



Waldorf Early Childhood Association of North America
East Coast Waldorf Early Childhood Conference

Deepening Our Capacities to Meet the Children in Our Care

February 12 -14, 2010
Spring Valley, New York

The human being is a bridge
Between the past and future existence.
The present is a moment; moment as bridge.
Spirit grown to soul in matter's husk
Comes from the past.
Soul growing to spirit as seed encased
Journeys toward the future.
Grasp future things through past ones
Hope for evolving things through what has evolved.
So grasp existence in evolving growth;
So grasp what will be in what exists.

Given by Rudolf Steiner to Ita Wegman

We look forward to this culmination of a three-year series with Dr. Gerald Karnow on the theme of developing our capacities for deepened observation, understanding and practice in our work with young children. Dr. Gerald Karnow, physician in the Rudolf Steiner Fellowship Community, educator with the Otto Specht School, and school doctor for two Waldorf schools, will share insights into the healing aspects of our early childhood educational activity.

This year the conference schedule will include some changes – we will present our WECAN activities on Friday evening, including a report by Connie White from London, Ontario on her recent three-month experience mentoring in China. Conference lectures will take place on Saturday and Sunday mornings. The conference will also include an array of workshops, a job fair and training fair, a marionette performance on Friday evening, a performance by Eurythmy Spring Valley on Saturday evening followed by a dessert café, and much more.

Attendance at the conference is open to those who are active in early childhood education and who wish to deepen their work out of an anthroposophical view of the young child. This year we are also opening our conference registration to educational support teachers, care group members, eurythmists, and class teachers in the spirit of collaboration around the needs of young children.

Registrations are on a first-come, first-served basis. Register early to ensure a place!
Registration closes January 19th. If you have any questions please email us at:
conference@waldorfearychildhood.org or call 845-517-2388, ext. 11.

We look forward to seeing you!

Best wishes,
Andrea Gambardella, Susan Howard and Louise deForest
WECAN Conference Planning Committee



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Conference Activities

WECAN Membership Information Table and Book Sales Discount

WECAN Membership: Please come and say hello, check your membership status, pay your dues, become a new individual member or ask your questions. Find us Friday night near registration in the Main House, Saturday morning in the Auditorium and Saturday afternoon we will be in the vendor hall with our WECAN Books sales table.

WECAN Book Sales: There is a special conference discount for WECAN Individual Members of 20% for all books purchased during the conference.

Job Fair

February 13th, Saturday – 1:00 - 2:00pm, Green Meadow Waldorf School High School Building

Representatives from schools offering positions for school year '09-'10 will bring school or program materials and contact information to the job fair and will be available to meet for conversation. People looking for positions are encouraged to bring their contact information and/or resume for distribution. No pre-registration is necessary.

Training Programs Information Session

February 13th, Saturday – 1:15 - 2:15pm, Green Meadow Waldorf School High School Building

Representatives of Waldorf early childhood training programs will introduce their professional development programs and be available to meet informally with participants interested in details for participation. No pre-registration is necessary.

Training Program Brochures-Training Programs brochures will be available in the Auditorium lobby.

Additional presentations

February 13th, Saturday – 12:10 - 1:00 pm

An Introduction to the work of the Pedagogical Section of the School of Spiritual Science - Lower Brookside Building (near Café)

Jane Wulsin, Pedagogical Section Council member and Green Meadow Waldorf school class teacher, will be on hand to describe the supportive activities of and membership in the Pedagogical Section.

The Therapeutic Effects of Washing Children's Hands and Feet for Nursery and Parent/Child Groups - Auditorium Side Room

Elsa Arenas, Mt. Laurel Waldorf School parent-child educator, will present a slide presentation of her recent project on the care and therapeutic benefits of hand washing with young children.

Special Events (These events are included with your registration fee):

Marionette Performance on Friday evening, to be announced.

"Of Earth, Soul and Spirit", a *Eurythmy Performance* by Eurythmy Spring Valley will take place in the Auditorium. Pieces by Meister Eckhart, Wendell Berry, Rudolf Steiner, Debussy, Schumann and others. Serious and not quite so serious. The last panel of the Foundation Stone will also be included.

A *Dessert Café* follows the Eurythmy performance for participants to enjoy a hot drink and sweet treats with friends.



Other Practical Notes

Meals and Snacks

Meal Plan purchase is by pre-registration. Menus are designed to also accommodate vegan, vegetarian diets, and wheat and milk sensitivities.

We are delighted to introduce Chef Anthony Pinto, who plans and prepares the cuisine for the new *Threefold Café* in the Main House. Chef Anthony has been cooking all his life, and after completing his culinary degree he worked in New York City under notable chefs. Seeking deeper understanding of his ingredients, Anthony has worked in and studied biodynamic gardening. Care is taken to use quality ingredients with certified organic and biodynamic where possible.

Registration fees include the scheduled coffee/tea and snacks on Saturday and Sunday, and the Dessert Café on Saturday evening.

Sunbridge Bookstore

The bookstore is located in the Auditorium building and will be open during the conference, offering a full range of books on Waldorf education, anthroposophy, and children's books. Books may also be ordered by contacting Noreen at sunbridgebookstore@att.net or call 845-425-0983.

Fiber Craft Studio Sale

The Fibercraft Studio is located in Orchard House near the Main House. They will be open during the lunch break for sales of plant-dyed wool, yarns and silks. Renate Hiller and Mikae Toma will be on hand for your questions and purchases.

Vendors Hall

A Vendors Hall is located in the Green Meadow Waldorf School Arts Building. Two rooms of vendors displaying play items, craft materials and gifts are available Saturday from 10:00 – 6:00 pm.

