



# GIFTED ADVOCATE

Enriched Placement Program

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*Dear Worthington Families,*

*Happy New Year! I hope that everyone enjoyed the winter break and that your children are eager to get back to the many new learning adventures that await them. Old Man Winter is definitely coming out of hiding after a couple of mild winters for us. The positive side (if you have already had your fill of the snow, ice, and freezing temperatures) is that in just a few short months we will be ending the school year and thinking about summer vacation. It is not too early to start thinking about the many spring and summer opportunities available for children of all ages. This issue of the Gifted Advocate will prove you with many reasons to start planning your summer fun as well as many other upcoming events and other important information.*

*If you have any questions about any of the information contained in this newsletter or other gifted-related concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me.*

*Wishing you and your family a very Happy 2018!*

*Suzanne Palmer, Gifted Services Coordinator*

## **OWjL Camp Registrations Available**

Ohio Wesleyan University and The Junior League of Columbus will once again be presenting its long-running summer program of challenge and enrichment for Central Ohio's **Gifted Middle School** students. Their program is called OWjL and is a week-long residential summer camp for gifted and talented students **currently** in the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grades. It is held in June on the campus of Ohio Wesleyan University in Delaware, Ohio. Students enjoy a wide range of academically challenging classes in the arts and sciences from nearly 70 courses.

Camp Dates are:

June 10 – 15, 2018 – 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Grades

June 17 - 22, 2018 – 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grades

June 24 – 29, 2018 – 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Grades



To qualify, students must meet the state definition of giftedness by scoring in at least the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile on standard measures of achievement/ability or otherwise demonstrate talent or creativity. Contact our Gifted Services office at 450-6056 if you need scores for any

interested students. We will be happy to send them to you via email. Tuition for the 2018 camp is \$650 with full and partial scholarships available, based on need.

Applications can be downloaded from the OWJL website: <http://owjl.owu.edu> . Applications must be **postmarked or submitted on-line by January 31, 2018**. Forms may be completed and submitted on line. Late applications will be put on a wait list. Students who are selected will be notified after mid-March. Space is limited. Questions should be directed to the OWJL office at 740-368-3939.

## **2018 Martin W. Essex School for the Gifted** **Applications due April 15, 2018**



The 2018 Martin W. Essex School for the Gifted and Talented™ at Otterbein University offers **current gifted sophomores and juniors** opportunities for enrichment and career exploration

through a unique program comprised of classes, seminars and workshops on the arts, sciences and humanities. Taking place in multiple venues throughout Otterbein's campus, this week long residential program encourages social interaction and peer discussion so that students can be challenged intellectually and artistically and develop a better understanding of the role of their abilities and talents in their lives and in society. For more information about the camp, please visit [www.otterbein.edu/essex](http://www.otterbein.edu/essex).

**DATES for this summer opportunity:** June 17-23, 2018

**LOCATION:** Otterbein University Campus

**COST: \$650** - Financial assistance may be available for those who qualify. See application for more information.

**TO REQUEST AN APPLICATION,** contact Suzanne Palmer, Gifted Services Coordinator, 614-450-6056, [spalmer@wscloud.org](mailto:spalmer@wscloud.org) or [click here](#) for more information.

## **2018 THINK Summer Institute – Applications Available**

The Davidson Institute is seeking **profoundly** gifted students, ages 13 to 16, who are interested in attending the 2018 THINK Summer Institute. THINK is a three-week residential summer program on the campus of the University of Nevada, Reno where students can earn six college credits by completing two university courses.



The 2018 THINK Summer Institute will run from July 14 through August 4, 2018. Tuition is \$3,850 and covers course credits, room and board and the cost of planned programs and activities. Need-based scholarships are available.

To qualify, students must be a 13 to 16 year-old U.S. Citizen during THINK, submit SAT or ACT scores, receive one positive nomination as specified in the application, commit to being a full-time student during the program, which does not allow absences. Applicants must demonstrate both exceptional ability and potential to benefit from the course offerings, as well as the social and emotional maturity and organizations skills to be successful during the three week experience.

Please visit [www.davidsongifted.org/THINK](http://www.davidsongifted.org/THINK) or call (775) 852-3483 ext. 6 for more information or download the application.

## **4<sup>th</sup> Annual Worthington Summer Enrichment Academy**

We are excited to announce the return of the Worthington Summer Enrichment Academy for the summer of 2018. The program continues to grow each summer. Some popular sessions from the last couple of years will return with the addition of some exciting new sessions in all areas. This one week program, open to all students currently in grades K-8, will be held the week of **June 4-8, 2018**. Morning sessions will run from 9:30 – 11:30 and afternoon sessions will run from 12:30 – 2:30. A supervised lunch hour will be provided at an additional fee for those students participating in both morning and afternoon sessions. Look for more information to come later this winter or keep checking the [Worthington Schools Summer School website](#) for more information.



