

Wisconsin Association ★



★ for Talented & Gifted

Wisconsin Association for Talented and Gifted

2011-2012 Speakers' Directory

Welcome to the 2011-2012 edition of the WATG Speakers' Directory. This resource is designed to help gifted education specialists, curriculum and instruction directors, parents, and other advocates for gifted education find resources for professional development in their community.

The WATG Speakers' Directory is not an all-inclusive list; those included submitted their information during the winters of 2010 and 2011. WATG is not responsible for the accuracy of the content of this directory. When contacting speakers from this directory, WATG recommends that interested parties do the necessary follow up work to determine the compatibility of the speaker.

This guide is updated annually. If you are interested in being included in the 2012-2013 WATG Speakers' Directory, watch the WATG website (www.watg.org) for details starting in January.

Finally, this guide is created with the support of a Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Gifted and Talented Grant for 2010-2011.

Cindy Clark

WATG Board Member, Chair, Advocacy Committee; Gifted and Talented Resource Teacher, grades 6-12 (part-time), McFarland School District, McFarland, WI

cvclark@verizon.net

Cindy Clark's advocacy for gifted and talented children began when her own two highly gifted daughters entered school twenty years ago. She was instrumental in organizing a GT parent group which ultimately wrote and successfully promoted the adoption of a formal GT Plan for the McFarland School District, McFarland, WI. As her youngest daughter neared high school graduation, Cindy returned to school for her teaching certificate; she is currently the Gifted and Talented Resource Teacher, grades 6-12, for McFarland Schools. Cindy serves on the Board of Directors for WATG and Chairs its Advocacy Committee, and is a member of the Board of Directors of Wisconsin PTA.

Presentation Topics: Advocacy; Establishing Parent Groups; GT 101; Student Long-range planning; etc.

Times available: Evenings after 5:00 p.m. depending upon travel distance; Friday's with advance planning.

Travel radius: 60-90 miles and Southwestern Wisconsin

Fees: Negotiable.

Tracy Donich

Elementary Curriculum Director, School District of Beloit

donicht@yahoo.com 262-210-2475

EDUCATION: Administrative Leadership, Director of Instruction, Alverno University; Masters of Art of Teaching with emphasis on Gifted/Talented, Aurora University; Bachelor of Science in Education, University of Wisconsin at Whitewater

EXPERIENCE: Elementary Curriculum Director, School District of Beloit, 2009-present; Programming Coordinator for Advanced Learners, Franklin Public Schools, 2003-2009; Elementary Classroom Teacher, Franklin Public Schools, 1992-2003; Professional Development, RtI, REACH, Title I, P-5 Director; Guest Speaker for the Whitewater TAG, various PTO's & PTA's, and Community Informational Meetings; Chair for CESA #1 Parent Advocates for Gifted Education (PAGE); Franklin PAGE Chair; Adjunct Professor for Viterbo College, CESA 1 and Franklin Credit courses; Mother of Gifted/Talented Daughters, Waterford

Presentation topics: Working with Advanced Learners in an Inclusive Classroom; Manageable Flexible Grouping; Tiered Instruction; Learning Agreements and Independent Study; GT Coordinator as ANOTHER Administrative Hat; GT & RtI; Creating a District & Parent Team

Presentation formats: "I'll differentiate for your needs!"

Times available: negotiable

Travel radius: negotiable

Fees: negotiable

Deb Douglas

Gifted and Talented Coordinator and International Baccalaureate Coordinator (retired), Manitowoc (WI) Public School District

deborahdouglas@gmail.com 920-242-2014

Deb Douglas taught high school English before earning an MS in Curriculum and Instruction focusing on gifted education (thesis: The Changing Role of Gifted Coordinators). She worked as K-12 G/T resource teacher for 7 years, followed by 15 years as K-12 GT coordinator and 4 years as International Baccalaureate DP Coordinator. She earned professional development certification with her action research on self-advocacy of gifted teens, work published in *Roepers Review* and NAGC's Parenting for High Potential. She has conducted many workshops in school districts and conferences across Wisconsin and in Minnesota, served as adjunct instructor for several colleges, and led numerous parent discussion groups as a SENG certified facilitator.

