



2019 MNAFEE Conference Keynote Presentations



Thursday, April 11, 2019, 8:30-9:45 am



The Gardener and the Carpenter: What the New Science of Child Development Tells Us About the Relationship Between Parents and Children

Drawing on the study of human evolution and her own cutting-edge scientific research into how children learn, Gopnik shows that although caring for children is profoundly important, it is not a matter of shaping them to turn out a particular way. Children are designed to be messy and unpredictable, playful and imaginative, and to be very different both from their parents and from each other. The variability and flexibility of childhood lets them innovate, create, and survive in an unpredictable world. "Parenting" won't make children learn—but caring parents

let children learn by creating a secure, loving environment.

Alison Gopnik, Child Psychologist, Writer, and Philosopher

Dr. Alison Gopnik is a professor of psychology and affiliate professor of philosophy at the University of California at Berkeley. She is an internationally recognized leader in the study of children's learning and development and was one of the founders of the field of theory of mind, an originator of the "theory theory" of children's development and, more recently introduced, the idea that probabilistic models and Bayesian inference could be applied to children's learning.

She received her BA from McGill University and her PhD from Oxford University. She has held a Center for Advanced Studies in the Behavioral Sciences Fellowship, the Moore Distinguished Scholar fellowship at the California Institute of Technology, the All Souls College Distinguished Visiting Fellowship at Oxford, and King's College Distinguished Visiting Fellowship at Cambridge.

Dr. Alison Gopnik is the author or coauthor of over 100 journal articles and several books, including *Words, Thoughts and Theories*, and the bestselling and critically acclaimed popular books, *The Scientist in the Crib*, and *The Philosophical Baby: What Children's Minds Tell Us About Love, Truth and the Meaning of Life*. Her latest book, *The Gardener and the Carpenter: What the New Science of Child Development Tells Us About the Relationship Between Parents and Children*, was released in August 2016. Her TED talk on her work has been viewed more than 2.9 million times, and she has frequently appeared on TV and radio. Since 2013 she has written the Mind and Matter column for The Wall Street Journal. You can follow Dr. Allison Gopnik on Twitter.

Friday, April 12, 2019, 8-9:15 am



Multigenerational Psychopathology and Trauma through a Developmental Lens

This key note will focus on the role of trauma and familial stress on the development of young children while discussing ways service providers can better support families to enhance child development and family well being

Catherine L. Wright, PsyD, LP, LPCC

Catherine L. Wright, PsyD, LP, LPCC has a doctorate in Counseling Psychology from the University of St. Thomas and is a Zero to Three Fellow. Catherine has over 25 years of experience providing direct children's mental health services and managing children's mental health programs and systems. She is a licensed psychologist (LP) and a professional clinical counselor (LPCC) and the Early Childhood Mental Health System Coordinator within the Behavioral Health Division of the Department of Human Services for the State of Minnesota. At the State of Minnesota, Catherine is responsible for developing the early childhood mental health system of care, including arranging for and managing trainings in evidence based practices for early childhood mental health clinicians, supporting policy development around early childhood mental health, and integrating clinical services within family serving systems such as childcare, Head Start, schools, primary care clinics and the adult mental health system. She is interested in developing evidenced based treatments for parents with serious mental illness who are parenting their young children.