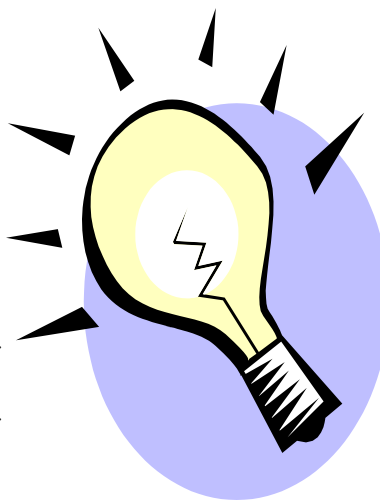


Annual MAGC Conference Postponed Until January

Due to the extensive damage done to the Mississippi Gulf Coast by Hurricane Katrina, MAGC has decided to postpone its annual conference until January 26 & 27 of 2006. The location and agenda will remain the same. We hope that this delay will help our members on the coast be better able to tend to more pressing affairs now and still be able to attend the conference this winter.

MAGC is very proud to announce that our 2005 keynote speaker will still be Dr. George Betts, Dr. Betts has graciously agreed to reschedule so that he can still share his knowledge of gifted education with our members. George Betts, Ed.D., is a professor of Special Education in the area of gifted and talented education at the University of Northern Colorado, and former teacher and facilitator at Arvada West High School in Colorado. He has



been a professor and director of the Center for the Education and Study of the Gifted, Talented, and Creative, as well as director of the Summer Enrichment Program (SEP) since 1978.

The site of the conference will still be the Whispering Woods Hotel and Conference Center in Olive Branch, MS. If you have made reservations with Whispering Woods, they are still valid. The hotel has agreed to transfer the reservations for people attending the conference. More information about this year's conference, including directions to the conference center, and conference registration and lodging forms can be found in this issue of *Concepts*.

The MAGC Conference is not the only event for advocates of gifted education in Mississippi that has been effected by the devastating damage of Katrina. The Day of Sharing for Teachers of the Gifted and the Parenting Gifted Children Conference that were to be held at the Frances A. Karnes Center for Gifted Studies at the University of Southern Mississippi this September have been cancelled due to Hurricane Katrina. Dr. Sylvia Rimm has graciously agreed to reschedule her participation in the Parenting Gifted Children Conference to the fall of 2006. The next Day of Sharing at the Karnes Center will be in the spring. It is scheduled for Feb. 17, 2006.

2005 MAGC Conference Schedule of Events

Wednesday, January 25, 2005

6:30pm – 8:30pm—Registration and Vendor Setup

Thursday, January 26, 2005

7:30am – 8:30am—Registration

8:00am – 9:00pm—Vendors Open

8:30am – 9:00am—Welcome/Opening Session

9:00am – 10:00am—Keynote Address, George Betts

10:10am – 4:50pm—Breakout Sessions

6:30pm—Family Night, Facilitated by George Betts

7:00pm—Creativity Night – Facilitated by DeSoto County teachers

Friday, January 27, 2005

8:00am – Noon—Vendors Open

8:00am – 8:30am—General Business Meeting

8:40am – Noon—Breakout Sessions

Noon—Luncheon

In This Issue ...

From the Executive Director	Page 2
From the MAGC President	Page 2
Bookshelf	Page 4
Happenings at the Karnes Center	Page 5
Hall of Honors	Page 7
MAGC Conference Registration Form	Page 10

From the Executive Director

By the time you receive this Concepts, schools will be in full swing for 2005-06. We are looking forward to a banner year in gifted education. We are very grateful and excited that gifted is once again funded by teacher units. This challenges districts to take advantage of the increase in teacher units by doing two things. First, for those districts that were hesitant to test because they didn't think they had enough teacher units to serve additional students, make it a priority to screen students. MDE can start funding additional units when the September data are submitted and approved by MSI, but you have until the November data are submitted to make changes and update your numbers. Secondly, work with administrators to make sure the MSIS report for your district is correct. The district submits the MSIS data in November and it needs to reflect every student that is eligible and being served. The gifted contact person and/or gifted personnel need to personally check the information after it is entered in the system. This is what determines the number of teacher units allocated for each district. This is a MUST! Mistakes on MSIS can cost you teacher units.

As we think to the days ahead, I am excited about the MAGC Conference and the opportunities that are available for us to all learn from the sessions as well as our interaction with each other. I am also pleased that I have already had the opportunity to meet personally with our new state superintendent Dr. Bounds and want to assure you that he is very supportive of gifted education. We look forward to working closely with Dr. Bounds and his staff at MDE.

We will continue our work at the legislature this year. You will remember that I stated at the conference last year that our goal was to regroup and regain. We are on the road to doing that. But in order to be successful we will

need the support of ALL teachers of the gifted, family members of gifted, affiliate groups, and other interested members of the community. Personal contact with your legislators is one thing that makes the difference. You will be hearing more about this in the near future as we unfold our legislative agenda for 2005-06.

