

The 24th International Conference on the **Autonomous Learner Model** for the Gifted:

Response to Intervention (RtI), Curriculum Differentiation and Advanced Learning Plans (ALP)

Join us in the Colorado Rockies!

June 16–21, 2010

Estes Park Center

YMCA of the Rockies

Estes Park, Colorado



ALPS Publishing
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- Gifted & Talented
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Experience the beauty

and serenity of the high country in one of the most breathtaking settings in the Colorado Rocky Mountains. Located just minutes from Rocky Mountain National Park, the Estes Park Center/YMCA of the Rockies is a modern, full-service conference center and family resort with up-to-date amenities.



Major Conference Areas

- Response to Intervention (RtI)
- The Autonomous Learner Model (ALM) for the 21st Century Learner
- Curriculum Differentiation in ALL Content Areas
- ALM Differentiated Curriculum Writing Projects (Bring your curriculum to differentiate and to be reviewed)
- Advanced Learning Plans (Teacher & Learner Developed)
- Standards-based Education & the ALM
- Revised Profiles of the Learner for use through RtI & ALP's
- Twice-Exceptional Children: Identification and Programming
- Diverse Gifted Children (Identification/Programming)
- Differentiating Curriculum By Learners
- Exemplary ALM Classrooms & Schools
- Autonomous Learner Model: Training the Trainer (Certification)



Featured Presenters:

- **George Betts**, Professor of Gifted Education, University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, CO
- **L. Dennis Higgins**, Teacher of the Twice-Exceptional, Bellehaven Elementary School, and Instructor of Gifted Education, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM
- **Jolene Kercher**, Educational Consultant, Indio, California
- **Elizabeth Nielsen**, Professor of Special & Gifted Education, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM
- **Patty Rendon**, Gifted Education Consultant, Educational Service Center One, Edinburg, TX
- **Robin Carey**, Director, Instructional Support Services, Douglas County, Colorado



"Implementing the Autonomous Learner Model totally changed my life and the way I work with kids. It is the only model I have found that successfully taps into affective needs of gifted kids."

Marcia Danahy, Hopkins, MN

"Colorado in June and the Autonomous Learner Model: Why would you not come to this conference?"

Melinda Wright, Greenbrier, AK

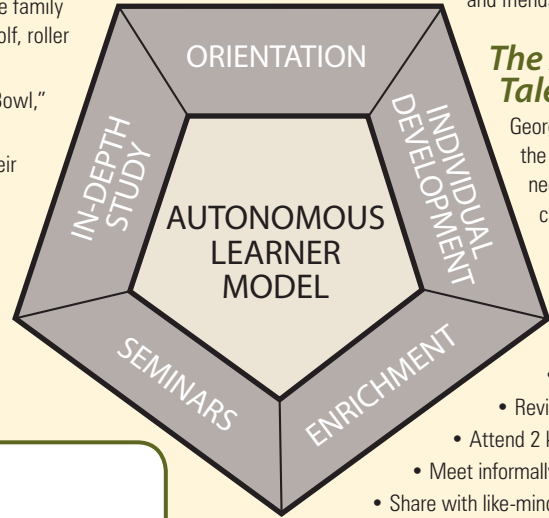


Register online at www.ALPSPublishing.com

A Special Welcome

Welcome educators to our 24th Annual Conference, a unique educational experience designed just for you. We encourage you to bring your family and friends to experience the warm and welcoming atmosphere of the ALM Conference. You will enjoy the YMCA, Rocky Mountain National Park, and the quaint town of Estes Park.

