

TAGline

Issue 3, February 2007

The newsletter of the Round Rock Talented and Gifted Association

Changes to the RRTAGA Scholarships

RRISD Summer TAG Festival

TAG Conference and Parent Symposium

TAG Conference and Parent Symposium Registration Form

RRTAGA '06-'07 Board Members

TAG Brags

What RRTAGA members are saying...

Page 2

Page 3

Page 4

Page 5

Calendar of Events

February 20-23, 2007

TAKS Testing

February 27, 2007

RRTAGA General Meeting
Cedar Valley Middle School

March 1, 2007

TAGT scholarship deadline

Saturday, March 3, 2007

Explore UT 2007, 11 am to 5 pm.

Saturday, March 24, 2007

TAG Conference and Parent Symposium co-sponsored by RRISD and RRTAGA

RRTAGA Board Meetings

March 7
April 11
May 9

RRTAGA General Meeting

Tuesday, February 27, 2007

6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Cedar Valley MS Lecture Hall

The Round Rock TAG Association will hold its next general meeting on Tuesday, February 27th from 6:30 pm until 8:30 pm in the lecture hall at Cedar Valley Middle School.

The meeting's topics will include:

- a presentation by Abacus Brain Study, which has been helping children in Austin build better memory, deep concentration, great discipline, strong self confidence, and higher learning skills for the past 4 years. Optimize your child's brain development through a relatively simple mental brain exercise program. Bring your kids and challenge the abacus students during the presentation time;
- a presentation by Meredith Denton-Hedrick regarding the new Shawn and Kitanna Martin Memorial Scholarship Fund;
- information about the upcoming TAG Conference and Parent Symposium.

RRTAGA board members will also conduct mini presentations to bring you up to date on the latest developments in the Association. Please join us for a fun and informative evening!

Changes to the RRTAGA Scholarships

The Round Rock TAG Association Board recently voted to make some significant changes to the scholarships we offer. In the past, we have offered four \$300 scholarships to graduating seniors, but we have received feedback that these scholarships were too small relative to the amount of work required.

The board voted to simplify the application for the senior scholarships, reduce the amount of writing required, and increase the award to \$500. However, because we have so few graduating seniors who are RRTAGA members, we have reduced the number of available scholarships to one.

The remaining money from the scholarship budget will go toward creating the new *Shawn and Kitanna Martin Memorial Scholarship Fund*. The entire Martin family recently lost their lives in a plane crash in Ohio at the onset of winter break. Kitanna was a TAG student at Great Oaks Elementary, and Shawn a TAG student at Cedar Valley Middle School. This fund will provide scholarships for RRISD's TAG summer enrichment camp to students who qualify. The Martin family was a very generous and caring family, and we feel this is a wonderful way to honor their memory, as well as better serve Round Rock ISD TAG students.

RRTAGA Board Members 2006-2007

President	Shannon Sherwood ssherwood@austin.rr.com 238-6324	Librarian	Dee Ruether ruethers@sbcglobal.net 238-7192
VP Programs	Raine Maggio raine_maggio@roundrockisd.org	Director of Education	Kathy Fox kathy_fox@roundrockisd.org 249-2729
VP Membership	Dianne Sonnenberg diannes@mac.com 335-9485	Parliamentarian	VACANT
Secretary	Cary Heroy ckheroy@sbcglobal.net 671-8072	Scholarships Chair	Sandy VanTilburg kees.vantilburg@prodigy.net
Treasurer	Ken Fox kfox24@austin.rr.com 249-2729	Community Resources/ Ways and Means	VACANT
Newsletter Editor	Meredith Denton-Hedrick mhedrick@austin.rr.com 733-2045	Public Relations	VACANT
		Web Master	Gary Halm imjgh@hotmail.com
		Legislative/Policy Chair	Melissa Harvey mharvey7@austin.rr.com
		RRISD TAG Director	Michelle Swain michelle_swain@roundrockisd.org

If you are interested in serving in an open position,
please contact Shannon Sherwood at ssherwood@austin.rr.com.



RRISD Summer TAG Festival

Mark your calendar! The RRISD TAG summer camp will be held from 8 am to 12 pm on June 11-14, at Great Oaks Elementary. All current and newly identified TAG students in grades K-5 are welcome to attend. The cost is \$99, and registration begins April 2nd. More information will be coming home in April.



