



World Inclusion Congress



Ministry of Education
of the Republic of Kazakhstan



International Forums of
Inclusion Practitioners



Akimat of the city
of Almaty



Help Others Pursue
Education

World Inclusion Congress

programme

Location

Almaty Management University – AlmaU

Address

Almaty, Rozybakiev street 227

Date

16.10.2025

09:00 – 09:25

16.10.2025

AlmaU 1

AlmaU 2

Individual Talk:

Rapid-Skill Upskilling for Inclusive University Teaching

Speaker:

Sujit Sukumaran – Interdisciplinary educator and training consultant in the UAE, UK and India; lecturer at the University of West London; international director of Toastmasters; head of PRERANA.

Individual Talk:

Art as a Language of Inclusion: Psychological and Ethical Foundations of Creative Education

Speaker:

Christopher Boyle – Professor of Educational Psychology and Inclusion at the University of Adelaide, Chair of the Ethics Committee, Member of the British Psychological Society, and Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy.

09:30 – 10:25

16.10.2025

AlmaU 1

AlmaU 2

Panel Session:

The Voice and Call of Youth

Speaker:

Cristin Topper – Moderator

Juliet Jerry – 11th Grade Student in the Commerce Stream at Shining Star International School, Career Prefect, Active Member of the Student Council, Passionate Speaker, and Volunteer.

Deborah Perrin – Co-Chair of ECIS MLIE and Advocate for Inclusive Education, Leads English as an Additional Language Instruction for Students Aged 3–18 at The British School, Netherlands.

Vaishnavi Joshika Naidu – Shining Star International School, Student Council, IT prefect, UN CSW delegation member, writer and aspirin poet.

Hridaya Ektare – 9th Grade Student at Choithram School; Passionate Orator and Emerging Poet with a Visionary Mindset, Aspiring to Inspire Change.

Jasmane Frans – Founder Globally Empowered, Youth Development Coordinator

Panel Session:

Preparing Young People with Disabilities for Employment in the Hospitality Industry

Speaker:

Joseph B. Ryan – World-Renowned Professor of Special Education and Founder of the Nationally Recognized LIFE Program; Esteemed Expert in Behavioral Interventions.

Erica Walters – Award Recipient and Director of the Nationally Recognized ClemsonLIFE Program, with Extensive Experience in Special Education and a Strong Commitment to Supporting Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities.

Chuck Hicks – Father of two sons with Autism Spectrum Disorder, sharing family experience in choosing post-secondary education programs and support for independent living.

Vedrana Pavletich – Senior Manager for Development and Qualifications Recognition in the EMEA Region.

Sarah Manlove – Senior Manager for Learning Solutions Development, Educational Systems Solutions Division.

10:30 – 10:55

16.10.2025

AlmaU 1

AlmaU 2

Panel Session:

Raising Expectations and Unlocking Potential in the Post-Secondary Education System

Speaker:

April Regester – Administrator, Researcher, and Expert in Inclusive Education; Co-Developer of the UMSL Succeed Program for Students with Intellectual Disabilities.

Jonathan Lidgus – Director of the UMSL Succeed Program; Expert in Inclusive Postsecondary Education and Intellectual Disabilities.

Sujit Sukumaran – Interdisciplinary Educator and Learning Consultant in the UAE, UK, and India; Lecturer at the University of West London; International Director at Toastmasters; Head of PRERANA.

Manasvi Patangia – 9th Grade Student at Choithram School, Participant in Model UN, Debates, and Student Council; Badminton Player; Ambassador of the Finite Earth Movement.

Panel Session:

Re-engaging Southeast Asia's Out-of-School Children and Youth

Speaker:

Datuk Dr Habibah Abdul Rahim – She is currently the Director at the Secretariat of the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO). She is also an Honorary Research Fellow at the MASA Institute, Senior Advisor at Edvolution, and a board member of the Teach for Malaysia Foundation and Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka.

Emiljohn Columna Sentillas – Experienced leader in educational policy and research, former Deputy Head of the Department of Education of the Philippines.

11:00 – 11:25**16.10.2025****AlmaU 1****AlmaU 2****Individual Talk:**

Transforming Pedagogy to Support Social and Emotional Well-Being: A Practical Study of Choithram School, India

Speaker:

Rajesh Awasthi – Director of Educational Development and Social-Emotional Learning Integration, Choithram Group of Institutions, Indore, India

Individual Talk:

Disability – Inclusive Education: Southeast Asia Overview

Speaker:

Madam Jamilah Kadir

11:30 – 11:55**AlmaU 1****AlmaU 2****Individual Talk:**

Curriculum with purpose: designing for lives, not just for lessons.

Speaker:

David Huntingford – Headteacher at William Ford CoE Junior School in East London, championing inclusive, creative, dyslexia-friendly career-focused education that raises aspirations and transforms futures.

Individual Talk:

Inclusive Leadership and School Reform Through Student Voice and Engagement: Based on an International Case Study.

Speaker:

Dr. Heidi Cavanagh – Internationally recognized expert in education, promoting inclusive and equitable school reform.