MAGC is also pleased to be a vital part of helping Dr. Castle and other MDE personnel as we launch our regional workshops to assist districts in the development of their Instructional Management Plan. At last we have a road map that shows where we are going and the way to get there!

In closing, let me issue some challenges. As a member of MAGC, would you make it a priority to put forth special effort to encourage other teachers and administrators to become a part of MAGC. Numbers give us power as we advocate for our gifted population. Secondly, MAGC wants to position itself to assist gifted teachers who have been impacted by Katrina. We are aware that many have lost their classrooms, materials and supplies. We ask that all of us band together to help replace materials and supplies. You can be a part of this by sharing things from your own classroom and/or monetarily. Let your students be a part of this. Watch our website www.msms.k12.ms.us/MAGC for updated information on this. We will also be compiling information and resources for counseling for our students which will be disseminated to those affected. If you know of materials/resources that would be helpful in this situation, feel free to email that information to me.

We have a big job ahead of us for this year, but I know all of us will want to be a part of sharing to help those who have lost so much. In behalf of MAGC and our students, thank you for all you are doing and know that our thoughts are with you in every situation that you face.

Jean C. Prather

From the MAGC President

Dear MAGC Members,

As the effects of Hurricane Katrina are still being felt in communities across the state, MAGC extends our sympathy to those whose lives were directly affected by the hurricane. In the days immediately following the storm, MAGC was faced with the difficult decision of postponing the conference. We appreciate the tremendous support the members of the organization have shown for that decision and look forward to seeing everyone in late January at Whispering Woods Conference Center in Olive Branch. Updated information regarding the conference is on the MAGC website: www.msms.k12.ms.us/MAGC.

Many teachers have expressed a need for trauma-informed materials to use with their gifted students to help

them process the tragedies they witnessed either first hand or through the media in the aftermath of Katrina. Jean Prather is organizing a compilation of websites and counseling activities to use with gifted students. The National Child Traumatic Stress Network's website provides information for working with children in disaster situations and offers counseling toolkits for teachers and parents. Their website is www.nctsn.org.

Some teachers in our state also lost instructional supplies or even whole classrooms in the storm. If you know of a G/T teacher who needs instructional supplies as a result of the hurricane, please let Jean Prather or me know the teacher's name and school district.

Thank you once again for all that you do to positively impact the lives of children every day.

Kate M. Brown



**Be an advocate for gifted education!
Contact your representatives!**

For MS legislature contact information visit their web site at www.ls.state.ms.us

2005 MAGC Conference News

It *isn't* too early! Register now to attend MAGC's 2005 Conference, January 26-27, 2006 at Whispering Woods Hotel and Conference Center, Olive Branch, Mississippi! Once again, MAGC has secured a well-respected professional in the field of gifted education, Dr. George Betts, as our keynote speaker! Dr. Betts will also conduct a breakout session and Parent Night.

You evaluated and we listened! The De Soto County teachers of the gifted will host Creativity Night with some of their best ideas for your classroom. Your colleagues from across the state will lead breakout sessions. Listed are a few of the Creativity sessions.

- "CPS ~ Philanthropy to 3-D" – Edye Coleman
- "Connecting Curiosity with Technology" – Teresa Gregory and Kerry Boggs
- "Trash to Treasures" – Vicki Latham
- "A Little Pizzazz Goes a Long Way" – Anne Land
- "Beyond Center Stage" – Patsy Reese and Terry Meek
- "Making Masks – Facing the Real You" – Lisa Saucier
- "Fun with Visual Puns" – Connie Weaver

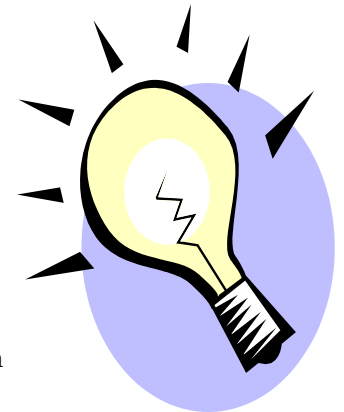
Be enticed by these sessions on differentiating the curriculum:

- "The Missing Residents Mystery?!?" – Tamarlyn Drake
- "Science Rocks!" – Wendy Hunt
- "Motivating Gifted Readers" – Sandee Manning, Tania Hanna, Heather Houston
- "Got Bloomers?" – Mitzi Nasce and Sherry Willis
- "PETS ~ Primary Education Thinking Skills" – Elaine Orrand
- "Real-Life Problem Solving" – Carol Paola
- "What's New in Literature?" – Bob Seney

Who is the most gifted person in your classroom? You are! Wesley Williams and Cecily McNair will present a session that will make you feel very appreciated! Want to make a real difference? Emily Nelson's session on "Ideas from *Rules for Radicals*" will help you get in touch with your education radical side. In addition to sessions on the social and emotional needs of the gifted and on developing leadership, you will want to attend presentations on the new standards for gifted programming, using the Teaching Strategies Notebook, grant writing, identifying giftedness, understanding assessment, the twice-exceptional gifted student, gifted preschoolers, and opportunities in Mississippi for serving older gifted and talented students.

