The Sixth NAREA Winter Conference

Exploring Possibilities: Viewing All Children as Citizens, Researchers, and Innovators of the World

A NAREA initiative in collaboration with NYC Encounters with Reggio Emilia, Teaching Beyond the Square, Beginnings Nursery School, and Williamsburg Northside School, with the support of Reggio Children

March 12 - 14, 2015
Broad Street Ballroom
41 Broad St., New York, NY 10004
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The International Reggio Emilia Exchange
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WELCOME FROM THE NAREA BOARD AND STAFF!

The North American Reggio Emilia Alliance Board would like to welcome you to The Sixth NAREA Winter Conference – Exploring Possibilities: Viewing All Children as Citizens, Researchers, and Innovators of the World, a NAREA initiative in partnership with and hosted by NYC Encounters with Reggio Emilia, Teaching Beyond the Square, Beginnings Nursery School, and Williamsburg Northside School. This is NAREA’s largest-ever conference due to all of you who wanted to be here together. In fact, to make it possible for so many, we have two separate conferences happening simultaneously at two venues!

Since our founding in 2002, the NAREA board has traveled to different parts of North America for its winter board meeting. Last year, we had the privilege of experiencing our fifth winter conference in Greenville, SC, and we are excited to continue to bring together educators to support and strengthen all those interested in the experiences and ongoing research of Reggio Emilia, Italy. We hope these next days offer a rich and meaningful contribution to your ongoing professional development.

It is with special gratitude that we welcome our colleagues from Reggio Emilia, Italy: Claudia Giudici, Marina Mori, Chiara Spaggiari, Vea Vecchi, and Emanuela Vercalli. We also welcome with appreciation our colleague from Sweden, Harold Gothsön and from the U.S., Mara Krechevsky. We further extend our appreciation to the educators and families from Beginnings Nursery School and Williamsburg Northside School for all they have done to organize and host the conference.

We wish to highlight our belief in and commitment to the value of diversity and differences as essential aspects of personal and professional development. Recognizing the ever-increasing number of programs for young children inspired by Reggio’s approach to life and education, we honor and encourage each program and every group of colleagues to invest in an ongoing approach that includes permanent study, research, collaboration, innovation, transparency, and exchange. Through our professional development projects, we encounter a host of schools at varying points of their own journey, willing to open their doors, expose their work, and welcome the participation of visitors. This style of development has been introduced to all of us by the only “Reggio schools” of Reggio Emilia, Italy. To be continually encouraged to find our own unique identities as schools in different communities worthy in our own identity is to see how much the message of Reggio Emilia is based on attitudes of research and invention, rather than prescriptive dogma. For this, we are also grateful.

Please enjoy the pleasure of thinking and wondering as we work together to construct a better future for our children, our communities, and ourselves.
**Featuring from Reggio Emilia:**

**Vea Vecchi** was born in Rome and studied art in Modena, where she currently lives. She received her qualification to teach arts education and arts history in secondary schools in Florence. After a few years of teaching, Vea worked from 1970–2000 in the atelier of the Diana Municipal Preschool in Reggio Emilia, where she has carried out pedagogical research and documentation related to the many languages of children. In a 1991 edition of *Newsweek* magazine, an international jury assessing early childhood services cited the Diana Municipal Preschool for its advanced pedagogical project.

Vea has worked as curator of the exhibition “The Hundred Languages of Children,” from its first edition through its current versions. She has cooperated as curator of the books *Theater Curtain and Children, Arts, Artists and is co-author of many books, including Shoe and Meter; Children, Spaces, Relations; and Making Learning Visible*. Vea writes articles for various journals about projects and research in the schools. She has presented at seminars and conferences in Italy, Europe, the United States, and Japan. In January 2001, Vea was awarded the laurea ad honorem in Visual Art from the University of Arts of Helsinki.

