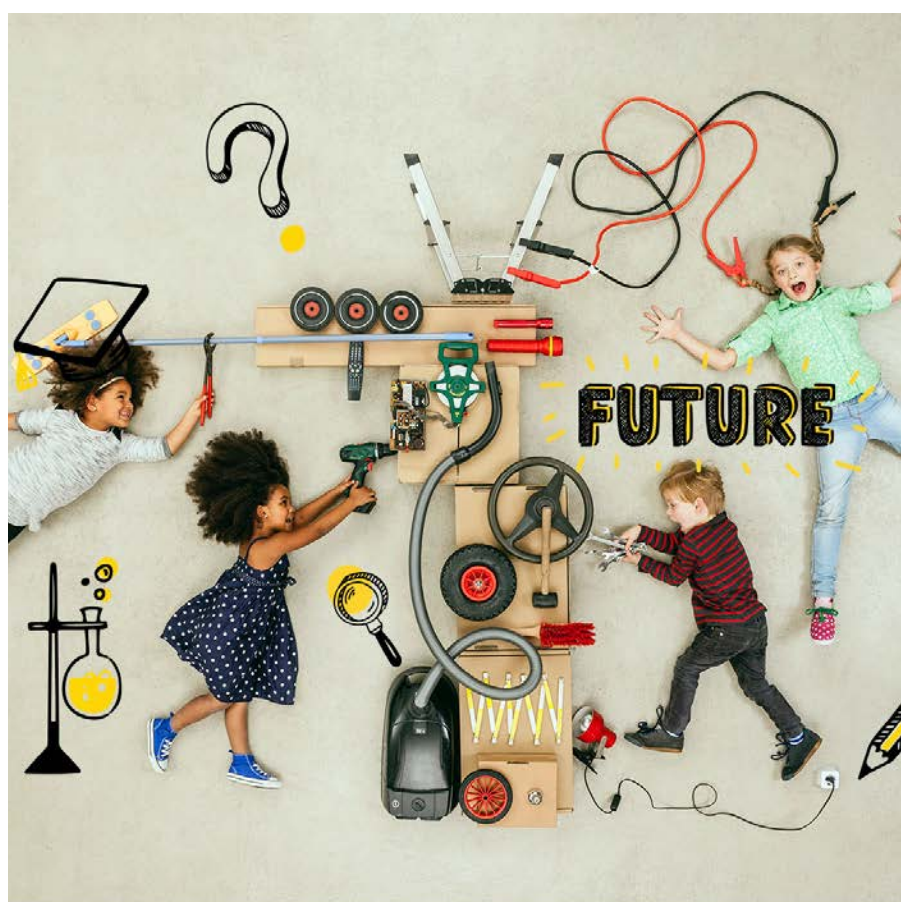


Expo 2020 Dubai Programme for People and Planet

WORLD MAJLIS AGENDA

KNOWLEDGE AND LEARNING WEEK

12 – 18 December 2021



DATE

Tuesday 14th December 2021

TIME

4.00 to 6.00 PM

VENUE

Terra – The Sustainability Pavilion

THE TOPIC

EQUIPPING YOUTH TO THRIVE:

Rethinking Education for a World of Change

Throughout history, every society has grappled with how to best prepare young people for the future, and the pandemic has forced everyone to rethink the how, where and why of education.

In March 2021 a UN installation entitled the “Pandemic Classroom”, representing the 168 million children who have missed out on formal schooling this past year, made visible today’s global learning crisis. Even before the virus struck, UNICEF was predicting that by 2030, 825 million children in low- and middle-income countries would reach adulthood without the skills they need to thrive in work and life. That is half of all young people on the planet.

Our world is changing rapidly, and yet the ways we educate, inspire, and equip our children today remain largely a legacy of the first Industrial Revolution. COVID-19 has revealed vulnerabilities; yet it has also accelerated thinking in alternative ways to open up the full breadth of possibilities in learning in the age of the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

- What are the features of high-quality learning today?
- Which skills – both personal and professional - can we incorporate into any curriculum to ensure young people don’t just learn, but thrive?
- How do we fix the vast inequalities in technology access to level the playing field for all children?
- What are young people themselves telling us they want and need to know?

