

AERO's 25th Anniversary Conference

June, 26th - 29th 2014 | LIU Post University | New York

Schedule

Wednesday, June 25th

- 12:00am-2:00pm – School Visits
- 5:00pm-9:00pm – Registration

Thursday, June 26th

- 8:00am-10:30am – Yoga, Breakfast, Networking, Tabling, Bookstore, Registration
- 10:30am-12:00pm – Workshop Group A
- 12:00pm-1:30pm – Lunch
- 1:30pm-3:00pm – Workshop Group B
- 3:00pm-3:30pm – Break
- 3:30pm-5:00pm – Workshop Group C
- 5:00pm-6:30pm – Dinner
- 6:45pm-7:00pm – Comedy: 16-year-old Lucian talks about homeschool stereotypes
- 7:00pm-8:30pm – Keynote: Lenore Skenazy with a book signing to follow

Friday, June 27th

- 8:00am-10:30am – Yoga, Breakfast, Networking, Tabling, Bookstore, Registration
- 10:30am-12:00pm – Workshop Group D
- 12:00pm-1:30pm – Lunch
- 1:30pm-3:00pm – Workshop Group E
- 3:00pm-3:30pm – Break
- 3:30pm-5:00pm – Workshop Group F
- 5:00pm-6:30pm – Dinner
- 6:30pm-7:00pm – Keynote: Justo Méndez Arámburu
- 7:00pm-8:30pm – Keynote: Jerry Mintz
- 9:00pm-11:00pm – Musical Entertainment

Wednesday (Continued)

- 7:30pm-9:00pm – Documentary: "If There is Reason to Study." A new documentary by teenaged Taiwanese alternative school student Adler Yang

Saturday, June 28th

- 8:00am-9:30am – Yoga, Breakfast, Networking, Tabling, Bookstore, Registration
- 9:30am-10:30am – Workshop Group G
- 10:30am-11:00am – Keynote: Ramchandra Das
- 11:00am-12:15pm – Keynote: Zoë Neill Readhead
- 12:15pm-1:45pm – Lunch
- 1:45pm-3:15pm – Workshop Group H
- 3:30pm-5:00pm – Workshop Group I
- 5:00pm-6:30pm – Dinner
- 6:30pm-8:00pm – Keynote: Ron Miller

Sunday, June 29th

- 8:00am-10:30am – Yoga, Breakfast, Networking, Tabling, Bookstore, Registration
- 10:30am-12:00pm – Workshop Group J
- 12:00pm-1:30pm – Lunch
- 1:30pm-3:00pm – Keynote: Brooklyn Free School
- 3:00pm – Closing Evaluation

Keynotes, entertainment, and all non-workshop events will be held in the Hillwood Theater unless otherwise noted.

Workshops

Group A: Thursday, 10:30am

- **1) One man's journey from "in the box" rigid schooling to his own not-for-profit global warming organization**
Douglas E. Wight – Humanities 110
- **2) Jean-Jacques Rousseau's Emile: Roots of Today's Alternative Forest**
Kirk Cunningham – Humanities 113
- **3) Coming Alive with Full Circle Learning**
Linda C. Aronson, M.Ed. OTR – Humanities 125
- **4) Progressive Approaches to Standardized Testing**
Zachary Katz – Humanities 129
- **5) Decentering Child-Centered and Learner-Centered Education**
Richard C. Pipan – Humanities 109
- **6) The Power and Potential of Holistic Education**
Connie Giffin – Humanities 115

Group B: Thursday, 1:30pm

- **1) Technology's Role in Self-determined Learning**
Rocco Ricci – Humanities 110
- **2) Respect in The Early Years: Learner centered education 0-5**
Jennifer McDonald – Humanities 113
- **3) Supporting Education Through Community Engagement**
Sienna Wildfield – Humanities 125
- **4) Supporting the Unschooling Journey**
Amy Childs – Humanities 129
- **5) Teaching Styles and Student Empowerment**
Liz Simpson – Humanities 109

Group C: Thursday, 3:30pm

- **1) Agile Learning Centers: Self-Directed Learning for the 21st Century**
Tomis Parker and Nancy Tilton – Humanities 110
- **2) Hair-Tugs, Laughs, and Tears: Embracing Big Feelings.**
Angela Sillars, Rosie Frost, Antonia Chihuahua – Humanities 113
- **3) Becoming Self-Directed: Developing Your Personal Health Story Into a Narrative.**
Carol Nash – Humanities 115
- **4) Learn Local & Build Your Community Network: Best of Buffalo Urban Immersion**
Megan Mills Hoffman – Humanities 129
- **5) Sustainable High School Change**
Carolyn Albracht, Elisabeth Reinkordt, Ana M. Rivero – Humanities 109
- **6) Ready, Set, Teach: Preparing to Teach in an Alternative or Democratic School**
Dr. Loren Thomas – Humanities 125