Currently, Vea is responsible for exhibitions, publishing, and ateliers for Reggio Children. She is one of the references for the new international exhibition, “The Wonder of Learning: The Hundred Languages of Children.” Vea received NAREA’s Lifetime Achievement Award in 2012.

**Chiara Spaggiari** participated in a university internship program “*Progetto Gancio*” at the Don Guglielmi State Preschool in Reggio Emilia while enrolled in the third year of Science of Primary Education at the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia. In 2009, she became an infant-toddler teacher at the Maramotti Infant-Toddler Center, which is run by the Cooperative Pantarei (R.E.).

After participating in and passing the public competition organized by the municipality of Reggio Emilia in November 2009, Chiara began work as a teacher at the Gianni Rodari Municipal Infant-Toddler Center and continues to teach there.
Harold Gothsön worked for the Swedish government developing the first official curriculum for Swedish preschools and leisure time education in the 1980s when he was also the director of Educare in a suburban community outside Stockholm. In 1992, Harold was one of the founders of the Reggio Emilia Institutet in Stockholm, which he directed and chaired until 2006. Today, he is senior adviser to the Board of the Institutet and an international member of the Board of Directors of the Reggio Children–Loris Malaguzzi Center Foundation in Reggio Emilia, together with Margie Cooper of NAREA. He has published some chapters in U.S. books including The Diary of Laura and Childhoods. Most recently, he contributed to an article dedicated to the memory of Loris Malaguzzi in the December 2014 issue of Innovations in Early Education: The International Reggio Emilia Exchange.

Mara Krechevsky is a senior researcher at Project Zero at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. Mara has been conducting educational research for 30 years, including directing “Making Learning Visible” (MLV), an investigation into documenting and assessing individual and group learning from preschool to high school. MLV is based on collaborative research with educators from Reggio Emilia. Mara has worked with hundreds of teachers and administrators in the U.S. and abroad on creating powerful learning environments for children and adults. She has authored or co-authored 7 books and over 30 articles and book chapters. Her most recent book, coauthored with Ben Mardell, Melissa Rivard, and Daniel Wilson, is Visible Learners: Promoting Reggio-Inspired Approaches in All Schools.
March 12, 2015
Broad Street Ballroom

8:00  Registration
     Breakfast

9:00  Welcome
     * Margie Cooper, NAREA Co-Chair
     * Jane Racoosin, Director, Beginnings Nursery School and Wonder of Learning NYC Exhibit Chair

9:45  The Reggio Emilia approach to education: Children seen as citizens and active protagonists of their growth and learning processes
     * Vea Vecchi and Chiara Spaggiari
     Refreshment Break

1:00  Announcements and lunch

3:30  Williamsburg Northside School

      Option 1: Encounter with the exhibit, “The Wonder Of Learning: The Hundred Languages of Children”

      Option 2: Making Learning Visible: Understanding, Supporting, and Documenting Children as Individual and Group Learners
      * Mara Krechevsky (Science Room, 6th floor)

      Option 3: What can we learn from Reggio Emila and the Swedish experience?
      * Harold Göthson (Library, 3rd Floor)

5:30  Reception (Gymnasium)

**Things to keep in mind for today:**

- Breakfast is offered today only!
- Midmorning break will include coffee, tea, water, and a light snack.
- Box lunches will be on the side tables. You are welcome to eat in the ballroom or take your lunch with you to explore the city.
- Subway maps can be found in your folder. Those wishing to travel with local subway guides meet at the stage at 3:00 pm.
- Allow 30 minutes to travel from Broad Street Ballroom to Williamsburg Northside School, the exhibit venue. Doors to the exhibit open at 3:30 pm. Please enter on Meeker Ave. between North 7th & North 8th Streets.
- Options 2 and 3 at the exhibit venue are first come/first serve and an option for those who have encountered the exhibit multiple times.
- Your may exchange your school visit ticket at the “exchange table” located in the exhibit venue.
March 13, 2015
Broad Street Ballroom

