



Widening the Circle! Culturally Relevant Practices

Co-sponsored by

RUDOLF STEINER COLLEGE

Friday, January 13, 2017

beginning at 7:00 PM through

Sunday, January 15, 2016

ending at 1:00 PM

Please join friends and colleagues for the 2017 Alliance Annual National Conference, an event at which teachers, administrators, parents, and board members from Public Waldorf 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, **Dr. Linda Williams**, we're pleased to announce that **Jack Petrash**, last year's keynote speaker, is returning to lead a Pre-Conference Workshop and a Saturday workshop. Those of you who experienced Jack last year know we are in for a deep exploration of Waldorf teaching. **Alice Stamm** returns with morning eurythmy and a workshop on integrative movement. **Thom Schaefer** will share his experience on how to launch a Public Waldorf High School, and both **Mary Goral**, Ph.D. and **Ida Oberman**, Ph.D. will offer a workshop on *Literacy Instruction with Underserved Populations*. **Orland Bishop** with the ShadeTree Multicultural Foundation will offer the Rudi Talk this year.

Our other Conference workshops and breakout sessions will continue to offer 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 and board members from around the country. Continue reading to see what else the Alliance has planned for your winter re-charge!

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

LINDA WILLIAMS, Ed.D.
DETROIT WALDORF SCHOOL

Linda Williams, Ed.D., began the 2016/17 school year in her third grade classroom at the Detroit Waldorf School. Dr. Williams is a long-time member of the Detroit Waldorf family who first served as a class teacher for grades one to five in 1987-1992. The following year, she joined the pioneering team at the Urban Waldorf School in Milwaukee, WI, teaching first through third grade. Since then she has earned her doctorate in Curriculum, Teaching and Educational Policy, been the Elementary Program Director of the Waldorf Institute of Southeastern Michigan, and been professor of Teacher Education at Eastern Michigan University, where she taught undergraduate and graduate courses in elementary literacy and urban education. As she notes in her recent article in *Confluence*, "All of our children are from culturally diverse backgrounds." We warmly welcome her to the Alliance Annual National Conference 2017.



OPENING ADDRESS

LIZ BEAVEN, Ed.D.
PRESIDENT OF THE ALLIANCE

As our work in public education expands and deepens, many questions rise up to meet us. What is it that makes a public school "Public Waldorf?" What is the founding impulse of our work? What does it mean to be a member of our Alliance? Where do we stand in relation to AWSNA, the Association of Independent Waldorf Schools? What can we expect from the Alliance over the next couple of years? How do we best engage our schools in meaningful self-study and peer review?



We will open our annual conference with an examination of the founding impulse of our work and of the principles that are core to Public Waldorf education. Join Alliance President Liz Beaven for an evening of exploration and collegial discussion. Your input, thoughts, and reflections are needed and welcomed as we plan for the future of our work. Liz will introduce the evening with a review of the development of Public Waldorf education in this country, our work with AWSNA on the service mark, and the development of our Core Principles. The evening will include a "world cafe" with round table discussions amongst colleagues from across the country. Bring your thoughts and questions, and prepare for a lively kick-off to our conference theme!



EURYTHMY

ALICE STAMM will join us each morning before breakfast for eurythmy sessions in Stegman Hall. Alice has taught Eurythmy in schools for the last 35 years. 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.



SPACIAL DYNAMICS

EDMUND KNIGHTON will open morning gatherings in Stegman Hall with movement exercises drawn from his Spacial Dynamics training designed to help us enter into the themes of the week. Edmund is the current Director of Rudolf Steiner College.



SILENT AUCTION

This year's sixth 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 teachers' 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 art supplies.

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.

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP

Friday, January 13, 2017 2:00-5:00 PM

TAKING HARD TO HEART: THE SURPRISES, THE PITFALLS, AND THE TURNAROUND IN WALDORF TEACHING

with **JACK PETRASH**

Creating a healthy learning environment in our Waldorf classrooms is essential, but not always easy. So many factors can make that work difficult. This workshop will explore the challenges of Waldorf teaching and what is asked of us, especially after the hard days. Jack is also offering a workshop titled: **The Essential Next Step: Transforming a Public School Classroom into a Waldorf School Classroom.** *Welcome back, Jack!*



