

# Reigniting the Flame

IMAGINATION • INSPIRATION • INTUITION

FEBRUARY CONFERENCE | February 14-16, 2016

# Welcome

THIS YEAR'S CONFERENCE encompasses a wide range of



subjects and issues that we expect will challenge us, lead to thought-provoking discussion, and inspire new approaches in the classroom.

Our keynote speaker, Dennis Klocek, will explore - over three days - the process of moving from unconscious, habitual views of life, through living pictures toward accessing true intuition. For the first time, all workshop presenters are meeting as a group with Dennis beforehand to integrate their workshops with the themes of his talks, so as to deepen the overall conference.

Of note, this year we will have several new workshop offerings addressing contemporary issues in the classroom. A few examples: **Inclusive Classrooms**, with Megan Sullivan and Kelly McNeely Nutting, will discuss sexuality and gender in the classroom - offering tools for teaching sensitive and sometimes controversial issues. In **Bringing the Classroom Outside**, Annie Bosque will challenge our traditional system of spending much of our day teaching students indoors. Luisa Burgess will work with us in **Magic in the Moment**, giving us a mini theatrical workshop, indicating a new way to introduce drama into our lives and the lives of our students.

In addition to our workshops, we have scheduled interactive forums where we can share with colleagues our experiences, issues, and successes in the classroom. This, and much more, will be included in RSC's February Conference, 2016.

I look forward to visiting with all of you.

Edmund Knighton, PhD  
Director, Rudolf Steiner College

## Dennis Klocek

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER** As Director of RSC's Consciousness Studies Program since 1992, Dennis is engaged in research, teaching, and writing in many fields, including weather, gardening, color therapy, meditation and the human organism, embryology, and sensory transformation.



He is the author of *Bio-Dynamic Book of Moons, Weather and Cosmology, Drawing from the Book of Nature, Seeking Spirit Vision, The Seer's Handbook: A Guide To Higher Perception, Climate: Soul of the Earth, and Sacred Agriculture: The Alchemy of Biodynamics*. His website, DocWeather.com, "is based on a climatic technique that interfaces daily weather data from the National Weather Service into a geometrical system that is the result of twenty-four years of experimental work."

**Dennis will be presenting 3 keynotes:**

### **Cultivating Imagination**

To achieve self-control a strategy is needed to build competence. Competence is the balance between freedom (sense of autonomy) and compliance (unconscious reaction). An effective approach to competence is to learn to build inner pictures that can be tested by the self. This requires exploration of unconscious motives by working with symbols of personal feelings in a conscious rhythmic practice of sleeping and waking. This process promotes the awakening of living picture imagination.

### **The Gift of Inspiration**

The stage of inspiration is a deepening of living picture imagination. It requires a radical departure from habitual polarized views of life. Rudolf Steiner calls this state of mind flexibility of soul, the doorway to inspiration. We will address methods for meeting the challenge of striving to transform fixed unconscious beliefs into a dynamic path of knowing. Flexibility of soul leads to trust in life.

### **Intuition and the Human Spirit**

Trust in life is the prerequisite for building a personal relationship to an inspiring spiritual being. Finding, testing and finally trusting the spiritual world and its exalted beings is a lifelong process that is known esoterically as intuition. We will explore motifs and patterns found in the visible world that can be used as signposts for navigating through invisible yet vibrant spiritual worlds.

## Learning to Trust - Trusting to Learn

### SATURDAY PRE-CONFERENCE

**Dr. Toby Zundel** | How can we understand young people today? Toby will discuss the theory and developmental aspects of epistemic trust and how it underlies pedagogical processes. How does this fit with our wider understanding of child development and psychopathology from conventional and Waldorf perspectives? Mentalization, theory of mind, and empathy will be considered as specific markers of a young person's development with respect to how they engage with learning. Role-play and experiential teaching exercises are featured throughout the sessions and will consolidate and bring theory to life.

Dr. Zundel is a Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist trained in Mentalization Based Treatment. Dr. Zundel also co-developed a new approach to the therapeutic assessment of adolescent self-harm, based on Cognitive Analytic Therapy and aims to improve engagement. He has been a contributor in the British Anthroposophic Doctors Training and Mental Health Seminar. Dr. Zundel currently works as Consultant (Attending) Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist for the South London and Maudsley Trust's Supported Discharge Service, part of the National and Specialist CAMHS services. In addition to his clinical work Dr. Zundel teaches both nationally and internationally as well as remaining active as a researcher.

# Workshops

OUR WORKSHOPS have been designed to allow you the gift of immersion in your chosen activity through four 90-minute sessions over three days. We have 15 workshops to choose from, please select and register early as many workshops have a limit on the number of participants.

