



**A special e-publication for the personal use of NJAGC members**

**A MEMBERS-ONLY BENEFIT!  
January 2015**

Dear NJAGC Members,

Welcome to the 66th edition of NewsNet, the electronic newsletter provided for our valued NJAGC members! We've come upon so many interesting events that we're sending out another NewsNet so you won't miss out on these outstanding opportunities!

Be a part of NewsNet. Send happenings of interest throughout NJ for families of gifted students as well as educators, to Lenore Argen at [argenhouse@msn.com](mailto:argenhouse@msn.com).  
Your input will be appreciated by all who enjoy this publication!

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES**



**Save The Date:  
NJAGC 24th Annual Conference  
March 6 and 7, 2015  
"Full STEAM Ahead"**

**Keynote Speakers:  
Dr. James R. Delisle  
Ms. Cally Flox  
Ms. Stephanie Tolan**

Educators of the gifted face the daily task of creating imaginative, innovative, and stimulating instruction to prepare gifted learners for the future. Presenters at the NJAGC 2015 conference will provide diverse perspectives on successful programs and strategies, which foster creativity, offer opportunities for curiosity, and provide the challenge necessary for gifted learners to develop to their full potential. Alignment with the Core Curriculum State Standards will be provided where applicable. Access more information by linking on: <http://www.njagc.org/>

### **National Autism Conference:**

The Hotel ML (CoCo Key Water Park) Mount Laurel, NJ  
February 19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> 2015  
8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. (Check-in 7:00 - 8:00 a.m.)

This is the event to attend for “Twice Exceptional” GT children focusing on Social/Emotional Issues. Graduate credits are available, as well as Professional Development hours. Visit [www.aepconnections.com](http://www.aepconnections.com) for detailed conference information!

## **CELEBRATIONS**



### **CHINESE NEW YEAR’S CELEBRATION:**

Kick off the **Year of the Sheep** with a free lion dance and kung fu demonstration in front of the **China Institute** located at 125 East 65th Street, NYC. Following the lion dance there will be New Year themed workshops and activities inside China Institute.

**Sunday, February 22 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.** For more information visit this site:

<http://www.chinainstitute.org/education/for-families/>

## **FAMILY OUTINGS**



The Annual **NJ Association for Gifted Children Conference Family Day Full STEAM Ahead** for the NJAGC 24th annual conference being held on **Saturday, March 7, 2015** at the Hotel Somerset-Bridgewater. Jim Delisle will be returning as a keynote speaker for adults, joined by Cally Flox and Stephanie Tolan.

Walt Frasier will present for children on Saturday, as well as the Liberty Science Center. Use the [registration form](#) to register by mail with a check or PO. To pay by credit card, click [here](#). Children and adults will also have the opportunity to choose from a wide variety of hands-on workshops to attend. Check in at [www.njagc.org](http://www.njagc.org) often for updates on presenters and workshop choices.

Register now by downloading and mailing this [form](#) for payment by check or [online](#) for payment by credit card.

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The **State Theatre’s Family Day Festival** returns on **Monday, February 16, 2015**. The annual event is a great place for kids and their families to spend the Presidents Day holiday, with performances, games, hands-on workshops, exhibits, and more, stretching across five venues in and around the State Theatre. It’s a jam-packed day of fun for the entire family! Click on this link for more information, including how to get involved as a volunteer to receive community service hours, or just give back! [Mark Your Calendar: Family Day 2014](#)

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Find the crowds and costs at Rockefeller Center overwhelming? Top off your visit to NYC with an **Ice Skating** session at family friendly Bryant Park. **The Rink at Bryant Park** is in operation through March 1, 2015, and is the centerpiece of Bryant Park’s winter season, which also includes the annual Winter Village/ Holiday Shops at Bryant Park. The 170' x 100' rink features free admission ice skating, in addition to high quality rental skates, skating shows, special events, and activities. Visit <http://wintervillage.org/> for more information.

History and nature lovers have reason to celebrate. **The National Park Service** offers a slew of fee-free days in 2015, when visitors pay no admission to enter the parks.

