IN THIS ISSUE

2019 Convention Information
For Our Struggle Is Not Against Flesh and Blood... Until It Is!
Called Beyond Conventional
Why Convention?
Flash Fiction Contest Winners
From My Perspective

Hope through Christian Home Education

A Compelling Principle

By David Watkins, MÂCHÉ executive director

One major difference between Christian home education and other forms of education is the worldview of those choosing the curriculum and providing the instruction. Everyone operates from one of two worldviews, whether or not he realizes it; and everything he thinks, says, and does is influenced by what he really believes. The first worldview is one which is firmly rooted in the Bible and holds the position that God is the ultimate authority and will hold each person accountable to his righteous standards. The second worldview is the exact opposite of the first – that man is the authority and that he will determine what is right and wrong and, ultimately, answer to no one but himself. It can clearly be seen through past centuries that when man operates with the first worldview, he experiences God’s best. When man follows the second worldview, life is a disaster and full of regrets.

God made the principle clear in Deuteronomy 6:1-25 that when his people properly love, worship, and follow him, they will receive his blessings. He warned them in Deuteronomy 12 to destroy the vestiges of idolatry and to not follow the heathen or whatever was right in their own eyes. It is stated in Deuteronomy 33:5 that God was Israel’s king; and throughout the book of Joshua, it is recorded that he gave them victory as they followed him. Then Joshua died, and over the next 300 years God’s people went through eight cycles of judgment, repentance, and revival. Why? They allowed spiritual compromises to take their affection and loyalty away from God and dethrone him as their king. “In those days there was no king in Israel, but every man did that which was right in his own eyes.” (Judges 17:6; 21:25) Israel’s history over the last 3,500 years would have been significantly different had they consistently obeyed from the heart the principles found in God’s Word. In Deuteronomy 6, they were instructed to love the LORD God with all of their heart, soul, and might and to diligently teach the same thing to their children and grandchildren so they would pass it on to the following generations.

Good parents should care deeply about who and what influences their children. They should carefully and persistently evaluate the worldview of those around them and the materials they allow in their home. Who cares more about your children? The God who created them and gave them to you or those who hold an ungodly worldview and see them as an accident, bother, experiment, or tool to use? How much are your children worth to you? Enough to set aside your goals and invest your time and energy to home educate them?

MÂCHÉ exists to empower you to accomplish your home education objectives and to maintain your freedom to do so. We believe God created the family, and that a loving family is the best environment for children. We believe God gave parents the right and responsibility to raise their children without government interference. We believe in strengthening parents to train their own children and to raise up the next generation of leaders. And we are convinced that home education is one of the best options for educating children.

Join us at the annual MÂCHÉ convention at the St. Paul RiverCentre on April 11-13, 2019!  📅
## Contents

### Features

1. For Our Struggle Is Not Against Flesh and Blood...Until It Is!  
2. Called Beyond Conventional  
3. Setting Your Student Up for Success  
4. Minnesota Homeschool Speech and Debate: 2019 Tournament Schedule  
5. Flash Fiction Contest Winners  
6. Why Convention?

### Convention

1. Invitation  
2. Leadership Forum  
3. Thursday Sessions  
4. Conference Sessions  
5. Exhibitors  
6. Teen Tracks  
7. Registration Information  
8. Speaker Information  
9. Hotel Accommodations  
10. Convention Helps & Hints

### In every issue

1. From My Perspective  
2. It’s the Law  
3. Take Note

---

Cover Photo: ©RIMDREAM
This is a verse most Christians learn early on as we study “the armor of God.” A hard reality is that the crimes and violence that we see in the news are simply the manifestation of the darkness that rules the world. Crime is a symptom of sin. Like protecting our spiritual selves from temptations, we need to protect our physical selves from those who are still under and living out their deepest sinful nature.

Why write a book, teach seminars, and dedicate a large portion of my life to personal protection and safety? That is a question I’ve thought about often. After years of researching and analyzing crimes and criminals throughout the world, I discovered so many of these crimes did not have to happen. Don’t get me wrong, I am not victim-blaming or putting the responsibility on the victim. The criminals are always 100% responsible for their actions. The problem is many people have no awareness of possible danger, no understanding of how crime or violent acts develop, how criminals think and act, etc. In the Christian community, we spend little time learning or teaching basic pro-active self-protection to our children. When we do teach them this, we often give confusing messages to our kids. This lack of awareness and basic knowledge, then, is the reason many people become victims of a crime that did not need to happen. So I teach to help reduce the number of crimes that I know can be prevented with a little knowledge and understanding.

Let’s take a quick look at the Bible. “Raise a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it.” (Prov. 22:6) “Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unaware.” (Heb. 13:2) “You shall love the stranger, for you were once strangers in the land of Egypt.” (Deut. 10:19) These are great verses for us – verses we need to teach our kids about loving others. In contrast, for safety reasons, we teach, “Do not talk to strangers.” “Do not help a stranger.” “Do not trust a stranger.” “Be careful of strangers.” This is the exact opposite of the Word of God.

One day, my son came home from elementary school in Japan and asked me, “Dad, who should I listen to – my principal or the police?” In Japan, elementary schools spend a lot of time teaching about the importance of community and being involved. They teach kids to greet all the people they see with a smile, a good morning, etc. One day, the school brought in a police officer to talk about safety, and the officer talked about “stranger danger.” My son was not sure if he should greet anyone or not.

It seems we only think about child or personal safety when we see sad and tragic stories in the news. But if we want our children to grow up safe, if we want safe families, if we want our daughters to be safe going off to college, if we want our sons to be safe and respectful of women, then we need to teach proper safety habits from early on.
We need to include these principles along with the other habits we want to instill in our children.

Violent crimes happen. We live in an evil world, but people often don’t want to believe that bad things can happen to them. I can’t tell you how many times I have heard someone say, “Those things (violent crimes) don’t happen here.” Or, after a tragic event, “It was such a surprise! No one expected that, not here.” It may sound strange, but the safety or perception of safety is part of the problem. Many people simply believe that it won’t happen to them. Unfortunately, this is one of the main reasons some crimes happen. You see, criminals look for people who are not aware – people who believe it won’t happen to them – because this type of person is the easiest target! Unfortunately, many people do not take the time to remember, “Even though I live in a safe place, evil is there.” Confucius wrote, “The superior man, when resting in safety, does not forget that danger may come. When in a state of security, he does not forget the possibility of ruin. When all is orderly, he does not forget that disorder may come. Thus, his person is not endangered, and his States and all their clans are preserved.”

Three things you can do to get started creating a safer lifestyle:

1. Apply the oxygen mask principle (like you hear from the stewardess on the airplane): Put your oxygen mask on first, then your child’s. Moms and dads, make sure your habits and lifestyle are safe and a positive example to your families.

2. Attend a few seminars and workshops to learn more. There are many to choose from and each has something a little different to offer. Do your research before spending any money. Do the values being taught represent your own? How much is physical and how much knowledge-based? Do a few seminars and then keep learning.

3. Get involved with community and neighborhood crime prevention programs. You will learn new things and be with other like-minded people.

STEVE DONOFRIO has a passion for protecting and helping others. After his military service, which included deployment to Iraq and Kuwait for the First Gulf War, he entered full-time youth ministry and worked part-time in security and as a protection practitioner. In 2000, with his wife, Heidi, and one-year-old son, Malachi, they moved to Japan to serve as missionaries. They served two years in full-time ministry, and then Steve started his full-time security management, protection, and fitness business. They lived in Japan fourteen years as “tent makers.” Malachi was educated part-time in the Japanese school system, then homeschooled. Steve is a motivational speaker specializing in self-protection, personal and workplace harmony, and fitness. He has consulted and taught in schools, colleges, and companies throughout Japan. He has a master’s degree in security management, is the lead author of the book, MAMA MANUAL (A BOOK FOR MOTHERS ABOUT FAMILY AND PERSONAL PROTECTION), and is a regular contributing author for Japan’s leading professional security journal, SECURITY RESEARCH MAGAZINE. He has a style of speaking and training best described as "edutainment," a unique blend of solid, practical education from a subject-matter expert, combined with an original entertaining approach.

Join the MÂCHÉ CONFERENCE TEAM

Looking for a rewarding service opportunity?

Wishing to step up and help the homeschool community?

VOLUNTEER AT THE MÂCHÉ CONFERENCE!

Volunteering is a member-only privilege, and just 5-6 hours of volunteer time is enough to cover your early-bird registration.

READY TO GET STARTED? Email the volunteer coordinator at volunteers@mache.org. For more information, visit https://www.mache.org/event/2019-mache-convention.
God is amazing in how he uses our life trials, successes, and failures to sculpt and design our callings in life. He wastes nothing. My life is no exception. It is an eclectic mixture of experiences that has catapulted me onto the path I now walk as a homeschooling mom.

However, knowing God’s call and actually walking in God’s calling are two very separate things. It is not always easy to have peace as the Master Craftsman shapes and molds us into the vessel he chooses us to be. It is hard to let go of our goals, expectations, and identities and follow his plan for our life. I get that!

You see my resume also includes the title of “doctor.” I am a pediatrician who gave up a full-time career in medicine to homeschool my children. I had always felt destined to be a doctor. Since I was three years old, I had dreamed of being a doctor. While some little girls played with dolls and pretended to be a mother, I was playing with dolls as patients pretending to be their doctor.

After graduating from Northwestern University, I was accepted into the University of Illinois, College of Medicine. I was also working as a public-school elementary teacher at the time and, simultaneously, decided to earn my master’s degree in education. It was a long and difficult process, but in 1998, I received the honor of being addressed as doctor.

In addition to doing what I loved, I was also getting many of my emotional needs met. I was living a life of significance. My patients and their families appreciated me. My colleagues and co-workers respected me. My family was proud of me and approved of who I was and where I was going. I had worked hard to get there, and I was good at what I did. I had my life planned out. I told God, “I got this. Let me show you how I will serve you.” But God had something different in mind for my life. He birthed a new desire in my heart to be at home with my children and start homeschooling. My heart began to yearn for home and, with every shift I worked, the anguish intensified.

Initially, I fought against it. First, I am a pediatrician and a former public-school teacher. What business do I have homeschooling? In general, these two professions have a negative bent towards homeschoolers. Second, I needed my career to be “whole” as a person. I struggled with thoughts of throwing away a six-figure income and years of formal training. Lastly, I would probably ’eat my young’ if I had to homeschool them.

Then others fought against me. Many of my closest friends and some of my family questioned my decision and even thought it was crazy. A few friends counseled that it would be irresponsible to walk away from such incredible earning potential. Members of my community felt I was betraying them and the values they espoused.

Of all of my struggles along the way, none have been as difficult as the decision to leave my career as a full-time
practicing pediatrician and begin the full-time effort of homeschooling my children. Prior to embarking on my adventure to homeschool, I believed I could have it ALL: a successful career, husband, children, happiness, and fulfillment. I thought I could land a “perfect” ten across the board, but something was always being compromised.

In truth, “perfect” is found in Christ alone, and being where he has destined you to be is the only way to land a perfect score. God asked me to take my eyes off myself and keep them on him.

I approached my beginning months of homeschooling as I approached nursing my children when they were babes. I would take it one month at a time. If it didn’t work, I could always quit. The decision seemed to be confirmed immediately by the many blessings and perks that came from homeschooling. My kids bring my knowledge as a doctor and experience as a teacher to help others.

Recently, as I was seeking to find the best tools to teach my children, I was disappointed with all of the choices available to homeschoolers for the biological sciences. Many resources seemed to either provide a superficial amount of science or they abandoned God altogether and provided an in-depth, but secular, look at biology and the human body.