Your interest should be sparked by this *sample* of the prospects for learning! Included in this edition of *Concepts!* are Conference registration and lodging forms. Send them in today! Hope to see YOU in September!

Margaret Snider
Conference Chair



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 Young Scholars Program is one of the most individualized scholarships offered in the United States. The Foundation collaborates with regional talent centers at Duke, Johns Hopkins, and Northwestern Universities, and the University of Denver to answer inquiries about the program, administer the application process, and counsel Young Scholars. However, applicants need not be part of the talent centers' programs to be eligible for or participate in the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Young Scholars Program. Students in the 7th grade—or who will

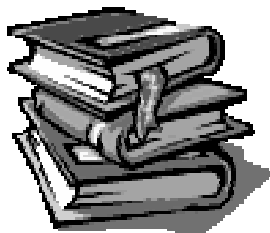
enter 8th grade next fall—are eligible to apply and applications will be available in February.

For information about the Young Scholars Program visit:

www.jackkentcookefoundation.org

Or contact:

Sarah Jo Thompson/Outreach Specialist
Duke University Talent Identification Program
1121 W. Main Street
Durham, NC
(919) 668-9100
jkcf@tip.duke.edu



The Bookshelf

By: Dr. Bob Seney

“While it certainly is not unknown to name non-fiction to the Newbery Award list, it is relatively rare. As you might expect, the emphasis of the Newbery Awards is on fiction, but every once-in-awhile, a book comes along that just clamors for recognition.” I am quoting from my April 18, 2004 *Reviews for Young Readers* on the Newbery Honor Book, *An American Plague: The True and Terrifying Story of the Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1793* (2003, Clarion Books) by Jim Murphy.

Well, history is repeating itself (pun intended) because this year’s Newbery Committee again named a non-fiction (in this case history) book to the list, *The Voice That Challenged a Nation: Martian Anderson and the Struggle for Equal Rights* by Russell Freedman (2004, Clarion Books). If Jim Murphy is one of the most well known historians writing for young readers, then Russell Freedman is the other one. Both of these historians/ authors have written over 70 historical books for young readers between them. They both have received multiple Newbery Awards and Newbery Honors and their contributions to the field are widely acknowledged and acclaimed.

It is certainly no surprise to me that *The Voice That Challenged a Nation* is an award winner. What a wonderful book! It is meticulously researched, beautifully written and precisely documented. The slightly larger format (10 ¼ by 8 ½ inches) provides an outstanding platform for the many photographs, concert programs, and other documents of Marion Anderson’s life. Just who is the audience for this one? Just about everyone! Certainly, the young historian will consume it; those interested in the civil rights movement will read it; and the reader who is interested in music, especially vocal music, must read it. Then anyone who is interested in a well written, well documented American story will glory in it. I realize that this is high praise, but, folks, this one deserves it. I truly enjoyed reading “The Voice.” It moves quickly with deft pacing worthy of the best fiction plots. The photographs provide a rich support for the well crafted narrative. This is a history book at its very best. Do you get the picture? I liked it!

This story of the life of Marion Anderson, once touted as the voice of the century, moved me. Her humble beginnings, her devotion to her family, her drive for perfection, her quiet stand against Jim Crowe

laws, and above all her fantastic talent are highlighted in this must read book. I was truly touched by her story. *The Voice* provides a unique slant to history that needs to be told. Freedman is at his best in his latest venture.

Freedman was aware of Marion Anderson and her place both in the annals of American music and the civil rights movement, but he hadn’t thought about writing about Anderson until he read about her friendship with Eleanor Roosevelt. One of Freedman’s Newbery Honor Books is the acclaimed *Eleanor Roosevelt: A Life of Discovery* (1993, Clarion Books). It was the relationship between Roosevelt and Anderson that led to Anderson’s famous Lincoln Memorial Concert on Easter Sunday, April 9, 1939. When Anderson was denied the right to sing in the Daughters of the American Revolution’s Constitution Hall, because of her color, Eleanor Roosevelt gave her support that led to the success of the Lincoln Memorial Concert. Soon after this event, Roosevelt resigned from the DAR. On January 7, 1943, the DAR invited Marion Anderson to sing in its first concert to support the World War II effort and the color barrier was broken forever in Constitution Hall.

