



HomeschoolNYC Newsletter

Celebrating Child-led Learning

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June, 2013

Summer is upon us and homeschoolers are busy traveling, interning, attending summer camp, doing independent study, creating their own adventures in the city, and having lots of fun! I am excited about attending summer workshops that will inspire my teaching in the coming year. In this issue I share my thoughts on two talks I heard at the 2013 AERO Conference.

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[Laurie Block Spiegel](#)

AERO Talks Reviewed

Alfie Kohn Confronts BGUTI

Peter Gray Explains How Humans Learn

Quote by Adlai Stevenson

Alfie Kohn Confronts BGUTI

The opening keynote speech at the 2013 AERO Conference on Long Island was packed with listeners waiting to hear Alfie Kohn, popular author on parenting and child psychology. Mr. Kohn has an easy manner and ready sense of humor, traits always welcome in a speaker. He tackled three serious aspects of our current educational system...

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Peter Gray Explains How Humans Learn Through Play



Here is an excerpt from [my review](#).

... We were hunter-gatherers, and as hunter-gathers we first learned to hunt and gather through play. Mr. Gray gave many examples of this, such as young boys playfully targeting toads or birds before trying larger animals, and learning how to track local residents as a game that eventually leads to being able to follow more dangerous creatures.

I would expand on the theories of Mr. Gray and say that we learned everything not just through play, but also through story. [...READ MORE...](#)

Summer Road Trip - Mystic, Connecticut



About two and a half hours north of New York City is an historic seaport where you can go back in time and become a member of a 19th-century seafaring community. And there are tons of other things to do in the area! [... READ MORE ...](#)

Create Your Own NYC Summercamp Experience



When my kids were young we created our own Mommy-and-me summercamp right here in NYC. We took advantage of free classes, movies, concerts, and more. For tips on where to go and what to do [...READ MORE...](#)

For a list of summercamps for homeschoolers and families, [click here](#).

Quote by Adlai E. Stevenson, Jr.

"If we value the pursuit of knowledge,
we must be free to follow wherever that search may lead us."
~Adlai E. Stevenson, Jr. (1900-1965), governor, presidential candidate, ambassador.

Education Uncensored

Here's what people are saying about Laurie's book:

"You made me laugh, you made me cry, and you inspired me. I can literally hear your voice, and love your storytelling and your wisdom and just the whole package. I'm stimulated and filled with ideas for my own teaching."

~ Dr. Bonnie Shulman, professor of mathematics, Bates College

"I just wanted to tell you how much I appreciated meeting you and reading your book. It is terrific, and for me, the best part was its New York perspective. I know no other book available to homeschoolers that so overtly references an urban perspective."

~ David Albert, author of *And the Skylark Sings with Me* and other books

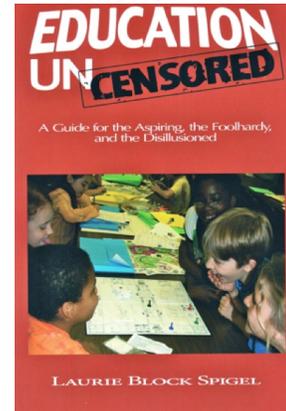
"Laurie's evolution as a teacher and life-long involvement in the world of education has given her a profound understanding of the problems that plague today's schools. This book offers an insightful look at how an increasingly standardized system is robbing our children of their individuality and passion for learning. Additionally, it provides innovative how-to curriculums for anyone involved or interested in educating children."

~ Ellen Labiner, homeschooling parent and special educator

[Read excerpts here.](#)

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E-mail comments and suggestions to Laurie@HomeschoolNYC.com.



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