



JEFFERSON COUNTY ASSOCIATION  
FOR GIFTED CHILDREN

# JAGC NEWS

Jefferson County Association for Gifted Children

## December 2020

Welcome to December and another session of remote learning. JAGC is welcoming some new talent to our board and another social channel with our [Instagram](#) account. Let's keep in touch about your ideas and concerns for GT issues.

Don't miss the [Jeffco GT CoGAT parent seminar](#) Dec. 8 and save the date for a Jan. 20 parent learning seminar.

Jeffco 2021-2022 enrollment begins Dec. 8. and closes Jan. 15. See the [Jeffco website](#) for information on school options.

Wishing you and your family a safe and peaceful holiday season!



## JAGC Info

### Welcome, New Board Members!

JAGC welcomes two new board members, Jana Betlach and Courtney Hopkins-Feuerborn. We will be electing additional board members in April. Look for election announcements starting in March or email [info@jeffcogifted.org](mailto:info@jeffcogifted.org) for more information.



Jana is a parent of a GT Jeffco graduate, currently homeschooling her youngest, and a Jeffco resident for 20 years. Jana has been in Jeffco Montessori education for 15 years and values the unique needs of each child in every learning environment. She holds a BA in Elementary Education, a Masters in Leadership of Education and a Montessori certification. She works for a Jeffco charter school as a homeschool program director and runs a mindset coaching business. Jana's experiences in today's world of learning brings a valuable perspective in advocating for parents and their children regardless of where the learning

takes place or with what philosophy. Jana holds a strong belief that each child deserves to have their learning needs met and is thrilled to be working with the JAGC board in supporting the GT community.



Courtney was introduced to the gifted community in 2018 and has been advocating for her two twice-exceptional children ever since. “While actively and passionately diving into the gifted community I was surprised to find that, while nearly all gifted parents and children experience consistent instances of confusion, frustration, joy and determination throughout their education journey, they experience them, seemingly, on an island.” Courtney joined the JAGC board with the hope of raising and connecting our voices of advocacy and achievement by ensuring every parent and every child feels recognized for their unique experiences and supported not only in their academic lives but also through their mental health journeys.



JAGC is now on Instagram!

Check us out at [https://www.instagram.com/jeffco\\_gifted/](https://www.instagram.com/jeffco_gifted/). Let us know if you have something to share!

The Amazon Smile logo is centered on a white background. The background of the entire banner is a bokeh effect of yellow and orange light spots. The logo consists of the word "amazon" in black, "smile" in orange, and the Amazon arrow logo below "amazon". Below the logo is the tagline "You Shop. Amazon Gives." in black.

**amazon**smile  
You Shop. **Amazon Gives.**

## [Support JAGC this Holiday Season](#)

Shop on AmazonSmile at <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/84-1581512>. AmazonSmile will donate to JAGC at no cost to you. Thank you for your support!

## Have Questions or Concerns? Contact JAGC

Hybrid and remote school this year is new for everyone. If you have questions or concerns or need help, [email us](#) or post on our [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#) pages. We want to hear from our families!

[Join JAGC](#)



## Jeffco GT Dept. Info

## [Save the Date! Parent learning virtual seminar - Jan. 20](#)



## [CoGAT Parent Seminar - Dec. 8](#)

Jeffco GT is hosting a virtual CogAT (Cognitive Abilities Test) parent seminar on Tuesday, Dec. 8 from 6:30-8 PM. Part 1 is understanding the data and part 2 is understanding the GT identification and Advanced Learning Plan (ALP) process. To sign up for the webinar, go to the Jeffco GT website, sign up for "Understanding the CogAT Assessment for Parents" and complete the survey. Submit any questions you may have on the survey. You will be sent a link to the webinar.



