EdTech Summit Africa 2015: Global Presenter Team Partners With African EdTech Voices

The third annual EdTech Summit Africa will take place between 8 and 24 August 2015. Summit organisers will provide *free* and high quality professional development, this year to thousands of teachers across nine locations in Africa, including six provinces in South Africa and the country of Swaziland, working in under-served schools in Johannesburg, Jane Furse, Nelspruit, Justica Village, Usutu Forest, Durban, East London, and Cape Town.

EdTech Summit Africa 2015 will build on the success of the 2013 and 2014 Summits, which saw over 1,000 educators attend and begin to adopt technology into their classrooms. This year, 1,800 educators are expected to attend the conferences. The EdTech Summit team believes that motivated teachers who are exposed to new methodologies combined with thoughtful training in a collaborative environment can cross generations of barriers to bring excitement, innovation and measurable learning experiences into their classrooms.

EdTech Summit Africa prides itself on these unique aspects that distinguishes it from other tech conferences: 1) It is offered at no-charge to attendees in order to provide professional development that reaches the most under-resourced schools and communities; 2) All workshop tracks involve hands-on learning with access to tech devices for attendees practice and learn by doing instead of listening to lengthy speeches and demonstrations; 3) Participants have the chance to win prizes of education technology tools such as tablets and laptops to continue the cycle of edtech learning and inspiration; and 4) EdTech Summit Africa promotes a year-round professional learning and sharing environment and revisits Summit locations each year in order to continue building on the knowledge from previous Summits.

International collaboration and mentorship
EdTech Summit Africa is a collaborative partnership between K2 Productions Global, LEAP Science and Maths Schools, the Global Teachers Institute, and Teach With Africa; four organisations seeking to grow the confidence and skills of African educators with the integration of technology into their teaching. An international team of education technology professionals and master teachers, side by side with local African experts, will give of their time to share skills and deliver multi-track hands-on workshops. EdTech Summit Africa creates opportunities for mentorship by promoting young South Africans into leadership team roles for the conference planning and implementation. This year's team includes Gugulethu Radebe, a 20 year old student teacher from Inanda Seminary in Kwazulu Natal province, who serves as the Communications Director and leads the social media outreach strategies.

2015 presentation team hails from major universities, non-profit and edtech sectors
The global presenter team for 2015 is a stellar group of teachers and technology experts from universities as well as private sector business who are on the cutting edge of creative technology strategies for teaching and learning. Four members of the presenter team come from Teachers College and Columbia University, including the founder and co-producer of EdTech Summit Africa, Karen Kirsch Page. In 2015, Karen received her master's degree in Instructional Technology and Media at Teachers College and is entering a doctoral studies program in Adult Learning and

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Leadership. Her inspiration to create the EdTech Summit Africa program was built on her 15 year teaching career in San Francisco and years of working with teachers and students in South Africa, as well as time spent working in Haiti, Bangladesh and Mozambique as a volunteer trainer and mentor.

The 2015 global team includes 15 presenters from South Africa and the United States, including the following, whose full bios can be accessed under the Presenting menu tab on www.edtechsummitafrica.com:

Esther Ohito - Ph.D. fellow Curriculum Studies Teachers College, Nat'l Board Certified Language Arts Teacher
Markus Campbell, MA, Public Admin at Columbia University, Leadership Consultant
Ina Seok - MA, Economics & Education Teachers College, former charter school teacher (fellowship for EdTech Summit Africa participation awarded from the Columbia Business School)
Chris Mizell, MA English Ed Teachers College, Humanities teacher Town School for Boys
Lisa Jiang - MBA & MA, Stanford, former Google education designer
Joseph Lewis - Ph.D. English fellow Wayne State, Delta College, Michigan Professor
Alana Lopez - NYU Int'l Ed & EdTech masters, Curriculum Developer Stern School of Business, NYU
Mona Ewees, Nat'l Board Certified Math Teacher & former Principal, Breteau Foundation tablet trainer and former Kipp teacher
Josh Elder, Co-Founder and Chief Academic Officer, Pioneer Academies in Johannesburg and former K-12 Science teacher
Rupal Jain, Ed.M. Technology, Innovation, & Education - Harvard GSE, Graduate RA MIT Media Lab's Lifelong Kindergarten group
Gabriel Sanchez, MA Music
Wendy Cross, EdTech co-producer, Int'l Development & Non-profit Mgmt with a focus on African Education Programs
Michael Dlamini, IT expert, LEAP Science and Maths Schools
Gugu Radebe, BA Education UNISA, Director Social Media, EdTech Summit Africa

A technology training summit geared to improve education
The Summit will deliver training and development programmes in hands-on workshop format to educators working in township, urban and rural schools. Many of these teachers have had limited exposure to technology and experience with devices and resources rare; but hope to bring solutions into their classrooms and schools to better serve the education needs and interests of their learners. The Summit intends to help address inequalities in education by enabling educators in under-resourced schools the opportunity to develop their own 21st century skills, teaching methodologies and instructional strategies geared for their contexts in our conference format. These educators will then take these innovative skills, strategies and tools back into their classrooms to benefit learners in local communities.

Summit 2015 events and locations
Nine EdTech Summit Africa events will take place between 8 and 24 August, at the locations below, across six South African provinces and Swaziland.

Date: Saturday 08 August; 08h00-16h30
Venue: Dainfern College, Broadacres Drive, Dainfern, Johannesburg, Gauteng

Date: Monday 10 August; 08h00-16h30
Venue: Pioneer Academies, Gold Reef City, Johannesburg, Gauteng

Date:	Wednesday 12 August; 08h00-16h30
Venue:	LEAP Science & Maths School; Jane Furse; Limpopo
Date:	Friday 14 August; 08h00-16h30
Venue:	Babati Primary School, Justica Village, Mpumalanga
Date:	Saturday 15 August; 08h00-16h30
Venue:	Penryn College, Nelspruit, Mpumalanga
Date:	Monday 17 August; 08h00-16h30
Venue:	Usutu Forests Primary School, Swaziland
Date:	Thursday 20 August; 08h00-16h30
Venue:	Inanda Seminary, M25, Emachobeni, Inanda Mission, KwaZulu-Natal
Date:	Saturday 22 August; 08h00-16h30
Venue:	Stirling Primary School, Epsom Road, Stirling, East London, Eastern Cape
Date:	Saturday 24 August; 08h00-16h30
Venue:	LEAP Science & Maths School, Pinelands, Cape Town, Western Cape

Typical daily schedule at each Summit event

Most of the Summit days will follow a similar schedule, with six parallel workshop sessions across three blocks over the course of the day for a total of eighteen separate workshops to choose from. Summit attendees will be able to select the workshops that best interest them and match their subject needs and technology integration levels.

For more information and continued updates on EdTech Summit Africa 2015 visit www.edtechsummitafrica.com. Should you have any questions, require additional information, want to attend a Summit, or care to schedule an interview, please contact Karen Kirsch Page at karenkpage@gmail.com or Wendy Cross at wendyfcross@gmail.com