



JEFFERSON COUNTY ASSOCIATION
FOR GIFTED CHILDREN

January 2020

NEWSLETTER



January GT Parent Seminar

Monday, Jan. 27, 6:15-8 PM
Jeffco Education Center, 1929 Denver West Dr., Golden

Seminar Topics

- Executive Function
- Social Emotional
- Early Access
- GT 101

No RSVP required

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JAGC NEWS

Upcoming JAGC Board Meeting and Community Forum

You're Invited! Please join JAGC for our upcoming board meeting (5-6 pm) and community forum (6-7 pm) at locations around Jeffco:

- Thursday, Feb. 13, Dutch Creek Elementary, 7304 W. Roxbury Pl., Littleton, CO 80128

School Crossing: Does the Name Make the School?

"Jeffco Public Schools announced that Vivian Elementary in Lakewood will be transitioning to become the New Classical Academy at Vivian for the 2020-21 school year. The restructured elementary school will implement a modern version of the classical academy curriculum, blending the foundational elements of the classical model while elevating the Jeffco Generations Skills. The transition to New Classical Academy at Vivian will include new school branding, student uniforms, building renovations including a new playground, as well as other developments. To learn more about the New Classical Academy at Vivian, please visit <http://www.viviannewclassical.org/>."

Read the rest of the article from Guy Nahmiach, JAGC President, on our [website](#).

JEFFCO GT DEPT UPDATES

Jeffco GT Department December Gazette

January Parent Learning - Jan. 27

You're invited to a parent seminar featuring several topics: Social Emotional Needs of Gifted Children, Affective Goals/Goal Setting, Early Access, Executive Functioning, Gifted and Talented 101.

Monday, Jan. 27, 6:15-8 pm

Jeffco Education Center

1829 Denver West Drive, Bldg #27, Golden, CO 80401

Apply Now for Jeffco Early Access for Entrance to Kindergarten or First Grade

The 2020-2021 Early Access application is now open. Portfolios are due March 19 and the application closes April 1. Early Access applies to children in the 97th percentile or above on standardized tests and functioning levels typically two years or more above peers. Visit the [Jeffco GT website](#) for more information on Early Access.

Early Access age requirements:

- The student must reach the age of four by October 1 for kindergarten.
- The student must reach the age of five by October 1 for grade one.

JEFFCO NEWS

[Warren Tech 2020-2021 Application - Priority Application Deadline Feb. 13](#)

The [Warren Tech application](#) is open. For questions, visit the website or call 303-982-8600.

[Planning for Middle School? Check out Jeffco Virtual Academy's Online Gifted & Talented Classes](#)

In collaboration with Jeffco Gifted & Talented, Jeffco Virtual Academy offers full-year core courses for 7th and 8th grade that are developed and taught by certified GT teachers. Visit the [JVA website](#) for more information. Course information is [here](#).

FOR PARENTS

Top GT Stories of 2019

Here are some top stories from the past year from various GT resources:

- [Byrdseed](#)
- [Dr. Devon MacEachron Gifted Mythbusters Series](#)
- [Gifted Challenges](#)

For Parents New to GT

Parents are often looking for useful resources in gifted education, especially those new to the Jeffco GT program. JAGC offers resources on our [website](#). Look for information for [elementary students](#) under the Resources tab as well as helpful [websites, books, and resources](#).

[Hoagies Gifted website](#) offers information for parents, educators and students. The Davidson Institute's [guidebooks](#) for parents and educators on advocacy, early entrance to college, homeschooling, mentorships, and twice exceptional students can be downloaded for free:

- [Advocating for Exceptionally Gifted Young People](#)
- [Homeschooling](#)
- [Twice-exceptionality](#)

If you have questions about Jeffco GT Center placement or schooling, see the [Jeffco GT Dept. website](#). You can contact JAGC for questions about navigating the GT world, connecting with other parents and parent resources at info@jeffcogifted.org or visit the [JAGC website](#) or [Facebook page](#).