MODERATOR

Sultan Sooud Al-Qassemi
Columnist and researcher, UAE



Sultan Sooud Al-Qassemi is a columnist and researcher on social, political, and cultural affairs in the Arab Gulf states. Al-Qassemi is also founder of the Barjeel Art Foundation in Sharjah, UAE. He was an MIT Media Lab Director's Fellow from 2014 to 2016, a practitioner-in-residence at the Hagop Kevorkian Center for Near Eastern Studies at New York University in spring 2017 and a Yale Greenberg World Fellow in 2018. Al-Qassemi was a visiting instructor at the Council of Middle East Studies at Yale University, the Center of Contemporary Arab Studies at Georgetown University, the American University of Paris, the Islamic Civilization and Societies programme at Boston College and the School of Public Affairs at SciencesPo, Paris. In the Fall 2021 Al Qassemi was appointed as Kuwait Foundation Visiting Scholar, Middle East Initiative at the Harvard Kennedy School and Lecturer, School of Arts and Sciences, Brandeis University. Al-Qassemi, along with Todd Reisz is co-editor of Building Sharjah (Birkhäuser, 2021).

PARTICIPANTS

H.E. Aymen Tawfeeq Almoayed
Minister of Youth and Sports Affairs, Bahrain

His Excellency Aymen Almoayed is the current Minister of Youth and Sports Affairs in the Kingdom of Bahrain and is the youngest appointed and serving minister in Cabinet. His Excellency holds a Master's Degree in Business Administration with a focus on the Business of Law from Cambridge University and a Bachelor's Degree in Law from the University of Kent in the United Kingdom.



He currently serves on a number of governmental boards and committees, including Chairmanship of the Education and Training Quality Authority, Chairmanship of the Hope Fund's Board of Directors, membership of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, membership of the Supreme Council for Health, membership of the Supreme Council for Education, membership of the Ministerial Committee for Legal Affairs, membership of the Ministerial Committee for Social Affairs, Communication, Advertising and Youth, membership of the Ministerial Committee on Combatting Drugs, membership of the Ministerial Committee for National Identity, membership of the Board of Trustees of the University of Bahrain and of the SMEs Development Board.

Prior to public service, His Excellency played key roles in the formation of a number of investment and consulting institutions, conglomerates and family offices, in addition to a number of industrial projects. His Excellency was also Chairman and Founder of Almoayed Chambers and affiliate companies where he served international and regional clientele and partners with respect to their corporate, legal and strategy requirements. He also served on the Board of Directors of a number of internationally recognised institutions including multinational hospitality companies and the Bahrain Stock Exchange.

Denise Amyot

President and CEO, Colleges and Institutes, Canada



Denise Amyot was appointed in 2013 as the President/CEO of Colleges and Institutes Canada, the voice of Canada's colleges, institutes, cegeps and polytechnics, and an international leader in education for employment in over 25 countries. Previously, she was the President/CEO of the Canada Science and Technology Museums Corporation, a Federal Crown Corporation.

She has also worked as Assistant Deputy Minister at the federal level in her last three roles; working in policy and programs in social, scientific, economic and cultural areas both in National Headquarters and in regions in several federal departments including Human Resources Development Canada, National Defense, Natural Resources Canada, Indigenous and Northern Affairs, Canadian Heritage, and the Public Service Commission and the Canada Public Service Agency. She also worked as an administrator for the Department of Education of the Northwest Territories (NWT) and taught in Ontario, Quebec and the NWT.

Professor Dr Renaldas Gudauskas

Director-General of the Martynas Mažvydas National Library of Lithuania



Prof. Renaldas Gudauskas received his graduate diploma in Library and Information Sciences at Vilnius University. In Saint Petersburg's Institute of Culture he defended his doctoral dissertation in Social Sciences. Since 1985, he has been giving lectures to bachelor and master level students at Vilnius University. In 1996–1998, Prof. Renaldas Gudauskas was Advisor for Information and Communication to the President of Lithuania; in 1998–2000, Vice-Minister for information and informatics at the Ministry of Public Administration; in 2001–2005, Advisor to Prime Minister of Lithuania for science, education and information society development. Now Prof. Renaldas Gudauskas is an expert at the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences.