9:00  School visits

Children's Museum Of The Arts
103 Charlton Street, New York, NY 10014

Beginnings Nursery School
130 East 16th Street, New York, NY 10003

Blue School
241 Water Street, New York, NY 10038

TriBeCa Community School
22 Ericsson Place, New York, NY 10038

Stephen Wise Free Synagogue
Balfour Brickner Early Childhood Center
30 West 68th Street, New York, NY 10023

Williamsburg Northside School
299 North 7th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11211

12:30  Broad Street Ballroom
       Lunch

1:30  A Story Of NAREA
       Announcements
       Margie Cooper

2:00  The hundred languages of children: Educational research and educational documentation
       Vea Vecchi and Chiara Spaggiari

       With refreshment break

Things to keep in mind for today:

• Those wishing to travel with local subway guides meet at 8:30 am at the Marriott Downtown, 85 West Street, New York, NY 10006.

• If you need a snack in the morning, you may bring your own.

• Allow 20+ minutes for travel from schools to Broad Street Ballroom.

• Beginning at 12:30, box lunches will be on the side tables. You are welcome to eat in the ball room or take your lunch with you to explore the city.

• Light snacks and beverages will be available during afternoon break.
March 14, 2015
Broad Street Ballroom

9:00      Welcome
Margie Cooper, NAREA Co-Chair

          A Taste of New York: Story Pirates

10:00     An active action of listening as the premise and context of every educational relationship
Vea Vecchi and Chiara Spaggiari

          Break

1:00      Announcements and lunch

2:30      Option 1: Participation as an attitude that generates a culture of solidarity, responsibility, and inclusion
Claudia Giudici, Vea Vecchi, Marina Mori, and Chiara Spaggiari

          Option 2:  Open House

          Blue School
241 Water Street, New York, NY 10038

          Williamsburg Northside School
299 North 7th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11211

          Beginnings Nursery School
130 East 16th Street, New York, NY 10003

          TriBeCa Community School
22 Ericsson Place, New York, NY 10038

5:00      Farewell

          Things to keep in mind for today:

• Midmorning break will include coffee, tea, water, and a light snack.

• Box lunches will be on the side tables. You are welcome to eat in the Ballroom or take your lunch with you to explore the city.

• At 2:30 pm, you have the option to stay at Broad Street Ballroom for presentation by Reggio educators OR participate in the open house at the schools. You may visit more than one school.

• Those wishing to travel with subway guides meet at the table at the entrance of the ballroom.

• If you choose the open house option, you do not have to return to the ballroom at the end of the day.
Walking and Subway Directions:

The Marriott Downtown Financial District
85 West St, NY, NY 10006

to

Broad Street Ballroom
41 Broad St., NY, NY 10004

Go South on WEST ST (WEST SIDE HWY) towards CARLISLE ST 2 min
Turn left onto RECTOR ST 4 min
Turn right onto BROADWAY (CANYON OF HEROES) 1 min
Turn left onto EXCHANGE PL 2 min
Turn right onto BROAD ST 1 min

Broad Street Ballroom
41 Broad St., NY, NY 10004

to

Williamsburg Northside School
299 North 7th St., Brooklyn, NY 11211

Go North on BROAD ST 1 min
Turn left onto EXCHANGE PL 2 min
Turn right onto BROADWAY (CANYON OF HEROES) 1 min
Entrance near intersection of BROADWAY (CANYON OF HEROES) and RECTOR ST 2 min
Take the 4 Train from Wall Street station heading to WOODLAWN 2 min
Pass Fulton St 2 min
Pass Brooklyn Bridge - City Hall 2 min
Get off at 14 St - Union Sq 5 min
Transfer 2 min
Take the L Train from 14 St - Union Sq station heading to CANARSIE - ROCKAWAY PKWY 1 min
Pass 3 Avenue 1 min
Pass 1 Avenue 1 min
Get off at Bedford Avenue 4 min
Exit near intersection of N 7TH ST and DRIGGS AVE 2 min
Go South East on N 7TH ST towards DRIGGS AVE 4 min

