

From the Founders:

Exploring Possible Global, School-Based Partnerships in Gifted Education

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The pandemic is not about to magically disappear, but at the International Centre for Innovation in Education (ICIE) and Lost Prizes International (LPI) we continue to take a realistic, steady-as-she-goes approach with respect to safely offering what we can in the way of publications, conferences, networking, and service delivery projects. Our 18th ICIE International Conference to be held in Helsinki, Finland has been postponed a second time; we are now hoping to hold our person-to-person gathering there on July 4-8, 2022 (www.icieconference.net). Should this prove impossible, we will consider delivering that event (and other professional development sessions) in a virtual, remote-program format.

Despite the challenges, ICIE's *International Journal for Talent Development and Creativity* – under the direction of Editor-in-Chief Karen Magro – continues to receive, review, and publish many relevant articles from respected scholars. Free access is available via our website. And Dr. Magro, in what can only be described as a labour of love, is working on a number of fronts to strengthen and improve IJTDC as we move forward. More about that in future volumes.

In 2021, along with the journal, ICIE has published the following books and monographs:

- *Ambitious Humanity: The Uses and Abuses of Competing*, by Roland S. Persson;
- *Focusing on Strengths and Talents: Using Enrichment Pedagogy to Challenge and Engage 2E Students*, by Susan Baum and Sally M. Reis;
- *Gifted and Creative Without Limits*, Developed and Arabized by Taisir Subhi Yamin and Bahaa' Zoubi;
- *Living with Digital Teachers: AI, the Classroom, and the Future*, by Douglas P. Newton;
- *Mind the Gap: Ideas for Enhancing Creative-Critical Thinking, Authentic Communication & Empathetic Collaboration*, by Christine Boyko-Head;
- *The Catch-A-Wave Theory of Adaptability: Core Competencies for Developing Gifted Behaviors in the Second Machine Age of Technology*, by Joseph S. Renzulli;
- *Providing Students with Creative Spaces: The Power of Edutainment*, Maher Bahloul;
- *Powerful Teaching with Cooperative Learning*, Ludger Bruening and Tobias Saum; translated into English by Heinz Neber, and edited by Taisir Subhi Yamin; and,
- *A Call to Action: The Urgency of Cultural Competency Training for Teachers Working with Racially Diverse Gifted Students*, by Joy Lawson Davis.

In 2021, we have also offered the following ICIE Talks & Presentations on the YouTube Channel (See: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCExDwolWpC46lp6IJMMqKUQ>):

Date	Speaker	Title
23.12.2020	Ken McCluskey	ADHD: Latest Developments.
14.1.2021	Connie Phelps	It's a Small World: Connecting Excellence, Innovation, and Creativity.
21.1.2021	Maher Bahloul	The Power of Edutainment.
23.1.2021	Taisir S. Yamin	The Latest Developments in Gifted Education.
25.1.2021	Christine Boyko-Head	Three Simple Questions to Deepen Thinking and Learning.
28.1.2021	Taisir S. Yamin	Dialogue: Gifted Education.
5.2.2021	Taisir S. Yamin	Gifted Workers.
6.2.2021	Jyoti Sharma	Gifted Education in India.
9.2.2021	Fred Bonner II	African American Giftedness: The Problem of the Colour Line.
10.2.2021	Joseph Renzulli; Sally Reis; Taisir S. Yamin	Using Strength-Based Pedagogy to Engage and Challenge High Ability and Talented Youth: Renzulli Learning System (RLS).
6.3.2021	ICIE-Croatia	International Symposium: Capacity Building and Gifted Education in Croatia.
13.6.2021	Christine Boyko-Head	Empowering Learners for a Creative Tomorrow: Communication, Collaboration and Critical Thinking.
25.3.2021	Vlad Glaveanu	Pedagogies of the Possible.
11.6.2021	Todd Lubart	Homo Creativus and Measure of Creative Potential.
15.6.2021	Jack A. Naglieri; Dina Brulles; Kimberly Lansdowne	The Naglieri General Ability Tests: International Implications.
18.6.2021	Ken Reimer	The Critical Necessity of International Collaboration.
19.6.2021	Fred Bonner II	Building on Resilience: Models & Frameworks
22.6.2021	Richard M. Cash	Differentiating UP! Using the Enrichment, Extension & Enhancement (E3) Model.
23.6.2021	Gülşah Batdal Karaduman	Gifted Education in Turkey.
28.6.2021	Abdallah Al-Zoubi	University 4.0: Impact of the Fourth Industrial Revolution on Higher Education.
30.6.2021	Arthur Gogatz	Creative Crisis Management: A Global Perspective.
15.10.2021	Ghada Sfeir	Roundtable Symposium II: Cosmopolitanism for Canada's Growing Diversity: A Better Strategy Than Multiculturalism.
28.11.2021	Ghada Sfeir	Building Trust Between Marginalized Communities and the Police.

Over the years, ICIE and LPI have worked hand in hand with scores of educators to design and put in place a number of enrichment programs in schools worldwide. Of late, we have entered into conversations about building upon an existing partnership between the University of Winnipeg (UW) and Maple Bear Global Schools. In terms of background, Maple Bear currently provides Canadian Education in 550 early childhood, elementary, middle, and high schools in 30 countries across the globe. The partnership began in 2013, with UW offering a Post-Baccalaureate Diploma in Education (PBDE) for Maple Bear educators in Brazil. To date, close to 200 teachers have upgraded their skills and enhanced their practice by completing their PBDEs. At present, Maple Bear and UW are also

developing an Early Childhood Certificate program for teachers in Maple Bear schools throughout the world. As well, members of UW's Faculty of Education and ICIE's Advisory Board have been invited to sit on Maple Bear's Advisory Committee which is, in effect, a think tank designed to bring the latest ideas and creativity to the Maple Bear Curriculum.

Recently, teachers, administrators, and owners of Maple Bear Global Schools have expressed an interest in gifted education. Discussions have only just begun, but already some exciting possibilities have been identified, including connecting with existing ICIE and LPI regional and international conferences, broadening Maple Bear conference offerings, networking to link Maple Bear with resource people in the gifted domain, accessing appropriate assessment inventories (e.g., authentic and dynamic assessment instruments, Evaluation of Potential Creativity{EPoC}, etc.), and introducing the powerful Renzulli Learning System to Maple Bear Global Schools (which would enrich professional development opportunities for educators). In short, the future looks bright for enrichment programming that can benefit learners both locally and globally.