



## The President's Message

### *Aloha!*

The topic of Gifted and Talented has evolved so much since our newsletter was last published. Issues of funding and how it has affected G&T services have become so pivotal in the successes and failures over the years.

As many informed Gifted and Talented (GT) advocates are aware, we have not been successful in securing federal funds for Javits. These research funds have been so crucial for further research and data collection, and is the foundation for implementing GT services. Although the Javits Frasier Scholarship continues to offer Fellowships, the lack of funding sets limits for the Gifted and Talented. Common Core Standards and ESEA have taken their place

in the system of checks and balances, college-career readiness standards, aligned assessments, state accountability, educator evaluations and reporting requirements within one's state. Charter, Magnet and private schools have their challenges too as new requirements are required, such as keeping current with AP courses and requiring ACT testing for higher education entrance and registration.

The TALENT ACT has been challenged, and key supporters are truly missed at such crucial times. Hga serves the gifted and talented from A-Z and from K-Adult. There are approximately 14,000 students in the public sector and more in the private sector. We needed your support for the gifted and talented then and even more so now. We hope that you, as a GT Advocate, will be another voice for Hga. We look forward with a renewed vision and even higher hopes that each gifted and talented individual will be able to remain challenged and limitless in his or her intellectual and creative potential! [Christine Ohtani-Chang] ❖

### Advocacy 2013

“Advocate: The act of arguing in favor of something as a cause, idea or policy.” As GT advocates, our role is to argue in favor of the gifted and talented. This argument is justified by credible facts, documented research and data. As advocates, we have a long history of providing a consistent level of support for individuals, educators and parents of the gifted and talented. The many challenges that the gifted and talented face are difficult due to lack of funds that affect training and services. Lack of funds affect developing curricula for GT students. No funding means no training, no service, no teachers!

As funding waivers from year to year we will continue to demonstrate through our work with the gifted and talented how resilient our students can be. We hope the progress that these GT Students have made will gain some leverage in our advocacy to support the gifted and talented.

INTERESTED? Then we need you! We need you to help build more relationships with those who support gifted individuals at your schools, districts, communities, state legislatures and members of Congress. We need your letters, testimonies and communication networks to convey the gifted and talented message! This newsletter is one of many avenues of communication for you as a GT Advocate to have a voice. We welcome your comments, opinions and critique of what is lacking, and what has been successful for the gifted and talented population. Please log on to [www.nagc.org](http://www.nagc.org) for details of current federal policy and actions. The grass roots initiative, Legislative Action Network (LAN) via NAGC, was developed to raise awareness and provide input for you, as an advocate, to influence federal policy decisions.





## THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

### Aloha

Welcome to our first and renewed Hga newsletter. It has been some time since we've produced an Hga newsletter but are so pleased that our new Editor (and Board Member) has taken on this role. Hga was established in 1976 and started with the Mensa organization and has since evolved and changed its name to Hawaii Gifted Association.

The primary purpose of Hga is to educate, support, train and provide resources to the gifted and talented. Please know that our association is here for you as a resource, support and advocate. We want to know what you want, what will help you achieve excellence or what will help you overcome challenges you face in receiving services for your child, student or family member.

Our mission and goal in Hga is to enrich the lives of the gifted and talented. We hope that this newsletter will help us to learn how best to assist you in reaching these same goals and that you will get to know us and what we do.

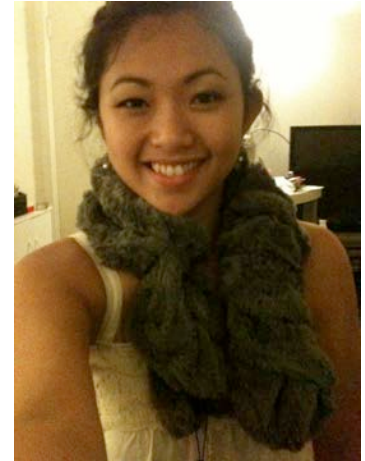
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[higifted@aol.com](mailto:higifted@aol.com)

Templates of flyers are available for you to share ideas and opinions. Also on the NAGC site you may locate information at "gifted by State" to find state policy for GT students. We don't want to reinvent the wheel but we do want to become effective, efficient, vocal advocates. ❖

## Hga Internships

Hga's Fall 2012 Intern, "Sai," attends UH Manoa and is a senior majoring in Apparel, Merchandising and Product Design (APDM). She has fulfilled her internship hours this semester working in the industry with clients doing minor alterations, embellishments and draping. She is interested in the science of fibers and textiles, a growing field as manmade textiles, green and sustainable natural fibers are used not only in the apparel industry but other fields. Her objectives while interning were to work in the specific garment industry and gain knowledge in the "design aspect of the business." Her career goal is to become a design artist. ❖



## Parent Action Committee

Hga is looking for concerned parents and guardians interested in forming a Parent Action Committee (PAC). This is an opportunity to create an informal venue to find support and exchange resources. PACs are designed to provide a network to exchange ideas. Such scenarios would include discussing emotional and social behavior, relocation and quality of service, or discussing whether services were being received at all.