So, what’s a homeschooling mother with a degree in medicine and teaching to do? I chose to use my passions and experience to write a curriculum. The first book in a nine-book series on the human body written for elementary students (titled God’s Wondrous Machine: The Electrifying Nervous System published by Master Books) has been released. Now, I get to add the title of “author” to my resume.

Let me have a real sobering moment. I had my life planned out. I told God, “I got this. Let me show you how I will serve you.” But God had something different in mind for my life.

began to demonstrate a renewed eagerness to learn. It brought our family closer together. My children no longer saw age segregation. They began to engage with adults and children of all ages. Our children became far more grounded in their faith and walk with God.

But wait, that’s not the end of the story. See God knew me when he called me. He knew my passions and my interests. He was promoting me, not demolishing me. He values me just like he values you. He gave me new ways to express my lifelong passions for education, sports, medicine, biological science, and my Christian faith. As I immersed myself into the world of homeschooling, I began to share my talents and “weirdness” with others. I eventually began Scienexperience.com, an organization that seeks to magnify the wonder of God’s creation through hands-on science workshops, education, and advocacy. It is here that I am able to be in motion for him to be able to direct our paths. If we are stationary and static, God isn’t directing us so much as trying to dislodge us. I have experienced this first hand. Others of us may hope for similar breakthroughs, but just don’t know how to get started. One thing is for sure: God has given each of us gifts and passions. We are blessed when we begin blessing others with those gifts. Sometimes this goes unnoticed, but God takes it and turns it into something so much bigger than us. Either way, our true career as homeschooling parents is in serving God with these gifts. May God bless you as you go forward and do exactly that.

Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

~Philippians 1:6

DR. LAINNA CALLENTINE IS AN AUTHOR, SPEAKER, MISSIONARY PEDIATRICIAN, FOUNDER OF SCIENCEXPERIENCE, HOMESCHOOL MOTHER, AND TEACHER WHO HAS TAUGHT ALL LEVELS FROM ELEMENTARY TO POST GRADUATE. SHE HOLDS A MASTER’S IN EDUCATION AND RECEIVED HER B.A. FROM NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY, WHERE SHE STUDIED IN THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION FOCUSING IN PEDIATRIC MEDICINE, AND A B.A. IN HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL POLICY WHILE COMPETING ON A FULL ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIP IN BASKETBALL. SHE COMPLETED HER M.D. AND RESIDENCY TRAINING IN PEDIATRICS. SHE Serves AS A MISSIONARY DOCTOR FOR UNINSURED CHILDREN IN THE CHICAGO SUBURBS, AS WELL AS PROVIDING CONSULTATION TO FOCUS ON THE FAMILY AS A MEMBER OF THE PHYSICIAN RESOURCE COUNCIL, THROUGH WHICH SHE CONTRIBUTES TO THE MANY MINISTRIES AT FOCUS. DR. CALLENTINE CONTINUES TO HAVE WONDERMENT FOR THE BEAUTY OF GOD’S CREATION IN THE HUMAN BODY. SHE IS THE AUTHOR OF AN EXCITING BOOK SERIES AND HANDS-ON CURRICULUM FOR CHILDREN SHOWCASING THE HUMAN BODY CALLED GOD’S WONDROUS MACHINE.
Are you setting your student up for success? Have you ever wondered what it takes to get your child from mom-dependent student to independent adult?

We have been saturated with alarming stories and statistics about millennials – a generation supposedly ill-equipped to leave home, find jobs, or sustain meaningful relationships. Theories abound as to why an entire decade of young adults are not launching into life at the same speed as their parents and grandparents. Is it the economy, coddling parents, narcissism, or an entitlement mindset that is impeding an entire generation?

I can assure you that the dismal plight of many millennials does not have to be the prognosis for your child. As a parent and educator, you have the tools to successfully launch your student into adulthood and, in fact, set them up for tremendous advantage amidst an apathetic generation of their peers.

Let’s talk about three areas that are imperative to propel the next generation: life purpose, 21st-century skills, and tangible steps to launch.

1. **Your student needs a sense of direction and purpose**

In the not so distant past, career decisions were straightforward. If your dad farmed, you became a farmer. If your family ran the hardware store, you’d one day inherit the family business. If you lived in an area where the heartbeat of the economy was an industrial plant, you’d probably head to work in the factory after high school.

In more recent decades, an employee devoted their entire life to one company, trudging through the ranks until retirement. There wasn’t much need for plotting a career path. The company invested in the new hire and moved them around until the employee was living a meaningful life within the organization. This lifelong devotion is no longer the norm. With a world of possibilities before them, students are, understandably, overwhelmed.

To make matters worse, parents used to rely on college to be the place where students figure out their life trajectory. We thought college was the place where students “discover themselves.” It is an incredibly inefficient use of time and tuition to rely on colleges that are ill-equipped to provide this kind of meaningful perspective. Prior to enrolling in college, students need a sense of direction that has already been tested and proved, with guidance from parents and mentors.

How, then, do you help your students discover that sense of direction? Begin with simple conversations and open-ended questions to get to know their inner dreams, desires, and passions.

The website, LifePurposePlanning.org, lists a number of practical, open-ended questions to get the conversation rolling:

- What things have you enjoyed doing?
- What have you hated?
- If you could do anything without fear of failure, what would it be?
Where have you seen God at work in the past?
Towards what subjects do you tend to gravitate?
What are you reading these days?

It’s easy to default to asking questions about future job or career. Recognize that a job is the tip of the iceberg when it comes to a student’s purpose. At this stage, keep the conversation open and broad. Look for common themes that connect their thoughts together, then ask further questions to dive deeper and better understand:

- You mentioned ____. Tell me more about that.
- What would ____ look like?
- Help me understand ____.
- What do you mean by ____?
- Why is ____ important to you?

You can ask these questions casually as you’re driving to the store or sitting drinking coffee on a Saturday morning. Take mental notes as you listen to their heartbeat and inner passions coming out. Once you’ve narrowed down a few common heart themes/passions, help your student think through next steps to test out interests: missions trips, community service, a simple internship.

As a homeschool student, your child has unique opportunities, thanks to their flexible schedule and the ability to take learning out of the classroom. Take advantage of this and don’t feel confined to school in the same way public schools do. Encourage your student to take ownership of their plans by asking them to do research and call organizations that interest them. Require them to practice real-life skills now and take ownership of their “experience hunt,” just as they would a job hunt. Not only will the practical experience build their resume, but seeing the “ins” and “outs” of different opportunities and industries will give them further confidence that they’re on the right track and will greatly reduce the likelihood of changing majors, thus saving them time (and money) in college.

How to help your student with purpose and motivation:

Most young adults are deprived of motivation because they either lack vision, or they can’t see practical means of achieving their goals. They don’t have a cause, a reason to run, a reason to get up in the morning, or a reason to do the tough stuff associated with making their dreams a reality.

1. Ask questions and engage in conversations on purpose (it’s never too early or too late to do this).
2. Prompt them to pursue opportunities and serve/volunteer. Above padding a resume, experience fosters passion. As a student explores and becomes passionate about their future, they are internally motivated to put away childish things and pursue the beautiful purpose for which they were created.
3. Have them take ownership of responsibilities. For example, they are responsible to complete their school assignments without mom hovering over them; they are responsible for setting an alarm and getting out of bed on time in the morning. They are responsible to care for a specific responsibility around the home (mowing the grass, making certain meals each week, etc.).

2. 21st-Century Skills

Our current school system was created for training factory workers – people who performed rote tasks – in a job that didn’t require much imagination or innovation. The focus of K-12 education revolves around a system of training pupils to retain large amounts of information and ends with a test to prove competency in a given area.

Times have changed, and information is no longer at a premium, nor is the workforce the same as the assembly line job offerings of past centuries. We now have access to information at virtually all points in time. Computers and mobile devices offer a means of finding information continually at our fingertips.

As a homeschool student, your child has unique opportunities, thanks to their flexible schedule and the ability to take learning out of the classroom.
While there is obviously still a place for traditional formal education, a 21st-century student needs a more comprehensive learning plan. The ability to regurgitate facts on demand isn’t enough. Rather than an astonishing memory, students need to cultivate the ability to reason, think critically, be creative, and apply those learnings to real life.

A recent study showed that the average teen spends 7½ hours “on screen”1 (phone, computer, TV) every day. What a difference this is from the previous generation who spent hours developing a hobby, playing outside sports and games with neighbors, or getting lost in good books.

Critical thinking skills:

While the world is filled with educated individuals who know a lot of information, the number of people who are skilled thinkers is relatively low. Critical thinking trains a student to distinguish accurate information. With the prevalence of information found on the Internet, this is especially important. Not everything mentioned on the Internet is accurate, so thinking skills are necessary to determine truth from fiction.

In today’s society, the ability to understand and process information is more vital than the ability to memorize facts and recall them for a test. In a recent New York Times article, Google senior vice president of operations, Laszlo Bock, lists GPA and test scores as a useless criteria for hiring. He further states, “For every job, the No. 1 thing we look for is general cognitive ability, and it’s not I.Q. It’s learning ability. It’s the ability to process on the fly. It’s the ability to pull together disparate bits of information.” Bock does point out that good grades are a positive thing, but they’re not the primary factor in hiring.²

This doesn’t mean you need to grab a giant garbage bag, gather up the entire contents of your school room, and lug your collection of textbooks to the curb on garbage day. Rather, by blending traditional learning with reasoning skills, you will give your student the best of both worlds and equip them to achieve their unique life purpose.

The American economy is rapidly shifting away from assembly line type jobs and toward creative, right-brained jobs. To succeed today, employees need an entirely new skill set.

How to build 21st-Century Skills:

1. Engage in purposeful conversation around the dinner table by asking for your child’s opinion on various matters while also dialoging on their thought process. Regularly discuss movies, current events, and local news as a way of stretching communication skills while helping them think out loud. Focus on reading great books (classics) and writing. Andrew Pudewa and IEW have a great list of ideas (see https://iew.com).

2. Build collaboration and communication skills. TeenPact, Generation Joshua, Patriot Academy, and speech and debate are all excellent opportunities.


4. Push their creativity through non-digital activities. Do more outside.

5. Encourage them to build meaningful relationships outside of social media or texting by getting them out of the house and serving their community or volunteering in an internship.

3. Tangible Steps to Launch

The purpose of a student’s education is to prepare them for the period after high school and college graduation. Everything you’re doing now should be focused not on getting your child into a good college, but rather on helping them live a meaningful life. To borrow a Stephen Covey idea, “Begin with the end in mind.”

The marketplace is full of ambitious college graduates who are unemployed. So, what does your student need to have an edge in the job market? They need the following:

1. A clear passion and purpose that drives their daily decisions and motivation
2. Critical thinking skills that equip them to be lifelong learners
3. A focus on life after college to drive their thinking and planning

Put your “big dreams” hat on and help them think through the future. There’s never been a greater need or opportunity to launch the next greatest generation.