[Tools for Students with 504s and IEPs](#)

Wrightslaw offers a Cool Tools page with many resources about IDEA requirements, federal laws and regulations, and access additional resources. Use these tools as you learn special education advocacy tactics and strategies to help you anticipate problems, manage conflict and avoid crises.

[Complex Care Medical Clinic Opens in Denver](#)

While JAGC does not endorse organizations, it's important to celebrate our community and its partners. Here is information about a new area medical resource:

Where do you go when your child's behavior or personality changes on a dime? Or when his or her anxiety is becoming overwhelming and psych drugs aren't working? Or when your autistic child is having struggles that seem medical but are pushed aside at the annual visit? Lighthouse Complex Care is a new clinic in Denver that looks at patients with several challenges using a different approach. If you aren't having success with the traditional medical or mental health establishment, Lighthouse may be able to help. Lighthouse Complex Care, 1240 S. Parker Rd., Suite 100, Denver, CO 80231, 303-219-0030.

[CDE PEP Conference - April 2-4](#)

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. To learn more about PEP Conferences and to register, [click here](#). For more information, contact Joyce Thiessen-Barrett, 303-866-6757.

2020 PEP dates:

April 2-4 - location TBD

[Annual Gifted Education Conference - Jan. 30-31](#)

This event is sponsored by the University of Denver and is designed for teacher leaders, building and district leaders, researchers, parents, mental health professionals, and education service providers to provide specific topical information about selected areas in gifted education.

Jan. 30 & 31, 8 am-5 pm

Wellshire Event Center

3333 South Colorado Boulevard, Denver, CO 80222

[Gifted Development Center Course for Parents - Feb. 5-March 25](#)

Parents and other caring adults who live with gifted children are invited to participate in an 8-week course at the Gifted Development Center. Learn effective advocacy skills that foster appropriate responses from educational personnel. The course is \$180 per person for 8 sessions and uses the new book "Gifted Minds Empowered: Advocacy to Develop Gifted Children's Strengths" by Barbara J. Gilman.

Feb. 5-March 25, 7-8:30 pm

Gifted Development Center

8120 Sheridan Blvd. Suite C-111, Westminster, CO 80003.

[Beyond Giftedness Conference - Feb. 28](#)

This conference focuses on practical tools that can be used with gifted children and features keynote presentations and breakouts given by leaders in the field of gifted education, exhibitors, and the opportunity to connect with others in the field of gifted education. A parent half-day runs simultaneously.

Friday, Feb. 28, 8 am-4:15 pm
Arvada Center for the Arts
6901 Wadsworth Blvd, Arvada, CO 80003

[2e Support Group Meets Saturdays](#)

A support group for parents of twice-exceptional (2e) youth meets on alternating Saturdays, facilitated by Bev S. Weiler, LPCC, NCC. Sponsored by the Gifted Development Center, these free sessions will incorporate guest speakers as needed, and will cover topics such as executive functioning, IEP/ALP/504 process, social-emotional strategies, and whatever other topics the group decides on. For more information, contact [Bev](#) or 720-635-1915.

Saturdays (check the [GDC website](#) for dates), 10:30 am-noon
Gifted Development Center
8120 Sheridan Boulevard C-111, Westminster, CO 80003

[Child-Centered Gifted Symposium - April 24](#)

Gifted Development Center is hosting an international symposium to help the world rediscover the uniqueness of the gifted child. Attendees include members of The Columbus Group, the International Network of Child-Centered Advocates, the Institute for the Study of Advanced Development Board of Directors, GRO-Gifted Research & Outreach, Qualitative Assessment Master Practitioners, The World Game trainers, schools for the gifted and child-centered supporters from all over the globe.

