



JEFFERSON COUNTY ASSOCIATION FOR GIFTED CHILDREN

May 2019 Newsletter

Note: This newsletter is intended to provide a wide array of information that readers may find helpful. In an effort to bring breadth of information, JAGC does not necessarily endorse or support opinions presented. JAGC also does not endorse, approve for services, or recommend any specific program mentioned.

[JAGC News](#)

- GT Champion Award
- STEM Highlands Ranch
- Legislative News
- Newsletter Taking the Summer Off

[Jeffco Gifted & Talented Department Information](#)

- Jeffco Virtual Academy Online Gifted & Talented Classes

[Jeffco News](#)

- Jeffco Virtual Academy Summer Classes
- Warren Tech 2019-2020 Application

[Educational](#)

- Architecture in the City Summer Program
- 2019 CAGT Conference
- 2019 CAGT Awards/Scholarships Flyer
- Area College & Job Fairs
- Understood Podcasts for Learning Issues
- Tech Talk Tuesdays Screen Tips for Families

[Events](#)

- JAGC Calendar

[Enrichment Corner](#)

- Summer Programs
- School of Mines Computer Science Camp
- Student Opportunities

[Scholarships](#)

Davidson Young Scholars
25 Great Scholarships for Gifted Students
Scholarship Search Platform on reviews.com

[Connect With JAGC](#)

Become a JAGC Member
Support JAGC With Amazon Smile
Follow JAGC on Facebook and Twitter

JAGC News

[New GT Champion Award!](#)

The GT leaders in our district, including staff, teachers, and students, have been working hard to provide the best learning practices for our gifted communities. JAGC felt it was time to recognize those who are making exemplary efforts for our GT students and created the GT Champion award. Thank you for the nominations!

Congratulations to the 2019 winner of the GT Champion award and all the nominees!

Winner:

Ginny Grimes, GT Resource Teacher

Nominees:

Duncan Dotterrer, GT STEAM Lab Teacher, Stevens Elementary School
Amy Baker, Digital Teacher Librarian, West Jefferson Middle School
Barb Grindle, 3rd Grade Teacher, Marshdale Elementary School
Laurel Rogstad, 5th Grade GT Center Teacher, Coronado Elementary School
Allison Olis, 5th Grade GT Center Teacher, Westridge Elementary School
Marla Caviness-French, GT Resource Teacher
Katherina Mook, 12th Grade GT Student, Wheat Ridge High School
Lily Craddock, 6th Grade GT Student, Westridge Elementary School

[STEM Highlands Ranch](#)

To ignore the most recent school shooting and pretend all is well would be normalizing the horror. And if there is one thing we should all agree on, it is that this is not normal and we can not become numb to this. It is not okay.

What is okay is seeking help. There are resources in place for parents and students alike. Please use them. Please share with others. Please be engaged and involved in making real changes that can keep our students - all students, safe at school. Advocacy does not stop at academics.

Jean Willis-Brown
JAGC President

Helpful Links:

[Safe2Tell](#)

[Colorado Crisis Center](#)

[Tips for Talking to Children and Youth After Traumatic Events](#)

[Talking to Children About Violence: Tips for Parents and Teachers](#)

[JAGC website mental health resources](#)

Legislative News - Call to Action

The Javitz Grant, which totals \$12 million in its budget, is the only federal money for Gifted and Talented students. The current administration's budget proposal for 2020 proposes that this funding be cut. NAGC has made a [position statement](#) on this, which may be of interest to our readers.

A call or letter to your congressmen may be of help to alert them to this inequity. If you feel inclined to educate them about the needs of the gifted, you may want to add the following facts:

- Most developed countries give significant funding to their gifted programming, recognizing these students as a resource for their country's future. The US does not provide such generous funding.
- Studies suggest that No Child Left Behind has left gifted students behind. While NCLB was valuable legislation, the gifted are a recognized group under the Every Student Succeeds Act warranting appropriate services also.
- Roughly 20% of high school dropouts are gifted students, (while they represent on average 5 - 10% of all students). Lack of challenge is a frequently cited reason for students' decision to drop out.
- 20% of the prison population is identified as gifted.

