

Beyond Giftedness XXIV

February 24, 2017 • Arvada Center for the Arts

Conference Schedule

Time	Event	Location
7:30–8:00	Registration, continental breakfast, visit exhibits	Foyer
8:00–9:10	Opening Keynote by Dr. Nadia Webb	Ballrooms
9:10–9:25	Break and time with exhibits	Foyer
9:25–10:25	Breakout Session I	Ballrooms
10:25–10:35	Break and time with exhibits	Foyer
10:35–11:35	Breakout Session II	Ballrooms
11:35–12:15	Lunch Baked Potato Bar	Ballrooms
12:15–1:30	Keynote Presentation by Dr. Linda Silverman	Ballrooms
1:30–1:40	Break and time with exhibits	Foyer
1:40–2:45	Keynote Presentation by Dr. George Betts and Dr. Linda Silverman	Ballrooms
2:45–3:00	Dessert with exhibitors	Foyer
3:00–4:00	Breakout Session III	Ballrooms
4:00–4:30	Book signing, drop off your survey, pick up your certificate of attendance	Foyer

Wireless quality is not guaranteed. Look for “ArvadaGuest” on your device. No password necessary. Please refrain from photographing presentation material unless permission is given by presenter.

At Beyond Giftedness we endeavor to bring you a wide array of topics. However, inclusion of any topic or presenter should not be seen as an endorsement by Beyond Giftedness or Connective Ventures, LLC.

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Keynotes

8:00–9:15

Ballroom A–D

Whole Mind and Whole Brain

Dr. Nadia Webb

Intelligence is not static. The brain is a complex system that changes in response to social forces. “Psychological” experiences of loneliness, social support, affectionate touch, intellectual challenge, social stability or bullying can alter the brain at the smallest levels, including the lifespan of a neuron, as well as how we later think, learn and love as adults.

Nadia Webb, PsyD, MPAP, ABPdN, ABN, is a Medical “prescribing” Psychologist, double-boarded neuropsychologist, and earned four advanced degrees in various specialties within psychology. She served on the SENG Board of Directors and has been a Consultant for the Davidson Institute for Talent Development for over a decade. Recently, she received a Lifetime Achievement Award from Rutgers and the Heiser award for professional service from the American Psychological Association. She maintains a private practice in Portland, OR.

12:15–1:30

Ballroom A–D

Overexcitabilities: Myths, Realizations and New Research

Dr. Linda Silverman

The term “overexcitability” made its debut in gifted education in 1979. Over the last 35 years, we have embraced this concept, credited it as being the main cause of the misdiagnosis of the gifted, rejected it in some academic circles and misconstrued it in others. What is overexcitability (OE)? What is its theoretical basis? Why is the concept so controversial? How do we distinguish OE from AD/HD, sensory processing disorder, and other treatable diagnoses? Are gifted children more overexcitable? What does the research say? How should parents and teachers respond to gifted children’s overexcitability?

Linda Kreger Silverman, Ph.D., is a licensed clinical and counseling psychologist. She directs the Institute for the Study of Advanced Development, and its subsidiaries, the Gifted Development Center and Visual-Spatial Resource in Denver, Colorado. She has been studying the psychology and education of the gifted since 1961 and has written over 300 articles, chapters and books, including Counseling the Gifted and Talented, Upside-Down Brilliance: The Visual-Spatial Learner, Advanced Development: A Collection of Works on Gifted Adults and Giftedness 101.

1:40–2:45

Ballroom A–D

Celebrating the Whole Gifted Child: A Dialogue with George Betts and Linda Silverman

The Whole Gifted Child is a topic which Linda and George have explored for more than 80 years combined. Now it is time to hear these two professionals and learn about the future for the gifted child. This dialogue will provide audience members with established information as well as a look ahead. Questions will be generated by the facilitator and audience members. Join us for this once-in-a-lifetime experience!

George Betts, Ph.D., is Professor Emeritus and founder/director of the Center for the Education and Study of the Gifted, Talented, and Creative, as well as the founder and director of the Summer Enrichment Program (SEP) at the University of Northern Colorado. He is currently serving as President of the National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC) in Washington, D.C.

Breakout Session I 9:25–10:25 a.m.

Ballroom **One Size Does Not Fit All in Gifted Land**

Patricia Gatto Walden, Ph.D.

A

Teachers may be fooled by the diverse levels of ability, strengths and difficulties among gifted and talented students. Gifted is not a “one size fits all” singular attribute. There are distinguishing innate characteristics across the spectrum of gifted, highly to profoundly gifted individuals, specifically among intellectual traits, social and emotional temperament, intensity and perceptivity of focus, and typical behaviors. Most often teachers lump together gifted individuals in expectations and thereby have difficulty creating meaningful lessons. Incorporating three decades of consulting experience with this advanced population, learn gifted distinctions, ways to respond and motivate each group academically, and support them personally to live a contented life.

Ballroom **Understanding and Working With Neurodiverse Styles in Gifted Children and Adolescents**

Marlo Payne Thurman, Ph.D., 2E Consulting Services

B

With vast differences in perceiving, processing, organizing and performing, gifted children present unique challenges for both teachers and parents. Within this session, Dr. Marlo Payne Thurman will, for the first time ever, summarize the primary learning styles and neurodiverse cognitive trends that she has observed in her work with over 3,000 gifted children. Drawing from her 20-plus-year history in the field and within the framework of the Neurodiversity Movement, Dr. Thurman will then detail the primary ways that educators and parents can best support the needs of different-minded, gifted individuals.

