



TOWARD THE DEEPENING OF PUBLIC WALDORF EDUCATION

Alliance for Public Waldorf Education
Annual Conference
Co-sponsored by Rudolf Steiner College

Friday, January 18, at 7:00 PM,
through Sunday, January 20, at 1:00 PM
Pre-conference Workshop,
Friday, January 18, 1:15 PM - 5:15 PM

Please join us for the Alliance annual conference at Rudolf Steiner College in Fair Oaks, California. This year we will focus on deepening our connection to the roots of Waldorf education and its philosophical and pedagogical underpinnings.

Our esteemed keynote speakers, Betty Staley, Bonnie River and Liz Beaven, will bring you to a fresh look at childhood development and the Waldorf curriculum, a closer look at the esoteric life of those who serve our school communities, and an renewed understanding of teaching as a true vocation, not an occupation. With them, we will explore questions and themes that live in the realm of public Waldorf education as we bring Steiner's work into a contemporary framework.

Join us for a dynamic weekend of lectures, practical workshops, discussion forums for teachers and administrators, and celebration of our work past, present and future.

The Alliance annual conference promises to be renewing and enlivening for all. Continue reading to see what else we have been planning for your winter re-charge.

KEYNOTE THEMES

Liz Beaven, Ed. D.

Child Development and the Waldorf Curriculum: A Framework for Contemporary Practice

Waldorf education is developmental: the curriculum addresses the unfolding nature of the growing child. If we understand that picture of development, we are more able to understand and apply the curriculum in any setting. We will explore the basic model, the resulting curriculum, and its relevance for twenty-first century educators, examining where the basic principles align with contemporary research.

Bonnie River, M. Ed.

Do you Hear Them Calling? What Brings Adults into Waldorf Education?

Waldorf education in the public realm requires of teachers and administrators a deep connection to the pedagogical underpinnings and initial impulses of Waldorf education as well as an ability to work with integrity while addressing the requirements of the state. What does it really take to be a public Waldorf educator? As we seek to remain true to the foundations of Waldorf education and bring them to life despite challenges, could it be that who we are and how we think is of more significance than what we teach?

Betty Staley, MA

The Three Castles and The Esoteric Life of The Teacher

Teachers live in many different realms at the same time. As Waldorf teachers we have a priority to pay attention to our inner development, to the feeling aspects of our social relationships, to the transformation of our thinking, to the strengthening of our will, and to honest confrontation with our shadow. The inner work we do in these areas helps us guide the children with enthusiasm, purpose, and love. This keynote and workshop sessions will describe these areas of inner development using the three castles — the castle of King Arthur, the castle of the Grail, and the Castle of Wonders from the legend of Parzival — as a metaphor for this kind of work. Exercises will be shared in each case to help us in our practice. Although it is helpful to be familiar with the legend, it will not be necessary in order to benefit from the presentations.



CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

FRIDAY

January 18, Pre-Conference and Conference Opening

- 12-1:00 Registration
Lunch for Purchase
- 1:15-5:15 George Hoffeecker & Donna Burgess
Deepening our Working Together
through Mindful Communication
- 5:15-6:45 **DINNER** (included with
Pre-conference fee)
- 7:00-9:00 Opening Remarks
Singing: Janzen Music (of Carver High
School)
Evening Keynote: Bonnie River, M.Ed.:
Waldorf Teaching: A Vocation not an
Occupation!

SATURDAY

- 7:45-8:15 Eurythmy and "Poetry Through the
Grades" with Alice Stamm
- 8:30-10:45 Main Lesson
Welcome: Alliance Representatives
Singing: Janzen Music
Movement: Thom Schaefer
Mental Math: Chip Romer
Keynote Address: Betty Staley, M.A. :
The Three Castles: The Esoteric Life of the
Teacher
- 10:45-11:15 **BREAK**
- 11:30-1:00 Workshops: Part 1
- 1:00-2:00 **LUNCH**
Alliance Committee Meetings
- 2:00-3:15 Working Session: Break Out Groups
- 3:15-3:30 Tea and coffee break
- 3:45-5:15 Workshops: Part 2
- 5:15-6:45 **DINNER**
Films and/or Sharing of Teacher Training
Programs

- 7:00-8:30 State of the Alliance Address: Will Stapp
Rudi Talks
- Bob Hickman: Current Research on
Public Waldorf Students
 - Michelle Horning: Successes of the
"Transitional Kindergartens"
 - Thom Schaefer: Private to Public,
Transformation through Experience
 - Ida Oberman: Urban and Equity-
Focused Waldorf-inspired Teaching:
The Work Before Us
- 8:30-9:30 Silent Auction, Desert and Jazz
Live Music with Brain Grey and friends!