RUDI TALK

Sunday, January 15, 2017 8:30 AM

COMPLEXITY AS A WAY OF ENGAGING THE QUESTIONS OF DIVERSITY

with **ORLAND BISHOP**

How do we move the conversation from seeing needs of differences to appreciating differences that already exist and building on them. A presentation by the founder and director of the ShadeTree Multicultural Foundation based in Los Angeles, who will offer a Breakout Group on Saturday titled: **Designing for Complexity.**



ALLIANCE ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, January 15, 2016 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM



The Annual National Conference will close this year with an **Annual Meeting of the Alliance** for Public Waldorf Education's non-profit corporation, which is open to the general public. The Agenda for the meeting will be available in Conference registration packets and posted on the Alliance website. Everyone is welcome.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, January 13

Pre-Conference and Conference Registration

12:00-1:00 Pre-Conference Registration
Lunch available for purchase

2:00-5:00 Pre-conference with **Jack Petrash**

**TAKING HARD TO HEART:
The Surprises, Pitfalls, and the
Turnaround in Waldorf Teaching**

5:00-7:00 Conference Registration

5:15-6:15 DINNER (included with Pre-conference fee)

7:00-9:00 Movement with **Edmund Knighton**
Welcome
Opening Keynote with **Liz Beaven, Ed.D.**
**WIDENING THE CIRCLE: Public Waldorf
Education Today and Tomorrow**
followed by World Cafe Conversation

SATURDAY, January 14

7:00-8:00 Late Conference Registration

7:30-8:00 Eurythmy with **Alice Stamm**

8:15-8:30 Movement with **Edmund Knighton**

8:30-9:30 Welcome & Introduction of Schools

9:30-10:30 Keynote: **Linda Williams, Ed.D.**

**WIDENING THE CIRCLE:
Culturally Relevant Pedagogy &
Waldorf Education (Part 1)**

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

7:00 Silent Auction closes

SUNDAY, January 15

7:30-8:00 Eurythmy with **Alice Stamm**

8:15-8:30 Movement with **Edmund Knighton**

8:30-9:00 RUDI TALK
with **Orland Bishop**

**COMPLEXITY AS A WAY OF ENGAGING
THE QUESTIONS OF DIVERSITY**

9:00 -9:30 Announcements | Updates

9:30-10:30 Sunday Keynote: **Linda Williams, Ed.D.**

**WIDENING THE CIRCLE:
Culturally Relevant Pedagogy &
Waldorf Education (Part II)**

10:30-11:00 BREAK

11:15-12:45 Closing Comments, Plenum and
Reflections with Conference Presenters

12:45-1:00 Conference Concludes

1:00-2:00 Lunch available for purchase

2:00-3:00 **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**
of the Alliance for Public
Waldorf Education

REGISTRATION BEGINS DECEMBER 1

To register visit: www.steinercollege.edu

CONFERENCE FEES

Before January 1: Members \$200 Non-Members \$250

After January 1: Members \$250 Non-Members \$300

REFUND POLICY

There are no refunds; however, you can use the amount of your conference fee toward a future event up to one year from the date of original cancelation.

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



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. CHALKBOARD MAGIC!

with **Jamie Lloyd**, Woodland Star Charter 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.

2. 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.

3. WET ON WET 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.

4. MIDDLE SCHOOL AS A FOUNDATION FOR RIGOR AND RELEVANCE – AND HIGH SCHOOL

with **Thom Schaefer & Chip Romer**, Credo High School

What makes a solid program in the middle school years capable of cultivating academically competent students on the road to independent thinking, young people capable of experiencing the world with artistic sensibility, and holistic youth who are interested in making a difference in today's world? Such an education is a preparation for high school and for lifelong learning. In the second part of the workshop we will explore what the Waldorf high school offers today's youth. We know that Waldorf education does not culminate with the end of eighth grade. In fact, the ninth through twelfth grades form the crown of the Waldorf experience. Join us as we explore the varied paths to starting a Waldorf high school in today's educational climate and terrain.

5. SCHOOL-LEVEL CONSIDERATIONS FOR INCREASING DIVERSITY

with **Heather Graham**, Woodland Star Charter School

This two part workshop will include a panel conversation with parents from Woodland Star Charter School who will reflect on their choice of Waldorf education for their children. Be ready for a rich discussion about the growing diversity of a Waldorf charter school including the successes and challenges. The second session will include a presentation of ways in which schools can facilitate the integration of a more diverse student population. Among other topics, the group will discuss how to ensure access to the curriculum for all students, include parents in decision-making and create an inclusive school climate.

