

# GATEWAYS FESTIVALS

## MEET OUR PRESENTERS

**Allen Dickson** is an educator with a passion for ensuring learning is innovative, practical and enjoyable. For nearly 20 years he has specialised in the fields of Drama, English and Maths, and uses his diverse range of unique skills to initiate change in classroom practice. Allen runs his own educational consultancy, RethinkPD.

**Andrea Blake** loves anything to do with words – reading, writing, discovering, inventing or investigating them! One of the things she enjoys most of all is working with enthusiastic young wordsmiths who love them too. An experienced teacher and specialist in Gifted Education, Andrea designs programs that inspire curiosity and ignite imagination, developing creative writing abilities and creative thinking skills.

**Anna Jahjah** has a masters' degree in British and American Literature and Civilisation and a Bachelor in Arabic Literature and Civilisation from Aix-en-Provence University, in France. She has been teaching storytelling and creative writing techniques to French and Australian children for over 10 years. She also owns her own theatre company which gives a voice to characters and stories that are rarely heard in Australia.

**Carla Maxwell** is an Art, Design Technology and Robotics teacher who has completed a masters of Information Technology in Education (by Research) at the University of Melbourne. Her Bachelor of Fine Art also gives her a unique perspective on teaching in a creative and integrated manner. Carla continues to plan activities for students that are fun, hands-on and experience based, taking into account aspects of mathematical and scientific principles.

**Emma Lord** is a software engineering teacher who has a Master of E-Learning from UTS and a Master of Education from Charles Sturt. An educator who is passionate about new technologies and tools, she wants to share her knowledge of STEAM education and pass on practical and innovative tips and tricks for the tech world. She has worked across K-12 teaching Technology and Computing as well as running after school coding clubs and robotics, with the aim of spreading excitement and inspiration.

**Emily Taylor** is a multi-award-winning actor who has appeared in a number of television programs and worked extensively on stage. She is a regular comedy, sketch and improv performer with troupes such as *Spontaneous Broadway*, *Random Musical*, *Impro Melbourne*, *Spark* and *Melbourne Playback* (of which she was Artistic Director for 2 years). Emily has collaborated with young people for many years - as a director, theatre maker and teaching artist – with organisations such as *Melbourne Theatre Company*, *Malthouse*, *Arena Theatre Company*, *Drama Victoria*, *Melbourne Playback*, *First Impressions Youth Theatre* and *G.A.T.E.WAYS*.

**Jacob Pini** completed a Bachelor of Aviation and a Master of Teaching at the University of Melbourne. He has a strong passion for mathematics and digital technologies and believes firmly in firing imagination and interest in STEM education (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) with hands-on learning. Jacob considers himself an amateur yogi, an avid cyclist and a keen gamer and he is looking forward to sharing his experiences with, and creating exciting new learning opportunities for, his students.

**Jesse Chambers** is a STEM educator who provides exciting and challenging learning experiences for high-ability students. He has a double degree in science and education with honours and has recently completed a Master of Science Communication Outreach. Since joining G.A.T.E.WAYS, Jesse has delivered workshops spanning astronomy to zoology. He has a strong passion for inspiring students to learn about science.

**Kate Parker** is a science communicator and writer who aspires to challenge and engage kids in interesting scientific concepts. With a background in teaching ethics to children and over a decade spent in the health and fitness industry, Kate is passionate about critical thought and the nexus between inquiry and education. Between Einstein and Asimov, the scientific truth is actually far more interesting than fiction!

**Katrina Sims** has a master's degree in Gifted Education. She has taught enrichment mathematics classes for gifted students in the primary system as well as mathematics to students in Years 7 to 10. She is a member of the Australian Mathematics Trust Challenge Problem Solving committee and has a keen passion for problem solving in mathematics. Katrina is the recipient of a National Excellence in Teaching Award and a BH Neumann Award for her contributions to Enrichment of Mathematics for Australian Students.

**Ken Fraser** is a former primary school teacher who lives in Canberra. He has five grandchildren, three of whom attend primary school. Ken writes short stories for children and has recently published a book of 50 short stories called Tales Out of School. Many of the stories feature the natural wisdom and kindness of children. Ken has spoken at conferences around the world on topics such as self-esteem, personality type and emotional literacy and lists playing the bagpipes as his other main hobby.

**Lucinda Clutterbuck** is an artist and animator with a passion for learning and thinking. She has produced over 30 short animations and she has run workshops for all ages using animation and art techniques, as well as cross-curricular programs. She loves to work with like-minded individuals of all age and the pursuit of knowledge. Lucinda thrives on helping children experience the flow of creative thinking, through process based learning, especially for problem solving.

**Michelle Emsley** worked as a local reporter for a newspaper and a radio producer before studying primary teaching. She loves nothing more than tackling a challenging problem. Michelle is thrilled to be putting this passion to good use, inspiring the problem-solvers and mathematicians of the future. She developed a passion for working with gifted and talented students while in the mainstream classroom and has presented for G.A.T.EWAYS on a number of occasions.

**Tim Byrne** enjoys all areas of science. Science is a way of looking at the world and trying to figure out what's going on, so every day brings another challenge to look further, deeper or differently. He likes to share his passion for science with anyone who will take the time.

# GATEWAYS

**25** years of  
inspiration  
and challenge