SUNDAY

- 7:45-8:15 Eurythmy and "Poetry through the
Grades"
- 8:30-10:45 Main Lesson
Singing: Janzen Music
Movement: Thom Schaefer
Mental Math: Chip Romer
Keynote Address: Liz Beaven. Ed. D.
Child Development and the Waldorf
Curriculum: A Framework for
Contemporary Practice
- 10:45-11:15 **BREAK**
Claim and Pay for Auction Items! Must
be present and paid to win.
- 11:30-12:45 Closing Comments, Plenum and
Reflections
- 12:45-1:00 Conference Concludes
- 1:00-2:00 Lunch for purchase

REGISTRATION BEGINS NOVEMBER 15

To register visit: www.steinercollege.edu
Registration questions? Call Rudolf Steiner College at
916-864-4864

Registration forms and conference documents are also
available on the Alliance website:
www.allianceforpublicwaldorfeducation.org

General conference questions?
email: alliance.public.waldorf@gmail.com



PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP

Friday, January 18, 1:15 PM - 5:15 PM at
Rudolf Steiner College

Deepening our Working Together through Mindful Communication: Inner Attitudes and Practical Strategies for Building and Maintaining Connection through Speaking and Listening Lead by George Hoffercker and Donna Burgess of Hoffercker-Burgess Consulting

We will explore key concepts and practices from Rudolf Steiner, Marshall Rosenberg, Parker Palmer, and Otto Scharmer that help us to bring our highest values to life through our communication. Through role plays, games, and dialogue we will practice strategies designed to build skills for connecting with ourselves and with others even in challenging situations.

CONFERENCE FEE

\$175 for Alliance member schools and their faculty;

\$225 for non-members
(Price includes lunch on Saturday)

After January 1, 2013

\$200 for members,
\$250 for non-members
(Includes lunch on Saturday)

PRE-CONFERENCE FEE

\$40 (includes dinner on Friday)

CONFERENCE KEYNOTER BIOGRAPHIES

Betty Staley, M.A.

Betty Staley has been a Waldorf educator for fifty years—kindergarten, handwork, class teaching and high school teaching. As one of the founders of Rudolf Steiner College in 1976, she has been involved in adult education since that time. Betty led the negotiating team of the first public Waldorf program (in Milwaukee) and has been involved in Waldorf teacher education for teachers in public schools and independent Waldorf schools. She is currently director of Waldorf High School Teacher Education at RSC and leader of several Community Learning Centers (part-time Foundations in Anthroposophy courses), Head of the Pedagogical Committee of the Alliance, and member of the Pedagogical Section Council. She is an advisor to Waldorf schools, lectures internationally, and is the author of seven books including *Between Form and Freedom*, which is used for parent study in many schools.

Liz Beaven, Ed. D.

Liz Beavin has over 25 years' experience in Waldorf education including 13 years as a class teacher and 11 years as an administrator. She has participated in the life of Waldorf schools as a teacher, administrator, parent, Board member, College of Teachers member, and through a wide range of committees. In addition, she has served as a mentor, teacher evaluator, and instructor of teachers and administrators. Her work with public schools spans many years, from early days of instruction in Sacramento City and Jefferson County, Kentucky, to workshops, classes, and lectures with Rudolf Steiner College's Public Schools Institute. Liz has been involved in Waldorf education at the regional and national level. Her many questions about the form and future of this education took her back to school; in 2011, she completed a Doctorate in Education. She enjoys writing, researching, and speaking about Waldorf education.

Bonnie River, M. Ed.

While Bonnie River raised her three children, she taught in traditional, private Waldorf schools. As a kindergarten teacher who loved to bring imaginative play to young children, she found this work so supportive of her early parenting years. Then, as her own children grew, she took to class teaching and taught grades 1-8 in a pioneering school situation wherein she was working with combined-grade classes for most of these years. With a passion for the special needs learner, she completed remedial and medical trainings focusing on the many aspects of therapeutic approaches to children. Presently, Bonnie is working as an administrator in a large public school inspired by Waldorf Education and she chairs the Hybrid Teacher Training Program of Steiner College. She chairs the Membership Committee of the Alliance for Public Waldorf Education and sits on the board of that organization.



PREPARATORY READINGS

Consider working with these readings in faculty or board study in the months leading up to the conference.