How will you equip your student to succeed this year? 3

Endnotes:

1http://makinghealth easier.org/getmoving
2Adam Bryant, “In Head-Hunting, Big Data May Not Be Such a Big Deal” (New York Times, March 2014)

WOODY ROBERTSON IS A FIRST-GENERATION HOMESCHOOL GRADUATE WHO IS PASSIONATE ABOUT REACHING THE NEXT GENERATION. IF YOU HANG AROUND WOODY FOR LONG, YOU’RE SURE TO HEAR WORDS LIKE “LIVE LIFE TO THE FULLEST,” “PURPOSEFUL LIVING,” OR “WORLD-CHANGER.” HE’S HELPED YOUNG ADULTS SUCCESSFULLY NAVIGATE LIFE DECISIONS FOR YEARS. AN ENTREPRENEUR AND VISIONARY, WOODY HAS BEEN A PRINCIPLE PLAYER IN SEVERAL START-UP COMPANIES. IN 2004, HE CO-FOUNDED COLLEGEPLUS (NOW LUMERIT UNBOUND) AND EARNED HIS ACCREDITED BSBA IN GENERAL MANAGEMENT. A FREQUENT MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER AT CONFERENCES NATIONWIDE, WOODY’S INFORMATION-PACKED SESSIONS ARE INNOVATIVE AND INSPIRING. CHARACTERIZED BY A HIGH LEVEL OF ENERGY AND ENTHUSIASM, WOODY BLENDS EACH SESSION WITH MOTIVATIONAL AND PRACTICAL INFORMATION ATTENDEES CAN PUT INTO PRACTICE IMMEDIATELY. AS A MEMBER OF THE LUMERIT UNBOUND TEAM, WOODY LIVES IN SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, WITH HIS WIFE, GINA.
**Christian.**

Get a Christ-centered education that equips you with a biblical worldview, with mentoring by Christian instructors. Not sure where to start? Our career assessment program focuses on your unique strengths to help you discover your God-given design and choose the right major.

**Community.**

Our local church-based campus provides a safe environment to learn and grow. Enjoy small class sizes and close interactions with faculty. Classrooms are interactive, collaborative, discussion-based environments.

**College.**

Take accredited classes at an affordable price. Our unique model brings tuition costs down to less than 1/3 of what you would pay at a typical private college.

Guided application process. No SAT/ACT scores required.

VirtuesCampus.com | 651-401-1045 | Info@VirtuesCampus.com

---

**Minnesota Homeschool Speech and Debate**

**MARK your CALENDAR!**

The National Christian Forensics and Communications Association (NCFCA) Speech and Debate Tournament schedule is set. Minnesota participants are part of Region V (which includes Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, and Nebraska), and we are privileged to host two tournaments this season. With two tournaments to choose from, make plans now to attend, judge, or PARTICIPATE! We look forward to meeting you soon.

**Dates (2019)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 7–10</td>
<td>National Mixer</td>
<td>University of Northwestern, St. Paul, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 27–March 2</td>
<td>Kansas Qualifier</td>
<td>Kansas City First Church of the Nazarene, Kansas City, MO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 19-22</td>
<td>Missouri Qualifier</td>
<td>St. Charles Community College, Cottleville, MO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 3–6</td>
<td>Minnesota Qualifier</td>
<td>Salem Evangelical Free Church, Moorhead, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 30–May 2</td>
<td>Region V Championship</td>
<td>West Hills Church, Omaha, NE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Metro Edge Debate and Speech Club**

*Maple Grove, MN*

Email: metroedge debateandspeech@gmail.com
Website: https://metroedge.leaguerepublic.com

**Moorhead Area Communicators Club**

*Moorhead, MN*

Email: tjbluel@gmail.com

**Southern Minnesota Speech and Debate**

*Mankato, MN*

Email: southernminnesotaspeechanddebate@gmail.com

For more information, contact a club near you!
A. One of the most advantageous things about homeschooling is the opportunity to shape the learning environment for each of our kids to match their unique learning styles. Part of the joy as a homeschool parent is discovering those things that start opening up the world for them. As someone who has lived with dyslexia my whole life and who has worked with many parents on what to do when your child struggles with reading, there are some basics that will help you out. The answer will also address assessment or seeking special help.

If your plan is to homeschool your child for the foreseeable future, I would advise avoiding the unnecessary stigma and effort of getting some sort of formal diagnosis of the learning disability until your child is in their teens. That doesn’t mean you don’t look for opportunities to identify their learning styles and look at different teaching methods to help them start decoding words effectively; but when it comes to absorbing knowledge, simply use the many tools that are available to you – computer readers, books on tape, and just the fun of reading stories. Some students just don’t pick up the concept of reading until they get a little bit older and there’s nothing wrong with filling in the gaps in creative ways.

There is no law requiring that a child must be able to read by certain age and, frankly, being labeled in public school will not improve the child’s prospects at all. Most special education strategies are built on the simple model of experimenting with the particular teaching method and then assessing whether it works for the particular child. My observation over the years is that a dedicated set of parents can easily do this method of trial and error equally as well, if not better.

Where it becomes critical to get your child diagnosed is when they get closer to college entrance exams – or possibly taking group classes – and there is still a noticeable deficit that appears to be harming their ability to appropriately express their knowledge or grasp of the subject. If you think your child will need more time on standardized tests or accommodations in taking tests in a classroom setting, they will need a formal diagnosis establishing that they have a specific learning disability requiring such accommodation.

Fortunately, that’s down the road quite a bit and you may, in the meantime, find that reading suddenly just pops for the student because they just were a late bloomer. There is nothing wrong with that scenario.

State law requires all students receive an assessment via a standardized test. The law states:

“The superintendent of the district in which the child receives instruction and the person in charge of the child’s instruction must agree about the specific examination to be used and the administration and location of the examination.” Minn Statutes 120A.22 Subd. 11(a)

With the student that may need accommodation in the administration of the test, such as having it read to them, I would make sure to find a test you can administer as the parent. I would simply indicate on the annual form the name of the test and that you’ll be administering it yourself at home. As the test administrator, you can make the call on determining what is the best way to present the test to the student in order to truly assess their achievement.

Remember, it is an achievement test and not a test of their disability. If reading the questions to the student is possible, then do it. This would not be the level
of detail a superintendent would get involved with for someone administering a test in their public schools and therefore he/she does not need to get involved in your decision to orally administer a test in your private school so you can effectively assess your student’s progress.

It provides you little benefit if the test is simply measuring his inability to read and not his academic knowledge.

Also, if your student takes the test and doesn’t do well, there is no penalty, and you have no legal obligation to report poor scores to the state or school district. Obviously it provides you little benefit if the test is simply measuring his inability to read and not his academic knowledge, and such a test can be demoralizing for the student.

If your student scores “below the 30th percentile or one grade level below the performance level for children of the same age,” the law does require a parent to “obtain additional evaluation of the child’s abilities and performance for the purpose of determining whether the child has learning problems.” Minn Statutes 120A.22 Subd. 11(c). The law provides no guidance as to what this “additional evaluation” looks like nor does it require it be done by any specific professional. As long as the student is thriving and learning to use adaptive tools like computer readers or dictating via programs such as Dragon Naturally Speaking, you are then doing plenty of additional evaluations of the problem and accomplishing solutions.

Take it from a guy who didn’t learn to read his first chapter book until he was in 8th grade that traditional reading methods are overrated. I make a good living now as an attorney and Commissioner of Public Utilities where I am required to read hundreds of pages a week (most via a computer reader). It’s amazing what is available now that wasn’t available to me when I was in third grade. During those early years, however, I learned the most from the stories read to me by my mom and sisters at that age. Those stories and moments are still with me to this day. Count it as a blessing that you get to create those memories too.

JOHN TUMA’S CAREER BEGAN AS AN ATTORNEY. IN 1994, HE ENTERED THE POLITICAL ARENA WHEN HE WAS ELECTED STATE REPRESENTATIVE AND SERVED IN OFFICE FOR FOUR CONSECUTIVE TERMS. IN 2002, JOHN RETIRED FROM HIS LEGISLATIVE POSITION IN ORDER TO SPEND MORE TIME WITH HIS FAMILY. IN 2015, GOVERNOR MARK DAYTON APPOINTED HIM TO THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION. THE DESIRE TO GIVE THEIR CHILDREN A BIBLICAL FOUNDATION, THEIR NEED FOR A FLEXIBLE SCHEDULE IN ORDER TO BE ABLE TO SPEND TIME TOGETHER AS A FAMILY, AS WELL AS THE DESIRE TO BE VERY INVOLVED IN WHAT THEIR CHILDREN WERE LEARNING, LED JOHN AND HIS WIFE, WENDY, TO HOMESCHOOL THEIR CHILDREN. BOTH OF THEIR CHILDREN ARE NOW COLLEGE GRADUATES. JOHN AND WENDY SERVED ON THE MÂCHÉ BOARD FOR THIRTEEN YEARS BEFORE RETIRING FROM THE BOARD IN 2016.
Writers were challenged to write a flash fiction story in 300 words or less using the picture below as a prompt.

In the Fall 2018 issue of The Paper MÂCHÉ, writers of all ages were invited to create a flash fiction story as part of MÂCHÉ’s 3rd Annual Flash Fiction Writing Contest.

A big “thank you!” to everyone who submitted stories this year! We had a great turnout and a lot of good flash fiction. With the three contest groups of Kids (ages 5-12), Teens (ages 13-19), and Adults/Parents (20+), we are very pleased to present this year’s Flash Fiction Contest winners! Their stories can be found on the page to the right.
**Becoming Pete**

Hello there! My name is...well, I never used to have a name. I wasn’t that important. You see, I’m a bottle. But today I will tell you about the time I got my name after performing a very important job.

A long time ago, I was sitting up on my usual shelf when, suddenly, a hairy, strong-looking man took my cap off, shoved in a rolled-up piece of paper tied with some string, and squeezed my cap back on. He took me outside and threw me in the ocean!

I was scared! My cap just about popped off of my bottle, but I held it on. It must be an important message. I couldn’t lose it!

I was shaking. If I’d had fingers, I would’ve probably been biting my nails. When the waves went high, I went high. When the waves went low, I went down with a splash!

As the waves started to calm down, I thought that I saw something like land. Yes, yes, we land up ahead! I was just about free from the big water! No more up and down waves! No more seasickness! I washed up on the land – a hard, wet cement surface.

A few people walked past, but they didn’t notice me. Then a woman came and picked me up. She pulled off my cap and read the paper. She leaped into the air! She pulled off my cap and read the message. That made ME important until now. I carried an important message. That made ME important – probably a role model to all bottle kind – and important enough to have a name. This is Pete the Messenger signing off.

**A Fly’s Life**

I sucked happy at the cork, reflecting on the goodness of life. As I licked up the last juicy drops, the cork was rudely seized up (and I with it), shoved into a bottle, and hurled overboard.

To say I was incensed underrates the matter.

After futilely buzzing against the cork and knocking about the sides for several minutes, I settled down to a slow seething. What a life. What a fly’s life – always buzzing around, never doing anything important. And now to have even that tranquility broken by my sudden advent into this bottle. It was dashed unfair.

As I calmed, I noticed I wasn’t alone in my glass prison. With me was a small scroll. Now I had learned to read in my maggothood, and I was eager to apply my knowledge to this page. What I read changed everything.

A message for help!

Anger seized me once more. Here was my chance to do great things in life – to fly the message there in time – and I was stuck in a bottle, unable to get help...or was I?

To the observer it would have appeared that I went suddenly crazy. I began to fly from side to side of the bottle, knocking against the bottom, the sides, the cork. I flew in crazy circles, and slowly, the bottle began to move. Imperceptibly at first, it gradually began to spin faster and faster and to take on a direction. We were moving.

For several minutes, I settled down to a slow seething. What a life. What a fly’s life – always buzzing around, never doing anything important. And now to have even that tranquility broken by my sudden advent into this bottle. It was dashed unfair.

As I calmed, I noticed I wasn’t alone in my glass prison. With me was a small scroll. Now I had learned to read in my maggothood, and I was eager to apply my knowledge to this page. What I read changed everything.

A message for help!

Anger seized me once more. Here was my chance to do great things in life – to fly the message there in time – and I was stuck in a bottle, unable to get help...or was I?

To the observer it would have appeared that I went suddenly crazy. I began to fly from side to side of the bottle, knocking against the bottom, the sides, the cork. I flew in crazy circles, and slowly, the bottle began to move. Imperceptibly at first, it gradually began to spin faster and faster and to take on a direction. We were moving.

