

**Consuming Kids Summit:
Market Values, Human Values and the Lives of Children**
April 8-10, 2010 – Wheelock College, Boston

Presenter Bios

ENOLA AIRD, JD

Enola G. Aird is an activist mother. She is the founder and director of Mothers for a Human Future, a new initiative focused on fighting the forces promoting the commercialization of childhood and the commodification of children.

MIKE BRODY, MD

Dr. Brody is a child and adult psychiatrist in private practice, who is the Chair of the Media Committee of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Liaison to the American Academy of Pediatrics Council on Media and Public Education. He teaches Children and the Media at the University of Maryland and just published a book *Messages: Self Help Through Popular Culture*.

NANCY CARLSSON-PAIGE, EDD

Nancy Carlsson-Paige is a professor of early childhood education at Lesley University and an advocate for policies and practices that promote children's well being. Nancy is the author of five books, and numerous articles on media violence, conflict resolution, peaceable classrooms and global education. Her most recent book is called *Taking Back Childhood: A Proven Roadmap for Raising Confident, Creative, Compassionate Kids*.

JULIA CHEN

Julia Chen is the owner of The Playstore, which she founded in 1994 as a source for quality wooden, open-ended toys made with integrity, craftsmanship, and care for the environment. She also actively speaks in the community about play and its importance. The retail store is located in Palo Alto, California, and the online store is at www.playstoretoys.com.

STEVIE CONVERSE

Stevie Converse is the multimedia manager for Free Press. She oversees in-house video and audio productions, the Free Press newswire and the *Media Reform Daily*. She also writes, produces and co-hosts *Media Minutes*, the weekly radio podcast about media and democracy.

RICHARD FREED, PHD

Richard Freed is a child psychologist who speaks nationally on the health effects of children's media use. His work has appeared in the journal *Pediatrics* and *Mothering Magazine*, and he has been quoted in *The Boston Globe* and other news publications. He lives in Walnut Creek, California with his wife and two daughters.

MARTHA BETTIS GEE, MS

Martha Bettis Gee is Associate for Child Advocacy, Presbyterian Church (USA). She has written or edited several mission studies for both children and youth as well as many articles on children's issues and is the author of *For Your Children: Creating Communities of Faith in Our Families*. She holds a B.A. from Rhodes College, Memphis, TN, an M.S. from the University of Tennessee and has done post-baccalaureate work in gifted education and early childhood education at the University of Florida.

JOSH GOLIN, MA

Josh Golin is the Associate Director of Campaign for a Commercial-Free Childhood.

TAMARA ALMOROSO GONÇALVES

Tamara Amoroso Gonçalves is a graduate of the law program at the Catholic University at Sao Paulo (PUC-SP) and a Human Rights researcher at the Human Rights Master's Program at Sao Paulo University. For more than 2 years, she's been working at Alana Institute, which counters the harmful effects of commercialism on Brazilian children.

NANCY GRUVER

Nancy Gruver is founder of the groundbreaking international online community and magazine for girls ages 8 and up, *New Moon Girls*, author of *How To Say It® To Girls: Communicating With Your Growing Daughter* (Penguin Putnam, 2004) and blogs on girls' issues, parenting, and media. www.newmoon.com & www.daughters.com.

KENDRA HODGSON

Kendra Hodgson is the Director of Marketing & Distribution at the Media Education Foundation. She has conducted media education workshops at numerous conferences and schools, worked as a media education consultant for schools in the Pioneer Valley of Western Massachusetts, and served on the board of the Action Coalition for Media Education. A former high school teacher, she is also a Certified Phoenix Rising Yoga Therapy Practitioner and a hatha yoga teacher.

MINDY HOLOHAN

Mindy Holohan is a founding member of Stop Targeting Our Kids (STOK), a West Michigan coalition for children's freedom from advertising. She has a degree in Early Childhood Education from Columbia College Chicago and the Erikson Institute and has taught and studied in traditional, Waldorf, and Reggio Emilia classrooms. Her experiences as a teacher and mother provide major impetus for examining the role of media and marketing in the lives of children.

TIM KASSER, PHD

Dr. Kasser is Professor & Chair of psychology at Knox College in Galesburg, IL. He is author of *The High Price of Materialism* and co-editor of *Psychology and Consumer Culture: The Struggle for a Good Life in a Materialistic World*.