Friday, April 24, 8:30 am-4:30 pm
Noah's Event Venue
11885 North Bradburn Blvd., Westminster, CO 80031

[Gifted Adult Summit - April 25](#)

Are you passionate about adults and giftedness across the lifespan? You are not alone. This full day Gifted Adult Summit is a call to action and an opportunity to get to know others who share this passion. The day includes presentations and discussion. The intention is to get to know each other, get to know about each other, and co-create a plan of action to make a real difference in the lives of gifted adults globally.

Saturday, April 25, 9:30 am-3:30 pm
Westgate Community School
12500 Washington Street, Thornton, CO 80241

[TECA Online Parent Seminars](#)

The Twice Exceptional Children's Advocacy (TECA) is hosting 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.

[Parent Engagement Network's Parent Education Series](#)

Check out the Parent Engagement Network's [events page](#) for information on their Parent Education Series in the Boulder area. Topics include Executive Functioning, Developing Resiliency, Mindset Skills for Success, Meaningful Conversations and more. PEN also has a [podcast](#) with parenting topics.

[Center for Bright Kids Western Academic Talent Search \(WATS\) Testing for Gifted Students in Grades 3-9](#)

The [Center for Bright Kids](#) (CBK) is the regional talent center in the Rocky Mountain area, serving seven states, provides summer and other youth programs. Testing runs from October-February. If your child has an Advanced Learning Plan (ALP), you will need to contact the Jeffco Gifted & Talented Department to receive the Jeffco GT Eligibility letter for WATS testing. Once they verify a student's GT status, they will send the letter to you electronically. In addition to their youth programs, CBK also offers testing without ceilings, provided by the Western Academic Talent Search (WATS). The benefit of this testing is to find a child's true potential in reading, English, math, and science at the given time they take the test.

FOR STUDENTS

[JeffCon IT Conference for High School Students - Jan. 31](#)

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 - Deadline Jan. 31](#)

Colorado Student Leaders Institute (COSLI) is a state-legislated, summer residential program on the University of Colorado Denver campus. For one month each summer, Colorado's best and brightest students, chosen from a competitive pool of applicants, live and study on campus, and earn three hours of college credit. Students choose one of two majors: International Social Studies or STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, & Math), and explore diverse topics through a lecture series by university professors and 3 hands-on projects--Colorado Social Problem Lab, Short-Term Business Lab, and National History Day.

COSLI students do not have to be formally designated as gifted and talented students, but they must demonstrate through their application that they meet the academic rigors that the program requires. At least 50% of students must be eligible for free and reduced lunch and/or first generation college students.

[School of Mines SUMMET 2020 Application - Deadline Feb. 3](#)

The Summer Multicultural Engineering Training (SUMMET) program is an engineering, science and technology program designed for rising juniors and seniors who are from underrepresented populations, including ethnic/racial minority, women and prospective first-generation college students. Only students from Colorado and Oklahoma are eligible to apply to the program. This program is available at no cost to participants, with the exception of a \$50 confirmation fee for students accepted into the program. Program dates are: May 31 - June 12, June 14 - June 26 and July 5 - July 17.

[School of Mines Spring Programs for Girls - Sessions begin Feb. 3](#)

DECtech is a Colorado School of Mines outreach program designed especially for girls. Program leaders are female Mines students who are both passionate about their subjects of study and sharing this passion with the next generation. Sessions are offered Monday-Thursday and begin the week of Feb. 3 on the School of Mines campus, 1500 Illinois St., Golden, CO 80401.

[Jeffco Writing Challenge - Deadline Feb. 21](#)

Jeffco students, start planning now for the 2020 Jeffco Writing Challenge! [Click here](#) for the prompt. First place winners in each grade win \$100; 2nd & 3rd place win Tattered Cover Gift Cards.

[Lockheed-Martin Student Scholarship - Deadline March](#)

Lockheed Martin has a scholarship program to provide opportunities to students. The company awards 200 scholarships of \$10,000 per student, renewable each year. Mentoring opportunities are a key component of the program, and recipients will also be eligible for Lockheed Martin internship opportunities following their freshman year in college.

