
Summer 2017 Newsletter

NMAG

New Mexico Association for the Gifted

<http://www.nmgifted.org>

As we come to the end of the summer, some updates on everything your NMAG board did for the association this summer as well as information on upcoming events.

Funding Gifted in Tight Times

Geoffrey Moon

As the legislature convenes in special session and school districts across New Mexico build budgets for funding the 2017-2018 school year, the New Mexico Association for Gifted would like to highlight the need for a range of quality gifted education programming in our state.

A wide range of needs

New Mexico's student population contains a wide range of gifted students – children of immigrants, research scientists (and immigrant research scientists!), artists, farmers; speakers of Spanish and English, Navajo and Tagalog; students whose lives outside of school are incredibly enriched in ways that support school learning, as well as those who care for siblings instead of doing homework, so that their parents can work multiple jobs. At current funding levels, schools across New Mexico struggle to identify giftedness with equity and serving the wide range of needs. Yet, thanks to the promises made in Individual Education Plans, our gifted students may receive a



Important Announcement

Have you worked with the "Gifted Education in NM: Technical Assistance Manual"? What are issues you see with the technical manual? Any suggestions, things you have struggled with? areas for clarification?

NMAG is collaborating with the Public Education Department to update the Technical Assistance Manual.

If you have suggestions or comments regarding the Gifted Education Manual, email us at nmgifted@gmail.com with "TAM" in the subject line.

range of services to meet their needs, including small group services that help students who will be the first generation in their family to attend college, whole-day programming for the highly gifted, acceleration in talent areas, and special thinking skills instruction.

Funding to remove some of the inequity

In our diverse state, gifted education removes some of the inequality in our communities, lifting high-potential children up, regardless of socioeconomic status.

Our schools work hard to build meaningful, effective gifted education services because they train our future leaders. In our diverse state, gifted education removes some of the inequality in our communities, lifting high-potential children up, regardless of socioeconomic status. They also make school appropriate for students with a wider range of abilities – supporting students who learn fast to stay motivated and move toward expertise – because instead of entertaining and controlling themselves as others struggle, they learn something new every day.

In tight times, it is a tendency of education policy makers to sort “needs” from “wants,” and to place some educational services like gifted education, early intervention, summer programs, and special education for those with disabilities – services that only affect small groups – in the “want” group.

NMAG believes strongly that individualized gifted education is a NEED. It is a need in all of our communities. In all of our schools. As it educates our future leaders, experts, and creators, gifted education is a need for today, because it builds New Mexico's tomorrow.

NMAG Promotes *Gifted* the Movie in Albuquerque

In a recent [Larry Jacobs interview](#), [M. René Islas](#), Executive Director of the National Association for Gifted Children, praises the new movie, **Gifted** for revealing the struggle that goes into realizing one's potential. Islas says it shows how children with extraordinary intellectual ability and their parents “are working so hard to develop their talents.”



The interview includes award-winning director, Marc Webb, who says he took on the script partly because of his own “natural (romantic even) connection to mathematics and the subject matter” through a lineage of mathematics educators in his family. Webb also praises the child

actor, Mckenna Grace, (Mary) for delivery of a balance in acting for “both humor and emotional depth.” The relationship between Mary and her guardian and uncle Frank, played by Chris Evans, is at the core of the audience’s involvement in the story, says Webb.

NMAG worked to promote the film, this past Spring. We had the NMAG booth at the theater for advocacy information and sign ups for our mailing list.

For more information about the film:

<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt4481414/>

New Affiliation NMAG in South East New Mexico

We are happy to welcome the South Eastern Association for the Gifted as NMAGs newest affiliate representing Las Cruces, Alamogordo and Gadsden! This summer three of our board members, J. Ortiz, PJ Sedillo and Christy Jewel-Roth went down south to work with the newest members of this organization. Through their meeting, they identified the needs of the group and how we would work to bring more schools in the south into the fold of our state-wide NMAG. The new organization, (soon to be named “NMAG-South Central”) is currently working on an agenda for their first meeting on August 12th. They hope to elect board members at that meeting and adopt the NMAG bylaws. They also hope to create a schedule for upcoming meetings which they intend to rotate across locations in the south in order to maximize participation. We are always excited to spread our reach and our ability to help even more gifted students across the state. This is going to be an amazing collaboration, working together for gifted education! This is a strong group that with many ideas and a lot of potential as a contributing affiliate.

