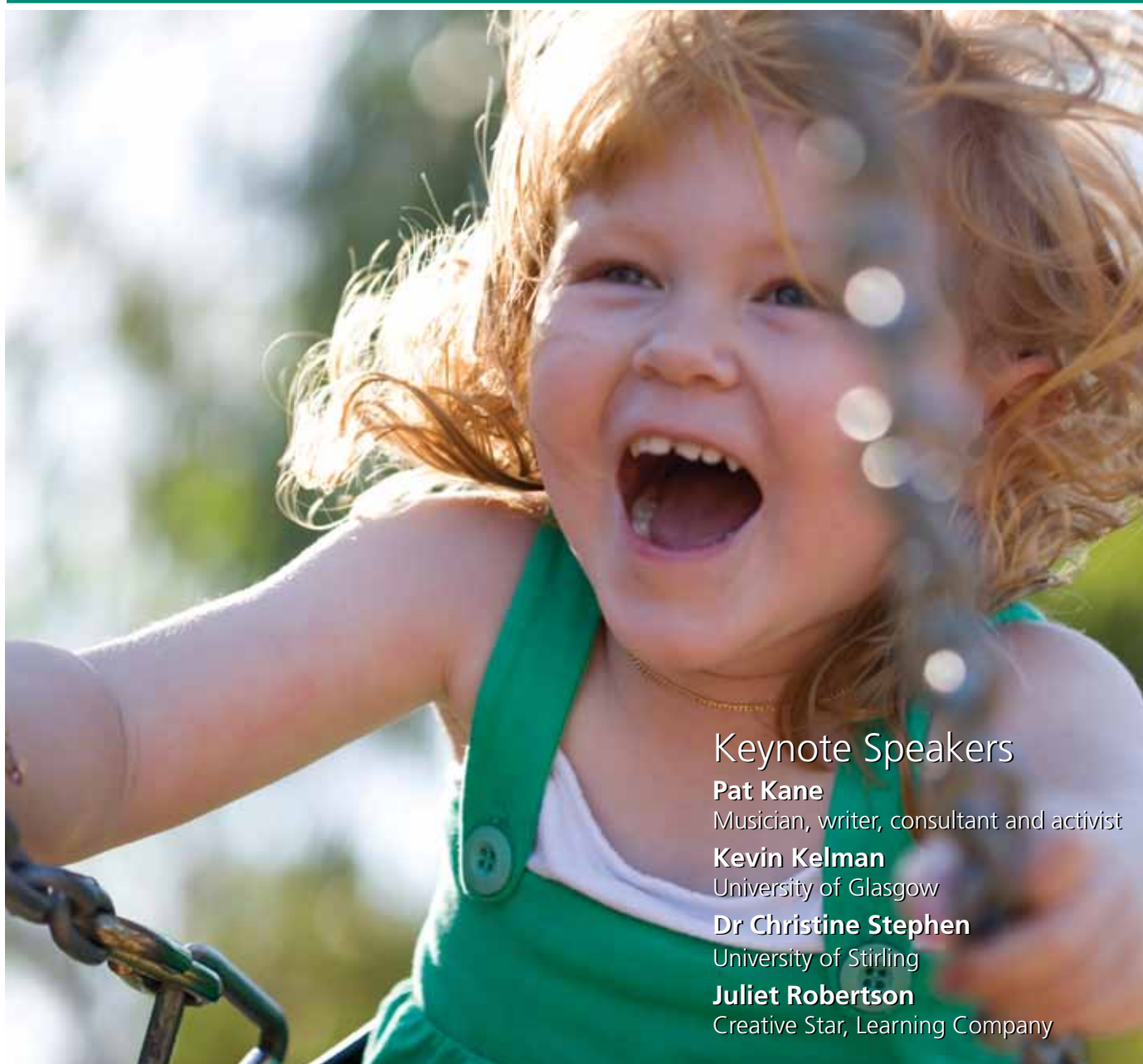


Early Years Conference

Early Years – Play and Active Learning

Saturday 3 October 2009, 09.30–14.30

Glasgow Royal Concert Hall



Keynote Speakers

Pat Kane

Musician, writer, consultant and activist

Kevin Kelman

University of Glasgow

Dr Christine Stephen

University of Stirling

Juliet Robertson

Creative Star, Learning Company

As Curriculum for Excellence moves towards implementation. . .

This conference provides a valuable opportunity for the Early Years community in Scotland to consider and develop the important discussion and debate around the role of play and active learning.

What is the conference focus?

- What do we mean by active learning and play?
- How can practitioners ensure that children experience active learning and play across the curriculum?
- How can we maximise the potential benefits of outdoor learning for all children?

Who should attend?

