

**OTTOSON A.C.E. /GIFTED AND TALENTED EDUCATION
RESOURCES AND SUPPORT FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS
2012/13**

Ottoson ACE Parent Communication

Sign up for the Ottoson ACE Parents Group:

https://www.arlington.k12.ma.us/pto_directory Register if you have not already done so, then look for the “email lists for Parent 1 or Parent 2” link at the upper right. Once you click on this, the first list you see is “email subscription groups listed...” which does not show an Ottoson ACE group. Scroll down below this and you will see “email subscription groups that are available,” including a listing for Ottoson ACE.

I do not post often to this list; generally I use it to pass along information about resources or classes that come across my desk. Any member can direct an email to the group by sending to

OttosonAceParents@public.arlington.k12.ma.us

**Educational Forum for Intellectually Curious Students 2012: Boston University
(no fee charged)**

10 AM-4 PM Sunday October 4, 2012

Annual one-day gathering cosponsored by BU Academy and Scholar Search Associates. “Open to any and all students in grade 3-12 and their families who enjoy the world of ideas,” and includes presentations, mini-courses, and showcases for local and national resources.

www.scholarsearchassoc.com

NAGC National Convention: Denver

November 15-18, 2012

The National Association for Gifted Children’s annual convention, devoted to the needs of gifted learners.

A number of their educational sessions are targeted specifically for parents. \$420 for members, \$520 for nonmembers. For more information, www.nacg.org

**Local More-Academically/Creatively-Oriented or Individual Sports Enrichment
Opportunities
For Middle-School Age Students
(lower cost or free)**

Ottoson Before or After-School Clubs:

AM/PM Programs require an Am/PM card that costs \$50.00 per term.(financial aid available). Current classes include AM or PM Homework Club, Art Club, Anime-Manga Club, Cross Country (running) and Chess/Board Games.

General afterschool Ottoson programs/clubs that do not charge include the National History Day Club (a science-fair-type contest for history), Generation Citizens (devising solutions for current community issues) Latin Club, Literary Magazine (runs Jan-June), Jazz Ensemble, Select Chorus , Ottoson News Network, Ottoson Students Advisory Council (OSAC).

Robbins Library Teen Programs

Robbins Library programs for teens include creative writing workshops for teens (6 Mondays 6-7:30 PM starting Sept. 24), game board nights (Sept 26, 6-7:30 PM at the Fox), movie afternoons (Sept 28, 3-5 PM, Robbins), and teen knitting workshops (Oct 22, 6:30-8:30 PM, Robbins). Other types of programs happen throughout the year. More information and sign-ups: <http://robbinslibraryteen.blogspot.com>, or www.robbinslibrary.org

Arlington Recreation Department

Offerings change but recent courses for middle-school age students include babysitting, cross-country, fencing, rock climbing, badminton, yoga, tennis. www.arlingtonma.gov, follow link to Recreation.

MIT Educational Studies Program (ESP) for grades 7-12

“Splash” and “Spark”: one weekend (day classes only) or one day of short “courses” and workshops facilitated by MIT students and community members for grades 7-12. Topics range from Duct Tape Design to Stage Fighting to Design and Analysis of Roller Coasters to Harry Potter. Students may sign up for just one or multiple courses. Many ACE students have enjoyed the experience, both because of the topics that are covered and for the new friendships they make with students from other Boston-area communities. Splash is always held the weekend before Thanksgiving on the MIT campus, with on-line registration opening soon. Spark is held in the spring. Last year’s cost was \$30.00 for the entire Splash weekend. For more information and to view this year’s course offerings:

<http://esp.mit.edu/about/welcome.html>

Also available: “Delve”: AP programs in Physics, Calculus, Studio Art, Government and Politics, and others. Classes are held Sundays Sept-May 10 Am-3 PM. Students can take the AP exam in May either with one’s high school or with Cambridge Rindge and Latin School.

