

Stephanie Tolan is Coming to Colorado!

Stephanie will speak on a variety of topics important to families and educators of gifted children. With this great opportunity, plan ahead for October and don't limit yourself to one event!



Stephanie S. Tolan, M.A., playwright and Newbery Honor winning author of more than 25 critically acclaimed novels for children and young adults, is co-author of *Guiding the Gifted Child*. Since its publication in 1982 she has served as a

consultant to parents and educators about the social, emotional, spiritual and academic needs of the gifted, with a particular focus on the highly to profoundly gifted. Her article "[Is It a Cheetah?](#)" has become a metaphor for gifted children everywhere.

Stephanie Tolan Events:

Gifted Identity: Inspiring Personal Growth

Tuesday, Oct. 5, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Jefferson County Education Center, Building #27
School Board Room, 5th Floor, 1829 Denver
West Drive, Golden, Map: www.bit.ly/cVx72I
Need info? See www.jeffcogifted.org or contact
Jefferson County Assoc for Gifted Children
(JAGC) at info@jeffcogifted.org
Free event; donations encouraged.

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Friday, Oct. 7, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Brush High School, 400 West Ave., Brush,
Colorado, Map: <http://bit.ly/nuVZ9s>
Need info? Contact Valerie Davis at
v.davis@brushschools.org

Some GT kids say: "I'm not sure I want to be gifted. It's so hard to find a balance with all these expectations.", "Why do I feel different? And sometimes I don't feel accepted or liked, so I need to hide my true self. Is that okay?", "There are things I want to do and say and be, but I'm not sure how to investigate my ideas or to communicate them in a fulfilling way."....

"You are not accidental. Existence needs you. Without you something will be missing in existence, and nobody can replace it." This is the quotation, from a Zen master, that Stephanie Tolan uses at the end of all of her talks, and it is central to the message she believes our children deeply need to hear. This presentation will help parents find ways to provide what the culture does not--a sense that the inner self is essential and valuable-- because she believes that it is damaging to our clearly *different* children to be pressured to hide or deny that self to meet the cultural pressure to fit in.

"What Do Our Gifted Kids Need from Us?"

Wednesday, Oct. 6, evening

Adams County Schools

Gifted children have unique social and emotional concerns, including communication, discipline, friends, sibling rivalry, and educational needs. And although gifted students have exceptional capabilities in one or several areas, they depend on the adults in their lives to nurture a positive academic environment, but also in seeking genuine personal fulfillment. Out-of-sync with age peers and with many school and societal expectations, it's important for parents and educators to consider "What Do Our Gifted Kids Need from Us?" so we can better understand these children's differences and give support. Contact Cheryl Franklin-Rohr for further information: cfranklin@adams14.org

“Change Your Story, Change Your Life” A salon for adults.

Saturday, Oct. 8, 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Hear Stephanie talk about using Story Principle to unleash new power into our own lives. Then time for discussion, to become aware of the negative tales we each tell ourselves, and to begin to open up to positive changes in that story. Cost: \$25 (includes a copy of her book). Event capped at 40 participants. Email Kathee Jones at a.gifted.journey@gmail.com for more information or your reservation.

“Where Do the Mermaids Stand?”

A workshop for profoundly gifted children and their parents.

Sunday, Oct. 9, 9:00-4:00

Because of their differences from the norm, profoundly gifted (PG) individuals can experience extreme asynchrony, social isolation and identity confusion. Children can especially have a difficult time finding peers, academic fit, and balance. How can parents be positive, understanding and supportive? We'll start with a quick introductory story, then two sessions: one for kids, another for adults. Q & A and informal discussion are encouraged in this opportunity for PG families to share, ask and discuss giftedness that is even more “different,” but where children also need a “place to stand” For more information about cost and location, or for your reservation, email Ashley Bradsby, ashleybradsby@gmail.com.

“The Gifted Self: Connecting Within and Without” CAGT Keynote Address

Monday, Oct. 10, 12:00-1:00 p.m.

Colorado Association for Gifted Children (CAGT) Conference **Oct 10 & 11**

Denver Tech Marriott, 4900 S. Syracuse Street, Denver, Map: <http://bit.ly/o0Mg23>

Whatever *our* connection with gifted students may be--teacher, counselor, parent--we can best serve their needs by being aware that if they are to *be all they can be*--as the Army puts it to recruits--it is important to help them come to terms with who they are. As members of a social species, they need and want to connect with others, but to do that in optimal ways, they need also to connect with themselves and value their uniqueness. Helping them do this requires some changes to our old patterns. See www.coloradogifted.org for conference registration. Registration includes Conference, CAGT Membership and Kaleidoscope quarterly issues for one year.

CAGT Parent Institute

Stephanie Tolan and Dr. Jonathan Plucker will be keynote speakers

Monday, October 10, 2011

Denver Tech Marriott, Denver

Map: <http://bit.ly/o0Mg23>

6:45 p.m. Sign In & Dessert Buffet

7:00 p.m. Keynote Speaker Presentations

8:00 p.m. Small Group Discussions with Local/National Experts

\$60 for individuals and \$100 for two adult family members. Fee includes Parent Institute, CAGT Membership and Kaleidoscope quarterly issues for one year. Must register at www.coloradogifted.org by Wed, Oct. 5.

“Gifted Creatives”

Wednesday, Oct. 12, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Manhattan Middle School, 290 Manhattan Drive, Boulder, Map: <http://bit.ly/nzHaHu>

Some people think of gifted children as academic superstars, speeding their way through the school curricula and excelling at any tasks that require unusual verbal-abstract reasoning--the domain of the left brain. But many of our most gifted kids exhibit unusual right brain capacities as well. These "gifted creatives" are driven to turn their reasoning capacities to the creation of new ideas, new theories, new ways of doing things--and making (or at least starting) all manner of creative projects. This can make meeting their needs a daunting task both at school, because schools are to creativity what zoos are to wildness, and at home, because creatives are constantly pushing the boundaries we create for them. Stephanie Tolan, a life-long "gifted creative" herself, will provide help identifying and handling these kids, who don't slip easily into the molds we've made for them. Free; donations encouraged. Need more info? Contact Boulder Valley Gifted and Talented (BVGT) at www.bvgt.org or Lynette Zickerman at lynette@zickerman.com for more information.