## **Scholarship Opportunities Available**

There are many enriching summer opportunities available to the gifted students of Central Ohio. This issue has just highlighted a few of the many available. Most summer programs come at a cost to families, and therefore, may not be possible for some students to participate. There are a couple of organizations that have scholarships to assist families with funding for their gifted child(ren) to participate in enrichment opportunities.

**Support for Talented Students** is a local non-profit organization whose purpose is to provide the opportunity for gifted students to participate in such activities that families may not otherwise be able to afford. For more information on this organization and how to apply for a scholarship, please visit the Support for Talented Students [website](#).

**Ohio Association for Gifted Children (OAGC)** is the state organization whose mission it is to promote and support the development of gifted students. One of the ways in which they support that development is through the awarding of a few different scholarships. Students eligible for the OAGC student scholarship are identified as gifted and have not received an OAGC scholarship within the past 12 months of their application. OAGC awards scholarships of up to 75% of the cost of the program with a maximum of \$500 per student per year. Applications must have a **postmark date** no later than **February 15<sup>th</sup>** to be considered.



Another scholarship that is awarded by OAGC is for students who are about to enroll fulltime in his/her first year of college and/or a student currently enrolled fulltime in an undergraduate program of an accredited college or university. Applicants must have been identified as gifted in one or more areas according to Ohio Administrative Code 3301-51-15, scored a composite score

of at least 27 on the ACT or at least 1200 on the SAT to be considered for the one-time award of the \$500 scholarship. Deadline to apply for this application is **April 15<sup>th</sup>**.

For more information about these two OAGC scholarships, including link to application, please visit [www.oagc.com/scholarship.asp](http://www.oagc.com/scholarship.asp).

## Invention Convention



Calling all creative students!!!! Do you have a great idea? Have you uncovered an interesting problem? Have you ever wanted to invent something? Or make an existing invention better? Then Invention Convention is just the program for you!

### **FACTS ABOUT INVENTION CONVENTION:**

- ► Invention Convention is offered at no cost to students, parents, teachers, schools or districts.
- ► More than \$650k in scholarship and prizes have been awarded since 1996 through the Invention Convention.
- ► It is aligned with National Standards...and most recently expanded in support of our national focus on STEM learning.
- ► In addition to Invention Convention being an exciting, fun program - students also develop important life skills.

Invention Convention is open to **all** students in grades K-12! Gifted Identification is **not** required. Students must first compete in the district Invention Convention to be held on **Saturday, February 24<sup>th</sup>**, at the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Worthington Science Day in order to have the opportunity to advance to Ohio's Invention Convention which will be held on July 29<sup>th</sup> at the Ohio State Fair. For more information on the Worthington Science Day or to sign-up to participate, please visit: [www.worthington.k12.oh.us/scienceday](http://www.worthington.k12.oh.us/scienceday).

In order to be considered for advancement to the regional event, students must meet all criteria established by Invention Convention. Visit <http://www.inventionleague.org/> for more information on required elements, including the student journal.

## Advanced Placement Exam Registration

### Registration due Tuesday, March 19, 2018

Advanced Placement exams will take place Monday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, through Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at each student's high school of attendance. Once again there will be on-line registration this year to register for AP Exams. Look for additional information to come from our office at the end of January.



The deadline to submit applications to the College Board for **special accommodations** is **February 23, 2018**. You must contact the guidance department at your child's school about the process to request special accommodations if your child's disability impacts his/her participation in standardized testing. The College Board [Services for Students with Disabilities](#) approves the requests **NOT** Worthington Schools. If your student is on free/reduced lunch you may qualify for a fee reduction. Please contact Gifted Services at 450-6056 if you have any questions. Link to on-line registration will be available on the Worthington Gifted Services website at the end of January.

Last year we administered 974 exams to students at both Thomas Worthington and Worthington Kilbourne. Seventy eight percent of exams taken earned a score of 3, 4, or 5. The percent of students in Ohio earning a score of a 3, 4 or 5 was 63.7%. The percent of students globally who earned a score of a 3, 4, or 5 was 60.3%.

## Destination Imagination Teams Formed



Gifted Services is very pleased to announce that **19** teams will represent Worthington Schools at the **February 24<sup>th</sup> Destination Imagination Region 4 Tournament this school year**. The DI season is approximately 17 weeks long. During this time there is a lot of time dedicated to preparing for the competition. There will be 17 elementary teams and 2 middle school teams. The age of the student participants determines the competition category.