12:00 – 12:25

16.10.2025

AlmaU 1

AlmaU 2

Individual Talk:

21st Century Inclusion: A Multidisciplinary Approach to Education, Upbringing, Health, and Socialization of Children with Special Educational Needs

Speaker:

Toizhan Seidalievna Dzhanieva – PhD in Pedagogical Sciences, President of the National Association of Special Educators of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Director of the Republican Educational Center for Correctional Pedagogy and Neuropsychology, Speech Therapist-Defectologist.

Individual Talk:

Leadership in Support of an Inclusive Environment

Speaker:

Maey Elnimer – Award-winning specialist in inclusive education, Academic Director of Continental School of Cairo; author of the transformational C.A.R.S. program.

12:30 – 12:55

AlmaU 1

AlmaU 2

Individual Talk:

More Than Awareness: What Trauma-Informed Inclusion Looks Like in Practice

Speaker:

Lee Boyce – CEO of BDSIP, qualified teacher and inclusion coordinator with leadership experience in mainstream and specialised schools.

Individual Talk:

No Student Left Behind – The Magic of Case-Based Learning

Speaker:

Mohan Lal Agarwal – Editor-in-Chief of Indo-Gulf TV show; President of Indo-Gulf Management Association; founder and head of GCC chapter of Humanistic Management Network Switzerland; ranked among 251 prominent global leaders in education.

12:30 – 12:55

Break

14:00 – 14:25

16.10.2025

AlmaU 1

AlmaU 2

Individual Talk:

Inclusion across a local partnership- introducing the Collab+™ model

Speaker:

Sharon White – Award-winning strategist with over 20 years of experience supporting children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and learners in alternative education settings. Sharon is the CEO at Educating Horizons and believes in 'changing systems to change lives.'®

Individual Talk:

School Design as a Key to Child Development: The Fuji Kindergarten Experience

Speaker:

Takaharu Tezuka – World-renowned architect, creator of Fuji Kindergarten – named the best school in the world by OECD and UNESCO, recipient of the UNESCO Global Award, and TED speaker.

14:30 – 14:55

AlmaU 1

AlmaU 2

Individual Talk:

Planning Inclusion Within the Curriculum (for Teachers)

Speaker:

Helen Claus-Willemsen – Independent educational consultant helping international families and schools to develop inclusive education in the Netherlands.

Individual Talk:

School Design as a Key to Child Development: The Fuji Kindergarten Experience

Speaker:

Takaharu Tezuka – World-renowned architect, creator of Fuji Kindergarten – named the best school in the world by OECD and UNESCO, recipient of the UNESCO Global Award, and TED speaker.

15:00 – 15:25

16.10.2025

AlmaU 1

AlmaU 2

Individual Talk:

Nothing About Us Without Us: How Student Leadership Turns Access Into Belonging

Speaker:

Mukilamudhan Ramkumar – Delegate of the IFIP Youth Forum from India, Top Student and Peer Leader, Advocate for Inclusive Education and Sustainable Development Goals, Global Ambassador at Globally Empowered.

Individual Talk:

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15:30 – 15:55

AlmaU 1

AlmaU 2

Individual Talk:

Building Pathways for All: Transitioning to Postsecondary Education for Diverse Learners

Speaker:

Roslyn Dotterweich – Special educator and transition researcher at ICS Addis Ababa, designing life and vocational programs for students with high support needs.

Individual Talk:

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16:00 – 16:25

16.10.2025

AlmaU 1

AlmaU 2

Individual Talk:

Strategic Leadership for Inclusion

Speaker:

Sharon Burke – Head of Inclusion at JESS Dubai, educational leader and former clinical practitioner with 16+ years' experience advancing SEND.

16:30 – 16:55

AlmaU 1

AlmaU 2

Individual Talk:

Developing a Whole School Culture for Inclusion

Speaker:

Dr Kulvarn Atwal – Principal Learning Leader at The Thinking Schools Federation with extensive experience in inclusive education and international school support.

Franck Coido – Headteacher at Hopewell School with 30 years' experience, specializing in teaching and learning, SEN, identity, belonging, and inclusive education.

David Huntingford – Headteacher at William Ford CoE Junior School in East London, championing inclusive, creative, dyslexia-friendly career-focused education that raises aspirations and transforms futures.

Individual Talk:

From Exclusion to Inclusion: A New Vision for the Role of Special Schools in Kazakhstan

Speaker:

Darija Udovicic Mahmuljin – International expert on inclusion and Director for Europe and Eurasia at Perkins School for the Blind.

17:00 – 17:25

16.10.2025

AlmaU 1

AlmaU 2

Individual Talk:

Leaders of Inclusive Education

Speaker:

Dr. Snehal Pinto – is an educator with more than twenty years of experience in various fields of education, including teaching and management. She started her career as a primary school teacher and eventually worked her way up to management positions both within and outside the education group.

Individual Talk:

How we can develop an inclusive school community by identifying concerns and barriers, cultivating inclusive cultures, and strengthening family and community partnerships?

Speaker:

Deborah Perrin – Co-Chair of ECIS MLIE and inclusive education advocate, leading EAL teaching across ages 3–18 in The British School, Netherlands.