



Parenting Matters!

Early Childhood Education Symposium



Saturday, Oct. 15, 2011 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
The Summit Country Day School

Symposium Presenters

Julia Almaguer

Julia is the Math Specialist at The Summit Country Day School. This is her 17th year of teaching and her fifth year at The Summit. Julia holds a Bachelor of Arts from Duke University, a Master of Education from the Ohio State University, and a gifted specialist endorsement from Ashland University. She is a National Board Certified teacher.

Catherine Batcheller

Catherine is currently the Dean of Cincinnati Ballet's Otto M. Budig Academy and has over 30 years of experience in the professional world of ballet. She was principal dancer at one of the world's leading ballet companies, Germany's Stuttgart Ballet and also danced principal roles with Birmingham Royal Ballet (England) and San Francisco Ballet. She co-founded and co-directed Configuration Dance, now known as Configuration Dance Theatre (CDT) in New York and directed Configuration Dance Studio, the school associated with CDT. She has taught ballet all over the country including the University of North Carolina School of the Arts, Boston Ballet, San Francisco Ballet, Walnut School for the Arts, Indiana University, Portland Ballet, and American Academy of Ballet among others. Prior to joining Cincinnati Ballet, Catherine was the Artistic Director at Ballet Conservatory of South Texas in San Antonio, a pre-professional company and ballet academy.

Carrie Biales

Carrie has served as the practicum coordinator for 3-6 interns and an adjunct faculty member of the Xavier University Montessori Education Department. She has taught all of the methods courses for the 3-6 level and supervised Montessori interns since 2004. Carrie taught in a 3-6, environment for nine years before moving to Montessori teacher education. She served as a consultant for the Montessori schools in Cincinnati Public and Dayton Public Schools as well as a board member for the creation of Pleasant Ridge Montessori. Carrie has presented at the national conference for the American Montessori Society and at workshops in Chang Hua, Taiwan and Shanghai, China on literacy and English as a Second Language. Carrie's two children attend Sands Montessori.

Amy E. Briggs

Amy is the Assistant Curator for School-Based Learning at the Cincinnati Art Museum where she works on the development of programming and curricula for preK-12 students and educators. Amy holds a Bachelor of Arts in Art History from Emory University and a Master of Arts in Museum Education from Tufts University. Before relocating to Cincinnati, Amy worked in the education departments at the Davis Museum and Cultural Center at Wellesley College and the DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park in Lincoln, MA. Prior to her time as a museum educator, Amy taught kindergarten at the Shore Country Day School in Beverly, MA.

Gretchen Carroll

Gretchen is an Education Coordinator in the Division of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. She has over twenty years of experience evaluating and supporting children with developmental disabilities, specializing in the areas of learning disabilities and Down Syndrome. She holds Master of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees in the field of Learning Disabilities from Northwestern University. Gretchen has been invited to speak at national conferences on the topics of inclusive education and the relationship between behavior and learning.

Helen Clark

Helen has experience in both public and private education. She received her Bachelor of Arts from Marymount Manhattan College and her Master of Education from Xavier University. In 2007, Helen was the recipient of an NEH grant to study Philosophy for Children. In June of 2009, she received the Summit's Schilderink Distinguished Teacher Award. This is her 25th year at The Summit. Helen taught second and third grade. This January, Helen will become the Director of the Lower School, as Dr. Terry Malone transitions to Director of the Upper School. Helen has two adult children, both of whom are graduates of The Summit.

Sharon K. Collins, M.S., CCC-S/LP

Sharon is the owner and director of the Cincinnati Center for Improved Communication, Inc., a private, pediatric-based practice. Sharon earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Speech and Hearing and Master of Science degree in Speech-Language Pathology from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. Her 32 years of experience in the field of speech-language pathology have encompassed work in the public school, university and private sectors. Sharon's practice has provided speech-language diagnostic and intervention services at The Summit Country Day School since 1989.

Cammie Corder-Nelson

Cammie has been teaching at The Summit Country Day School for 16 years. She has taught third and fourth grade Language Arts. She is now the Library Media Specialist for the Lower and Middle Schools working with grades 1-8. Her background in Language Arts is incorporated into developing a love of reading in the library. Cammie received her Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education from Wilmington College.