Freedman provides many interesting stories and scenarios about Anderson and her life. I found the stories of her time spent in Europe especially interesting. She was truly the “toast of Europe” and she sang before several crown heads and heads of state. She sang in every major concert hall in Europe in success after success, but she wanted to return home and here she was met with racial bias. Slowly her enormous talent and her quiet, but insistent manner began to wear down racial prejudice and American’s began to celebrate this “Voice of the Century.”

By the way, this book also received the Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Medal, established by the Association for Library Service to Children in 2001. This award is made annually to the author of the most distinguished informational book published in English during the preceding year. The award is named in honor of Robert F. Sibert, the long-time President of Bound to Stay Bound Books, Inc. of Jacksonville, Illinois.

I hope that after this rather enthusiastic review, you will want to read this one. I found it emotional, enjoyable, educational, and just a plain good read. I think that *The Voice That Challenged a Nation: Martian Anderson and the Struggle for Equal Rights* by Russell Freedman should be in every school library and it will certainly enrich your own private library. This is one that I plan to pull down again, very soon, to re-read.

Happy Reading!



Happenings at the Karnes Center

2005 Fall Day of Sharing and Parenting Gifted Children Conference—The Day of Sharing for Teachers of the Gifted and the Parenting Gifted Children Conference that were to be held at USM this September have been cancelled due to Hurricane Katrina. Dr. Sylvia Rimm has graciously agreed to re-schedule her participation in the Parenting Gifted Children Conference in the fall of 2006. The spring Day of Sharing is scheduled for Feb. 17, 2006.

2nd Annual Career Explorations for Girls Conference—The 2nd Annual Career Explorations for Girls Conference will be conducted on the Hattiesburg campus of USM on Nov. 5, 2005 from 8:00 am to 3:45 pm. The conference is open to all girls in grades 7-12. Each girl must be accompanied by her mother or another adult female. The keynote speaker, Mississippi Lieutenant Governor, Amy Tuck, will discuss *Great Ideas to Prepare for Your Future Career*. All presenters will offer practical information to help girls plan for their education and entry into prospective careers.

Girls do **not** need to be enrolled in gifted education to attend. The registration deadline is Oct. 20, 2005. On the day of the conference registrants should sign-in from 8-9 a.m. in Joseph A. Green 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 contact the Karnes Center.

Saturday Gifted Studies Program, Jan. 21-March 4, 2006—The Saturday Gifted Studies Program, co-sponsored by the Karnes Center, and Purple Parrot Café and Crescent City Grill, will be conducted Jan. 21- March 4, 2006, at USM. 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 Nov. 15, 2005. The following courses will be offered:

Pre-k 4 and 5 year olds: *Famous Leaders and How to Become One* and *Under the Sea*;

Kindergarten and 1st grade: *Save our Planet* and *Mysteries*;

2nd and 3rd grades: *Animals! Animals! Animals!* and *Fun Seekers Science*; or *Spanish*;

4th, 5th, and 6th grades: *Adventures in Architecture* and *Rock On! An Introduction to Geology*; or *Author! Author! An Introduction to Creative Writing*;

7th through 12th grades: choose one of the following five options: *Debate*, *The Arts: An Introduction*, *Everything You Need to Know about Getting into College*, *Psychology: Discovering Yourself*, or *On Stage! An Introduction to Theatre*.

Applications may be obtained through local school personnel or online at <http://www.usm.edu/gifted>.

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>

To the MAGC Membership:

From a preliminary review of the evaluation forms of the World Conference For Gifted Children held in New Orleans, August 6-10, it appears that we had a very successful conference. I would like to thank all the Mississippi folk who helped in many ways and who attended the conference. I would like to especially thank the following MAGC members who served on the Leadership Team: Shirley Hardman, Pam Datlof, and Mark Mishou. Again, thank you for your support and thank you for helping us to have a successful conference.

Sincerely,

Bob Seney

Chair, World Conference 2005

The Importance of the Instructional Management Plan (IMP) and Your Gifted Education Program (GEP)

by Conrad Castle, Ph.D.
Gifted Program Specialist
Mississippi Department of Education

The State Board of Education (SBE) approved the *Mississippi Gifted Education Program Standards* on November 19, 2004. One of the requirements in the standards is for every local district to have an IMP in place and utilized by the teachers of the gifted. The IMP is the guide for everything that teachers do with their students in the gifted program. Since it is a requirement in the program standards, the document will be reviewed during a monitoring visit.

An IMP should be a global document for the local GEP. It should address the local philosophy/mission statement for the GEP, the local goals and objectives for the GEP, the components in the outcomes document(s), and the components in the standards that relate to what must be a part of the local GEP. An important component of a quality IMP is a scope and sequence of when skills/information will be introduced and when students are expected to demonstrate mastery. The IMP becomes the guide that teachers of the gifted use to develop lesson plans and specific student activities.