For the Pre-conference Workshop

Compassionate Communication and Empathy's Awakening,

John Cunningham

Available on the Alliance website, and free to download at:

www.empathy-conexus.com

For the Conference

How Can the Destitution of Soul in Modern Be Times be Overcome? A lecture given by Dr. Rudolf Steiner, Oct. 10, 1916

Available on the Alliance website and free to download at the Steiner Archives:

<http://wn.rsarchive.org/GA/GA0168/19161010p01.html>

Other Suggested Readings

Familiarity with the legend of Parzival

The Kingdom of Childhood, Rudolf Steiner

School as a Journey, Torin Finser

Adolescence: The Sacred Passage, Betty Staley

EURYTHMY

Alice Stamm will join us each morning for eurythmy sessions with a theme of Poetry through the Grades. Alice has taught Eurythmy in schools for the last 35 years. Although now retired she is retooling her toolbox to support teachers' movement and love of language for their children's development and joy. Her morning workshop will add to the teachers' love of eurythmy and will provide movement and exercises to enhance their language-arts curriculum.

WORKSHOP OFFERINGS

EACH WORKSHOP is divided into two 90 minutes periods.

Part 1, Saturday, 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Part 2, Saturday, 3:45 pm – 5:15 pm

Participants will choose one of the following.

1. THE THREE CASTLES AND THE ESOTERIC LIFE OF THE TEACHER: Betty Staley

This workshop will build upon the keynote address to describe areas of inner development using the three castles as a metaphor for this kind of work. Exercises will be shared in each case to help us in our practice. Although it is helpful to be familiar with the grail legend, it will not be necessary in order to benefit from the presentation.

2. PLANT DYEING ON SILK: Jennifer Tan

Experience the magic of plant dyeing on silk gauze! Fiber artist Jennifer Tan will lead participants in dyeing three colors. Extra silk and dyeing materials will be available for purchase. There is a \$20 material fee, please bring to workshop!

3. INTERGRATIVE MOVEMENT KINDERGARTEN THROUGH THE GRADES: Alice Stamm

A practical workshop for all teachers that will explore movement activities that harmonize the senses, promote health and vitality, and strengthen the child's capacities to learn in all ways.

4. SINGING IN THE GRADES: Eva Cranstoun

In this workshop, you will build confidence as a teacher in your ability to sing, to lead and teach songs to your class and to choose the right material. Come ready to explore, move, sing and listen.

5. COMMON CORE STANDARDS AND WALDORF CURRICULUM: Bonnie River and colleagues

Who we are and how we think allows us to create an "enlightened alignment" as we meet Common Core Standards while remaining true to the deepest pedagogical impulses of Waldorf Education. This workshop will explore how we can address Common Core Standards in the public Waldorf classroom.

6. CHALKBOARD DRAWING BASICS: Jamie Lloyd

With limited time, how can teachers create beautiful chalkboard drawings? Keep it practical, use the right materials, and



WORKSHOPS *continued*

you'll see improvement with each new drawing you complete. We'll walk you through preparing a chalkboard and executing a colorful chalk composition for every block.

7. WRITING FROM MIDDLE SCHOOL INTO HIGH SCHOOL: Scott Stine

This workshop will offer techniques, activities, and assignments to increase fluency, clarity, and form in student writing for sixth, seventh, eighth and ninth graders. Additionally, this workshop is designed to help class teachers prepare their students for ninth grade. Mr. Stine has taught ninth grade in public schools, a private Waldorf school and Carver for twenty-five years.

8. INTRODUCTION TO SYSTEMIC LEADERSHIP: Jane Lorand

Part 1: Strengthening Communities Through Coherence Mapping

Participants will engage in a practice that illustrates core systemic principles through a practice that all can take home and use. We think we know what is needed by others and we think others know what we need. Rarely is this the case, and it makes all the difference.

Part 2: Effective Meeting Design in Waldorf-Inspired Charter School Leadership

Participants will take away 3 basic skills for effective meeting design. As leaders/managers, we need to host meetings. How do we prepare by using anthroposophy's wisdom to help us create and share so that all of us leave "enlightened" and "lighter!" Jane Lorand has taught Effective Meeting Design as part of the GreenMBA's Applied Critical Thinking curriculum since 2001.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

SATURDAY, 2:00 - 3:15 PM

Breakout Sessions are a venue in which teachers, administrators, board members, and other conference attendees can connect with colleagues and participate in guided discussion relevant to their areas of interest and focus. Experienced Waldorf educators and leaders from within the public realm will facilitate these lively group discussions using key questions and emergent themes to spark collaboration, connection, and the sharing of resources.

We are looking for breakout participants to continue this work together via online forums. We need your help from the grassroots level! If this is something you are able to help make happen, be prepared to take the lead, with Alliance support, at the close of your breakout session.