For three days I kept my pace with the waves. No more up and down waves! No more seasickness! I washed up on the land – a hard, wet cement surface.

A few people walked past, but they didn’t notice me. Then a woman came and picked me up. She pulled off my cap and read the paper. She leaped into the air! She pulled off my cap and read the message. That made ME important until now. I carried an important message. That made ME important – probably a role model to all bottle kind – and important enough to have a name. This is Pete the Messenger signing off.
Why Convention?

By Kate Ophoven

There is simply no shortage of information today. A Google search can answer almost any question, and it’s usually quicker than turning to ask the person next to you or phoning a friend. Blogs, Facebook groups and forums, podcasts, and social media only add to the bottomless well of information accessible instantly. If it’s all there for us on the Internet, then why is there still an annual homeschool convention? Why do we encourage attendance? Does a convention have enough to offer to make the travel, lodging, and child care costs worth it?

We think so, and here are a few reasons why.

There’s a familiar, wise piece of advice in Proverbs 29: “Where there is no vision, the people perish.” Having a vision is similar to having a goal, a mission, or a particular destination worthy of attaining. In other words, it helps answer the “why” question: “Why are you doing what you are doing?” A vision inspires us, broadens our perspective, and gives us reason to endure until we reach the goal. Iyanla Vanzant writes that, without vision, “you’re going to be stuck in what you know.”

A convention is an excellent place to present and catch a vision. The speakers do the preparation; set the stage, tone, and atmosphere; and present the vision for the attendees to catch. Think about it this way: There’s something lost when you listen to a recording. You can still get the information, but it’s like reading about an incredible concert performance instead of actually attending and being a part of it. It is convenient to watch it later, but we lose out on the experience. We also miss out on the present-time working of the Holy Spirit, like when a church raises its voices to God during Sunday morning worship. There is something powerful that happens when a speaker exhorts us and directs our attention to Christ in real-time.

Another reason we think a convention is important is because we can share specific, correct information with you. The legal and statutory requirements to homeschool in Minnesota can be complicated and tricky to navigate, especially because laws change all the time; but we have attorneys who are well-studied in what you need to know and do to be compliant with the law. You can listen to their presentations, ask them questions, and have a conversation with them about your specific situation. Coming to a convention allows you to get the specific legal information for Minnesota and learn about legislative updates, as well as learn the powerful history of homeschooling. We can be thankful and appreciate the sacrifices the early homeschoolers made to make the right to homeschool free to every parent in America, but it was a battle won state-by-state and family-by-family.

MÂCHÉ offers community, networking, and support for moms, dads, and teens at the convention. There are homeschool mentors – experienced homeschool dads and moms – who are available throughout the conference. They will listen to you, answer your questions, and offer advice – very much in the spirit of Titus 2 mentorship. MÂCHÉ also facilitates specific networking and workshops, whether you’re a homeschool co-op or support group leader, a homeschool dad, a single mom, or a parent to a special needs child or high school student.

Your teen students can attend a special track that will equip them in worldview, civic responsibility, and biblical cultural engagement. You will make new friends, fellowship with other homeschooling parents, and learn just how supportive the homeschooling community is.

Most conventions offer a curriculum fair, and MÂCHÉ is one of those conventions. Attending the convention allows you to learn about the variety of curricula available and to speak with the vendors, which allows you to customize their product to your family’s and children’s needs. You’ll hear vendors present their product and be able to ask them questions about what they can offer you. You’ll be able to physically page through the pages of the books, read excerpts for yourself, and determine what the best choice will be for your family. Plus, most convention vendors have special conference pricing for their products.

In a world made increasingly impersonal by online networking and virtual friendships, the MÂCHÉ convention offers fellowship, encouragement, and valuable products and information to better equip your family. Come catch a vision, learn, and make new friends.

Experience the MÂCHÉ convention.

KATE OPHOVEN is a homeschool graduate with a passion for justice and love of books, research, and writing. She graduated with a hybrid liberal arts and science degree, offering a unique perspective with influences from scripture, conservative political theory, sociology, criminology, and theology. She is eternally grateful to her parents for choosing home education for her and her three siblings, and she enjoys sharing her homeschool experience with others. A licensed peace officer and nationally certified emergency medical technician, Kate currently lives in suburban Minneapolis where she is a first responder, in graduate school, and maintains a private music studio.
Giving All Diligence...

"...add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ." (2 Peter 1:5-8 NKJV)
The 2019 Leadership Forum is going to be another encouragement-filled day for Minnesota homeschool support group and co-op leaders.

You face unique challenges that others don’t experience. Not only are you homeschooling your own children and keeping your home running smoothly, but you are also leading a group of families...which means planning, scheduling, organizing, communicating, and making decisions on top of everything else. The Leadership Forum is designed to help you get away from your everyday routine and enjoy a time of delightful encouragement and relaxing refreshment...as you revitalize your vision.

The cost is $35 ($28 for MÂCHÉ members). If you register before March 29, a luncheon meal is included. If you register after March 29, you may still attend, but you will need to purchase a meal from the café downstairs and bring it with you to the luncheon. Registration begins January 1, 2019. Invite other leaders to attend with you, especially those who have never attended before. We want to encourage home education support leaders from all around Minnesota in the work that they do.

Forrest and Beth Mora have an engaging wit, which, along with their practical ideas, will motivate and encourage you as leaders. Read more about them on page 26. Come, relax, and enjoy this fun day created just for you!

Workshops

The Road to Homeschool Co-op Utopia Beth Mora

Are we there yet? Homeschool co-op utopia is a place where community, learning, and great memories live. However, the road to a great co-op experience is not without ups and downs or unexpected turns. A well-organized co-op can make all the difference between success and an “I’ll never do that again” road trip. Join Beth Mora, homeschool co-op leader and teacher, as she shares from her years of experience and piles on an armload of resources to help you create a successful homeschool co-op. If you are in a co-op, thinking about starting a co-op, or wondering what life is like in a co-op, then this session is where you will want to take a seat and fasten your seatbelt! We are going to great places!

Recruiting and Retaining Volunteers Forrest and Beth Mora

Volunteers are the backbone of nonprofit organizations. Without volunteers, visions crumble. How do you recruit qualified volunteers? How can a leader strengthen a volunteer to go the distance? How do you inspire your volunteers to serve with passion? Forrest and Beth Mora will share ten key principles to help you form a team that will thrive and create a lasting impact.

Embracing Marketing Shifts in the Homeschool Community Forrest and Beth Mora

We all know it. We all must face it and embrace it. The new homeschool family is an online family shaped by budget constraints and cyber-culture. In this session, we’ll explore new ways of meeting the needs of the next generation of homeschool families. We live in an exciting time that’s filled with more opportunities to serve than ever!

Complimentary Conference Registrations!

To qualify, you must meet all three criteria:

1. You hold a distinct role on your leadership board (director, treasurer, secretary, etc.)
2. You have a current membership through April 30, 2019
3. Your group is listed on the MÂCHÉ website

If your membership will lapse or you are not a member of MÂCHÉ, you can renew or open a new member account at http://www.mache.org, then scroll down to the “Membership” callout. To confirm that your group is already listed, click the ‘Groups’ tab, then select ‘Group Listings’ in the drop-down box. To list your group, click on the ‘Add a group listing’ in the drop down box.

You may begin submitting your requests for this complimentary registration beginning January 1, 2019. The deadline for all qualifying submissions will be midnight, January 25, 2019. Please contact support.groups@mache.org. You will need to provide your name, title you hold in leadership, and the name of the group you represent. When we have verified that you have met all three criteria, you will be notified by email that your account is ready for registration. Important! Do NOT register for the conference until AFTER you hear back from us with your instructions.
**Thursday Sessions**

"Taking that first giant step into home education is quite unnerving! What if I can't do it?"

"Teaching anything past the basic reading, writing, and arithmetic is rather intimidating, to say the least! So how will I ever make it through calculus, chemistry, and college entrance exams?"

"Working with a struggling learner is totally exhausting because of the enormous amount of energy that is constantly required! I love my child, but I'm burnt out and I don't think I can do this much longer."

---

**FirstClass Homeschool**

**Speaker:** **Kris Cox**

**Workshops:**
- Homeschooling: Starting Off Right
- Understanding Your Child’s Learning Style
- Choosing Curriculum to Fit Your Family
- Planning and Scheduling: Managing Your Home and Homeschool Well

**High School and Beyond**

**Speaker:** **Woody Robertson**

**Workshops:**
- How to Homeschool High School
- Navigating Your Student’s Future: 3 Keys to Life Preparation
- Dual Credit on Steroids: A Radical Approach to the Junior and Senior Years
- 8 Practical Steps to Life after High School: Training Starts Now

**Struggling Learners**

**Speaker:** **Peggy Ployhar**

**Workshops:**
- The Essentials of Special Education Homeschooling
- Customizing Your Curriculum
- How to Write an IEP and Then Use It Effectively in Your Homeschool
- Homeschool Special Education with Cheap Online Resources

---

We believe that the 2019 Thursday Sessions (formerly called Preconference Tracks) will help to empower you with confidence, encourage you to take one step at a time, and give you tools you need to be the most effective parent-teacher you can be.

Home education offers significant opportunities to shape the lives of your children and their world. All children are special and God has equipped parents to teach them best! The Thursday Sessions consist of three different focuses, each with the purpose of giving you basic information, fresh ideas, and answers to your questions.

The **FirstClass Homeschool** sessions are for parents who are still considering or are beginning to home educate in the coming fall. Parents who just need to “bone up on the basics” are also welcome to attend.

The **High School and Beyond** sessions are for parents getting ready to teach their middle and high school children who are on the verge of launching out into their future. Students are encouraged to attend these sessions with their parents.

The **Struggling Learners** sessions are for parents of children who struggle to learn, who are gifted intellectually but struggle in other areas, or who simply need to learn in a “nonstandard” way...meaning something totally different for each individual.

Parents are free to mix and match any of the workshops. Family members may split up and attend different sessions. The Thursday Sessions are held on Thursday, April 11, 2019, from 9:30am until 4:15pm at the RiverCentre in downtown Saint Paul, Minnesota. Registration begins on January 1, 2019.
**Keynote Sessions**

**Keynote 1**

*Living on Borrowed Time: The Nine Practices of the Proactive Parent*

**Dr. Steve Scheibner** Friday 6:30 p.m.

As a pilot for American Airlines, Steve was very close to the events of 9/11. Steve was originally scheduled to be the co-pilot on AA Flight 11, the first flight to be hijacked on September 11, 2001. Through an extraordinary set of divine circumstances, Steve was bumped from that flight the night before by a more senior pilot. Now, he tells his deeply moving story of God’s providence on that terrible day in our history. Come discover why God gave Steve a second chance and how God now uses him to teach parents all around the world to parent with purpose and urgency as he introduces you to *The Nine Practices of The Proactive Parent.* Intensely practical and Bible-based, it is designed to give parents both the tools they need and the necessary hope to build a Christ-centered, character-driven home environment. This is a great way to revitalize parents in the all-important task of parenting. **THIS KEYNOTE IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.**

**Keynote 2**

*Marriage, Communication, and Friendship*

**Dr. Steve & Megan Scheibner** Saturday 10:30 a.m.

Recognizing that a healthy marriage is the basis of a healthy home, this marriage session is a fun and fruitful way to invest in your marriage relationship. Steve and Megan teach from their book, *The Eight Rules of Communication for Successful Marriages,* and finish the session with a fun-loving look at marriage and F-R-I-E-N-D-S. Practical advice in a guilt-free environment makes the teaching real and applicable to all those in attendance.

