

Innovations

in early education: *the international Reggio exchange*

Innovations in Early Education: The International Reggio Exchange **Publication Guidelines**

About *Innovations in Early Education: The International Reggio Exchange*

Innovations in Early Education: The International Reggio Exchange is a quarterly periodical published in the United States that focuses on the Reggio Emilia educational philosophy. Each issue features articles and interviews by Italian and North American early childhood educators, whose work has been inspired by the experience of the Reggio Emilia municipal early childhood program. *Innovations* has been published by Wayne State University since 1992 and since 2003, *Innovations* has been the official periodical of the North American Reggio Emilia Alliance (NAREA), an organization developed to strengthen collaboration and professional development among Reggio-inspired North American educators. Log onto NAREA's web site [www.reggioalliance.org] for more information.

Each issue of *Innovations* focuses on a particular topic, and includes an article by or an interview with an educator(s) from Reggio Emilia as well as one from a North American educator(s). The *Innovations* editorial board, composed of educators from Reggio Emilia and North America, meet annually in order to plan the focus of upcoming issues and possible contributors that can address these topics. Some articles by North American educators are the result of invitations from *Innovations* editors to contribute material and some have been submitted by educators interested in publishing their experiences in *Innovations*.

Nature of Articles Published in *Innovations*

The *Innovations* editors use the following criteria when reviewing the content of articles submitted to *Innovations*. We are interested in articles:

- about the experience of North American educators who are in dialogue with Reggio educators and how this dialogue has influenced their practice.
- that focus on how educators in North America have developed a better understanding of the learning processes of children and adults through their study of the Reggio philosophy.
- that explore the challenges that North American educators have encountered as they work to become aware of their own educational values and those of their community, as a result of the influence of the Reggio philosophy and experience.
- that are consistent with the spirit and philosophy of the Reggio schools.

Because readers of *Innovations* have diverse backgrounds and interests, articles vary in content, length and writing style. We do not seek term papers by students of higher education. The best way to learn what kinds of articles are appropriate for *Innovations* is to read several back issues (log onto coe.wayne.edu/ted/professional-development to download *Innovations* back issue CD order form). These articles address important issues for the Reggio-inspired early childhood community, such as: the school as a place of research; the value of participation of families in the life of the school; the importance of ongoing professional development for educators: the processes of observation, documentation and interpretation in making learning visible; the role of culture and community in education; the role of the environment in learning; the evolution of teacher education programs; the value of inclusion of children with special rights; and the use of materials as languages for expression and learning.

Guidelines and Requirements for Submitted Articles

When submitting an article to *Innovations*, please follow the following formatting and submission guidelines. Articles that do not follow the required format may be returned before review.

- Authors are encouraged to write in an informal, conversational style rather than in an academic style, characteristic of university term papers. Articles written in active voice vs. passive voice are preferred.
- Submit unformatted, double-spaced article electronically in a WORD file in 12-point type. Typical article length is 3000-4000 words.
- Article should include name of author as well as title, affiliation and history of interest in the Reggio philosophy.
- Authors are encouraged to support articles with photographs and drawings. Photographs should be submitted in high-resolution images in electronic JPEG or TIFF files. Drawings should also be submitted electronically in JPEG, TIFF or PDF files. Authors are responsible for seeking written permission from parents or legal guardians

- Authors should provide accurate and complete information for references and resources, formatted in APA style.

Review and Editing Process

The review process generally takes two to four months from receipt of manuscript. After review by the editors, the author will be informed about the possibility of publication in *Innovations*. If the editors decide that an article is acceptable for publication, the timing of publication will depend on when an upcoming issue is published that focuses on a topic related to the submitted article. The editors may decide that an article could be considered for publication after suggested revisions are made, and that will be communicated to the author. Once revisions are made, the author can re-submit the article. It is also a possibility that the editors find an article unsuitable for publication in *Innovations* and may suggest another vehicle for publication.

If an article is approved for publication and an appropriate issue has been planned, the editors will edit the article for grammar, clarity and content approximately two to three months prior to the publication of this issue. Once the edits are completed, the article will be returned to the author for possible further revisions prior to publication. After the relevant issue is published, the editor will send the author(s) two copies of the issue.

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