

# Englischer Beitrag

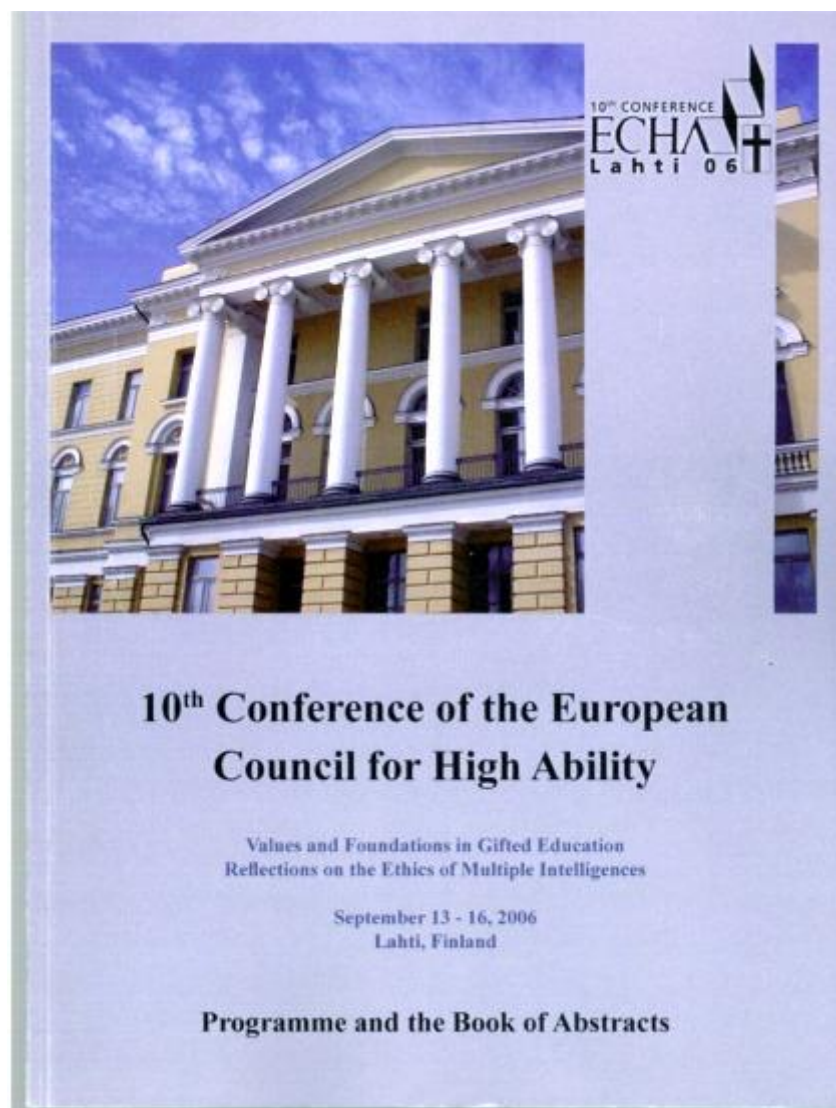
## 12 Schicksale hochbegabter Kinder



EUROPEAN COUNCIL FOR HIGH ABILITY, 10TH CONFERENCE

## Lahti 2006 FIN

Values and Foundations in Gifted Education /  
reflections on the Ethics of Multiple Intelligences



# Abstract Talenta "Apostles"

## The 12 Apostles of an Ethical Approach towards Gifted Children

Jean-Jacques Bertschi, PhD, former MP, Co-Founder of Talenta School Zurich, Switzerland

[The topic 2006 "Apostles" was chosen in the context of ethical and moral standards for the gifted. Talenta underlined that there should be an ethical plight as well as on the side of the gifted children ...on the side of the adults that neglect wellbeing and learning of many gifted children dramatically! Talenta showed typical constellations/case studies ...apostles for a good purpose...]

### **THE 12 APOSTLES OF AN ETHICAL APPROACH TOWARDS GIFTED CHILDREN**

**Jean-Jacques Bertschi, Ph.D., School Talenta Zurich, Chairman of  
the Board**

At the end of the day, nations expect marked or even outstanding contributions from their gifted children. Why not? But how do societies, how do educational systems, themselves, approach highly gifted children? Does their approach really deserve the distinction "ethical", i.e. adequate offers for real needs of real children?

In most countries, the first thing that gifted children have to learn, is to strictly conform to a more or less rigid system of educational beliefs and structures taken for granted. In this situation, the founders of School Talenta Zurich have started, in 1998, a full time pioneer school for gifted children at risk between 6 and 12 years of age.

Talenta is far from imposing its concepts upon others (thus repeating the faults mentioned above). But the profound pedagogical interaction with more than 100 children with high linguistic and/or logical-mathematical potential, over many years, has led the faculty of Talenta to present a pragmatical proposal of "12 apostles", i.e. 12 messengers (or messages) in favour of an ethical approach towards gifted children, in whatever schoolish context.

Each of these "apostles" emanates from real experience, sometimes adventure, with Talenta kids. They may be more or less relevant, but all cover general requirements in gifted education, and might be useful for those who work and live with exceptional individuals - be they teachers, parents or (hopefully) policy makers.