

Welcome to the 48th Annual Conference of the North Carolina Association for the Gifted & Talented!

Please read this information carefully. It has some very important, as well as helpful, information for you.

Conference Site: The conference will be held at the [Marriott Winston-Salem](#) and the [Embassy Suites](#) hotels in downtown Winston-Salem at intersection of North Cherry Street and West 5th Street.

Meals: There will be four meals served at the conference – two breakfast and two luncheon events - and for those with dietary restrictions, vegetarian options will be available. For the Friday luncheon, a sit-down, plated meal will be served. ***IF YOU HAVE A DIETARY RESTRICTION*** and ***REQUIRE*** a vegetarian plate, send an email to rcourtright@ncagt.org to request this option. **This request MUST be submitted by February 17.** The catering service must have this in advance in order for the service staff to be prepared with an accurate number of servings.

Parking: There are two nearby parking decks operated by the City of Winston-Salem (the hotels do not have their own parking facilities). The Cherry Marshall Parking Deck is adjacent to the Embassy Suites with an entrance at 411 North Cherry Street. Those arriving Thursday morning *may* find this deck full. There is a second deck in the next block north, across from the Benton Convention Center at 500 North Cherry. A skywalk on the third level leads to the Benton Center; from there a ground floor tunnel leads to the Embassy Suites lower level. Both of these decks are city facilities and payment for parking is required. There is no hotel option for free-reduced parking.

Registration: The registration desk will be located on the second floor of the Embassy Suites in the Garden Terrace area on the second floor. Registration will be open on Wednesday, March 1, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. In the morning, Registration will open at 7:00 a.m. and remain open throughout the day until closing at 4:00 p.m. and on Friday, March 3, will open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 10:00 a.m.

Credentials: All attendees and presenters attending the conference must register and have issued at the registration desk ***their conference badge, which must be worn at all times.*** No one will be admitted to sessions – particularly plenary sessions – if not wearing the lanyard and badge for this conference.

Exhibitors/Vendors: A number of agencies will be present at the conference, and we hope you will visit them to find out what they have to offer. They include Royal Fireworks Press, Renzulli Learning, Kendall-Hunt, Riverside Insights and MHS Education.

SCHED: The conference agenda with information about sessions, presenters, titles, locations, and descriptions will be on SCHED. You will receive information regarding downloading the app. An *abbreviated* schedule of events will be found at the end of this email.

Keynote Sessions: There will be four plenary sessions with meals included featuring a keynote speaker at each: Dr. Matt Zakreski, Lisa Van Gemert, Leah Carper (NC Teacher of the Year) and North Carolina’s Director of Advanced Learning and Gifted Education, Sneha Shah-Coltrane. (Due to an unfortunate accident, Dr. Ken Dickson is unable to travel and will not be able to present for us.)

Session Formats: Out of the over ninety (90!) choices of sessions to attend, there are three different styles, as determined by the presenter in their respective proposals. They are:

Demonstration Session: Think “speed dating!” During the demonstration block of time, there will be four small-group gatherings in the Gaines Ballroom at tables identified by the topic. When the session begins, the presenters will demonstrate their procedure/strategy for up to fifteen minutes with opportunities for hands-on experience by the participants. After fifteen minutes, all of the participants rotate to the next table repeating the process three more times until the session’s conclusion.

Poster Session: Think “conversation!” In the Gaines Foyer there will be posters set up during the designated hour and the presenter will be on hand to describe the information on the poster, elaborate on what is there, and discuss it in a small-group or one-on-one conversation.

Concurrent Session: Think “classroom!” Presenters will deliver information on their topic in the typical conference format - a fifty-minute session presenting theory, research, best practices, service delivery options, etc., as outlined in the program.

Gift Basket Fund Raiser: Continuing the tradition of the past few years, a gift basket raffle will be held at the conference. Through the generosity and support of the AIG Regional Directors and the district coordinators from their respective districts, gift baskets with goodies representative of the region will be prepared, delivered, displayed and raffled off. The generosity of the state’s district coordinators will provide financial support to NCAGT, but only if you participate in the fun. Please be sure to put a few extra dollars in your wallet as you leave home and help NCAGT – and perhaps win a basketful as a reward.

Attire: For those of you wondering about this, clothing for the conference should be business casual with the emphasis on comfort. Layers are recommended, as some rooms can be small ovens while others can be refrigerators. There is a bit of walking involved, going from building to building, so comfortable shoes are recommended, as well. Be comfortable!

Evenings Out: Wednesday and Thursday evenings are free. You might wish to take advantage of some of the fantastic dining spots in Winston-Salem. This QR code is from *Visit Winston-Salem* and may be helpful in locating a dining spot you’ll enjoy.



NCAGT 2023 CONFERENCE SCHEDULE-AT-A-GLANCE

Wednesday, March 1

5:00 to 8:00	Registration	Garden Terrace, Embassy Suites
6:30 to 9:00	NCAGT Board of Directors	Bethabara, Marriott

Thursday, March 2

7:00 to 4:00	Registration	Garden Terrace, Embassy Suites
8:00 to 5:30	Vendors/Exhibitors Open	Garden Terrace, Embassy Suites
7:30 to 8:45	Breakfast , NCAGT Business Meeting and Zakreski Keynote Address	Gallery Ballroom, Embassy Suites
9:00 to 9:50	Concurrent Sessions Set 1	Marriott & Embassy Suites
10:00 to 10:50	Concurrent Sessions Set 2	
10:50 to 11:15	Beverage Break	Hearn Ballroom Foyer
11:15 to 12:05	Concurrent Sessions Set 3	Marriott & Embassy Suites
12:15 to 2:00	Luncheon , Awards and Van Gemert Keynote Address	Gallery Ballroom, Embassy Suites
2:00 to 2:50	Concurrent Sessions Set 4	Marriott & Embassy Suites
3:00 to 3:50	Concurrent Sessions Set 5	Marriott & Embassy Suites
-----	Dinner (<i>On your own</i>)	
7:00 to ?	Trivia Night (Brian Housand, Host)	Gaines Ballroom, Embassy Suites

Friday, March 3

7:00 to 10:00	Registration	Garden Terrace, Embassy Suites
7:30 to 1:30	Vendors/Exhibitors Open	Garden Terrace, Embassy Suites
7:30 to 8:45	Breakfast , State of the State and Shah-Coltrane Keynote	Gallery Ballroom, Embassy Suites
9:00 to 9:50	Concurrent Sessions Set 6	Marriott & Embassy Suites
9:50 to 10:25	Beverage Break	Hearn Ballroom Foyer, Marriott
10:25 to 11:15	Concurrent Sessions Set 7	Marriott & Embassy Suites
11:30 to 1:00	Luncheon , Awards and T.O.Y. Carper Keynote Address	Gallery Ballroom, Embassy Suites
1:10 to 2:00	Concurrent Sessions Set 8	Marriott & Embassy Suites
1:30	Vendors/Exhibitors Close	
2:10 to 3:00	Concurrent Sessions Set 9	Marriott & Embassy Suites
3:00	Conference Closes	