Total Time 30 min
Williamsburg Northside School
299 North 7th St., Brooklyn, NY 11211
to
The Marriott Downtown Financial District
85 West St. NY, NY 10006

Go North West on N 7TH ST. towards HAVEMEYER ST. 4 min
Entrance near intersection of N 7TH ST and DRIGGS AVE. 2 min
Take the L Train from Bedford Avenue station heading to 8 AVE. 5 min
Pass 1 Ave. 4 min
Pass 3 Ave. 1 min
Get off at 14 St - Union Sq. 1 min
Transfer 2 min
Take the 4 Train from 14 St. - Union Sq station heading to CROWN HTS - UTICA AVE. 5 min
Pass Brooklyn Bridge - City Hall 5 min
Get off at Fulton St. 2 min
Exit near intersection of BROADWAY (CANYON OF HEROES) and CORTLANDT ST. 2 min
Go South West on BROADWAY (CANYON OF HEROES) towards
LIBERTY ST. (LIBERTY PLZ) 2 min
Turn right onto THAMES ST. 1 min
Turn left onto THAMES ST. (EMERIC HARVEY PL) 1 min
Turn left onto GREENWICH ST. 1 min
Turn right onto ALBANY ST. (BANKERS TRUST PLZ) 1 min
Keep moving ahead on ALBANY ST. 1 min
Turn left onto WEST ST. (WEST SIDE HWY) 1 min
Total Time 38 min

The Marriott Downtown Financial District
85 West St. NY, NY 10006
to
Children’s Museum of the Arts
103 Charlton St., NY, NY 10014

Go South on WEST ST. (WEST SIDE HWY) towards CARLISLE ST. 2 min
Turn left onto RECTOR ST. 2 min
Entrance near intersection of RECTOR ST and GREENWICH ST 2 min
Take the 1 Train from Rector Street station heading to VAN CORTLANDT PARK - 242 ST. 3 min
Pass Cortlandt St. 1 min
Pass Chambers St. 1 min
Pass Franklin St. 2 min
Pass Canal St. 1 min
Get off at Houston St. 2 min
Exit near intersection of KING ST and VARICK ST. 2 min
Go West on KING ST. towards HUDSON ST. 2 min
Turn left onto HUDSON ST. 1 min
Turn right onto CHARLTON ST. 1 min
Total Time 20 min
Go Start out going South on WEST ST. (WEST SIDE HWY) towards CARLISLE ST.  
Turn left onto RECTOR ST.  
Turn left onto BROADWAY (CANYON OF HEROES)  
Entrance near intersection of BROADWAY (CANYON OF HEROES) and RECTOR ST.  
Take the 4 Train from Wall Street station heading to WOODLAWN  
Pass Fulton St.  
Pass Brooklyn Bridge - City Hall  
Get off at 14 St - Union Sq.  
Exit near intersection of E 14TH ST. and 4TH AVE. (PARK AVE S)  
Go East on E 14TH ST. towards E 14TH ST (CUS D’AMATO WAY)  
Turn left onto IRVING PL.  
Turn right onto E 16TH ST.  
**Total Time**  

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Go South on WEST ST. (WEST SIDE HWY) towards CARLISLE ST.  
Turn left onto RECTOR ST.  
Enterance near intersection of RECTOR ST and GREENWICH ST.  
Take the 1 Train from Rector Street station heading to VAN CORTLANDT PARK - 242 ST.  
Pass Cortlandt St.  
Pass Chambers St.  
Get off at Franklin Street  
Exit near intersection of FRANKLIN ST. and VARICK ST. (W BROADWAY)  
Go North on VARICK ST. towards N MOORE ST. (LIEUTENANT VINCENT G HALLORAN ST)  
Turn left onto ERICSSON ST. (BEACH ST)  
**Trip Time**

