

Junko Cancemi, Ed.D.

Head of JC ACADEMY

Executive Vice President, CANCEMI CORPORATION



Dr. Junko Cancemi is co-founder and Executive Vice President of Cancemi Corporation. She also serves as the Head of JC Academy, Cancemi Corporation's strategic unit specializing in providing innovative and creative solutions for human development through the provision of workshops, lectures, presentations and consultations. She is known for pioneering her work in early childhood education within an international school context in which she has taught, researched and published for over 40 years.

Dr. Cancemi is an experienced educator and education consultant who has worked with schools, particularly in Asia and Australia and collaborated with universities in Japan. Author and co-editor of "Gifts from the Children" and other publications, she has accredited schools overseas and currently consults for over 15 schools.

As a Japanese expatriate child overseas herself and receiving her entire education in English, her professional life began as a classroom teacher in an international school in Tokyo upon returning to Japan. Her encounter with the Reggio Emilia Approach over 20 years ago, a philosophical approach to Early Childhood Education, featured in Newsweek (1991) as one of the most progressive in the world, led to her research and thesis on how young children construct learning, and this fascination and passion have become a lifelong career focus for teaching, consulting and research. She also has had the unique and privileged experience of working alongside Reggio educators in one of the most renowned municipal preschools in Reggio Emilia, Italy.

Her research, whether in schools or other businesses, is grounded in giving value to firsthand, daily experiences from the lens of a teacher, mother, entrepreneur and lifelong learner. Through her work she continues to advocate the importance of building from the foundation of what is fundamentally important and necessary, that of people and the relationships within.

Her consultations for organizations include an array of both practical and theoretical professional development through partnerships with educational institutions including, but not limited to, hosting hands-on one-day workshops for both industry professionals and parents, designing longer term developmental programs for schools and serving as the keynote speaker at industry-wide conferences, to name a few.

Dr. Cancemi also currently serves as Board Member of Japan Institute for Reggio Emilia Alliance (JIREA) and Senior Advisor to THE CHOICE, the premier Asian women's network. She resides with her husband in Tokyo, Japan.

Educational Profile

Doctorate of Education (Ed.D.), University of Bath, UK

Masters in Education (M.A.), Michigan State University, USA

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Sophia University, Japan

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