

# GEORGIA CEC NEWSLETTER

<https://georgia.exceptionalchildren.org/>

## President's Message



DR. DAMITA JAMES  
PRESIDENT 20-21

Make sure to check out our  
new website at  
[Georgia.ExceptionalChildren.  
org](https://Georgia.ExceptionalChildren.org)

Follow us on Facebook  
@GeorgiaCEC  
Twitter@CECGeorgia.

Summer vacation...a time to relax, regroup, reflect, and rejuvenate. After the last year and a half, you deserve it! As you reflect on the successes and challenges you have faced, it is my hope that you have had more successes than challenges and that you will hold on to those gains as you prepare for this upcoming school year.

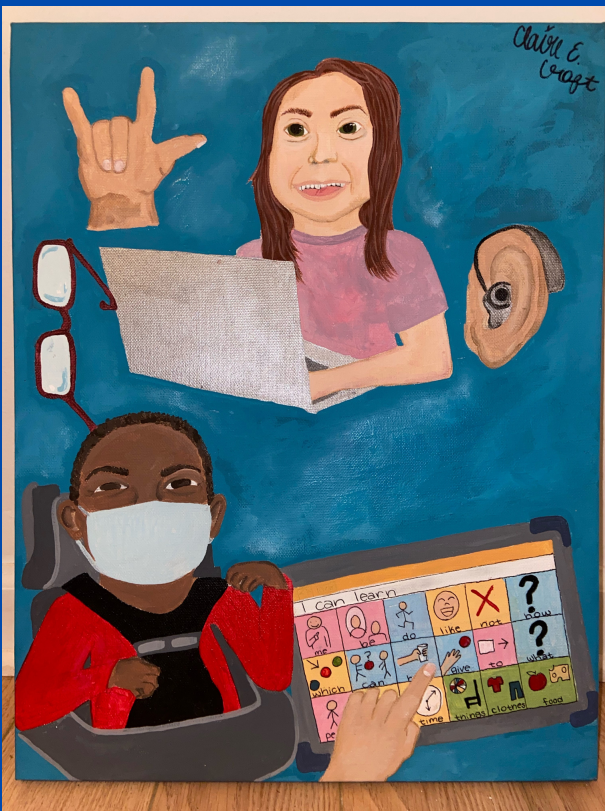
GaCEC is dedicated to providing you, the special educator, with relevant supports and services so that you can continue to pursue ways to enhance the learning of your students. We are excited to be in the planning stages of a summer conference that will allow you to receive professional training and collaborate with others across the state. Be on the lookout for more information in the months to come.



A word of inspiration: *"Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement. Nothing can be done without hope and confidence."* –  
Helen Keller

# Congratulations!

## To the 2021 Exceptional Children's Week Student Art Contest Winner **Claire Croft**



My entry is titled "We Will Overcome" and encases many adaptive devices in order to show how those with exceptionalities overcome challenges in their daily lives. In the top left corner I pictured the American Sign Language hand sign for "I love you" as well as an ear with a hearing aid towards the right of the canvas. I included a pair of glasses to represent those with visual impairments, and an Augmentative or Alternative communication device in the bottom right corner to depict those with communication barriers. The young girl at the top of the canvas represents a student with Down Syndrome engaging in digital learning during the times of the Coronavirus. The boy at the bottom left corner represents a student with Cerebral Palsy wearing a mask and participating in in-person learning.

Claire was informed of the contest by her teacher,  
Ms. Allison Yeomans from Cherokee High school in Canton, Ga.

Thank you, Claire and Ms. Yeomans for showing everyone how truly  
**UNSTOPPABLE** all are!!!



## It's Still Award time!!

It's not too late to celebrate those who are making a difference in Special Education. Do you know a Teacher or a Student doing an outstanding job? Nominate them for a GaCEC award. We are currently accepting nominations for the following awards:



- Business of the Year
- Co-Teaching Team of the Year
- Lifetime Achievement
- Outstanding Leadership
- Outstanding Student Member
- Paraprofessional of Year
- Teacher of the Year
- YES I CAN!