<http://esp.mit.edu/learn/Delve/index.html>

For the Future: BC Splash for High School Students

Held in 2013 on Nov 4. Boston College began a “Splash” program in 2011. BC Splash concentrates on course in the liberal arts, but also includes workshops in math, political science, and computer science. All classes and workshops are taught by BC graduate and undergraduate students. The program is no-fee, “designed to instill a sense of excitement in students about academia and have fun doing it!”

<https://bcsplash.learningu.org/>

**Other Local Extracurricular Academic/Creative/Individual Sports Enrichment
Opportunities
For Middle School -Age Students
(fee charged)**

Arlington Enrichment Collaborative

An after-school program for middle school students providing supervision from 3-6PM. The program is held at the Ottoson. AEC offers several academically-oriented enrichment programs as well as LARP (live-action role playing). For more information: www.arlingtonenrichment.org or 781-643-4794

Arlington Center for the Arts Teen Clubhouse

Friday night classes and activities for grade 6-high school (separate sessions for middle and high school students). Middle school clubhouse from 6 PM-8 PM, includes lessons in charcoal drawing, animation, painting, graphic arts, sculpting. \$110 for 8 weeks, less for center members. www.acarts.org

Grub St Young Writers Program

Grub St offers free creative writing workshops for teens 13-18 on Saturdays, 11-1 or 2-4. It also offers teen writing camps that meet for 6 Fridays 4-6 PM, \$175 for members (scholarships available). Most classes are held at the Grub St. Headquarters, 162 Boylston St., 5th floor, Boston. www.grubstreet.org

The Math Circle, Science Center, Harvard University

Enrichment classes for ages 5-17 that “give all students a chance to enjoy math through exciting topics that are normally outside the school curriculum. Its classes are collegial rather than competitive..while the courses are mathematically rigorous, the atmosphere is friendly and relaxed. We want our students to feel free to express their ideas, to suggest their own approaches, and to make mistakes.” The classes are held weekdays for younger students with no prior exposure to algebra and meet at Harvard. Sunday sessions are for older students and meet at Northeastern University, 9 AM- noon, fall and spring terms. Many ACE students over the years have participated in these classes and have enjoyed them
www.themathcircle.org

Russian School of Mathematics

Quite rigorous afterschool program held in various locations such as Shrewsbury and Wellesley. Mailing address is Russian School of Mathematics, 200 Wells Avenue, Newton, MA 02459
RSM@russianschool.com

Girls’ Angle: A Math Club for Girls

A math club for girls 5th grade – 11th grade, part of “a supportive community for women and girls who study, use and create mathematics.” The club meets Thursdays from 3:45-5:45 on Magazine Street near Central Square in Cambridge. Cost is \$20 per meeting or \$216 for a session (3 months). Remote membership, which allows access to their magazine and math contests, is \$108 per year.
www.girlsangle.org

The Math Club

An after-school math organization in Lexington that prepares elementary and middle-school students for the Math Olympiad and the Applied Math Challenge. Classes meet for one hour per week, with the earliest time slot at 4 PM. Cost is \$405/term. www.TheMathClub.com

After-school Enrichment at Acera G/T school in Melrose

After-school enrichment programs open to all. 2012/13 offerings include a Chess Club led by international master and four-time Mass. Champion Igor Foygel, Outing Club including hikes and wilderness survival skills, Live Action Role Play, Cooking Club, and a Math Club focusing on math competitions, algebra, geometry and beyond. www.aceraschool.org or 781-665-2032

Courses in the Arts:

The Arlington Center for the Arts 781-648-6220
MFA Education Department 617-267-9300 www.mfa.org
Decordova Museum School 781-259-0505

Harvard University Extension School: in the fall and spring, Extension School courses are open to high school students who meet specific course prerequisites. In the summer, high school seniors, juniors and sophomores experience college life through courses, dormitory life, and college-prep activities. Extension School courses have been opened to middle school students under special circumstances.
www.extension.harvard.edu

