

Light in Our Thinking! The Path to Thinking Through Head, Heart & Hands

Co-sponsored by

RUDOLF STEINER COLLEGE

Friday, January 15, 2016

beginning at **7:00 PM** through

Sunday, January 17, 2016

ending at **1:00 PM**

Please join friends and colleagues for the 2016 Alliance Annual National Conference, an event at which teachers, administrators, parents, and board members from Public Waldorf schools, charter schools, independent Waldorf schools and new initiatives from across the nation gather together for practical and renewing work.

In addition to welcoming our esteemed Keynote presenter, **Jack Petrash**, we're pleased to announce that **Bente Goldstein**, the keynote speaker at last year's Conference, is returning to lead the Pre-Conference Workshop as well as a Saturday workshop. Those of you who saw Bente last year know that we are in for a lively and deep exploration of Waldorf education. Newly joining our conference this year is **Jamie York** a Waldorf Math teacher and lead author of the *Making Math Meaningful* book series.

Our other Conference workshops and breakout sessions will continue the tradition of enthusiasm for Public Waldorf Education and inspiration for teachers, administrators and parents. Join us for a dynamic weekend rich with practical workshops, artistic opportunities, inspirational content and a chance to meet and share with teachers all over the country.

The Conference is growing! With 14 workshop and 14 break out sessions on RSC and Sacramento Waldorf School Campus. Continue reading to see what else the Alliance has planned for your winter re-charge!

KEYNOTER SPEAKER

JACK PETRASH

DIRECTOR OF THE NOVA INSTITUTE

Jack Petrash is the founder and director of the Nova Institute. He is an educator with over thirty years of classroom experience, having just completed his fourth class at the Washington Waldorf School, and a teacher of teachers. He has written extensively on issues pertaining to innovative classroom instruction, has served on the editorial board of the journal *Encounter*, and is the author of *Understanding Waldorf Education: Teaching from the Inside Out*. Everyone registered for the conference will receive a free copy of *Understanding Waldorf Education*. *Welcome, Jack!*

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP

Friday, January 15, 2016 2:00-5:00 PM

**CONNECTING CHILDREN TO THE WORLD:
THE PATHWAY
TO INITIATIVE, EMPATHY & INDEPENDENT THINKING**

with **BENTE GOLDSTEIN**

In this three hour workshop, we will explore the difference between "inserted thoughts" and "self hatched" ideas, and how we as educators can foster the development of thinking through will activity and engagement with the physical world. Through a combination of spatial dynamics, study, and practical recommendations, we'll look deeply into the processes by which children find themselves, discover who they are, and find meaning and purpose in life.

POST-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP

Sunday, January 17, 2016 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM

**PRACTICAL ACTIVITIES FOR WORKING WITH
LEARNING CHALLENGES IN THE CLASSROOM**

with **JO-ANN CLIMENHAGE**

In this three hour workshop participants will learn practical exercises and activities they can use to support children, including those with learning challenges, in their classrooms. Through "hands-on" practice, participants will become familiar with the various movement activities so they will be able to successfully incorporate them into their daily work with their students. Jo-Ann is a certified Waldorf Grades and Remedial teacher specializing in the Extra Lesson approach. She has been immersed in education for over 20 years, having completed undergraduate, masters and Ph.D. studies and taught at the University level prior to discovering Waldorf education.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, January 15

Pre-Conference and Conference Opening

- 12:00-1:00 Pre-Conference Registration
Lunch for Purchase at Clara's Counter
- 2:00-5:00 Pre-conference with **Bente Goldstein**
*Connecting Children to the World:
The Pathway to Initiative, Empathy and
Independent Thinking*
- 5:00-7:00 Conference Registration
- 5:15-6:15 School Leaders Gathering
- 5:15-6:15 DINNER (included with Pre-conference fee)
- 7:00-9:00 Singing with **Eva Cranstoun**
Welcome
Opening Keynote: **Jack Petrash**
*Straight and Curved: Developing Creative
Thinking for a Complex and Rapidly
Changing World*
Dancing