Click the link to nominate someone for an award today!!

[Awards Nomination Form](#)



**MARK YOUR  
CALANDERS!!**

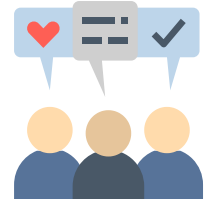


# JUNE 2022!

GaCEC will host an **IN-PERSON**  
statewide conference

Be sure to keep an eye on your inbox as more information  
will be coming soon!!

## YOUR Voice Matters!!



What are some of the things that YOU would like to see prioritized this next school year?

Fill out this survey from the GaDOE to help inform the direction of **YOUR** Profession

Click the link to let your voice be heard!

[Survey Link](#)

### Update your Membership Info

We need your help to update our member information. According to National CEC, we have approximately 24 chapters in Georgia but the Executive Board is only aware of three. Please take a moment to complete the survey in the link below so that we can connect with you and support your chapter.

[Link to Membership Survey](#)

### Volunteer Opportunities

We are currently seeking volunteers to work on the following standing committees:

- Awards committee
- Communications
- Finance
- Membership
- Nominations and Elections
- Policy and
- Advocacy
- Program Committee
- Student Advisory Committee
- Exceptional Children's Week

If you are interested in serving on any of these committees, email

[cecgeorgia1@gmail.com](mailto:cecgeorgia1@gmail.com)

## Helpful Resources

Do you want to know what the Special Education High Leverage Practices are?

Do you want to know how you can start using High Leverage Practices in your classroom?

The GaDOE in partnership with the CEEDAR center created an "HLP HUB" to help you learn more about the HLPs and how to implement them in your classroom.



Click the link to check out this resource:

[HLP HUB](#)



## Support from the Start

This new video series developed by the GaDOE will help induction phase teachers, mentors, and administrators start the year off on the rightfoot.

**VIDEO 1:** [THRIVING...NOT SURVIVING: AN OPEN LETTER TO GEORGIA'S NEW TEACHERS](#)

- ❖ WELCOME TO THE PROFESSION ❖ WHAT GREAT TEACHERS DO
- ❖ WHAT NEW TEACHERS SHOULD KNOW

**VIDEO 2:** [MENTORING AT THE !\[\]\(bd3b31712ad9bab5a241210fa6925cdd\_img.jpg\) OF TEACHER INDUCTION](#)

- ❖ WHY TEACHER MENTORS? ❖ WHAT TEACHER MENTORS SHOULD KNOW AND BE ABLE TO DO ❖ A MESSAGE TO MENTORS FROM INDUCTION PHASE TEACHERS

**VIDEO 3:** [LEADERSHIP MATTERS: THE ROLE OF THE PRINCIPAL IN TEACHER INDUCTION](#)

- ❖ COMPONENTS OF A HIGH-QUALITY TEACHER INDUCTION PROGRAM
- ❖ MENTOR AND PRINCIPAL RELATIONSHIP...COMMUNICATION, COLLABORATION AND COORDINATION
- ❖ ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PRINCIPAL TO SUPPORT TEACHER INDUCTION

If you do not have the time right now to volunteer,  
you can still support **YOUR** organization

### Amazonsmile

When you shop AmazonSmile, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection, and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added benefit that AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to GaCEC! You do not need to be a member of GaCEC to identify it as the charitable organization, so please feel free to share with family and friends!

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/58-1276502>



Add **Georgia Federation for Exceptional Children Inc.** to your AmazonSmile:

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3. Select Search and type in Georgia Federation for Exceptional Children Inc. as your charitable organization.
4. Bookmark smile.amazon.com so you can see your generated donations to the Georgia Federation for Exceptional Children Inc. each time you shop at Amazon.

### CEC T-Shirts



We still have T-shirts for sale.  
The shirts cost \$15 with **FREE** shipping  
If you are interested in purchasing a T-shirt send an  
email to

[gacecsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:gacecsecretary@gmail.com)