

Summer Recap: 2e Hall of Fame and Celebrating Our Graduates

The Bridges 2e Center for Research and Professional Development inducted three new honorees to its 2e Hall of Fame in the beginning of the summer. Established in 2017, the award celebrates the contributions of educators, mental health professionals, and other leaders whose work has positively impacted not only the lives of 2e students and their families, but also the broader 2e movement.



Inductee Dr. Dan Peters is a licensed psychologist, author, speaker, co-founder and executive director of the Summit Center.

He has devoted his career to the assessment and treatment of children, adolescents, and families, specializing in overcoming worry and fear, learning differences, parenting, and issues related to giftedness and twice-exceptionality. The co-author of *Bright, Complex Kids* and *Raising Creative Kids*, and the author of *Make Your Worrier a Warrior*, *From Warrior to Warrior* and the *Warrior Workbook: A Guide for Conquering Your Worry Monster*, Dr. Dan contributed to *Twice Exceptional: Supporting and Educating Bright and Creative Students with Learning Difficulties*. He has written many articles and chapters on parenting, giftedness, twice-exceptionality, dyslexia, and anxiety. He also hosts the podcast, “Parent Footprint with Dr. Dan.”



While serving on the Advisory Board for the Bridges 2e Center for Research and Professional Development and co-chairing of National Association of Gifted Children’s Assessments of Giftedness Special Interest Group, Dr. Dan was recognized as Mental Health Professional of the Year in 2018 by SENG (Supporting Emotional Needs of the Gifted) and received the 2013 CAG Distinguished Service Award from the California Association for Gifted.

Inductee Jonathan Mooney is a dyslexic writer and activist who first learned to read when he was 12 years old after a childhood spent enduring the condescension of low expectations. He has since earned an honors degree in English literature at Brown University.



Jonathan has had several acclaimed books published, including *Learning Outside the Lines* (now in its 28th printing), first published when he was 23; *The Short Bus: A Journey Beyond Normal* about “unteachable” children who find innovative ways to achieve; and, most recently, his best-selling memoir, *Normal Sucks*, which advocates for the radical message that neurodiverse people do not need to be “fixed.” Regularly covered by media outlets such as NPR, NBC, and the *New York Times*, Jonathan has established himself as one of the foremost writers, speakers, innovators, change agents, and leaders in the fields of LD/ADHD, disabilities, and alternative education.

Jonathan also founded and is president of Project Eye-To-Eye, a mentoring and advocacy non-profit organization for students with learning differences. Project Eye-To-Eye currently has 30 chapters in 25 states and is working with more than 20,000 students, parents, and educators nationwide.

Inductee Dr. Jann H. Leppien, a professor emerita at Whitworth University in Spokane, Washington, is the former Margo Long chair in gifted education and program director for graduate programs in gifted education (2013-2021).



Her professional experience includes serving as a research associate at the National Research Center on the Gifted and Talented, teaching in an elementary and middle school, and coordinating gifted education services for K-8. She conducts national and international training for educators in differentiated instruction, curriculum design and assessment for advanced students, thinking skills, and gifted program development. She has served on the board of the National Association for Gifted Children, and currently serves on boards for the 2e Center for Research and Professional Development at Bridges Academy, NAGC’s Leadership Committee, and Washington State’s Gifted and Talented Advisory Board. She co-authored *Multiple Menu Model: A Practical Guide for Developing Differentiated Curriculum* and *The Parallel Curriculum: A Design to Develop High Potential and Challenge High-Ability Students*.

Dr. Jann H. Leppien is also the series editor for content-related PCM books. Currently, she serves as the president of Edufest, a summer institute on teaching and learning in Boise, Idaho.