SATURDAY, January 16

- 7:00-8:00 Late Conference Registration & Breakfast
- 7:30-8:00 Eurythmy with **Alice Stamm**
- 8:15-8:30 Singing with **Eva Cranstoun**
- 8:30-9:30 Welcome & Introduction of Schools
A Vision for the Alliance
- 9:30-10:30 Keynote: **Jack Petrash**
*The Waldorf Teacher Journey:
Where's Our Roadmap?*
- 10:30-11:00 BREAK
- 11:15-12:45 Workshops: Part 1
- 1:00-2:15 LUNCH
- 2:30-3:30 Breakout Sessions
- 3:30-4:00 Tea and Coffee
- 4:15-5:45 Workshops: Part 2

- 5:45-6:45 DINNER
AUCTION closes at 9:00 pm
- 7:15-9:00 Evening Activities
Music & Conversation

SUNDAY, January 17

- 7:00-8:00 Breakfast at Clara's Counter
- 7:30-8:00 Eurythmy with **Alice Stamm**
- 8:15-8:30 Singing with **Eva Cranstoun**
- 8:30-9:00 RUDI TALKS: "Hot Topics"
1. **Shanna Mall:** Winterberry Charter
School, Anchorage, AK
2. **Shaheer Faltas:** Kona Pacific Public
Charter School, Kona, HI
3. **Charles Burkham:** Dessert Marigold
School, Phoenix, AZ
- 9:00 -9:30 Announcements | Updates
- 9:30-10:30 Sunday Keynote: **Jack Petrash**
*Waldorf Teaching: What Is
Our Assignment?*
- 10:30-11:00 BREAK
- 11:15-12:45 Closing Comments, Plenum and
Reflections
- 12:45-1:00 Conference Concludes
- 1:00-2:00 Lunch for purchase (included in
Post-conference fee)
- 2:00-5:00 Post-Conference with **Jo-Ann Climehague**
*Practical Activities for Working with
Learning Challenges in the Classroom*

REGISTRATION BEGINS DECEMBER 1

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

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 retired, she now dedicates her eurythmy skills to the art of teacher training, supporting our ability to bring the joy of movement and love of language to our students. Her morning workshops will wake us up, enrich our knowledge of eurythmy and offer movement and speech activities that can enhance our language arts curriculum.

SINGING

Eva Cranstoun, Waldorf Graduate (K-12) from Vienna, Austria, is a certified singing teacher and therapist of the "School of Uncovering the Voice" (Werbeck). She holds a diploma in Waldorf education (grades). Aside from more than 25 years of vocal development work, she has over 16 years of experience as a Waldorf music teacher and an adult educator. As vocal performer, Waldorf educator and therapist, Eva has acquired a wide perspective and deep soul-understanding of the human voice that will lead us into the realm of social connection and awareness as we tune and sing together. Visit Eva's website: www.singingawake.com

WORKSHOP OFFERINGS

EACH WORKSHOP is divided into two 90-minute periods.

Part 1: Saturday, 11:15 am – 12:45 pm

Part 2: Saturday, 4:15 pm – 5:45 pm

Participants will choose one of the following:

1. MAKING MATH MEANINGFUL

with **Jamie York**, *Shining Mountain Waldorf School*

As Waldorf educators, our constant task is to teach our subjects in an order that best meets the developmental needs of the students before us, and simultaneously ensures they will be prepared for their future. This purpose of our brief time together in this workshop is to explore ways to meet this challenge. What are some of the key principles for teaching math successfully? How can we make math meaningful in the age of the Common Core? What is the real purpose of teaching math anyway? The workshop is designed to be of interest to math teachers of all grade levels. Come prepared to do some real math, including problem solving, puzzles, and games. Jamie is the lead author of *Making Math Meaningful* math books.

2. PURPOSEFUL WORK: MORE THAN A CHORE

with **Bente Goldstein**, *Farmwise Education*

We'll explore why children need the right doses of chores at the right times and how to achieve this in a school setting.

