

May 2018



The SENGVine Newsletter
Growing Understanding of the Gifted

SENG Conference 2018 SAN DIEGO



Guiding the Gifted Experience

3 Keynotes, 90+ sessions, SMPG training, children's program & more!

Calling all educators, parents, caregivers, gifted kids and adults - Early Bird registration ends this month!

Pre-Conference Activities: July 19 | Conference: July 20-22

Join us at the **Town & Country Resort** in San Diego!

It's a busy time in sunny San Diego, so SENGVine blocked hotel rooms at a special rate. **Reserve yours by June 27.**

Check out our [Children's Program Info](#) & [Full Conference Schedule](#); we've got great sessions and activities planned for everyone!

Register Today!

Pssst --

If you can't make it to this conference, check out our local mini-conferences!



SENG Long Island Mini Conference

May 18, 2018



**Co-sponsored by
Twice Exceptional Children's Advocacy (TECA) &
Molloy College Department of Social Work**

Friday, May 18

Molloy College, Rockville Centre, NY

Join [SENG](#), [TECA](#) and [Molloy College](#) for an exciting day with expert speakers on giftedness and twice-exceptionality.

[Register Now!](#)

Speakers Include:

- LCSW and TECA Executive Director [Maratea Cantarella](#),
- *The Atlantic* Literary Editor [Ann Hulbert](#),
- Psychologist [Dr. Devon MacEachron](#),
- SENG Executive Director [Dr. Michael Postma](#), and
- TECA President [Melissa Sornik](#).

Guests will be the first to view the new film
[*2e2: Teaching the Twice Exceptional*](#)
from Director Tom Ropelewski!



SENG Seattle Mini Conference

May 5, 2018



Co-Sponsored by Northwest Gifted Child Association

It's your last chance to [register](#) for this weekend's mini-conference in Seattle!

**Stay tuned for info on mini-conferences in
Columbus, Ohio, and Lafayette, Louisiana!**

Special Announcement

Introducing Director of Development Jessica Mansmith, MNA



Jessica joined SENG in 2018 with 25+ years in the independent sector and experience with nonprofits of all types: arts and culture, animal welfare, LGBTQ, health and wellness, human services, children and families, life coaching and more. Her skills include marketing, communications, board engagement, strategic planning, and operations. However, Jessica's career has focused primarily on fundraising and development. Her expertise includes annual giving, major gifts, foundation grants, corporate gifts and sponsorships, capital campaigns, planned giving, endowments, and special events.

"I'm excited to join the wonderful people at SENG to help fulfill the social and emotional needs of the gifted," says Jessica. "I can't wait to see what we can accomplish together!"

Jessica holds a Master's in Nonprofit Administration from the University of San Francisco and a Bachelor's in English from the State University of New York at Albany. In her personal life, Jessica is a visual artist, world traveler, community volunteer and

music enthusiast. She resides in New York with her fiancée, Tom, and their two cats, Otto and Jack.

Connect with Jessica: jessica.mansmith@sengifted.org

Director's Corner

Call for Directors 2018

by Evelyn Metcalf

At some point during the SMPG Facilitator training I'd attended in 2012, I distinctly recall Sheri Plybon encouraging me to apply to serve on SENG's Board of Directors. "What? Me?" First of all, I'd never served on a board of any kind. Second of all, what expertise did I bring besides passion and a background in teaching gifted children?

[Read More](#)

Gifted and Learning Disabled: A Neuropsychologist's Perspective

by Nadia Webb and Antara Dietrich

A neuropsychologist is not the first professional a family consults. I still spend time correcting people when they ask if I am a "Nurse/Psychologist." Neuropsychologists work with neurologically-based behavior concerns such as problems with inattention, memory, planning, judgment, emotional regulation, and the like. [Read More](#)

The Twice Exceptional: A Population Explosion?

