

Permission to Play – Programme Schedule

1pm-1:45pm	Registration and networking with light refreshments			
Time	Organisation	Speaker	Keynote Description	Company Info
2pm - 2:05pm Opening Address	Singapore Repertory Theatre (SRT)	Charlotte Nors – Managing Director	Charlotte Nors will offer a brief introduction on the background of SRT and their contribution to the early childhood sector 30 years through The Little Company and Learning & Engagement. Charlotte will note more recent strategic developments and partnerships that bring SRT to their current position at the crossroads of arts integration and early childhood development.	Founded in 1993, Singapore Repertory Theatre (SRT) is one of the leading English language theatre producers and presenters in Asia. In addition to its repertoire of original musicals like Forbidden City: Portrait of an Empress, the company has produced several critically acclaimed plays that include ART, The Pillowman and God of Carnage. SRT was the first Singaporean theatre company on Broadway in 1998 as Associate Producer of Golden Child, which went from Singapore to New York and earned three Tony Award nominations.
2:05pm - 2:15pm	National Arts Council (NAC)	-	-	-
2:15pm – 2:20pm	Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning Through the Arts	Akua Kouyate-Tate - Education at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts	A welcome and introduction from Akua Kouyate-Tate - Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts [video]	The Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning Through the Arts™ is an internationally respected program that provides innovative arts-based teaching strategies and services to early childhood teachers, caregivers, parents, and their children from 0 to 5 through the disciplines of drama, music, and movement.
2:20pm-2:30pm	Wolf Trap Institute for	Valerie Branch –	Start the day with an opening movement energiser that will inspire and empower you to find the joy	Valerie Branch became a Wolf Trap artist in 2014 and provides residencies in early childhood classrooms. She has experience

	Early Learning Through the Arts	U.S Master Teaching Artists	and importance of play in everyday experiences! Presented by Wolf Trap Master Teaching Artist Valerie Branch	touring as a performing and teaching artist both nationally and internationally. She has taught as an independent artist and with different organizations such as WPAS and is a teaching artist with Young Audiences of Maryland.
2:30pm - 2:50pm	Ambre Lee	Ambre Lee	Play & Creativity in Child Development <i>Play is a gift of life.</i> <i>Every culture has its own version of play.</i> <i>Play is a universal language of communication, a way of expressing what may be difficult or impossible to express in words.</i> <i>Play is essential in human development.</i> <i>Play is a way of connecting with self and others.</i> <i>Play allows for the safe exploration of emotions.</i> <i>Play helps develop our imagination - our capacity to think outside the box, to create, to invent.</i>	<p>Ambre is an accredited Drama therapist, registered with the Health and Care Professions Council in the United Kingdom. She is also a member of the British Association of Drama therapists. Her approach towards therapy is highly collaborative and combines the intentional use of the creative art forms with therapeutic processes.</p> <p>Ambre has experience working with various client groups in mental healthcare, special education, and different community groups. Her practice harnesses the creative and embodied processes, and focuses on creating a safe, nurturing space for her clients. As a pioneering Drama therapist in Singapore, Ambre is passionate about sharing the therapeutic power of the arts and the use of alternative therapies in Singapore.</p>
2:55pm - 4.00pm	Rotation 1 to workshops			
3:55pm- 5.00pm	Rotation 2 to workshops			
5:00 pm - 5:20 pm	Dr Geraldine Teo-Zuzarte	Dr Geraldine Teo-Zuzarte	Drama in Education as a Catalyst for Developing Lifelong Learning Attitudes Drama and the arts have long been considered effective tools for sensing and making sense of the world (Kondoyianni, A., Lenakakis, A., Tsiotsos, N. 2013). It enriches the human mind so that we can transcend and expand our conceptions of life. The	Geraldine Teo-Zuzarte, holds a PhD in Early Childhood Education and is passionate about the development of children, especially those in their Early Years. A seasoned speaker, she has presented papers in conferences and workshops both locally and internationally. Having been in the field of Early Childhood Education for over 30 years, Geraldine held multi-portfolios from classroom teaching to faculty appointments to overseeing the