---

**Exhibitors**

Abeka  
ACE - Accelerated Christian Education  
ACR Homes  
Alpha Omega Publications  
American Heritage Girls  
Associated Speech & Language Specialists, LLC  
Association Free Lutheran Bible School  
Bethany Lutheran College  
Bethlehem College and Seminary  
BookShark  
Brain Balance Achievement Center of Woodbury  
Camp Cherith  
Camp Nathanael  
Characterhealth Corporation  
ChemExplained.com  
Christian Light Education  
Circle C Adventures  
Classical Academic Press  
Coscto Wholesale  
Covenant Eyes Internet Accountability  
Creating a Masterpiece  
Credits Before College  
Demme Learning/Math U See  
Dordt College  
Drive Safe Ride Safe  
Electronic Library for Minnesota  
Geology by Northwest Treasures  
Given Hoffman-Fiction For Teens  
gofAim Ministries  
Hepburn’s Legacy Homeschool Resources  
Here to Help Learning  
HSLDA (Home School Legal Defense Association)  
Imagination Investigation  
Institute for Excellence in Writing  
Jim Hodges Audio Books  
Kingdom Valley Fables  
Knights of the 21st Century  
Kowalski’s Markets  
Kris M. Cox  
La Clase Divertida  
LearningRx  
Logic of English  
Lumenit Unbound  
Miller Pads & Paper  
Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life  
Minnesota Learning Solutions Nathanae  
National Christian Forensics and Communications Association  
Nature’s Workshop Plus!  
Nest of Lydia  
North Central University  
Notgrass Company  
Pensacola Christian College  
PowerHouse Educational Resources  
Progeny Press  
PURA Global Services  
Reign Dance Theater  
RightStart Mathematics  
Sciexperience.com  
ShillerLearning: Montessori at Home  
Simply Charlotte Mason  
Sonlight Curriculum  
Spark Music Studio  
SPED Homeschool  
Teaching Textbooks  
Teens For Christ  
TEL Library  
The Kingdom Series/Perfect Praise Publishing  
The Relationship Revolution  
The Schubert Club  
The Virtues Campus  
The Wilderness Fellowship Ministries  
Thirty One Gifts  
University of Northwestern - St. Paul Music  
University of Northwestern - St. Paul  
Usborne Books & More  
Village Schools of the Bible  
YWAM Publishing

---

**Special Sessions**

**Men’s Summit**

*How to Love Your Wife in 5 Easy Steps*  
**Dr. Steve Scheibner** Saturday 7 a.m.

Loving our wives in meaningful and practical ways isn’t rocket science, guys! It just takes a little work and the commitment to get up off the couch and invest in that woman God gave us. Join Dr. Steve Scheibner for an interactive discussion of the 5 ways you can better love your wife. With humor and practicality, Dr. Steve will encourage you without heaping a load of guilt on your shoulders. Come and discover how to become a student of your wife, so you’ll pass the “husband-test” with flying colors!

Cost: $35 (Includes hot-plated breakfast)  
You must be registered for the conference to attend. Preregistration for the Men’s Summit is required. Deadline to preregister: March 29.

**Ladies Luncheon**

*Don’t Let Your Husband Get Lost in the Crazi-ness of Life!*  
**Megan Scheibner** Saturday 11:45 a.m.

Every mom has distractions that can cause her to lose focus on her most important priorities; but for homeschool moms, those distractions are with us 24 hours a day and 7 days a week! Join Megan Scheibner as we discuss how to keep our most important earthly priority, our marriage, healthy and thriving in spite of the busyness of child-training, homeschooling, and running our homes. With biblical insights and easily implemented practical ideas, you’ll walk away encouraged and strengthened, knowing that with a little foresight and planning, your #1 guy won’t get lost in the craziness of your busy days!

Cost: $35 (Includes hot-plated lunch)  
You must be registered for the conference to attend. Preregistration for the Ladies Luncheon is required. Deadline to preregister: March 29.
# GENERAL SESSIONS

## Session 1

**Training Teens to Take the Initiative**  
*Dr. Steve Scheibner*

- Homeschooling with Simplicity and Sincerity  
  *Megan Scheibner*

- The Science of Learning and How It Should Change What You Do on Monday  
  *Beth Mora*

- The Gideon Factor: The Greatest Gift You Can Give Your Homeschooled Children  
  *Frederic Gray*

- Homeschooling Special Education High School  
  *Peggy Ployhar*

- Un-harried Homeschooling: Scheduling 101  
  *Jamie Erickson*

- Math Outside the Book  
  *Nancy Bjorkman*

- Phylacteries, (Baby) Gates, and a Quiver Full of Arrows: How to Integrate Bible Memorization into the Chaos of Your Family Life  
  *Mark Beck*

## Session 2

**Battling with Behavior?**  
*Dr. Steve & Megan Scheibner*

- The Prodigal Son, the Forgiving Father, and the Power of Beholding  
  *James Mason*

- Educational Life Hacks for Students with Dyslexia, Dysgraphia, or Dyspraxia  
  *Beth Mora*

- Why God Has a Special Place in His Heart for Homeschooling Moms  
  *Frederic Gray*

- Raising Children Who Love to Learn  
  *Kris Cox*

- Motivating Guys to Take Ownership of Their Education  
  *Woody Robertson*

- Religion and Our Founding Fathers  
  *Jake MacAulay*

- How to Make Writing Fun Using Flash Fiction  
  *Given Hoffman*

## Session 3

**Training Young Men to Be Gentlemen in a Feminist Culture**  
*Dr. Steve Scheibner*

- The Wise Wife  
  *Megan Scheibner*

- Moving On to the Next Writing Level  
  *Beth Mora*

- How to Love Your Homeschooling Wife Like Christ Loved the Church  
  *Frederic Gray*

- Life Skills and Transition Planning for Homeschool Special Education  
  *Peggy Ployhar*

- It’s Homeschool, NOT School-at-Home”  
  *Jamie Erickson*

- Time and Home Management: Managing Life and Home while Homeschooling  
  *Nancy Bjorkman*

- Wise Escapes for Women: A Seminar on Personal Protection and Crime Prevention  
  *Steve Donofrio*

## Session 4

**The A to Z of a Character Healthy Homeschool**  
*Megan Scheibner*

- State of the Homeschooling Nation Address  
  *James Mason*

- The Ten Habits of Highly Effective Writers  
  *Beth Mora*

- A Dad’s Duty: Balancing Teaching and Discipline (Guidance and Boundaries)  
  *Frederic Gray*

- Homeschooling Students with Profound Learning Issues  
  *Peggy Ployhar*

- Study Like a Genius: Unlocking Your Brain  
  *Woody Robertson*

- The Constitution and the Bill of Rights  
  *Jake MacAulay*

- Square Pegs and Round Holes: An Effective and Powerful Alternative to Rote Memorization  
  *Mark Beck*

## Session 5

**2ML (Second Mile Leadership for Men)**  
*Dr. Steve Scheibner*

- The Toddler Toolbox  
  *Megan Scheibner*

- Keeping Your “SmartCookie” Challenged  
  *Beth Mora*

- Mentoring Boys into Manhood  
  *Adam Hultstrand*

- Shedding Light on Depression  
  *Peggy Ployhar*

- Homeschooling When You Are One Crazy Day Away from Crisis  
  *Jamie Erickson*

- Meal Management in an Age of Fast Food  
  *Nancy Bjorkman*

- Raising Safe-minded Children: A Character and Principles-based Approach to Raising Safe Children  
  *Steve Donofrio*

## Session 6

**The Disciple-making Mom**  
*Megan Scheibner*

- Why We Need a Parental Rights Amendment  
  *James Mason*

- An Equipment Operator’s Guide to Keeping Your Family out of the Shop  
  *Forrest Mora*

- Why Every Homeschooled Daughter Needs Her Dad  
  *Frederic Gray*

- Homeschooling Through High School When College Might Not Be the Plan  
  *Kris Cox and Kris Hage*

- Raising an Adult, Not a Child: A Solution For the Peter Pan Epidemic  
  *Woody Robertson*

- The War on the Constitution: Why Youth Should Care  
  *Jake MacAulay*

- Help! My Child Wants to Be a Fiction Writer, but I Don’t Want Him to End Up a Starving Artist. What Do I Do?  
  *Given Hoffman*
This year, MÂCHÉ is offering two impressive and very different teen tracks! Students (ages 13-18) may choose either one of the two tracks offered, but cannot change back and forth from one to the other during the conference. You will find more detailed information about the teachers and the sessions on the MÂCHÉ website at https://www.mache.org/event/2019-mache-convention.

**TEEN TRACK 1**

**The Marvelous Expedition**  
Teacher: **Dr. Lainna Callentine** (Sciexperience)  
Fee: $125 (Covers lab supplies)  
Maximum student attendees: 200

This interactive hands-on workshop will catapult you through an expedition of the fascinating and complex world of the human body. Examine how the eyes and the brain cooperate and dissect an actual sheep brain. Travel through the lungs and heart and marvel at the life-sustaining processes of respiratory and circulatory systems as they maintain the other vital organs in the body. Dr. Lainna Callentine will be your tour guide.

- The EYES: Window into the Soul (Lab)
- The Electrifying NERVOUS SYSTEM Interactive Workshop (Lab)
- The Breathtaking RESPIRATORY Interactive Workshop (Lab)
- The Complex CIRCULATORY SYSTEM Hands-on Workshop (Lab)
- Life Lessons from Court Side
- Diagnosis 101

The first four workshops include dissection labs. All supplies are included in the fee. Participants will have the opportunity to document the laboratory hours for their transcripts. “Diagnosis 101” is a fun, investigative three-hour workshop.  

**Labs begin Friday at 9:00am**, but follow the parents’ schedule the remainder of the weekend. Space is limited. Register early!  
NOTE: There are no refunds for Teen Track 1. Registration for Teen Track 1 closes March 15.

**TEEN TRACK 2**

**Tough Questions Teens Ask**  
Teacher: **Chuck Black** (The Kingdom Series)  
Fee: $40  
Maximum student attendees: 300

Popular author and speaker, Chuck Black, will be presenting a series of six workshops dealing with the tough questions that teens face daily, from “How do I know that the Bible is true?” to “Why do my parents always bug me about being on my iPhone too much?” Topics covered are relevant to Christian teens in today’s world. Topic titles are as follows:

- Practical Apologetics for Teens
- Dealing with Doubt: Bullet-proofing Your Armor
- The Battle Within: Understanding the Raging War between Spirit and Flesh and How to Live in Victory
- Escapism: How to Avoid the Enemy’s Snares
- Defending your Faith: Building on the Cornerstone of Jesus Christ
- Waiting for God to Speak

Students will leave this track with their faith challenged, but stronger; with answers to the tough questions they ask themselves; and with the wisdom and courage to stand alone in tough situations.

Students who choose this teen track option should plan to attend all six workshops. It will follow the same schedule as their parents’ schedule. Space is limited. Register early!

Visit the **YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS** section in our conference exhibit hall!

YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE PROVEN THAT THROUGH INNOVATION AND CREATIVITY, ANYONE CAN BECOME A SUCCESS IN BUSINESS, NO MATTER HOW YOUNG HE OR SHE IS.  
For more information, visit https://www.mache.org/event/2019-mache-convention.
Registration Fees and FAQs

Registration can be completed prior to the start of the Thursday sessions (formerly preconference tracks) or conference either online, by postal mail, or onsite. Registration begins January 1, 2019. Fees and deadlines are listed below. Please note the following:

- The leadership forum, Thursday sessions (formerly preconference tracks), and conference are three separate events occurring during the same convention weekend. Be sure to register for each of the events you plan to attend.
- One-day, partial-day, and exhibit-hall-only passes are not available.
- A complete MP3 audio set of the leadership forum, Thursday sessions (formerly preconference tracks), and conference may be pre-ordered at the same time you register.

