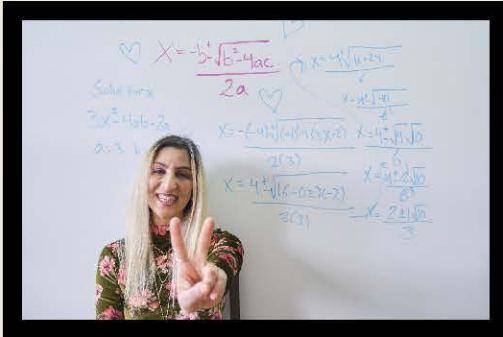


# This Year's Featured

## Speakers:

**Vanessa Vakharia**  
The Math Guru  
Thursday



Known as the Lady Gaga of math education, Vanessa is the founder and director of The Math Guru, a super cool boutique math & science tutoring studio in Toronto that's changing stereotypes about what math education looks like. She is also the host of the Math Therapy podcast, author of the Math Hacks Scholastic book series, author of the NEW bestselling book Math Therapy, and lead singer/keytarist for rock band Goodnight Sunrise.

She has her Bachelor of Commerce, Teaching Degree, and Masters of Math Education.

She appears regularly on national television and news outlets as an expert in math education and math positivity, and her #goals are to be Oprah-level-famous and to totally change math culture so that STEM is finally as cool as every single Taylor Swift song ever written. She failed Grade 11 math twice, which was the best thing that ever happened to her.

**Jared Cooney-Horvath**  
Thursday and Friday



Jared Cooney Horvath PhD, MEd is a neuroscientist and educator with expertise in human learning, memory, and brain stimulation. He has conducted research and lectured at Harvard University, Harvard Medical School, the University of Melbourne and over 50 international schools. Jared currently serves as director of the Science of Learning Group and NeuroEducation: two teams dedicated to bringing the latest in brain and behavioural research to education and business alike. His work has been featured in numerous popular publications

**Laurie McIntosh**  
Friday



Storyteller, light bringer, and dreamer, Laurie McIntosh uses her more than twenty years in education to forge new paths. With the stories she held writing Teachers These Days with Dr. Jody Carrington and her two appearances on The Ellen DeGeneres Show, Laurie strives to bring teachers together in community and to define and exemplify what it truly means to be a "teacher these days." You can find all things Laurie at [lauriemcintosh.ca](http://lauriemcintosh.ca) or follow her active and engaging commitment to building teachers up across her social platforms @mrsmacskinders.