6. ADDRESSING LITERACY INSTRUCTION WITH UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS

with **Mary Goral, Ph.D.** and **Ida Oberman, Ph.D.**

This session opens with a look, offered by Dr. Ida Oberman, Executive Director of Oakland's Community School for Creative Education, at the needs and opportunities we face as public Waldorf educators when we consider the literacy rates among traditionally under-served and marginalized groups of children who make up an ever-growing portion of our public education system. Dr. Oberman will consider the real-life issues of students in urban environments and how Community School is building its public Waldorf, intentional, inquiry-based approach to literacy instruction. This approach is intended to equip teachers with the tools and strategies to help narrow the achievement gap and support all children to proficiency and beyond.

7. WIDENING THE INNER HORIZON

with **Antje Bojarsky**, Sebastopol Charter School

This workshop explores the essential core Waldorf principle of teacher development. The inner life of the teacher is the source of beliefs and practices that become the roots of teaching. What is the basis of our teaching methodology? When reflecting on our work, what prompts our decisions and actions?

WORKSHOP OFFERINGS

8. INTEGRATIVE MOVEMENT FOR THE YOUNG CHILD

with **Alice Stamm**

This rhythmical/musical movement will help the young child through third grade to integrate reflexes and mid-lines, the four lower senses, and find social relationship with the other children. Bring a yoga mat and loose clothing. Handouts available.

9. THE ESSENTIAL NEXT STEP: Transforming a Public School Classroom into a Waldorf School Classroom

with **Jack Petrash**, *The Nova Institute*

Our charter schools attract many fine public school teachers and yet a next step is necessary. There is no denying that Public Waldorf education places considerable responsibility on the shoulders of its teachers. There are blackboard drawings to prepare, poems to memorize, stories to learn and tell, and innovative lessons to create. Being able to do this efficiently and well, will make all the difference to our students, but more importantly to ourselves. This workshop will explore the practical aspects of this transformation focusing on lesson design, the art of storytelling, the aesthetics of a Waldorf classroom, and some of the essential ideas that can anchor and guide this effort.

10: INSTEAD OF "NO TECH": CONSIDER "SLOW TECH"

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

With technology all around us, it is becoming increasingly difficult to say "no" at home and in school. So this presentation will explore a 'slow tech' approach; one that takes into consideration a child's developmental stage and current research on the effects of media upon youth. Attendees will learn about the benefits of teaching digital literacy in middle school and the presenters will discuss their in-classroom experiences teaching Cyber Civics as they engage attendees in some of their favorite lessons. Diana Graber is the founder of CyberCivics.com and Cyberwise.org, two organizations dedicated to helping students and adults learn digital literacy skills. She also teaches Cyber Civics at Journey School where she founded the program. Shelley Kelley is Journey School's Educational Director, serving in this position directly upon the heels of graduating her 8th grade class last year.

11. LINKING NEXT GENERATION SCIENCE STANDARDS (NGSS) & THE WALDORF SCIENCE CURRICULUM IN MIDDLE SCHOOL

with **Steve Kinney**, *Novato Charter School*

In this workshop, we will review the NGSS framework and standards, and talk about ways to incorporate the framework into the classroom, as well as implementation strategies in general for NGSS. This will touch on ways how to bring engineering and project-based learning into the curriculum, as well as expand the on the traditional view of the scientific method to incorporate NGSS disciplinary core ideas and terminology.

12. SUPPORTING DIVERSITY IN LEARNING DIFFERENCES

with **Karen Perry**, *Live Oak Charter School*

Come to this workshop ready to be active and move. Topics covered will include: supporting and identifying struggling students; RTI, Universal Designs for learning, differentiation, and research-based interventions; when and how to refer students for special education assessment; supporting students in the general education classroom who have an IEP; integrating Waldorf Extra Lesson and other movement exercises into a public charter school classroom; collaboration with colleagues, staff and parents; ensuring accommodations (vs modifications); student led IEPs; discussing student progress and report cards.

13. STRENGTHENING THE WHOLE CLASS

with **Jeff Tunkey**, *Aurora Waldorf School*

The learning goal of this active, hands-on presentation is to enrich and enliven the vital work of strengthening academic capacities through classroom movement, drawing and painting exercises. These activities, grounded in the work of Rudolf Steiner and of Audrey McAllen, are clearly validated by modern science as pathways to physiologic and emotional development. Building up basics like postural control, spatial orientation, movement coordination, good body geography, and confirmed dominance: these are not classroom "extras", but can be as important as academic presentation, at least in the early grades. The emphasis will be on activities for grades 1 to 4.