3. FROM THE CRADLE TO THE QUEST

with **Dr. Susan Johnson**

Take an in-depth look at the "lower senses of life, touch, balance and movement", as described by Rudolf Steiner, and explore how these foundational senses are related to the development of learning and imaginative thinking in the older child and

needed for the development of Soul Consciousness, the higher soul capacities of Thinking, Feeling, and Willing, in adulthood.

4. CREATIVE DISCIPLINE WITH YOUNG CHILDREN:

Beyond Sticks and Carrots

with **Stephen Spitalny**, *Waldorf Institute of Southern California*

Discover how to truly connect with young children. Develop a communication style that makes for fewer conflicts and easier resolution in interactions with young children. Help resolve conflicts effectively with without shame or blame. You will learn how to teach young children skills for navigating conflicts through an understanding of the will in the child and in the adult. The social example of the adult can be taken up by the child's will through imitation. How can we become worthy of imitation? Participants will go home with more patience and calm to deal with the stressful situations they may encounter with young children.

5. NOURISHING FACULTIES: ENLIVENING MEETINGS THROUGH LIVING THINKING

with **Edmund Knighton**, PhD, *President, Rudolf Steiner College*

How do we create and sustain a mood such that all of the components of our meetings result in inviting every faculty member to be fully engaged in the topic at hand? Effective meetings

WORKSHOP OFFERINGS

build community. We will experience the essential elements of meetings and provide a living process that you can take back to your faculty. These essentials will include how to conduct business, speak verses, share art and studies, and end meetings with life questions and process, with a particular focus on enlivening child study. Mindful conversation will overlight these seven areas. Creating meetings of this caliber requires everyone's active participation, so this workshop is appropriate for anyone who is present at faculty meetings. It will be experiential.

6. THERAPEUTIC MOVEMENT FOR THE EARLY YEARS

with **Alice Stamm**, *Rudolf Steiner College*

Movement is essential for the development of the child. Join Alice to explore artistic eurythmy for teachers, along with puppet eurythmy and integrative movement, to refresh your morning circles and enliven classroom activities throughout the day.

7. CHALKBOARD MAGIC!

with **Jamie Lloyd**, *Summerfield Waldorf School*

Chalkboard drawing can be a daunting challenge, or an absolute joy in your work with your class, whether you are an accomplished artist or an amateur. In this workshop, we'll quickly cover the basics so that you are setup for success, then we'll delve into chalkboard drawings for the lower and middle school

8. FLASH! BANG! BOOM!

with **Bill Kobabe**, *Woodland Star Charter School*

A hands-on practical journey through grades 6-8 Physics and Chemistry blocks. Learn, or review, the demonstrations vital to your success as a class teacher. Let the mystery and magic of science excite you and your students!

9. NEEDLE FELTING (MAX 24)

with **Jennifer Tan**

Using plant-dyed wool, learn the art of needle felting, creating a two-dimensional scene and three-dimensional objects for classrooms, nature tables, gifts, and more! An additional materials fee of \$25 will be collected on the day of the conference.

10. WET-ON-WET WATERCOLOR PAINTING (MAX 24)

with **Rick Tan**

Experience wet on wet painting as a living art that evolves through the grades. We will explore how the five components of wet on wet painting – character, color, content, control, and communion – work in concert and modulate to be pedagogically engaging. Participants will complete up to 3 paintings to take home and admire! An additional \$5 materials fee will be collected on the day of the conference.

11. THOUGHTFUL INTEGRATION OF TECHNOLOGY IN THE CLASSROOM

with **Diana Graber**, *creator and teacher Cyber Civics™ at Journey School*

You may have heard about Journey School's Digital Media Literacy Program (a.k.a. "Cyber Civics") workshop at last year's Alliance Conference. This year Diana Graber is returning to bring some of that information back and to talk about how to bring technology into the everyday classroom, where appropriate, and always be prepared for something to go wrong when it comes to tech!

12. GAMES THROUGH THE GRADES

With **Justin Ganz**, *The Greenwood School*

Would you like to learn more games to teach your class or games classes? Join Justin, an experienced games teacher for tips on how to help your students have fun and become stronger, more fit and able to work out challenges with their peers.

