

Getting Into the Game: Pawns to Players



Welcome Teachers, Administrators, Parents and
Friends of Gifted Children.....

ITAG 40th Annual Conference
Monday and Tuesday, October 15 and 16, 2012

Hotel Information

Airport Holiday Inn, 6111 Fleur Drive, Des Moines, IA 50321. Phone: 515-287-2400 Web: www.holidayinn.com/dsm-airport. A block of rooms has been reserved for us at \$85.00 plus tax. Please call 800-248-4013 to make to make reservations. Be sure to ask for the ITAG room block to secure the special pricing. The block rate deadline is September 30, 2012. Parking is free at the hotel. Please visit the Des Moines Visitor's Bureau website at www.seedesmoines.com.

Sponsors and Exhibitors

Belin Blank Center for Gifted Education
Buena Vista University
Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Riverside
Iowa Future Problem Solving
Students for a Creative Iowa
Professional Educators of Iowa
Future City 4000
The Great Books Foundation
Viterbo University
Iowa Center for the Book/State Library
Drake University



2012 Conference Committee

Chairs: Ashley Delaney and Susan Wouters
Parent Night Organizers: Claudia Koch, Felicia Twit and LeAnn Oldenberger
Technology Assistance: Belin-Blank Center
Announcements and Prizes: Matt Robie

Registration Information

Registration is ONLINE - <http://itag2012conferenceattendee.eventbrite.com>. Advance registration is required. You will be emailed a receipt on checkout. The registration system only allows for one registration to be completed at a time. So, if there are multiple people attending from your school you will need to register each one separately. The checkout requires inputting of information for a ticket buyer and an attendee. This is because sometimes the ticket buyer is different than the attendee however most often these fields will include the same information. In the organization field enter your school name. We can accept payment by credit card, payment by check or PO processing. To select payment by check or PO input the quantity of 1 then click on "show other payment options" line located below the "order now" button. This will reveal the "pay offline" button where, to complete your registration, you can select pay by check or send invoice. To pay by check, simply print receipt and mail along with your check to ITAG, 200 w. 2nd Ave., Indianola, IA 50125. To pay by PO/Invoice please be sure to provide your PO and Business Office fax number where prompted during checkout. If you require processing of a PO, each registration must provide separate PO numbers. There will be a \$15.00 processing fee added for processing a PO. Registration deadline is September 30, 2012. Cancellations made before September 30, 2012 will result in a \$25.00 processing fee. No changes or refunds will be made after September 30, 2012. TAG Teachers and Coordinators - bring a Teacher, Principal, Curriculum Director, Superintendent or Administrator and save \$25 on your registration fee. Simply select a guest ticket in the same order that includes your registration (both tickets need to be on the same receipt for the offer to apply). You will see "enter promotional code" above the "order now" button. The promotional code is SpecialInvitation. Then proceed through the rest of the checkout process being sure to enter your name for your ticket and your guests name for the guest ticket. With questions please email itag@assoc-serv.com.

Monday Schedule

7:45 – 8:15 AM	Registration University of Iowa - Credit Information Viterbo University - Credit Information Drake University – Credit Information Morningside – Credit Information	Foyer Room 298 Library Executive Boardroom
8:15 – 9:15 AM <u><i>Know Next Now</i></u> Transitioning from last year’s conference focused on student creativity to this year’s focus on creative programming and finding a place of prominence. Looking at what we know, what comes next, and what we can do now to improve gifted education.	Welcome, Announcements and Keynote by David Williamson	Ballroom
9:15 – 9:45 AM	BREAK – Breakfast with Vendors	Atrium
9:45 – 10:45 AM Moderated by Williamson, this panel will focus on how gifted education can collaborate with organizations outside of education to make their students and programs more valuable to the economic community. Department of Education Director, Jason Glass, will be the featured member. At 10:30 session with close with collaborating and networking related to information presented by the panel. Conference attendees will have time to brainstorm, interact with the panel members, and share ideas from their program or get ideas from other programs.	Panel Discussion with Key Players in Iowa	Ballroom
10:45 – 11:00 AM	BREAK – Vendor Center Open	Atrium
11:00 – 11:45 AM These sessions focus on innovation and resources related to collaborating outside of the field of education to expand gifted programming and the influence of gifted education	Breakout Sessions	As assigned
Jason Glass <u><i>Question/Answer Session</i></u> Jason Glass will engage in a candid dialog with participants on the challenges and changes with education in Iowa.		Iowa Room
Brenda Rush (Humboldt CSD) <u><i>Starting a Successful Internship/Mentorship Program</i></u> Internships are excellent opportunities to help high school TAG students extend their learning beyond the high school curriculum and assist them in making career/college decisions. Setting up an internship program doesn’t have to be difficult and is extremely rewarding for everyone involved. Resources and forms used in the internship process will be available for participants.		Library
Melissa Wilder <u><i>DMU Outreach</i></u> Des Moines University offers a wide variety of opportunities for students interested in the medical field. These outreach programs are available to all students in Iowa and vary in time, length, and focus. The outreach program coordinator will provide attendees with application information for programs as well as other opportunities available without application.		Ambassador