Following the Hall of Fame induction, the Bridges Graduate School held its first hooding ceremony recognizing Ed.D. and M.Ed. graduates. Families and friends celebrated the following individuals being hooded with their master's degree: Adrienne Meldrum, Anahid Koumriqian, and Sheryl Fox. The first-ever hooding of Bridges Graduate School doctors of education honored Lisa Zaretsky, Cindy Hansen, Rashmii Mahendra, Jade Rivera, Calvin Jordan, Mustapha Samad, Graciela Livas, Brooks Luscher, Tabitha Molett, and Marcy Dann. Each graduate's specific research study was announced as they were hooded by their doctoral advisor. [Click here for a short video of the hooding ceremony.](#)



Dean Hank Nicols and Drs. Jann Leppien, Karen Westberg, Susan Baum, Kristin Berman, Lin Lim, and Marcia Delcourt [joined us for the two-week residency and all events.](#) Their presence always brings special opportunities for our graduate students to make deeper connections.

On Saturday, June 25, at the gazebo on the beautiful Bridges Graduate School campus, a formal graduation ceremony was held for masters and doctoral graduates. Scott Barry Kaufman, Ph.D., an American cognitive scientist, author, podcaster, and popular science writer, was one of the first professors for this year's graduating doctorate class in 2019. Dr. Kaufman developed a special bond with this cohort and returned to BGS to receive an honorary doctorate degree for his many years of research and dedication to the field of cognitive diversity and to serve as the graduation keynote speaker. A cake and champagne reception followed.



Coming Up: Fall Open Houses

We will be conducting virtual open houses on Tuesday, September 13, and Tuesday, October 25, at 5 p.m. PT for anyone interested in learning more about the programs at Bridges Graduate School of Cognitive Diversity in Education.

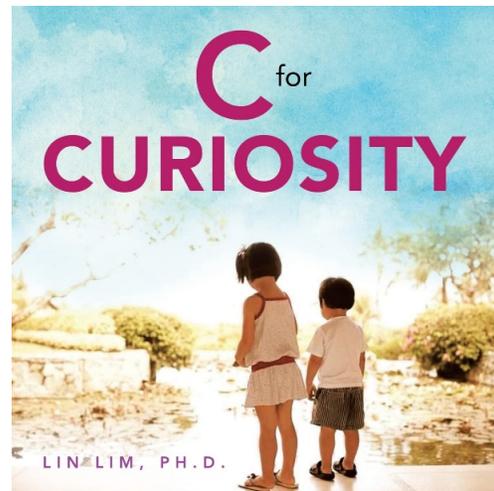
Whether you are considering a certificate in 2e, a master's in education, or a doctorate in education, an open house is a great way to meet our faculty, learn about our programs, and ask questions.

Make sure to spread the news — [and the link](#) — about our fall open houses!

[Click here to register!](#)

"C for Curiosity"

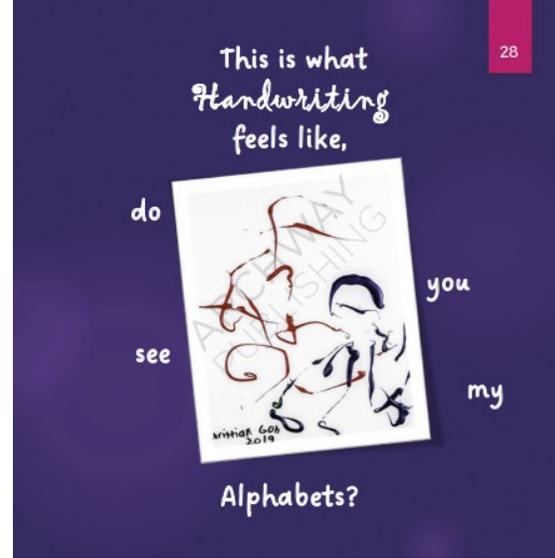
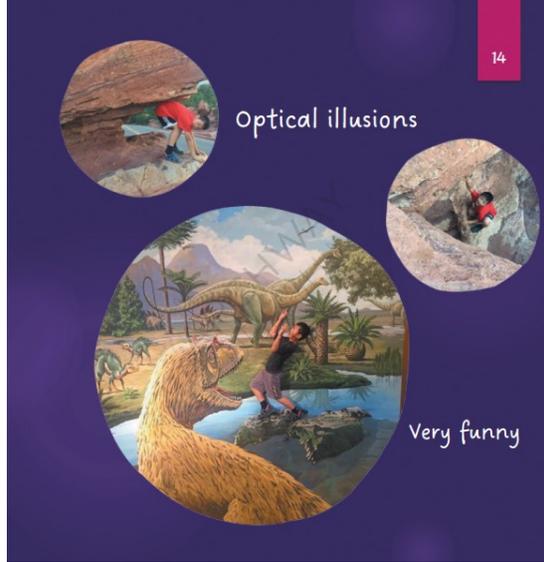
Bridges Graduate School Associate Dean Dr. Lin Lim recently published *C for Curiosity*, a photo journey written through the lens of a cognitively diverse, gifted multi-cultural child. This book aims to leverage a child's curiosity as a bridge to dialogue, understand, and celebrate the beauty and wonder of different minds, perspectives, and subjective lived experiences.



