

## Donalee Markus, Ph.D.

*Donalee Markus Ph.D and Associates*

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*Websites: [www.DesignsForStrongMinds.com](http://www.DesignsForStrongMinds.com)*

*[www.PuzzlesWithPurpose.com](http://www.PuzzlesWithPurpose.com)*

*[www.SuperAgerHub.com](http://www.SuperAgerHub.com)*

*[www.MarkusMemoryMonitor.com](http://www.MarkusMemoryMonitor.com)*

### **Educational Background**

Post Doctoral Training	1985-1987	Feuerstein's Dynamic Assessment and Instrumental Enrichment, Hadassah-Wizo Research Institute, Jerusalem, Israel
Ph.D.	1983	Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois
M.A.	1968	National Louis College of Education, Evanston, Illinois
B.A.	1966	National Louis College of Education, Evanston, Illinois

### **Relevant Professional Experience**

1983 – Present

- Principal and Founder: Donalee Markus, Ph.D. & Associates
- Designed Program for Mental Flexibility: *Designs for Strong Minds*
- Designed and Developed Program: *Learning How To Learn*
- Sample of Executive and Corporate Training Sites:
  - Ameritech
  - Andersen Consulting
  - Coopers & Lybrand
  - Encyclopedia Britannica
  - Los Alamos National Laboratory
  - McDonald's Corporation
  - NASA (National Aeronautic and Space Administration)
  - Opus Corporation
  - Quaker Oats
  - University of Chicago Hospital
  - U.S. Federal Judiciary System

### **Online Digital Platforms:**

- M<sup>3</sup> - Markus Memory Monitor
  - Tests and Strengthens short term visual memory

## iPad and iPhone Applications:

Donalee Markus developed education apps:

- Rocket ABCs, ABCs Cursive and 123s
  - Learn how to identify upper and lowercase numbers and letters using different fonts
- Strong Mind Navigator:
  - Navigate from the concrete to abstract.
- Strong Mind Treasure Hunt
  - Builds the foundation for mathematics and maintain memory skills.
- Aging Brain Boost
  - Using the power of positive long term memories are associated with the music and the graphics from the 50s, 60s, 70s and 80s to encourages repeated play.
- Strong Mind Puzzles
  - Builds working memory
  - Enhances short-term memory and concentration
  - Patent No: 6,755,419
- Mind The Gap
  - Enhances visual closure skills with engaging puzzles and challenges.
- Strong Mind Estimator
  - Estimating saves time and helps individuals make faster, smarter decisions.
- BYOPuzzles: (Build Your Own Puzzles)
  - Develops complex visual imagery skills
  - Adapted from NASA critical project
  - Patent No: 9,649,555
- Strong Mind Mazes
  - NASA Engineers favorite exercise to strengthen mental agility!

## Publications

- 2023 “Meet the neuroscientist who uses puzzles to help the brain heal after injury”. BigThink. [bigthink.com/neuropsych/brain-puzzles/](http://bigthink.com/neuropsych/brain-puzzles/)
- 2020-23 PsychologyToday Blogs [psychologytoday.com/us/blog/designs-strong-minds](http://psychologytoday.com/us/blog/designs-strong-minds)
- 2015 Featured in - *The Ghost in My Brain: How a Concussion Stole My Life and How the New Science of Brain Plasticity Helped Me Get It Back.* (book)
- 2007 *The Road Trip: A Parable.* (book)
- 2007 “Designs for Strong Minds Cognitive Rehabilitation for Mild or Moderate Post-Traumatic Head Injuries”. *Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Clinics of North America.* (James Young, MD, Editor) March 2007
- 2006 “Solving the Puzzle of Peer Pressure”. Woodbury Reports Newsletter. [www.strugglingteens.com](http://www.strugglingteens.com)
- 2004 “Balancing the Legal Mind”. *Experience Magazine*, Volume 14 (4). American Bar Association.
- 2004 “Why Smart People Do Dumb Things”. <http://www.HR.com>.
- 2003 *Retrain Your Business Brain: Outsmart the Corporate Competition.* Dearborn Press:

Chicago.

- 1993 Guest Editor, International Journal of Cognitive Education and Mediated Learning, Special Issue on Adults, Vol. 3 (3).
- 1993 Accessing our Infinite Faculties: Adult Education and Mediated Learning, International Journal of Cognitive Education and Mediated Learning, Special Issue on Adults, Vol. 3 (3), pages 153 – 176.
- 1983 Dissertation: The Budgeting Process: Decision-Makers' Perceptions of Constraints, an Ethno-scientific Study.