Gail Kenkel and Mary Lyn Reiser

Executive

K-8 Economics and the Business World

This session will focus on resources and materials that can be used to add more economics and personal finance lessons to the classroom. Connections in literature, math, geography, and social studies will be used to introduce economics and personal finance concepts to elementary students. Many free resources and sample lessons for teaching will be emphasized. Special events and activities such as school savings banks and economic related Olympics will also be reviewed.

Linda Linn

Boardroom

Playing the Game to Changing the World

Are your students tired of 'playing the game' of school? Service Learning includes teaching and learning strategies that focus in on student voice and their need to make a difference in the world. Service Learning connects with the Iowa Core, Competency-based Learning, Technology and Financial Literacy. This session will introduce you to many resources that your students may utilize to create change in their environments while learning Iowa Core content.

Mindi Heitland

Room 292

Waukee School to Work

Recognized statewide as one of the top internship and mentoring programs, the Waukee School-to-Work program places students in the community with career professionals. The program organizer and classroom teacher will present on establishing community partnerships and developing relationships with professionals to open up opportunities for students. This session will specifically focus on the start-up and building portion of an internship program.

Doreen Underwood

Room 298

Service Learning for Elementary

Interacting with professionals and engaging in the community is critical to the development of young learners. This can also be a challenging task for educators hoping to develop collaborative relationships outside of education. This session will focus on how to use service learning opportunities to broaden students' learning opportunities and exposure to career fields and professionals.

Cappie Dobbys and Linda Telleen-Martens

Westview

Ames ELP Internships: Real World Learning Through Independent Study and Internships

Real-World Learning through Independent Study and Internship can foster both personal growth and valuable academic development within authentic experiences. However, students are often not prepared to balance the structure, rigor and freedom needed for participation or have not yet discovered passions for investigation. GT programming can guide, push, support and document this process. Come find out how.

Brenda Dryer

Room 396

Junior Achievement

The purpose of Junior Achievement is to educate and inspire young people to succeed in a global economy. The elementary school program is an economics and business curriculum for students in kindergarten through grade five. You will learn the components of the program as well as helpful tips for inspiring and recruiting business leaders in your community to partner with you in providing this program for your students.

11:45 – 1:00 PM	LUNCH - Vendor Center Open	Ballroom/Atrium
Menus will be announced prior to the conference. However, if you need special accommodations, please indicate that during the online registration process.		
1:00 – 1:30 PM	Keynote by David Williamson	Ballroom
<u><i>TAG+C: Game On!</i></u>		
Guidance on rebranding gifted education as the premiere providers of citizens and economic futures. Creating positive perspectives and perceptions to students and programs. Taking a proactive stance towards the economic and political factors that influence and impact gifted education.		
1:30 – 1:45 PM	BREAK – Vendor Center Open	Atrium
1:45 – 2:30 PM	Breakout Sessions	As assigned
David Williamson		Iowa Room
<u><i>Offense Without Offense</i></u>		
Heidi Redmond		Library
<u><i>Creating High Interest Units for Middle School</i></u>		
This course will focus on two main high-interest units that are student-centered. The first is a crime scene unit in which students will analyze a simulated crime scene and work as detectives to conduct interviews, examine evidence, and create a suspect list. Eventually an arrest will be made. The second is based on the Hunger Games and will actually create a simulation that can be used in the classroom. I have taught both of these units this year with huge success and they are both extremely student-centered and very high student interest.		
John Wheeler		Executive
<u><i>Take 'Em to Court: Using Mock Trial to Teach and Connect</i></u>		
Mock trials actively involve students in research, preparation and presentation of a legal issue in a simulated courtroom setting. The strategy encourages the use of outside resource persons (ORPs) to assist students in the development and understanding of the problem. These ORPs serve as role models and also link more closely the school and community at large.		
Jay Swords		Ambassador
<u><i>Instant Challenges</i></u>		
Can creativity and problem solving be taught? Together? In a way that's fun and exciting? The answer to all these questions is YES! Instant Challenges provide a quick and easy method of developing creative problem solving skills that your students will beg you to do. Let the challenges begin!		
Lisa Ven Gemert (MENSA)		Boardroom
<u><i>Internal Motivation and the Gifted Child</i></u>		
Ever wonder what to do with a gifted child not living up to his or her potential? Learn the secrets behind enhancing achievement drive in gifted students. What does the research say? Find out the pitfalls of rewards, and take away seven strategies you can use right now to light the fire within any child.		
Christie McConathy		Room 292
<u><i>Everything I Learned About Gifted Kids I Found in Children's Literature</i></u>		