Cory Gardner: www.gardner.senate.gov, (202) 224-5941

Michael Bennett: <https://www.bennet.senate.gov>, (202) 224-5852

Newsletter Taking the Summer Off

Our newsletter will return in August. We are always available should you have any [questions or concerns](#).

Jeffco Gifted & Talented Department Information

Jeffco Virtual Academy Online Gifted & Talented Classes

The Gifted and Talented Department, in collaboration with Jeffco's 21st Century Virtual Academy (JVA), offers online GT courses for 7th and 8th grade students. Classes are taught by certified GT teachers and offer the opportunity for middle school GT students to participate in an engaging online curriculum that incorporates both the academic and social-emotional needs of gifted students. All students are required to have an Advanced Learning Plan (ALP) and an eligibility form completed and approved by their home school's counselor or administrator. Please see this [page](#) for more information and to register. Course information is [here](#).

Jeffco News

Jeffco Virtual Academy Summer Advancement Classes - Enroll Open Until May 29

Jeffco Virtual is offering credit advancement classes for Jeffco students in two sessions this summer for grades 10 and up. This is not the same as Credit Recovery. If you need to retake a class, [click here](#) for options. Courses are only available to current Jeffco high school students.

Session 1: June 3 to June 28

Session 2: July 1 to July 26

- Students may take only ONE course for .5 credit each four-week term.
- Each 4-week course will yield a semester .5 credit.
- Students will be required to work 20+ hours per week to complete the semester course in four weeks.
- Courses are entirely online and taught by licensed Jeffco teachers.
- The cost is the same as the summer school fee per course per session. This fee covers the cost of the teacher.

Warren Tech 2019-2020 Application

The [Warren Tech](#) 2019-20 application is up and running. The online application can be found [here](#). If you have questions about the online application, contact [Denae Coates](#), 303-982-5614 or [Leslee Hampel](#), 303-982-8603.

Educational

Architecture in the City Summer Program for High School – Deadline May 15

University of Colorado Denver College of Architecture and Planning offers a summer, noncredit program called Architecture in the City for high school students. This is an interdisciplinary program designed for rising sophomores, juniors, seniors and recent high school graduates. The two-week camp will give participants the opportunity for a hands on experience in model building and drawing techniques while exposing them to architecture, landscape architecture, urban design and urban planning.

This commuter program will be offered at the University of Colorado Denver campus from Monday, June 3-Friday, June 14 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Participants with and without design backgrounds are welcome. For questions about the camp please [email](#) or call 303-315-2528.

42nd Annual CAGT Conference – Oct. 21-22, 2019

Mark your calendars for the Colorado Association for Gifted and Talented 42nd Annual Conference: *A Gifted State of Mind*, Oct. 21-22 at the Embassy Suites Loveland.

2019 CAGT Awards/Scholarships

Please check out CAGT's opportunities for [awards and scholarships](#) for deserving individuals in your gifted community! Many deadlines are fast approaching! Please apply or nominate soon. For more information, visit CAGT's 2019 Conference [website](#).

Area College & Job Fairs

[Understood Podcasts for Learning Issues](#)

Season 1 of "In It" podcasts for and about families of kids who learn and think differently are now available from Understood.org.

Episode 1: Why We Cry at IEP Meetings

Episode 2: How We Deal With "Is ADHD Real?"

Episode 3: The Legit Fear Behind "Please Don't Call On Me to Read"

Episode 4: To Disclose...or Not?

Episode 5: Dyscalculia, More Than "Bad at Math"

Episode 6: When Gifted Kids Need Accommodations, Too

[Tech Talk Tuesdays Screen Tips for Families](#)

Subscribe to Tech Talk Tuesdays (TTT) to receive conversation starters about social media, video game use, tech tips, latest research and more. Calm, consistent conversations about screen time can improve family and classroom dynamics. Get kids more invested in TTTs by starting each conversation with a positive about screen time.

