

About the Center for Talented Youth at Johns Hopkins University

Founded in 1979, the Center for Talented Youth (CTY) is a not-for-profit, self supported unit of The Johns Hopkins University. CTY Identifies academically talented students in 2nd through 10th grades, provides them with challenging academic courses and other related services, and offers resources and advocacy for their families.

Quick Facts

- CTY conducts the nation's oldest and most extensive academic talent search
- Offers educational programming for students with exceptionally high academic ability
- CTY is a nonprofit center at The Johns Hopkins University.
- CTY draws students from 19 states and DC, as well as students from over 80 countries.
- 2006-2007 saw over 73,000 second- through eighth graders participate in CTY's Talent Searches.
- CTY provided \$4.576 million in financial aid to over 2,150 students in 2005-6.
- In the 2005-6 Talent Search, 19.8% of students in CTY's Talent Search were identified as underrepresented.
- Gifted students qualifying for the federal free or reduced-price lunch program may join the Talent Search virtually for free.
- CTY's programs and students have been profiled in *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New Yorker*, and other premier American publications.
- CTY is accredited by The Commission on Secondary Schools of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, allowing schools to accept CTY courses for placement or credit.

CTY's Origins and Approach

In his 1970s work with a handful of extremely bright seventh graders who had exhausted conventional school resources, Johns Hopkins psychology professor Dr. Julian Stanley found that advanced standardized tests given to youngsters revealed valuable information about their mathematical or verbal reasoning abilities. From these beginnings, a model was developed that first identifies, and then provides appropriately challenging academic work for highly-able children.

CTY Programs and Services

Talent Search

CTY's Talent Search focuses on the identification of academic talent in youngsters. It depends upon teachers and guidance counselors in some 12,000 schools to nominate children who have scored at or above the 95th percentile on any nationally normed test. These students form the Talent Search pool and are then tested using the SAT or similar measure (depending on a child's grade) to qualify for CTY programs.

Summer Academic Programs

CTY's Summer Programs are offered on a residential or commuter basis at 26 sites on the U.S. east and west coasts, and in China and Mexico. Summer Programs students take only one course per three-week session and study that discipline intensively in five- or seven-hour classes, five days per week. Some courses cover one year of high school course work in this period. Programs are divided by age: young students (grades 2-6) and older students (grades 7-10).

Distance Education Programs

The education of highly able children can now continue beyond traditional school borders with CTY's computer-based distance learning courses. CTY offers math and writing tutorials that provide students with innovative instruction, challenging curricula, and authoritative help from committed tutors.

Family Academic Programs

Gifted students can augment their school experiences by attending one of over 50 conferences held throughout the academic year. CTY's conferences Offer exciting one-day, overnight, and longer programs for talent search participants and their families at college, university, science-center and museum sites around the country and abroad.

CTY Diagnostic and Counseling Center

CTY provides highly specialized educational testing, with a special focus on the gifted, to help families pinpoint a child's educational strengths and needs.

Imagine Magazine

Three-time winner of the Parents' Choice award, *Imagine* is a periodical of articles and resources for gifted middle school students published five times per year.

Research and the Julian Stanley Study of Exceptional Talent (SET)

CTY's Research unit studies all aspects of giftedness and conducts evaluations of CTY programs. SET serves exceptionally talented students who score over 700 on either section of the SAT before the age of 13. SET provides these students and their parents with counseling and resources, such as *Imagine* magazine and Cogito.org, a website devoted to students with an interest in math and science.

CTY Outreach

CTY works closely with school officials and community organizations across the country to identify and invite under-represented students to participate in CTY's Talent Search and academic programs, with financial assistance available every step of the way.

More information?

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