



European Society for Research on the Education of Adults (ESREA)  
Network on Education and Learning of Older Adults (ELOA)  
Hosted by Leeds Beckett University

## **IDENTITY, VOICE, CREATIVITY, ACTION!**

The 8th conference of the ESREA Network - ELOA  
9 - 11 November 2017 - Leeds, UK

***Older people learning creatively for creativity, finding a 'voice' and taking action.  
Time for ELOA to 'get creative'.***

The theme embraces community-based learning and activism, arts-based learning for older people, and creative approaches to older people's learning. Building on the themes of previous ELOA conferences and to bring a creative approach to older people's learning. Can we change our perceptions and bring a creative approach to our work at the same time as using our work to support changing practices and outcomes for learning in communities and across society?

The conference will address the following themes:

- Access to learning for older people
- Cultural dimensions of older people's learning
- Equality and diversity of older people's learning
- Community learning
- The role of adult educators and their work with older learners
- Older people learning in the cultural sector

### **Keynote presentation by Anne Gallacher**

#### **Playing Many Parts: the impact of a festival on arts and older people**

Launched in 2012, Luminare is Scotland's nationwide creative ageing festival. Set up in response to evidence that our engagement with the arts decreases as we get older, Luminare's annual festival extends the length and breadth of Scotland and includes events in arts venues, community centres, village halls and care homes. This presentation will tell Luminare's story, outlining successes and highlights, and exploring the challenges encountered along the way. Key findings from an independent evaluation carried out across the first three festivals will be shared.

### **Keynote presentation by Dr Victoria Watts**

#### **Dance: Transfiguring lives through joy and rigour**

In 2012 the Royal Academy of Dance successfully bid for funding for a small-scale research, outreach, and professional development project in relation to dance practice with older adults. The Dance for Lifelong Wellbeing project touched well over 200 lives in its initial 6-month roll out. In this presentation, I reflect on how it served as a catalyst for change not only for the older learners who took part, but also for the administrative team, for the teachers and researchers, for the support workers, and for the institutions who housed much of the work.

## Keynote presentation by Dr Wendy Martin

### Cultural Gerontology: Shifting the Paradigm?

The Cultural Turn came relatively late to gerontology, reflecting the tendency of the field to be dominated by practical issues and policy concerns. Over the last decade, however, cultural influences have increasingly impacted on the field, bringing new theorizing, and new subject matter to bear. This has expanded the scope of gerontology immeasurably with the result that it is no longer dominated by the perspectives of medicine and social welfare, but ranges more widely intellectually. Age increasingly features as an analytic category across the social sciences; and this growth of interest is reflected in the arts and humanities also. Cultural gerontology thus need to be conceived as a broad movement of ideas that reflects both changes in the socio-cultural position of older people, and changes in the theoretical and academic analysis of these. What it brings to the table is a wider and more generous approach to the phenomenon and experience of later years, and a more broadly based and more sophisticated theoretical and methodological approach to its analysis. In doing so it raises questions for how we should locate gerontology academically and politically.

#### Important Dates

		Detail
<b>19 October 2017</b>	Final deadline for registration and payment	<b>3 Day Pass</b> <a href="https://goo.gl/JCPxoP">https://goo.gl/JCPxoP</a> <b>1 Day Pass</b> <a href="https://goo.gl/AfC5Mh">https://goo.gl/AfC5Mh</a>
<b>26 October 2017</b>	Final abstracts must be submitted	Send to: <a href="mailto:d.p.turner@leedsbeckett.ac.uk">d.p.turner@leedsbeckett.ac.uk</a>
<b>2 November 2017</b>	Final Powerpoint presentations submitted	Send to: <a href="mailto:d.p.turner@leedsbeckett.ac.uk">d.p.turner@leedsbeckett.ac.uk</a>
<b>8 November 2017</b>	Final conference meal bookings	<b>The Tetley</b> <a href="https://goo.gl/yDvkL3">https://goo.gl/yDvkL3</a>
<b>9 - 11 November 2017</b>	Conference in Leeds, UK	

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