

**Motherhood Initiative for Research and Community Involvement (MIRCI)**

*Presents:*

**International Conference on Motherhood Activism, Advocacy, Agency**

May 12-14, 2011, ROOM 706; ROOM 710; ROOM 713A

Metro Convention Centre SOUTH Building: 222 Bremner Blvd., Toronto, ON

<http://www.mtccc.com/home.cfm> (416) 585-8000

**THURSDAY, MAY 12, 2011**

**10:00am-11:00am REGISTRATION & CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST**

**(COMMON AREA NEAR ROOM 713A, SOUTH BUILDING, METRO CONVENTION CENTRE)**

**11:00am-12:30pm SESSIONS A1, A2**

**A1: MOTHERING, EDUCATION AND ACTIVISM**

**(ROOM 710, SOUTH BUILDING, METRO CONVENTION CENTRE)**

**CHAIR** – Sharon Abbey, Brock University

- Yara Doleh, Archaeologist, Canada, - The Menstruation Project
- Sharon Abbey, Brock University, Canada - Empowering Single Mothers Through On-Line Education
- Sara Jane Baskin, Florida State University, U.S.A. - Student or Mother? An Autobiographical Account of the Mothering Roles Available to Graduate Students and Student Wives

**A2: WORKSHOP**

**(ROOM 706, SOUTH BUILDING, METRO CONVENTION CENTRE)**

- Sharon Young, Mothers Program @ Women's Health Clinic - Mothering: A Feminist Framework for Supports and Services

**• 12:30pm-2:15pm LUNCH (on your own)**

**2:15pm-3:45pm CONCURRENT SESSIONS B1, B2**

**B1: POPULAR CULTURE AND MATERNAL ACTIVISM**

**(ROOM 710, SOUTH BUILDING, METRO CONVENTION CENTRE)**

**CHAIR** – Angela Miles, O.I.S.E, University of Toronto

- Katrina Carefoot, FickleFeline.ca, Canada - Sharing the Good, The Bad, and The Ugly of Autism Through Social Media to Effectively Influence and Advocate
- Mindy Stricke, Photographer; Artist, Canada - 'Good Eater': A Community Art Installation about Food and Motherhood
- Angela Miles, O.I.S.E, University of Toronto, Canada - Maternal Agency or Matriarchy? Perspectives for 'Activism By and On Behalf of Mothers'
- Terri Hawkes, York University, Canada - The Invisibility of Motherhood in Toronto Theatre, or... 'Intensive Mothering' Off-Off-Off Broadway

**B2: EMPOWERED MOTHERING**

**(ROOM 706, SOUTH BUILDING, METRO CONVENTION CENTRE)**

**CHAIR** - D. Lynn O'Brien Hallstein, Boston University

- Sara Jane Baskin, Florida State University, U.S.A. - The Post-Modern Family: Accepting a Fluid Notion of Family Without Leaving Mother to Clean the Mess Alone
- Sara Epstein, Deakin University, Australia - Mothers and Sons: The Quest for Social Transformation Through Feminist Parenting

- Lynn Christine Kuechle, Minnesota State University, Mankato; Activist, U.S.A. - The Motherhood Foundation – Celebrating Mothers by Providing Outlets for Honouring and Documenting Mother Art and Mother Work
- Gaisheda Kheawok, Whispering Song School of Energy Medicine, Canada - Conscious Parenting: A Spiritual Lifestyle

**3:45pm-4:00pm**

**BREAK**

**4:00pm-5:30pm**

**KEYNOTE PANEL 1**

**(ROOM 710, SOUTH BUILDING, METRO CONVENTION CENTRE)**

**CHAIR** – Linn Baran, Researcher; Activist

- Amber Kinser, East Tennessee State University, U.S.A. - Holding On by Letting Go: Personal Agency as Maternal Activism
- Fiona J. Green, University of Winnipeg, Canada - Feminist Mothering: A Conscious Political Act of Activism, Advocacy and Agency
- D. Lynn O'Brien Hallstein, Boston University, U.S.A. - Maternal Advocacy and Feminist Generations: Resisting and Rethinking Generational Differences among Feminist Waves
- Erika Horwitz, University of British Columbia; Registered Psychologist, Canada - Mothers' Resistance as a Site of Empowerment