Explore well-written children's literature with characters who display gifted behaviors. Favorite classics and newer books for upper elementary and middle school students will be shared.

Karen Dadisman

Room 298

Future Problem Solving

Come and learn about the Future Problem Solving Program International. FPS focuses on teaching students how to think, not what to think. Students learn creative and critical thinking skills as they apply the 6-step problem solving process to real-life issues. Students improve their writing skills, thinking skills, and teamwork skills in the problem solving process.

Laurie Croft

Westview

Opportunities Available Through Belin Blank

The Belin-Blank Center is a "full-service" gifted-education center, dedicated to the needs of gifted and talented learners, their families, and the schools that serve them. This session will provide an overview of the opportunities available at the Center for students, families, and teachers.

Susan Reed

Room 396

Inflate Your Knowledge

An inflatable is a very large, usually a walk in model, of an area of study. It enhances learning, actively engages students, assists in cooperation and size perception, and is unforgettable!

2:30 – 3:00 PM

BREAK – Dessert with Vendors

Atrium

3:00 – 4:00 PM

Breakout Sessions

As assigned

David Williamson

Iowa Room

Breakout Session on Creativity and Economics

Brea Burrack and Suzanne Laird

Library

Creative Thinking with Elementary Students

We want young learners to think in divergent ways, to use their brains creatively, and to think outside the box. This break out session will focus on a creative thinking unit that you can do with 2nd/3rd graders. We will also share a critical thinking/creative unit that you can do with 4th/5th graders. Handouts will be provided.

Kathy Tener and Frankie DeMouth

Executive Room

Elementary Math Games

Checkmate! We have the winning strategy for teachers who need challenging math games for high ability students. Numerous resources and games will be presented with an emphasis on problem solving. Come prepared to play.

Brett Monnard

Ambassador

Foundations 4 Success

Foundations 4 Success: This session will explore the Davenport Foundations 4 Success programs, which aids students in making the transition for Elementary School to Middle School. Included in the program are opportunities for learning style inventories, "middle school survival skills," and opportunities for self-exploration.

Nancy Kuennen and Tamara Kenworthy

Boardroom

HyperStream and DigiGirlz

These two organizations will highlight the offerings of HyperStream including: how to start a club, competing, and related contests and conferences. A special focus will highlight Digigirlz, a technology and IT conference sponsored by Microsoft for middle and high school girls.

Hazel Purtell

Room 292

Game On! Secondary Services

Differentiating for g/t students in the secondary environment seems like an impossible mission. Where can I find the time to meet with students one on one in their packed schedule? What can I do to go above and beyond the classroom curriculum? What resources are available for secondary? How do I get teachers and administration on board? What will parents think? How do I get secondary students interested in doing more than the minimum with all that is already on their plate? How do I find the time to get projects together? What all is involved in the paper shuffle?

Dan Lindstrom (Great Books Vendor)

Room 298

Shared Inquiry in the Gifted Classroom

Our Great Books Foundation representative, Dan Lindstrom, will lead a Shared Inquiry discussion of a short text selection for attendees at the conference. Shared Inquiry is the method that Great Books K–12 programs use to help students: think deeply about the texts they read, develop their own interpretations of texts, find evidence to support their interpretations, listen to others' opinions about what they have read, and revise and extend their initial interpretations. Attendees should come prepared to read and discuss a story. They will experience the excitement of a Great Books Shared Inquiry discussion, just as students in the classroom do!

