

FINAL REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

# Mosaic of Marks, Words, Material Exhibition + *Atelier*

Indianapolis, Indiana | 2023





# Community Overview

HOSTED BY  
Butler University College of Education

## Butler University College of Education



The Butler University College of Education has a long history of high-quality teacher preparation in early childhood education that goes all the way back to Eliza Blaker who in 1882 made high-quality kindergarten available to all children, not just to those from privileged families. Our current early childhood faculty carry on this legacy in a comprehensive child-centered, inquiry-based undergraduate program where students benefit from their expertise and long-standing commitments to collaborations with practitioners in the field; including at our Reggio-inspired IPS/Butler Lab Schools 60 and 55.

## Working Group



**Cathy Hartman**

Butler University College of Education



**Ena Shelley**

Butler University College of Education



**Alexis Methner**

Butler University College of Education



**Chasadee Minton**

Butler University College of Education

# Venue & Schedule



# Butler University College of Education

September 1 – December 1, 2023

Visitors

**1,300<sup>+</sup>**



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Hosting this exhibition gave us an opportunity for listening, engaging in dialogue, and envisioning with early childhood educators and stakeholders near and far the possibilities for high-quality early childhood education.

Final Report Excerpt

# 4th NAREA Fall Conference

*Children and Adults: Researching Learning Together*

**October 5–7, 2023**

Speakers



**Claudia Giudici**  
*Pedagogista*



**Sara De Poi**  
*Atelierista*

Participants

**185**

States

**17**

Province

**1**

Countries

**3**



Indianapolis, Indiana

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I was struck by how the speakers at the conference challenged us to think, teach, and engage with children in expansive ways. Instead of being limited by the confines of categories, it is important to think beyond borders for the processes of teaching and learning. Tapping into the ways children see the world—and letting them lead us—is a great way to think expansively.

2023 NAREA Fall Conference Participant

A photograph of a professional learning event, overlaid with a semi-transparent orange filter. The scene shows a group of people, mostly women, engaged in conversations in a hallway or meeting area. In the foreground, there are several tables with papers and materials on them. A man in a light-colored shirt is visible on the left side. In the background, there are banners with the word "BUTLER" and a logo. The overall atmosphere is one of professional collaboration and learning.

# Professional Learning

**Seminars, Dialogue Series,  
Delegation Days, Community  
*Ateliers*, & Book Studies**



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I was set back into a world of wonder and true learning as I experienced this exhibition and *atelier*. I felt like I was in the classroom seeing what true child experiences are and how teachers assist in that learning. I am so grateful for the opportunity to host this at our university and see it touch and teach and expose so many students studying children learning.

Final Report Excerpt – Butler University, College of Education Faculty

# Support

# Supporters of the Project

Thank you for your unwavering support and commitment to educational excellence.

- **The Roberts Family Foundation**
- **RJE Business Interiors**
- **Kimball International**
- **JSI**
- **Butler University**
- **Reggio Children**
- **NAREA**



Cathy Hartman, Butler University College of Education introducing the exhibition to a group of educators

# Significance

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Hosting the *Mosaic of Marks, Words, Material* exhibit brought many benefits to our school community. First, the group of staff that came to the conference started a Reggio-inspired practice study group to offer what they learned to staff who couldn't attend, as well as keeping their own inspiration going. This includes a monthly dinner gathering and builds on our sense of community. This group also uses this time to develop monthly staff meetings that share and explore the concepts and practices that that they picked up during the conference.

Final Report Excerpt – *Pedagogista and Atelierista*, IPS/Butler Laboratory School



WE CELEBRATE YOU WITH GRATITUDE AND HOPE

# The North American community of early childhood education has been strengthened by your dedication, solidarity, and determination.