- You may use all of the camp's facilities and combine your learning experience with an unforgettable family vacation. The YMCA Conference Center offers swimming, hiking, fishing, horseback riding, mini-golf, roller skating, a craft center, climbing wall, Frisbee golf and much more.
- Optional activities include hiking, "autonomous" baseball, a cookout, the 15th Annual "ALM Brain Bowl," a western horse-drawn hayride and sing-a-long, and a Talent Show.
- Many participants, their families and friends look forward to a trip to the Rockies and to casting their line in the legendary high-country streams. If you're eager to try your hand at catching beautiful trout, we have a Fishing Expert in Residence. Ralph Lee has explored all of the best fishing spots in the area and will be happy to advise you.
- The YMCA sponsors day programs for children three years old and up. Activities include nature walks, hiking, swimming, and crafts. These programs are offered separately through the YMCA, and are not part of the ALM Conference. If you are interested in having your children participate in these fun, well-supervised activities, please contact the YMCA at (970) 586-3341 ext 1280, as soon as possible, as space is limited.



About the Autonomous Learner Model Conference

Immerse yourself in the splendor of the breathtaking Colorado Rocky Mountains, while you participate in a conference uniquely designed for those who have a passion for gifted education. You will attend up to 15 sessions (from 60 different titles) and two dynamic keynotes. Fun-filled evening activities are a great way to relax and refresh. The relaxed and fun atmosphere allows you plenty of time to interact with presenters and participants. We welcome educators, their families and friends.

The Autonomous Learner Model for the Gifted and Talented (ALM)

George Betts and Jolene Kercher developed The Autonomous Learner Model (ALM) for the Gifted and Talented in 1979 to meet the diversified cognitive, emotional and social needs of gifted learners. The ALM has been implemented worldwide K-12 in regular classrooms, pull-out programs, specific ALM classrooms and all content areas.

Why Should You Attend the ALM Conference?

- Learn activities and strategies for your classroom and school
- Begin the process of becoming an ALM Trainer of Trainers
- Learn about the Autonomous Learner Model firsthand
- Review your curriculum with specialists
- Attend 2 keynotes and 15 presentations
- Meet informally with the presenters
- Share with like-minded colleagues
- Explore the Rocky Mountains
- Experience gifted children
- Develop lifelong friends
- Take a sunrise hike



Donni and George Betts

Training the Trainer

Through the "Training the Trainer" program, educators may become certified trainers on the Autonomous Learner Model. Participants attend two conferences, write a personal educational plan, select specific sessions to attend, and complete projects throughout the year. Special sessions are included in the conference.

University Credit for Conference

If you are interested in university graduate credit, three semester hours of credit are available from the University of Northern Colorado. The cost for the three hours of credit is \$585. Specific meetings will be held for those who would like to earn credit. A final product will be due three weeks after completion of the conference. You may register during the conference. The university will bill you separately.

24th Annual Conference Schedule: June 22 to June 27, 2010

TUESDAY, JUNE 22, 2010

- 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm ALM Registration (Late registration will be available in the Ram's Horn Mountain Lodge lobby)
- 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm First Session (with four presentations)
- 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm Dinner
- 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm Welcome and Conference Get-Together

WEDNESDAY - SATURDAY, JUNE 23-26, 2010

- 5:30 am - 8:00 am Early Morning Hike Option
- 8:15 am - 12:00 pm Sessions
- 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm Sessions
- 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm Informal Evening Options for All Participants (You will have free time on Friday afternoon to explore the area)

SUNDAY, JUNE 27, 2010

- 10:00 am Check-Out

ALM Conference Fee

* **Conference Fee is \$595 per participant.** This covers all sessions, conference activities, and an ALM Conference Handbook.

A Special Offer for Teams

Here is your chance to send a team of educators and parents to the conference: IF YOU PAY FOR FOUR PEOPLE, THE CONFERENCE FEE FOR THE 5th PERSON IS FREE. Your team may consist of teachers, counselors, special services personnel, teacher aids, administrators, and parents.

Early Bird Discount: Save \$125

If you register by April 5th, 2010, you will save \$125 off your conference fee. This early bird registration discount does NOT apply to those who receive the team discount.

Reserve Your Room Now!

If you plan to attend but have not yet received your school funding, please call or e-mail to let us know so we can reserve a room for you.

Registration Deadline

There is no deadline for registration, however we urge you to sign up as soon as possible as space is limited. Early registration is recommended.

