



IDC 09 PANEL: FRIDAY June 5th, 15.30-17.00

Museums, Interactive Technology, and Children

Panelists will share experiences on the creative use of interactive digital technologies in exhibits found in science and children's museums. Museums, devoted to children and family learning, provide unique settings for artists and educators to try new ideas for interactive technologies. Through formal on-site evaluation, the impact of this type of exhibits on the visitor can be measured. Three museum educators from institutions with distinctive points of view will highlight the use of interactive technologies and the benefit to the institution and young visitors.

COORDINATOR: Paolo Paolini – Politecnico di Milano (Italy)



Paolo Paolini is full professor at Politecnico di Milano and adjunct professor at the School of Communication Sciences and scientific coordinator of the master TEC-CH (Technology Enhanced Communication for Cultural Heritage) at the University of Italian Switzerland (USI) - Lugano. He is the scientific coordinator of the HOC-lab of Politecnico di Milano (<http://hoc.elet.polimi.it>), where, from 1998, he has managed several projects related to eLearning (involving thousands of students and teachers from 18 different European countries and also Israel and the USA) and cultural heritage (in cooperation with various national and international prestigious cultural institutions).

PANELISTS

Mikko Myllykoski- Heureka Finnish Science Center (FL)



Mikko Myllykoski is experience director AT Heureka - The Finnish Science Centre. He has been the Project Manager for several large interactive and internationally touring science and technology exhibitions (Nordic Explorers 1996, Image Alive! 1997, Me and you 2000, Flight! 2002, Music 2005, Scenes of Silence 2007, Heureka Classics 2009). He has several publications in history, science education and museology as well as presentations at conferences of European Collaborative for Science and Technology Exhibitions (ECSITE) and Association for Science-Technology Centres (ASTC). He is member of the Conference Program Committee of ASTC since 2003 and Chair since 2007. He was awarded the State Prize for Information in 1997

Claire Pillsbury - Exploratorium Museum, San Francisco (USA)



Claire Pillsbury is a Project Director at the Exploratorium, a hands-on science center in San Francisco (www.exploratorium.edu). She leads interdisciplinary development teams of graphic designers, writers, evaluators, exhibit engineers, programmers, exhibit designers and external advisors to create new interactive exhibits. Her work has included exhibit development and program collaborations with science centers in Sweden, Finland, Switzerland, Japan, Singapore, Brazil, and Israel, and children's museums and history museums in the United States. Her approach to electronic interactivity is to develop curiosity provoking, intuitive interfaces that allow equal access to digital natives, neophytes and immigrants. She holds a BA in Psychology from the University of California at Berkeley.

Jane Werner - Children's Museum of Pittsburgh (USA)



Jane Werner's 27 years of museum experience includes 17 years at The Children's Museum of Pittsburgh where she serves as Executive Director. She leads a team responsible for all aspects of the Museum's mission, exhibits, public programming, funding and operations. Prior to that, she worked for the Franklin Institute Science Museum, The Carnegie Science Center and The Buhl Science Center designing exhibits and programs. Her interest in the intersections between science, art and good design play a key role in her work on behalf of children and families. Werner currently is President of the Pittsburgh Arts Council and Vice President of the Association of Children's Museum.