We have a PAC corner in the newsletter to share stores and resolve issues in a group effort. Join in on the discussion and put your ideas to work. There is strength in numbers: one PAC of six members x 5 schools = 30 new active PAC members!

We need you to create a stronger support system. Please contact Fiona McNeill. She needs your support to jumpstart this group! You may send inquiries to her at: [fionamn@yahoo.com](mailto:fionamn@yahoo.com). ❖

"Our engines keep technology, creativity, research and nature working for gifted education"

## Summer Advocacy Workshop for Students:

Mid Summer Workshop "Camp" is planned for mid-July, site pending. WIT (Women in Technology) and Hga Board Members are invited to participate. The goal is to have students participate and parents invited to afternoon presenters. Topics include: Advocacy, Technology, Talent and Assessments. ❖

## Call for Outstanding Student Leaders in Gifted Education

Part of advocating for the gifted and talented is also advocating for your peers who have done recognizable work in gifted and talented education. In 2013 we would like to recognize their accomplishments. We are currently putting a call for nominations for Outstanding GT Leader. Please forward names to [higifted@aol.com](mailto:higifted@aol.com), and include a one page bio of why this individual deserves to be nominated as Hga 2013 Outstanding GT Leader. ❖

### Hga Outstanding GT Leader 2013

[\[PRINT\]](#)

Nominee Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Educational Institute if applicable: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee Professional Background: \_\_\_\_\_

*Nominee agrees to represent the affiliate, Hawaii gifted association, as their selected: Outstanding GT Leader 2013 in related NAGC publicity.*

Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

NAGC Affiliate: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_



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### DUES & DONATIONS:

Make checks payable to:  
Hawaii Gifted Association  
P O Box 22475  
Honolulu, HI 96823-2475

FEIN # 99-0169246

## TALENT and where is it going?

How can we as a community best serve our gifted students when tools and strategies for identification are not put into practice due to time, funding, training and supportive feedback? The potential for these great Scholars and Creative minds is limitless. The glass ceiling doesn't exist for them; all they need is a consistent challenge, guidance and check points along the way to validate their progress. It sounds "simple" but in reality it's very complicated. Too many hoops, red tape, politicians and game changers forgot them.



These are our next Leaders, our next generation, now what? Advocates are few, decisive decisions hard to come by, shoe string budgets and communication strained. There must be more advocates out there with a creative plan or answer to satisfy these hungry minds, these creative and talented ambitions.

Whether you focus on just one issue for gifted and talented, that just might be the one that opens another educational door. Tell us what you're doing and we would be happy to feature your "plan" in our next newsletter. For example, found at [www.nagc.org](http://www.nagc.org) "In Our Own Words" Project, (call for original cartoon, short verse or poem) ❖

## PARENTS CORNER



We hope you will continue to support our efforts in 2012-13 by a donation to Hawaii gifted assoc. Our annual request furthers our professional development efforts in building our resources for the gifted and talented through our advocacy efforts, exhibits, workshops and activities. As you know our services are free and so is your membership! Your yearend donation assists the Hawaii Gifted Association in serving your community and state by connecting the gifted and talented individuals with the resources that they need. ❖

## ASK A QUESTION

### Question:

*My gifted child has no support system in their school academically. I would like to approach his teacher with a solution in hand rather than ask for a quick solution, now that we are in the second semester of school. There are no GT services, teacher on site nor another parent in his class that have similar concerns. What can I do?*

## Mark your Calendar

**February 6: QLCC Informational Meeting.**

**March 4: Association of Hawaii Artists Exhibition Entry Day for its annual Aloha Show at Honolulu Hale. All artists are invited to participate.**

[www.associationhawaiiartists.com](http://www.associationhawaiiartists.com)

**March 9: NAGC State Affiliate Conference**

**April 1: Deadline for Outstanding GT Student Nomination**

[www.youngscientistchallenge.com](http://www.youngscientistchallenge.com)