TAG Brags

What RRTAGA members are saying about our wonderful TAG programs

- "Cedar Valley MS has a strong team of TAG teachers that are continually working to enrich our children's lives. I have been so very pleased!"
- "I applaud the recent changes in the TAG program at Old Town Elementary – my child sees the TAG specialist every day, and is grouped in a class with other TAG kids."
- "Susan Culpepper TAG LA at Cedar Valley MS is an outstanding teacher and shows so much patience with our TAG students."
- "The pull-out math and language arts TAG classes have been incredibly positive for my TAG child. We LOVE them!"
- "The TAG program at Great Oaks Elementary is excellent! Mrs. Maggio and Ms. Russell are very dedicated to their students and the program. Thank you!"
- "The TAG program at Pond Springs Elementary is the main element that keeps my child interested in school. It is an educational experience."
- "Revathi Balakrishnan at Forest North is doing a wonderful job! Thank you for bringing Shakespeare into the curriculum!"
- "Hats off to the TAG teachers at Ridgeview Middle School. We have children in 6th and 8th grade, both of whom are learning a great deal and finally feeling more challenged in school. We are blessed they both have great teachers across the board. It is the TAG English and Math teachers that are really stretching their wonderful minds."
- "While we parents wait for a differentiated science and social studies curriculum to become a reality, Mrs Sue Tjon of Pond Springs Elementary is willing to give more of her time and effort to try a new approach, so her TAG kids who are gifted in Science can go "deeper and wider". She and Mrs Sheila Mulbry are the dream teachers TAG kids can be thankful for."
- "Kudos to Katie Artz the TAG math teacher at Chisholm Trail Middle School. She is pretty much available whenever students need her for extra help AM or PM, even during lunch."
- "I think it is wonderful how Ms. Maggio and Ms Russell not only do a great job academically with my TAG student but recognize and are concerned about his social and emotional needs as well!"
- "Raine Maggio and the TAG program at Great Oaks are AWESOME! My 4th grader thrives under it and loves it. Raine keeps us very informed and current. Thank you! Great November meeting for TAG, too!!"
- "RRTAGA meetings are wonderful and very informative!"
- "I appreciate having a pull out program for both math and language arts at Great Oaks Elementary. It has been just what our 4th grader needed! Raine Maggio and Erica Russell are wonderful!!"

3rd Annual Round Rock Independent School District Talented and Gifted Conference for Teachers, Parents and Students

March 24, 2007

8:30-4:00

**Round Rock High School
300 Lake Creek Drive Round Rock, TX**

Featured Speakers:

- **Trevor Romain**
- **Linda Lee**
- **Nancy Linden-Henry**
- Numerous breakout sessions covering many topics!
- Local and national vendors!

Registration:

(includes lunch)

\$30.00 early registration & RRTAGA member

\$40.00 early registration & non member

\$50.00 onsite registration

\$15.00 K-5 students

Note: Student strand includes lunch and activities provided by district TAG specialists and vendor representatives. No student may register without an accompanying parent/guardian registration.

**To register, and for more information please visit
<http://www.rrtaga.org> or
contact the Round Rock TAG Assoc. by email at ssherwood@austin.rr.com**

We would like to thank our sponsors for making this event possible.



3rd Annual Round Rock TAG Conference For Teachers, Parents, and Students

Participant Registration Form

Participant Information:

Teacher Parent **Student (K-5)

Name _____ Grade Level _____
 (Student participant only)

Campus/s _____ District _____

Home address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone number (____) _____ email _____
 (Adult participant only)

**Name of Parent/Guardian accompanying student _____

Conference Fees:

(Includes full-day access and lunch)

Early registration postmarked on or before 3/16/07:

_____ RRTAGA Member	\$30
_____ non-RRTAGA Member	\$40
_____ Student (Kinder – 5 th Grade)	\$15

On-site registration:

_____ RRTAGA Member/non-member	\$50
_____ Student (Kinder – 5 th Grade)	\$15

- *Saturday, March 24th*
 - *8:30am – 4pm*
 - *Breakfast baked goods and beverages sponsored by RRTAGA, donations accepted*
 - *Lunch provided and sponsored by Harcourt Assessment*
 - *Sessions for Teachers, Parents, and Students!*
- Local and National vendors onsite*

Registration confirmation by email

Total: _____ (Check payable to RRTAGA)

Note: **No student may register without an accompanying parent/guardian registration.**

Mail check and registration form to: **Ken Fox, RRTAGA**
 12305 Boneta Cove
 Austin, TX 78729

Time to renew your membership if you haven't already!

The RRTAGA supports gifted education for students in the Round Rock ISD. The \$15 yearly family membership is our only source of income and is used to produce newsletters, student scholarships, and activity days for students. Please renew your membership to the RRTAGA and help make all this possible.

Thank you!

***RRTAGA Membership Form
School Year 2006-2007***

Name _____ Renewal _____ New _____

Address _____

Home phone _____ Email address _____

Please list school-age children enrolled in the TAG program

Name _____ Grade _____ School _____

Name _____ Grade _____ School _____

Name _____ Grade _____ School _____

**Membership dues: \$15 per family per year. Make check payable to RRTAGA.
Mail form and check to RRTAGA Membership, 15008 Solera Dr., Austin, TX 78717**