

University Primary School Presents . . .

Linda Kreger Silverman, Ph.D



Wednesday, February 10, 2010
Room 26 Children's Research Center
7:00 – 8:00 PM.

PERFECTIONISM

Perfectionism comes with the territory of giftedness and is its least appreciated aspect. Impossible dreams are realized, unrealistic goals achieved, insurmountable obstacles surmounted by individuals whose vision is a more powerful reality than the limitations most of the world accepts as real. The drive for excellence only visits those who have the capacity to attain it. Perfectionism is a function of asynchrony, as a more advanced mind sets more advanced goals. Personality type plays a role as well: introverts are more likely to be perfectionists than extraverts. Environment can exacerbate this trait. When schoolwork is too easy, the only challenge a gifted child can create is accomplishing it perfectly. Perfectionism has the potential for propelling one toward unparalleled greatness or plummeting one into despair. The secret to harnessing its energy is learning how to set priorities. Hints for channeling perfectionism will be provided.

Linda Kreger Silverman, Ph.D., is a licensed psychologist. She directs the Institute for the Study of Advanced Development, and its subsidiary, the Gifted Development Center (www.gifteddevelopment.com) in Denver, Colorado. Over 5,700 children have been assessed at the Gifted Development Center in the last 30 years. She also founded Visual-Spatial Resource (www.visualspatial.org). Her Ph.D. is in educational psychology and special education from the University of Southern California. For nine years, she served on the faculty of the University of Denver in counseling psychology and gifted education. She has been studying the psychology and education of the gifted since 1961 and has written over 300 articles, chapters and books in gifted education, including *Counseling the Gifted and Talented*, *Upside-Down Brilliance: The Visual-Spatial Learner* and *Advanced Development: A Collection of Works on Gifted Adults*.