Geography Awareness Week Set for November 13-19, 2005

Geography Action! is a yearly conservation and awareness program designed to educate people about our natural, cultural, and historical treasures. A major component of this program is Geography Awareness Week (GAW). Every year since 1987, when U.S. President Ronald Reagan signed legislation establishing the third week in November as Geography Awareness Week, the National Geographic Society has promoted the importance of geography to the public and to schools throughout the United States and in Canada.

Each year a different theme is highlighted and approximately one and a half million people participate in related activities. The theme this year is Migration: The Human Journey. *Geography Action!* 2005—Migration: The Human Journey encourages kids to explore and honor their diverse heritages. As they trace

the migration stories of their communities, students will examine and photodocument distinctive features of their cultures, connecting their personal geographies to the greater history of human movement.

Geography Action! Is a program of National Geographic Education and Children's Programs, which provides grants, training, hands on activities, and support for educators and other organizations. To learn about sponsoring *Geography Action!* Or other educational initiatives, please contact:

Kristin Rechberger, VP for Corporate Partnerships
Development Office, National Geographic Society
1145 17th Street NW
Washington, DC 20036-4688
e-mail: krechber@ngs.org phone: (202)857-7023

Earth Science Week 2005 Contrail Count-a-Thon

In recognition of Earth Science Week, the GLOBE Program and NASA invite you to join in a scientific exploration on Thursday, October 13, 2005, to observe the sky over your area and report on the presence or absence of contrails. Teachers, students, and anyone interested in helping to develop a better understanding of Earth are welcome to participate.

Contrails are cirrus clouds formed when water vapor condenses and freezes around small particles (aerosols) in aircraft exhaust. Some of the water vapor comes from the surrounding air, some from the aircraft exhaust. Contrails, especially thin ones, are very hard to

see from satellites, and may have an impact on Earth's atmosphere. In order to improve contrail prediction models, scientists need observations both of contrail occurrence and absence. Visit <http://www.globe.gov/earthsciweek2005> for more information on contrails and clouds. Instructions on how to participate in this event and report your information can be found at this Website. The observations that are reported will be tallied and analyzed by NASA scientists looking for clues to contrail prediction. A report on their findings will be posted to the website.

Hall of Honors

Karnes & Riley Publish New Guide for Talented Children

Dr. Frances A. Karnes and Dr. Tracy Riley have co-authored a new book, which has been published by Prufrock Press. *Competitions for Talented Kids: Win Scholarships, Big Prize Money, and Recognition* is a listing of national competitions available for students. In *this new book*, students will find information on selecting, entering, and competing in national contests.

In this revised and expanded edition, you will find a list of more than 275 contests, with complete information on who to contact, how to enter, prizes, judging criteria, contest origin, significant dates, and tips from the contest organizers themselves. In addition to this featured list of competitions, the book includes a “Competitions Journal” that helps students record their progress and success.

Dr. Karnes and Dr. Kristen Stephens, Coordinator of Educational Outreach and Editor in Chief, Duke Gifted Letter, and adjunct assistant professor have co-edited five more books in The Practical Strategies Series in Gifted Education published by Prufrock Press. These offer up-to-date instructional techniques and information on a variety of issues pertinent to the field of gifted education. Each addresses a focused topic. They include: Developing Mentorship Programs for Gifted; Identifying Gifted Students: A Step-by-step Approach; Fostering Creativity in Gifted Students; Teaching Culturally Diverse Gifted Students; and Inventions and Inventing for Gifted Students. Earlier this year the first eight books of The

Starkville Teachers Win Mini-Grant

Cheryl Andrews and Marcia Parrish, teachers of the gifted from Ward Stewart Elementary School in Starkville, were recently awarded a mini-grant in the amount of \$1,200 from the Roger F. Wicker Center for Creative Learning at Mississippi University for Women. Their project, Journey About Math (J.A.M.) provides an interdisciplinary, hands-on mathematics curriculum with a historical and multicultural perspective. Congratulations!

Belmont Student Writes Prize Winning Poetry

Carmen W., a gifted student in Mrs. Cathy Eaton’s class in Belmont, MS, was recently awarded the grand prize for a poem she entered in *Storyworks* magazine’s “A Poem for Your Teacher” contest. Over 110 entries were submitted by students who were writing about a teacher that inspired them. Carmen’s poem, *Mountains*, written about Mrs. Eaton, was selected as one of 3 grand prize winners and was published in *Storyworks* magazine. Congratulations to Carmen and Mrs. Eaton for this national recognition. Carmen’s poem is given below.

Mountains are high but not as high as me,
Because you lifted me up higher so everything I could see.
You made me feel inside such a star,
You’ll always be with me wherever you are.
You made me determined and ready to go,
Before I came to your class my “I WILL” was low.
But your “I WILL” is more important than your “IQ,”
But I did not know that until I met you.