Jeffrey Weld

Westview

Science, Engineering, Technology and Mathematics (STEM) in Iowa

This presentation will focus the efforts of the Governor's STEM Council especially on programming/policy concerning our highly abled student population is concerned. Leaders of STEM focused programs serving Iowa's most able will contribute to the conversation about how to make STEM a focus of your program and school. Program information may include: World Food Prize, Real World Design Challenge, Virtual Reality Pathfinder, State Physics Olympics, IT Olympics, State Science and Technology Fair, Future Cities, KidWind, Engineering is Elementary, and Invention Convention.

Susan Salterberg

Room 396

Teaching 21st Century Skills Through Environmental Issues

Ever tried going a day without using disposable products? Using the Bag It! DVD, you will learn about items designed to be used once then thrown away, and challenged to go a day without them! It's easy to embed all categories of 21st century skills into this lesson. *1st 40 participants receive the Bag It! DVD free! \$30 value! *

4:00 – 4:30 PM

BREAK – Vendor Center Open

Atrium

4:30 – 5:30 PM

Parent Special Sessions and Field Trips

As Assigned

Parent Special Sessions. The evening will include special sessions aimed toward parents and families of gifted children. This year's parent sessions are centered on social-emotional needs as well as future planning. Parents will also be able to peruse through those vendors who choose to stay open. While free to attend, **RSVP is required** and light refreshments will be provided. Specific information on the speakers and presenters will be sent to those that RSVP at a later date.

Field Trips. Many conference attendees have requested ITAG set up meeting locations for those that want to do something Monday evening but do not want to do so alone. There will be an option to go to Prairie Meadows Racetrack and Casino (transportation provided). Another meeting will allow attendees to caravan (you will need to provide or

arrange for your own transportation) to Jordan Creek Town Center where you can enjoy dinner and shopping at Jordan Creek Mall. Finally, there will be a place to network and socialize at the hotel. While free to attend, **RSVP is required**.

Tuesday Schedule

7:45 – 8:30 AM	Registration	Foyer
8:30 – 9:15 AM	Announcements and Awards	Ballroom
9:15 – 9:40 AM	BREAK – Breakfast with Vendors	Atrium
9:40 – 10:45 AM	Keynote by Karen Rogers	Ballroom
Focusing on grouping, existing resources, and alliances to develop a comprehensive gifted program that is valuable to the students, parents, district, and extended community. A particular emphasis will be placed on how to add value to gifted education in a fiscally tight era.		
10:45 – 11:00 AM	BREAK – Vendor Center Open	Atrium
11:00 – 11:45 AM	Breakout Sessions	As assigned
Karen Rogers		Westview
<u>Using Grouping to Get the Best Bang for your Buck</u>		
Kyra Wilcox-Conley		Library
<u>GIEP Online</u>		
This session will focus on program goals and support materials built around the principals of “8 To Be Great,” including a new online Gifted Individual Education Plan (GIEP) developed to increase the focus on student involvement in goal setting and programming.		
Amber Sherrard		Iowa Room
<u>Self-Paced Math in 1:1 Classrooms</u>		
Learn how we created a self-paced, differentiated curriculum in a math class where all students have access to computers.		
Colleen Ites		Executive
<u>First LEGO League: Enriching Math Skills</u>		
Based in Papert’s constructionism and Piaget’s constructivism, the LEGO Mindstorms Robotic Systems help students learn real-world math applications by constructing and programming robots for a lunar helium mining colony. Examples will show how students became engineering groups with created prospectus, robot prototype, and contingency plans for individual robots. The process is also designed to maximize effective group work and helps students further develop their affective domain. Actual RCX and NXT kits and software will be available for viewing and testing.		
David Lohman		Ambassador
<u>Identifying Talent: Developing an Effective and Inclusive Process</u>		
The purpose of this session is show how to design a screening program that avoids the twin pitfalls of failing to identify		

students who should be included or wrongly including students who do not need special services. Examples of exemplary practices and common pitfalls will be illustrated using the CogAT Form 7 Screening Form.