Important Dates to Remember

January 1 - April 13: Online Registration

January 1 - March 15: Paper Mail-in Registration (must be postmarked by March 15)

March 15: Deadline for Used Curriculum Table Rental

Online Registration

Registering online helps MÂCHÉ keep costs lower. Online registration will remain open January 1 - April 13, 2019. If you prefer, there will be attendants available onsite to help you.

Paper Mail-In Registration

If you wish to use a paper “Mail-in Registration” form to register, request one from MÂCHÉ at 763-717-9070 (toll free: 866-717-9070) or info@mache.org. Mail-in registrations must be postmarked by March 15. After March 15, you will need to register online or onsite.

Used Curriculum Table Rental Fee and Deadline

The deadline for reserving a table to sell your used curriculum is March 15. The cost is $40/table/day. Sellers must be registered to attend the conference.

Convention Fees and Key Dates

Leadership Forum Thursday

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Non-member per person</th>
<th>Member (20% discount) per person</th>
<th>Non-member Husband/ Wife (20% discount)</th>
<th>Grandparent</th>
<th>Student/ Child 18mo-18yrs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 1 - January 31</td>
<td>$35 includes luncheon</td>
<td>$28 includes luncheon</td>
<td>FREE</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 1 - March 15</td>
<td>$35 includes luncheon</td>
<td>$28 includes luncheon</td>
<td>FREE</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 16 - April 13</td>
<td>$35 luncheon not included for registrations made after March 29</td>
<td>$28 luncheon not included for registrations made after March 29</td>
<td>$70</td>
<td>$56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mail-In</td>
<td>$35 includes luncheon</td>
<td>$28 includes luncheon</td>
<td>FREE</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thursday Sessions Fees Thursday

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Non-member Husband/ Wife</th>
<th>Member (20% discount) Husband/ Wife (20% discount)</th>
<th>Grandparent</th>
<th>Student/ Child 18mo-18yrs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$40</td>
<td>$32 FREE</td>
<td></td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$50</td>
<td>$40 FREE</td>
<td></td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$70</td>
<td>$56 FREE</td>
<td></td>
<td>$15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Conference Fees Friday/Saturday

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Non-member Husband/ Wife</th>
<th>Member (20% discount) Husband/ Wife (20% discount)</th>
<th>Grandparent</th>
<th>Teen Track 1 Ages 15-18</th>
<th>Teen Track 2 Ages 15-18</th>
<th>Student/ Child 18mo-18yrs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$80</td>
<td>$64 FREE</td>
<td></td>
<td>$125 (includes supply kit)</td>
<td>$40</td>
<td>$30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$90</td>
<td>$72 FREE</td>
<td></td>
<td>$125 (includes supply kit)</td>
<td>$40</td>
<td>$30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$110</td>
<td>$88 FREE</td>
<td></td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>$50 (if space is available)</td>
<td>$40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mail-In

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Non-member per person</th>
<th>Member (20% discount) per person</th>
<th>Non-member Husband/ Wife (20% discount)</th>
<th>Grandparent</th>
<th>Student/ Child 18mo-18yrs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$90</td>
<td>$72 FREE</td>
<td></td>
<td>$125 (includes supply kit)</td>
<td>$40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*For children who are not attending a Teen Track. Infants 0-18mo are free, but must be registered.
Dr. Steve Scheibner has an earned bachelor’s degree, two earned master’s degrees, and an earned doctorate degree. Upon graduation from college, he joined the U.S. Navy and was commissioned and trained as a pilot. He married his college sweetheart, Megan, and they began a life together that has included eight children and fifteen moves. Steve was deployed three times in four years as a pilot flying the P3 Orion. When he left active military duty, he was hired by American Airlines. Steve remained active in the Navy Reserves, where he was asked to design and teach a course in navy core values. The course has found broad acceptance and Steve is a highly sought-after trainer and motivational speaker. Steve and Megan have developed a parenting course entitled Parenting Matters: The Nine Practices of The Proactive Parent. Steve is also the author of several books and studies. Steve and Megan have been guests on Family Talk with Dr. James Dobson and The Glenn Beck TV Show. In his spare time, Steve sleeps, watches the Red Sox, and drives his children to sports practice…all while attending weekly meetings of Overachiever’s Anonymous. In 2011, Steve retired as a commander from the U.S. Navy and is currently a first officer for American Airlines. He recently retired as senior pastor of Cornerstone Baptist Church of Topsham, Maine, to become the president of Characterhealth Corporation, a non-profit conference ministry aimed at equipping parents to train the next generation of character-healthy leaders.

Nancy Bjorkman began as the ultimate homeschool skeptic; but now, after 20+ years teaching her own four children, she has become the “go-to lady” for many and a champion of the cause. She is a certified teacher and has spoken at homeschool conferences in over 10 states, where she is known for her enthusiasm, energy, and encouragement. Having graduated all of her children, Nancy finds it exciting to have graduated herself to being a mentor for other homeschool families. Though she stays busy as a bookstore owner, mentor, and speaker, her favorite times are spent with her growing family (grandkids - yeah!). She and her husband own Heppner’s Legacy, a homeschool store in Elk River, Minnesota, where they delight in ministering to the unique needs of families year round and where parents say, “Come for the books. Stay for the therapy.™”

Chuck Black was born and raised in Williston, North Dakota. He entered the United States Air Force and traveled throughout the U.S. and to foreign countries as a tactical communications engineer. He was then accepted into pilot training and eventually flew F-16 fighters. Chuck is the inventor/co-inventor on twelve patents for products that are distributed and sold nationally and internationally. Chuck and his wife, Andrea, have homeschooled for the past 25 years. In addition to writing for various websites and e-newsletters, Chuck is the author of sixteen books which comprise The Kingdom Series, The Knights of Arrethtrae series, The Wars of the Realm trilogy, and Call to Arms: The Guts and Glory of Courageous Fatherhood. His book Kingdom’s Dawn (of The Kingdom Series) received Homeschool.com’s “Voted #1” award and was on CBA’s top ten best sellers list in 2008. Chuck’s passion is to inspire people of all ages to follow the Lord with zeal and to equip parents, pastors, and youth leaders to accomplish the same.

Dr. Lainna Callentine is an author, speaker, missionary pediatrician, founder of Sciexperience, homeschool mother, and teacher who has taught all levels from elementary to post graduate. She holds a master’s in education and received her B.A. from Northwestern University.

Supporting Speakers

Mark Beck is a homeschool graduate with a degree in biblical and theological studies from the University of Northwestern - St. Paul. He met his wife, BriAnn, at college and married her just in time to tag along with each other to Cameroon, Africa, where they taught missionary kids for a year and a half with Wycliffe Bible Translators. In 2013, a few years after returning to Minnesota, Mark founded Josiah’s Gift, a ministry of memorizing the Word of God and bringing it to life through powerful recitations. So far, he has memorized over thirteen books of the Bible and speaks at camps, churches, conferences, and in living rooms, sharing God’s Word and training others to take it to heart. His four children (age 8 on down) love to memorize along with him and call his recitations “Bible Stories from Daddy’s Heart.” Memorization in their household is a full-contact sport and frequently involves swords, tutus, and hanging upside down off the furniture.

Megan Scheibner is a writer, blogger, and popular conference speaker. A trained biblical counselor, she earned her degree in communications in 1984 and she’s currently pursuing her master’s degree in counseling. Megan is the homeschooling mother of eight beautiful children – four boys and four girls – as well as the grandmother of six gorgeous grandchildren. She has been married for 33 years to her college sweetheart, Steve. Together they have co-authored Parenting Matters: The Nine Practices of the Pro-Active Parent. She is also the author of a series of discipleship books for mothers and many devotional Bible studies. She authored In My Seat, the story of Steve’s 9/11 experience as one of the involved airplane’s pilots, that has captivated millions on YouTube. Her newest homeschooling book, An A-Z Guide For Character-Healthy Homeschooling, provides encouragement and practical tips gained through her 20+ years of homeschooling experience. She is a popular speaker, guest on Family Talk with Dr. James Dobson, and TV personality on the Glenn Beck TV Show. Megan and her husband, Steve, share a strong desire to equip today’s parents to raise the next generation of character healthy leaders. In her spare time, she loves to run and play tennis. Megan enjoys writing, cooking, feeding teenagers, reading, and everything pertaining to the Boston Red Sox.
University, where she studied in the School of Education majoring in human development and social policy while competing on a full athletic scholarship in basketball. She completed her M.D. and residency training in pediatrics. She serves as a missionary doctor for uninsured children in the Chicago suburbs, as well as providing consultation to Focus on the Family as a member of the Physician Resource Council, through which she contributes to the many ministries at Focus. Dr. Callentine continues to have wondement for the beauty of God's creation in the human body. She is the author of an exciting book series and hands-on curriculum for children showcasing the human body called God’s Wondrous Machine.

Kris Cox and her husband, Bruce, homeschooled their four children for 17 years, finishing their homeschool journey when their youngest graduated in 2011. Kris’ passion for encouraging and helping homeschool parents led her to become a homeschool consultant in 2012. Along with consulting, Kris writes a homeschool blog (http://www.krismcox.com) and speaks on various homeschool topics for homeschool groups. She also leads a support group for new homeschoolers each school year. Kris served as the phone responder for MÂCHÉ from June 2013 to December 2016 and currently co-presents the Homeschool Workshops put on by MÂCHÉ in cooperation with various support groups throughout the state. In all these endeavors, Kris strongly encourages seeking God for guidance in every decision and struggle, believing that the key to successful homeschooling is depending on him. Her heart’s desire is to serve the Lord by supporting and encouraging homeschool parents, giving them the tools they need to be successful in educating their children.

Steve Donofrio has a passion for protecting and helping others. After his military service, which included deployment to Iraq and Kuwait for the first Gulf War, he entered full-time youth ministry and worked part-time in security and as a protection practitioner. In 2000, with his wife, Heidi, and one-year-old son, Malachi, they moved to Japan to serve as missionaries. They served two years in full-time ministry, and then Steve started his full-time security management, protection, and fitness business. They lived in Japan fourteen years as “tent makers.” Malachi was educated part-time in the Japanese school system, then homeschooled. Steve is a motivational speaker specializing in self-protection, personal and workplace harmony, and fitness. He has consulted and taught in schools, colleges, and companies throughout Japan. He has a master’s degree in security management, is the lead author of the book, Mama Manual (a book for mothers about family and personal protection), and is a regular contributing author for Japan’s leading professional security journal, Security Research Magazine. He has a style of speaking and training best described as “edutainment,” a unique blend of solid, practical education from a subject-matter expert...combined with an original entertaining approach.

Jamie Erickson, founder and popular education blogger at The Unlikely Homeschool, holds a bachelor’s degree in elementary education with an emphasis in public speaking and oral interpretation of literature. When she’s not curating memories, hoarding vintage books, or playing ringmaster to her own live-in circus of five, she can be found encouraging and equipping parents all across the globe who find themselves in the everyday trenches of homeschooling. She is a contributing author to How We Teach, The Big Book of Homeschooling Ideas, and The Big Book of Homeschooling Ideas Volume 2, three collaborative books put together by iHomeschool Network. Her first book, Homeschool Bravely, is set to be released by Moody Publishers in April, 2019. In addition to speaking and writing, Jamie loves talking faith and family over a cup of Starbucks’ finest, collecting calories around a table full of friends, and taking grueling hikes with her formerly-homeschooled husband, Dain (because alas, calories don’t display very nicely on a shelf like other collections).

Frederic Gray is enthusiastic about helping and empowering families. As the founder of the Fathers of Faith & Daughters of Excellence Retreat, he has spoken for homeschooling groups, state and local conventions, family camps, and retreats across the country. As a marriage coach, Frederic provides teaching and support to couples through his Magnetic Marriage seminars hosted by churches and private groups across the country. He lives to help people create dynamic personal and family relationships with God as the center. Frederic and his wife, Heather, are the homeschool parents of six beautiful children.