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Go North on WEST ST. (WEST SIDE HWY) towards ALBANY ST.  
Turn right onto ALBANY ST.  
Keep moving ahead on ALBANY ST. (BANKERS TRUST PLZ)  
Turn left onto GREENWICH ST.  
Turn right onto CEDAR ST.  
Turn left onto NASSAU ST.  
Turn right onto JOHN ST.  
Turn left onto PEARL ST.  
Turn right onto BEEKMAN ST.  
Turn left onto WATER ST.  
**Trip Time**
Go North on WEST ST. (WEST SIDE HWY) towards ALBANY ST. 1 min
Turn right onto ALBANY ST. 1 min
Keep moving ahead on ALBANY ST. (BANKERS TRUST PLZ) 1 min
Turn left onto GREENWICH ST. 1 min
Turn right onto CEDAR ST. 2 min
Turn left onto BROADWAY (CANYON OF HEROES) 2 min
Entrance near intersection of BROADWAY (CANYON OF HEROES) and CORTLANDT ST. 2 min
Take the C Train from Fulton St. station heading to 168 ST. 2 min
Pass Chambers St. 2 min
Pass Canal St. 2 min
Pass Spring St. 2 min
Pass W 4 Street - Washington Sq. 2 min
Pass 14 St. 3 min
Pass 23 St. 2 min
Pass 34 St. - Penn Station 2 min
Pass 42 St. 2 min
Pass 50 St. 2 min
Pass 59 St. - Columbus Circle 2 min
Get off at 72 St. 2 min
Exit near intersection of W 70TH ST. and CENTRAL PARK W (CENTRAL PARK W) 2 min
Go South West on CENTRAL PARK W (CENTRAL PARK W) 2 min
Turn right onto W 68TH ST. 1 min
Total Time 36 min

Go South on WEST ST. (WEST SIDE HWY) towards CARLISLE ST. 2 min
Turn left onto RECTOR ST. 4 min
Turn left onto BROADWAY (CANYON OF HEROES) 1 min
Entrance near intersection of BROADWAY (CANYON OF HEROES) and RECTOR ST. 2 min
Take the 4 Train from Wall Street station heading to WOODLAWN 2 min
Pass Fulton St. 2 min
Pass Brooklyn Bridge - City Hall 2 min
Get off at 14 St - Union Sq. 5 min
Transfer 2 min
Take the L Train from 14 St - Union Sq station heading to CANARSIE - ROCKAWAY PKWY 2 min
Pass 3 Ave. 1 min
Pass 1 Ave. 1 min
Get off at Bedford Ave. 4 min
Exit near intersection of N 7TH ST. and DRIGGS AVE. 2 min
Go South East on N 7TH ST. towards DRIGGS AVE. 4 min
Total Time 32 min
Broad Street Ballroom
41 Broad St., NY, NY 10004
to
Blue School
241 Water St., NY, NY 10038

Go South on BROAD ST. towards BEAVER ST. 1 min
Turn left onto BEAVER ST. 4 min
Turn left onto PEARL ST. 6 min
Turn right onto BEEKMAN ST. 1 min
Turn left onto WATER ST. 1 min
Total Time 12 min

Broad Street Ballroom
41 Broad St., NY, NY 10004
to
TriBeCa Community School
22 Ericsson Place, NY, NY 10013

Go North on BROAD ST. 1 min
Turn left onto EXCHANGE PL. 2 min
Turn left onto BROADWAY (CANYON OF HEROES) 1 min
Turn right 1 min
Turn left onto TRINITY PL. 1 min
Turn right onto EDGAR ST. 1 min
Turn right onto GREENWICH ST. 1 min
Entrance near intersection of GREENWICH ST. and EDGAR ST. 2 min
Take the 1 Train from Rector St. station heading to VAN CORTLANDT PARK - 242 ST. 2 min
Pass Cortlandt St. 1 min
Pass Chambers St. 1 min
Get off at Franklin St. 2 min
Exit near intersection of FRANKLIN ST. and VARICK ST (W BROADWAY) 2 min
Go North on VARICK ST. towards N MOORE ST (LIEUTENANT VINCENT G HALLORAN ST.) 2 min
Turn left onto ERICSSON ST. (BEACH ST.) 1 min
Total Time 16 min