Group D: Friday, 10:30am

- **1) Free School & Authentic Alternative Learning Settings Research Methods & Challenges**
Kirk Cunningham – Humanities 110
- **2) Is There Critical Mass to Create a College AERO Caucus?**
David Marshak – Humanities 113
- **3) Montessori Education as Learner-Centered Education**
Sandy Gannon & Susanne Peebles – Humanities 125
- **4) Staying Conscious as a Homeschooling Parent**
Connie Allen, M.A. – Humanities 129
- **5) Reading from A School Must Have a Heart, With Book Signing to Follow**
Chris Mercogliano – Humanities 109
- **6) Open Shop at Parts and Crafts & the Center for Semi-Conducted Learning**
Kelly Taylor, Will Macfarlane, Katie Gradowski, Bryce Taylor,
Kieran Mead-Ward, Zach Hirschtritt – Humanities 115

Group E: Friday, 1:30pm

- **1) AERO School Starter Workshop**
Jerry Mintz and Chris Mercogliano – Humanities 109
- **2) An Introduction to SelfDesign**
David Marshak – Humanities 110
- **3) The Limbic Loop: Listening Partnerships and Parent/Teacher Resource Groups**
Brenda Ilowit – Humanities 113
- **4) Holistic education and the brain: Using neuroscience to empower your practice.**
Abigail L. Larrison, PhD, EdD – Humanities 125
- **5) The Oak Meadow Scale of Student Autonomy**
Ben Mitchell – Humanities 129
- **6) Setting Personal Boundaries that Empower Young People**
Connie Allen, M.A. – Humanities 115

Group F: Friday, 3:30pm

- **1) Teaching social sciences and environmental education in a consent-based educational setting**
Marc-Alexandre Prud'homme – Humanities 110
- **2) Better Together: How to Build a Collaborative Local Community of Alternative Educators**
Teri Sperry – Humanities 113
- **3) Teens Explain How School is Optional**
Current members of North Star and Princeton Learning Cooperative – Humanities 125
- **4) A Study of Unschooled Adults**
Gina Riley & Peter Gray – Humanities 109
- **5) Giving Kids All That We Know Now!**
Dara Van Laanen – Humanities 129

Group G: Saturday, 9:30am

- **1) High School Dropout to Harvard: My Life with Dyslexia**
John D Rodrigues – Humanities 110
- **2) Exploring Democratic Early Education In Refugee Populations (aka “New Americans”)**
Meredith Bartolo – Humanities 113
- **3) Freedom To Educate and Education Equality. Practical Approaches.**
Amir Notea – Humanities 125
- **4) Experiencing Awareness Through the Body**
Margo W. MacLeod – Humanities 109
- **5) Creating A Network Learning Hub**
Zahra Lightway – Humanities 129
- **6) Prescription for a Healthy School**
Peter Berg – Humanities 115

Group H: Saturday, 1:45pm

- **1) Community, Ambiguity, Emotionality, and the Other Intangibles: Resources to Bring Music-Making into Your Learning Community**
Jill Hogan – Humanities 110
- **2) Challenging Educational Advancement Protocol-Beat the Mathematics Gatekeeper**
Jessica London Jacobs – Humanities 113
- **3) Liberated Learners: Making self-directed learning possible for all children and teens**
Kenneth Danford, Catherine Gobron, Joel Hammon, Alison Snieckus – Humanities 125
- **4) Montessori Math Materials for Children ages 2 - 5+**
Katharina Finkmann – Humanities 129
- **Join the AERO Alternative Educators of Color Caucus**
Kyja Wilburn – Humanities 109
- **Indigenizing Mainstream Education Bringing Democratic Education to More Communities,**
Nikhil Goyal – Humanities 115

Group I: Saturday, 3:30pm

- **1) Reframing education as “initiation:” Schools and communities as places for rites of passage.**
David G. Blumenkrantz, Ph.D., Ed.M. – Brian Evarts, MSS – Humanities 110
- **2) Education Uncensored: Child-led Learning Techniques in the Classroom**
Laurie Block Spigel – Humanities 113
- **3) From Blackboards to Drawing Boards - Enlivening the abstract through engineering design and prototyping.**
Aditya KumaraKrishnan, Arun KumaraKrishnan, Richard Glover, Akinsheye Dorsett – Humanities 125
- **4) Curriculum in Context: Violence Prevention for All**
Dr. Crystallee Crain – Humanities 129

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- **5) Robert's Rules of Order...How to Teach Democratic Decision Making to Children from Kindergarten to the 5th Grade**
Ted Weisgal – Humanities 109

Group J: Sunday, 10:30am

- **1) School as Community; Community as School**
Chris Mercogliano – Humanities 109
- **2) How do each of us learn best?**
Carlo Ricci – Humanities 115
- **3) Invitation to Innovation: Inquiry Exploration in a Nutshell**
Lavonne Hunter – Humanities 113
- **4) Embracing Uncertainty, Creating Conversation, Supporting Development**
Gwen Lowenheim – Humanities 125
- **6) Don't Praise Me: What you can say instead.**
Jennifer McDonald – Humanities 129

Information

Emergency & General Contact Info

Jerry Mintz, (516) 978-7812

Campus Security: (516) 299-2214 for non emergencies (late arrival, etc) and (516) 299-2222 for emergencies.