Lodging and Meals Packages

Lodging will be located at the Estes Park Center/ YMCA of the Rockies. Please register early in order to assure that you receive the accommodation you request. We will make every effort to honor requests, but WE CAN NOT GUARANTEE ROOM ASSIGNMENTS.

Rooms will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. The cost covers all meals beginning Tuesday dinner through Sunday breakfast. Linens are furnished. Room rates are based on the number of ADULTS per room. (One parent sharing a room with children must pay the Single room rate.) All accommodations are private rooms with bath. All rooms at the YMCA are non-smoking.

Lodge	Description	One Adult Per Room	Two or More Adults Per Room
Ram's Horn Mountain Lodge (brand new lodge!)	Two queen beds, futon sleeper, private bath, phone, free wireless internet, all meals	\$995	\$595 each
Mt. Ypsilon	One double bed, bunk beds, private bath, phone, free wireless internet, all meals	\$695	\$455 each

Child Pricing (either lodge)

- Children under Six stay FREE
- Children 6-12 \$150.
- Children 13 and older, price as an adult.

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Transportation

Shuttle service is available between Denver International Airport and the Estes Park YMCA of the Rockies from Estes Park Shuttle and Mountain Tours (970)-586-5151
www.estesparkshuttle.com.



A Tentative List of Sessions

Colleen Anthony and Dr. Blanche Kapushion
Jefferson County Gifted & Talented, Golden, Colorado
• Rtl is for Gifted Too!

Shari Baze
Bellehaven Elementary School, Albuquerque, NM
• Developing a Thematic ALM Unit for Elementary Students

George Betts
University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, CO
• Keynote: Autonomous Learners – Hearing Their Own Voices: Gifted, Talented & Creative Learners
• Keynote: The Application of the Transformational Leader Model (with Aurora Quest K-8 Staff, Elizabeth Nielsen & L. Dennis Higgins)
• Blending Gifted Education, Special Education and General Education – Can It Be Done? (A Panel with Elizabeth Nielsen & L. Dennis Higgins)
• Interviewing as a Process for Identification: Discovering Needs, Abilities & Appropriate Placement for All Learners
• The Most Effective Affective Activities for the Autonomous Learner Model
• In-Depth Coverage of the ALM & Rtl for ALL Learners
• Autonomous Learner Model: Training the Trainer

Robin Carey
Director, Instructional Support Services, Douglas County, Colorado
• Leadership in Gifted Education
• An Introduction to Response to Intervention (Rtl)

Shari Colvin
New Century Charter School, Hutchinson, MN
• Becoming an ALM School: Struggles & Triumphs
• Teaching Controversies in Science - At What Point Do "Beliefs" Enter The Picture?

Amy Graefe
University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, CO
• Advanced Learning Plans, ALM & Rtl (with Susan MacKenzie)

Nedda Hamilton and Staff
Bellehaven Elementary School, Albuquerque, NM
• Bellehaven Elementary School: An ALM Magnet School

Stephanie R. Haynes
Susie Rayos Marmon Elementary School, Albuquerque, NM
• Moving Towards Mastery: Autonomy through Technology

L. Dennis Higgins
Bellehaven Elementary School, Albuquerque, NM
• Keynote: The Application of the Transformational Leader Model (with Aurora Quest K-8 Staff, Elizabeth Nielsen & George Betts)
• Blending Gifted Education, Special Education & General Education (Panel with George Betts & L. Dennis Higgins)
• The Future Me© Program (A Futures Simulator)
• Exceptional Twice-Exceptional Learners (with Elizabeth Nielsen)
• Twice-Exceptional Learners and the ALM: A Perfect Fit

Carl Howard
Academy School District 20, Colorado Springs, CO
• Engineering and the ALM
• Developing ALM Elective Courses

Kathy Jones
Chanute Public Schools, Chanute, KS
• Technology Tools and Tips (with Cindy Sheets)
• Celebrating Intensity, Diversity and Discrepancy
• The Problem With Praise (with Cindy Sheets)