Presentation topics: Student Self-Advocacy, Secondary G/T Programming, Characteristics of Giftedness, G/T Program Evaluation using NAGC Standards, SENG Discussions, International Baccalaureate Diploma Program

Presentation formats: workshop, lecture, discussion group, large group, small group

Availability: days, evenings, weekends

Travel Radius: Wisconsin and bordering states

Fees: \$150/hr consultation, \$450/half day, or \$750/whole day plus travel expenses, evenings negotiable, all rates negotiable considering circumstances

Jacquelyn Drummer, B.A., M.S.

Gifted and Talented Coordinator and Differentiation Specialist for the School District of South Milwaukee, WI

blufflovers@wi.rr.com 414-916-4785

She has served on the WI Association for Talented and Gifted Board for eight years, and served as President from October 2007-October 2009. In addition, she is a founding member of Parent Advocates for Gifted Education (PAGE) in Southeastern Wisconsin, serves on the advisory board to WCATY (the WI Center for Academically Talented Youth), and is a member of the National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC).

Jacquelyn is an adjunct professor for many area universities and colleges, including Carthage College, Cardinal Stritch University, Viterbo College, and Silver Lake College. She is a certified instructional coach and team/organizational coach.

She has taught in all grade levels, pre-kindergarten through graduate school, and holds a bachelor's and master's degree in exceptional education. Highly sought after as an informative, engaging, practical and entertaining speaker, Jacquelyn has consulted in over forty school districts in Wisconsin and Illinois and at state conferences. In her free time she writes and publishes children's stories and articles, travels extensively, and sings with the Milwaukee Symphony Chorus.

Presentation topics: Identification of Gifted Learners , Programming -- Planning, Delivery and Evaluation, Curriculum Development and Understanding by Design, Social and Emotional Needs of Gifted Students, Parenting Gifted Students, Differentiated Instruction and Active Learning, Thinking Skills in the Classroom, Questioning for Quality Thinking, Guiding Gifted Readers, Co-teaching: Problems, Practices and Pragmatics, Coaching Teachers to Higher Levels of Effectiveness

Presentation Formats: Large Group, Small Group, In-service, Videoconference, Conference, Single or Multiple Day Event, On-line Chat, Individual Consultation.

Times Available: By appointment

Travel radius: Anywhere

Fee: \$150/hr consultation, \$450/half day, or \$750/whole day plus travel expenses; evenings additional

Amanda J. Foege

School Counselor, Ellsworth Community School District

foegea@ellsworth.k12.wi.us

Trained under the ASCA and WI comprehensive counseling models. Experience working with kindergarten through higher education settings. Interest and research-based instruction on gifted and talented programming with diverse populations, specifically high poverty groups.

Presentation topics: Poverty; small group work; theory-based implementation of school services.

Presentation formats: Interactive; small group; professional development.

Times available: Negotiable

Travel radius: Negotiable, dependent on school holidays.

Fees: Negotiable

Sarah Kasprowicz

Classroom teacher and GT Advocate for grades 4-8, Merton Community School District
watgpresident@gmail.com

Sarah Kasprowicz is the President of the Wisconsin Association for Talented and Gifted (WATG). She teaches fifth and sixth grade in the Merton Community School District in Waukesha County. Sarah is also a Merton GT Advocate for students in grades 4-8 in her district. She has been a classroom teacher for over fourteen years and works hard each year to meet the needs of the gifted children in her classroom. Sarah holds a Master's Degree in Education from Carroll College and wrote her thesis on the needs of gifted children in the regular classroom.

Presentation topics: Classroom differentiation (management, set up, functioning as a facilitator), Rtl for gifted students, Meeting the needs of 21st Century Learners, Gifted readers, Examples of differentiated curriculum from her own classroom, Social and emotional needs of gifted learners

Presentation formats: Small groups, Inservice day (specializes in elementary and middle school grades), Gifted and Talented Workshops

Times available: Various, by appointment

Travel radius: Depends on the time of the year. During the school year it is more difficult to leave my classroom.