**5:30pm-7:30pm**

**BOOK LAUNCH AND RECEPTION**

**(Room 713B, SOUTH BUILDING, METRO CONVENTION CENTRE)**

- JMI Vol. 1.2 "*Mothering, Bereavement, Loss and Grief*"
- *21<sup>st</sup> Century Motherhood Movement: Mothers Speak Out on Why We Need to Change the World and How to do it* (O'Reilly, ed.) Demeter Press

**7:45pm-9:45pm**

**KEYNOTE PANEL 2**

**(ROOM 713A, SOUTH BUILDING, METRO CONVENTION CENTRE)**

**CHAIR** – Gayle Brandeis, National Staff, CODEPINK: Women for Peace

- Ariel Gore, Founding Editor, *Hip Mama Magazine*, U.S.A. - From Hip Mama to Rad Dad: Zines as an Organizing Tool in the Maternal Feminist Movement
- Pat Gowens, Founder, Welfare Warriors, U.S.A. - "DHS Give US Back Our Children." Low-Income US Moms Organizing to Stop Government Child Trafficking
- Karen Shain, Policy Director, Legal Services for Prisoners with Children, U.S.A. - Incarcerated Mothers: Mothers First and Foremost
- D. Memee Lavell-Harvard, President, Ontario Native Women's Association (ONWA), Canada and Jeannette Corbiere Lavell, President, Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC) – A Nation Is Not Conquered: Mothers, Grandmothers, and Grassroots Activism in Aboriginal Communities

**FRIDAY, MAY 13, 2011**

**8:30am-9:30am**

**REGISTRATION & CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST**

**(COMMON AREA NEAR ROOM 713A, SOUTH BUILDING, METRO CONVENTION CENTRE)**

**9:30am-12:00pm**

**KEYNOTE PANEL 3**

**(ROOM 713A, SOUTH BUILDING, METRO CONVENTION CENTRE)**

**CHAIR** – Fiona J. Green, University of Winnipeg

- Gayle Brandeis, National Staff, CODEPINK: Women for Peace, U.S.A. - (M)othering Stories: Writing Fiction of Social Change with a Mother's Fierce and Open Heart

- Tara Brettholtz, President, Mothers and More, U.S.A. - Pocketbook Issues: Talking to Women about the Financial Risk of Motherhood
- Deborah Byrd, Lafayette College, U.S.A. - Walking the Walk, Not Just Talking the Talk: Why (Some) Feminist Professors Should Engage in Community-Based Teaching and Research
- Diana Gustafson, Memorial University of Newfoundland - Mother, Teacher, Researcher: Living and Leading Everyday Rebellions
- Donna Lester-Smith, University of British Columbia, Canada and Joyce Fossella, Executive Director and Co-Facilitator of Warriors Against Violence Society (WAVS), Canada - Honouring our Spirits: Warriors against Violence Society
- Sarah Francis, Campaign Director, MomsRising, U.S.A. - Change Powered by Moms

**12:00pm-12:15pm**

**BREAK**

**12:15pm-1:15pm**

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS D1, D2**

**D1: MATERNAL EMPOWERMENT AND ACTIVISM**

**(ROOM 710, SOUTH BUILDING, METRO CONVENTION CENTRE)**

**CHAIR** – Ann Douglas, Author; Journalist

- Andrea Doyle Hugmeyer, Oregon State University, U.S.A. - Moms on the Move: Acknowledging Intersections of Ableism and Feminism Through Maternal Activism
- Ann Douglas, Author; Journalist, Canada and Sharon Aschaiek, Autism Resolution Ontario, Canada - Giving Birth to Your Activist Self: Finding Your Voice as a Mother Activist

**D2: SUPPORTING AND EMPOWERING MOTHERS**

**(ROOM 713A, SOUTH BUILDING, METRO CONVENTION CENTRE)**

**CHAIR** - Judith Mintz, Trent University

- Iain C Hay, University of Canberra, Australia - ‘Kids Having Kids’: The Role of Schools in Supporting Young Mothers’ (Re)Engagement with Education, Training and/or Schooling
- Judith Mintz, Trent University, Canada, - Empowering Women to Become Mothers: Midwifery Collectives in Ontario, 1990-2010
- Clare Weber, California State University Dominguez Hills, USA - Activist Mothering and Mexican Women Immigrant Struggles for Social Movement Autonomy in a Global Port City