JOE KELLY

Joe Kelly is fathering coordinator for The Emily Program, a Minnesota eating disorders treatment program. The author of seven books, including *Dads & Daughters®: How to Inspire, Understand, and Support Your Daughter*, he co-founded the girl-edited, ad-free media company New Moon Girl Media (www.NewMoon.com) and the national advocacy group Dads & Daughters. The father of adult daughters, he serves on CCFC's steering committee.

BRANDY KING, MLIS

Ms. King is the Librarian at the Center on Media and Child Health (CMCH) at Children's Hospital Boston. She received her BA from Smith College and has been working with CMCH since she received her Masters in Library Science from Simmons College in 2003. Ms. King is responsible for the creation and maintenance of the CMCH Database of Research, a free online database that brings together literature on media and child health from 11 academic disciplines. She is also responsible for maintaining CMCH's online presence including Ask the Mediatrician, Twitter, and Facebook.

SHARON LAMB, EDD

Sharon Lamb is Distinguished Professor of Mental Health at UMass Boston. She is the co-author of *Packaging Girlhood* with Lyn Mikel Brown and *Packaging Boyhood* with Lyn Mikel Brown and Mark Tappan. She also writes on media and sexual violence, healthy sexual development, and is working on a Sexual Ethics Curriculum for high schoolers. Living in Vermont, she is a practicing psychologist and has two grown/growing sons.

VELMA LAPOINT, PHD

Dr. LaPoint is an associate professor in the Department of Human Development and Psychoeducational Studies, School of Education, Howard University. She conducts research on commercialism in the lives of children and has a particular interest in this topic as it relates to children of color and poor children.

DIANE LEVIN, PHD

Diane E. Levin is Professor of Education at Wheelock College in Boston, Massachusetts, where she teaches a service learning course on the reconciliation process underway in schools in Northern Ireland and a summer institute on "Media

Madness and Children.” She is the author or co-author of eight books including: *So Sexy So Soon: The New Sexualized Childhood and What Parents Can Do to Protect Their Kids*, *The War Play Dilemma*, *Teaching Young Children in Violent Times*, and *Remote Control Childhood*. She is a founder of Campaign for a Commercial-Free Childhood and Teachers Resisting Unhealthy Children’s Entertainment.

SUSAN LINN, EDD

Susan Linn is co-founder and director of The Campaign for a Commercial-Free Childhood and a psychologist at Harvard Medical School. An award-winning producer, writer, and puppeteer, she is the author of *The Case for Make Believe: Saving Play in a Commercialized World*, and *Consuming Kids: The Hostile Takeover of Childhood*, and is an internationally recognized expert on creative play and the commercialization of childhood.

NANCY MARSDEN

Nancy Marsden is the coordinator of Fairness and Integrity in Telecommunications Media (www.FITMedia.org). Nancy’s research on the economics, psychology and social impact of product placement and branded entertainment spans more than 15 years. In 2008, she filed documents supporting the FCC’s proposed ban on product placement in children’s television, both as an individual and as coordinator of FIT Media Coalition, a broad-based consortium of 50 health, media and child advocacy organizations and professionals. Nancy Marsden’s volunteer efforts are informed by 20 years of teaching experience, a background in screenwriting and inside knowledge of the entertainment industry. She has published articles on youth and media in the *Los Angeles Times*, the *San Francisco Examiner*, the *Christian Science Monitor* and the *Washington Post*. She blogs on the *HuffingtonPost* as N.E. Marsden.

SHARON MAXWELL, PHD

Sharon Maxwell is a clinical psychologist specializing in teens and author of the award-winning book *The Talk: What Your Kids Need To Hear From YOU About Sex* (Avery 2008), now published in Italy, Poland, and main-land China. She is a frequent lecturer on topics of media influence in all areas of family life and has been interviewed by NPR, *Time Magazine*, *US New and World Report* and Oprah and Friends.

BOB MCKINNON, MA

Bob McKinnon is the Founder and President of YELLOWBRICKROAD, a company that designs social change through programming, communications, advocacy and action. Most recently, he created and edited *Actions Speak Loudest*, a non-profit book project that delves into the heart of thirty-two issues, ranging from childhood obesity to climate change, that are critical to the well-being of the next generation. He has also created two documentary films addressing the role of media in our children’s lives. McKinnon earned his B.A. at Penn State University and received his M.A. in Media Studies from the New School; he lives in New York City with his wife and two young daughters.