Fees: \$500 per day plus travel expenses

Jeanine Knapp MPA

Owner and Chief Learning Officer, One Sand Grain Family Consulting
jknapp@onesandgrain.com 920.470.0151

Jeanine Knapp, owner at One Sand Grain Family Consulting supports adults with Nurtured Heart Approach (NHA) tools to move parents, caregivers, and teachers into successful relationships and positive actions with children. She is a Certified NHA Specialist and Advanced Trainer with more than 15 years experience with family and community development efforts including 5 years in family living education. Jeanine was co-founder of the Appleton Public Montessori School and coordinated the first area offering of a Supporting the Emotional Needs of the Gifted (SENG) parent group. She and her husband parent one son who continues to motivate the entire family into greater strength and resiliency.

Presentation topics: All Children Flourishing: An Introduction to the Nurtured Heart Approach for parents, educators, and professionals; The Inner Wealth Initiative: The Nurtured Heart Approach in school; Extreme Parenting with the Nurtured Heart Approach, Going for the Gold! For parents, caregivers and professionals.

Presentation formats: All Children Flourishing is a face to face discussion of about 1 hour and is offered at no charge within 1 hour drive time of Appleton. The Inner Wealth Initiative and Extreme Parenting

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are full 6 hour Nurtured Heart Approach training events offered over multiple days, which could be face to face and/or blended education of online and face to face learning.

Fees: A hosted Nurtured Heart Approach or Inner Wealth Initiative training is offered for a base rate for up to 30 individuals and can include coaching support and a follow-up session. Custom trainings are arranged to meet your needs. Individual registration events are offered for a per person rate with a minimum number of participants. Additional events beyond 1 hour drive time of Appleton are also negotiable.

Benjamin Kossow

Talented and Gifted Coordinator, Waterford Graded School District; Board of Directors, WATG
bkossow@gmail.com

Ben has been involved in teaching for over eleven years. Before serving gifted education in Waterford and Waukesha, he taught sixth grade for five years. Ben has presented for many audiences, including the WATG Fall Conference, the Mississippi Valley TAG Network, CESA 3, and several school districts in southeastern Wisconsin. Additionally, Ben has been published in *Gifted Child Today* and continues to serve on the WATG Board of Directors. Ben holds a Masters Degree in instructional leadership from Marquette University and is completing his administrative license through Concordia University.

Presentation topics: Differentiating with Technology, WebQuests: Tools for Differentiating, Acceleration, Identification of Gifted Children, Working with Parents, Working with Teachers

Presentation formats: Small and large groups, staff development, one-to-one, and available for consulting

Times available: Negotiable based on school schedule

Travel radius: Negotiable

Fees: \$500/day plus travel expenses for presentations; \$100/hour plus travel expenses for consulting

Michael Lichucki

School District of Holmen, Pupil Services Support
lichucki@hotmail.com 608-526-9511

My name is Michael Lichucki and I will increase the knowledgebase of educators. I possess direct teaching experience at every K-12 grade level along with experience teaching continuing education courses at the graduate level for Carthage College. In addition, I hold 4 different educational licenses. (Spanish, History, ESL, School Principal). My passion towards life-long learning has led me to work towards my Ed.D. in Education Technology and E-Learning. My variety of educational experiences allows me to understand situations from different perspectives. I am currently employed as a gifted and talented teacher in the School District of Holmen. I combine my diverse background with a keen sense of humor that engages educators and empowers them to make a difference. I teach an on-line course

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for WCATY (Wisconsin Center of Academically Talented Youth) and host a website devoted to the gifted and talented (www.gtplace.com). I will exceed your expectations as a presenter.

Presentation topics: All can be modified to meet individual needs. *Technology and the Gifted:* Technology is an alluring solution to meet the needs of gifted students. This presentation would investigate the barriers to increasing the use of technology in schools and how to overcome them. I will share my doctoral research in this area. *Gifted and Talented and RTI:* How do the tiers of RTI relate to gifted and talented students? Practical advice to incorporating manageable interventions that increase the learning of all students. *Differentiating Differentiation:* One size doesn't fit all applies to the training of teachers as well as how instruction is varied for students. I have organized differentiation strategies into different categories allowing teachers to pick and choose the strategies that work best for them and their students.

Presentation formats: Large group presentations, workshops

Times available: Face-to-Face: Summer, and/or limited term school year engagements; Indirect: Consultation

Travel radius: Wisconsin, SE Minnesota

Fees: Negotiable

Scott J. Peters, Ph. D.

