

# RENZULLI CENTER NEWS

## *Special Category*

### **Dr. Renzulli Reflects on “Our Award”**

*Joseph Renzulli*

I would like to extend my thanks to all the persons who have sent wonderful comments about my Lifetime Achievement Award from MENSA. I'm always happy for any recognition of my work but always aware that it wouldn't be recognized if very committed and creative teachers and administrators didn't put ideas into practice in the real world.

Ideas aren't worth a dime if they can't make a difference for kids in schools and classrooms. For example, my work in studying and promoting in young people the importance of interests and developing instruments such as the several Interest-A-Lyzers for different age levels is an important idea, but it is the teachers who administer and act upon the results of interest assessment instruments or general exploratory activities (Type I Enrichment) that promote interests that make a difference.

Our motto here at the Renzulli Center for Creativity, Gifted Education, and Talent Development has always been *“Team Work Makes The Dream Work.”* Educators around the world who believe that **schools should be places for talent development** are all a part of the same team. I share this award with all of you because you are part the team that makes the dream work and this award belongs you as much as me.

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## **An Interview With Dr. Sally Reis**

Click to watch the New Jersey Association for Gifted Children's interview with Dr. Sally Reis – part of their Stories That Connect Us series:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fLVL0sZ3zLk>

# *Confratute Announcements*

## **Save the Date for Confratute 2022!**

Happy fall—the leaves and colors of October have brought joy and made us grateful for this special time of year! We write to thank those of you who attended our first annual virtual Confratute and extend an invitation to our live event next summer.

We had over 700 participants that attended our first ever virtual Confratute, most of which had never attended before. Although we were thankful we could meet you virtually, we missed seeing everyone in person. We hope many of you can join us on campus at Confratute to experience the live fraternity July 10-15th, 2022. Mark your calendars and stay tuned for more information on all special upcoming events on our website, <https://confratute.uconn.edu>.

Thank you and stay healthy!

Sally, Joe, and the Confratute Team

For more information, contact: Stephanie Huntington at [stephanie.huntington@uconn.edu](mailto:stephanie.huntington@uconn.edu)

## *Upcoming Events*

### **Susannah Richards to Present Books & More Webinar**

Join us on Thursday, November 18, from 8 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Eastern time for a parent presentation on **Books and More for Promoting Literacy and Thinking in Kids** with Dr. Susannah Richards. Dr. Richards will provide recommendations to ignite, delight, and cultivate lifelong readers. This session will highlight recently published books that kids will want to binge read. It will include suggested fiction and nonfiction, middle grade and young adult novels, picture books, graphic novels, and more.

Preregistration for this free webinar is required at <https://gifted.uconn.edu/register/>

For more information, contact: Del Siegle at [del.siegle@uconn.edu](mailto:del.siegle@uconn.edu)



## Research

### **Participate in Acceleration Study at Your School**

The National Center for Research on Gifted Education is seeking elementary schools (at least grades 2-5) interested in expanding their use of subject-specific and whole-grade acceleration as a way to meet the needs of advanced learners. Academic acceleration is the intervention for advanced learners that has shown the greatest effect on learning and achievement. As part of this research project, your school will receive a) professional learning around what acceleration actually is and how it can be used, b) a universal screening process to determine which students should be considered for acceleration, and c) resources and professional learning to help you implement subject-specific and whole-grade acceleration decisions for qualifying students. For more information visit NCRGE <https://ncrge.uconn.edu/acceleration/>.

For more information, contact: Del Siegle at [del.siegle@uconn.edu](mailto:del.siegle@uconn.edu)

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### **Short NCRGE Recommended Practices Videos**

We are pleased to provide these short videos based on research conducted by the National Center for Research on Gifted Education. [Read more...](#)

## *Awards, Publications, and Presentations*

### **Dr. Renzulli Recognized With Lifetime Mensa Award**

For more than 40 years, the research and advocacy of Dr. Joseph S. Renzulli have reverberated across classrooms nationwide, revolutionizing curriculum development, teaching techniques, and learning models. Read more from this online [Mensa Foundation](#) article.

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### **Del Siegle to Receive 2021 NAGC Founder's Award**

The National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC) is pleased to announce Dr. Del Siegle will receive the *2021 NAGC Ann F. Isaacs Founder's Memorial Award* for his distinguished service to NAGC and gifted education. Read more from this online [NAGC](#) announcement.

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## **E. Jean Gubbins is 2021 NAGC Distinguished Scholar**

The National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC) is pleased to announce the *2021 NAGC Distinguished Scholar*. Each year, the association recognizes an individual who has made significant contributions to the field of gifted education and to the development of the organization for more than 10 years and a record of ongoing scholarly productivity.

This year's recipient is E. Jean Gubbins, Ph.D., Professor, University of Connecticut. Read more from this online [NAGC](#) announcement.

### *Fun and Useful Resources: From Us to You*

## **How to Nurture Your Child's Creativity**

Parents who want their kids to be more creative may be tempted to enroll them in arts classes or splurge on STEM-themed toys. Those things certainly can help, but as a professor of educational psychology who has written extensively about creativity, I can draw on more than 70 years of creativity research to make additional suggestions that are more likely to be effective – and won't break your budget. Read more from this online [The Conversation](#) article.

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## **How Tech Will Change Schools**

Covid-19 has disrupted children's education on an unprecedented scale. By mid-April 2020 more than 90% of the world's students had been locked out of classrooms. Read more and watch a video from this online [The Economist](#) article.

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Engagement  
Enthusiasm  
for Learning **ENZULLI** **center**  
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