



# Panther Press

A weekly publication of the Georgia Academy for the Blind

April 26, 2019

*This institution is an equal opportunity provider.*

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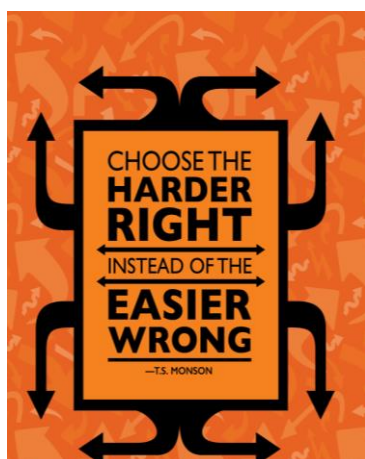
Georgia Academy for the  
Blind - GAB



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**Last day of school countdown: 4 more weeks!**

Mission Statement: The Georgia Academy for the Blind provides 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. *Check out this student produced video featuring this Mission Statement:* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IRrbhkGSe98>



## Mark Your Calendars

*\*just added*

April 25~28: Senior Trip

\*May 6-10: Teacher Appreciation Week

May 2: GAB students attend Macon Little Theatre's "Miracle Worker" (details, page 2)

May 7: 11 am Community Partners Appreciation Day

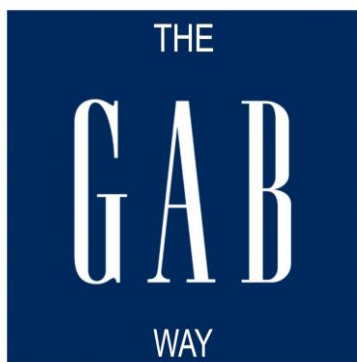
\*May 9: Special Olympics (rescheduled from the April rain out)

May 16: 10 am Awards Day

May 16: 4 pm Project SEARCH graduation lobby of the Navicent Health Heart Tower

May 17: 11 am Graduation in our new and improved auditorium!

May 24: Last day of school



Give it your best  
Achieve your goals  
Be respectful

## Georgia Milestones Assessments Continue

April 29 –Literature – Writing (grade 9)

April 30 –Literature (grade 9) and American Literature

May 1– Algebra I

May 2 – Geometry

May 3 – Make-up

May 6 – Biology

May 7 – Physical Science

May 8 – US History

May 9 – Economics

May 10– Make-up



Parents/guardians, you  
can help your child by  
assuring he/she:

- Gets a good's night sleep.
- Eats a healthy breakfast.
- Gets to school on time.

Learn more here: <http://www.gadoe.org/curriculum-instruction-andassessment/assessment/pages/georgia-milestones-assessment-system.aspx>

This newsletter is published by our Parent Mentor, Sonya Milam. Please send your ideas, news, and resources in your community to her. [smilam@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:smilam@doe.k12.ga.us), 478-262-3303 **Please remember, to contact us if you've had a change in address, phone number and/or email!**

# Character Education

Loyalty - Faithful to a person, an organization, or your country.



The **Macon Little Theatre** has invited GAB to attend their final dress rehearsal for *The Miracle Worker* on Thursday, May 2 at 7 pm.

Families of day students: if you want your child to attend, you must make arrangements to pick them up from GAB by 9:15 pm, OR make arrangements with Mr. Reynolds to stay in cottages this night. Our art students will be displaying their work during the duration of the play May 3-12. See their website for ticket information and show times.

<https://www.maconlittletheatre.org/> We are so thankful for these good neighbors!



## Remaining April Student Birthdays:

Marquez April 26  
Majestic April 27  
Hope D. April 28  
Joe April 30

## May Student Birthdays:

Mary Beth	May 4	Tyzie	May 19
Jordan W.	May 4	Heidei	May 20
Hope M	May 7	Austin	May 24

## Remaining April Staff Birthdays:

Ms. Thompson April 30

## May Staff Birthdays:

Ms. Stokes	May 1
Ms. Francis	May 3
Ms. Neil	May 4
Ms. Drinkard	May 6
Ms. McDavid	May 6
Ms. Patterson	May 10
Mr. Jackson	May 22
Mr. Moore	May 24

(Right) Before being whisked away for a lunch out, our Administrative Assistants enjoyed being serenaded by the “Rebel Rousers” on Thursday. This duo of high school students planned and presented some toe stomping tunes using their voices, keyboard and guitar. We appreciate all our Administrative Assistants and all they do to help our school run smoothly!