Jackson Open Doors Teachers Awarded Grant Money

Several teachers from the Open Doors gifted program in Jackson, MS were recently awarded grants from the Jackson Junior League and the Education Foundation Trust. Collectively these grants are worth over \$6400.00 for Jackson’s gifted classrooms. Congratulations go out to the following Open Doors teachers: Julie Hart, Shewonia Hicks, Ginger Langford, Linda Luckett, Lynn Roth, Lisa Saucier, Annie Smith, Brian Smith, Connie Weaver, and Karen Wong.

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.

Duke TIP Program Offers Aid to Victims of Hurricane

The Duke University Talent Identification Program (Duke TIP) 7th Grade Talent Search season has begun. Now in its 26th year, it is the largest program of its kind in the nation. In addition to providing an opportunity to experience taking a college admissions test, the 7th Grade Talent Search is a gateway to educational programs and resources for gifted students. Participants also receive recognition for their academic achievement and hard work. To be eligible, a student must be in the 7th grade and must have scored at the 95th percentile or higher on a grade level standardized achievement, aptitude, mental ability test battery or approved state criterion-referenced test. Talent Search brochures and applications have been sent to all schools hosting a 7th grade in your state. Students can also register online through Duke TIP's Web site. This year's talent search deadlines are October 1 for December testing and November 1 for January SAT or February ACT testing.

Recognizing the extraordinary occurrences of this year, the TIP program is willing to work with families displaced by Hurricane Katrina to ensure their qualified 7th graders don't miss the opportunity to participate. Obviously, if qualifying test scores can be secured a student can participate in Duke TIP. However, if scores are not available due to extenuating circumstances a student may still be recommended. For more information about the referral process, please contact the Duke TIP office at 919-668-9100 or visit the web site at www.tip.duke.edu.

Duke TIP is also offering financial aid to any student suffering financial hardship due to Hurricane Katrina. Students in this situation would be automatically granted a fee waiver for our program, and need only pay the \$15.00 processing fee. All that is required for these special students is a letter from their current school documenting their situation.



From Left to Right: Dr. Karnes, Dr. Quek, Dr. Geok, and Dr. Pierce

SOUTHERN MISS PROFESSORS VISIT WITH OFFICIALS FROM THE SINGAPORE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION TO DISCUSS GIFTED EDUCATION IN MISSISSIPPI

Dr. Frances A. Karnes, Professor of Curriculum, Instruction, and Special Education and Director of the Frances A. Karnes Center for Gifted Studies and Dr. Willie Pierce, Dean of the College of Education and Psychology at the University of Southern Mississippi hosted two officials from the Singapore Ministry of Education. Dr. Tan Bee Geok and Dr. Chwee Quek came to Hattiesburg to visit the Center and learn about programming for gifted students. Dr. Karnes shared ideas on the application of gifted programming in an international setting. Dr. Sandee Manning, Associate Director, and Kevin Besnoy, Project Coordinator, provided an overview of the Center's functions and recent research.

The Center for Creative Learning Mini-Grants

Are you looking for an opportunity to develop new teaching strategies, engage in research related to teaching, or work with other teachers on topics of specific educational interest. We encourage you to apply for a mini-grant of up to \$2,000. Our goal is to fund innovative, action-based programs that directly impact student achievement. We look forward to receiving your exciting proposals, which will enable you to provide students with a more creative, enhanced educational program. If your grant is

awarded, you will be invited to present your project at the Center's dissemination conference. The fall deadline for proposals is October 31, 2005.

For more information contact us at...

Center for Creative Learning
1100 College Street, MUW 1635
Columbus, MS 39701

or visit our web site at <http://www.muw.edu/ccl/minigrant.html>

New Book Makes Stock Market Simple

The Stock Market for All Ages is a quick reference source for anyone who wants to know about the stock market. It also includes the history of Wall Street. The book can be used with gifted and talented students and with elementary children who play The Stock Market Game, as well as in high school civics, math, and economics classes. Author,

Susie Hardeman, will be at Whispering Woods with her book and will present breakout sessions at the MAGC 2005 Conference.