**1:15pm-2:30pm**

**LUNCH (on your own)**

**2:30pm-4:00pm**

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS E1, E2**

**E1: MATERNAL ACTIVISM**

**(ROOM 710, SOUTH BUILDING, METRO CONVENTION CENTRE)**

**CHAIR** – Ann Douglas, Author; Journalist

- Amber Fatima Riaz, Canada - Parents Against Police Brutality and the Anthony Baez Foundation
- Ann Douglas, Author; Journalist, Canada - Literary Brainchild: Brain, Child: The Magazine for Thinking Mothers
- Jodi Vandenberg-Daves, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, U.S.A. - Maternal Resilience, Adaptation and Agency in the Modernizing United States

**E2: MATERNAL PRACTICES**

**(ROOM 713A, SOUTH BUILDING, METRO CONVENTION CENTRE)**

**CHAIR** - Melissa A. Milkie, University of Maryland

- Tamara Mikell-Choudhury, University of Arizona, U.S.A. - Mothering a Jew or Muslim?

- Melissa A. Milkie, University of Maryland, U.S.A. - Intensive Mothering, Class-based Inequalities, and Children's Well-being: Cultural Discourse Versus Efficacy of Mother-Child Time Together

**4:00pm-4:15pm**

**BREAK**

**4:15pm-5:45pm**

**CONCURRENT SESSION F1, F2**

**F1: PUBLIC/SOCIAL/HEALTH POLICY**

**(ROOM 706, SOUTH BUILDING, METRO CONVENTION CENTRE)**

**CHAIR** – Gail C. Keating, Penn State Worthington Scranton

- Gail C. Keating, Penn State Worthington Scranton, U.S.A. - Fighting the 'Mom Bomb' with Family Friendly Policies
- Lynn Gehl, Algonquin Anishinaabe-Mnakinag Ndoodem, Canada - Unknown and Unstated Paternity and the Indian Act

**F3: WRITING MOTHERHOOD**

**(ROOM 710, SOUTH BUILDING, METRO CONVENTION CENTRE)**

**CHAIR** - Alison Quaggin Harkin, University of Wyoming

- Chris Klassen, Wilfrid Laurier University, Canada - Maternal Struggles: An Autobiography of Caring for a Child with Disabilities
- Alison Quaggin Harkin, University of Wyoming, U.S.A. - A Will to Tell: Retelling the Experience of (Dis)abling Motherhood and Childhood
- Fiona Lee, Independent Researcher; Writer, Canada - Mother Learning: A Creative Response

**5:45pm-7:30pm**

**DINNER**

**7:30pm-9:00pm**

**KEYNOTE ADDRESS: CINDY SHEEHAN**

**“ONE PERSON CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE”**

**(ROOM 713A, SOUTH BUILDING, METRO CONVENTION CENTRE)**

**CHAIR** – Andrea O'Reilly, York University

**SATURDAY, MAY 14, 2011**

**8:45am-9:15am**

**REGISTRATION & CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST**

**(COMMON AREA NEAR ROOM 713A, SOUTH BUILDING, METRO CONVENTION CENTRE)**

**9:15am-11:30am**

**KEYNOTE PANEL 4**

**(ROOM 713A, SOUTH BUILDING, METRO CONVENTION CENTRE)**

**CHAIR** – Fiona J. Green, University of Winnipeg

- Cheli English-Figaro, President Emerita of Mocha Moms, Inc., U.S.A. - Black, Double Ivy and at Home
- Lorri Slepian, Leadership Advisor; Board member, National Association of Mothers' Centers (NAMC), U.S.A. - Essential Elements of Teaching, Modeling and Producing Empowerment as Modeled in the Mothers' Center
- Rachel Epstein, Coordinator, Sherbourne Health Centre's LGBTQ Parenting Network, Canada - Dykes Planning Tykes: Queering the Family Tree
- Glendene Grant, Educator; Activist, Founder of M.A.T.H., U.S.A. - M.A.T.H. (Mothers Against Trafficking Humans)
- Robbie Davis-Floyd, University of Texas, Austin; Board Member, International MotherBaby Childbirth Organization (IMBCO), U.S.A. - The International MotherBaby Childbirth Initiative (IMBCI): 10 Steps to Optimal MotherBaby Maternity Care

- Andrea O'Reilly, York University, Canada - Maternal Activism as Matricentric Feminism: The History, Ideological Frameworks, Political Strategies and Activist Practices of the 21st Century Motherhood Movement

