

# The Dean's Distinguished Lecture Series

## Janusz Korczak, the Father of Children's Rights: Turning Rights into Action

In Partnership with  
The Faculty of Education and  
The Janusz Korczak Association of Canada

## Making Zero Humankind's Favorite Number: Zero Violence against Children

Marta Santos Pais

UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General  
on Violence against Children



*The Janusz Korczak Statuette Award in recognition  
of Caring for Children in the Spirit of Dr. Korczak*



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA  
Faculty of Education



THE JANUSZ KORCZAK  
ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

September 13, 2018 | 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Robert H. Lee Alumni Centre, Jack Poole Hall | 6163 University Boulevard

“By investing in children, we create the conditions for every child to grow up free from want, from fear and from violence”.

Marta Santos Pais

### Introductions

Dr. Blye Frank, Dean and Professor, Faculty of Education, University of British Columbia

Marny Point, Urban Program Coordinator & Instructor, NITEP - Indigenous Teacher Education Program, UBC

Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond, Director, Indian Residential School History and Dialog Centre, Law Professor, Allard School of Law

### Scholarship Presentation

Dr. Anton Grunfeld, Board Member, Janusz Korczak Association of Canada

Ann Montague, the Janusz Korczak Scholarship recipient for 2017/18

### Moderator

Lillian Boraks-Nemetz, Author, Board Member, Janusz Korczak Association of Canada

### Distinguished Speaker

Marta Santos Pais, UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children

### Janusz Korczak Statuette Award Presentation

Dr. Blye Frank, Dean and Professor, Faculty of Education, University of British Columbia

Jerry Nussbaum, President of Janusz Korczak Association of Canada

### About the Janusz Korczak Statuette

We are proud to announce recipient of the Janusz Korczak Statuette Award. In recognition of Caring for Children in the Spirit of Dr. Korczak, Marta Santos Pais has been chosen as this year's awardee.

### Lecture Abstract

In her statement, the Special Representative recalls the vision and legacy of Janusz Korczak. His call to place children first and above legal, political, social and economic differences was forever captured in the ground-breaking provisions of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, adopted almost 30 years ago. Since then, children's rights have moved from the periphery of the debate to the heart of the international and national policy agenda.

With the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in 2015, the global goals have given new impetus to our actions with the historic recognition of violence against children as a priority target and cross-cutting concern.

In line with the vision of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, she highlights how the achievement of sustainable development for all must start by placing children first, starting with investment in the early years and ensuring all children grow up in a safe, loving environment. By investing in children, we create the conditions for every child to grow up free from want, from fear and from violence. In turn, by safeguarding children's safety and protection, we enhance the chances to reach all of the sustainable goals and targets.

While tangible progress has been achieved in terms of data, legislation, policy and program developments, this is in striking contrast to the daily reality of millions of children around the world, particularly the most vulnerable and already marginalized. Available figures remain astounding and the voice of children continues to remind us of the need to act now, across all sectors of society. We must spare no effort to translate the provisions of the Convention into a reality for all children, everywhere and at all times.

Next year is a significant opportunity to stand up for the world's 1 billion children who are affected by violence each year. 2019 marks the 30th anniversary of the CRC. Also in 2019, the High Level Political Forum in July will review Goal 16 and the UN General Assembly will host its first overall review of the implementation of the entire 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including target 16.2 on ending all forms of violence against children. This is a unique milestone that the international community cannot afford to miss.



### About Marta Santos Pais

Marta Santos Pais was appointed as Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children (SRSG) on May 1st, 2009, and took up her position on September 1st, 2009. As a high level global independent advocate, Marta Santos Pais promotes the prevention and elimination of all forms of violence against children in the justice setting, in the home, in institutional care, in schools, in the workplace and in the community. She acts as a bridge builder in all regions, and across sectors and settings where violence against children may occur.

Since her appointment, she has been strongly committed to mobilizing action and political support to maintain momentum around this agenda and to achieve agenda and to achieve steady progress across the world. Marta Santos Pais has more than 30 years experience on human rights issues, engagement in United Nations and intergovernmental processes. She is the author of a large number of publications on human rights and children's rights. Before her appointment as SRSG on Violence against Children, Marta Santos Pais was the Director of the UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre, a position she held since 2001. She joined UNICEF in 1997 as Director of Evaluation, Policy and Planning. Previously, she was the Rapporteur of the Committee on the Rights of the Child and Vice-Chair of the Coordinating Committee on Childhood Policies of the Council of Europe. She was a Special Adviser to the UN Study on Violence against Children and to the Machel Study on the Impact of Armed Conflict on Children. She was also a member of the UN Drafting Group of the 1989 Convention on the Rights of the Child and of its Optional Protocols and participated in the development of other key international human rights standards.

