IN DIALOGUE WITH SUZANNE AXELSSON: DEEPENING OUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE REGGIO EMILIA APPROACH

“Nothing Without Joy”
— Loris Malaguzzi

DATE:
Friday, February 14, 2020

LOCATION:
Pickering College
16945 Bayview Ave., Newmarket, Ontario
905-895-1700

TIME:
8:30 am – 3:00 pm

COST:
$150 (if registered by December 16, 2019)
Includes refreshments and luncheon – Enjoy a taste of Italy throughout the day!
($180 for registrations after December 16, 2019)

TO REGISTER:
www.pickeringcollege.on.ca/reggioconference2020

SESSION TOPICS:
The Art of Pedagogical Documentation
The Art of Listening
The Art of Learning through Play

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:
Suzanne Axelsson
About Suzanne Axelsson:

Suzanne has a master’s degree in Early Childhood Education from the University of Sheffield, UK. She specialized in Reggio Emilia, language and communication, exploring pedagogical documentation as a tool to aid memory and deepen children’s learning, and investigating what “quality” is in an early years setting. She has a special interest in the art of listening and philosophy with children, exploring how play supports children in developing their listening skills.

Suzanne has more than 20 years of experience in a variety of early years’ settings, which have given her both broad knowledge, and interesting perspectives which are reflected in her blog, Interaction Imagination, https://www.interactionimagination.com/blog.

Suzanne currently works at Stockholm University teaching courses in the preschool teacher programme, and working as a consultant in early years’ settings, supporting educators with their democratic approach to play and learning. She actively participates in Education Conferences and is a well-regarded presenter on topics relating to early childhood education.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

8:30 AM – 10:00 AM
Session #1
THE ART OF PEDAGOGICAL DOCUMENTATION

The Atelier as a space to explore pedagogical documentation. Reflections on educator choices and the need to make informed decisions about how to document and how to analyze collected data.
This session will look at:
• The five stages of pedagogical documentation
• Explore who documentation is for and how this impacts decisions
• Encouraging children to participate in the process

10:00 AM – 10:30 AM
Break with Refreshments & School Tour

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM
Session #2
THE ART OF LISTENING

Creating listening environments where the voice of the child is empowered. Reflections on the impact of the adult and how to create a learning community.
This session will look at:
• Philosophy with children
• Shared sustained thinking
• Democratic learning
• Examples of listening activities
• The 100 Languages

12:00 PM – 12:45 PM
Luncheon: A Taste of Italy!

12:45 PM – 1:30 PM
Tour of Reggio Inspired Classrooms at Pickering College

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM
Session #3
THE ART OF LEARNING THROUGH PLAY

Play and learning are interwoven and enhance each other. What children learn is woven into their play. Their play processes the facts they have learned. Reflections on the importance of understanding the difference between play and playful learning and how we can set up the environment as “Playscapes”.
Examples from around the world will be used, including AnjiPlay in China.
This session will look at:
• Original Learning. How play and learning are interwoven.
• Playscapes in AnjiPlay
• Indoor and Outdoor learning environments
• The Third Teacher

2:30 PM – 3:00 PM
Q & A with Suzanne Axelsson