# Atlanta Area Families:



PRESENTS A FREE WORKSHOP

## Sifting Through Your Parental Rights

**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2019  
**Time:** 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM  
**Location:** North Douglas Elementary School  
1630 Dorris Road  
Douglasville, GA 30134

**Provides basic information about parental rights under IDEA, including confidentiality, notice, consent, surrogate parents, free and appropriate public education (FAPE), least restrictive environment (LRE), evaluations and dispute resolution methods such as mediation and due process.**

**For more information contact Renee Davis (Parent Mentor)  
@ 770-651-2081 or via email: [Rhonda.R.Davis@dcssga.org](mailto:Rhonda.R.Davis@dcssga.org)**

Or call Parent to Parent of Georgia at 1-800-229-2038.

See our Training Calendar for additional trainings and webinars at [www.p2pga.org](http://www.p2pga.org)

All services and resources offered by Parent to Parent of Georgia are *free*.

*Let Sonya know if you are planning to go and/or if you need assistance in the registration process!*





# Atlanta Area Families:

## Supported Decision Making:

### A Path to Empowerment

DATE: WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 2019

TIME: 12:00 PM–1:00 PM

**Presenter:** Dana Lloyd with  
the Georgia Advocacy Office

Light refreshments will be served.

Childcare is not provided.

Please tell your child's teacher if  
Spanish interpretation is needed.



**PLACE:**

Factory Shoals Middle School  
3301 Shoals School Rd.  
Douglasville, GA 30135  
Please sign-in at the main office.

**QUESTIONS:**

Renee Davis, Parent Mentor  
770-651-2081

[rhonda.r.davis@dcssga.org](mailto:rhonda.r.davis@dcssga.org)

Free Parent Workshop

*Let Sonya know if you are planning to go and/or if you need assistance in the registration process!*



# Remaining Summer Camps



LIONS CLUB CAMP AND CAMP ABILITIES have now closed their registrations! Act fast as spots at these remaining camps are limited and deadlines are approaching. Scholarships are available! Contact Sonya for details! Note: these camp resources are simply provided as a courtesy to our families. Though we are confident that they are appropriate for and accessible to our students, GAB does not endorse or sponsor any camp.



## **Camp Dreams, (Camp Grace, Roberta, GA)**

July 21st – July 24th (Sun. - Wed.) and July 25th – July 28th (Thur. - Sun.) Only online applications are accepted. See the link below. Let Sonya know if you would like assistance in registering.

<http://www.campdreamga.org/summer-camp>



## **Blaze Adaptive Sports Camp, Camp Twin Lakes, Winder, GA**

July 21-26 Ages 7-17 Only online applications are accepted. See the link below. Let Sonya know if you would like assistance in registering.

[www.blazesports.org/what-we-do/programs/2019-blazesports-star-camp/](http://www.blazesports.org/what-we-do/programs/2019-blazesports-star-camp/)



## **FINAL NOTICE! STARS Day Camp at the Center for the Visually Impaired, Atlanta.**

Transportation from 7 points in Atlanta area provided. All grades for day camp 9 am-3pm. To register go to

<https://www.cviga.org/userFiles/en/STARS%20Summer%20Enrichment%20Registration%202019.pdf> Sonya has paper applications available as well.

**Deadline is May 3!**

Week 1 - June 3 to 7 . . . STARS & the Arts

Week 2 - June 10 to 14 . . . STARS & the Arts

Week 3 - June 17 to 21 . . . Sports and Recreation

Week 4 - June 24 to 28 . . . ECC Week, with a focus on Activities of Daily Transition, Social Skills & more!



Live the life you want.

**Second Announcement:** The NFB BELL (Braille Enrichment for Learning) Academy will offer one location in the Columbus State University for students age 4-13-Friday, June 28 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

The registration fee is \$100. Lunch will be provided. Parents and care givers will be responsible for dropping off and picking up their child, and checking them in and out. Register at this link:

<https://nfb.org/programs-services/nfb-bell-academy>. Let Sonya know if you need assistance.

Program Coordinator: Hayley Alli

Phone: 404-789-8535

Email: [hayleyalli10@gmail.com](mailto:hayleyalli10@gmail.com)



**Second announcement!**



**Just in time for summer reading:** Did you know that blind children in the U.S. and Canada can receive **three** free braille books per year!? Just register your child by clicking here <http://www.seedlings.org/bkangel2009.php> or contact Sonya Milam for the paper application. The website includes Newberry winners, book reviews, recommendations and special events.



**Just in time for summer movies and educational programs:** Streaming TV and Movies, DVDs, Interactive Media, Resources, and more from our friends at Described and Captioned Media Program. Subscribe by clicking here: <https://dcmp.org/>

**More  
photos  
from  
prom**

**(and  
finals  
ones to  
come  
next  
week!)**