Jeffco News



CHOOSE YOUR  
SCHOOL  
FOR 2021-22

1st Round Choice Enrollment  
December 8 - January 15

### [Enroll Jeffco Opens Dec. 8](#)

Round 1 for the 2021-22 school year is Dec. 8 - Jan. 15

Round 2 for the 2021-22 school year opens Jan. 19

Choice offers will go out in late January

New Jeffco PK-12 Students:

- Use the [School Finder button](#) to find your neighborhood school and/or other school options.
- Contact the school you are interested in attending to enroll.

Current Jeffco K-12 Students:

- If you wish to change schools during the school year, you will need to submit an [administrative transfer request](#) to your current school's principal. Unless your family has recently moved, no administrative transfer is needed in this case.

### School Information Nights

Deciding which schools to attend next year? Information nights are virtual this year. Check your local school websites for info and dates. Events are generally scheduled for November through January.

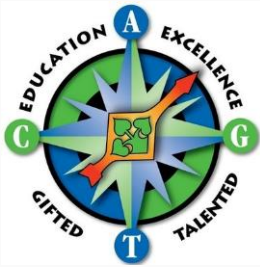
## [Early Access for 4&5-Year-Olds - Application Opens Jan. 4](#)

Early Access applies to children in the 97th percentile or above on standardized tests and functioning levels typically two years or more above peers. Colorado House Bill 08-1021, Early Kindergarten and First Grade for Gifted Children, extends the definition of “gifted child” to include four-year-olds who may be able to access kindergarten and five-year-olds who can access first grade, and adds a new classification of “highly advanced gifted child.” The 2021 [application](#) will open Jan. 4.

Part of the Early Access process is submitting a portfolio of evidence. This may include examples of art work, writings, photos or videos of things that have been built or auditions. It may be documentation of connections the child has made. It may be statements from preschool teachers. Any way you can show what were “wow” moments for you such as examples that seem advanced for a child of their age at the time.



## Calendar & Events



### [Conversations with CAGT - Tuesdays at 5 PM](#)

The Colorado Association for Gifted and Talented hosts weekly Facebook Live sessions with GT experts. Tune in Tuesdays at 5 PM on the [CAGT Facebook page](#).

### [JAGC Calendar - Activities, Events & Conferences](#)

#### [Broomfield area events](#)

#### [Denver area things to do](#)

Check in advance as activities may be postponed or cancelled.



## For Parents



### [A Message From Center for Bright Kids](#)

As you are experiencing, these are extraordinary times, particularly in the world of education. Here at CBK we are working through budgetary projections, test site closures, and program outlooks. This has become especially true following the closure of DukeTIP gifted program, which has had ripple effects across all talent development programs and centers. Simply said, we need your help.

Our goal is to raise \$50,000 to help us move through the winter and over anticipating losses. All gifts are fully tax-deductible using the EIN 84-1493585. Our giving window to meet this goal will remain open until Jan.

1. Please [give here](https://centerforbrightkids.org/donate) at <https://centerforbrightkids.org/donate>.

[Read the full letter here.](#)

### [CDE PEP Jan.-Feb. Online Conferences - Register by Jan. 8](#)

PEP (Parents Encouraging Parents) Conferences are free events designed to promote family and school partnerships that are essential in supporting students with disabilities and their families in schools and the community. PEP brings parents and professionals together by sharing ideas, discussing concerns, celebrating successes and obtaining information related to parenting, educating and partnering to support student learning. Spring session registration will open in January.

2021 Winter PEP dates:

Friday, Jan. 29 – 6:30 pm-9:30 pm (3 hours)

Saturday, Jan. 30 – 8:15 am-12:15 pm (4 hours)

Saturday, Feb. 6 – 9:15 am-11:45 am (2 hours)

Saturday, Feb. 13 – 8:45 am-12:45 pm (4 hours)



### [TECA Online Parent Seminars](#)

The Twice Exceptional Children's Advocacy (TECA) offers online parent seminars. This group is open to parents and guardians of all twice exceptional children and teens. See the [schedule online](#) for topics and dates.

