

Kentucky Association for Gifted Education Annual Conference
Monday, February 23, 2026

7:30 - 8:30	Conference Check-In and Continental Breakfast	Exhibit Hall
8:30-10:00	Recognition of Distinguished Student Award Winner Recognition of Michael Caudill Award Winner	Salon CDE
	 The Nature and Nurture of Creative Expertise Shelagh Gallagher, PhD, College of William and Mary	
10:20-12:20	The Administrators' Institute Julia Roberts, EdD, The Center for Gifted Studies at WKU Shelagh Gallagher, PhD, College of William and Mary Social, Emotional, and Educational Needs of Gifted Students: Myths and Realities Ed Amend, PsyD, The Amend Group Leveling Up with Project Based Learning Sherri Rhodes, Jefferson County Public Schools Christina Mudd, Jefferson County Public Schools Infinite Campus (Useful Reporting Tools for Tammy Tomes, Bullitt County Public Schools	
1:45 - 3:00	Educating 2 E Learners: A Strength Based Approach Tracy Inman, EdD, Gifted Education Consultant Brittney Dodds, Fayette County Public Schools	
12:30 - 1:30	Lunch The Administrator's Institute Julia Roberts, EdD, The Center for Gifted Studies Shelagh Gallagher, PhD, The College of William and Mary	
1:45-3:45	Differentiating so Every Student Learns Something New Lynette Breedlove, PhD, The Gatton Academy Exploring the Basics of Gifted Education Sarah Coomer and the Bullitt County Gifted and Talented Department How to Use AI to Foster Big Dreams for Kentucky's Bright Minds	

Tyler Clark, EdD, The Center for Gifted Studies

1:45 - 2:40 **Identifying and Serving Musically Gifted Students in Rural and High Poverty Areas**
Elizabeth Edwards, EdD
Jeanne Lee, Harlan County Schools

2:50 - 3:45 **Neuroarts**
Leslie Smart, The Louisville Ballet

Dinner on your own

Kentucky Association for Gifted Education Annual Conference
Tuesday, February 24, 2026

7:30-8:30	Registration and Continental Breakfast	Exhibit Hall
8:00	KAGE Business Meeting	Salon CDE
8:30 - 9:15	Using Local Norms to Identify YOUR Gifted Students Tyler Clark, The Center for Gifted Studies, WKU	
Unlocking Potential through the Arts: Arts Integration		
Ashley Perkins, Collaborative for Teaching and Learning Jessie Thompson, Jefferson County Public Schools Emily Wilson, Center for Teaching and Learning		
Math Minds in Motion Jamie-Marie Miller, Eastern Kentucky University Heather Campbell		
Beyond the Page: Our GT Reading Adventure Shelby Turner, Bardstown Independent Schools		
Local Accountability in the Bluegrass State Karen Perry, Kentucky Department of Education Susan Dugle, Kentucky Department of Education		
9:30 -10:15	The Importance of Advanced Coursework Julia Roberts, The Center for Gifted Studies, WKU Tyler Clark, The Center for Gifted Studies, WKU	
Teaching Leadership Across the Grade Levels Toddie Adams, Marshall County Schools		
Super Enrichment, Super Acceleration: Integrated STEM		
Lesia Lennex, Morehead State University Kim Nettleton, Morehead State University Gera Nelson, Morehead State University Michael Kessinger, Morehead State University		
Dynamic Duos: Elevating Literacy through Paired Texts Genny Jenkins, GWC STEM Academy for Boys, Fayette County Public Schools		
From Law to Lessons: Gifted Education in Action Jilliane McCardle, Eastern Kentucky University Kimberley Clayton-Code, Northern Kentucky University		
10:30 - 11:15	Identifying and Serving Diverse Learners Dina Brulles, Arizona State University Kimberly Lansdowne, Arizona State University	
Talent Search 101 Why Should Students Participate? Jennifer Wilson, The Center for Gifted Studies, WKU		
Future Ready Thinkers: Engaging Gifted Learners with AI		
Ashley Marker, Bullitt County Public Schools		

Ensuring All Students Grow as Readers
Denise Ahlquist, Great Books Foundation

Grouping, Looping, Student Choice: Impacts on Rural Gifted Education

Abigail Wheaton, Union County Public Schools

11:30 - 12:15 **Beyond Identification: A Framework for Supporting all Learners**
Angie Fugate, Miami County Educational Service Center

Interactive Resource: Responding to the Arts
Jessica Greene, Kentucky Department of Education

STEAM in GT and PTP Pull Out Classes
Lori Smith, Warren County Public Schools
Morgan Meredith, Warren County Public Schools
Elizabeth Joyce, Warren County Public Schools

Think Fast! Using Brain Jumpstarts to Boost Critical and Creative
Ben Bache, PBL Project

Take a Deep Breath and Teach
Bobbie Noall, Green River Regional Education Cooperative
Heather Kessler, Green River Educational Cooperative

12:30 - 1:15 **Inclusive Pathways: Equitable Identification and Cluster Grouping**
Kimberley Lansdowne, Arizona State University
Dina Brulles, Arizona State University

How One Question can Inspire Students: Future City Competition
Amanda Harris, Shelby County Public Schools

Impact of Authentic Educational Engagement on Student Outcomes
Stephanie Lewis, Bullitt County Advanced Math and Science Program
Payton Coogle, Bullitt County Advanced Math and Science Program

Kentucky Green Schools: Student Led Investigations that Inspire
Perry Thomas, Kentucky Association for Environmental Education

Game On! A Playbook for Championing Gifted Education
Justin Mitchell, Simpson County Public Schools
Elizabeth Joyce, Warren County Public Schools

1:30 - 2:15 **Supporting GT Families: Sharing Practical Tips for**
Lisa Hoffman, Indiana University Southeast
Alan Zollman, Indiana University Southeast

Born to Lead:Helping Gifted Learners Develop Leader
Kimberly Clayton-Code, Northern Kentucky University

STEM based GT Activities for Young Ecologists
Jamie Marie Miller, Eastern Kentucky University

Transforming Learning for Gifted Students
Melissa Thompson, Kentucky Department of Education

2:30 - 3:30 **Ode to Joy: Remembering Why We Do What We Do**
Tracy Inman, Gifted Education Consultant