14. NURTURING THE NURTURERS

with **Lee Sturgeon Day**

A workshop offering practical, creative and healing ways of relieving stress, developing a less anxiety-ridden inner space, and strengthening our connections with others and the world around us. Come and enjoy working with images, picturing your child, the art of the moving line, and more. Lee Sturgeon Day is a counselor, adult educator, parent of a Waldorf "lifer" and grandparent. She has been giving workshops since 1975, and is author of *A Slice of Life* – a personal journey of healing through cancer, several workbooks and children's stories.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

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

Participants will choose one of the following:

GRADES DISCUSSION GROUPS

Grade level collaboration breakout groups will be facilitated by an experienced teacher holding both public teacher credentials as well as Waldorf training. Bring questions and ideas to share during this mid-school year opportunity to converse with teachers going through similar joys and challenges of working with the same age group of children you are currently teaching.

1. KINDERGARTEN COLLABORATION

with **Sallie Romer**, Woodland Star Charter School

2. GRADES 1 & 2 COLLABORATION

with **Antje Bojarsky**, Sebastopol Charter School

3. GRADES 3 & 4 COLLABORATION

with **Helen Smith**, Novato Charter School

4. GRADES 5 & 6 COLLABORATION

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

5. GRADES 7 & 8 COLLABORATION

with **Laurie Tichel**, Sebastopol Charter School

6. SOCIAL ACTION!

with **Marika Ramsden**, Credo High School

In our world today it is growing ever more difficult to protect children from the environmental and social challenges that surround us. This breakout session will introduce 10 guiding principles for One Planet Living, a framework developed by a UK Organization, Bioregional. Credo High in Rohnert Park, CA has adopted these 10 guiding principles and embedded them into the campus, community and curriculum of the school. Learn how this movement connects students deeply with each other and their surroundings, empowers them to be change agents and creates a position and collective vision for the future.

7. INNER PREPARATION FOR TEACHING AND LEADING

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

How anthroposophy informs public Waldorf school teaching and administration.

8. GOING DEEPER: ACTIVISM THROUGH STORY

with **Linda Williams**, Detroit Waldorf School

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

9. DESIGNING FOR COMPLEXITY

with **Orland Bishop**, ShadeTree Multicultural Foundation

Orland Bishop is founder and director of the ShadeTree Multicultural Foundation in Los Angeles where his work focuses on community building and finding a healthy relationship with oneself and with others. During this breakout he will explore these concepts and guide a conversation on collective engagement. This workshop will explore the practical aspects of this transformation focusing on lesson design.

10. MENTORING

with **Chris Topham**, Sebastopol Charter School

Whether your school uses in-house or outside mentors, it's important to provide a structure and guidance for the mentors and the teachers receiving mentoring to make their time effective and efficient. Some teachers need a different kind and level of mentoring than others. In this session, you'll hear and receive materials about how mentoring at two levels are handled at Sebastopol Independent Charter School. Also, we'll cover effective mentoring methods.

11. WALDORF 101

with **Liz 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.



BREAKOUT SESSIONS

CONTINUED

12. ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT with **Heather Graham**, and **Teresita Landin**, **Woodland Star Charter School**

English Language Development teachers from Woodland Star Charter School share their approach and strategies for ensuring access to the core curriculum for English Learners.

13. BRING SONG & DANCE INTO YOUR CLASSROOM

with **Anna Rainville**

Singing games are a part of every culture and generation. These gems provide healthy opportunities for sensory integration while lifting spirits and building community. Singing and moving together in simple or complicated forms appeals to all ages whether at home, in a classroom, or faculty meeting. They are contagious joy.

14. ADMINISTRATOR COLLABORATION

with **Kalen Wood**, **SunRidge Charter School**

A discussion group for school administrators and other administrative staff. Bring your questions!

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.

All other meals are available for purchase when you register.

In response to feedback, Saturday night has been reserved for socializing and networking. Dinner on campus can be ordered, and information on local restaurants will be available at registration.

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 BEGINS DECEMBER 1

To register visit: www.steinercollege.edu

Registration questions? Call RSC 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