

The Tasmanian Association for the Gifted presents:

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7th Biennial State Conference
No limits!
HELPING ALL STUDENTS EXCEL
August 26 – 28, 2016

Proudly supported by:



Keynote Speaker: Leslie Graves

Leslie is President of the World Council for Gifted and Talented Children (WCGTC) after serving as an executive member for many years leading up to her election as president in 2013. and (most important) a Parent

She is an Occasional Lecturer in Gifted on Post Graduate courses in Special Education Needs at University College Dublin) in Ireland; an International Templeton Fellow at Belin Blank Centre for Excellence in Gifted Education at the University of Iowa. Leslie was a commissioned writer for the Irish National Council for Curriculum and Assessment on the National Guidelines for Teachers of Exceptionally Able Students (Ireland), and a subject matter expert on Gifted for the National Council for Technology in Education.

Born in the USA, Leslie grew up in Mexico and has been living in Ireland for many years. She is the parent of highly able children as well as being an artist and as a seasoned presenter, she has spoken at many conferences both nationally and internationally.

Leslie will be presenting:

1. 'No Bed of Roses'- On Beyond Limits Parenting and Being a Gifted Child

This Keynote will give a deeply personal insight into three generations of growing up with and parenting gifted individuals. Parents often struggle to help their children push through the many limits encountered in their worlds. Gifted kids have never been sorted easily like small, medium and large eggs into egg cartons. Their shapes do not seem to fit our well-known boxes or categories. They often sustain hurt or roughened edges when we attempt to 'fix' or 'fit' them into the perimeters we are familiar with. Acceptance, Belief in, Support, Encouragement, Humour, Elasticity and Understanding- all these will also be seen as necessary qualities on the wonderful and often bumpy roadmap to their eventual fulfilment and beyond limits.

2. 'Limitless Learning in G-Major (or minor)'- A Composition of Complexities and Twice Exceptional Students/Children

This Keynote will explore what it means to be a Gifted and Talented student with other challenging needs while looking at how taking different perspectives and understanding may help them move beyond limits to limitless possibilities.

There are many among the Exceptionally Able(Gifted) populations, (usually the greater the giftedness, the greater the asynchrony or discrepancy) who, for one reason or another, have some instruments working at maximum (far to loud), and others at a minimum (needs work!) or not at all (missing?). Provision for these children requires careful and thoughtful planning, supporting them where they are weak, helping them reach those elusive notes, and finding their own rhythms.

3. 'Limiting Limits'- The Universe of Coping Creatively with Challenging Behaviours in Gifted & Talented students/children

When a child starts to be uncomfortable due to their needs not being met for whatever reason, it is quite common for constellations of worrying or perceived negative behaviours to surface. These can be quite limiting and be a cause of students not moving forward in a healthy way- dimming of their light. This talk explores some of these Challenges, possible reasons behind them, in order to aid understanding. It explores some possible helpful reflections and strategies to remove limiting environmental and other factors so they may continue on their journeys with no limits and shine.