Ballroom **Powerful Strategies for Enhancing The Learning of Gifted and Highly Capable Children**

Nathan Levy, Nathan Levy Books, LLC

C

This workshop explores numerous, proven ways to reach gifted learners in challenging ways. The objective is to have participants leave with a variety of new strategies and specific ideas to help pupils become better creative and critical thinkers. A variety of successful teaching and parenting techniques will be shared. Bring your thinking caps and your funny bones.

Ballroom **PARENT STRAND**

Who Am I and Why Does it Matter?: The Existential Dilemma

Jenny Hecht, LCSW, Karuna Healing

D

This workshop explores numerous, proven ways to reach gifted learners in challenging ways. The objective is to have participants leave with a variety of new strategies and specific ideas to help pupils become better creative and critical thinkers. A variety of successful teaching and parenting techniques will be shared. Bring your thinking caps and your funny bones.

Breakout Session II 10:35–11:35

Ballroom **Neurobiology of Giftedness**

Dr. Nadia E. Webb, Psy.D.

A

This workshop reviews the neurobiological differences associated with exceptional intellectual ability and talent in greater detail. In addition to qualitative differences, the biological markers include shifts in genetics, cellular metabolism and altered neuronal organization -- as well as differences in developmental trajectories and alterations in genetic expression.

Ballroom **Dirk's Model, An Experience with Genius Hour**

Deborah Shipley, US Air Force veteran and teacher of Gifted and Talented

B

“Genius Hour” originated in the 80/20 work concept adopted by Google and other businesses. Employees were encouraged to spend 80% of their workday on Google projects and 20% of their workday working on their own projects. It proved highly successful with “genius” projects such as Gmail and Google News. This presentation will cover one school’s GT program’s implementation of the Genius Hour, as adapted for education, with 98 gifted students in grades 6-8. Learn about the program’s structure, the allocation of time for the students to work, what the students took from the experience, teacher observations and lessons learned.

Ballroom **Universal Screening and MTSS Practices to Support Gifted Students**

Cindy Dunning Gifford, MA and Marla Caviness-French, MA ITL, MA EA

C

In order to make knowledgeable decisions about identification and programming for high-potential students, many schools collect data from multiple sources, but what does it mean for programming? Looking at gifted characteristics in all populations, including those specific to diverse cultures and students of poverty will provide multiple pathways to provide advanced programming with which unique strengths can be recognized. This data, combined with the knowledge of gifted characteristics, can create a portfolio to support more highly informed instruction and identification. This session will give participants a deeper understanding of how to use information available from the CogAT 7 to provide instructional strategies to support student learning. Participants will become familiar with strategies used during the partnership of the GT and Assessment departments to recalibrate the Universal Screening process in accordance with Colorado HB 14-1102 to successfully assess 6500 second graders.

Ballroom **PARENT STRAND**

Supporting Gifted Kids' Growth and Well-being In and Out of the Classroom

Patricia Gatto-Walden Ph.D. and Elizabeth D. Jones, MA, President of Institute of Educational Advancement

D

Gifted children thrive when they live well-balanced lives. The session will explore practical tools for encouraging and creating holistic growth in the life of your gifted students and children. We will discuss mindfulness techniques, and ways to facilitate personal and intellectual growth. In addition, we will share practical exercises that have been developed and successfully implemented by experts in the fields of gifted to enhance students’ personal growth, focus and self-confidence. Our hope is that these tools will support families at home, and students inside the classroom.

Breakout Session III 3:00–4:00

Ballroom **Five Profile Characteristics You May Not Know and the Top Five Strategies for Engaging Visual-Spatial Learners**

Catherine Conlin, PhD, CCC-SLP

A

If you are looking to reach those students in your school who you know are exceptionally bright but may not be showing their strengths, this workshop will give you the understanding of the dominant brain profiles for processing and representing information and the tools to empower your students to know themselves as learners.

Ballroom **Incorporating STEAM in the Classroom Using Design Thinking**

Michael Stover, Legacy Elementary School

B

In this session Marlo will detail the precarious continuum of identification for twice exceptionality in the gifted and will clarify key differences between disability and divergence for educators, mental health practitioners, and parents. Then, using clarified definitions as her starting point, Marlo will offer a detailed, case-by-case summary of recommendations for each of the primary conditions of twice-exceptionality, along with recommendations for honoring and nurturing divergence in all gifted children.

Ballroom **A Panel Discussion on Giftedness & Mental Health**

Marlo Payne Thurman, Jenny Hecht, Nadia Webb and parent Harry Bruell

D

Is there a connection between giftedness and mental health issues? Are some who are diagnosed with mental health issues actually “just gifted” and does such a distinction matter? Join us for a Q & A with panelists Marlo Payne Thurman, Jenny Hecht, Nadia Webb and parent Harry Bruell, as we discuss the complex and often painful relationships between giftedness and mental health. With real-world questions and expert answers, this panel will open up a discussion about the need for increased understanding about mental health in our gifted population.

NOTE: This session is scheduled from 3:00–4:30.

Special thanks to Dr. Linda Silverman for the donation of her book, *Counseling the Gifted and Talented*.

Dr. Silverman will be available by registration at the end of the day to sign books. Pick up your copy at the registration desk before you leave!

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Extended Campus

The 24th Beyond Giftedness Conference is dedicated to Stan Love (1932-2016), educational and counseling advocate and founder of Love Publishing, publisher of *Counseling the Gifted and Talented* by Dr. Linda Silverman and many other important books that have touched so many lives.

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