GERALYN BYWATER MCLAUGHLIN, MED

Geralyn Bywater McLaughlin is the Founder and Director of Empowered by Play, www.empoweredbyplay.org. A classroom teacher for 19 years, Geralyn became a play advocate in response to her classroom observations of children who were forced to grow up too quickly in the current commercialized, plugged-in culture. Compelled to become more active in the role of protecting and promoting imaginative play, she began writing and speaking out. Geralyn is on the steering committee of TRUCE, an active member of CCFC, and a founding teacher of the Mission Hill School in Roxbury, MA. Geralyn is also the mother of twin sons who are currently in kindergarten.

DIANNA MORTON

Dianna Morton is a passionate media literacy activist, a high school media literacy teacher, and facilitator for the Human Rights Academy at Cape Cod Regional Technical High School. She just completed her MA thesis in the need for a multi-generation holistic media literacy curriculum and is currently working on the Hegemony Project, a documentation of students’ intellectual experiences and visceral responses as they explore media and the systems that generate media.

ADNAN ADAM ONART, PHD

Adnan Onart is a Turkish-American poet living in Boston, MA. He earned his Ph D in philosophy from the University of Istanbul and conducted postdoctoral research as an Alexander von Humboldt Scholar at University of Frankfurt. His academic experience includes Middle East Technical University, University of Ankara, University of Colorado at Denver.

After a long career in software industry, he is returning to academe as an adjunct faculty at Boston University to teach history of Islam. Adnan Onart is a published poet in English with poems chronicling his childhood in Istanbul.

ALEX PETERSON

Alex Peterson is the Marketing Coordinator at the Media Education Foundation. She writes MEF's monthly e-newsletter and email outreach, conducts strategic outreach and communications, and manages MEF's social networking sites. She holds a B.A. in theatre from the University of Puget Sound.

ALVIN F. POUSSAINT, MD

Dr. Poussaint is Director of the Media Center of the Judge Baker Children's Center; professor of psychiatry and faculty associate dean of student affairs at Harvard Medical School; co-author with Amy Alexander of *Lay My Burden Down: Suicide and the Mental Health Crisis Among African-Americans*, Beacon Press, 2000; and co-author with Bill Cosby of *Come On People: On the Path from Victims to Victors*, Thomas Nelson, 2007.

ESTELA RENNER, MFA

Estela Renner, Brazilian, has written and directed television, film and web projects in both Brazil and the U.S. She wrote and directed the documentary *Criança, a Alma do Negócio* (translation: *Target Market: Kids*). The film was shown on the floor of the Brazilian Senate in full session, officially commented upon by the Brazilian Minister of Environment Marina Silva, and reviewed by Brazil's two major daily newspapers as well as several national magazines. The documentary exposed the common practice in Brazil of TV commercials targeting kids and the negative effect this has on Brazilian children's infancy, education and environment. The documentary aired on four different national TV stations in Brazil during 2009. Estela lives between New York City and Sao Paulo.

MARY ROTHSCHILD

Mary Rothschild is Executive Director of Healthy Media Choices, a non-profit organization providing resources for the intentional use of media in the environments of children ages birth through fourth grade: www.healthymediachoice.org. She also facilitates Witness for Childhood: communities respond to the commercialization of childhood www.witnessforchildhood.org.

MICHELE SIMON, JD, MPH

Michele Simon is a public health lawyer specializing in policy analysis, legal strategies, and countering corporate tactics. With 10 years of experience researching and writing about the food industry, Ms. Simon is the author of *Appetite for Profit: How the Food Industry Undermines Our Health and How to Fight Back*. She is currently watchdogging the alcohol industry as Marin Institute's research and policy director. Ms. Simon is a regular speaker on both food and alcohol policy at various national and international conferences. Ms. Simon received her law degree from University of California, Hastings College of the Law, and obtained her master's degree in public health from Yale University.

DIONNE STEPHENS, PHD

Dr. Stephens is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychology and African Diaspora Studies program at Florida International University in Miami, Florida. Her research examines socio-cultural factors shaping minority populations' sexual health processes, with emphasis on gender and ethnic/ racial identity development. Some of the issues Dr. Stephens has explored includes the role of Hip Hop culture on behavioral outcomes and the influence of skin color on identity development in diverse Black populations.

CECILIA VON FEILITZEN, PHD

Cecilia von Feilitzen is Professor in Media & Communication Studies at Södertörn University, Sweden, as well as Scientific Coordinator of The International Clearinghouse on Children, Youth and Media, at Nordicom, University of Gothenburg, Sweden. As a media researcher since 1964, she has published approximately 250 research reports, articles, and books in the field.