



MCFARLAND ADVANCED LEARNER SERVICES NEWSLETTER

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OPPORTUNITY FOR ABOVE GRADE LEVEL TESTING

Northwestern University's Midwest Academic Talent Search (NUMATS)

Participation in

NUMATS provides:

- Additional information about your child's academic strengths which helps us in the identification process and in planning appropriate academic programming.
- Experience with the format and level of questions included in college-entrance examinations.
- Access to enrichment opportunities and supplementary academic program options
- This academic talent search is voluntary.
- *Please know that your contact information will be shared with various agencies and you will receive information regarding enrichment opportunities from the Center for Talent Development and promotional materials from various colleges and universities.*
- Here is a document with a quick view of the registration deadlines, test dates and fees: link



- To register your child, or to get more information, visit the Center for Talent Development's website at <http://www.ctd.northwestern.edu/numats/register>.

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

Madison Math Circle is a weekly series of mathematically based activities aimed at interested **middle school and high school** students. It is an outreach program organized by the UW Math Department to provide a taste of exciting ideas in math and science. In the past we've had talks about plasma and weather in outer space, video game graphics, and encryption. In the sessions, students (and parents) are often asked to explore problems on their own, with the presenter facilitating a discussion. The talks are independent of one another, so new students are welcome at any point.

The level of the audience varies quite widely, including a mix of middle school and high school students, and the speakers generally address this by considering subjects that will be interesting for a wide range of students.

After each talk we'll have pizza provided by the **UW-Madison's Mathematics Department**, and students will have an opportunity to mingle and chat with the speaker and with other participants, to ask questions about some of the topics that have been discussed, and also about college, careers in science, etc.



FUTURE PROBLEM SOLVERS

An exciting opportunity at IMMS is the Future Problem Solvers program. Scenario Writing is an individual competition in which students develop short stories related to one of five FPS topics for the year. The story (1500 words or less) is set at least 20 years in the future and is an imagined, but logical, outcome of actions or events taking place in the world.

Some of the skills developed include:

Creativity and Innovation – Problem solving situations are set in the future to encourage inventive thinking. Students learn to look at situations from a variety of perspectives. Creativity is essential as they generate challenges and develop multiple ideas for solutions to pressing problems.

- **Critical Thinking and Problem Solving**
– Students use analysis to gain an understanding of issues in today's world and to comprehend the significant aspects of complex situations set in the future. Problem solving skills are applied as they focus on possible solutions and develop Action Plans for those situations.

Communication and Collaboration – Students collaborate in teams while learning about the issues and while applying their problem solving skills. Clear and articulate communication is developed while working with a team, an essential skill for our future leaders.

Source:

<https://www.fpspi.org/benefits-of-fpspi/>

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

General Information about Giftedness:

National Association for Gifted Children

Hoagies' Gifted Education
www.hoagiesgifted.org

Davidson Institute: a Website supporting profoundly gifted children
<http://www.ditd.org>

Wisconsin Association for Talented and Gifted
<http://www.watg.org/>

Center for Talent Development at Northwestern University
www.ctd.northwestern.edu

Wisconsin Center for Academically Talented Youth www.wcaty.org

Social/Emotional Issues

Sylvia Rimm
www.sylviarimm.com

www.seejanewin.com

SENG Supporting the Emotional Needs of the Gifted :

<http://www.sengifted.org/>

More Resources

· Prufrock Press Inc
<http://www.prufrock.com/>

· Free Sprit Publishing
www.freespirit.com

· Great Potential Press
www.greatpotentialpress.wordpress.com

· MindWare
www.mindware.com

OUR PHILOSOPHY

The McFarland School District strives to meet the needs of all of their students, including those in the gifted population. We recognize outstanding talents in children and youth from all cultural groups, across all economic strata and in all areas of human endeavor. We strive to identify students in the five areas of giftedness: Intellectual, Academic, Creative, Artistic/Dramatic and Leadership and to provide them with continuous and systematic services. McFarland staff and parents work together to sustain the effectiveness of district Advanced Learner Services.