This photo book includes 34 pages of carefully curated personal family photos collected over the years, paired with rhythmic lyrical phrases and original pieces of artwork created by Lin's son. This is an invitation for readers to discover, rediscover, and marvel at the collective richness found when we open our minds through active engagement in being curious and wondering why, how, what, who, and when.

The idea for this photo book came about as Lin considered psycho-developmentally safe mediums to spark collaborative dialogue, create awareness, and understand and support complex outliers at early ages. Visual elements of the book have been carefully selected so that readers of all ages can continue to revisit, reflect, and engage meaningfully with the material over time. She hopes that sharing her family's personal story through genuine photos and art highlights and nurtures relational aspects of our psyche and lifespan journey.

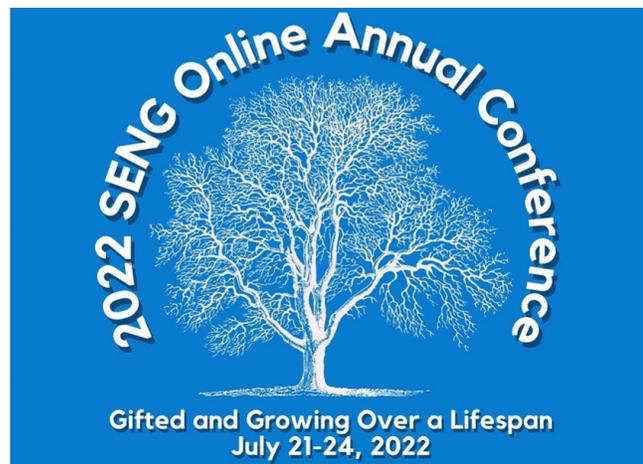
C for Curiosity is currently available for purchase through [Amazon](#) and [Archway Publishing](#). Lin shares her activities and thoughts on human development through [Zenliving.com](#).



2022 SENG Annual Conference

Bridges Graduate School was well represented at the annual SENG Conference which took place July 21-24. Over 50 sessions were presented this year.

Dr. Lin Lim led the conference kickoff and welcome with a panel session titled, "Wellbeing and Resilience for the Gifted: Narratives from Multiple Perspectives."



The 2022 SENG Annual Conference recordings are now available for purchase by clicking here.

SENG's mission is to empower families and communities to guide gifted and talented individuals to reach their goals intellectually, physically, emotionally, socially, and spiritually. To learn more and subscribe to their free newsletters and resources, visit www.sengifted.org.

Congratulations to our faculty, graduates, and students who presented at this conference:

Lin Lim, Ph.D. (associate dean)
Cindy Hansen, Ed.D. (Class of 2022)
Sam Young, M.A. (Class of 2021)

BGS Students:

Gayle Bentley
Tiffany Chaiko
Amy Clark

Ley-Anne Folks
Barry Gelston
Holly Kincaid
Callie Turk

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