

Science Centre World Congress History

The first Science Centre World Congress (SCWC) was held in 1996 following an initiative by the Association of Science-Technology Centers (ASTC) and the European Collaborative for Science, Industry and Technology Exhibitions (ECSITE). It was the first effort to bring together science centers leaders from all over the world to a meeting to discuss collaboration and to provide an opportunity for professional interchange and international networking.

From that first congress, and continuing through the three following world congresses, delegates have come together to discuss the issues facing science centers around the globe and the important role that science centers can play in increasing public engagement in science and technology.

Science Centre World Congresses are held every three years in alternating continents and are open to science centre and museum professionals from all over the world. The congress organization consists of a local Organizing Committee, set up by the host institution, and an International Program Committee, set up by the various science centre networks as detailed below

15-20 June 2008: The 5th Science Centre World Congress, will be held on 15-20 June 2008 at Toronto, Ontario, Canada. The Ontario Science Centre Ontario Science Centre, with optional one day program at Science North in Sudbury, Ontario *Science Centres as Agents of Change – Locally, Nationally and Internationally*

Keynote Speaker

The 5th Science Centre World Congress will feature three keynote addresses, linked to the congress sub-themes. Keynote speakers were chosen from outside our field based on their ability to inspire delegates and promote dialogue both during the Congress and following.

Monday, June 16

The Role of Science Centres in Building the Future



Jennifer Corriero is co-founder and Executive Director of TakingITGlobal (TIG), a non-profit organization aimed at fostering cross-cultural dialogue, strengthening the capacity of youth as leaders and increasing awareness and involvement in global issues through the use of technology. TIG partners with five UN agencies, and is supported by several corporations and philanthropic foundations.

TakingITGlobal.org is an online community that connects youth to find inspiration, access information, get involved, and take action in their local and global communities. It's the world's most popular online community for young people interested in making a difference, with hundreds of thousands of unique visitors each month.

In 2007, Jennifer was named as one of Canada's Top 100 Most Powerful Women by the Women's Executive Network and in 2005 she was named as a 'Young Global Leader' by the World Economic Forum. She has presented at events including the World Urban Forum, International AIDS Conference, World Summit on Sustainable Development, Youth

Employment Summit and Global Knowledge Partnership International Forum. Jennifer has a BA (Liberal Studies) with a focus on 'Business, Communications, Technology and Culture' and a Masters in Environmental Studies from York University. Her area of concentration is 'Youth Engagement and Capacity-Building Across Cultures'. Jennifer is an alumna of the Ontario Science Centre Science School.

Keynote Presentation:

Jennifer Corriero, Co-founder of TakingITGlobal.org, a world-wide community of young people creating positive global change, takes us on a journey to discover how we can connect with the millions of young people who want to make a difference in the world. Jennifer will share how TakingITGlobal's mission of Inspire, Inform, and Involve has translated into a number of virtual and on-the-ground programs in dozens of countries around the world, reaching young people in every corner of the planet, and bringing them together with educators, peers, and NGOs to work towards achieving some of the world's greatest challenges – the Millennium Development Goals. Joined via webcast by young leaders in Egypt, Argentina, and China, these passionate young activists will share their stories, insights, and the huge opportunity that we all have to harness the power of technology and the Internet to take action in our communities.