Guard Up: Sword games, NERF Nights, “weekly classes in swordmanship and adventure” in Burlington, for kids and adults. www.guardup.com

Arlington Soap Box Derby Association: for children 8-17. cary@conradfamily.org

MetroRock Climbing Gym, Everett: afterschool and vacation classes. www.metrorock.com

Boston Fencing Club, which holds some classes in Waltham www.bostonfencingclub.org

Popular Middle-school Age (and older) Websites:

New Moon magazine (ages 8-18), a “fully monitored website proven to build confidence and healthy on-line behavior,” publishes writing and artwork from ages 9-17 www.newmoon.com

Merlyn’s Pen “one of America’s top collections of published fiction, poetry and personal essays by students” www.merlynspen.org

New Pages: web site listing numerous options for teen writers to have their work published, as well as numerous creative writing contests. www.newpages.com/npguides/young_authors_guide.htm

Khan Academy

“Learn almost anything for free.” Internet site with numerous videos exploring math, science, computer science, humanities, and test prep. www.khanacademy.org

Internet Courses (fee charged)

For multiple, updated listings of “distance learning” options:

Davidson Institute

www.DavidsonGifted.org/DB

Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth

CTY Online Distance Education Program

www.cty.jhu.edu/ctyonline

Education Program for Gifted Youth (EPGY), Stanford University

On-line courses for elementary, middle and high school students

<http://epgy.stanford.edu>

Gifted Online Accelerated Learning

Institute for the Gifted

University of Missouri

High-school level courses for students in grades 4-8

www.cdis.Missouri.edu/MUHighSchool

**Testing / Support Services/Alternative Educational Environments
(fee charged)**

Acera School, 645 Main Street Annex Building, Melrose MA 02176

An alternative school for gifted students, started in 2009 “by a group of parents and professionals who shared a vision for a school that would offer accelerated learners a runway to develop their unique talents. They envisioned a place where learning was based on ability, not age; a place where curiosity was encouraged; a place for boundless learning...” Currently the school includes Kindergarten through Grade 6 with 3 multiage classrooms. www.aceraschool.org

Gifted Resource Center of New England

P.O. Box 40326

Providence, RI 02940-0326

401-421-3426

<http://www.grcne.com>

“Serves the needs of gifted children, adolescents and their families. Clinical psychologists and educational services are offered in assessment, psychotherapy, school consultation, etc.”

Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth

The Diagnostic and Counseling Center (DCC)

DCC provides psycho-educational evaluations and/or consultations in their Baltimore office. The staff has expertise in clinical psychology, developmental and educational psychology, learning disabilities, gifted education, college planning/career exploration, and counseling.

www.cty.jhu.edu/giftec/dcc

The Sage School

Pre-k-8th grade private school in Foxboro, MA

“A day school dedicated to realizing the potential of gifted children.”

www.sageschool.org

Bard College at Simon’s Rock – The Early College

A small college of 400 students, all of whom enter after completing the 10th or 11th grade in high school. Located in Great Barrington, MA (in the Berkshires).

www.simons-rock.edu

Parent Websites/Conferences

Learning & the Brain Conference for PreK through University Educators, Parents and Clinicians, Westin Copley Place Hotel, Boston

“explore the latest research on How Parents Change a Child’s Brain, Teenagers, Maturation and Memory, Brain Differences in Learning Disorders (and many more)”

November 16-18, 2012. www.LearningAndTheBrain.com

Mass. Association for Gifted Education (M.A.G.E.)

www.massgifted.org

National Association for Gifted Children

Publishers of Gifted Child Quarterly and Parenting for High Potential magazines

www.nagc.org

Hoagies Gifted Education Page, sponsored by ERIC (Educational Resources Information Center)

www.hoagiesgifted.org

Davidson Institute for Talent Development

www.DavidsonGifted.org

Supporting Emotional Needs of Gifted Children, Dr. James T. Webb, Clinical Psychologist

www.sengifted.org

Includes **2e: Twice-Exceptional Newsletter**, a bi-monthly print and electronic publication focusing on those who have both high abilities and are learning disabled in some way; written for parents, educators, etc.