Broad Street Ballroom
41 Broad St., NY, NY 10004
to
Beginnings Nursery School
130 East 16th St., NY, NY 10003

Go North on BROAD ST. 1 min
Turn left onto EXCHANGE PL. 2 min
Turn right onto BROADWAY (CANYON OF HEROES) 1 min
Entrance near intersection of BROADWAY (CANYON OF HEROES) and RECTOR ST. 2 min
Take the 5 Train from Wall Street station heading to NEREID AVE. 4 min
Pass Fulton St. 2 min
Pass Brooklyn Bridge - City Hall 2 min
Get off at 14 St - Union Sq. 5 min
Exit near intersection of E 14TH ST. and 4TH AVE. (PARK AVE. S) 2 min
Go East on E 14TH ST towards E 14TH ST (CUS D’AMATO WAY) 1 min
Turn left onto IRVING PL. 2 min
Turn right onto E 16TH ST. 1 min
Total Time 22 min
Go North on BROAD ST. 2 min
Keep moving ahead on NASSAU ST. 3 min
Turn left onto MAIDEN LN. 2 min
Entrance near intersection of BROADWAY (CANYON OF HEROES) and CORTLANDT ST. 2 min
Take the C Train from Fulton St station heading to 168 ST. 2 min
Pass Chambers St. 2 min
Pass Canal St. 2 min
Pass Spring St. 2 min
Pass W 4 St. - Washington Sq. 2 min
Pass 14 St. 3 min
Pass 23 St. 2 min
Pass 34 St. - Penn Station 2 min
Pass 42 St. 2 min
Pass 50 St. 2 min
Pass 59 St. - Columbus Circle 2 min
Get off at 72 St. 2 min
Exit near intersection of W 70TH ST. and CENTRAL PARK W (CENTRAL PARK W) 2 min
Go South West on CENTRAL PARK W (CENTRAL PARK W) 2 min
Turn right onto W 68TH ST. 1 min
**Total Time** 36 min
NAREA collaborates tirelessly with wonderful, hopeful communities, like New York City, to inspire positive environments of learning and living for young children, families, and educators. We are convinced through the example of Reggio Emilia that authentic community design does not begin with city planners but begins, instead, with architects of love, often in the form of teachers of very young children.

NAREA is proud of our mission, inherited from the efforts of an entire community and spread through a global network of individuals, organizations, and schools. Congratulations to all our colleagues in New York as you come together in the aspiration of excellent early childhood education.

It is our honor to collaborate with Reggio Children in organizing the exhibit in North America and to work with all whose vision of what is possible with young children and families knows no bounds.

**Our Mission**

Children, from birth, are eager to learn and relate. They seek to examine, experience, and connect with the people and phenomena surrounding them. In education and in life, children and adults thrive when there are interesting resources, complex environments and experiences, time for the pleasure of learning and being, reciprocity, sharing, traces of interpreted experiences in process, a strong sense of belonging, and optimism for the future.

At NAREA, we base our efforts on the fundamental values and principles of the Reggio Emilia approach, and endeavor to offer unique experiences for deepening awareness and supporting ongoing connection among members. We believe, as Malaguzzi did, that intelligent children deserve intelligent teachers, and through knowing children well, we can learn more about our roles as adults in children’s lives. We envision a world where all children are honored and respected for their potential, capabilities, and humanity.

Look for the 2015 Winter Conference video on NAREA web site and Facebook page!