

# 2011–2012 BVGT Events



## ***Wednesday, September 21, 2011, 7 pm – 9 pm***

### **How To Discuss Our Gifted Children With Educators, Peers and Friends**

Discussion with panelists Dr. Diana Howard, Dr. Holly Hultgren, and Lynn Gibert, and student Fairview High School Science Lecture Hall, 1515 Greenbriar, Boulder 80305

Questions addressed will be:

- 1) What strategies best help parents get what their child needs from his/her classroom? How can parents communicate with the teacher(s) and/or principal in the most effective way?
- 2) How can parents communicate within the school so as to reduce the chance of their child being stigmatized and/or misunderstood?
- 3) Is it possible to communicate with friends and other parents whose children are not gifted about our gifted children without them believing we are being exclusive, elitist and insensitive to the specialness of their children?

## ***Wednesday, October 12, 2011, 7 pm – 9 pm***

### **Gifted Creatives** by Stephanie Tolan

BVSD Superintendent Dr. Bruce Messinger will greet guests  
Manhattan Middle School Auditorium, 290 Manhattan Drive, Boulder 80303

Some people think of gifted children as academic superstars, speeding their way through the school curricula and excelling at any tasks that require unusual verbal-abstract reasoning--the domain of the left brain. But many of our most gifted kids exhibit unusual right brain capacities as well. These "gifted creatives" are driven to turn their reasoning capacities to the creation of new ideas, new theories, new ways of doing things--and making (or at least starting) all manner of creative projects. This can make meeting their needs a daunting task both at school, because schools are to creativity what zoos are to wildness, and at home, because creatives are constantly pushing the boundaries we create for them. Stephanie Tolan, a life-long "gifted creative" herself, will provide help identifying and handling these kids, who don't slip easily into the molds we've made for them.

## ***Wednesday, October 26, 2011, 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm***

### **Parent/Child Workshop "101 Success Secrets For Gifted Kids"** by Christine Fonseca via SKYPE

Superior Elementary Library, 1800 S. Indiana St., Superior 80027

This two hour parent/child workshop, conducted by Christine Fonseca via SKYPE, is based off of her latest book, "101 Success Secrets for Gifted Kids: The Ultimate Handbook." Fonseca will address your questions and comments in real time during this interactive workshop.

This workshop will provide parents and their gifted children suggestions and practical strategies for understanding multiple components of their giftedness and how they can utilize that knowledge to be happy in school and in life. Parents and educators unaccompanied by a child are welcome to attend as well. Some of the worksheet topics include: 1) Self: Building an Emotional Vocabulary 2) School: Beating Perfectionism, 3) Friends: Friendship Cards and/or Bully-Proofing, and 4) Family: Communication Tools.

RSVP requested by 10/11/11. \$12 fee per family for workshop and book. Please RSVP either through the invitation link found on the BVGT Events page at [www.bvgt.org](http://www.bvgt.org), or PINGG invitation at <http://www.pingg.com/rsvp/cav5jksk4sh3zmxex>, or mail checks made out to Boulder Valley Gifted and Talented to BVGT, 2245 Keota Lane, Superior, CO 80027. Checks need to be received by 10/11/11 to assure receipt of book at time of event. Please note 6:30 pm event start time.

***Wednesday, November 16, 2011, 7 pm – 9 pm***

**How Social Networking Can Propel Advocacy, Learning, and Collaboration** by Deborah Mersino  
BVSD Education Center Crescent and Davidson Mesa rooms, 6500 Arapahoe, Boulder 80303

As a speaker, writer, and connector, Deborah Mersino supports parents of gifted, talented and creative learners with parenting issues, advocacy strategies and online collaboration. In this presentation Mersino will discuss reasons to engage in social media, who makes up the online gifted community, the power of collaboration, a closer look at the platforms (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube, and others), how blogs inspire thought, dialogue and action, why parents of gifted children are flocking online and how the world of gifted education is changing.

***Thursday, January 26, 2012, 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm***

**HOPE Coalition Event: Providing Hope and Inspiration RE Suicide, Depression Prevention, Awareness**  
First Presbyterian Church, 1820 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Boulder 80302

Presented by HOPE Coalition in collaboration with PEN, Second Wind Fund of Boulder County, Colie's Closet, and First Presbyterian Church. Issues of giftedness represented on the panel by Catherine Zakoian, M.A., L.P.C

***Thursday, February 2, 2012, 7 pm – 9 pm***

**Gifted Children and Friendships** by Catherine Zakoian, M.A., L.P.C.  
Monarch High School Auditorium, 263 Campus Drive, Louisville 80027

Please join us as Catherine discusses giftedness and friendship. Learn more about the delights and challenges of the gifted social experience as well as strategies and practices to encourage and support a child's capacity to create and maintain true, meaningful and healthful friendships in this world.

***Thursday, March 8, 2012, 7 pm – 9 pm***

**The Gift: LD/ADHD/High Functioning Autism Reframed** by Jonathan Mooney  
Co-Sponsored by BVGT, BVSD and PEN  
Fairview High School Auditorium, 1515 Greenbriar, Boulder 80305

Often students w/ learning disabilities (LD) and attention deficit hyperactive disorder (ADHD) as well as High Functioning Autism (HFA) struggle in traditional school settings. Yet emerging brain research suggests that many students labeled LD/ADHD/HFA have gifts for creative and visual thinking that go unrecognized in academic environments. As a result, many bright and gifted labeled students spiral in a devastating pattern of academic failure, learned helplessness, and low self esteem. In this presentation, Mooney tackles this paradox head-on by outlining research that validates LD/ADHD/HFA as a set of cognitive gifts. He speaks honestly about the systemic and cultural barriers to normalizing these unique learning styles. Most importantly, Mooney empowers parents w/ applicable strategies to build a positive self-understanding in their labeled student.

***Wednesday, April 18, 2012, 7 pm – 9 pm***

**Voices of the Gifted: Compelling "Growing Up" Stories of Gifted Adults and Teens**  
Southern Hills Middle School Auditorium, 1500 Knox Drive, Boulder 80305

Growing up gifted can be challenging. A panel of gifted adults and teens will share insights into how they have navigated relationships with their parents, relationships with their peers and their friends, as well as school experiences and what they are doing today. A great event for educators, parents AND their gifted children.

Co-sponsored by BVSD Office of Advanced Academic Services