- Staff from pre-school and primary school
- Further education staff involved in early years programmes
- Higher education staff involved in early years programmes
- Local authority staff with early years responsibilities and interests
- Students undertaking qualifications with an early years focus
- Everyone interested in the development and wellbeing of children

Why Attend?

- Enhance CPD (*certification provided following attendance*)
- Opportunity for update on national developments
- Increase personal and professional knowledge, confidence and understanding
- Share skills, expertise and ideas with colleagues
- Extend networking opportunities

Cost per delegate – £95.00 plus VAT (£109.25)

How to register – please complete registration form (places will be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis)



Early Years Framework

'Play is essential for our children if they are to have the best start in life and be ready to succeed as adults. Through play children thrive as they develop self-confidence, social skills and an awareness of their impact on others and the world around them.'

Building the Curriculum 2

'In Scotland, as in many countries throughout the world, active learning is seen as an appropriate way for children to develop vital skills and knowledge and a positive attitude to learning. Active learning is learning which engages and challenges children's thinking using real-life and imaginary situations. It takes full advantage of the opportunities for learning presented by:

- spontaneous play
- planned, purposeful play
- investigating and exploring
- events and life experiences
- focused learning and teaching'

As we continue to explore active learning and play, the following keynote speakers will provide us with the opportunity to explore the critical issues together.



Pat Kane is a musician, writer, consultant and activist

His book *The Play Ethic* (Macmillan 2004, and see www.theplayethic.com) has been praised by figures like Will Hutton, Charles Leadbeater, Daniel Pink and Douglas Ruskhoff. His band Hue And Cry (www.hueandcry.co.uk) have supported Madonna, U2, James Brown, and Van Morrison and Al Green, and their thirteenth album *Open Soul* was released in 2008. Pat writes for the Guardian and Independent, and was a founding editor of The Sunday Herald. He has consulted for organisations as diverse as Lego, Nokia, the Cabinet Office and Bartle Bogle Hegarty about the power and potential of play, and is a regular global keynote speaker on this topic.



Kevin Kelman, Programme Leader – BA Childhood Practice, Faculty of Education, University of Glasgow

Kevin is on secondment at the University of Glasgow from his post of Headteacher in South Lanarkshire. And he is leading the development of the BA in Childhood Practice and the Postgraduate Diploma in Childhood Practice at the University of Glasgow. Kevin has written a number of books, articles and book chapters on a range of early years issues. Kevin's research interests include: leadership early years' settings and schools; transition from early years settings to primary school; and pedagogical approaches in early years settings and the early stages of primary school. He has been invited to participate in consultancy and professional advice through a variety of CPD and knowledge transfer opportunities in Scotland, England, Wales, Northern Ireland, Dubai and Uganda.



Dr Christine Stephen, Researcher, Stirling Institute of Education, University of Stirling

She is interested in how young children learn at home and in early years settings. Pre-school education, in particular exploring children's experience of provision and the perspectives and expectations of parents and practitioners, is the focus of her work. Exploring pedagogy combines her interest in children's learning and development with studying practitioners and their roles in the playroom. *Growing Up with Technology: Young Children Learning in a Digital World* (Plowman, Stephen and McPake) will be published by Routledge in December 2009.



Juliet Robertson, Creative Star

Juliet is a former head teacher of three primary schools ranging in size from 6 to 270 pupils. Her interest and enthusiasm for outdoor learning stemmed from working in an urban environmental centre in Philadelphia (USA), halfway through her environmental science degree in the eighties. In 2007, Juliet set up Creative STAR Learning Company to provide support, training, advice and resources for education staff who wish to improve the quality and quantity of outdoor learning in their setting or organisation. In 2008 a Winston Churchill Travelling Fellowship enabled her to find out more about outdoor technologies in North America, Sweden and the Czech Republic.

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09.30 – 10.00	Arrival and coffee
10.00 – 10.10	Welcome Jean Carwood-Edwards , Early Years Team Leader, LTS
10.10 – 10.50	Maximising Environments for Learning Kevin Kelman , Programme Leader – BA Childhood Practice, Faculty of Education, University of Glasgow
10.50 – 11.20	Coffee
11.20 – 12.00	Playing, Doing, Thinking, Learning Dr Christine Stephen , Institute of Education, University of Stirling
12.00 – 12.40	The Power and Potential of Play Pat Kane – this accomplished Scottish musician and songwriter (Hue and Cry) is also the author of 'The Play Ethic'
12.40 – 13.40	Lunch
13.40 – 14.20	Play and Active Learning Outdoors Juliet Robertson , Creative Star Learning Company
14.20 – 14.30	Closing remarks and depart Anne Jardine , Programme Director, LTS