1. **EARLY CHILDHOOD: Hellene Brodsky-Blake** How do we meet our students today in our high-tech/fast-paced society? What are the main challenges of today's child? How do we replenish ourselves to care for the young child? Come connect with colleagues, share resources, deepen practice and explore pressing questions.
2. **GRADES 1-3: Leah Brosio** Teacher sharing: Connect with colleagues, share resources and deepen your pedagogical work.
3. **GRADES 4-5:** Teacher sharing: Connect with colleagues, share resources and deepen your pedagogical work.
4. **GRADES 6-9: Keith Sabini and Krista Wigart** Middle school to high school math: Strategies, Resources, Success.
5. **REMEDIAL WORK, K-8: Margaret Gillespie** What remedial or extra lesson work are you doing and how is it working? What has been successful? What needs do you have? Where are the gaps in resources and support?
6. **URBAN AND EQUITY-FOCUSED WALDORF-INSPIRED TEACHING: Ida Oberman and Mary Goral** A presentation and discussion highlighting the experience and lessons from two Title 1 schools.
7. **LEADERSHIP FOR ADMINISTRATORS AND FACULTY: Susan Olson** What administrative challenges are unique to the public Waldorf movement? How can we learn from our successes in order to strengthen leadership in all spheres? Includes an overview of the three-fold model with respect to governance.
8. **WALDORF 101: Liz Beaven** For any and all who wish to better understand the "basics" of Waldorf Education. Bring questions and be prepared for a lively discussion.
9. **TRANSLATING ANTHROPOLOGY: Rainbow Rosenbloom** How can we create access points for public Waldorf educators and families into Anthroposophy and the foundations of Waldorf education?



ALLIANCE COMMITTEES

The Alliance is seeking active committee members to serve and support the development of the organization and its member schools and initiatives.

At registration you will be given the opportunity to express your willingness to join a working committee. All Alliance committees will meet during lunch on Saturday to share goals and answer questions.

Please consider if your interest and skills might lead you to serve the Alliance on one of the following committee:

- Conference Committee
- Development Committee
- Steps to Membership Committee
- Outreach and Communication Committee
- Pedagogical Committee
- Confluence: Seasonal Newsletter of the Alliance
- Online-forums for Breakout and Focus Groups

SILENT AUCTION

This year will be our second annual silent auction, the proceeds of which will benefit once again the Alliance Grants Program. We will gather together after the Saturday evening Rudi Talks to share dessert and live music with Brian Grey and his band.

Who can donate?

Anyone! Bring your items big or small to registration!

What can be donated?

Goods and services of all kinds! Last year we had a wide range of donations including: kindergarten teacher's aprons, children's books, resource books for teachers, a gift certificate to the RSC bookstore, a variety of consultation services, online workshops from Eugene Schwartz, knitted baby hats, and new supplies from Mercurius.

Who can win?

Everyone! The highest bidder on Saturday night wins the chosen item. Winners must be present and paid at the break on Sunday morning. And, because the proceeds fund the Alliance Grants Program, all of our members schools and initiatives "win," every time.

Please, bring donations with you to registration and stay tuned for more information.

HOUSING

Limited dorm housing is available through Rudolf Steiner College. Make your reservations online separately when you register for the conference.

The below listed hotels have established a reduced rate with RSC. When you call, please be sure to let them know that you're coming for an RSC event. All these hotels offer breakfast with the room.

Holiday Inn: 11269 Point East Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA 916.635.4040 (Rudolf Steiner College's preferred hotel choice!)

Hotel Sierra: 11260 Point East Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA 916.638.4141

Red Roof Inn: 10800 Olson Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA 916.638.2500

Fairfield Inn by Marriott: 10745 Gold Center Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA -- 916.858.8680

MEALS

Friday dinner is included in the Pre-conference fee.

Saturday lunch is included in your conference fee.

All other meals are available for purchase when you register.

TRANSPORTATION

SuperShuttle: National chain

Local franchisee is Jun Mate

Set up reservations with Jun by phone (916.224.3783) or by e-mail (junmateo@yahoo.com).

Make sure you let him know that you are reserving transportation for an RSC event!



**CENTER FOR
SYSTEMIC LEADERSHIP**

Critical Thinking | Complexity Management

co-sponsored by the Alliance for Public Waldorf Education

FOLLOWING the conference The Center for Systemic Leadership offers a workshop for administrators, board members and faculty leaders. *Working with Complexity in Charter School Communities: When and Whom to Include?* Sunday, January 20, 3:00 pm and Monday, January 21, 8:30 to 3:30 pm. You'll come away with tangible, concrete skills to bring back and use immediately! To register for this workshop (only) call 916-864-4858.