

TEDx

Westminster School Youth



Friday 31 January 2025
5.00pm, School



Westminster School Youth

For the first time ever, Westminster school has joined with TEDx to host a series of talks on the theme of 'Frisson'. The project was imagined by Remove pupil, Rivika Arya (AHH), whose aim is to amplify unheard voices within the local community and bring people together through TED's aim, that of sharing ideas.

A note from Rivika

I'm Rivika, I'm one of the organisers of TEDx Westminster School Youth. I'm incredibly grateful to you for attending our event, which has been in the making since this time last year.

For this evening's event, we have invited our speakers to interpret the theme of 'Frison', a French term signifying a sudden thrill of excitement or fear, and incorporate it into their talks. We hope the stories shared resonate with you. I'd like to thank all of our speakers for the hard work and time they have committed to this project, and for offering to present their ideas to our community.



I'd also like to use this opportunity to thank the Head Master for his support in hosting this event, Dr Aidonis for working closely with us to organise the event, and to all the technical, catering, estate and marketing staff who have made the event possible. I'd like to give special thanks to Mr Petty for co-organising with me; his constant support in developing the event vision, procuring a TEDx license, working with staff and speakers, and much more has made this event entirely what it is.

We have seven speakers this evening; please read on to view their bios and information about their talks.





Westminster School Youth

Patrick Derham

Bio

After studying History at Cambridge, and teaching History for 14 years, Patrick became Head Master of Solihull School in 1996, Rugby School in 2001 and Westminster School in 2014. After finishing his tenure at Westminster during the pandemic in 2020, Patrick went on to be involved in a number of projects including two AI EdTech startups, Gladstone's Library (as the Chair of Trustees), and two overseas ventures (Crucible and Alsama).

Talk

I will talk about the importance of service and giving back. I will explain where my motivation comes from, talking briefly about UK charities that I am involved with, but the main focus will be on two projects that dominate my post-Westminster life: Crucible and Alsama.



Anil Doshi

Bio

Anil is an Assistant Professor in the Strategy and Entrepreneurship group at the UCL School of Management. He researches individual and organisational responses to new technologies. His work on generative AI includes how it impacts creativity, strategic decision-making, and knowledge production. He teaches data, analytics, and AI courses to executives, masters, and undergraduate students. Anil has received numerous awards for his research and teaching. Prior to academia, he spent over a decade in finance and at startups. He holds a doctorate from Harvard University and a bachelor's degree from Dartmouth College.

Talk

How does generative AI affect human work and productivity? How should students approach using generative AI as part of their learning experience? In this talk, I will discuss my research and perspective on generative AI and provide a framework for thinking about its applications and value.



Rauf Akhundov

Bio

Rauf volunteered at COP29, where he had the opportunity to engage in global conversations about climate action and sustainability. He is originally from Azerbaijan and speaks four languages fluently (Russian, Turkish, Azerbaijani, and English) and is now learning German as his fifth. His interactions with diverse communities have shaped his journey and led him to Westminster School, where he is now a proud member of Grants.



Talk

I arrived at COP29 as a volunteer, ready to help but soon found myself swept up in a powerful wave of activism. One protest, chants thunderous across the conference grounds, sent a shiver through me. That spark, I realised, is what ignites genuine social change. Whether it's the Russian Revolution or demonstrations outside Westminster, emotion fuels every movement more than logic ever could. My goal in my talk is to encourage the audience to think about the protests that go on outside the school every day and to put that into the context of how protest has been used to create social change.

Dr Moira Wong

Bio

Dr Wong is a consultant-trained orthodontist dedicated to improving the smiles of adults and children alike. She trained at the Royal London Hospital Medical College and gained extensive experience, including trauma care at the University of Pennsylvania. Specialising at Guy's and King's College Hospitals, she earned her Fellowship in Orthodontics - an accreditation held by fewer than 300 UK practitioners. Dr Wong works in private and NHS practice, with a particular focus on Orthognathic treatment of jaw deformities, addressing the facial structure, bite and airway. Her connection to Westminster School is through her son, Tristan, who joined Westminster Under School at age 8 and who is now a Lower Shell pupil here.



Talk

I have been lucky enough to have experienced a varied career. When I first saw the title 'Frisson', it immediately brought back memories at the time of my externship at the University of Pennsylvania. There I was working for the Trauma team where multiple gunshot victims would be wheeled in night after night. I then reflected on how my career has changed as I specialised and decided to pursue a career working with facial deformity. The 'frisson' is still there as you get to know patients and ensure that their psychological wellbeing is being respected, as you are, essentially, changing their faces.

Harry Petty

Bio

Harry is an English teacher at Westminster School, where he also holds the position of Head of Remove. In addition to these roles, he has co-organised this TEDx Westminster School event. Before joining Westminster, Harry taught English at Trinity School in Croydon, where he also coordinated the Festival of Ideas. During his tenure at Trinity School, he gained recognition for his poem 'Another Hour', which he recited on ITV London News during the lockdown period. Prior to this, he has written and directed to plays performed at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival and last year, Harry's poem 'Caterpillar' was highly commended in the Kellogg College Kafka Writing Prize. He is currently studying for a master's degree in Literature and Arts at Oxford University.



Talk

My talk will focus on how different generations shape who we become. I was fortunate to have two remarkable grandmothers: one earned a 5th Dan in judo and changed case law when she challenged the British Judo Association after they barred her from refereeing men's matches at the British Open. The other grandmother was the first in her family to attend university and went on to become a history teacher. By sharing their stories, I hope to bring these two women's achievements to a wider audience. I've also written poems dedicated to each of them, which I will present at the event.

Megan Candice

Bio

Megan will be speaking on behalf of Janjri Trivedi, founder of Re-Wrap.

Janjri was driven by her passion to create high-quality textile products in India that were less wasteful and more enduring. She was also determined to fuel opportunities for rural women to craft these products and thereby thrive independently. She is a grandmother to a pupil at Westminster Under School.

Megan manages the relationships for several of Re-Wraps' patrons, one of which is Westminster Under School. After graduating from the University of Brighton, she has spent the last ten years in the textile and fashion industry, working for a range of designers and suppliers. Her experiences within this industry has led her to want to work for a company striving to do good for people and the planet.



Talk

My talk is about the Re-Wrap journey of the Westminster Under School bag, its origins from the cotton seed and the farmers who grow the crop, to the artisans who print, cut and sew the finished product. I will be focusing on the people involved in each part of the process and their stories. My hope is to inspire attendees to believe that business can be a force for good.

Rosie Skead

Bio

Rosie is a Regional Service Manager at Single Homeless Project (SHP) in Westminster, where she leads two male Complex Needs services based at King George's Hostel. She joined SHP four years ago, initially as a project worker, later becoming a manager in Camden before transitioning to Westminster in February 2024. Rosie's background includes diverse roles in health and social care, such as working with acquired brain injury, as a healthcare worker, and in inpatient Psychiatric Care. She holds a BSc in Psychology and an MSc in Investigative Psychology and has contributed to Camden's Homeless Pathway Transformation initiatives.



Talk

I will explore some of the origins and lived experience of homelessness, interpreting the theme of 'Frisson' through the lens of an intense wave of fear. Drawing connections to my work with clients facing Complex Needs, I will examine how feeling constantly under threat and living in a perpetual state of fear shapes behaviour, influences relationships and triggers emotional responses.

Thank you for joining us



WESTMINSTER
SCHOOL

TED^x

Westminster School
Youth