

September 2024

# RENZULLI CENTER NEWS

## Special Category

### **James C. Kaufman Interview in Concept. Found. News**

*By John Burrell*

***What Is Creativity? How Does Creativity Fit With Giftedness? How Is Creativity Nurtured?***

On August 9, I had the opportunity to interview University of Connecticut Creativity Scholar Dr. James C. Kaufman. Our conversation explored the connection between creativity and giftedness. Dr. Kaufman addressed common misconceptions and offered suggestions for fostering creativity in children this upcoming school year. Read more at <https://s.uconn.edu/cmaugust2024>

## Joe's Corner

### **Online and Magazine Articles**

[Great Resource for Promoting Writing](#): 54 Excellent, Low-Stakes Writing Prompts by Paige Tutt, Edutopia, August 2, 2024

[19 Ways to Help Elementary Students Self-Regulate](#) by Daniel Leonard, Edutopia, August 7, 2024

[Implementation of the Schoolwide Enrichment Model in Italy: A Three-Year Study](#)

[The Reform Movement and the Quiet Crisis in Gifted Education](#)

[Gifted Behaviors Versus Gifted Individuals](#)

[Joe Has Finally Won A Contest—New Yorker Magazine Weekly Caption Contest](#)



## Confratute Announcements

### Taste of Confratute—New PD Opportunity

The SEM: An Overview and Some Inspiration  
One Day Virtual Event - Thursday, October 24, 2024

Are you using or interested in using the Schoolwide Enrichment Model (SEM) in your school, enrichment program, or classroom? Do you have teachers that need to learn about the SEM but could not attend our summer program OR maybe you want to introduce the SEM to district administrators or other colleagues? If so, join us for this Taste of Confratute! Read more at [https://gifted.media.uconn.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/961/2024/09/The-SEM-An\\_Overview-and-Some-Inspiration\\_Are-You-Using-or-Interested-in-Using-SEM-in-Your-School-Enrichment-Program-or-Classroom.pdf](https://gifted.media.uconn.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/961/2024/09/The-SEM-An_Overview-and-Some-Inspiration_Are-You-Using-or-Interested-in-Using-SEM-in-Your-School-Enrichment-Program-or-Classroom.pdf)

## Upcoming Events

### Free Ben Lacina Webinar on Creativity

Register now at <https://gifted.uconn.edu/events> for a free webinar on Saturday, September 21, 2024 from 11 a.m. to noon Eastern. Popular Confratute presenter, Ben Lacina, will present “Human Connections: Personalizing Creativity Through the Arts.”

For more information, contact: Del Siegle at [del.siegle@uconn.edu](mailto:del.siegle@uconn.edu)

## Research

### Project Focus—Seeking Survey Participants

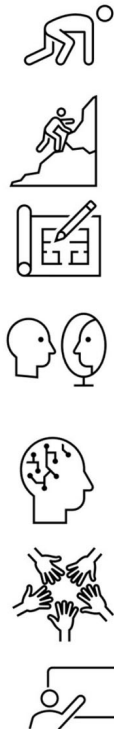
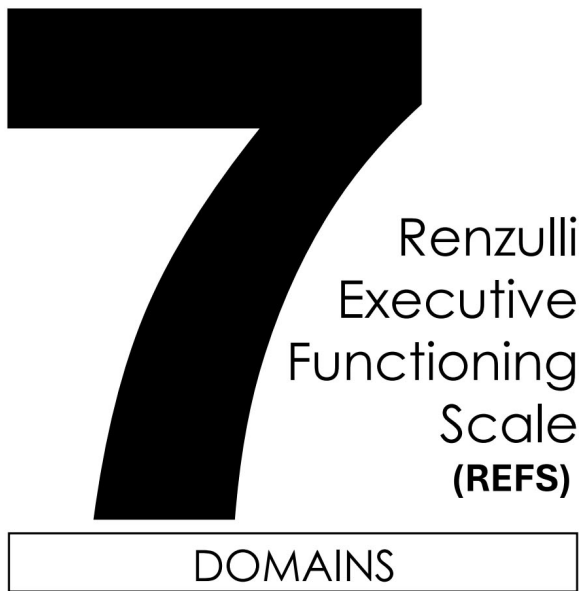
Project Focus at UConn is seeking participants for a research study. We are conducting a survey about how teachers describe their students’ participation in discussions. We are seeking responses from U.S. teachers at grades K-12. Teachers who participate are eligible to enter a drawing for one of 25 \$25 electronic gift cards. [Click here](#) to access the survey or contact Catherine Little at [catherine.little@uconn.edu](mailto:catherine.little@uconn.edu) or [project.focus@uconn.edu](mailto:project.focus@uconn.edu) with questions.

For more information, contact: Catherine Little at [catherine.little@uconn.edu](mailto:catherine.little@uconn.edu)

# Drawing for Free Confratute Registration

*Help us Field Test the New Renzulli Executive Functioning Scale*

The Renzulli Center for Creativity, Gifted Education, and Talent Development is creating a new scale to measure various aspects of executive functioning. The scale asks you about your ability to start tasks, ability to stay on task, organization, awareness of strengths and weaknesses, self-advocacy, ability to collaborate, and awareness of and ability to manage emotions. Your responses are anonymous. If you complete the survey and wish, your name will be entered in a **lottery drawing for one waiver of Confratute registration for the 2025 Confratute** (visit <https://confratute.uconn.edu> to learn more about Confratute). To learn more and participate in this survey, please visit: <https://s.uconn.edu/adultrefs>



- Task Initiation
- Task Persistence
- Organization
- Self-reflection/  
Awareness
- Emotional  
Regulation
- Collaboration
- Self-advocacy

**RE** Enjoyment  
Engagement  
Enthusiasm  
for Learning **NZULLI** center  
**for**  
creativity, gifted education, and talent development

# Awards, Publications, and Presentations

## Recent PhD Grad Publishes in *The Conversation*

Recent PhD graduate Rachael Cody recently published an article in *The Conversation* about one of her research projects from her time at UConn - [read more here!](#)

Rachael completed her PhD in May 2024. She is currently working as a postdoc at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy.

For more information, contact: Catherine Little at [catherine.little@uconn.edu](mailto:catherine.little@uconn.edu)

## Siegle Talks at International Conference in Greece

Del Siegle, Director of the Renzulli Center for Creativity, Gifted Education, and Talent Development, delivered a keynote address at the European Council for High Ability (ECHA) conference held in Thessaloniki, Greece this August. The event drew educators, researchers, and policymakers from 40 nations, all gathering to explore approaches to gifted education and talent development.

Siegle's keynote, titled "*Shifting Through the Essentials of Gifted Education for Talent Development: Separating the Wheat from the Chaff*," emphasized the need to focus on three key pillars essential to fostering talent in students:

1. **Advanced Academic Options:** Del underscored the importance of offering advanced academic pathways to nurture and challenge high-ability students.
2. **Higher Level Thinking and Classroom Complexity:** In his keynote, Del highlighted the critical role of fostering deep, complex discussions in the classroom to enhance higher-order thinking skills.
3. **Interest-Based Authentic Learning Opportunities:** He advocated for providing students with opportunities to engage in learning that is both authentic and aligned with their personal interests (Type IIIs), driving passion and curiosity in education.

The ECHA conference serves as an international event for global leaders in the field of high ability education, providing a platform for research and collaboration.

For more information, contact: Del Siegle at [del.siegle@uconn.edu](mailto:del.siegle@uconn.edu)