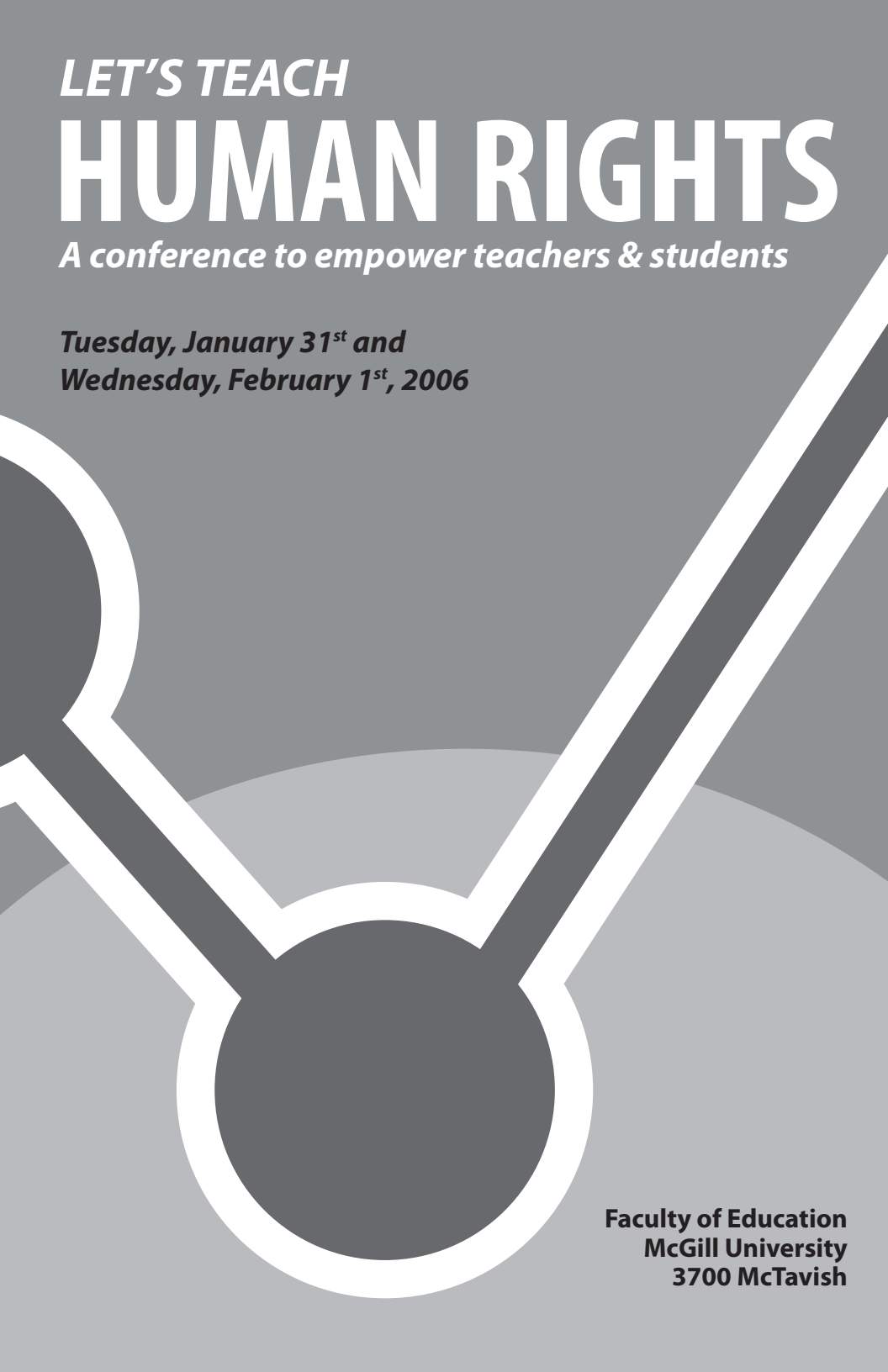


LET'S TEACH

HUMAN RIGHTS

A conference to empower teachers & students

*Tuesday, January 31st and
Wednesday, February 1st, 2006*



**Faculty of Education
McGill University
3700 McTavish**

Screening: *Born Into Brothels*Tuesday, January 31st

1:00 – 2:30

EDUC 216

While documenting the lives of prostitutes in Sonagchi, Calcutta's red-light district, Zana Briski also met the children who lived in the brothels. She befriended them and taught them how to use cameras. The children create portraits of their harsh world that are inspiring and hopeful. *Born Into Brothels* won the 2005 Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature.

The Rights of Children at RiskTuesday, January 31st

2:30 – 3:30

EDUC 216

Facilitator: Julie Tytler

This workshop will provide an overview of behaviour problems and special needs associated with children at risk including procedures for signaling children. It will include a specific look at a few case scenarios (with teaching tips), which will be followed by a question and answer session.

Julie Tytler is a Montreal teacher with experience in an inclusive classroom and special education and behaviour modification programmes in both elementary and high school.

