We Have the Will to Work!

Educating the Will for the 21st Century and Beyond

Co-sponsored by
RUDOLF STEINER COLLEGE

Friday, January 16, 2015
beginning at 7:00 PM through
Sunday, January 18, 2015
ending at 1:00 PM
at Rudolf Steiner College,
Fair Oaks, CA

Please join friends and colleagues for the 2015 Alliance Annual National Conference, an event at which teachers, administrators, parents, and board members from public Waldorf schools, charter schools, independent Waldorf schools and new initiatives from across the nation gather together for practical and renewing work.

This year we continue to deepen the theory and practice of Waldorf Education in the public sector as we further explore our role and responsibility in the education of the will. Deepening our knowledge of Waldorf pedagogy and the practical skills needed to teach the curriculum, we will bring new ideas and lessons back to our classrooms in the heart of the winter season.

Join us for a dynamic weekend rich with practical workshops, artistic opportunities, inspirational content and a chance to meet and share with teachers all over the country.

Continue reading to see what else the Alliance has planned for your winter re-charge!

KEYNOTE THEMES

Bente Goldstein

At this year’s conference, our esteemed colleague, Bente Goldstein, will take us through a series of talks on the nature of the will. She will bring her theoretical knowledge and share stories of practical experience, all designed to help us strengthen our will, deepen our understanding and enrich our practical approaches to educating the will of the students entrusted to us.

The three days will include these themes:

- What did Rudolf Steiner have to say about the will?
- Why is it important for human beings to have a strong, developed will?
- Why is it important for schools to help develop the will in children?
- How can schools develop the will in children?
- What are the consequences of not developing the will?
- What are the global benefits of strong will development?
- How has electronic media changed childhood and the development of the will?
- How can we help children acquire the confidence and integrity that comes from experience, from a sure knowing, that is the result of deeds accomplished?

Bente will offer presentations rich in theoretical, philosophical and practical content that will meet the needs of all who seek to bring Waldorf education to life today.

Plan to stay for the CLOSING PLENUM on Sunday, during which we will engage in an active period of question, answer and dialogue with our presenter.
**CONFERENCE SCHEDULE**

**FRIDAY, January 16**

Pre-Conference and Conference Opening

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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| 12:00-1:00 | Registration  
Lunch for Purchase at Clara's Counter                           |
| 1:15-5:15 | Pre-conference with **Edmund Knighton**, artisans and gardeners       |
| 5:15-6:45 | **DINNER** (included with Pre-conference fee)                         |

**SATURDAY, January 17**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:45-8:15</td>
<td>Eurythmy with <strong>Cynthia Hoven</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>Welcome and Introduction of Schools &amp; Auction Update</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00</td>
<td>Singing with <strong>Eva Cranstoun</strong></td>
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| 9:30-10:30 | **Keynote: Bente Goldstein**  
EDUCATION OF THE WILL                    |

**SUNDAY, January 18**

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<td>7:45-8:15</td>
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| 8:30-9:00 | RUDI TALKS: “Hot Topics”  
1. **Phil Arnold**: Circle of Seasons  
School, Allentown, PA  
2. **Oliver Cheney**: Meristen Venture  
3. **Thom Shaefer**: Credo High School’s Community Service Program   |
| 9:00-9:30 | Singing with **Eva Cranstoun**                                         |
| 9:30-10:30 | Sunday Keynote: **Bente Goldstein**  
NOW WHAT DO WE DO?           |

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:30-11:00</td>
<td><strong>BREAK</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>11:15-12:45</td>
<td>Workshops: Part 1</td>
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<td>1:00-2:15</td>
<td>LUNCH</td>
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<td>2:15-3:45</td>
<td>Breakout Sessions</td>
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<td>3:45-4:00</td>
<td>Tea and Coffee</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:15-5:45</td>
<td>Workshops, Part 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:45-7:15</td>
<td><strong>DINNER</strong></td>
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**AUCTION** closes at 6:45

- **7:15-9:00**: Evening Activities
  - Eurythmy Performance by **Credo Rose**
  - Performance by **Sacramento Waldorf School String Quartet**
  - “Fireside Chat” with **Betty Staley** and **Joan Almon**
  - Game Show: **Waldorf Jeopardy!**

**REGISTRATION BEGINS DECEMBER 1**

To register visit: [www.steinercollege.edu](http://www.steinercollege.edu)

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](http://www.allianceforpublicwaldorfeducation.org)

General conference questions? email: alliance.public.waldorf@gmail.com
KEYNOTER BIOGRAPHY

BENTE GOLDSMITH

Bente Goldstein is a Waldorf school graduate from Norway who comes from a long line of teachers. Her grandmother pioneered kindergartens in Norway and her mother was a Waldorf School teacher. Though she lives in Wisconsin on an organic farm, she spent most of her childhood attending Steiner schools both in Oslo and Bergen, Norway, intermittent with living in Lapland above the Arctic Circle.

She did her Waldorf training at Emerson College where she met her husband, a bio-dynamic researcher. After taking the first class through Prairie Hill Waldorf School in Wisconsin, she started teaching farm programs on her own farm and has been teaching them for 15 years. Her work in the classroom and observations of children working in farm activities has helped her form her theories of what will education is really about. She feels our educational task is to determine how to give the right amount of real work at the right age and for the right temperament…to make children grounded in the healthiest way for the present and future. She is presently writing a book called, *Childhood is a Verb!*

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP

**Friday, January 16, 2015  1:00-5:30 PM**

**THE WHATs, WHYs & HOWs Creating & Sustaining Meaningful Work for the Will**

Facilitated by **Edmund Knighton, Ph.D.**
with **Steve Payne**, Gardening, **Dolly Obertti**, Clay Modeling & **Johnny Finn Romero**, Woodworking

This unique opportunity will involve conversations and real work brought to you by people dedicated to their work and crafts. An overview will be brought by Edmund Knighton, PhD, a faculty member of Rudolf Steiner College and a man dedicated to developing the will in himself and other teachers who will bring this to their students.

Join us for a lively afternoon of practical work in farming/gardening, woodwork or clay modeling. Experts in these areas will help us all understand:

- What is meaningful work for the will?
- Why it is an important endeavor at school and home?
- How can you create and sustain this work at your school or home?

POST-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP

**Sunday, January 18, 2015  2:00 PM - 6:00 PM at Rudolf Steiner College**

**FINDING A SMARTER BALANCE Staying True to the Impulse of Waldorf Education in the Face of the Common Core**

Facilitated by **Mechelle Horning**, Principal of Alice Birney School in Sacramento City Unified School District with esteemed colleagues

This promises to be a lively post-conference afternoon that will involve conversations about a subject of interest to teachers and administrators whose schools teach the Waldorf curriculum while having to honor and test their students on the curriculum of the Common Core. An overview will be brought by Mechelle Horning, a woman who is dedicated to bringing the Waldorf curriculum to the nearly 500 students in Alice Burney School in the Sacramento City Unified District. Small group work will involve specifics of the curriculum through the grades.

Come hear what other teachers and schools are doing to Find a Smarter Balance and add your ideas about how to accomplish it all!
EURYTHMY

Cynthia Hoven will join us each morning for eurythmy sessions with a theme of Poetry through the Grades. Cynthia has been teaching eurythmy in all programs at Rudolf Steiner College for 25 years. She also works with adults and children internationally, as a eurythmy teacher, therapeutic eurythmist, mentor and coach, bringing a spirit of joy and love of movement to all she does. 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.

SINGING

Eva Cranstoun is a certified teacher and singing therapist of the “School of Uncovering the Voice”. Aside from more than 20 years of voice training, she has years of experience as a classroom teacher and an adult educator. As vocal performer, Waldorf educator and therapist, Eva has acquired a wide perspective and deep soul-understanding of the human voice that will lead us into the realm of social connection and understanding as we tune and sing together.

Visit Eva’s blog: http://soundintegrity.blogspot.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. BEYOND STICKS AND CARROTS
Facilitated by Stephen Spitalny
Resolving conflicts effectively with young children without shame or blame. In this workshop, we will learn how to teach young children skills for navigating conflicts through an understanding of the will in the child - and the adult. The social example of the adult can be taken up by the child’s will through imitation. How can we become worthy of imitation?

2. SINGING GAMES
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 appeal to all ages whether at home, in a classroom or faculty meeting. They are contagious joy.

3. HANDWORK: LUCET & KIMIHIMO
With Jennifer Tan
Learn the ancient cord-making arts of lucet, double lucet and kumihimo. EC teachers can create jump ropes, horse reins or belts for their children. Grades teachers can teach the techniques to their classes during handwork as a pre-knitting/crocheting/weaving skill, or within a unit on Vikings or Medieval history. Additional materials fee $25 collected on the day of the conference.

4. THE DEVELOPING WILL OF THE YOUNG CHILD
With Joan Almon
Young children learn to harness their will, in part, by imitating the purposeful work of the adult ~ both their outer actions and inner focus. We will explore the vital role of the preschool and kindergarten teacher in helping the will of the young child develop in positive, creative ways.
WORKSHOP OFFERINGS

5. CHALKBOARD DRAWING
With Jamie Lloyd
Using blackboard drawings to enhance your main lessons. Strengthen your confidence in creating blackboard drawings while building practical artistic skill.

6. THE IMPERFECT SINGING TEACHER: WAYS TO FIND JOY AND COURAGE FOR SINGING WITH YOUR CLASS
With Eva Cranstoun
Singing exercises, easy songs and lots of help for problem-solving and working around weak points. This will work for teachers of all grade levels.

7. THE SEVEN LEVELS OF WILL
Facilitated by Edmund Knighton
Moral use of will is a beautiful and mysterious future force of inspiration guided by heart-thinking. Why do we educate? To develop future will forces. Participants will experience sevenfold will (desire, motive, intent, resolve, etc.) and be able to apply practices with colleagues, parents and students.

8. JOURNEY SCHOOL’S DIGITAL MEDIA LITERACY PROGRAM (a.k.a. “Cyber Civics”)
Led by Shaheer Faltas, Diana Graber, Shelley Kelley and Patti Connolly
An overview of brain development of the middle age child and/or why Journey School decided to integrate digital media literacy into the curriculum. History of Cyber Civics, Interactive sample lessons in Digital Citizenship for 6th grade, Information Literacy lesson for 7th grade, and a Media Literacy lesson for 8th grade. Lesson handouts will also be provided. A panel discussion with multiple perspectives.

9. DRAWING ANIMALS
With Dru Smith Crain
We will approach the animal form from different points of view and deepen observation by looking at animals within the context of their landscapes. This course will be geared for teachers working with students in grades 1-6. No drawing experience needed.

10. WHAT IS THE NEW SELF-STUDY REQUIREMENT FOR ALLIANCE MEMBERS ALL ABOUT? (Part 1)
Facilitated by Charlie Burkham and George Hoffecker
Membership Committee members will lead us through the growth process of schools as it mirrors the growth of the human being. Then, George Hoffecker will present Appreciative Inquiry as one possible model that schools may use to engage in self-study.

PROGRAM QUALITY REVIEWS THROUGH APPRECIATIVE INQUIRY: A PROTOTYPE FOR ALLIANCE MEMBER SCHOOLS’ SELF REVIEWS (Part 2)
Facilitated by George Hoffecker and Donna Burgess
“The Appreciative Inquiry approach to a “program quality review” or self-study brings to light and life what the school looks like when it is operating at its best in key organizational domains and how it can use this information to both “grow the good” and plan effectively for improvements.”

11. TOWARD A NEW UNDERSTANDING OF CHILDREN WITH ATTENTION, LEARNING AND BEHAVIORAL CHALLENGES
Facilitated by Dr. Susan Johnson
Take an in-depth look at the 12 senses as expressed by Rudolf Steiner, putting special attention to the “lower” senses of life, touch, balance and movement. Explore how these lower, foundational senses are related to the development of children’s forces of will and their higher capacities for learning and imaginative thinking.

12. PAINTING THROUGH THE GRADES
With Rick Tan
Create a sampling of wet-on-wet watercolor paintings for grades 1-8 that progress in pedagogically appropriate skills and themes. Participants will leave the workshop with at least 4 paintings.
1. TRANSLATING ANTHROPOSOPHY FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHING AND GOVERNANCE

**Facilitated by Rainbow Rosenbloom**

Rudolf Steiner’s insights created the foundation for Waldorf education, yet the increasingly wide exposure brought by public school initiatives demands new thinking, understanding, and articulation. In this session, we will explore how to bring accessible meaning to our work, in an effort to create model vehicles for expressing our shared values in today’s complex world, without needing to speak in esoteric language.

