

## AUSTRALIAN YOUTH CONFERENCE

Tuesday 3rd – Saturday 7th September 2019

The Waldorf 100 Australian Youth Conference is the major student focussed event in Australia to celebrate 100 years since the first Waldorf school opened.

The Youth Conference will explore social renewal as its major theme, focussing on issues of our times - racism and prejudice, divisions and world conflict, Indigenous perspectives, minority groups, Australian and world-wide response to refugees, the environment and sustainability, education and imagining the future, the role of the Arts, money and ethical business.



## CONFERENCE AIMS

Young people are facing many diverse challenges, locally and globally. These demand a new capacity and way of working to create a healthy future.

The Youth Conference aims to enable young people to:

- Discuss and explore issues of our times in the world wide and Australasian specific context
- Build capacity to meet the challenges of the future
- Form friendships and connections with other Steiner students in Australia

## CONFERENCE VISION

The vision for the Youth Conference is for students to:

- Engage with and explore the theme of 'social renewal' to find new ways of working
- Increase awareness and understanding of current issues including, moral technologies, ethical business, environmental activism, health of bees, Indigenous perspectives and racism and prejudice.
- Consciously develop ideas for action to 'learn to change the world'
- Engage in artistic experiences related to the theme of the conference
- Perform and record the 100 years song (composed by Dale Jones) as part of school- based celebrations

## CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES

Following from the vision for the conference the specific objectives are to celebrate and promote Steiner education and nurture our young people so that:

- Students leave the conference feeling inspired and encouraged to contribute to social renewal
- They have opportunity to engage with a range of people who are actively and consciously working with world social tasks
- They gain new insights, challenge their perspectives and generate new ideas through the workshops, connections and forums
- Capacity is built in young people to take up the social tasks of the present and future, through direct experience with current social entrepreneurs

# AUSTRALIAN YOUTH CONFERENCE DRAFT PROGRAM

Each day will consist of keynote presentations, workshops and forums that will be collaborative and interactive and will include engagement of the students in:

- *Thinking – engaging group discussions and question/answer forums*
- *Feeling – engaging in artistic experience related to the focus of discussion*
- *Willing – deciding on courses of action that can be taken to support the issue*

<b>Tuesday arrival day</b>	<b>Activity</b>
By 3pm	Set-up, registration
3pm	Afternoon tea and welcome
4pm – 5pm	Ice breaker games Forming groups
5pm – 7pm	Rest and dinner
7pm – 9pm	Welcome to Country Opening keynote
<b>Day 1, 2 and 3 (4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>)</b>	
7am – 8am	Breakfast
8am – 8.45am	Song rehearsal
9am – 10.30am	Keynote speech
10.30am – 11.15am	Morning Tea
11.15am – 1.15pm	<b>Workshop A</b> Moral Technologies Bees Environmental Activism Pliable Ethical Urbanism Ethical Business Refugees Youth without Borders Indigenous Perspectives
1.15pm – 2.30pm	Lunch
2.30pm – 4.30pm	<b>Workshop B (Arts workshops)</b> Drumming Speech and Drama Eurythmy Bothmer Bush Craft Mural Forging Slam Poetry
4.30pm	Afternoon tea and break
6pm – 7pm	Dinner
7pm -9pm	Evening activity
<b>Day 4 (7<sup>th</sup>)</b>	
7am – 10am	Poets breakfast Pack up etc.
10am – 10.30am	Morning tea
10.30am – 11.30am	Set up and song performance
11.30am – 12.30pm	Lunch
12.30pm – 1.30pm	Plenum/workshop sharing
1.30pm	Farewells

# AUSTRALIAN YOUTH CONFERENCE PRESENTERS

## KEYNOTE PRESENTERS

### **Joan Sleigh, from the Goetheanum Executive**

Birth and childhood in the Camphill communities in South Africa. Attended part Waldorf and part rural State education. Moved to Germany in 1982, mothered four children and trained as Waldorf Class Teacher in Witten-Annen. Returned to Cape Town, South Africa in 1995. Worked as class teacher at Michael Oak Waldorf School from 1995 – 2012 and as teacher trainer at the Centre for Creative Education from 2006 – 2012. Member of the International Forum for Steiner / Waldorf Schools (Hague Circle) and co-ordinator of the Pedagogical Section in Cape Town since 2010. She became a member of the Executive Council of the General Anthroposophical Society in 2013. She does some teaching in the student course at the Goetheanum, and is also involved with the Social Initiative Forum which had a big conference here just recently on Ethical Individualism co-run by the Friends of Waldorf Education.