Kris Hage and her husband, Marty, have eight children and a brand-new granddaughter. They have been home educating for more than 25 years, having graduated all but one of their children, who is a sophomore in the Hage homeschool. Kris has been active with her children in local homeschool co-ops for many years. After her three eldest daughters had graduated from homeschool high school, they taught alongside Kris in co-op preschool and kindergarten classes. She is currently on the board of the co-op her youngest daughter attends. Through writing and speaking, Kris loves to share all God has taught her over the years, encouraging younger home educators to raise their children in God’s ways. Putting her love of writing to use, Kris writes an article on character training three times a year for The Paper MÂCHÉ magazine. She also serves MÂCHÉ as the volunteer coordinator for the annual MÂCHÉ Convention. When she is not teaching her...
daughter. Kris enjoys studying Greek in God's Word, participating in outdoor activities with her family, and editing her older daughter's latest novel. She is the author of the Character Companion, a workbook accompanying the Miller Family Books by Green Pastures Press.

**Given Hoffman** is a homeschool graduate, a Jerry B. Jenkins Christian Writers Guild Craftsman, a weekly blogger on practical Christianity, and an alum of Ellerslie Missions Society. She compiled the book, *The Voices of the Pioneers: Homeschooling in Minnesota*, and is the author of the new teen suspense novel, *The Eighth Ransom*, and the flash fiction stories: “FBI Apprehends Mole” and “Mrs. Fanny Delmor.” As a teen suspense novelist, Given writes not just to entertain, but to exhort the vast community of significant, influential, and expressive young people of today to do and be more than what the world expects of them.

**Adam Hultstrand** lives in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, with his wife of 22 years and their four children. He holds a Master's of Divinity degree and he pastored a multi-cultural church for eight years. After pastoring, he earned a state certification in structural family therapy and worked as an in-home, family-based therapist, counseling families whose children were at risk of being placed out of the home. Adam is currently serving as the director of ministry outreach with Knights of the Twenty-first Century (K21), where he loves coaching pastors and men's ministry leaders while traveling the country speaking about a variety of contemporary manhood issues.

**Jake MacAulay** is a homeschooling father of four and serves as the chief executive officer of the Institute on the Constitution (IOTC), an educational outreach and curriculum that presents the founders’ biblical view of law and government. IOTC’s “U.S. Constitution Course” accommodates the required high school civics and U.S. government credits. Along with thousands of graduates in all 50 states, students acquire a full understanding of the biblical principles on which America’s founding documents are based. Jake is an ordained minister and former syndicated talk show host who has spoken to audiences nation-wide and has established the American Club, a constitutional study group in public and private schools. Jake has been seen on Yahoo News, Fox News, *The Blaze*, AP, CBS, NBC, *The Weekly Standard*, and more.

**James Mason** joined HSLDA to lead the litigation team in 2001 and has represented homeschooling families in a wide range of challenging situations. In addition to serving as HSLDA's vice president of litigation and development and penning many of the most popular articles in HSLDA’s *Home School Court Report* magazine, Jim serves as the president of ParentalRights.org. Before coming to HSLDA, Jim represented numerous right-to-life groups in campaign finance cases and clerked for an appellate court in Oregon. He graduated with highest honors from Regent University School of Law in 1996. Jim is a veteran of the U.S. Navy and served on active duty in Operation Desert Storm. Jim and his wife, Debbie, live in Winchester, Virginia. They have seven children and one granddaughter. The Masons have homeschooled all of their children: six have graduated and one is still being taught at home.

**Beth Mora** is the wife to one, mother to eight, Nana to one, and a homeschool purple heart recipient for multiple moments where she thought she wasn’t making a difference in her children’s lives. Beth pulls from her past experiences as a certified rehabilitation RN, homeschool mom, co-op leader and teacher, marriage ministry director, women's ministry programmer, children's ministry leader, drama team member, creator and author of Here to Help Learning’s writing program for grades 1-6, and most presently, “Mrs. Mora,” the on-camera teacher for Here to Help Learning’s filmed instruction. She loves blogging at *Home to Home* and *Peak Performance*. Everything she does, whether laughable or heart gripping, is done to honor one, God, without apology. God's grace is the salve that has healed her own life and God's grace is what she offers liberally to others.

**Forrest Mora** is a husband, dad of eight children, business owner, landscape contractor, and the C.F.H. or “Chief Financial Husband” of HereToHelpLearning.com. Forrest gets down to the nuts and bolts with men by encouraging them to embrace their role as servant leaders of their homes. Forthright and humorous, he shares God’s Word with clarity and practicality. For the last 20 years, he has served in leadership roles in marriage ministry, men's ministry, and in the financial ministry at his church. His heart is to provide encouragement to Christian men to serve the Lord by living with no regrets, providing leadership to their families, and finding true fulfillment in their marriages, families, and personal lives.

**Peggy Ployhar**, SPED homeschool founder and CEO, is a leader in the special education homeschooling community and a frequent writer and speaker on special education homeschooling issues. Peggy is the former THSC (Texas Home School Coalition) special needs team lead, MÂCHÉ’s special needs coordinator, and MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) area coordinator for Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota. She is certified by the American Association of Christian Counselors and trained as a Precept bible study leader. Peggy's homeschool journey started when her oldest child was diagnosed with Asperger syndrome. Now, with 16 years of homeschooling under her belt, she thanks God for all the experiences he has given her so she can use them to encourage other special needs homeschooling parents. Peggy and her husband, Doug, live in Conroe, Texas, where they still homeschool the youngest of their three children.

**Woody Robertson** is a first-generation homeschool graduate who is passionate about reaching the next generation. If you hang around Woody for long, you're sure to hear words like “live life to the fullest,” “purposeful living,” or “world-changer.” He’s helped young adults successfully navigate life decisions for years. An entrepreneur and visionary, Woody has been a principle player in several start-up companies. In 2004, he co-founded CollegePlus (now Lumerit Unbound) and earned his accredited BSBA in general management. A frequent motivational speaker at conferences nationwide, Woody’s information-packed sessions are innovative and inspiring. Characterized by a high level of energy and enthusiasm, Woody blends each session with motivational and practical information attendees can put into practice immediately. As a member of the Lumerit Unbound team, Woody lives in San Antonio, Texas, with his wife, Gina.
Hotel Accommodations

Where to Stay

ST. PAUL HOTELS

Best Western Plus Capitol Ridge
161 Saint Anthony Avenue, Saint Paul, MN 55103
Guaranteed conference rate of $119.00 (2 queen) through March 23. Reservations 1-651-227-8711; mention MÂCHÉ. Complimentary breakfast, WiFi, and shuttle to RiverCentre. Free parking accommodates large vehicles/SUV’s.

DoubleTree - Saint Paul East
2201 Burns Avenue, Saint Paul, MN 55119
Guaranteed conference rate of $119.00 (King or 2 queen) through March 11. Reservations 1-651-731-2220; mention MÂCHÉ. Complimentary breakfast, WiFi, and shuttle to RiverCentre by appointment at front desk. No breakfast included unless you are a Hilton Honors member. Free parking.

Hampton Inn
200 7th Street West, Saint Paul, MN 55102
Guaranteed conference rate of $129.00 (King or 2 queen) through March 20. Reservations 1-651-224-7400; mention MÂCHÉ. Complimentary breakfast and WiFi. Valet parking $18/day with unlimited in/out privileges and accommodates up to 7ft vehicles. There is also an area to park trailers.

Holiday Inn Downtown
175 7th Street, Saint Paul, MN 55102
Guaranteed conference rate of $130/night through March 10. Reservations made with this link: MÂCHÉ Conference or call 651-225-1515 and mention MÂCHÉ. Complimentary WiFi. No breakfast included. Parking is $15/night.

Hyatt Place
180 Kellogg Blvd. E., Saint Paul, MN 55101
Guaranteed conference rate of $139.00 (King or 2 queen) through April 11. Reservations call 1-888-493-8847; use the code G-ACHE. (“G-ACHE” is correct.) In addition, you can book online using this link: https://stpaulplace.hyatt.com/en/hotel/home.html?corp_id=G-ACHE. Complimentary breakfast, and WiFi. Parking is underground secured valet parking: $22/night with unlimited in/out access OR public ramp across the street for $9.00-$13.00 overnight parking.

MÂCHÉ has negotiated reduced rates with the following Saint Paul hotels for the 2019 MÂCHÉ Convention. To receive the reduced rates, you must specify that you are attending the MÂCHÉ convention. Ask for a confirmation number. A lodging tax will be added to each of the guaranteed rates.

When you call to make a reservation and the desk attendant is not able to answer the phone right away, your call may be transferred to their national office. The national offices may not be aware of the arrangements that the hotels have made with MÂCHÉ. Try calling again until you can talk to someone in the St. Paul hotel who is familiar with the MÂCHÉ convention special rates.

Where to Stay

Silent AUCTION

2019 MÂCHÉ

All proceeds will be used to help support MÂCHÉ’s various ministries to home educators. If you would be interested in donating an item or service, email silent.auction@mache.org or call 763-717-9070.

Held during the 2019 MÂCHÉ Conference in St. Paul

Fantastic curriculum, products, activities, trips, and more... all donated by fellow home educators, local establishments, vendors and more!
Children and Infants

The MÂCHÉ Convention weekend is designed primarily for support and encouragement for parents. Many home educating parents use this weekend as an annual getaway as a couple. However, we understand that some parents desire to bring their children and, as long as the children are not distracting to attendees in workshops and stay with their parents at all times, we welcome them. That said, be aware that there are no supervised activities for children under 13 years of age. As a courtesy, we would suggest that small children sit on parents’ laps or on the floor until the workshop begins, then they can take seats if any are still available.

Grandparents

Grandparents are a vital part of your children’s home education and are invited to attend the convention to learn as much as they can about home education. Grandparents who are not home educating their own children may attend the conference at no charge with their registered children. Register grandparents on your registration form. Their name tags will be in the same envelope as yours.

Missionaries

Missionaries who are on deputation and have never attended a MÂCHÉ conference may attend as MÂCHÉ’s guests at no charge. Send an official prayer card (or newsletter) and a letter of request to attend the conference (include email and phone number) to Missionary Conference Registration, PO Box 32308, Fridley, MN 55432 or send an email to executive.director@mache.org. Letters must be received no later than March 15, 2019. Each missionary will receive a phone call and email confirmation after the information has been reviewed.

Pastors

Pastors who are not home educating their own children and have never attended a MÂCHÉ conference may attend at no charge. Using official church stationery (including email and phone number), send a written request to attend the MÂCHÉ Conference to Pastor Conference Registration, PO Box 32308, Fridley, MN 55432 or send an email to executive.director@mache.org. Letters must be received no later than March 15, 2019. Each pastor will be contacted by MÂCHÉ after his information has been received.

Volunteer Scholarships

MÂCHÉ is pleased to provide registration credit to adults and students who are 16 years of age or older and are willing to serve at least six hours during the convention. Volunteers receive a $64 credit toward their husband/wife conference registration fee ($32 credit toward their husband/wife Thursday session fee; $30 credit toward their student registration fee). This credit amount is the equivalent of the “early bird” member registration fee. It is extremely helpful to volunteer early!

Handouts

To find the handouts for the 2019 MÂCHÉ workshops (excluding exhibitor workshops), go to the MÂCHÉ website (http://www.mache.org) and click “Workshop Schedule,” find the appropriate session, then the appropriate workshop, then click “Handout” located below the workshop description. Handouts are only available online from April 1 through May 31. Remember to download and print the handouts of the workshops you want to attend ahead of time and bring them with you to the conference. Workshop handouts will NOT be available in the workshop sessions.

