

The Garner Report

Smart aleck **James Finn Garner** imagines how the winners are selected for those "genius grants" awarded each July

clip and mail in



MacArthur Foundation Genius Grant Application

(Please type or print.)

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____
I.Q.: _____ E.Q.: _____ Hat size: _____
Mean *Jeopardy!* score: _____

EXPERIENCE

Field of endeavor: _____
☐ Tenured ☐ Employed ☐ Underemployed ☐ Starving

Please explain why you consider yourself a genius:

Do you ever use this for a pickup line? ☐ Yes ☐ No
Has it ever worked? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you feel you qualify as a "misunderstood" genius?
☐ Yes ☐ No

If "Yes," please complete and attach Form 203-MIS.

Do you plan to use your genius to improve the human condition or bring the entire planet under your despotic thumb? Please explain your answer.

PREVIOUS RECOGNITION

Please list any other grants or awards you have received as a result of your geniusness.

Did any of them carry the big payday that a MacArthur genius grant does?

Is your mother proud of you? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you think the term "genius" is bandied about too freely these days? ☐ Yes ☐ No

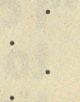
What do you think we ought to do about that?

- ☐ Apply for copyright
- ☐ Begin letter-writing campaign
- ☐ Issue credit cards
- ☐ Make I.Q. forehead tattoos mandatory
- ☐ Slowly and systematically eliminate all non-geniuses

ADDITIONAL TALENTS

- ☐ Hanging spoon from nose
- ☐ Programming VCR
- ☐ Sleight-of-hand tricks
- ☐ Talking backwards
- ☐ Hypnotizing dogs/chickens
- ☐ Making yourself irresistible to opposite sex
- ☐ Accordion playing
- ☐ Putting whole hand in mouth
- ☐ Tango
- ☐ Flower arranging
- ☐ Other: _____

In the figure below, connect the dots using only four lines to create the Japanese kanji for "incongruity."



GENERAL INFORMATION

How many geniuses does it take to screw in a light bulb?

- ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 4 ☐ More

Please explain your answer:

Do you think it is ever permissible to intentionally split an infinitive? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Would you like to receive your grant in new "Genius Bucks™," redeemable for goods and services at many fine local retailers? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Did you notice that we deliberately misspelled "Address" at the top of this form? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If no, please explain:

Don't you think the folks who process these applications have a tough job that is taken for granted, and might qualify as geniuses in their own right? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Please explain your answer, smarty-pants: