

# **iEARN Conference and Youth Summit Program Summary**

During the conference there will be daily assembly and plenary sessions, country meetings, workshops, international nights, poster sessions, ICT corners, demonstrations, cultural and fun activities, and much more.

The theme of the conference is **“Come to Canada.....Catch the Dream”** This theme will serve as an umbrella for conference and youth summit. Our hope is that all participants come together to embrace a common goal of a dream and vision for iEARN/Taking IT Global. The program committee will be selecting proposals for different types of presentations that will address the theme of the conference from iEARN/Taking IT Global members, field experts, non profit organizations and other international professionals worldwide.

## **Specific Program Details**

### **Opening Ceremonies: Monday July 12<sup>th</sup>- Morning**

The Opening Ceremonies are a global celebration and the official kick off to the Conference and Youth Summit.

- Youth Summit address by Jennifer Corriero, Executive Director of Taking IT Global
- Country Call
- Keynote Address: Stephen Heppell, Professor Bournemouth University, Chair in New Media Environments, Emeritus Professor Anglia Ruskin University, Expert on integration of Information Communications Technologies in the Classroom. This session will be web conferenced from the U.K.

### **Youth Summit Global Showcase**

The Youth Summit participants will be presenting their collaborative projects in a storefront format immediately following the Opening Ceremonies.

## **Plenary Session Monday, July 12**

**Afternoon**

Karen Cator- The US Department of Education is in the final stages of drafting a National Technology Plan to provide a guide for state educational departments on priorities and directions that experts across the country have come together to draft. She is well-equipped to provide leadership on education technology because of her experience in education policy and research, emerging technologies, and the reality faced by teachers, students and administrators. Earlier, while at Apple Computer, Karen was responsible for strategic relationships and initiatives, Apple Professional Development, the Apple Distinguished Educator Program and the publishing of media rich teaching and learning practices on the Apple Learning Interchange.

## **Concert- Errol Lee**

**Evening**

Errol Lee is an inspirational composer, rapper and dancer. His music focuses around accepting others, character development and awareness of global issues.

## **Plenary Session Tuesday July 13<sup>th</sup>**

**Morning**

### **Environmental Panel Discussion**

Youth Summit students from Japan, Canada, U.S.A., Senegal, Australia and Nepal will be participating in a moderated discussion about the environmental issues in their respective countries. These youth participated in the 1<sup>st</sup> Youth Environmental Summit in Kobe Japan in April 2008 and have continued to collaborate on environmentally based projects.

Taking IT Global will also launch their environmental initiative program “Sprouts” during this plenary.

## **Youth Summit Special Activity**

**Afternoon**

Drumming Workshop with Doug Soul, President of Soul Drums, Toronto

## **Cultural Performance Evening**

### **Evening**

Conference and Youth Summit are invited to share a cultural performance of song, dance, drama, fashion, poetry, sport or art from their country. The evening will begin with a performance of the Youth Summit Participants and Doug Soul and their Drumming Circle Activities.

## **Day Trips**

### **Wednesday July 14th**

Choose from a variety of day trips to places including; Niagara Falls, Canada's Wonderland, Collingwood, Toronto, Bike Tours of Barrie, Whitewater Rafting on the Ottawa River or choose to explore all the Barrie and Lake Simcoe has to offer.

## **Plenary Session Thursday July 15**

### **Morning**

#### **The My Hero Project- Director, Jeanne Meyers**

The My Hero Project uses digital media to celebrate the best in Humanity. This session will feature films that celebrate teacher and global heroes, as well as some of the award winning films from the My Hero Film Festival. An art exhibition from the My Hero Gallery will also be showcased. The artists of the featured work will also be interviewed.

## **Minds on Media- Thursday July 15th**

### **All Day**

Country Coordinators, Representatives and Contact Members will have the opportunity to participate in "Minds on Media" activities. Participants will work through a variety of hands on activities, run by experts from a variety of companies and organizations. The objective of the afternoon is to learn how to integrate 2.0 and software tools into iEARN and TIG collaborative projects.

## **Plenary Session Thursday July 16**

**Afternoon**

### **Milton Chen- George Lucas Education Foundation**

Over the past decades, Milton Chen has been highlighting effective educational uses of multimedia tools and products. Through his leadership at the George Lucas Education Foundation (GLEF), he has used technology and print to share best practices in digital media and learning. Prior to joining GLEF in 1998, Dr. Chen was the founding director of the KQED Center for Education & Lifelong Learning (PBS) in San Francisco. He has served as a research director at Sesame Workshop in New York, where he worked on PBS children's series including Sesame Street, The Electric Company (reading), and 3-2-1 Contact (science).

## **Plenary Session Friday July 16<sup>th</sup>**

**Morning**

### **Adobe Youth Voices**

The partnership between Adobe Youth Voices and iEARN and Free the Children has resulted in some powerful and inspirational media created by international youth. This plenary session will review the activities of the year 4 program, and highlight international films and filmmakers.

## **Closing Ceremonies Friday July 16<sup>th</sup>**

**Afternoon**

The Closing Ceremonies is the official close to the iEARN Conference and Youth Summit.

Presentations to include:

- York Region Pipe Band
- Closing Remarks from iEARN Executive Council
- Video presentation of Conference and Youth Summit
- Keynote/Call to Action
- Introduction of iEARN International Conference and Youth Summit, Taiwan 2011

## **Gala Dinner and Dance**

**Evening**