13. SINGING? NO PROBLEM!

with **Eva Cranstoun**, *Rudolf Steiner College*

Learn to sing a number of beautiful songs for fourth grade and up. We will work on creative rehearsal techniques to develop soulful, musically pleasing songs for a lifetime. The vocal techniques, rhythm exercises, fun drills for singing in tune and the simple directing techniques (hand movements) are all designed to help class teachers, who are not necessarily music experts, to confidently incorporate music into their curriculum. If you like, bring a recording device. Sheet music will be provided.

14. CENTERING THE COMMUNITY FOR SELF-RELIANCE

with **Charles Burkam**, *Dessert Marigold School*

Exploring the dynamics of internal collaborative leadership and external demands for accountability and structure.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Breakout Sessions are 60-minute sessions. Saturday, 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm

Participants will choose one of the following:

1. THE PATHWAY TO LICENSING AS A PUBLIC WALDORF SCHOOL

with **Betsy Thagard & Victoria Temple**,
Alliance for Public Waldorf Education

The March 2015 AWSNA/Alliance agreement to license “Public Waldorf Education” was a first step toward the Alliance goal of issuing sub-license agreements to member schools. What is the pathway your school could follow to be designated a “Public Waldorf School?” To answer that question, this workshop will report on the work of the AWSNA/ Alliance Joint Committee and of the Alliance Membership Committee’s ongoing membership pilot project.

2. BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH MONEY: How to Get your Community Figuratively and Literally Invested in your School

with **Amy Bird**, *RSF Social Finance*

Many people drawn to the field of education seem to view dealing with finances as a necessary evil. But how we work with money in our communities provides a powerful opportunity to build trust and deepen relationship. Join Amy Bird, Lending Manager at RSF Social Finance, for a conversation about transformative ways to work both practically and imaginatively with money. Bring your concrete questions and experiences, and together we’ll explore why money matters.

3. GRADES 3-6: TEACHING THINKING THROUGH LITERATURE

with **Jazmin Ventura**, *Live Oak Waldorf School*

How can discussions about literature that is read in the classroom lead to strengthening of thinking in children? Bring ideas for books and discussion topics, and your discussion leader will help you form ideas you can bring back to your classroom.

4. PRESCHOOL/KINDERGARTEN DISCUSSION

with **Hellene Brodsky-Blake**, *Journey School*

What does Common Core mean in Waldorf early childhood? How are we being authentic Waldorf early childhood teachers while at the same time responsible to our sponsoring district,

parent body and state? Bring your questions about the work you do in Preschool or in Kindergarten for discussion with your colleagues.

5. GRADES 1 AND 2: DISCUSSION

with **Guilie Garland**, *Monterey Bay Charter School*

Bring project based learning and other topics to the discussion of first and second grades.

6. WALDORF 101

with **Elizabeth Beaven**, *EdD*

An opportunity to bring your questions, great and small, about pedagogy, curriculum, community development, governance and the history of Waldorf education to an experienced educator.

7. DISCUSSION SMARTER BALANCED TESTING

with **Mechelle Horning**, *Alice Burney Waldorf-Inspired K-8 School*

Has the Smarter Balanced Testing made a difference at your school? Are your teachers changing the way they present their lessons? Are you spending a large amount of time teaching the children how to type? What are the issues for teachers whose students are being given the Smarter Balanced Tests? Join the discussion!

8. PORTFOLIO ASSESSMENT FOR MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL

with **Allegra Alesandri**, *Ed.D*, *George Washington Carver School of Arts & Sciences*

Assessments come in all shapes and sizes. At the middle and high school they look like reading quizzes and chapter tests, midterms and finals. There are PSAT and ACT and AP exams. At the Waldorf schools we need to assess so much more than the academic content of our students educational experience. In this breakout session, we will experience the process Carver high school used to develop a holistic portfolio assessment that captures the developing capacities of our students.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

9. ANTHROPOLOGY, INNER DEVELOPMENT, AND TEACHING STRATEGIES: Defining the Essence of Waldorf

with **Rainbow Rosenbloom**, Alliance Board of Directors

Rudolf Steiner's insights created the foundation for Waldorf education, yet the increasingly wide exposure brought by public school initiatives demands new thinking, understanding, and articulation. In this session, we will explore how to bring accessible meaning to our work, to inner development, and to teaching strategies.