**11:30am-11:45am**

**BREAK**

**11:45am – 1:15pm**

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS G1, G2, G3**

**G1: EMPOWERING MOTHERS**

**(ROOM 706, SOUTH BUILDING, METRO CONVENTION CENTRE)**

**CHAIR** - Rebecca Bromwich, University of Ottawa

- Lesley Tarasoff, LGBTQ Health Research Team at CAMH (Social Equity & Health Research Section), Canada - 'Oh Dear': The Pregnancy and Childbirth Experiences of Women with Physical Disabilities
- Rebecca Bromwich, University of Ottawa, Canada - Mapping Motherwork: Beyond Binaries

**G2: MOTHERING AND LITERATURE/LITERACY**

**(ROOM 710, SOUTH BUILDING, METRO CONVENTION CENTRE)**

**CHAIR** - Lidiane Luiza da Cunha, University of Alberta

- Stacey Crooks, OISE, University of Toronto, Canada - Empowering Mothers Or Blaming Them? Challenging Regulatory Discourses in Family Literacy
- Jo Altília, Literature for Life, Canada - Literature for Life
- Lidiane Luiza da Cunha, University of Alberta, Canada – “Thinking Back through our Mothers”: The Impact of Mothers on Creative Daughters in Brazilian and Canadian Literatures

**G3: REPRESENTING MOTHERHOOD**

**(ROOM 713A, SOUTH BUILDING, METRO CONVENTION CENTRE)**

**CHAIR** – Linda Hunter, University of Guelph

- Linda Hunter, University of Guelph, Canada - Representations of Motherhood During the French Enlightenment: Relevance to Theoretical Developments
- Melanie Dennis Unrau, University of Winnipeg, Canada - Motherhood, Performativity, and Change in 'The City as Seen from the Air'
- Heather Brown-Hudson, Lindenwood University, U.S.A. - For Art's Sake: Fashioning a Mother: From Obsession to Abandonment in Lois Gould's Mommy Dressing and Jean Nathan's The Secret Life of the Lonely Doll
- Maria L. Figueredo, York University, Canada - 'Mother's Song': Feminine Revolt Surfacing In The Canto Popular Uruguayo Of The Duo Washington Carrasco And Cristina Fernández

**1:15pm - 2:15pm**

**LUNCH (on your own)**

**2:15pm – 4:15pm**

**KEYNOTE PANEL 5**

**(ROOM 713A, SOUTH BUILDING, METRO CONVENTION CENTRE)**

**CHAIR** – Deborah Byrd, Lafayette College

- Anna Dion, Young Champion of Maternal Health (from Canada, placed in Argentina) - Navigating Maternal Health across Boundaries
- Ifeyinwa Egwaoje Madu, Young Champion of Maternal Health (from Nigeria, placed in USA) - Women and Men Standing Side by Side
- Martha Fikre Adenew, Young Champion of Maternal Health (from Ethiopia, placed in USA) - Maternal Clubs: Empowering Mothers to Reduce Maternal Mortality

- Julianne Parker, Young Champion of Maternal Health (from USA, placed in Brazil) - Lua Nova's Empreiteira Escola: Fighting Social and Legal Discrimination against Single, Adolescent Mothers in Brazil through the Building of New Homes and New Families

**4:15pm – 4:30pm**

**BREAK**

**4:30pm – 6:00pm**

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS H1, H2, H3**

**H1: MATERNAL ACTIVISM II**

**(ROOM 706, SOUTH BUILDING, METRO CONVENTION CENTRE)**

**CHAIR** – Marianne Filion, Concordia University

- Sarah Sahagian, York University, Canada - Saving Your Daughter From That Middle Eastern Man You Married
- Marianne Filion, Concordia University, Canada - The Mother of All Wars: Rescuing Peace from Dichotomous Discourse

**H2: MATERNAL IDENTITIES**

**(ROOM 710, SOUTH BUILDING, METRO CONVENTION CENTRE)**

**CHAIR** - Gary Lee Pelletier, York University

- Veronika Novoselova, York University, Canada - Single Mothers by Choice: No Time to Wait For a Perfect Partner
- Gary Lee Pelletier, York University, Canada - Meet The Manny: An Exploration of this Mythical Creature and His Radical Potential
- Angela Wignall, University of Victoria, Canada – Revolutionary Becoming: Hybrid Identity in Maternal Praxis

**H3: WORKSHOP/READING**

**(ROOM 713A, SOUTH BUILDING, METRO CONVENTION CENTRE)**

- Kryn Freehling-Burton, Oregon State University, U.S.A. - Performing Mothers and Daughters
- Shannon Salisbury, Writer; Advocate, Canada - “Expertise,” Value, and the Accidental Activist: Finding and Owning One’s Space as a Mother of a Child with Stuff