## **Inclusive Classrooms**

*Megan Sullivan and Kelly McNeely Nutting*

We find ourselves at a time where the conversations about gender non-conforming, transgender, and sexual orientation are finally being heard. Our schools are educating students (and have always) who do not fit within the binary gender constructs and do not identify with the gender they were assigned to at birth. We are also educating students that do not fit within the heteronormative cis-gendered dominant culture. How do we begin to have an inclusive classroom where all our youth are seen and reflected in the curriculum? This workshop will be centered around identity, sexuality, and the work, we as teachers, need to do to make sure our classrooms and curriculum are inclusive. We will facilitate open discussions to explore inclusive classrooms, the inner work of the teacher, and ways to teach controversial subjects with more ease.

## **Bringing the Classroom Outside**

*Annie Bosque*

Why do children spend so much time indoors? What are the benefits of experiencing the natural world? We will connect with nature and reflect on personal experiences and how this aligns to the teachings of Rudolf Steiner. Dress appropriately for the weather and be ready to explore the outdoors.

## **Kindling the Flame: Making Candleholders**

*Todd White*

We will create a variety of candleholders through shapes and nature. We will move from incorporating natural materials to building an understanding of form and function through shaping and carving. This will be an outside workshop so wear boots and appropriate clothing.

## **Weaving Webs and Skipping Threads**

*Kim White*

We will explore legends, myths, history and practical arts as they relate to the ancient art of weaving. Cultures through time, embodying their own inspiration and imagination, have used archetypal motifs, patterns, and symbolism to express deeper spiritual meanings within this craft. We will explore the history and rhythms of weaving as we work with natural materials and fiber to create our own personal webs of imagination.

## **Biodynamic Foodways**

*Jim Bowen*

Reimagine your local food supply to build resilient communities. Join us as we embark on a hands-on journey exploring untapped resources of nutrient-dense food in our local landscape. We will explore ways to utilize wild food, gleaned, perennial forests, micro farms, and farm-to-consumer models to change the way we look at our nutrition. We will also demonstrate simple biodynamic practices that can help both us and those we teach become model stewards of the earth.

## **Morphology in Motion**

*Maureen Curran*

Join Transformative Movement Education colleagues for a journey of phenomenological practice as we move through the processes of creative nature-based movement curriculum development. Inside and outside of the classroom. Please be prepared to move vigorously.

## **Meeting the Future in Waldorf Education**

*Betty Staley*

We will explore the challenge of addressing Waldorf curriculum within the diversity of American culture. How are our schools relating to the community, country, and continent? How much are we still carrying the curriculum that was created for 1920's Germany? What do we need to deepen when taking risks in re-imagining the curriculum? Participants are encouraged to bring examples of curriculum from kindergarten through high school.

## **Classroom Activities: Grades 1 - 4**

*Ingun Schneider*

Rudolf Steiner told us that we need to teach children to breathe and to sleep. Moving and speaking forward and backward impacts on remembering and forgetting, while also influencing children's sleep. We will explore ways to improve breathing, thinking, and memory through exercises that also address the foundational senses of touch, life, self-movement and (static) balance.

## **Imagination: Moving from Semblance to Reality**

*Dennis Klocek*

Dennis will offer exercises to develop an active relationship to the conscious production of inner images. The use of symbols and storytelling sequences that can be linked to the powerful backward evening review process will be the basis of each day's exercises. Presentations will include the neurology of sensation and the importance of sleep and dream in creative pursuits.

## **Embryology Clay Modeling: Metamorphosis of Life**

*Patricia Dickson*

The modeling of an embryo is a path of seven stages that allows the individual to experience each gesture of this complex and magnificent symphony of forces in the development of the nascent human being in a profound and enduring way.

## **Building a Personal Relationship to Nature**

*Matias Baker*

We will transform observations into inner experience and develop a "participatory consciousness" with natural phenomena. We will be guided by the Kingdoms of Nature and enter into these realms through exercises in morphological thinking and practices found in Biodynamic alchemy.

## **Magic in the Moment: Theater Technique for Structured Spontaneity**

*Luisa Burgess*

Using script analysis, partner exercises and scene rehearsal, this workshop offers a step-by-step process to turn dramatic text into do-able action. Useful for plays, presentations, and public speaking, these tools can be taught to seventh graders and above. For adults, this artistic experience can serve as a reflective vessel for the soul work described in keynote lectures.

## **For The Love of Rocks**

*Len Pisciotta*

How do we relate to the movement of the land around us? Geology is a science and an art. It requires intuitive thinking. Understanding how rocks link together requires an imagination of time. Geologists develop a sense for the forces of nature that work to build up or tear down rock. Through this, many come to develop reverence for nature. Join us as we walk the land and engage with the Earth through our senses - through drawing, writing, and work with pigments and clays.