Assistant Professor of Educational Foundations, University of Wisconsin – Whitewater
peterss@uww.edu

Scott J. Peters (Ph.D. Purdue University) is an Assistant Professor of Educational Foundations at the University of Wisconsin - Whitewater where he teaches courses related to educational measurement and assessment. He also teaches courses in Wisconsin's only graduate program in gifted and talented education. His research interests include educational research methodology in addition to nontraditional giftedness and secondary student programming outcomes. He frequently contributes to the gifted education literature and conferences and serves on committees of the National Association for Gifted Children and is the Co-Program Chair for the American Education Research Association Research on Giftedness and Talent Special Interest Group.

Presentation topics: Beginning Differentiation, Curriculum Compacting, Tiered Lessons, Identification Policies / Programs, Identification of Low-Income Students, Identification of Underrepresented Students, Understanding Standardized Test Scores, Using Teacher Rating Scales in Identification

Presentation formats: Most topics can be presented in large-group lecture format or repeated several times for small groups. All identification topics can also be presented as school or district-level workshops for administrators and/or gifted and talented staff. Identification sessions can also be combined in order to fully develop a comprehensive identification program.

Times available: Thursdays and Fridays are best.

Travel radius: Negotiable. 2 hr radius from Madison receives discounted rate.

Fees: Approximately \$800 for half day local semi-local to \$2000 for a full-day requiring out-of-state (>4hr drive) travel.

Dr. Wanda Routier

Education Consultant

wroutier@yahoo.com or 715-387-4340

B.A. in Music. M.A. in Special Education. Ed.D. in Management of Programs for Children and Youth. Experience as a preK-12 teacher, university professor, conference speaker, program manager working on Capital Hill with Congress on education legislation, and parent of a gifted child.

Presentation topics: gifted children, parenting gifted children, educational alternatives and options, virtual schooling, assessment, working with teachers and parents, twice exceptional students, parent support, and other topics upon request.

Presentation formats: workshops, lectures, inservice training, large and small group speaker, and other formats upon request.

Times available: negotiable

Travel radius: negotiable

Fees: negotiable

Welda Simousek and Virginia Pickerell

NLC Instruction LLC

welda@mac.com 608-320-0069

Welda Simousek and Virginia Pickerell, the creators of NLC (Next Level Challenge) Instruction, have over 75 years in the public educational system. They have worked as directors and consultants at city, county, and state levels. Currently, they are consulting with teachers, administrators, and school systems on differentiating instruction and systems-thinking.

Presentation topics: Differentiation for all students, Creativity, Systems-thinking, Questioning, Charting for Change, Motivation, Choice, Learning Styles/Interests, Depth/Breadth, Flexible Grouping

Presentation formats: Interactive workshops, Keynote presentations

Times available: All days of the week, weekends, and any time of day

Travel radius: Can travel anywhere

Fees: \$1,800 per day plus travel expenses

Thomas Zigan

Gifted Education Consultant

tomzigan@aol.com 414.747.8778

Thomas Zigan (former WATG President--2005-2007) has been a WATG Board member since 2000, in addition to serving as its Educational Outreach Chair. He was the Gifted and Talented Coordinator, Staff Development Coordinator and Learning Coordinator in the Wauwatosa Public Schools before recently retiring. He holds an MS in Curriculum and Instruction and did post-graduate work at Oxford University in England. Thomas taught both elementary and middle school before concentrating on gifted education and staff development. He has been a frequent presenter on gifted education, identification of gifted students, gifted programming, advocacy and differentiation for all students. His workshops have been presented throughout the state (universities, CESAs and regional workshops) and at the annual WATG conference. In addition, he has presented at the World Gifted Conference at the University of Warwick in Coventry, England.

Presentation topics: Identification and Characteristics of Gifted Learners, Differentiated Instruction for Gifted Learners, Acceleration, Programming for Gifted Students, Social and Emotional Needs of Gifted Students, Advocating for Gifted Education.

Times available: By Appointment.

Travel radius: Wisconsin and bordering states

Fees: \$150/ hr consultation, \$450/half day, or \$750/whole day plus travel expenses.