Wireless Internet Access

Please have your guests select the LIUNET wireless internet account from the wireless connection list. Open your internet browser which should redirect you to the LIU wireless login page. Please enter the username (aeroconf) and password (aeroconf) and from the dropdown menu, select "guest" (student is the default). Please select "I agree" to the terms for wireless usage agreement. If you have any question you may call Information Technology at (516) 299-2281 or email at Post-it@liu.edu.

Food

Meals can be purchased at LIU's Hillwood Cafeteria. The director told us he will work with vegetarians, vegans and those who need gluten-free foods, but you must contact him immediately with your needs at (516) 299-3668. He also said they would arrange to have sushi. This is all on your own. You can order out or eat out if you want.

Child Care

We will be providing childcare each day of the conference (Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and half of Sunday) for children ages 3-11. Child care is included in the cost of your child's registration fee of \$100.

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Public Transportation Information

Long Island Railroad (LIRR) Website for Schedule: lirr42.mta.info/

Public Bus Information: (516) 228-4000

We also suggest using maps.google.com to plan your transportation itinerary.

Bus

The N20 bus from the Hicksville Long Island Railroad (LIRR) station leaves at 9:21am and should arrive at 9:35am at the LIU campus. If people in New York City take the 8:14am train from Penn Station, which arrives at 9:00am, you should be able to take the bus with no problem. There's also an 8:28am train which arrives at 9:16am, but that's cutting it close to catch the 9:21am bus. You can take a bus or taxi from the Econolodge to the campus. To take the bus from the Econolodge to LIU campus walk east on Old Country Road to the first bus stop and take the N24 for 8 minutes getting off at the Hicksville LIRR Station. Alternatively you can walk 1.4 miles east on Duffy Avenue to the train station. Then Transfer to the N20 and ride for 17-20 minutes to the campus.

Taxi

We've made arrangement with Stuart's of Westbury Taxi Company so they will transport people from the train and from the Econolodge for just \$6 each way. The usual rate is \$25. **Important note:** their company is at the Westbury LIRR stop, one stop before Hicksville. So you would get off at Westbury, not Hicksville. This is actually closer to the Econolodge and the LIU campus. They request that you call ahead so they will be ready and know the number coming. The taxi number is (516) 333-1111. The manager, Tommy's cell phone is (516) 474-6602 if you have any issues. You should say that you are from the AERO Conference.

Special AERO Rate for Avis Rental Car

Several years ago an unknown AERO member signed us up for a corporate account with Avis, giving us big discounts and free days based on usage. I just contacted the company and they said it would be fine for us to extend the benefit to people in the AERO network, especially to those coming to the AERO conference, but actually anyone in our network can use it. It gives you 30% discounts, free upgrades, and other perks. Make sure you also mention AAA, AARP, etc. if applicable. You will often receive a better rate than anything you can find on Expedia, Travelocity etc. **AERO's Avis Worldwide Discount (AWD) Number is S046293.**

***** Save the Date! *****

AERO's Start a School Online Course

The 2014-2015 Start a School online course begins September, 22nd 2014. This year, for the first time, college credit is available. Space is limited to only 25 participants.

Contact jerryaero@aol.com for more information or visit educationrevolution.org.



AERO Membership

Become a new member or renew your membership today!

Your membership ensures that AERO can help educational alternatives survive and thrive around the world. Join our unique community today!

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Individual	\$40.00	\$34.00 (15% discount!)	x _____ = _____	
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Subtotal: _____

Shipping: Free

Total: _____

AERO membership is available for individuals and schools around the world who would like to help realize an education revolution. Individual and school members receive access to our global listserve and an extensive video library of speeches and interviews with some of the most famous and influential voices of the alternative education movement.

Members also enjoy discounts in our bookstore and to our annual AERO conference. Schools and organizations can post their website links as well as job listings on AERO's website, one of the most heavily trafficked sites online for people searching for information about educational alternatives (over 600,000 views annually). For a full listing of member benefits, please visit educationrevolution.org.



Donate to AERO

All contributions are tax-deductible.

Donate \$50 or more (one-time or yearly recurring total) and you will receive free individual membership in AERO and a free ebook of your choice.

It is only through the financial support of individuals like yourself that AERO can help educational alternatives survive and thrive around the world.

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*Turning Points, One Size Does Not Fit All,
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