



University  
of Victoria

Human & Social  
Development

# *Special Guest Presentation*

## **Community-Based Cultural Arts Programming for at Risk Youth: *Research Supporting Effectiveness***

**Dr. William Rowe**  
**Professor, School of Social Work**  
**University of South Florida**

**March 9, 2012 | 10:30 am - 12:00 pm**  
**HSD B347**

### **Presentation Synopsis:**

The Prodigy Youth Arts Program represents a productive partnership between research, arts-based activity, and community organizations. With over 5000 enrolled youth, investigators have been able to take an in-depth look at the impact of this programming. Multiple measurements have demonstrated the promising impact of a rigorously designed and delivered structured arts program on the well-being of youth. This session will review some of the findings on mental health, behavioural dysregulation, and recidivism rates of at risk youth involved in community-based afterschool crime prevention programs. Discussion will include issues of fidelity, cost-effectiveness as well as how the research enhances policy changes and how this work has led to expansion of the program into other types of intervention strategies.

**Dr. William Rowe** is a Professor in the School of Social Work at The University of South Florida. He holds appointments in the College of Public Health, the AIDS Education and Training Center, and the Moffitt Cancer Center. He is formerly Director and Professor of the Schools of Social Work at the University of South Florida, McGill University and Memorial University and was originally tenured at the University of Western Ontario.

Dr. Rowe has worked extensively in the fields of social work education, child welfare, corrections, health and HIV. He has provided training and lectures at agencies and universities throughout North America, Europe, the Middle East, South Asia, Australia, and New Zealand.

During his 30 years as a social work educator Dr. Rowe has edited and authored more than 150 scholarly and professional books, articles, monographs, and research papers on a variety of topics. He serves on the editorial board of a number of academic and professional journals including the Journal of Evidence-Based Social Work and is editor of Best Practices in Mental Health: an International Journal.