Check out the [JAGC Calendar](#) for Detailed Information on the Following Events

CU Wizards - The Chemistry of Energy – [May 18](#)

Denver Writes Day of Rock Workshop – [May 18](#)

National Youth Summit: Woman Suffrage – [May 21](#)

Wings Aerospace Academy Information Night – [May 21](#)

Enrichment Corner

[JAGC Summer Programs List](#)

Here is [JAGC's list](#) of summer programs that includes enrichment opportunities around the area.

[School of Mines Computer Science Camp](#)

The Colorado School of Mines Summer Camp for boys and girls entering grades 6-9 focuses on creative solutions to everyday problems as a key element in the growing field of computer science. During this camp, participants will form connections between computer programming and everyday objects using the Makey Makey invention kit, a tool that can transform common items into a functioning keyboard, a controller, or any interactive system. Email stem-tech@mines.edu with questions.

Camps Offered:

Option 1 (for girls): June 3-7

Option 2 (for boys): July 8-12

Option 3 (for girls and boys): July 29-August 2

[Student Opportunities](#)

Find a list of Gifted and Talented [Student Opportunities](#) from the Jeffco GT Department.

Scholarships

Davidson Young Scholars Program – Applications Due First of Each Month

The Davidson Young Scholars program provides free services designed to nurture and support profoundly gifted young people and their families, including talent development, educational advocacy, an online community and the Ambassadors program. Young Scholars can also access annual get-togethers, a summer camp for 8 to 12 year olds and challenging online middle school courses. Applications are due the first of each month.

25 Great Scholarships for Gifted Students

Reviews.com has created a [Scholarship Search Platform](#).

Connect With JAGC

Are You a JAGC Member?

The Jefferson County Association for Gifted Children (JAGC) is a nonprofit group providing leadership and support to families and educators of gifted young people in Jefferson County, Colorado. Membership in JAGC includes joint membership in CAGT (Colorado Association for Gifted and Talented). Combined dues are \$40 annually.

Although JAGC often works in partnership with Jeffco Public Schools' Office of Gifted and Talented, JAGC is a volunteer organization. JAGC provides its newsletter and seminars to everyone in the community but membership, donations, and volunteers are essential to providing these resources.

Locally, through JAGC, your membership helps support things such as: seminars, presentations, and speakers; printed literature; this website (including the JAGC newsletter); JAGC on Facebook; local advocacy. Through CAGT, your membership helps support such things as: CAGT's annual conference, CAGT's annual Parent Institute, CAGT's website, monthly "Happenings" email, the quarterly Kaleidoscope e-newsletter, state level legislative advocacy for gifted learners, and online learning opportunities.

Become a JAGC Member

Membership in JAGC and CAGT (Colorado Gifted and Talented Association) runs concurrent to the school year. Both are valid from September until August of the following year. You must be a member to vote in the spring JAGC election. When you register, be sure to select Jeffco as your affiliate. [Join](#) today and support gifted education in Jeffco!

Support JAGC With Amazon Smile

Shop on Amazon through Amazon Smile and a portion of your purchase price will be donated to JAGC. When you shop at Amazon, first go to <https://smile.amazon.com/> and select "Jefferson County Association for Gifted Children" before making your purchase.

[Check Out JAGC on Facebook](#)

Did you know that JAGC is on Facebook? You can "Like" JAGC on Facebook and read GT and Jeffco-related information as part of your Facebook feed. JAGC also has a private Facebook group, JAGC Online for the purposes of discussion. To join "friend" Jeffco Gifted and send a Facebook message to request group membership or email for more information. A big thank you to Susan Carter-Ruskell for sharing great content on JAGC's social media!

[JAGC Facebook](#)

Note: This newsletter is intended to provide a wide array of information that readers may find helpful. In an effort to bring breadth of information, JAGC does not necessarily endorse or support opinions presented. JAGC also does not endorse, approve for services, or recommend any specific program mentioned.