Kathy Paul

Boardroom

Collaborating and Co-Teaching in Language Arts

How do you address the needs of advanced readers and language arts students in middle grades? From collaboration and differentiation in the regular classroom to pullout to scheduled classes, we've worked with many options for students in grades 6-9. What would work for you? Come learn about these options and explore resources and curriculum.

Karen Connelly

Room 292

Avoid Humdrum Days: Collaborating and Co-Teaching with Enrichment

Learn how to implement enrichment options in the regular classroom for gifted students through pre-testing and collaboration between classroom teacher and GT teacher. These methods have proven successful, are great for kids, and are low-stress for teachers: the perfect combination.

Alyssa Doobay, PhD

Room 298

Understanding the Twice-Exceptional Learner: Identification and Services

Twice-exceptional students demonstrate intellectual talents as well as a disability. These students can be perplexing to families and professionals due to the discrepancies in their performance and behavior. This presentation will use clinical vignettes to describe characteristics of twice-exceptional youth and provide recommendations for meeting their unique learning needs.

Melanie Bondy (Mind Vine Press Vendor)

Room 396

Fund Independent Projects with Real-World Connections

This teacher presentation demonstrates the creation and use of high-level, interdisciplinary independent projects. Challenge students year-round while greatly alleviating your workload. These problem-based units encourage creativity by allowing numerous choices within a structure. Topics include service learning, careers, environment and more! View student portfolios, exhibits and photos.

11:45 - 1:00 PM

LUNCH - Vendor Center Open

Ballroom/Atrium

1:00 – 2:00 PM

Keynote with Rosanne Malek

Ballroom

State of Gifted Education in Iowa

Focusing on current issues, legislation, and reform that impacts gifted education. Providing conference attendees with an analytical perspective towards recent federal and state changes. Topics will be determined following the current legislative session.

2:00 – 2:30 PM

BREAK – Dessert with Vendors

Atrium

2:30 – 3:30 PM

Breakout Sessions

As assigned

Sessions selected based on cutting edge opportunities in Iowa and using current policies in gifted education. Topics may include: competency-based education, credit awarded via examination, using the Iowa Acceleration Scale, high school credit in middle school, valuable contacts in Iowa education, education legalize, and the NCLB waiver process.

Karen Rogers

Westview

Economics and Education: Making Gifted Students Savvy

Jill Ulrich and Staff Members

Ambassador

Standards Based Grading and Reporting

Su McGurty and Rosanne Malek

Boardroom

School Finance and Gifted Education

Chris Berman and Sharon Ingebrand

Library

Removing the Ceiling: Rtl and High-Level Learners

Participants will engage in conversation and learning focused on Competency- and Standards-Based Learning, Rtl, and the Iowa Core Curriculum. Learn how one district is truly taking the ceiling off for high-level and gifted learners through collaboration between district and building administrators, instructional coaches, extended learning teachers, and classroom teachers.

Waukee District Team

Iowa Room

Implementing Whole District Acceleration

Superintendent Dave Wilkerson and members of the Waukee CSD staff will discuss the components and step necessary to successfully implement district acceleration practices. The session will include district, building, and classroom level perspectives. Time will be allotted for a question and answer session at the end.

Diane Pratt

Executive

Competency Based Education

Competency-based education is one of the ways educators and legislators believe education can be radically improved. Fort Dodge Senior High school has piloted competency-based education with gifted students before rolling it out to all students. In this session, documents, planning sessions, and management systems will be shared. A related opportunity of having students contract for honors status within a general education course will also be shared.

Todd Hodgekinson

Room 292

A Body of Evidence: Identification with Qualitative and Quantitative Evidence

The presenter of this session will explain how administrators and TAG coordinators can employ a "body of evidence" approach, that incorporates both quantitative and qualitative data points, in the identification of identify gifted learners.

Aaron Maurer

Room 298

Coffeechug

This presentation will cover my experiences with taking down the walls of my classroom and expanding globally to bring the educational experience of my students to the real world. This presentation will discuss how to start by expanding the classroom connections, various types of projects available, and how to create your own. Much of this program will be based on my experience with the Flat Classroom network and programs.

Jeremy Varner

Room 396

Senior Year Plus

In charge of creating the guidance on Senior Year Plus, Jeremy Varner will discuss the ins and outs of this critical legislation. Topics will include concurrent enrollment, AP, PSEO, legal requirements, and options for districts to offer college credit to high school students.