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## WORKSHOPS, CONT'D

### Approaching Imagination Through Projective Geometry

Jeremy Strawn

Projective geometry is an invitation to guide our imagination in lawful patterns and processes, requiring that we move beyond form to participate in formative becoming. Through such participation, we can develop a new, geometric picture-language of forces active in us and the world. Our time together will be devoted to doing exercises with paper and pencil, and exploring how such pictures apply to our work. No mathematical experience necessary.

### Nourishing Faculties: Enlivening Meetings through Living Thinking

Edmund Knighton

How do we sustain a mood so our meetings result in full engagement in the topic? Effective meetings build community. We will provide a living process that you can take back to your faculty, including 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. It will be experiential.

## Taking Risks in the Classroom

David G. Jones | INTERACTIVE FORUM

Participants will gather in cohorts by subject (grade 3, language teachers, etc.) to explore how to take risks and learn to be adventurous in the classroom. A focus will be on teaching using playful imagination and bringing humor and joy to our students.

David G. Jones, Ph.D., Psychology and Adult Education has lectured, taught, and consulted in the US, Mexico, Canada, England, France, Austria, and Africa.

## Learning to Trust - Trusting to Learn

### SATURDAY PRE-CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

#### SATURDAY FEBRUARY 13

9:00 - 10:00	Pre-Conference Registration
10:00 - 12:30	Learning to Trust, Trusting to Learn with Toby Zundel
12:30 - 2:00	Lunch
2:00 - 2:30	Common Ground: Sharing a Vision of Transformative Education
2:30 - 4:00	Learning to Trust, Trusting to Learn with Toby Zundel

## Conference Schedule

### SUNDAY FEBRUARY 14

8:00 - 9:30	Breakfast
8:30 - 10:30	Registration
9:00 - 10:00	First Class
10:30 - 11:00	Opening Performance
11:00 - 12:30	Cultivating Imagination • Dennis Klocek 
12:30 - 2:00	Lunch
2:00 - 3:30	Workshops
3:30 - 4:00	Refreshments
4:00 - 5:30	Taking Risks in the Classroom INTERACTIVE FORUM
5:30 - 7:00	Dinner
7:00 - 9:00	Candlelight Social • Unwind with friends and live music

### MONDAY FEBRUARY 15

7:30 - 8:30	Breakfast
8:30 - 9:00	Interactive Drama
9:00 - 10:30	The Gift of Inspiration • Dennis Klocek 
10:30 - 11:00	Refreshments
11:00 - 12:30	Workshops
12:30 - 2:00	Lunch
2:00 - 3:30	Workshops
3:30 - 4:00	Refreshments
4:00 - 5:30	Taking Risks in the Classroom INTERACTIVE FORUM
5:30 - 7:00	Dinner
7:00 - 9:00	Candlelight Social • Unwind with friends and live music

### TUESDAY FEBRUARY 16

7:30 - 8:30	Breakfast
8:30 - 9:00	Interactive Drama
9:00 - 10:30	Intuition and the Human Spirit • Dennis Klocek 
10:30 - 11:00	Refreshments
11:00 - 12:30	Workshops
12:30 - 2:00	Lunch
2:00 - 3:30	Conversation with Dennis Klocek

# Registration

REGISTER ONLINE at [febconf.com](http://febconf.com) Individuals and groups may register online.

The conference fee is \$225 through Friday, February 5 and \$250 thereafter. Groups of 8 or more who register online together at the same time will receive a \$25 discount per person. You may also pre-purchase meals online while registering, or you may purchase online later. Meals should be purchased in advance to guarantee availability and selection.

The pre-conference, **Dr. Toby Zundel | Learning to Trust - Trusting to Learn**, on Saturday February 13 is a separate fee of \$60, and includes lunch.

Registrations, modifications, additions, and meal purchases are processed online only. Payment methods include Visa, MasterCard, check, and purchase order. Workshops are limited, please register and select early.

**Assistance:** [conf@steinercollege.edu](mailto:conf@steinercollege.edu) or **916 864 4864**

## 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!*
- **Marriott Rancho Cordova**  
11211 Point East Drive  
Rancho Cordova, CA | 916 638 1100
- **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

## Meals

Breakfast, lunch, and dinner will be served at **Clara's Counter**. Please pre-purchase when you register online to ensure availability.

## Transportation

### SuperShuttle

Local operator is Jun Mateo.

Set up reservations with Jun by phone 916 224 3783 or by e-mail [junmateo@yahoo.com](mailto:junmateo@yahoo.com).

Let him know you are reserving transportation for a conference at Rudolf Steiner College.

### Rudolf Steiner College

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