2. WALDORF 101: ANSWERS TO YOUR QUESTIONS ABOUT WALDORF EDUCATION

**Facilitated by Liz Beaven, EdD, President Rudolf Steiner College**

A opportunity to bring your questions, great and small, about pedagogy, curriculum, community development, governance and the history of Waldorf education to an experienced educator.

3. DISCUSSION: GRADES 1–2

**Led by Sheila Reilly and Andrea Akmenkalns**

*Forming the Class:* How do you connect with students and parents in first and second grades? A networking opportunity for teachers.

4. DISCUSSION: GRADES 3–5

**Led by Lee Pope**

*Teaching Main Lessons:* What successes and resources can you share? A networking opportunity for teachers.

5. DISCUSSION: GRADES 6–8

**Led by Bill Kobabe**

*Social Challenges, Field Trips, and High School Prep:* Sharing Resources and successes. A networking opportunity for teachers.

6. ALL THE DIRT: STARTING AND MAINTAINING A FARMING/GARDENING PROGRAM...AND KEEP IT GOING!

**Presented by Bobi Harshfield and Amy Bird**

We all know that gardens/farms have the potential to transform and bring healing into our school communities... and that they can be a tremendous amount of work. So what does it actually take to keep a program going year to year? We’ll talk about identifying funding sources, developing curriculum, involving volunteers, surviving summer vacation and more. Join us as we dig deep together to find the balance between the possible and the practical.

7. BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH MONEY: HOW TO GET YOUR COMMUNITY FIGURATIVELY AND LITERALLY INVESTED IN YOUR SCHOOL

**With Ted Levinson**

Many people drawn to the field of education seem to view dealing with the finances as a necessary evil. But how we work with money in our communities provides a powerful opportunity to build trust and deepen relationship. Join Ted Levinson, Senior Director of Lending at RSF Social Finance, for a conversation about transformative ways to work both practically and imaginatively with money. Bring your concrete questions and experiences, and together we’ll explore why money matters.

8. INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PLANS (IEP’s): FROM COMPLIANCE DOCUMENT TO AN INSPIRED SUPPORT PLAN FROM A WALDORF-INFORMED PERSPECTIVE

**Facilitated by Jeff Lough**

Learn how to integrate Waldorf-Inspired methodology, curriculum, and assessment to create a meaningful and legally sound support plan for students with special needs. The presenter will review eligibility requirements in determining the need for special education services and writing measurable goals and services aligned with child development while fostering authentic collaboration between teachers, support staff, and parents.

9. PERSPECTIVES OF CHILD STUDY

**Facilitated by Will Stapp, MPH**

This session will explore current anthroposophically-inspired
child study approaches used in public and independent Waldorf schools and will emphasize the short form approach articulated by Christof Weichert. The session will also underline the value of the regular practice of child study as a full faculty vehicle for deepening classroom observational skills and insights into individual children.

10. A LITTLE COMPETITION WON’T HURT…OR WILL IT?
COMPETITIVE SPORTS FOR YOUNG CHILDREN
Led by Edmund Knighton
Be part of this important conversation about something that affects all schools.

11. MATH GAMES FOR THE CLASSROOM
Led by Thom Schaefer
Math games are a wonderful way to review the concepts you have already taught your class. Have fun, play games and learn something to bring back to your classroom and experience how things change from grades two through seven.

12. CLASSROOM DISCIPLINE: TOOLS FOR OUR TOOLKITS
Led by Laurie Tuchel
A child who is misbehaving is a disoriented child. Join us for a conversation on the many developmentally appropriate ways we can reorient disoriented students.

SILENT AUCTION
This year’s fourth 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 teacher’s 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 new supplies from Mercurius.

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 and stay tuned for more information.

HOUSING
Limited dorm housing is available through Rudolf Steiner College. Make your reservations online separately when you register for the conference.

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
Mariott 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. Sunday lunch is included in the Post-conference fee. All other meals are available for purchase when you register.

TRANSPORTATION
SuperShuttle: National chain
Local franchisee is Jun Mateo
Set up reservations with Jun (916.224.3783) or by e-mail (Jun@shuttleone.net). Make sure you let him know that you are reserving transportation from an RSC event!