

**Presented by:**



Northwest Gifted Child Association



**CONNECTIONS**

**Connect** with the  
gifted education  
community through  
presentations led by  
gifted education  
leaders, interact with  
other parents in  
breakout sessions  
and explore local,  
state and national  
resources.

### **Northwest Gifted Child Association**

The Northwest Gifted Child Association is a support and advocacy organization for parents of gifted children. Organized in 1963 (20 years before the state legislature provided grant money to school districts for gifted education programs), NWGCA provides support and information to parents of gifted children. It continues to help parents enhance and hone their parenting skills. It gives them tools to speak out for an appropriate gifted education and deal with this learning difference we call giftedness.

**Learn more at [www.nwgca.org](http://www.nwgca.org).**

## ***A symposium for parents of gifted children***

**Saturday, February 4, 2012  
8:30 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.  
Edmonds, Washington**



## Keynote Speaker

**Part 1**—8:30 - 9:30 A.M.

**Part 2**—11:40 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.

### Charlotte Akin

#### So What? Who Are These Kids and Why Do We Serve Them?

Frequently it is difficult to explain to teachers or a neighbor or relative why it can be challenging to have a very bright child. Or to be a very bright child. Or to educate a very bright child.

This presentation is designed to help participants articulate to others who gifted children are, what their characteristics and learning needs are, what their social and emotional issues are, the myths surrounding this small population, and the risk factors they face. Filled with examples to illustrate and research to quote, this presentation helps participants themselves feel like now they can talk about it to the others in their lives.

**Charlotte Akin** is an award winning teacher of gifted students, retired director of gifted education in the Evergreen School District (Vancouver, WA), President-Elect of the Washington Association of Educators of Talented and Gifted, and a published author in multiple forms and fields including gifted education.

## Breakout Sessions

**Session 1**—9:40 - 10:30 A.M.

### Childhood Stress & Anxiety—*Chris McCurry, Ph.D.*

Recent advances in understanding childhood anxiety, strategies for responding to stress and anxiety, and tools for promoting resilience.

### Educational Alternatives: Homeschooling and Other Non-Traditional Options—

*Patrice Torres*

A discussion of the various methods of homeschooling, the law, and local resources & programs that are available to families.

### Gifted Tweens—*Lisa Krieger*

The challenges facing gifted adolescents and how parents can partner with educators to help students during this transitional period.

**Session 2**—10:40 - 11:30 A.M.

### Building Relationships with Administrators and Teachers to Benefit Highly Capable Learners—*Brian Fox and Nancy Velazquez*

Learn about the how three groups of leaders have influenced the success of Puyallup School District's programs for highly capable learners.

### Student Voices: What has Worked for Them—*Teen panel discussion*

Gifted teens share what has helped them find success personally and in their academic lives.

### Twice Exceptional: Caught Between a Rock and a Hard Place—*Larry Davis*

Advocacy, mutual understanding, and creating bridges of collaboration.

## New this year!

### Optional Brown Bag Table Sessions

12:30 - 2:00 P.M.

Bring your brown bag lunch, select a table topic of interest, and participate in a facilitated discussion with other parents and educators.

## Location

### Edmonds-Woodway High School

The Great Hall

7600 212th St SW

Edmonds, WA 98026

## Registration & Cost

Registration opens at 8:00 A.M.

### Pay through PayPal:

[www.NWGCA.org](http://www.NWGCA.org)

or

### Reserve your seat via Email:

[northwestgca@gmail.com](mailto:northwestgca@gmail.com)

**NWGCA members** Pre-Register \$24

**Non members** Pre-Register \*\$59

**At the door** \*\$30/\$65

### Additional family members only \$5

\* Non-member rate includes one-year membership in Northwest Gifted Child Association

More details available at [www.NWGCA.org](http://www.NWGCA.org)