

2015 INTERNATIONAL REPORT



MENSA[®]
FOUNDATION

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

We're changing lives with our good work

I joined Mensa 46 years ago, and it changed my life. For one thing, I met Liz at a Mensa meeting, and we have been married 34 years. And through local meetings, Annual Gatherings, Colloquiums and all the other fascinating activities Mensa has offered over the years, I have made friends, done things, and visited places I never would have otherwise.

Mensa changed my life, but it also changed me. It gave me a wider perspective on life and allowed me to see and appreciate how other people live and how they view themselves and their high intelligence. It allowed me to understand that some people celebrate their smartness, and some don't. Mensa gave me the ambition to become a leader of all these smart people, and the confidence to go ahead and do just that. First as LocSec, then RVC, Treasurer, AMC Chair, and International



Mensa Chair, I saw the world of Mensa opening wider and wider, encompassing people throughout the world.

But it wasn't until I joined the Board of Trustees of the Mensa Education and Research Foundation that I found something deeper, something that highly intelligent people can do to show how smart they really are.

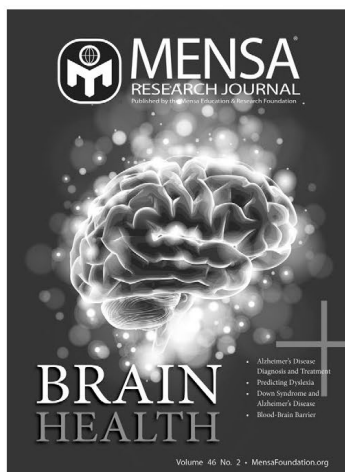
Our Foundation is the organization that allows Mensa to carry out its mission of nurturing human intelligence and encouraging smart people to reach their potential. Through scholarships, awards, a research journal, resources for gifted children and those who support them, the Foundation has made an important difference, transforming lives not only in the United States but in countries all over the world as well. We are able to do all this work only because of donations from people like you.

These pages show some of the things our Foundation has accomplished, and why you should become part of it. We believe this is true: It takes only one person to make a difference, either by doing, or not doing, something; if you weren't there it wouldn't have happened.

Show how intelligent you are by doing something really smart — giving to our Foundation. You can be that one.

KNOWLEDGE CENTERS

THE MENSARESEARCH JOURNAL has a new editor, Steve Slepner, who succeeds Robin Crawford. Steve is assistant editor of the *Journal of the Franklin Institute* in Philadelphia and also has served as research engineer in the Temple University Department of Psychiatry, managing editor of *Biological Psychiatry* (the journal of the Society of Biological Psychiatry), research associate at Allegheny University of the Health Sciences, and research coordinator at the University of Pennsylvania Center for Neuro-



Check out the list of back issues, order a copy or subscribe at mensafoundation.org/mrj

biology and Behavior. Besides LocSec and newsletter Editor for Delaware Valley Mensa, Steve has served as RVC2 and chaired several regional gatherings and the 1993 Colloquium.

Steve's first issue was Winter 2015, devoted to the work of scholars who competed for the Awards for Excellence in Research. The Summer 2015 issue focused on brain health.



MENSA FOR KIDS, the smart online place for teachers, parents and gifted students, now has an equally smart design. This great resource reflects the Mensa Foundation's commitment to educators and gifted families.

Please visit mensaforkids.org

SCHOLARSHIPS

The new Mensa International Scholarship for a student pursuing a degree program at an accredited college/university (other than in the U.S.) was implemented this year, with Vicki Herd of Mensa Canada overseeing the judging of the submitted essays. We received 27 applications from 14 countries in this first year of offering the scholarships funded by Mensa International. Vicki's team of eight Mensa judges came from Bangladesh, Canada, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Serbia, and South Africa.

Mensa International Scholarships

For Mensa members (other than American Mensa) studying at an accredited college/university (other than in the USA).

\$2,000 USD — Andrea Luppi, Mensa Italy; Experimental Psychology, University of Oxford.

\$1,000 USD — Katherine Vrantsidis, Mensa Canada; Mathematics and Statistics, minor in Biological Sciences, University of Windsor.

\$1,000 USD — Matej Kianicka, Mensa Slovakia; Health Administration, St. Elizabeth's University of Health and Social Work.

\$1,000 USD — Steven Walden, British Mensa; Film Theory, Brunel University.

Ed Vincent Scholarship

For Mensa members or their dependents (other than American Mensa) studying at an accredited college/university in the USA.

\$1,000 USD — Marcelin Da Cruz, Mensa France.

SCHOLARSHIPS

The Mensa Foundation is now accepting applications from students who are pursuing their academic goals around the world.

The Mensa International Scholarship program provides funds for international students enrolled at accredited colleges or universities in a country other than the United States. Eligibility is limited to Mensa members (except American Mensa).

The Ed Vincent International Scholarship program provides funds for international students enrolled at accredited colleges or universities in the United States. Eligibility is limited to Mensa members (except American Mensa) or their children/dependents.



These scholarships are awarded on the basis of an essay that describes the applicant's career, vocational, and/or academic goals along with information that shows how the applicant intends to achieve the stated goal. The scholarships are unrestricted regarding age, race, gender, level of education, grade point average, or financial need.