February 14<sup>th</sup> -16<sup>th</sup>, Presidents' Day weekend

April 18<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup>, opening weekend of National Park Week

August 25<sup>th</sup>, National Park Service birthday

September 26<sup>th</sup>, National Public Lands Day

November 11<sup>th</sup>, Veterans Day

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On Friday, January 30, 2015 **Liberty Science Center** is going to set a Guinness World Record for most people simultaneously singing *Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes* and they'd love to have your family join them. Get to the Science Center by **10:30 am** and join them on the Second Floor. At 11:00 am, Liberty Science Center CEO, Paul Hoffman, will join Sesame Street's Elmo and Grover to lead 2,000 people in singing *Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes*. Later in the day, Grover and Elmo will be available for photos with the family. Go to [www.lsc.org](http://www.lsc.org) for more information.

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Mmmm...don't miss the **Morris Museum's** annual **Chocolate Festival** on Saturday, February 7, 2015. Visit [www.morrismuseum.org](http://www.morrismuseum.org) for more information.

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The **2015 Rutgers Day** will be held on **Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.** on the New Brunswick/Piscataway campus of Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. This is a great opportunity for everyone, from small children to teenagers to adults to learn more about their state university. The event is **Free** for everyone and will be held rain or shine. Activities include tours, concerts, lectures, art, performances, and a chance to meet Rutgers' professors, staff, students, and alumni. Enjoy the engineering open house, agricultural field day, sporting events, and more that will go on throughout the day. For more information about Rutgers Day, visit [www.rutgersday.rutgers.edu](http://www.rutgersday.rutgers.edu).

## THE ARTS



Visit the Short Hills or Hackensack locations of the **Wentworth Gallery Art Showrooms** for rotating exhibits of artwork. Check out their website often for announcements of appearances by famous faces in the art world. In the recent past they have hosted shows and signings by the iconic artist Charles Fazzino, as well as the world renowned Peter Max. Go to [www.wentworthgallery.com](http://www.wentworthgallery.com) for more information.

## CONTESTS/COMPETITIONS



Stossel in the Classroom says:

**It's not too late to enter our 2014-2015 "War on the Little Guy" Essay Contest!** Help your students earn **LOTS OF GREAT PRIZES** by entering them in this year's essay contest, for students aged 12 -18. Cash prizes totaling \$15,500, plus a trip to New York City for the top two winners **AND** their teachers! All teachers submitting winning essays will also receive an autographed copy of one of John Stossel's books! Essay submittal deadline is **Feb. 17th**.

## AWARDS



The **International Torrance Legacy Creativity Awards** offer students ages 8 – 18 from all over the world, a distinct opportunity to submit in four major areas: Creative Writing, Visual Arts, Music Composition, and Invention. The Awards began in 2008 with creative writing and other categories soon followed. The themes for the 2015 year include: Beyond Boundaries or Transcending Limits; Courageous Endeavor; A Huge Step Forward; Finding, Discovering, or Uncovering a Solution; Choosing a Brighter Tomorrow; and Building Anew. For more information visit <http://www.centerforgifted.org/torrance.html>

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### Nominations Now Open for the **Excellence in Theatre Education Award**

The Tony Awards® and Carnegie Mellon University are looking for the teachers who create the next generation of theatre artists. These are dedicated professionals who discover talented students, nurture them, inspire them, and set them off on a lifelong journey as theatre supporters and professionals. The winning teacher will receive the inaugural Excellence in Theatre Education Award at 2015 Tony Awards on June 7<sup>th</sup>, and be acknowledged on the CBS telecast!

Visit [www.TonyAwards.com/educationaward](http://www.TonyAwards.com/educationaward) for nomination guidelines and criteria. Once there, link on “Click Here to Submit Your Nomination” to begin the nomination process. The final **deadline for all materials is 11:59 p.m. ET on March 31, 2015.**

Finalists will be notified by May 8, 2015.

