators from across Connecticut and New England for this excellent learning, sharing and networking opportunity. Register for the New England Conference in Maine and get more details as they become available at www.megat.org/annual_conference.html.

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