Crystal Dahlmeier

Crystal received her Master of Montessori Education from Xavier in Early Childhood. She started a Montessori program in an existing parochial school in Hamilton, OH. She also taught undergraduate and graduate students at Xavier for 17 years in the lab school. She also taught in Perth, Western Australia for a year and in London, England for a year. She spent several weeks in Seoul, S. Korea introducing Montessori education there. She is currently the Program Director for Greater Cincinnati Center for Montessori Education. The Center, affiliated with the American Montessori Society and accredited by the Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education (recognized by the US Dept. of Education), provides teacher education for individuals who wish to be certified in either Montessori Early Childhood or Infant/Toddler. Crystal has taught toddlers and is a certified trainer for the Program for Infant and Toddler Caregivers.

Jacqui Greene Haas

Jacqui has been the Athletic Trainer for Cincinnati Ballet since 1989. She is the Director of Pilates and Dance Medicine at Wellington Orthopedics Therapy Services. A former professional ballet dancer with Boston Ballet, Southern Ballet Theatre, New Orleans City Ballet and Cincinnati Ballet, Jacqui holds a Bachelor of Arts in Dance from the University of South Florida and an Athletic Training

certificate from the University of Cincinnati. Jacqui is a frequent presenter, speaking to dancers and instructors at Louisville Ballet, North Carolina Dance Theatre and Cincinnati Ballet including presentations for the National Athletic Trainers' Association. She has been published in Dance Magazine, Advanced Rehabilitation Magazine, Dance Teacher Magazine and Irish Dancing Magazine. Jacqui recently had the privilege of touring France as the athletic trainer for the professional Irish Dance company, *Lord of the Dance*. Jacqui's acclaimed book, *Dance Anatomy*, published by Human Kinetics has sold over 12,000 copies.

Dr. Suzanne James

Suzanne is a Licensed Psychologist who has been in private practice for the past 11 years. She graduated with her Doctor of Psychology from Spalding University in Louisville, Kentucky and has seen individuals and families in Kentucky, Illinois, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Ohio. Throughout these diversified areas, Suzanne has developed a specialty in treating gifted children, adolescents and adults. She assists these families in coping with the many facets of giftedness including such things as emotional regulation, learning disabilities, Asperger's Disorder, psychoeducational and neuropsychological assessment, misdiagnosis in gifted, parent education and coaching, and school consultation and college preparatory. Suzanne also works with individuals who are suffering from depression, loneliness anxiety, grief and loss, relational issues, infertility, ADHD, and health related issues. Suzanne spends her free time playing with her two year old son and three year old daughter, training for triathlons, and taking care of Mr. Bojangles, her popular therapy dog who brings families from miles away to visit.

Brenda Judd

Brenda teaches at the Arlitt Child and Family Research and Education Center on the campus of the University of Cincinnati. Her passion for children led her to study education and devote her life to children. Brenda earned a Bachelor of Science, in Early Childhood Education, from the University of Cincinnati. She has completed her Early Childhood Special Education License Endorsement and is wrapping up her Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction. She also holds a degree in Business Management from the University of Cincinnati. Her oldest son is a Summit alumni and her youngest son is a sophomore.

Michele Kaegi

Michele has taught for 25 years, 24 of which have been at The Summit in the Montessori Academic Program. She has a Bachelor of Science in Education from The University of Cincinnati and a Montessori degree from the National Center for Montessori Education. Currently she is the Chair of the Language Committee for the Montessori Division and recently has been appointed the Montessori Academic Chair for the ISACS 2011, self-study. She is a recent recipient of "The Summit Way" award for exemplary service. Michele has four children, three currently attend The Summit. Her oldest child, a graduate of The Summit, attends Marietta College.

Karen Koch

Karen received a Bachelor of Arts from Washington University in St. Louis, MO. and Master of Montessori Education from Xavier University in Cincinnati. She received her training in the Orton Gillingham program, a multisensory reading program. Currently she is a lead teacher at The Summit Country Day School in the Advanced Enrichment Program. This is her 15th year at The Summit. She has traveled extensively and lived in Melbourne, Australia for two years.

Lauren Mahoney

Lauren received a Bachelor of Arts in English/Journalism from Miami University and her Master of Montessori Education from Xavier University in Cincinnati. She is currently a lead teacher at The

Summit Country Day School in the Toddler Montessori Program. This is Lauren's third year at the Summit.

Dr. Terrence Malone

A glimpse of his background includes a variety of university coursework in Art, Elementary and Secondary Education and School Leadership. Terry received formal training in literacy practices from several institutions including the University of Pennsylvania, LaSalle University, Holy Family University and Columbia University. He recently completed the doctoral program in Educational Leadership at Northern Kentucky University. He has taught in a variety of settings including urban and suburban public and private schools. He comes to Cincinnati from the Philadelphia area where he was leading an award-winning public suburban elementary school. He has been the Lower School Director at The Summit Country Day School since July, 2008 and will transition to the Upper School Director position in January.