[Apply to the Davidson Academy Online Campus - Deadline March 31](#)

The 2020-2021 application for the Davidson Academy online campus is now available. Open to students who live anywhere in the United States and Canada, this accredited online option builds off the one-of-a-kind, exceptional framework put in place by the Davidson Academy's Reno campus. The result is a robust online community where students thrive. Learn about the benefits of online learning for gifted students and how the Davidson Academy Online is working to meet their needs.

Visit the [Qualification Criteria](#) and [How to Apply](#) pages to read about the application process. The application deadline is March 31. Virtual open houses will be held on several dates. Register for an open house [here](#).

- Thursday, Feb. 6, 4 pm PT
- Monday, March 9, 5 pm PT

[Museum of Outdoor Arts Summer Internships - Deadline April 3](#)

MOA is seeking summer interns for indoor and outdoor projects. Projects include the production of artistic crosswalks, vinyl wraps for traffic signal utility boxes as well as creating a temporary mural based exhibition at the MOA indoor gallery. Applicants with painting, drawing, mural work, illustration, digital projection mapping and/or animation experience are strongly encouraged to apply. The program is June 8- Aug. 3 and includes a \$2,000 stipend. School credit may also be available per your school's requirements. Visit the [website](#) for the application.

[Denver Writes Seeks Youth Contributors](#)

Denver Writes' literary magazine, Backspace, is currently looking for fresh, innovative and creative writing that challenges the status quo and shows insightful understanding of the world. The magazine showcases Denver's best young writers aged 10-18 and provide a space for young writers to be published in print.

Backspace is also looking for teens aged 12-18 interested in helping compile, edit, organize and design the literary magazine. If you are interested, email backspace@denverwrites.org with the subject line of "Get Involved." See the [website](#) for details.

Scholarships

[Davidson Institute Fellows Scholarships - Deadline Feb. 12](#)

The Davidson Institute for Talent Development offers high-achieving young people across the country the opportunity to be named a 2020 Davidson Fellow, an honor accompanied by a \$50,000, \$25,000 or \$10,000 scholarship in recognition of a significant piece of work in Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, Music, Literature, Philosophy or Outside the Box. Applicants must submit an original piece of work that is recognized as significant by experts in the field and that has the potential to make a positive contribution to society. The scholarship may be used at any accredited college or university. The deadline to apply is Feb. 12. [Find more information and apply here.](#)

[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](#).

Student Opportunities

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

[Area College & Job Fairs](#)
[College Application Deadlines](#)

EVENTS CALENDAR

Check out the [JAGC Calendar](#) for detailed information on the following events:

Denver Writes Creative Writing Club - **Monday, January 27**

Jeffco GT Parent Seminar - **Monday, January 27**

Denver Writes Teen Writing Club - **Wednesday, January 29**

Gifted Education Conference - **Thursday, January 30 - Friday, January 31**

CU Preschool Mornings at the Museum - **Thursday, January 30**

Colorado Academy Lecture: Margot Lee Shetterly! - **Thursday, January 30**

Tattered Cover Family Fun Night - **Friday, January 31**

JeffCon IT Student Conference - **Friday, January 31**

Denver Writes Valentine Poetry - **Saturday, February 1**

Denver Writes Creative Writing Club - **Monday, February 3**

Denver Writes Teen Writing Club - **Wednesday, February 5**

SENG Parent Book Study Central Group - **Wednesday, February 5**

PEN Nurturing Healthy Relationships - **Wednesday, February 5**

JOIN JAGC!

[Become a JAGC Member to Vote in Spring Election](#)

Membership in JAGC and CAGT runs concurrent to the school year, 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 help us advocate for advanced learners!

[Check Out JAGC on Facebook](#)

Did you know that [JAGC](#) is on Facebook? Follow us to stay up-to-date with gifted and Jeffco Schools information.

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 in this newsletter.