**May: Hga Artist Show at KCC Library Gallery. Details to follow! Contact [higifted@aol.com](mailto:higifted@aol.com)**

**July: GT Summer Camp**

## MEETING

**Want to know more about Hga and what we do? Stop in at our Spring Informational Meeting to pick up information and talk a while with Hga. Wednesday, February 6th, from 2-4 p.m. in the Queen Liliuokalani Conference Room 46-316 Haiku Road, Kaneohe, Hawaii (off of Haiku Road in Kaneohe, just before Haleiwa Joe's, near the intersection of Kahekili and Haiku Road).**



**Answer:**

*You have some options to pursue:*

*Option 1: After school tutoring: Do you have a good relationship with an educator or TA who can assist? Fees may be required.*

*Option 2: Pick a subject your child particularly excels in and request his attendance in a higher grade level.*

*Option 3: Go outside the school. Private classes or special interest activities can also expand your child's gifts and talents.*

*Option 4: Do start a PAC in your school and find like parents with similar needs for their child. Ask to post announcements via school communications or existing parent groups. ❖*

## Memberships sponsored by AHA

The Association of Hawaii Artists (AHA) is extending an invitation to artists affiliated with the GT community to participate in its annual art exhibitions. Founded in 1926, it is the oldest art association on the island. Students are encouraged to apply for sponsorship for membership fees. If you are interested, please contact [hall.priscilla@gmail.com](mailto:hall.priscilla@gmail.com) for an application and more information about the AHA's activities. [www.associationhawaiiartists.com](http://www.associationhawaiiartists.com). ❖

## Free Resources

Hga is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, FEIN# 99-0169246. We are a free resource. Ask a question and if we don't have the answer, we will help you find it! Through professional referrals, discussion, forums, workshops and various educational settings, Hga will strive to provide best practices for the gifted and talented. Your inquiries and questions assist Hga in building more of an awareness from one community to the next. This year in 2013, we hope to be able to host more informational meetings and provide more insight into the hearts and minds of the gifted and talented. ❖

## A Note From Your New Editor

I will be producing the newsletter twice a year or even every quarter. It would be great to have all of you as "reporters" contributing material to be included in future issues. Please email your ideas, items, tips, questions or answers to [higifted@aol.com](mailto:higifted@aol.com). I also welcome your comments and suggestions on how to improve the GT newsletter. Mahalo! [Priscilla E. Hall] ❖

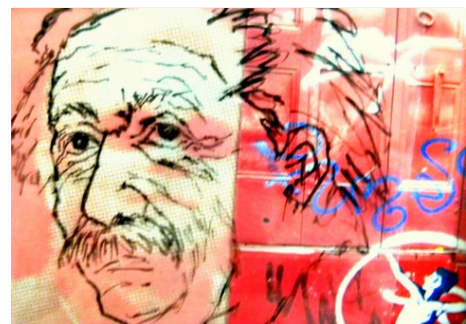
**Student Liaisons are needed at this time. 2013 is an opportune time to build higher education connections while advocating for the youth.**

**Student Liaisons: (pending referrals)**

**Pres.:**

**VP/Sec.:**

**Members:**



"Genius" Mixed Media Warren Stenberg

## Donations!

To our interested Donors, aged 70 ½ with IRA accounts: You are once again eligible to move up to \$100,000 from your IRAs directly to qualified charities without having to pay income taxes on the money. Donors may have gains in your IRA accounts that can be donated to Hga without paying taxes on the gains. A "win-win" for the donor and the nonprofit!

## Hga LINKS

*Hawaii Gifted Association:*  
[www.higifted.info](http://www.higifted.info)

*Alliance for Justice:*  
[www.afj.org](http://www.afj.org)

*National Society for the Gifted and Talented:* [www.nsgt.org](http://www.nsgt.org)

*National Assn. for Gifted Children:*  
[www.nagc.org](http://www.nagc.org)

*Hoagies' Gifted Education Page:*  
[www.hoagiesgifted.org](http://www.hoagiesgifted.org)

*Davidson Institute:*  
[www.davidsoninstitute.org](http://www.davidsoninstitute.org)

*Grants:*  
[www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov)

*Education Week Digital Directions:*  
[www.digitaldirections.org](http://www.digitaldirections.org)

*National Trust for Historic Preservation:* [www.nthp.org](http://www.nthp.org)



Hawaii Gifted Association P.O. Box 22475 Honolulu, HI 96823-2475



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Dear Gifted and Talented Advocate:

We hope you will continue to support our efforts in 2013 by a donation to Hawaii Gifted Association. Your help furthers our professional development efforts in building our resources for the gifted and talented through our advocacy efforts, exhibits, workshops and activities. As you know, our services are free and so is your membership! Your year-end donation assists the Hawaii Gifted Association in serving your community and state by connecting the gifted and talented individuals with the resources that they need.

Christine Ohtani-Chang, President