by Michael Postma, Ed. D., SENG Executive Director

As I sat enjoying the Carolina sun sitting near our community pool last summer, I could not help but overhear a conversation between a mother and her husband regarding the educational dilemma facing their six-year-old son who, by the looks of things, was struggling to keep pace in his first grade classroom. You may brand me nosy but whenever I hear the word school, education and/or issues within the same sentence, my ears quickly gravitate toward the source of the vocalization. [Read More](#)



Gifted & Underachieving: The Twice Exceptional Learner

by Melissa Sornik, LMSW

Jason, age 19, breezed through school with little effort until his last two years of high school. Disorganized with poor handwriting and a divergent learning style, he failed to hand in completed work in Honors and AP classes and so compromised his grades. Jason was accepted to college and despite having higher SAT scores than most of his freshman classmates, he was placed on probation. Then, he was sent home after his first semester. [Read More](#)



[Spanish Language Corner](#)

La sobre "excitabilidad" en los superdotados

by Sharon Lind

Con solo un poco de investigación exhaustiva y grandes dosis de observación realista se ha llegado a la conclusión de que la intensidad, sensibilidad y sobreexcitabilidad (traducción literal de la palabra inglesa "overexcitability", a la que en siglas nos referiremos en este artículo como OE) son las características más importantes de los superdotados. [Continuar...](#)

Voices

Abstract Photography

by Ashley Gregory, Ashley G Studio

"I have been taking pictures since I was just a kid in middle school. I enjoy abstract art because I love to get lost in imagination. Being gifted can make you see and feel too much in the real world and getting lost in the abstract helps me escape from it."

Let your Voice be heard!

"Voices" shares creative works reflecting the gifted experience. SENG is currently accepting submissions from individuals of all ages, especially teens and young adults! Submit your art, poetry, essays, articles, and stories to: office@sengifted.org.



Above: The Mermaid (2016)

Below: Florida Sunset (2017)



Program Calendar

Upcoming SENGinars

An Elder or Just Older: Being Gifted Throughout the Latter Years of Life

Presented by Dr. Ellen Fiedler and Dr. Michele Kane

May 10, 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM EST

[Register](#)

Commonly Seen Medical & Psychiatric Conditions In The Gifted, Talented & Twice-Exceptional

Presented by Dr. Archana Lal-Tabak, M.D. and Jim Lal-Tabak

May 17, 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM EDT

SENGConnect Support Group

Gifted Elders Series

All sessions are held online from 10 - 11:30 AM EDT! Facilitated by **Heather Cachat** and **Kasi Peters**.

May 19: Ellen Fiedler - Still Gifted After all These Years: Key Issues and Answers for Gifted Elders

June 2: Michele Kane - Mindfulness and the Gifted Elder

June 9: Joy Navan - Bucket Lists and Goal Setting for Gifted Elders

June 16: Maggie Brown - Naming, Living, and Growing Our Values as Gifted Elders

June 23: Wenda Sheard - Passion and Advocacy in Later Life: Best Practices for Gifted Elders

June 30: Heather Cachat and Kasi Peters: Final Thoughts

[Register](#)

FREE Online Workshop

Walk Out of A Meeting Smiling? Provocative Teaming Ideas That Build Hope for 2e Students, Parents, and Educators

Speaker: Linda Collins

May 30, 7:00 PM EDT

[Learn More](#)

Workshops

Using Improv Games to Increase Social-Emotional Skills

with Matthew Zakreski

April 30, 7 PM EDT

[Learn More](#)

Bring on the Cringe: Talking to Gifted Kids about Sex Education

with Matthew Zakreski

May 7, 7 PM EDT

[Learn More](#)

Fostering Self-Compassion in Gifted Individuals

with Heather Boorman

May 14, 7 PM EDT

[Learn More](#)

SENG Premier Members: [ENROLL HERE](#) for the above workshops.

Please note: to access the enrollment page, you must be logged out of all email addresses except for your SENG Connect email address. We apologize for the inconvenience and are working on establishing a better platform for our members.

If you're not yet a member, [register](#) today for access to professional online workshops on gifted issues!

STAY CONNECTED