Keynote Address:Tuesday, January 31st***Justin Trudeau***

4:00 – 5:30

EDUC 129- Jack Cram Auditorium

As the Chair of the Board of Directors of Katimavik, Canada's largest youth volunteer program, Mr. Trudeau is an active proponent of youth empowerment. He is an environmental activist involved in many initiatives, including Students on Ice, an organization that provides students with learning opportunities in the Arctic and the Antarctic. He is also a teacher, who has taught at both the elementary and the secondary levels. We are pleased to have him as our keynote speaker.

Hip Hop Butterfly:Wednesday, February 1st***Children's Rights Education in the Classroom***

9:30 – 10:30

Facilitator: Leanne Johnny

EDUC 211

This workshop will look at the importance of teaching children's rights in the classroom. It will focus on an award-winning rap song that was produced by a group of Montreal youth to raise awareness about child labor. It will provide teachers with an overview of the Canadian International Development Agency's Butterfly 208 Competition and provide ideas for integrating this project into the classroom.

Leanne Johnny is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Integrated Studies in Education at McGill University. In her research she is examining whether Canada's commitment to the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child is reflected in the operation of our education system. She is also an undergraduate instructor in the Faculty of Education at McGill University.

**Stopping Verbal Harassment:
Teaching to Transform Language and Power in Schools**

Facilitator: Liz Meyer

Wednesday, February 1st

10:30 – 11:30

EDUC 211

This session will present information on how to help teachers and administrators understand and stop verbal harassment in schools. Bullying behaviors such as name-calling and teasing reinforce negative stereotypes and can cause anxiety, depression, isolation, and suicidal ideation. The session will conclude with examples of successful school-based interventions.

Liz Meyer is a Ph.D. Candidate at McGill University in Culture and Values in Education. She taught high school French for 5 years in the U.S. and has come to McGill to research bias-related (racist, sexist, and homophobic) harassment in secondary schools.

Project-Based Learning with Roots & Shoots

Facilitator: Monica Guzkowska

Wednesday, February 1st

11:30 – 12:30

EDUC 211

Facilitated group work will be used to uncover how educators can apply project-based learning to empower youth to address real problems in their communities. We will particularly focus on solutions to some of the “sticky spots” to using the approach in the classroom. Jane Goodall’s Roots & Shoots, an environmental and humanitarian education program and global network of young people, will provide a context and examples of the process in action.

Monica Guzkowska has been an environmental educator for 15 years, mostly in the informal and non-profit sectors. As National Coordinator-Roots & Shoots for the Jane Goodall Institute of Canada, Monica directs the Institute’s environmental and humanitarian education program.

Ethics & World Cultures in High School

Facilitator: Anne Novak-Vrana

Wednesday, February 1st

1:30 – 2:30

EDUC 211

Participants will experience a reduced version of the class activities that students in my Ethics and World Cultures class experienced. We will briefly look at the simplified version of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, participants will then invent a fictional country and formulate their own human rights and compare these with the official declaration and this will be followed by a letter-writing exercise based on Amnesty international. A list of human rights resources will be available.

Anne Novak-Vrana works at St. Thomas High School in Pointe Claire. She is the Spiritual and Community Life animator and an Ethics teacher. She organizes humanitarian and community-oriented projects with her students.

Facilitator: Ilana Kuska

“Recipes for a Healthy Planet” will be a multi-media presentation of a recent project that was undertaken with my grade 6 students at the Priory School. The main goal was to raise awareness about some global concerns that affect children around the world. This learning process included classroom discussions, research on the internet and a final visual presentation of their findings. Samples of the students’ work will be included in the presentation.

Ilana Kuska is an art educator who teaches at the Priory School and at Concordia University. She has been involved in a number of peace-related projects that have included her students’ participation and art works.

Youth Panel

Wednesday, February 1st

4:00 – 5:00

Curriculum lab, Education Library

Perhaps the most important resources in our quest to empower youth are youth themselves. These students from the Montreal area will share how they first became engaged in social activism, the projects they have undertaken, and how adults have both helped and hindered their efforts.

The 2nd annual Let’s Teach Human Rights Conference is an initiative engineered by four undergraduate McGill students: Caroline Bouchard, Lindsay Cornish, Jaclyn Rajsic, and Pin-Tzu Patey Yeh. We can be contacted via email: ltrights@gmail.com

This conference would not have been possible without the following people:

All of our facilitators, youth panelists, and volunteers who made this event worthwhile; Mr. Justin Trudeau; Christine Rocheleau at Katimavik & Sundance at Speakers Canada; Valérie Girard at Roots & Shoots; Maya, Dave, Shannon, and Angus at Livres Babar & Babar en Ville; Santropol; Dr. Roger Slee, Dean of the Faculty of Education; Educational Media Services; the Education Undergraduate Society; and Cynthia Gervais, Elana Wright, and Lauryn Oates at Rights & Democracy.

Thank you for your generosity and support.

