



# Panther Press

A publication of the Georgia Academy for the Blind

**Friday, May 5th, 2023**

*This institution is an equal opportunity provider*

Dr. Cindy Gibson, Superintendent

2895 Vineville Ave. Macon, GA



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## Mark your Calendar for:

# MAY

**5/11** - Spring Musical in the Auditorium at 10:30 & 6:30pm **"Junie B. Jones Jr. the Musical"**

**5/8 through 5/12** - Teacher/Para Appreciation Week

**5/12** - School Council Meeting with Special Guest Corlice Atkins, Estate Planning for Special Needs

**5/18** - Prom Night at GAB "Hollywood"

**5/23** - Water/Field Day, bring swimwear

**5/25** - Graduation at GAB 

**6/11 through 6/16** - Summer Program at GAB

**8/2** - First Day of School 2023-24

**9/22 through 9/24** - Short Course weekend

# A message from our Superintendent

T'is the season of transitional farewells and hopeful commencements. With that also many procedures and questions> Reach out to your case manager for in-depth explanations if you have any concerns with what your child needs to complete 2022-2023.

The GAB Music Department will be performing Junie B. Jones the Musical JR. May 11 and 12. See the flyer included. We are so excited to offer this opportunity to the school and community. The evening performance is at 6:30 on Thursday, May 11, 2023. We are providing additional instructions for your safety. Please support our performers and school!

Enter Gate 3 off of Hair Mechanics Rd. to park.

Drivers License or other ID required for Safe Schools

Children especially invited!

The performance is about 1 hr. 15 min.

Call 478.751-6083 X 2140 Pam Maddox to reserve a space; seating is first come, first serve.

Free Admission

GAB transforms into a veritable Hollywood on Thursday, May 18, 2023. If you want to take your child off campus for grooming, please sign your child out and in through the GAB office. If you want to take your child with you for the weekend on Thursday night following the prom, please sign out with Lauren Eckman at the prom table in the foyer of the dining hall. **The prom is from 7:00 PM – 9:30 PM.** Questions have been asked about other modes of transportation such as limos, motorcycles, etc. Please know that it is Georgia Department of Education State Policy that students are transported by state vehicles to school activities with supervision of state employees. No other transportation will be allowed to pick up a student at school or the senior

Goodwill Industries honored the GAB WBL (Work-Based Learning) students at historic Luther Williams Ball Park on Monday, May 1. We are exceedingly proud of Ian Bullock, Ambria Tharpe, and William Hanks who were named Volunteers of the Year. We thank Goodwill Industries and administrator Brandi Hartness for this transition opportunity and recognition of serving the community! The privilege to WORK is essential to the GAME of independent living.

Cottage 3 will miss Ms. Macy Ellis, who has been the Music Therapist this year. Macy is completing her Masters degree at Georgia College and State University in Milledgeville, GA. Macy is magic to students and staff alike!!! Jennifer Minter has posted the “Good-bye Song” to the GAB FaceBook page! Macy is very interactive with students and students enjoy musical expression in their own unique ways!



Announcing: The United States Tennis Association has reached out to form a partnership with the Georgia Academy for the Blind to facilitate Blind Tennis participation. Macon's own Jaime Kaplan, who has been a noted player and pro for many years is on the Association commission, and represented GAB would be a worthy and viable partner. So...we are working on our 1<sup>st</sup> Short Course Weekend September 22-24, 2023, partnering with local and national tennis coaches, and teaching our students a new wellness and leisure time activity- another privilege to enhance the GAME of independent living.

As ever,  
Cindy







I hope this message finds you well. I wanted to take a moment to share my thoughts on an issue close to my heart—the significance of recreation and leisure in the lives of children who are blind. As we strive to create inclusive environments and empower every child, regardless of their abilities, we must acknowledge the immense value of engaging them in recreational activities that foster joy, growth, and a sense of belonging. Recreation and leisure activities provide children who are blind with more than just entertainment; they play a pivotal role in their holistic development. By participating in sports, games, and various leisurely pursuits, children learn essential life skills, develop physical coordination, enhance their cognitive abilities, and build emotional resilience. These experiences not only contribute to their overall well-being but also help them thrive as individuals. -Mr. Fullergreen





# Georgia Academy for the Blind

Presents

# Junie B. Jones The Musical JR.®



Book and Lyrics by  
**Marcy Heisler**

Music by  
**Zina Goldrich**

Adapted from the JUNIE B. JONES Series of books by **Barbara Park**

Adapted from the books JUNIE B. JONES IS A GRADUATION GIRL, JUNIE B. JONES FIRST GRADER AT LAST!, JUNIE B. FIRST GRADER BOSS OF LUNCH, JUNIE B. FIRST GRADER TOOTHLESS WONDER and TOP SECRET PERSONAL BEESWAX, A JOURNAL BY JUNIE B. (AND ME)

by Barbara Park.

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For more about the Junie B. Jones books,  
visit [www.juniebjones.com](http://www.juniebjones.com) or a bookstore near you!