### **Rose Nekvapl, Moral Technologies**

Rose was one of the co-founders of [The International Youth Initiative Program \(YIP\)](#) in Järna Sweden and has mentored many young people in their initiatives and strivings to develop themselves and their work towards a new possible future. After pursuing an illustrious career in hospitality management, she experienced emptiness in the material chase for happiness, and made the decision to study Anthroposophy to find meaning and purpose. With this her life turned full circle, travelling to England, she completed the Foundation Year in Anthroposophy and the first year of the Biographical Counselling training at [Emerson College](#).

She has been actively involved in the [International Youth Section](#) in Dornach Switzerland, and before leaving Australia was a co-founder of the Australian Youth Section. Rose is also a co-founder of [Seed Australia](#), and its initiative Moral Technologies that aims to bring discussion and awareness to the challenges we face in the light of the technological age.

### **Lisa Devine**

Lisa Devine trained as a youth worker in the early 1980s and worked in a range of youth at risk programs. She has a Masters in Psychology and has counselled young people and their families over many years. Lisa's connection to the work of Rudolf Steiner began in the 1990s when she completed her Eurythmy training. In 2013 she completed the training in Curative Eurythmy. She has worked as a Chaplain and counsellor in Steiner schools throughout Australia. Lisa is highly sought after around Australia as a speaker and facilitator in the areas of conflict resolution, child, inner and professional development – working out of the Anthroposophical impulse. She is a priest of [The Christian Community](#), being the resident priest for the Sydney congregation.

## WORKSHOP PRESENTERS

We have sought workshop presenters who are actively working with the themes of this conference, whether this is in business, not-for-profit organisations or education. Each will bring a vitality and enthusiasm for their topic to the students.

A more detailed program will be available prior to the Conference.

## **PARTICIPANTS**

The Conference is open to students in Years 10 and up, attending an Australian or New Zealand Steiner School.

## **REGISTRATION**

Please complete the registration form on the next page. We will ask for more detailed information (e.g. student names, dietary needs) and confirmation of numbers nearer the time.

SVSS is committed to ensuring the conference is as affordable as possible. The registration fee has therefore been set at \$150 per person. This fee includes all sessions, as well as all meals.

## **CATERING**

All meals, from breakfast to dinner will be provided. Students will rostered to help.

## **CAMPING ON SITE**

There will be basic camping available on site for all attendees. We will send further details once numbers are confirmed, but it is envisaged that schools will bring their own camping equipment - tents, tarps etc.

## **VENUE**

Samford Valley Steiner School  
5 Narrawa Drive, Wights Mountain, QLD 4520

Samford Valley Steiner School is situated on 20 acres of forested land in the beautiful, rural setting of Samford Valley, only 35 minutes from the Brisbane CBD.

## **How to get there**

- Fly to Brisbane airport
- Train to Ferny Grove Station. This is the closest station to Samford Valley Steiner School and is 11.5 km from the school.  
SVS is looking to provide a shuttle service from the train station to the school; there will be an additional cost for this.
- Drive direct to Samford Valley Steiner School.

## **Enquiries**

For all enquiries please contact Joan Weir, Marketing & Communications, Samford Valley Steiner School [jweir@samfordsteiner.qld.edu.au](mailto:jweir@samfordsteiner.qld.edu.au) or 07 3430 9600.

## REGISTRATION FORM - YOUTH CONFERENCE

<b>School name</b>				<b>State</b>	
<b>Name of school based co-ordinator</b>					
<b>Co-ordinator's email</b>					
<b>Number of students attending</b>	<b>Year 10</b>	<b>Year 11</b>	<b>Year 12</b>	<b>Other</b>	
<b>Number of staff attending</b>					
<b>Do you require transport from/to Ferny Grove train station?</b> <small>Note: This will be an additional cost</small>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>			

Registration fee is \$150 per person. Schools will be invoiced prior to the event.

Please email your registration form to [jweir@samfordsteiner.qld.edu.au](mailto:jweir@samfordsteiner.qld.edu.au).

Thank you!

### **CANCELLATION POLICY**

Conference registration may be cancelled, less a \$50 handling fee, up to ten (10) business days prior to the activity in writing (emails will be accepted) with participants receiving a full refund less \$50. A refund will only be provided if written notice is provided to [jweir@samfordsteiner.qld.edu.au](mailto:jweir@samfordsteiner.qld.edu.au).

Registrations cancelled less than ten (10) business days prior to the commencement of the conference will not be refunded. To have a substitute attend in your place please notify us at [jweir@samfordsteiner.qld.edu.au](mailto:jweir@samfordsteiner.qld.edu.au) prior to the commencement of the event.

*Samford Valley Steiner School (SVSS) reserves the right to alter this program/event or presenter without further notice; however, the program is intended to run as advertised. By signing up to this event you acknowledge and accept that SVSS may use any photographs / video footage taken at the program or event, in which you may be identified, for promotional purposes or other purposes associated with or related to the activities undertaken by SVSS.*