Amy McDonald

Amy is the Montessori and Lower School French teacher and is in her second year at The Summit. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in French from DePauw University. She joined The Summit community after spending two years teaching English abroad in multiple elementary schools in Nancy, France. Amy uses hands-on and interactive activities, stories, songs, and role-plays in the target language to engage students and foster life-long language learners.

Katia Palek

Katia is from Peru. She has a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish and French Translation & Interpretation from Universidad Femenina del Sagrado Corazon, Lima-Peru. Katia has a certification on Bilingual Education, Generalist EC-4th grade, and Secondary Spanish 5th-12th grade. She is also certified as a Community Interpreter and Translator. Katia uses TPRS (Teaching Proficiency through Reading and Storytelling) in her classes to achieve fluency in the target language.

Dr. Victoria Ragsdell

Victoria is a licensed psychologist in private practice in Louisville, KY. She has 20 years of experience in adult, adolescent and family therapy. Victoria presents seminars and workshops concerning the needs of gifted adults and their families, including an emphasis on families with ADHD. Additionally, Victoria provides consulting and coaching to gifted individuals and their families across the country.

Dr. John Sacco

John is a graduate of the University of Arizona Fellowship in Integrative Medicine. He also completed training in Medical Acupuncture through the UCLA/Helms Institute in 1999. He serves as the Integrative Oncology consultant at the Alliance Institute for Integrative Medicine in Kenwood. John is board certified in Internal Medicine, Radiation Oncology and Integrative/Holistic Medicine. John's professional interests include preventive oncology, nutrition and mitochondrial dysfunction. He is currently practicing Radiation and Integrative Oncology with Oncology Hematology Care in Cincinnati.

Nicole Schild

Nicole is an independently Licensed Social Worker for the states of Kentucky and Ohio. She graduated with a Master of Social Work from the University of Kentucky in 2003, and earned an independent licensure in 2007. She has worked with children, adolescents, adults and families throughout her career and in 2008, Nicole opened her private practice where she continues today. Children, adolescents, and families are regularly seen and assisted with divorce, court related family disputes, parent skills, depression, anxiety and emotional regulation as related to intellectual giftedness. Currently, Nicole is working closely with Dr. Suzanne James in the area of gifted children to treat and assist families who are identified as gifted. On August 17, 2011, Nicole became a mother of a baby boy and will be putting the information and advice she shares with others into use with her own son.

Phyllis Schueler

Celebrating her 40th year at The Summit, Phyllis received a Bachelor of Science from Edgecliff College and earned a Master of Montessori Education from Xavier University. Phyllis also taught at McNicholas High School. She has been at The Summit Country Day School in Montessori as a Teacher/Director for 40 years. She was a Montessori Teacher from 1971- 1982 and has served as the Director since 1982. She was the Cincinnati Montessori Society, Vice President for six years. She is the mother of four children and a travel enthusiast, Mrs. Schueler visited Russia and Eastern Europe in 2008, Romania in 2009, Paris, France and Rome, Italy in 2011. She enjoys frequenting the west coast visiting her children and grandchildren. In 2012-2013 The Summit Montessori Program will celebrate its 50 year anniversary.

Rebecca Slater

Lower School Music Specialist at The Summit Country Day School, Rebecca has taught general music and movement, choir, theory, piano and voice to students of every age level, from preschool through college and beyond. She holds certifications in Levels I and II Orff-Schulwerk methodology, Kindermusik® and Music Together®. She has presented workshops throughout the greater Cincinnati area on piano pedagogy and early childhood music. Rebecca is the Music Director at St. Pius X Church in Edgewood, KY, where she plans and provides music for liturgical celebrations and directs several choirs. She is also the director/owner of Slater Music Academy in Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Tricia Sundeck

Tricia was born in California and danced as a principal with the Sacramento Ballet Company for eight years. After joining the Cincinnati Ballet in 2000, she was promoted to soloist in 2004. Tricia has had the pleasure of performing in Canada, Russia, and throughout Europe. She now teaches throughout the Tri-state and enjoys teaching creative movement and ballet at The Summit.

Yngrid Thurston

Yngrid has been at the Summit since 2001. She teaches Middle and Lower School Spanish and heads the Diversity and Inclusion Committee. She helped expand The Summit's World Language Program into a 13-year course of study. Yngrid is a native of the Dominican Republic. She received her Bachelor of Fine Arts from Ohio University and a Master of Education from Xavier University. Yngrid just published her first children's novel in Spanish with Babel Books Inc.