			<p>practice of drama skills gives each person and groups of people the opportunity to actively participate in imagined worlds that can help us rehearse our responses to situations we may face later in life.</p> <p>As the world emerges from and learns to live with Covid-19 's evolving virus, drama skills can offer each of us meaningful outlets to seek answers to deep questions or gain insights that other modes of learning may not be able to offer. Drama in education needs to be incorporated into everyday curriculum especially for very young children to stimulate alternative pathways of learning which in turn promotes an understanding not only of the world, but of the abilities of the individual. This in essence is what lifelong learning is all about.</p>	<p>professional development of almost 3,000 ECE educators including pioneering a child study centre, which was recognized by ECDA as Outstanding Centre for Teaching and Learning and was awarded Distinction for the Early Childhood Agency Development's Innovation Award.</p> <p>Geraldine has deep theoretical and practical knowledge on ECCE and has been called upon to support national initiatives, including being appointed into the first batch of ECDA Fellows. An experienced ECE practitioner and leader, Geraldine has inspired and nurtured many young entrants to the ECCE sector and many young ECCE leaders today were her students</p>
5:20pm - 5:40pm	Preschool Market	Su Fen - CEO and Founder of Preschool Market	<p>Play matters: Play is the highest form of learning for all children This is what we at Preschool Market believe in and Learning through Play is a methodology that we had developed for enhancing children's cognitive, social, creative, emotional and physical skills. This is through the integration of child centered and play based interactions during the engagements with our little ones. In this sharing, we share about why play matters and how we can incorporate play in our everyday activities.</p>	<p>Preschool Market is a one-stop preschool consultancy company that provides B2B solutions and services for preschools and organisations such as teacher training, student programs, curriculum development, resource support, events management, and other customised early childhood sector-related work.</p> <p>Preschool Market is also a registered social enterprise committed to assisting underprivileged kids and their families. We believe that every child should have equal access to opportunities in learning and education, and reaching their maximum potential in life regardless of their socio-economic status.</p>
5:40pm - 5:50pm	Wolf Trap Institute for Early	Christine Farrell - U.S Master	Heart, Mind and Body Reflection! After an inspiring day of learning, we will celebrate the moments that touched your heart, mind and body through	Christina Farrell's extensive experience as a Teaching Artist includes classroom residencies and professional development for Gateway to the Arts Aesthetic Education Institute and the

	Learning Through the Arts	Teaching Artists	dramatic play and song! Presented by Wolf Trap Master Teaching Artist Christina Farrell	<p>Western Pennsylvania Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning in the Arts.</p> <p>She is the Founding Director of Opera Ignite, a company dedicated to creative education through music, drama, and movement. Through Opera Ignite, she conducts classroom residencies, professional development for teachers, and audience engagement workshops. She is also the Educational Director for Prime Stage Theatre which promotes literacy skills to reluctant adolescent readers through theater-based experiences.</p>
5:50pm – 6pm	Closing address	<p>Alison Bassi: U.S Embassy Singapore</p> <p>Alison Bassi joined U.S. Embassy Singapore as the Cultural Affairs Officer in September 2021. She has been a Foreign Service Officer with the U.S. Department of State since 2014. Before coming to Singapore, Alison Bassi served in the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs in Washington as the Strategic Communications Officer at the Office of Chinese and Mongolian Affairs and as the Public Diplomacy Desk Officer for Hong Kong, Mainland China, Mongolia, and Taiwan in the Office of Public Diplomacy. She has also worked in the Policy Office of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs covering posts and programs across Asia. Internationally, Alison was the Deputy Public Affairs officer in Chengdu, China and worked in the Consular Sections at the U.S. Embassy in Beijing, China and Sao Paulo, Brazil. In her prior career, Alison was a cross-cultural trainer for Microsoft in India and China, did media monitoring and web design in the Czech Republic and Chicago, and worked in educational non-profits and universities in Washington D.C. Alison is originally from Illinois and holds a B.A. in Latin American Studies and Spanish from Carleton College in Minnesota and an M.A. in Intercultural Communication from the University of Maryland. She is joined in Singapore by her spouse, Chris Rains, who covers regional issues in the Embassy’s Political section, and their two young children. She speaks Mandarin, Portuguese, and Spanish</p> <p>Paul Adams: Singapore Wolf Trap</p> <p>Paul has a Diploma in Musical Theatre and a Bachelors of Arts Degree in Performance from the University of Huddersfield. Since graduating with a Master’s degree in Leadership; he has worked for many UK Theatre companies, facilitating and managing Arts Education programmes with participants across formal education, community outreach and venue based programmes.</p>		

		Paul prides himself in the application of theatre as a tool in non-traditional theatre settings, working with children and adults from a diverse range of backgrounds; whether that is in a self-esteem boosting workshop or a leadership enhancement programme.
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