Jolene Kercher
Educational Consultant, Indio, CA
• The Autonomous Learner Model for the Gifted & Talented
• Orientation: Dimension I & II of the ALM
• Enrichment & Seminars: Dimension III & IV of the ALM
• In-Depth Studies: Dimension V of the ALM

Harvey Kimble
Des Moines Public Schools, Des Moines, Iowa
• Three Exciting Competitions: On Your Way to the In-Depth Study

Karen Larsen
Cotton Creek Elementary, Westminster, CO
• Curriculum Compacting: An Essential Step
• An Rtl System That Works
• Myths & Realities About Gifted Learners (Including The At-Risk)
• Must Haves for Your Professional Gifted & Talented Bookshelf
• In-Depth Study: Dimension V of the ALM

• Picture Books for Educators & Parents of the Gifted
Linda Lee
Educational Consultant, Hamilton, TX
• Understanding Over-Excitabilities in the Gifted
• Beyond Images of Greatness

Lisa Lee
Teacher, Decatur, Georgia
• The Excitement of Creativity

Elizabeth Nielsen
University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM
• Keynote: The Transformational Leader Model (with Aurora Quest K-8 Staff, L. Dennis Higgins & George Betts)
• Visualizing Curriculum: Do It Graphically!
• Blending Gifted Education, Special Education & General Education (Panel with George Betts & L. Dennis Higgins)
• Twice-Exceptional Learners & the ALM: A Perfect Fit (with L. Dennis Higgins)
• Exceptional Twice-Exceptional Children (with L. Dennis Higgins)

Pamela Pearlstein and Melissa McGowen
Sherman, Texas
• Setting the Stage for Lifelong Learners: Early Identification and Orientation Experiences

Lindsey Reinert, Dr. Penelope Heinigk, Jan Martin and Dr. Blanche Kapushion
Jefferson County Gifted & Talented, Golden, Colorado
• Early Access For Highly Gifted 4 and 5 Year Old Children: Year 1 - What We've Learned!

Hector Rendon
Educational Service Center 1, Edinburg, TX
• Gifted Students at Work: Career Planning for the Future

Patty Rendon
Educational Service Center 1, Edinburg, TX
• Understanding Poverty and Its Implications for Teaching Gifted Learners
• Diverse Learners and the Autonomous Learner Model
• The Next Step: Identification and Programming for Minority Learners
• Differentiating for Gifted Middle School Students in the Regular Classroom

Ruth Rodgers
Gifted & Talented Resource Consultant, Jefferson County, Colorado
• ALM Meeting Unique Needs: One High School's Approach
• Differentiating for Gifted Middle School Students in the Regular Classroom
• Social and Emotional Needs of Gifted Children, Including Differences Between the Bright Child and the Gifted Learner

Stephen Seedorf
Frontier Academy, Greeley, CO
• Rtl From a Blended Perspective: Gifted Ed. Special Ed & General Ed

Cindy Sheets
Shawnee Mission Schools, Lee's Summit, MO
• Quality Curriculum for Gifted Learners: The Basics
• Writing ALM Differentiated Classroom Curriculum
• Technology Tools and Tips (Kathy Jones)
• The Problem with Praise (with Kathy Jones)

Clara Southerland
Remington Elementary School, Tulsa, OK
• Fractured Fairy Tales...
• Is This Math?

Katha Williams
Educational Consultant & Author, Waterloo, IA
• Images of Greatness & The Night of the Notables

Nancy Williams
Principal – Quest K-8, Aurora Public Schools, Aurora, Colorado
• Keynote: The Application of The Transformational Leader Model (with Quest K-8, Aurora Public Schools Staff, Elizabeth Nielsen, L. Dennis Higgins & George Betts)
• Looking Inside at the Success of Quest K-8 through the Words of the Children

Merry Witzki
Scottsbluff Public Schools, Gering, NE
• ALM & the Traveling Teacher
• Rtl & the Gifted: The Journey of a District