Eligible students can apply online at www.mensafoundation.org/scholarships. The site also includes more information, rules/guidelines, and an application. The submission period for the international scholarship programs begins on September 15, 2015. All applications must be submitted online by 05:59 GMT on January 15, 2016.

AWARDS

**International Intellectual Benefits
to Society Award**

&

**Copper Black International Award
for Creative Achievement**

David Smith of Saskatchewan, Canada, is the recipient of both the International Intellectual Benefits to Society Award and the Copper Black International Award for Creative Achievement. A member of Mensa Canada, he received the Intellectual Benefits Award for developing a behavior modification training system that enables people throughout the world to work with electricity safely and more efficiently. He received the Copper Black Award for providing practical electrical safety risk management skills that electrical workers can apply in their work. David has designed and built three innovative, mobile safety-training labs unique to North America.

**International Lifetime
Achievement Award**

Dr. Joan Freeman of London, England, is the recipient of the International Lifetime Achievement Award. The award recognizes a lifetime of contributions to the field of intelligence, giftedness, and related subjects. A British psychologist with a considerable body of research, including her ongoing study of giftedness that began in 1974, she is a sought-after guest for television news programs and worldwide speaking engagements on the subjects of intelligence and giftedness. Recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award of the British Psychological Society,

Freeman is a Visiting Professor at Middlesex University in London, Founding President of the European Council for High Ability, and an elected Fellow of the British Psychological Society.

AWARDS



The Awards for Excellence in Research are given each year for outstanding research on aspects of human intelligence and giftedness. This year's winners include scholars from Australia, Germany, Hungary, and the United States. The winners are:

SENIOR RESEARCHER

Matthew C. Makel, Duke University,
USA: *Changing the Pond, Not the Fish:
Following High-Ability Students Across
Different Educational Environments*

JUNIOR RESEARCHERS

Jae Yup Jung, University of New South
Wales, Australia: *The Cognitive Processes
Associated with Occupational/Career In-
decision: A Model for Gifted Adolescents*

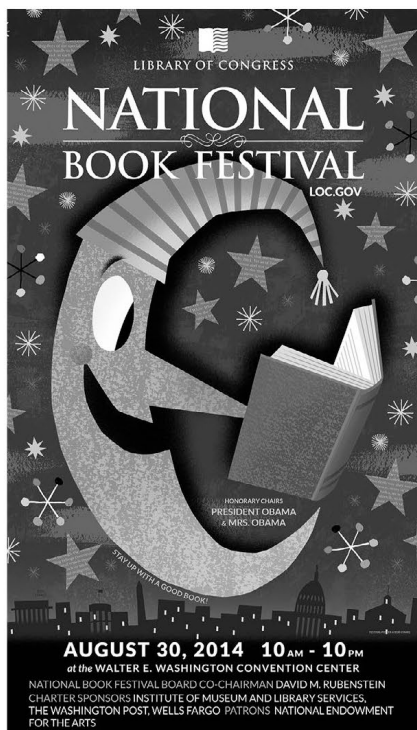
Tanja Gabriele Baudson, University of
Duisburg-Essen, Germany: *Teacher judgments as measures of children's cognitive ability: A multilevel analysis*

Harrison J. Kell, Peabody College, Vanderbilt University, USA: *Who Rises to the Top? Early Indicators*

Cara Gormally, Gallaudet University, USA: *Developing a Test of Scientific Literacy Skills (TOSLS): Measuring Undergraduates' Evaluation of Scientific Information and Arguments*

Peter Przemyslaw Ujma, Semmelweis
University, Hungary: *Sleep Spindles
and Intelligence: Evidence for a Sexual
Dimorphism*

GIFTED YOUTH



The 2014 poster

Every year, the bibliophilic faithful gather in Washington, D.C., for the Library of Congress National Book Festival. Amid the thousands of people, the hundreds of titles and the dozens of authors, the Mensa Foundation plays an integral role in the success of the Festival because it provides the “Children’s Guide to the Festival.” Our Foundation also creates the Eye Spy activity for the Festival poster (download free copies of the posters and the Eye Spy activities at loc.gov/bookfest/kids-teachers/creative/eye-spy.html). While the Festival is held in D.C., webcasts of it are available to anyone around the world for free (loc.gov/bookfest).

This year, in recognition of the support the Foundation has given to the Library of Congress and the success of the Foundation’s Excellence in Reading program, the Foundation was invited to become a Reading Promotion Partner, along with other organizations that promote reading and literacy across the nation, including the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Writing Project, the National Council of Teachers of English, and Reading is Fundamental, among others. As a Reading Promotion Partner, the Foundation will now be able to share its Excellence in Reading program with a broad range of like-minded organizations, and informational materials will be available to the public in the Young Readers Center at the Library of Congress.

The Mensa Education & Research Foundation is a philanthropic, non-profit 501(c)(3) organization committed to the pursuit of excellence in the areas of intelligence. Funding support comes from American Mensa, Ltd., Mensa International, and other charitable donations.

Donations are deductible in the United States for income tax purposes.

Information on all the Foundation’s programs and activities can be found on the website at mensafoundation.org.