

Yale's Aurora Project Seeks Parents of Gifted Students, Grades 4-6

What is the Aurora Project? Here at the Child Study Center of Yale University's School of Medicine, we are in the process of developing an augmented assessment of giftedness in children. This assessment—the Aurora Battery—would be an alternative to such traditional measures of intelligence like the Stanford-Binet or the Wechsler Scales.

What makes the Aurora Battery different? The Aurora Battery is based upon Dr. Robert J. Sternberg's Theory of Successful Intelligence, which posits a broader notion of intelligence—one that encompasses the importance of creative and practical abilities along with the traditionally tested-for memory and analytic abilities. *In addition*, Aurora includes 4 methods of evaluation: a paper and pencil test, a teacher rating scale, a semi-structured parent interview, and a clinical observation.

WE WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND AN INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE TO:

Parents of gifted students who are willing to be interviewed about their child's abilities, as they are expressed in various activities at home, with friends, and with family.

What do we mean by "gifted"? Having high creative, practical, or analytic abilities, as identified at home or at school.

CREATIVE: able to generate new ideas, create imaginative stories, solve problems in novel ways, discover new connections.

PRACTICAL: able to apply knowledge to real world problem-solving.

ANALYTICAL: able to reason and think logically in activities such as debating, research, and mathematical problem-solving.

To assess the nature of your child's capabilities, the interviewer poses a series of questions that ask parents to describe their child's interests and abilities in a broad range of settings and situations. Interviews may be conducted in person (if possible) or over the phone and will take approximately 45-60 minutes.

If you are interested and willing to participate, please contact Mei Tan by e-mail (mei.tan@yale.edu) or phone (203-785-4831), or Laurie Hemberger by e-mail, (ljh2144@columbia.edu). We would like to schedule interviews to take place during the months of March and April 2010.