Special Assistance

If you need an ASL interpreter, please inform MÂCHÉ when you register online and no later than March 15. After March 15, if you request an interpreter, you will need to join the scheduled interpreters for the workshops already assigned.

If you need a wheelchair, please inform MÂCHÉ when you register online and no later than March 15. This will allow us enough time to make the necessary arrangements.

If you are unable to carry your child or items during the convention weekend due to a medical condition and need to use your rolled cart, please inform MÂCHÉ when registering online so necessary arrangements can be made to facilitate your rolled cart usage.

Venue Information

The St. Paul RiverCentre is located at 175 West Kellogg Boulevard, Saint Paul, Minnesota, 55102. You will find a variety of maps showing how to get around Saint Paul, Minnesota, including parking, hotels, skyways, and more, at https://www.visitsaintpaul.com/discover-saint-paul/getting-here/maps.
**Conference Hours**

Registration, used curriculum, and the exhibit hall doors open at 8:00 AM and close at 5:30 PM on Friday and Saturday. PLEASE NOTE: The Friday evening keynote session begins at 6:30 PM and is FREE and OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

**Audio Recordings**

MÂCHÉ workshops will be audio-recorded and available for purchase as MP3 downloads or audio CDs. Audio CD disks will be mailed within two weeks. MP3 downloads will be available shortly after the convention is over. PLEASE NOTE: MP3 Downloads will remain in your account for six months or two download attempts, whichever comes first. Once they expire, they will no longer be available to you and you will need to purchase them again. ALSO, because of special security measures implemented by Apple, Inc. Corporation, MP3 downloads need to be downloaded to a Mac or PC first and then synced to Apple devices using iTunes. Following the convention, all audios may be purchased from the MÂCHÉ online store. No personal audio/video recording devices are allowed onsite for the purpose of recording the workshops.

**Exhibit Hall Protocol**

We are thankful for each exhibitor in our exhibit hall and hope that you will take time to say a special thank you to them for coming! Many of the homeschool exhibitors in our hall are experts in their field and are willing to take extra time to explain their various products for you in great depth. We encourage you to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to gain knowledge and information. When an exhibitor takes the time and effort to explain a product or give you some sage advice and you decide to buy the product, we strongly encourage you to buy your product from that person instead of making your purchase elsewhere to save a little money. Not only does this help preserve an atmosphere of trust and sharing, it also encourages the return of knowledgeable, well-established exhibitors to our annual conference.

MÂCHÉ does not offer “Exhibit Hall Only” passes. Only registered attendees wearing their own name tags may enter the exhibit hall. It is a good idea to bring plenty of cash with you as several exhibitors who have delightful home education products do not accept credit cards.

**“FULL” Workshops**

When workshop rooms are full, MÂCHÉ must close the doors and not let anyone else enter the room. If you see a “Full” sign posted outside of a workshop room, please find another workshop where there is still plenty of room. If we allow more people in a room than it’s posted limit, the fire marshal will close the entire convention down. Plan to arrive early to the session you are most interested in attending. We ask that you do not save seats as a courtesy to others who took the effort to arrive early like you did.

**Name Tags**

Your name tags will be available for pick up when you arrive at the convention. Name tags are the admittance “tickets” to the convention and must be worn at all times and by the person whose name is printed on it. If lost or forgotten, replacement name tags are $5.

**Experience the Conference**

Advertisers/Sponsors

We are very appreciative of our advertisers and sponsors who help defray our convention costs. Please make a special effort to patronize the businesses that placed ads in our program booklet or sponsored part of the conference event and thank them for supporting home education in Minnesota.

Information to Help You Plan

**Convention Helps & Hints**

**Audio Recordings**

MÂCHÉ workshops will be audio-recorded and available for purchase as MP3 downloads or audio CDs. Audio CD disks will be mailed within two weeks. MP3 downloads will be available shortly after the convention is over. PLEASE NOTE: MP3 Downloads will remain in your account for six months or two download attempts, whichever comes first. Once they expire, they will no longer be available to you and you will need to purchase them again. ALSO, because of special security measures implemented by Apple, Inc. Corporation, MP3 downloads need to be downloaded to a Mac or PC first and then synced to Apple devices using iTunes. Following the convention, all audios may be purchased from the MÂCHÉ online store. No personal audio/video recording devices are allowed onsite for the purpose of recording the workshops.

**Coat/Book Check**

There is a nominal fee to store your coats and purchases in a safe place while you attend the conference. Carts, strollers, or roller luggage need to be stored in “Coat/Book Check” and may be used to hold your belongings while you attend workshops or do more shopping. Rolled carts and strollers cannot be used on the convention premises.

**Conference Hours**

Registration, used curriculum, and the exhibit hall doors open at 8:00 AM and close at 5:30 PM on Friday and Saturday. PLEASE NOTE: The Friday evening keynote session begins at 6:30 PM and is FREE and OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

**Exhibit Hall Protocol**

We are thankful for each exhibitor in our exhibit hall and hope that you will take time to say a special thank you to them for coming! Many of the homeschool exhibitors in our hall are experts in their field and are willing to take extra time to explain their various products for you in great depth. We encourage you to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to gain knowledge and information. When an exhibitor takes the time and effort to explain a product or give you some sage advice and you decide to buy the product, we strongly encourage you to buy your product from that person instead of making your purchase elsewhere to save a little money. Not only does this help preserve an atmosphere of trust and sharing, it also encourages the return of knowledgeable, well-established exhibitors to our annual conference.

MÂCHÉ does not offer “Exhibit Hall Only” passes. Only registered attendees wearing their own name tags may enter the exhibit hall. It is a good idea to bring plenty of cash with you as several exhibitors who have delightful home education products do not accept credit cards.

**“FULL” Workshops**

When workshop rooms are full, MÂCHÉ must close the doors and not let anyone else enter the room. If you see a “Full” sign posted outside of a workshop room, please find another workshop where there is still plenty of room. If we allow more people in a room than it’s posted limit, the fire marshal will close the entire convention down. Plan to arrive early to the session you are most interested in attending. We ask that you do not save seats as a courtesy to others who took the effort to arrive early like you did.

**Name Tags**

Your name tags will be available for pick up when you arrive at the convention. Name tags are the admittance “tickets” to the convention and must be worn at all times and by the person whose name is printed on it. If lost or forgotten, replacement name tags are $5.
2019 MÂCHÉ Graduation Ceremony

Saturday, May 4, 2019, 1 pm
University of Northwestern - St Paul

Do you have a homeschooled senior who will graduate in 2019? Did you know that MÂCHÉ plans, directs, and conducts a graduation ceremony each year? The ceremony is held to celebrate the achievements of so many MÂCHÉ seniors and to worship God for his work in them! It is a conservative, distinguished, high quality event, complete with a post-ceremony reception on the beautiful campus of one of Minnesota’s finest Christian universities. Interested in participating? You’ll find all the information you need on MÂCHÉ’s website (https://www.mache.org) – just click on the link for graduation.

Please note that the planning starts early! NOW is the time to start thinking and learning about this once-in-a-lifetime event. Our first of two mandatory planning meetings is February 2. Don’t miss it!

CONFERENCE Announcements

Conference Musicians

Interested home educating students are encouraged to audition to perform for the prelude portion of the Friday night keynote session on April 12, 2019. Home educating families, small groups, or individuals may submit an audio (either by disk or email link) of their performance to Convention Music Committee, P.O. Box 32308, Fridley, MN 55432 or to music@mache.org. Clearly print your name(s), age(s), phone number, working email address, and title/composer of your musical selection. All selections must be under six minutes in length. Deadline: January 31, 2019.

Silent Auction

Join us for the 2019 MÂCHÉ Silent Auction. Attendees will bid on a wide variety of beautiful and useful items...all donated by our members, exhibitors, and area businesses. The donated items and services will be awarded to the highest bidders and all proceeds will go toward supporting MÂCHÉ’s various ministries. All donations received by March 1, 2019, will be listed in the convention program booklet. For more information, go to https://www.mache.org/event/2019-mache-convention, then scroll down to the “Silent Auction” link.

DONATE! Help this year’s silent auction be the best one yet!

Used Curriculum Sale

Are you clearing out those overstuffed bookshelves of old books, curricula, and homeschool supplies which you don’t need any more? Are you trying to make room for all that new curricula that you plan to purchase at the convention? Sell your unneeded curricula at the annual Used Curriculum Sale held during the MÂCHÉ convention on April 12-13, 2019. Reserve your table(s) when you register for the convention. For more information: http://www.mache.org/event/2019-mache-convention, then scroll down to the “Used Curriculum” link. Deadline: March 15, 2019.

Volunteer Scholarships

Consider giving back to an organization that has encouraged and equipped Minnesota home educators in many ways over the last 35 years! Mingle with some of the best people in the world. Parents and teens (16 years or older) are invited to serve on our convention team in exchange for a $64 credit toward their husband/wife convention registration ($30 credit for teens). Prerequisites to serve: (1) Have a current MÂCHÉ membership (through April 13, 2019) and (2) Have attended at least one previous MÂCHÉ convention. If you are interested, contact volunteers@mache.org or call 763-717-9070. For more information: https://www.mache.org/event/2019-mache-convention, then scroll down to the “Volunteer” link. Deadline to volunteer: March 15, 2019.

NEW! Young Entrepreneurs

The MÂCHÉ young entrepreneurs program is an opportunity for homeschooled students and graduates to have booth space in the exhibit hall at the annual MÂCHÉ convention to display, promote, and sell products they have created, built, or developed themselves or to advertise services they offer utilizing their own skills. Students who are currently being taught at home by their parents or who are homeschool graduates are invited to participate.

- Young entrepreneurs must be between the ages of 13 and 25 years old.
- Young entrepreneur businesses must be owned, managed, and operated by homeschool students or graduates only.
- Parents of young entrepreneurs who are ages 13-18 must be registered to attend the convention.

Young entrepreneurs will be able to purchase one half-booth in the 2019 MÂCHÉ exhibit hall. The fee for the half-booth is $150. If you would like to participate as a young entrepreneur in the MÂCHÉ exhibit hall, please submit your name, address, email, website (if you have one), a brief description of your product or service, and a sample or photo of your product or service to Tami at exhibits@mache.org or mail your information to Young Entrepreneurs, P.O. Box 32308, Fridley, MN 55432. When your submission has been approved, you will receive instructions on how to get registered. Deadline to apply is March 1, 2019. For more information, visit https://www.mache.org/event/2019-mache-convention, then scroll down to the “Young Entrepreneurs” link.
Your Family. Your Homeschool. Supported by MÂCHÉ Membership.

MÂCHÉ provides...

- Annual conference and curriculum fair
- Annual Thursday sessions for new homeschoolers, struggling learners, and high school and beyond
- E-newsletter, NonPaper MÂCHÉ
- State of the art website
- Phone and email messaging (checked daily)
- Special needs coordinator
- Special seminars and workshops
- Legislative monitoring
- Encouragement for support group leaders
- and more!

Members receive...

Discounts on:
- HSLDA membership
- Conference registrations and fees
- Audio products and book purchases

Plus...

- Full-color magazine, The Paper MÂCHÉ
- Graduation participation
- Member-only web pages
- MÂCHÉ special needs discussion forum
- 190+ page online handbook (articles, resources, links, testing information... and more)

JOIN or RENEW at www.mache.org

For more information...

- www.mache.org
- info@mache.org
- 763-717-9070 or 866-717-9070 (toll free)

Home education fulfills its highest calling when parents educate their own children according to Christ-centered, biblical principles.
…add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.” (2 Peter 1:5-8 NKJV)