### **Recent Presentations / Workshops:**

- “Aging Brain Boost” - Aging Care Solutions, May 2023
- “Neuroplasticity Therapy Innovation Summit Interview on Cognitive Restructuring” - November 2022
- “Learn the Tools and Technique to Maximize Intelligence” - Language Builders - May/June 2021
- “Neuroscience and Cognitive Restructuring” - Independent Educational Consultants Association, May 2019
- “Neuroplasticity in Action” - Hackensack Meridian Health - May 2017
- American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine 93rd Annual Conference - October 2016
- “How to Develop Brain Plasticity” - Brain Summit, October 2016
- “Mediation and the Brain” - May 2012
- “Critical Thinking to Maximize Intellectual Potential” - St. Andrews, January 2008
- “Critical Thinking To Maximize Intellectual Potential” – Alphonsus Academy, October 2007
- “Make Over for a Beautiful Mind: Jewish Women of Wisdom” – North Suburban Synagogue Beth El, October 2007
- “Teach with the Brain in Mind: Maximize Intellectual Potential”—Highland Park Hospital Educator Series, May 2006
- “The New Science of Teachable Intelligence”—Realize Brain Plasticity, Evanston Hospital Grand Rounds, May 2006
- “Do You See What I See?: Create neurons & maximize intellectual potential”—IECA National Spring Conference, May 2006
- “The Science of Learner Attention & Retention” (panelist)—CLO National Spring Symposium, March 2006
- “The New Science of Teachable Intelligence: Realizing the Power of the Brain”—Lake Forest-Lake Bluff LDA Fall Program, November 2005
- “Makeover for a Beautiful Mind”—Equinox Fitness Lecture Series, July 2005
- “Do You See What I See?: Capitalizing on Dynamic Perspectives” (Keynote)—Tooling and Manufacturing Association, April 2005
- “Brain Training for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: A Scientific Approach to Get the Results You Want” (Keynote)—Society for Human Resources Professionals Annual Meeting, September 2004
- “Better, Faster, Smarter: The New Science of Teachable Intelligence” (Keynote)—International Council of Shopping Center Owners, January 2004
- “Designs for Strong Minds: Re-Invent Your Business with Breakthrough Results” (Keynote)—Dearborn Financial Services, January 2004
- “Makeover for a Beautiful Mind”—World President’s Organization (New York), November 2003

- “Designs for Strong Minds: Critical Thinking to Maximize Intellectual Potential”—New Trier School District, November 2003
- “Brain Calisthenics: Unlock the Hidden Potential of the Aging Brain”—Women of Wisdom Society (Loyola Academy), October 2003
- “Strengths & Weaknesses in Gifted Learners”—Supporters and Advocates of Gifted Education (SAGE), October 2002
- “Treatment of Cognitive & Perceptual Impairment After TBI: Visual Spatial and Critical Thinking Skills”—Brain Injury Association of Illinois Annual Conference, October 2002
- “Unlocking Critical Thinking Skills at NASA: Creating Kaleidoscopic Intelligence”—SoL Annual Members Conference, June 2001
- “It isn’t All Sugar & Spice: Cognitive Restructuring”—The Mind-Eye Connection, September 1999
- “The New Science of Teachable Intelligence: Realizing the Power of the Brain”—Wisconsin Education Association Annual Conference, December 1998

### **Selected Media Appearances:**

- *Daily Herald*, “Can You Remember The Address of the Last Place You Lived?”—August 2005
- Sister-to-Sister Executive Women’s Breakfast (2005 Campaign Kickoff)—February 2005
- *AARP Magazine*, “Brain Builders”—June 2004
- *Highland Park News* Feature, “Brain Power”—April 2004
- *San Juan Star*, “Exercise Your Brain to Beat the Competition”—March 2004
- *Washington Woman Magazine*, “Coping with Memory Loss”—November 2003
- *Entrepreneur Magazine*, “Mind Games”—October 2003
- *StartUp Nation* Radio Talk Show, Birmingham, Michigan—September 2003
- *FOX WFLD-TV* morning news feature, “Exercise Your Brain”—February 2002
- *Good Housekeeping*, “Exercise Your Brain”—April 2002
- *South Bend Tribune*, “Mind Games”—March 2002

### **Other Training Programs:**

- Brain Calisthenics at Rancho La Puerta - November 2002  
Location: Rancho La Puerta, Tecate, Mexico

### **NASA Training Programs 1998 - 2006**

- NASA Coaching Strategy Meeting  
Location: Chicago Radisson Hotel and Suites
- NASA Critical Thinking Training  
Location: Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, Maryland  
NASA Headquarters, Washington D.C.