Newest Weather Sentry Takes Up Watch

by Patrick L. Barry

Today, we've become accustomed to seeing images of the Earth's swirling atmosphere from space every night on the evening news. Before 1960, no one had ever seen such images. The first-ever weather satellite was launched that year, kicking off a long line of weather satellites that have kept a continuous watch on our planet's fickle atmosphere—45 years and counting! The high-quality, extended weather forecasts that these satellites make possible have become an indispensable part of our modern society, helping commercial aircraft, recreational boaters, and even military operations avoid unnecessary risk from hazardous weather. But satellites don't last forever. Parts wear out, radiation takes its toll, and atmospheric drag slowly pulls the satellite out of orbit. Many weather satellites have a design life of only 2 years, though often they can last 5 or 10 years, or more. A steady schedule of new satellite launches is needed to keep the weather report on the news each night. In May 2005, NASA successfully launched the latest in this long line of weather satellites. Dubbed NOAA-N at launch and renamed NOAA-18 once it reached orbit, this satellite will take over for the older satellite NOAA-16, which was launched in September 2000. "NOAA always keeps at least two satellites in low-Earth orbit, circling the poles 14 times each day," explains Wilfred E. Mazur, Polar Satellite Acquisition Manager, NOAA/NESDIS. "As Earth rotates, these satellites end up covering Earth's entire surface each day. In fact, with two satellites in orbit, NOAA covers each spot on the Earth four times each day, twice during the day and twice at night," Mazur says.

By orbiting close to Earth (NOAA-18 is only

870 km above the ground), these "low-Earth orbit" satellites provide a detailed view of the weather. The other type of weather satellite, "geosynchronous," orbits much farther out at 35,786 km. At that altitude, geosynchronous satellites can keep a constant watch on whole continents, but without the kind of detail that NOAA-18 can provide. In particular, low-Earth orbiting satellites have the ability to use microwave radiometers to measure temperature and moisture in the atmosphere—two key measurements used for weather prediction that, for technical reasons, cannot be sensed by distant geosynchronous satellites. With NOAA-18 successfully placed in orbit, the 45-year legacy of high-tech weather forecasts that we're accustomed to will go on. Find out more about NOAA-18 and the history of polar-orbiting weather satellites at <http://goespoes.gsfc.nasa.gov/poes>. For kids and anyone else curious about the concept, the difference between polar and geosynchronous orbits is explained at http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/en/kids/goes/goes_poes_orbits.shtml.

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



NOAA-18, the newest in a long line of weather and environmental satellites, launched May 20, 2005.

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

MAGC CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

January 26-27, 2005, Whispering Woods Hotel and Conference Center,
Olive Branch, 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.

Transportation and Parking: Shuttle transportation to and from the Memphis 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 Whispering Woods.

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 ONLY ONE	Early Registration Fee\$90.00 <i>(Includes Complimentary Membership)</i> (must be postmarked by September 1, 2005)	\$
	Regular Registration Fee\$95.00 <i>(Includes Complimentary Membership)</i> (must be postmarked by September 15, 2005)	\$
	On-Site Registration Fee (after September 15, 2005)\$100.00 <i>(Includes Complimentary Membership)</i>	\$
	Undergraduate Student Registration Fee (must show student ID at registration)\$30.00	\$
	Main Presenter Membership Fee \$25.00	\$
	Family Night ONLY\$3.00 per person or \$5.00 per family	\$
TOTAL AMOUNT DUE		\$

AFTER SEPTEMBER 15, 2005, 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

2005 Conference Lodging Reservation Form

Whispering Woods Hotel and Conferene Center

Mississippi Association for Gifted Children

January 26-27, 2005

Name _____

Group _____

Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____

Telephone _____ email _____

MAGC Group Rate: \$89.00 per room per night – single /double occupancy (All rates subject to 9% tax – per room per night.)

Arrival Date _____ Departure Date _____

Estimated Arrival Time _____ Arriving via: ___ car ___ van ___ air

Check in as early as 3:00 p.m. Check out by 12:00 noon.

Number and Type Rooms Requested: ___ Non-smoking ___ Smoking
 ___ 1 person: 1 bed ___ 2 persons: ___ 1 bed ___ 2 beds
 ___ 3 persons: 2 beds ___ 4 persons: 2 beds

Reservation Guaranteed by: ___ Check ___ Money Order ___ Assured by Credit Card (Complete info below.)
American Express, Visa, MasterCard

Type _____ Acct# _____ Exp. _____

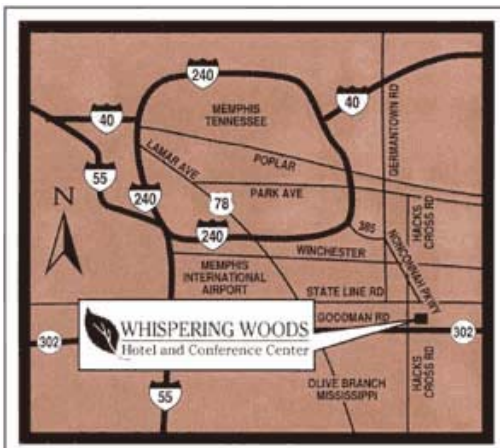
I understand that I am responsible for payment of guaranteed reservations.

Signature _____

- Deposit is refundable if reservation is cancelled 72 hours prior to arrival. Failure to cancel reservation will result in one night's penalty charge.

