Mission Statement: The Georgia Academy for the Blind will provide quality education services to Georgia’s students with visual impairments and/or visual impairments in conjunction with other disabilities to prepare them to achieve their highest level of independence in transition to college and career readiness.

Success! Nothing Less!

Mark your calendars!! New dates just added!

December 12: Class parties (new date) 11-1:30, ALL ARE WELCOME! Monday Media Mania and EECC Coffee Shop 6-7

December 16: Winter Concert and Art Show (SEE INSIDE for details of classes for Parents/Guardians)

December 19-January 6: Happy holidays!

January 9: School starts back!

January 16: Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday

January 19-23: SCASB in Mississippi (Wrestling, Cheering and Fine Arts)

January 31: “Drop in RPM” West Gwinnett County

February 7: “Drop in RPM” Dougherty County

February 16: Braille Challenge (Program for parent/guardians is being planned).

February 20: Presidents’ Day Holiday

February 28: “Drop in RPM” East Gwinnett County

March 14: “Drop in RPM” Bibb County

March 27-31: Spring Break

March 28: “Drop in RPM” West Cobb County

April 6: High School Prom

April 27-30: Senior Trip

April 17: Easter Holiday

May 15: Mother’s Day Holiday

May 26: Last day of school and Graduation
Georgia Academy for the Blind
Music Department
proudly presents our Winter Program:

“Let’s all be Santa’s Helpers!”

December 16, 2016
10:00 AM
Georgia Academy for the Blind Auditorium
Mrs. Holloway, Music Director
Mr. McKinley Starks, Assistant and Accompanist

We are excited to be offering classes for those attending Winter Program on December 16

- Those attending a 9 am class will have reserved seating at the concert.
- "My Kid Can Do What-Understanding the ASPIRE IEP" will be offered both before and after.
- Light refreshments served and door prizes given!
- Each class will be held in the Hendrick's School Building
- To assure the right amount of seats, materials and food, please RSVP by contacting Sonya Milam, 478-262-3303, smilam@doe.k12.ga.us

My Kid Can Do WHAT?
Understanding ASPIRE IEP
9:00-9:45 then repeated at 11:15-12:00 in Media Center

Active Student Participation Inspires Real Engagement!
Come hear the wonderful things our students are doing to prepare for their IEPs and to reach their IEP goals. This is the perfect time to learn ways you can help support self-advocacy and independence skills at home. Presenters: Ms. Alicia Jackson and Mrs. Melanie Thompson, GAB teachers and Kiuana Smith and Noah Nizza, GAB Students.

GAB & BEYOND
(Transition, Transition, Transition)!
9:00-9:45 in Multi-Purpose Room
All parents/guardians of 8-12 graders are encouraged to come and meet our collaborative partners from Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency and learn of the Pilot Program, Explore, Engage, Employ (E3) to enhance our transition services for our students’ lives beyond GAB. Read more here: http://www.macon.com/news/local/education/article116669578

Project GRANDD
Grandparents/others Raising And Nurturing Dependents with Disabilities
11:15-12:00 in Conference Room
Come and meet with fellow grandparents and others who are in the unique situation of raising a second family. Laura Wells, LCSW of Innovative Solutions for Disadvantage and Disability (ISDD) will present information helpful to our guardians including connecting you with resources in your own community.
Character Education
Word of the quarter: COMPASSION
Showing concern and empathy for others.

Word of the week: CLEANLINESS
Habitually and carefully neat and clean.

Joshua ~ 5th
Caiden ~ 11th
Kaleb ~ 11th
Jartavius ~ 11th
Adria ~ 16th
Kiauna ~ 22nd
Shyann ~ 25th
Dani ~ 26th
Dalton ~ 26th
Blake ~ 29th
Jermaine ~ 29th

It’s beginning to look a lot like Christmas!

In addition to hearing beautiful music on Friday, December 16, you can see the amazing sets created by our students!

Be sure to bring money to the Art Show on Friday, December 16. We have wire ornaments and clay ornaments for sale and much more!

Once again, our friends from NFB are helping Santa Braille and send letters to children. If you would like for your child to receive a personalized letter, sign up here! https://nfb.org/santa-letters
Deadline is December 16!

TIS THE SEASON TO BE SURVEYED! Don’t forget that Georgia Parent Survey is still underway and we need YOUR help! The data will be used as part of the calculation of the School Climate Star Rating. Survey responses are anonymous and will be submitted directly to the Georgia Department of Education for analysis. Simply copy the link below into your browser of your computer or SmartPhone to take the survey. Our school district is STATE SCHOOLS, then you will be prompted to select Georgia Academy for the Blind. http://apps.gadoe.org/schoolclimate/parents.nsf/Survey.xsp After you complete the survey, please send a note with your child or email Sonya Milam at smilam@doe.k12.ga.us and he/she will receive a voucher for a FREE WENDY'S FROSTY!

A second quick survey we need all parents/guardians to complete following your child’s ASPIRE IEP. If you have had your IEP this year and have not yet completed the survey, you can do so here: http://tinyurl.com/ASPparent16-17 Under district, you will be taken directly to Georgia Academy for the Blind. When it asks about ASPIRE activities at home, it is referring to any time you discuss school and their goals beyond school, have your child make choices, and/or have your child speak for him/herself. Let Sonya Milam know if you need any assistance with either of these surveys.
Hands-On Learning

GAB Nurses visited Mrs. Barfield and Mrs. McDavid’s classes where they demonstrated CPR.

Mrs. Moore’s Life Science students are studying the human body systems. Because pig systems are the same as ours, they had to dissect a pig and identify specific organs.

Keep Calm & Carol On!

GAB Chorus sang Tuesday at the Macon Kiwanis Club at Mulberry Street United Methodist Church.

GAB Chorus sang at the Georgia Department of Education in Atlanta on Thursday.