10. THE COURAGE TO TEACH—WHAT'S HARD IN THE CLASSROOM?

with **Jack Petrash**, Nova Institute

Join our Keynote Speaker, Jack Petrash, for a straight to the heart discussion about what is hard in the classroom and how to face the challenge. "always be prepared for something to go wrong when it comes to tech!"

11. WORKING WITH YOUR SCHOOL DISTRICT TO SUPPORT SPECIAL EDUCATION EFFORTS

with **Jeff Lough**, Nationally Certified School Psychologist

What are the challenges and successes you face serving students with special education needs in your district? Come and dialogue about this growing need and ways to find clarity in schools guided by the core principles of Public Waldorf Education.

12. WORKING WITH PARENTS, FOR TEACHERS AND ADMINISTRATORS

with **Jamie Lloyd**, Summerfield Waldorf School

A critical aspect of being a Waldorf teacher is to ensure that your relationship and connection with the parents of the students you teach is steeped in a relationship of warmth, trust, and professionalism. How do we build this fabric when we embark on our journey together? How do we maintain it? How do we prepare to have difficult conversations with concerned parents? When is it time to ask for support from colleagues and administrators? For administrators, how do we foster an environment where teachers seek help when they are feeling vulnerable in their class communities.

13. TAKE TIME FOR THE TEMPERAMENTS

with **Will Stapp**, MPH, President Emeritus
Alliance for Public Waldorf Education

The temperaments are a key concept in Waldorf education, so much so that Rudolf Steiner chose to focus on the ancient typology at the initial afternoon teacher discussion at the first Waldorf School in Stuttgart, Germany. This workshop will use art and interaction to review the temperaments grounded in the Greek notion of the four elements. We'll make connections with biodynamic theory and take time for teachers to explore contemporary opportunities and challenges in working with the temperaments with students and colleagues.

14. HOW ARE YOU COMBINING WALDORF CURRICULUM WITH COMMON CORE REQUIREMENTS?

with **Janie Marks**, Alice Burney Waldorf-Inspired K-8 School

Teaching the Common Core requirements may seem daunting but Janie will help you see how workable it can be.

SILENT AUCTION

This year's fifth annual silent auction will once again benefit the Alliance's Mini-Grants Program.

Who can donate? *Anyone!* Bring your items big or small to registration!

What can be donated? *Goods and services of all kinds!* In the past we've 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, original art, a variety of consultation services, online workshops, 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

The hotels listed below 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!)

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

Best Western Plus: 10713 White Rock Road, Rancho Cordova, CA – 916.631.7500

Marriott Rancho Cordova: 11211 Point East Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA – 916.638.1100

Visit the RSC website for more housing information:

<http://www.rudolfsteinercollege.edu/hotels>

MEALS

Friday dinner is included in the Pre-conference fee.

Saturday lunch is included in your conference fee.

Sunday lunch is included in the Post-conference fee.

All other meals are available for purchase when you register.

TRANSPORTATION

SuperShuttle: 24 Hour Airport Service: (800) 258-3826

Airport or Hotel Shuttle Service: Local franchisee is **Jun Mateo**

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!

Uber and **Lyft** services are also available in this area via a smart phone application download.

REGISTRATION BEINGS DECEMBER 1

To register visit: www.steinercollege.edu

Registration questions? Call Rudolf Steiner College at

916-864-4864

Registration information and conference documents are also available on the Alliance website:

www.allianceforpublicwaldorfeducation.org

General conference questions?

email: alliance.public.waldorf@gmail.com



ALLIANCE

FOR PUBLIC WALDORF EDUCATION