## [Free Math Resource for At Home Learning](#)

## [Bridges Academy Launches Online 2e High School](#)

## [Denver Gifted and Talented Leaders of Color and Allies](#)

The Gifted and Talented (GT) Leaders of Color and Allies started in late 2019 with a few educators of color collaborating with advocates for the support, connection and empowerment of gifted students and educators of color. Follow/join the group at [Gifted & Talented Leaders of Color and Allies on Facebook](#).



### [Ongoing SENG Parent Support Groups](#)

Parents, are you looking for support? Supporting Emotional Needs of the Gifted (SENG) online support groups are designed to address the unique issues, needs and challenges faced by gifted families. The [website](#) lists upcoming groups.



## For Students

### [JeffCon IT Conference for High School Students - Jan. 29](#)

This conference at the Jeffco Ed Center is designed to inform, engage and provide growth opportunities for any Jeffco High School student interested in pursuing a career in the field of information technology (IT). Students must apply through their high school.



### [Colorado Student Leaders Institute Summer Program - Apply by Jan. 31](#)

The Colorado Student Leaders Institute is an affiliate of the National Conference of Governor's Schools. A Governor's School on a resume is equivalent to a 5 on an AP exam. Students live and study on the University of Colorado Denver Campus for the duration of the program.

Students have the choice of two 3-week sessions:

- Session 1: June 20 through July 10
- Session 2: July 11 through July 31

Students can choose from three majors: STEM, Art or International Social Studies and receive interdisciplinary instruction from professors, business leaders, nonprofit managers, local government officials and entrepreneurs. They also complete three labs: entrepreneurship lab, social problem lab,

and National History Day. Application decisions will be announced in early March 2021.

### [Young Scholars Program - Application open Jan. 11-March 22](#)

The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation's Young Scholars Program opens on Jan. 11. The Young Scholars Program is a selective five-year, pre-college scholarship for high-performing 7th grade students with financial need. It provides academic advising, along with financial support for school, summer programs, internships, and other learning enrichment opportunities. Eligible applicants should:

- Be entering 8th grade in the fall of 2021.
- Have earned all As and Bs since the beginning of 6th grade.
- Reside in the U.S. and plan to attend high school in the U.S.
- Demonstrate financial need with a maximum adjusted gross income of \$95,000.



### [Jeffco Writing Challenge - Deadline Feb. 22](#)

The Jeffco Writing Challenge is open to all Jefferson County School students in K-12. Poetry, short stories, nonfiction or dramas are all welcome. Winning entries receive cash and gift card prizes, and schools win awards based on student entries. For more information on the prompts, and for submission guidelines and entry form, see the event [website](#).



- [Area College & Job Fairs](#)
- [College Fairs of Greater Denver](#)
- [College Application Deadlines](#)





## Resources

### Recent GT Articles & Podcasts

[How Hybrid Learning Is \(and Is Not\) Working During COVID-19: 6 Case Studies \(EdWeek\)](#)

[Parenting Resilience in Unsettling Times: It Starts With Us \(Parent Footprint\)](#)

[This is Why Your Gifted Child Struggles to Fall Asleep \(Raising Lifelong Learners\)](#)

[Supporting Your Child During COVID-19 \(NAGC March 2020 - still relevant\)](#)

[Nurturing Artistically Gifted Students \(#GTchat\)](#)

[Tips for Cultivating Healthy School Friendships Online \(MindShift\)](#)



## Newsletter Links

For Parents New to GT - Jeffco GT Dept. Info and GT 101 - Parent Info - Student Programs & Enrichment - Scholarships - College Prep - National GT Resources

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[Jefferson County Association for Gifted Children \(JAGC\)](#) is a nonprofit group providing leadership and support to families and educators of advanced learners in Jefferson County, Colorado. [Jeffcogifted.org](http://Jeffcogifted.org)

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