Currently Prof. Renaldas Gudauskas is a member of the Executive Committee of the UNESCO Associate International Council for Philosophy and Human Sciences (CIPSH). He is also a board member of the 'Bibliotheca Baltica' association. He is a member of the Lithuanian National Commission for UNESCO, a member of its Executive Committee as well as a representative for Lithuania at UNESCO's Intergovernmental Programme 'Information for All' (IFAP) and a member of its Council. Prof. Renaldas Gudauskas has been an expert at the European Science Foundation (ESF), a member of the Geosciences Centre of Coimbra University (Portugal), and an expert at the Science Council of Lithuania (Information Society and e-Government).

Dr Colin Kennedy

Head of Innovation Education at Creative HQ, New Zealand



Dr Colin Kennedy is the Head of Innovation Education at Creative HQ in Wellington, New Zealand. He is responsible for the School of Innovation, a cutting-edge concept that builds innovation capabilities and startup mindsets in youth, individuals and organisations both in New Zealand and internationally.

Colin has over 25 years of experience working in a variety of education roles, including: lecturing in Development Studies and Human Geography at Victoria University of Wellington, running the nationwide Young Enterprise Scheme in New Zealand (a programme that engages 4,000 secondary school students across the country each year in real-life entrepreneurial education), working in the global migration and exchange of ideas as the Director of Programmes and Engagement at Fulbright NZ, and teaching English as a Second Language in seven different countries.

Colin has written extensively on educational inequality and social design and was awarded the inaugural Postdoctoral Fellowship in Social Design at Victoria University of Wellington's School of Design.

Wendy Kopp

CEO and Co-founder of Teach For All, USA



Wendy Kopp is CEO and Co-founder of Teach For All, a global network of independent organizations that are cultivating their nations' promising future leaders to ensure their most marginalised children have the chance to fulfil their true potential.

Wendy founded Teach For America in 1989 to marshal the energy of her generation against educational inequity in the United States. Today, more than 6,000 Teach For America corps members — outstanding recent college graduates and professionals of all academic disciplines — are in the midst of two-year teaching commitments in over 50 urban and rural regions, and Teach For America has proven to be an unparalleled source of long-term leadership for expanding opportunity for children. After leading Teach For America's growth and development for 24 years, in 2013, Wendy transitioned out of the role of CEO.

Wendy led the development of Teach For All to be responsive to the initiative of inspiring social entrepreneurs around the world who were determined to adapt this approach in their own countries. Currently, the Teach For All network is comprised of partner organisations in 59 countries on six continents, including its founding partners Teach For America and the U.K.'s Teach First.

Wendy has been recognised as one of Time Magazine's 100 Most Influential People and she is the recipient of numerous honorary degrees and awards for public service. Wendy resides in New York City with her husband Richard Barth and their four children.

Sir Anthony Seldon

Former Vice-Chancellor of The University of Buckingham, UK

Sir Anthony Seldon is one of Britain's leading contemporary historians, educationalists, commentators and political authors.



He was a transformative head for 20 years, first of Brighton College and then Wellington College. He is author or editor of over 40 books on contemporary history, including the inside books on the last four Prime Ministers, was the co-founder and first director of the Institute for Contemporary British History, is co-founder of Action for Happiness, honorary historical adviser to 10 Downing Street, UK Special Representative for Saudi Education, a member of the Government's First World War Culture Committee, was chair of the Comment Awards, is a director of the Royal Shakespeare Company, the President of IPEN, (International Positive Education Network), Chair of the National Archives Trust, is patron or on the board of several charities, founder of the Via Sacra Western Front Walk, and was executive producer of the film Journey's End. He appeared on the Desert Island Discs in 2016. For the last fifteen years he has given all his money from writing and lecturing to charity.

VIRTUAL PARTICIPANT

Adam Pensotti

Head of the Canon EMEA Young People Programme, UK



With over 25 years of experience in the creative sector, starting as photographer, then cinematographer, then director and producer, Adam now works for Canon EMEA at their headquarters in London.

From March 2020 he has been working in the Sustainability team, running the development of Canon EMEA's Young People Programme - YPP. YPP is an EMEA-wide social investment strategy founded on the SDGs, supporting young people with creative education and the means of self-expression, enabling them to have their voices heard and their stories told, amplified to a global audience through our direct partnership with the United Nations.