NMAG Annual Conference: Under the Big Top



October 20-21, 2017

New Mexico Highlands Rio Rancho Center

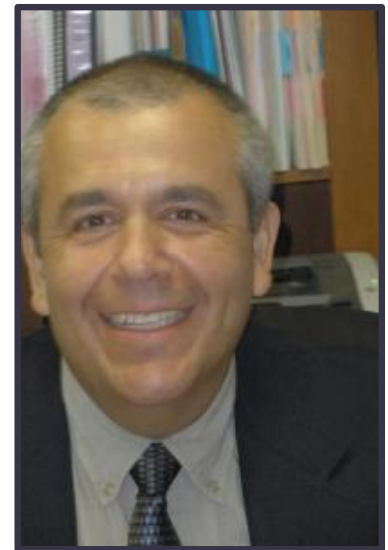
1700 Grande Blvd SE #100, Rio Rancho, NM
87124

Call for Proposals

This year's conference theme is "Under the Big Top." We invite presenters to characterize their session description in a way that will match the theme. Join the greatest show on gifted!

We look forward to presentations that draw upon research, develop advocacy, consider identity, culture, and achievement, or have to do with any of the domains of science, engineering, math, humanities, or the arts.

Our keynote speaker this year will be Dr. Jaime A. Castellano, one of the nation's leading authorities on the identification, assessment, recruitment, and retention of low-income, culturally and linguistically different gifted students. Dr. Castellano has particular expertise and success in working with school districts across the nation to increase the number of Hispanic/Latino students, Native American students, as well as English language learners in gifted education programs.



Castellano is an award-winning principal and author, as well as a noted researcher and scholar in gifted education. He has written and edited four books on understanding our most able students from diverse backgrounds, written and/or edited multiple chapters, articles, and monographs in the field. His 2011 publication: *Special Populations in Gifted Education: Understanding Our Most Able Students from Diverse Backgrounds* was awarded the Legacy Award for Outstanding Scholarly Publication in the field of Gifted Education. He also serves as a reviewer for the *Journal of Advanced Academics (JAA)*, *Journal for the Education of the Gifted (JEG)*, *Gifted Child Today (GCT)*, and *Roeper Review*.

Castellano has served as the key note speaker for seven state associations and continues to consult with school districts across the country on the inclusion of low-income, racially, culturally, and linguistically different students in gifted education programming. He currently resides in West Palm Beach, FL and is a principal trainer and specialist for Maverik Education, an independent professional development corporation.

Official Host Hotel



Our official host hotel is the Inn at Rio Rancho, located at 1465 Rio Rancho Blvd SE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124. Phone: 505-892-1700. Reserve with the promo code "New Mexico Association of the Gifted" to receive the discounted room rate of \$59.

Sponsorship

Help us get the word out about sponsorship for the conference. If you own a business or know of any businesses willing to partner with us, please let us know or send the following information their way. Additionally, if you are interested in having a table to sell your product at the conference. The fee is 20\$ a table. Please email NMAG for more information.

Under the Big Top



New Mexico Association for the Gifted SPONSORSHIP



13TH Annual NM Gifted Education Conference October 20th & 21st, 2017 NMHU RIO RANCHO

Levels of Sponsorship:

The board needs assistance with sponsorship to heighten NMAG's success.

Become a Jewel of a Ring Leader

TURQUOISE SPONSOR - \$50



- Membership for NMAG
- Individual's name or company name listed in program and announced at conference
- Certificate Presentation

All sponsors below receive the following benefits and then additional benefits are added for each sponsorship level.

- Flyers placed in conference bags (provided by sponsor)
 - Sponsor recognition with business name/organization in all advertisements
 - Banner made by NMAG to be placed in a priority area of the conference
 - Table provided at NMAG conference

SAPPHIRE SPONSOR - \$300.00



- One Honorary Membership for NMAG
- Award/Plaque conference presentation
- One business card advertisement in program

RUBY SPONSOR - \$600.00



- One Honorary Membership for NMAG (specialty seating at keynote and one signed book)
- Award/Plaque conference presentation
- One ¼ page advertisement

EMERALD SPONSOR - \$800.00



- Two Honorary Memberships for NMAG (specialty seating at keynote and one signed book)
- Award/Plaque conference presentation
- One half page advertisement in program

DIAMOND SPONSOR - \$1000.00



- Three Honorary Memberships for NMAG (specialty seating at keynote and one signed book)
- Award/Plaque conference presentation
- One full page advertisement in program (Only Inside Front or only Inside Back cover if available)
- Membership for NMAG
- Individual's name or company name listed in program and announced at conference
- Certificate Presentation

In-kind or Barter Sponsorship



ZIRCON SPONSOR - \$300.00 to \$1000.00



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New Mexico Association for the Gifted: is a 501c (3) tax deductible non-profit registered with the New Mexico State Corporation Commission in Santa Fe.

MISSION- NMAG will promote an environment where all gifted students have the right to have their unique needs met through advocacy, communication, collaboration and education.

VISION- To be the foremost gifted organization in the State of New Mexico.