Originally produced by Theatreworks/USA

Director  
**Catherine Holloway**

Superintendent  
**Dr. Cindy Gibson**

*Junie B. Jones The Musical JR.* is presented through special arrangement with  
and all authorized materials are supplied by  
Music Theatre International, New York, NY  
(212) 541-4684 [mtishows.com](http://mtishows.com)

**Location – Reynolds Auditorium**

**Show times – May 11 @ 10:30 AM, May 11 @ 6:30**

Performance schedule: May 11 @ 10:30 am

May 11 @ 6:30 pm, May 12 @ 10:30 am




**DON'T MISS YOUR  
OPPORTUNITY TO SEE !**









HOLLYWOOD

# GAB Prom 2023

**WHO:** GAB STUDENTS IN GRADES 9-12

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**WHAT:** HOLLYWOOD: A NIGHT WITH THE STARS

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**WHY:** TO CELEBRATE A SUCCESSFUL YEAR

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**WHERE:**  
GAB CAFÉ

**DATE:**  
THURS. MAY 18TH

**TIME:**  
7-9:30 PM



# 2023 Order Form – Prom - Corsages and Boutonnieres

**ORDERS DUE BY MAY 17**



\$10.00



\$5.00

Corsage

☐

Boutonniere

☐

Pink Ribbon

☐

Yellow Ribbon

☐

Red Ribbon

☐

White Ribbon

☐

Blue Ribbon

☐

Purple Ribbon

☐

Paid

☐

**Payment due at  
time of order!**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Pay Ms. Jones in Room 188. Cash or checks made out  
to GAB.**

**MAY 8-12TH**

# **TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK**

GAB is accepting donations to help show our teachers appreciation!

**Our Theme is You are Mint to be at GAB!**

**The following are gift ideas:**

**Wrigleys Double Mint Gum**

**Mint Tic-tacs**

**Pkgs of Junior Mints**

**Life saver mints**

**Mint M&M's**

**York peppermint patties**

**Andes thin mints**

**Mint Tea Bags**

**Mint scent antibacterial hand spray/gel**

**Mint lip chap stick**

**Mint scented candles**



**We have around 70 Teachers and Para-professionals.**

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**CONTACTS FOR DONATIONS**

**ALESIA BECHTEL: [ABECHTEL@DOE.K12.GA.US](mailto:ABECHTEL@DOE.K12.GA.US)**

**KIM SMITH: [KISMITH@DOE.K12.GA.US](mailto:KISMITH@DOE.K12.GA.US)**

**JENNIFER MINTER: [JMINTER@DOE.K12.GA.US](mailto:JMINTER@DOE.K12.GA.US)**



# GEORGIA LIONS CAMP, INC.

FOR THE BLIND

Exhilaration Growth Freedom

Independence Empowerment



## So Much to Discover

[www.GLCB.org](http://www.GLCB.org)



## **GEORGIA LIONS CAMP, INC.**

### **SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN**

- 1- For online registration visit the camp's website: [www.glcb.org](http://www.glcb.org).  
On the home page select Camping Schedule/CampDoc registration and follow the instructions.  
You will need an active email and establish a password to begin registration.  
Call the Camp office if you need assistance, 912-283-4320
- 2-Carefully view the following 2023 Summer Schedule for the youth.

### **2023 Summer Schedule**

**Session 1-June 25-30    Pre-teens Camp (6-12 years old)**

**Session 4- July 16-23              Teenagers (13-17 years old)**

### **2023 Camper Fee is \$400.00.**

Summer Sessions consist of Canoeing, swimming, high ropes, outdoor games and activities, arts and crafts, tandem bike riding, off campus trip, and lots of fellowship time.

Come join us. Re-unite with friends and meet new ones.

As Camp Director I look forward to meeting you,

Mike Williams

Georgia Lions Camp, Inc.

Waycross, Georgia 31503



**GAB Families,**

**Please click on the link below or scan the QR code to take the survey.**

**This survey is for parents of students with an IEP. It helps give feedback about your child's education.**

**First Question: Answer— State Schools**

**Second Question: Answer—Georgia Academy for the Blind**

**[FY23 Parent Survey \(gadoe.org\)](https://gadoe.org/fy23-parent-survey)**



Please click on the link below or use the QR code to take you directly to the survey:

**Title I use of Funds survey (English)**

<https://forms.office.com/r/kzf4FY169w>



**Title I use of Funds survey (Spanish)**

<https://forms.office.com/r/Bzmtf9njRk>





# Summer Program at GAB

**For Students with Visual Impairments  
Home Grown In Georgia**



**June 11-16, 2023**

**Application Deadline: May 18, 2023.**

**Non-refundable Registration Fee \$25.00**

(All applications subject to approval)

Ages 12-21

- ALL INFORMATION MUST BE FULLY COMPLETED AND LEGIBLE OR APPLICATION WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED FOR ACCEPTANCE.
- Students must have a documented vision loss that impacts their learning.
- Students must be Georgia residents and enrolled in school.
- Students must have the physical, mental, and behavioral capabilities to benefit from the programs offered.
- **Students will be dropped off on June 11 (Sunday) at 4:00 pm and picked up on June 16 (Friday) at 1:30 pm.**

For questions or more information, contact:

**Dawn Day** (478) 751-6083 x 1114 [mday@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:mday@doe.k12.ga.us) copy Brittany Jackson  
[bjackson@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:bjackson@doe.k12.ga.us)

**mail/fax to:**

Georgia Academy for the Blind  
Attention: Dawn Day/Summer Program  
2895 Vineville Avenue  
Macon, GA 31204

**FAX Number:** 478-752-1745

# May Birthdays

Taryn 5/1

William 5/20

Mary B 5/4

Heidei 5/20

