

NCAGT Issues a Statement of Solidarity.



The Board of Directors of the North Carolina Association for Gifted and Talented grieves with the nation over the brutal and unjust murders of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd, the latest in a long and tragic history of violence against Black Americans. These acts further tear an already fragile social fabric, exposing the systemic injustice and racism that plagues our country more clearly.

We stand in solidarity with our Black membership and with everyone who feels the anger, pain, and trauma of these times. Most of all, we are aware that children are watching, mindful of W.E.B. Dubois' reminder that "Children learn more from what you are than what you teach."

NCAGT is committed to being an instrument of change:

- **We recognize** that undereducation is another form of suffocation. We will redouble our ongoing efforts to remove the systemic barriers that prohibit too many gifted Black, brown, and low-income students from receiving the advanced education they need to thrive. To that end, we welcome partnership with universities, legislators, our state education agency and policy makers, school boards, administrators, advocacy organizations, and, most of all, teachers.
- **We believe** a thoughtful education sows the seeds of understanding. We will continue to promote mindsets, programs, and practices that value all children, welcome differences, and embrace a multitude of cultural heritages.
- **We acknowledge** our need to hold a mirror up to our own practices. We will engage in anti-racism training this fall. We will follow that training with additional opportunities to learn how to become authentically inclusive. At a minimum, we will continue to actively recruit a racially diverse membership and to build leadership capacity among those members at all levels of the organization.
- **We aspire** to a world where all children experience the joy, freedom, and enlightenment that education brings. To that end, we offer some resources to help take the next step and to promote healing and understanding.

Forward together,
The NCAGT Board of Directors

RESOURCES

[Embrace Race.](#) Resources to find multicultural literature for young children.

[Resources to Create an Anti-Bias Classroom.](#) The National Association for the Education of Young Children.

[A PBS NewsHour Extra](#) lesson plan about the death of George Floyd. The plan includes a news video (that omits the footage of Floyd's death) and discussion questions about the protests, police brutality, and media literacy. For Grades 6-12.

[Project 1619](#) Curriculum materials for all grade levels from the Pulitzer Center and the New York Times. The curriculum includes

reading guides, activities, and other resources about the history of race in America.

[Teaching Tolerance.](#) Lesson plans, teaching strategies, and frameworks for cultivating tolerance. From the Southern Poverty Law Center.

[Talking About Race.](#) The Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture launched an online portal called that's designed to help steer conversations about racism, racial identity, and the way these forces shape every aspect of society.