Return this form to: Whispering Woods Hotel and Conference Center, Attn: Audrey Higgins, E-MAIL: audrey.higgins@ichotelsgroup.com
 11200 E. Goodman Road, Olive Branch, MS, 38654 662-895-2941 ext.177 or 358 FAX 662-895-1590

Directions to Whispering Woods Hotel and Conference Center



Directions From:

Memphis International Airport - Exit airport to I-240 East towards Nashville to 385 East (Bill Morris Parkway). Exit Hacks Cross Road south; continue for 4.5 miles. Whispering Woods is on the left.

I-40 Westbound from Nashville - Go West to I-240. Take I-240 South to 385 East (Bill Morris Parkway). Exit Hacks Cross Road south; continue for 4.5 miles. Whispering Woods is on the left.

I-40 Eastbound from Arkansas - Go East to I-240. Take I-240 towards Jackson, MS; continue on I-240 towards Nashville (not I-55 South) to 385 East (Bill Morris Parkway). Exit Hacks Cross Road south; continue for 4.5 miles. Whispering Woods is on the left.

I-55 Southbound from Arkansas - Go South to I-240 East towards Nashville to 385 East (Bill Morris Parkway). Exit Hacks Cross Road south; continue for 4.5 miles. Whispering Woods is on the left.

I-55 Northbound from Jackson, Mississippi - (South of State Highway 302) Exit State Highway 302 (Goodman Road); continue East for 14

Executive Director: Jean Prather
900 Live Oak Dr., Clinton, MS 39056
(601)924-0068 (601)624-4652
jprather@jam.rr.com

Elected Officers:

President: Kate Brown
1021 12 St. North, Columbus, MS 39701
(662)329-7676 fax (662)329-7242
kateb@muw.edu

Secretary: Shirley Hardman
25 Ryan Circle, Long Beach, MS 39560
(228)863-5183
shardman@harrison.k12.ms.us

Standing Committee Chairs:

Membership: Carol Paola
1513 Westward Dr., Gulfport, MS 39501
(228)864-8520 fax (228)868-6448
cwp1gab@aol.com

Public Relations: Kenneth Griswold
3063 Plantation Cr., Tupelo, MS 38804
(662)841-0907
kmggriswold@tupelo.k12.ms.us

Supportive Funding: Wendy Hunt
7875 Idlebrook Cove, Southaven, MS 38671
(662)342-7214 (662)280-7075
wendyfoz@bellsouth.net

Ad Hoc and Ex Officio:

Website: Jane Everly
2930 McDowell Rd. Ext., Jackson, MS 39212
(601)371-4300 fax (601)371-4372
Jeverly@jackson.k12.ms.us

NAGC Liason: Dr. Bob Seney
1100 College St., MUW-129, Columbus, MS 39701
(662)329-7112
Bseney@muw.edu

President-Elect: Margaret Snider
1007 Camdenmill Dr., Ridgeland, MS 39157
(601)856-4655
msnider@jackson.k12.ms.us

Treasurer: Pamela Pape
143 Skyline Drive, Clinton, MS 39056
(601)925-4580
ppape@jackson.k12.ms.us

Concepts Editor: Lisa Saucier
1120 Riverside Dr., Jackson, MS 39202
(601)373-9401
lsaucier@jackson.k12.ms.us

Legislative: Kay Collins
430 N. Church St., Tupelo, MS 38804
(662)844-4549 (662)401-5396
kgcollins@tupelo.k12.ms.us

Affiliates: Teresa Mosely
317 Concord Dr., Clinton, MS 39056
(601)924-4476 fax (601)973-8682
tmosely@jackson.k12.ms.us

Diverse Populations Identification:
Leigh Adkins Todd
Rt. 1, Box 359, West Point, MS 39773
(662)494-7149
leightodd@hotmail.com

Vice President: Anne Caldwell
1100 College St. MUW Box 1627, Columbus, MS 39701
(662)329-8521 fax (662)328-4586
abc@msms.k12.ms.us

Past President: Mary Webb
1016 CR 342 New Albany, MS 38652
(662)534-3307
mwwebb@tupelo.k12.ms.us

Advisory Board: Suzanne Bean
86 Big Tom Rd., Columbus, MS 39705
(662)327-6905 Fax (662)329-8515
sbean@muw.edu

Staff Development: Melissa Grantham
69 Redbud Lane, Madison, MS 39110
(601)853-2764 (601)879-3069
Mgrantham@madison.k12.ms.us

Ex Officio: Dr. Conrad Castle
MS Dept. of Education
P.O. Box 771, Suite 306, Jackson, MS 39205
(601)359-2586 fax (601)359-2040
ccastle@mde.k12.ms.us

MAGC

P.O. Box 3545
Jackson, MS 39207
www.msms.k12.ms.us/MAGC

PRESORTED
FIRST CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
JACKSON, MS
PERMIT NO. 80