Other G/T Organizations:

National Research Center on the Gifted and Talented (NRC/GT)

University of Connecticut (sponsored by US Dept. of Education)

362 Fairfield Road, U-7, Storrs, CT 06269

www.gifted.uconn.edu

The Gifted Development Center

www.gifteddevelopment.com

GT World
On-line support community
www.gtworld.org

AEGUS: Association for the Education of Gifted Underachieving Students
www.aegus1.org
(contact person lives in Burlington, MA)

Books and Book Lists for Parents and G/T Students

The Gifted Kids' Survival Guide: A Teen Handbook by Judy Galbraith and Jim Delisle: "Written with help from hundreds of gifted teenagers, this is the ultimate guide to surviving and thriving in a world that doesn't always value, support or understand high-ability." (copy in the Ottoson A.C.E. room)

The Survival Guide for Parents of Gifted Kids by Sally Yahnke Walker: "How to understand, live with, and stick up for your gifted child." (copy in the Ottoson A.C.E. room)

See Jane Win for Girls: A Smart Girl's Guide to Success by Sylvia Rimm: advice for young women based on surveys of over 1000 successful women. (copy available in the Ottoson A.C.E. room)

Supporting Emotional Needs of the Gifted a SENG organization e-book that is composed of 30 of the most popular essays from their website (which focuses on the social and emotional needs of the gifted). Available now from Amazon (Kindle) and coming to Barnes and Nobles (Nook). \$3.99

Some of My Best Friends are Books: Guiding Gifted Readers from Preschool to High School

by Judith W. Halsted (copy available in the Ottoson Library)

"The author describes how to use books as bibliotherapy to provide support, guidance, intellectual and emotional growth, and insight for bright children. Sections include characteristics of gifted learners, reading needs of gifted children, summaries of nearly 300 books for children K-12, etc."

Great Books for Boys by K. Odean : compilation of books that cover "a range of emotions and experiences, from adventure to peaceful daydreaming."

Great Books for Girls by K. Odean ; emphasizes strong female characters

"**Outstanding Books for the College-Bound**" and other reading lists compiled by the American Library Association.: www.ala.org

American Association for the Advancement of Science: www.sbsonline.com

St. John's College List of Program Readings: www.sjca.edu/college/readlist.phtml

Magazines for Parents

Parenting for High Potential

National Association for Gifted Children
www.nacg.org

Gifted Child Quarterly

National Association for Gifted Children
www.nacg.org

Gifted Child Today

www.prufrock.com

Magazines for Highly-Able Middle and High School Students

Make

A magazine devoted to inventions and innovative construction projects, with a section for kids
www.makezine.com

Science News

Weekly newsmagazine covering current issues and breakthroughs in all areas of science
www.sciencenews.org

Imagine (winner of Parents' Choice Gold Award)

John Hopkins' Center for Talented Youth
Subscribe at www.cty.jhu.edu/imagine

Cicada :Fiction and poetry for teenagers, edited and published by the same people who produce Cricket
Order through Cricket, www.cricketmag.com or 800-821-0115

(Ages 9-14) Order any of these through Cricket, www.cricketmag.com or 800-821-0115

Muse: variety of topics in science, history and the arts

Cobblestone: American history

Calliope: world history

Focus: multiculturalism/the world today

Odyssey: science and math

Dig: archeology

Cricket: poetry, stories, art

Product Catalogs

Creative Learning Press

www.creativelearningpress.com

Prufrock Press

www.prufrock.com

Great Potential Press

www.giftedbooks.com

Bright Ideas

www.brightideascatalog.com