## RESOURCES TO CHECK OUT



Complimentary registration for the **Stock Market Game** online educational investment program is taking place now for upcoming spring sessions. Participation is available to children through schools, community and scout groups, home school associations, etc. You can explore the many options through [www.stockmarketgame.org](http://www.stockmarketgame.org). There will be an in-person “How to Get Started” workshop for facilitators new to the program, and those in need of a refresher. PD credits for teachers will be provided upon request.

**WHEN:** Wednesday, January 28<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 - 6:00pm

**WHERE:** New Jersey City University Small Business Development Center

285 West Side Avenue Jersey City, NJ 07305 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room

\*See their website for a map of the campus—the Small Business Development Center is #9 on the map (Business Development Incubator). Parking will be available at P3 (see map), which is the closest lot to the building.

\*If you plan on participating, please reach out to Esi with your name and contact information:

**Esi Gillo**, Program Coordinator, Stock Market Game Program

SIFMA Foundation 120 Broadway 35th floor New York, NY 10271

Office: 212-313-1167 Fax: 212-313-1324 [egillo@sifma.org](mailto:egillo@sifma.org) [www.sifma.org](http://www.sifma.org)

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**Don't miss out on upcoming NASA education opportunities.** For a full list of events, opportunities and more, visit the Educator and Student Current Opportunity pages on NASA's website:

Educators: <http://www.nasa.gov/audience/foreducators/current-ops-index.html>

Students: <http://www.nasa.gov/audience/forstudents/current-ops-index.html>

## SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES



### It's never too early to be thinking about summer...

Check out this opportunity at Syracuse University (SU) this July. **Project ENGAGE** is an engineering immersion program for girls who have a wide range of interests and demonstrated abilities across several academic areas. While living at SU, the participants will explore the breadth of topics engineers address within the focus area, gain important problem-solving skills and benefit from the experience of successful female engineers and other role models.

The summer program includes mini-courses, readings and discussion, projects, field trips and hands-on learning alongside accomplished female engineers, college professors, and middle school teachers and college students.

The cost of the program for accepted students is \$400 and full scholarships are available.

Additional information is available through the [Project ENGAGE website](#).

Completed applications must be postmarked by **March 6, 2015**.

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**Drew University Summer College Program** brings highly motivated high school students, primarily rising juniors and seniors, to the Drew Campus for a week in the summer. The program is designed to provide students with a more in-depth experience of the college curriculum and of campus life than can be gleaned from a one-day campus visit.

The program gives the students a taste of the rich variety of courses available to them in a college curriculum and provides them with an experience of residential college life both inside and outside the classroom.

The program introduces the students to the challenges of college-level work and to subjects they may not have encountered in high school and brings them into mentoring relationships with undergraduate students. This experience will particularly help the students understand the value of a liberal arts education and will begin to develop some of the skills they will need to meet the rigors of college-level work and to prepare them for the transition from high school to college.

Click here for more information: <http://www.drew.edu/summercollege/>

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Now in its 29th year, **Liberty Science Center's Partners in Science** program provides an intensive, eight-week summer experience for high school juniors and seniors. The program pairs students with mentors in science, health and technical fields and challenges them to participate in ongoing research and independent projects. *Partners in Science* gives students the opportunity to investigate questions driving scientific discovery in professional laboratory settings. Additionally, they develop a network of advisers and lifelong connections that may help them identify and focus their career goals.

For more information: Call - 201.253.1533 or email - [rrosario@LSC.org](mailto:rrosario@LSC.org).

<http://lsc.org/for-educators/programs-at-the-center/partners-in-science/>

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Make sure to also check out the summer and weekend programs offered for Elementary and High School students by our *Newsnet* sponsors, **CTY, SIG and MSU**...their contact information is listed below at the end of this publication.

## "NJAGC Gold Sponsors"

**Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth (CTY)**  
[www.cty.hju.edu](http://www.cty.hju.edu)  
Gold Sponsor



**Summer Institute for the Gifted (SIG)**  
[www.giftedstudy.org](http://www.giftedstudy.org)  
Gold Sponsor



**Montclair State University**  
[www.montclair.edu/gifted](http://www.montclair.edu/gifted)  
Gold Sponsor

