

INFORMATION ON UPCOMING EVENTS for parents, teachers, administrators, families

1. Museum passes free
2. Webinars on Advocacy on shoe string and also Math Jams (note registration due Sept 12 for one)
3. NAGC is offering FREE webinars on Wednesdays (WOW) in 2009
4. Editorial on NCLB and gifted
5. Family Outing to see Buffalo in Pinckney MI October 18

Look for more conferences and opportunities through www.migiftedchild.org-- Website of the Michigan Alliance for Gifted Education. Website always getting updates. We're planning fall conferences right now!

STILL OFFERING FREE TO TEACHERS AND ADMINISTRATORS on opening page—
“[Michigan Gifted Contacts Forum](#)” An informational chat room, and question and answer area to talk with experts. Want to keep up with what's happening? This forum also offers a great FREE monthly e-newsletter of information and educational ideas.

1. FOR FAMILIES...

Visit the Smithsonian Magazine Museum Day website at <http://microsite.smithsonianmag.com/museumday/> . Hundreds of museums nationwide will be offering free admission **Saturday, Sept. 26** to people who visit the Smithsonian magazine website and download a pass.

And don't forget your free Michigan museum passes (many choices) through your local library! Support your local library! =)

2. Webinar--Subject: Barbara J. Gilman, M.S. - **The Art of Gifted Advocacy (even with budget cutbacks)** – Monday, Sept. 14, 2009 from 7 to 9 P.M. MDT
COST: \$30.00 (can be done through PayPal). Must be registered by Saturday, September 12, 2009. You need not be present during the scheduled hours of the webinar to access the presentation.

The Art of Gifted Advocacy: How Informed Advocacy Can Produce the Best Accommodations, Even in Difficult Times

Educating parents to advocate successfully for their gifted children in school has never been more important. To save money in a recession, many schools are reducing gifted programs and services. Yet, parents who understand their moderately gifted, highly gifted, twice-exceptional or underachieving gifted child's needs, and are aware of options that benefit such students, often obtain better accommodations through negotiation than the gifted program would have provided. How do they do it? This presentation will address how parents of gifted children in school and homeschooling can improve their knowledge of their child's learning requirements for more effective advocacy when the need arises.

Funding shortages also beg the question: How can schools advocate for gifted students with cost-effective programs that do a better job of meeting gifted learning needs? In order to avoid undue stress on the classroom teacher, school personnel may find this a good time to rethink gifted programming with delivery systems that are more recession-

proof. Please join this exploration of smarter ways for parents and schools to ensure quality gifted programming.

Sign up before Sat., September 12th at <http://www.giftedonlineconferences.com/>

Join the 24/7 social network <http://www.facebook.com/l;/www.gigtedonlineconferences.ning.com>. With Michigan link!

If a social network is not your thing, but you want to stay connected to OGTOC please join to receive tweets at

<http://www.facebook.com/l;/www.twitter.com/OGTOC>

ALSO AVAILABLE THRU OGTOC—“**MATH JAMS**”

http://www.artofproblemsolving.com/Community/AoPS_Y_Math_Jams.php

Math Jams are free online classes hosted by Art of Problem Solving for a variety of purposes. Some Math Jams are improvisational problem solving sessions, some are informational sessions about prominent programs, or college admissions, or other topics of interest to our students. Other Math Jams include reviews of major contests, such as the USAMTS or the AMC series of tests. Instructors employ the same Virtual Classroom for the Math Jams as used in our more structured online classes.

Participants must be logged in as Art of Problem Solving Community members to access the Math Jams.

Visit Gifted - OGTOC at: <http://giftedonlineconferences.ning.com>

Kind regards,

Sally_L Admin & owner of OGTOC

3. FREE Webinars on Wednesdays (WOW) from NAGC

NAGC is offering [Webinars On Wednesdays \(WOW\)](http://www.nagc.org/wow.aspx) (<http://www.nagc.org/wow.aspx>) to bring experts directly to classroom teachers, counselors, graduate students, parents, GT coordinators and administrators, sharing practical advice and updates on the latest issues in gifted education. Tune in the 2nd and 4th Wednesday each month. There is also a monthly “Parent Night.” Experience the live WOW sessions via the Internet to listen, view slides, access handouts, and pose questions to presenters, as well as interact with other participants. All sessions through 2009 are free and advanced registration is recommended.

4. EDITORIAL ON GIFTED AND NCLB...

How does No Child Left Behind affect the very smart, gifted children? Here is the scenario written in terms of California’s educational system:

[Susan Goodkin and David G. Gold: In focus on proficiency, bright kids lose - Sacramento Opinion - Sacramento Editorial | Sacramento Bee](#)

Source: sacbee.com

5. Here Come the Buffalo! A Family Outing in Pinckney—Sunday, October 18, 2009

Meet us in Pinckney to ride the Buffalo Touring Wagons out to meet real, live buffalo. TMZ Farm has the largest buffalo herd in Michigan. We will ride in open, circus train type cars, so dress to be outside for 1-1 ½ hours. The Touring Wagons will take us out to where the buffalo are in their field and you can stand right in the middle of the herd.

Buffalo weigh up to 2,400 pounds each, yet they can run 50 mph and jump 6-foot fences. Luckily, they are sociable animals that like to live in herds, so as long as they have food, they have no inclination to escape. They are also generally tolerant animals who are used to people in their midst staring as they go about their normal activities.

During the tour the owner of the farm will tell us all about buffalo and their history and their habits. He will also tell us about how healthy buffalo meat is and you can buy some if you wish. Buffalo meat has less fat and cholesterol, but more omega 3 fatty acid than fish.

Our tour starts at 2 pm on Sunday, October 18th. Seniors and children 8 and under are \$5. Others are \$7/person, but you can print a \$1.00 adult discount coupon from the Farm's website ((TMZFarm.com)). No reservations are necessary, but an adult must accompany children. Adults without children are welcome if they are kids at heart.

After the Buffalo Farm tour, you can choose to take an optional trip to Hell. Hell Michigan, that is, which is located only a mile directly west of the farm. You can have a buffalo burger at the Dam Site Inn, visit Screams Ice Cream Shop, the Halloween Store and Souvenir Shop or the Hell General Store. Excursions to Hell will be on your own after the Buffalo Farm tour ends. This is joint Michigan Alliance and Mensa activity.

LOCATION: The TMZ Buffalo Farm is at 2324 Patterson Lake Road, Pinckney, MI 48169 (734-878-6425). Take D-19 or M-36 to Pinckney and go south on S. Howell Street (Dexter-Pinckney Road/CR-D32) 1.3 miles. Go west on Darwin Road, which becomes Patterson Lake Road, continue for .8 mile to the Farm.

WHAT: Tour of buffalo farm south=2 0of Pinckney, MI

WHEN: Sunday, October 18, 2:00 pm for about 1 ½ hrs

COSTS: Seniors & children under 5: \$5.00 each; All others: \$7/per person

EXTENSION ON OWN: West one mile to Hell, MI for food and fun