We wish the following **teams** the best of luck as they work on their central challenges for this school year's Destination Imagination Tournament:

**Bluffsvew** Team coached by Sarah Cofer and Linh Pham  
**Bluffsvew** Team coached by Natalie Van Winkle  
**Bluffsvew** Team coached by Linh Pham and Natalie Van Winkle  
**Bluffsvew** Team coached by Julie Lovegrove  
**Brookside** Team coached by Leah Meadows  
**Colonial Hills** Team coached by Dr. Steve Kucinski  
**Colonial Hills** Teams coached by Erica Hitzhusen  
**Evening Street** Team coached by Chloe Beck  
**Evening Street** Team coached by Michelle Garrett  
**Evening Street** Team coached by Annmarie McCallister  
**Kilbourne Middle** Team coached by Kyle Keener  
**Liberty** Team coached by Jessica Swisher  
**Phoenix** Team coached by Dara LaRochelle  
**Wilson Hill** Team coached by Tasha O'Neill

**Wilson Hill Team** coached by Tracey Smith and Karrie Mowery  
**Worthington Estates Team** coached by Monica Peters  
**Worthington Hills Team** coached by Shannon Navin  
**Worthington Park Team** coached by Shanna Schmiesing



**Summer Enrichment Fair**  
**Sunday, February 11, 2018, 12 PM – 3 PM**  
**The Shops at Worthington Place**

SWEPP (Supporting Worthington's Enriched Placement Program) is once again hosting its Summer Camp/Enrichment Fair at The Shops at Worthington Place. This is a great place to bring your whole family to find opportunities for your high-achieving students, K-12. Keep them learning all summer long, add excellent experiences to your college application, and explore extracurricular activities to your college application, and explore extracurricular activities. All SWEPP members and attendees will receive a free directory of Summer/Enrichment opportunities.



**Parent Transition Nights Scheduled to Assist**  
**Parents with Planning for Next Year**



This winter the Gifted Services Department is sponsoring two parent transition nights that will assist parents and their children with plans for the 2018-19 school year. On **Tuesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 6:30 PM**, we will host parents of 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who will be going to high school next fall next fall and on **Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 PM**, for parents of 6<sup>th</sup> grade students who will be going to middle school. Both transition nights will be held at the Worthington Education Center.

These transition nights provide an opportunity for parents to hear from various faculty members at the middle and high school levels regarding the social and emotional needs of the gifted adolescent and appropriate coursework including: Enriched English Language Arts, Honors and Advanced Placement courses, and Post-Secondary Options. A representative will speak about the middle school math program which is not part of the Gifted Services program. Faculty will give an overview of expectations and information, in addition to entertaining any questions from parents. These transition nights provide a smaller environment for parents to have dialogue about advanced learner issues before the formal scheduling process begins for students. Parents who are unable to attend may call 450-6056 to have copies of the handouts emailed to them after the scheduled meeting dates.

## **Visual and Performing Arts Gifted Identification**



Under Ohio Revised Code 3324 we are mandated to identify students as gifted in the area of the visual and performing arts. We are currently accepting referrals for students in this area which includes the visual arts, music, dance, and theatre. While there is a mandate for gifted identification in the area of the arts, there is no mandate for gifted services in this area.

Students participating in this process will be evaluated using one to three different instruments. The first phase of the evaluation, which is the completion of a gifted trait checklist by an educator in the arts, will be completed in March. A teacher familiar with your child and the area in which he/she is being assessed will complete the checklist based on observations from the beginning of the school year.

Students meeting the state screening score, but not the state qualifying score, will be assessed with a second checklist. All families will be notified of the outcome of this checklist assessment by the middle of March. Students who earn a qualifying score on the checklist assessment will be invited to participate in the second phase of assessment taking place early May. That is a display of talent using a portfolio of visual art or an original music, dance, or drama performance coupled with a display of requested technical skills as appropriate to the area being assessed. The full timeline for the assessment process and referral form can be found on the [Gifted Services Visual & Performing Arts webpage](#).



### **Great Sites for Students**

With the winter months, comes a lot of time indoors! Here are some great websites for students worth exploring.

[www.hoagiesgifted.org](http://www.hoagiesgifted.org) - Lots of fun links to contests, reading lists, and more!

<http://www.mensaforkids.org/play/games/> - Link to sign up for a monthly e-newsletter which is full of fun games, logic puzzles, and other factoids to designed to challenge students to think outside of the book. Challenging on-line games are also available on the site.

[www.brainpop.com](http://www.brainpop.com) - While subscriptions are needed to access everything on this site, there is still plenty of free information available, including games, puzzles, movies for all content areas.

<http://www.loc.gov/rr/scitech/mysteries/archive.html> - Get answers to some of your questions surrounding everyday mysteries.

## **Great Resources for Parents**



Ohio Association for Gifted Children – [www.oagc.com](http://www.oagc.com)

National Association for Gifted Children – [www.nagc.org](http://www.nagc.org)

Hoagies Gifted Education Page – [www.hoagiesgifted.org](http://www.hoagiesgifted.org)

Supporting Emotional Needs of Gifted (SENG) – [www.sengifted.org](http://www.sengifted.org)

Northwestern University Midwest Academic Talent Search (NUMATS) – Center for Talent Development – [www.ctd.northwestern.edu](http://www.ctd.northwestern.edu)