Certificates of Attendance

Certificates of Attendance will be issued on Sunday from 12:15 -1:00 in the Auditorium lobby following the end of the conference. Please sign up to receive one on Friday at registration. You must appear in person on Sunday to receive your certificate.



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WECAN Conference Schedule 2010

Friday, February 12

4:00 – 8:00 pm	REGISTRATION	Main House
4:00 – 6:00 pm	WECAN Membership Information	Main House
5:00 – 6:30 pm	Supper (meals by pre-registration)	Main House
6:45 – 7:00 pm	Conference Opening – Susan Howard	Threefold Auditorium
7:00 – 7:30 pm	Singing Together with Eleanor Winship	
7:30 – 8:45 pm	Our Work Together in Association - Susan Howard, WECAN Board members and others	
9:00 – 9:30 pm	Marionette Performance	

Saturday, February 13

7:30 – 8:30 am	Registration for Late-comers Breakfast	Main House
8:30 – 9:00 am	Singing Together with Eleanor Winship	Threefold Auditorium
9:00 – 10:15 am	Keynote Address by Dr. Gerald Karnow	
10:15 – 11:00 am	Refreshments WECAN Membership/Information Table	Main House Threefold Auditorium
11:00 – 12:00 pm	Panel Discussion	Threefold Auditorium
12:10 – 2:00 pm	Lunch Sunbridge Bookstore and Fiber Craft Studio sale Additional presentations (see program for details)	Main House Bookstore/Orchard House (see program)
1:15 – 2:15 pm	Vendors & WECAN Membership and Info Job Fair and Training Programs Info Session	GMWS Arts Building GMWS High School Building
2:30 – 4:00 pm	Workshop Session I	(see program)
4:00 – 4:30 pm	Refreshments	Main House
4:30 – 6:00 pm	Workshop Session II	(see program)
6:00	Vendors sale ends	GMWS Arts Building
6:15 – 7:30 pm	Supper	Main House
8:00 – 9:00 pm	Eurythmy Spring Valley Performance – “Of Earth, Soul and Spirit”	Threefold Auditorium
9:15 – 10:15 pm	Dessert Café	Main House

Sunday, February 14

7:30 – 8:30 am	Breakfast	Main House
8:30 – 9:00 am	Singing Together with Eleanor Winship	Threefold Auditorium
9:00 – 10:00 am	Morning Lecture, Dr. Gerald Karnow	Threefold Auditorium
10:00 – 10:45 am	Refreshments	Main House
10:45 – 11:45 pm	Closing Lecture, Dr. Gerald Karnow	Threefold Auditorium
11:45 – 12:00 pm	Conference Closing	
12:15 – 1:00 pm	Certificate of Attendance distribution (see program notes)	Auditorium Lobby
12:00 – 1:30 pm	Lunch available (Box lunch available by reservation and purchase)	Main House



Workshops

Workshops each have two sessions, from 2:30 – 4:00 pm and 4:30 – 6:00 pm, with a half-hour break in between. Please choose one from the following:

1. *If Joy Hatches the Organs, What Hatches the Joy?*

Through observation, discussion and some hands-on exercises, we will explore the foundations of joy in children and in ourselves. We will also consider the role of humor in our lives and in our work.

Cynthia Aldinger, founder of LifeWays North America, directs trainings and seminars across the United States. She has lectured internationally, is an adjunct faculty member at Rudolf Steiner College, and served 14 years on the board of WECAN. Cynthia has a passion for the preservation of the playful spirit of childhood and helping to create environments for young children that provide the comfort, security and activities found in a healthy home.

2. *Advocating for Childhood in the Wider World – and having fun at the same time*

Being a public advocate is serious business—and yet speaking about childhood should ignite enthusiasm and spark the spirit. It's helpful to be in a continual learning mode which means being creative and experimental and not being afraid of making mistakes. We'll look at lessons learned by the Alliance for Childhood via presentations and conversation with some play added in.

Joan Almon directs the Alliance for Childhood, a non-profit concerned with the decline in children's health and well-being. At present the Alliance is focusing on the restoration of children's play. Prior to taking up this work, Joan was a Waldorf early childhood educator for 30 years. She has served as co-chair of WECAN and as co-General Secretary of the Anthroposophical Society in America. In Fall 2009 she returned to the Waldorf preschool as a substitute co-teacher.

3. *Developing Diversity through the Inner Work of the Teacher and Parents*

A presentation and discussion of the successful efforts of teachers and parents at the Acorn Hill Waldorf Nursery and Kindergarten and the Garden City Waldorf School to take up questions of outreach, multi-culturalism, anti-racism and white privilege in their communities, and achieving greater diversity in their kindergartens. They will present exercises for workshops, and a classroom inventory for self-evaluation.

Leimomi Apoliona-Brown has taught at Acorn Hill for 15 years. She is a native Hawaiian and has worked in the area of outreach and diversity in Waldorf education for 20 years.

Teresa Brown is Leimomi's assistant. As a black parent and colleague, she has worked tirelessly to bring diversity to Acorn Hill for many years. Her children attend the Washington Waldorf School.

Keelah Helwig attended kindergarten through 12th grade at the Garden City Waldorf School. She attended Spelman College and returned to Waldorf education after a career in social work and theater. Married to a Waldorf graduate, her children attend the Waldorf school. She is a recent Sunbridge graduate and has been teaching in the kindergarten and chairing the Diversity Committee.



4. Strengthening our Inner Wellspring through Eurythmy

This movement workshop will include specific eurythmy exercises to help us renew ourselves and strengthen forces in us through which we hold and guide the children and are able to have a healing influence on an individual child. There will be an opportunity to share experiences, raise questions and seek new approaches.

Brigida Baldszun is a eurythmist who has taught in Waldorf Schools in Germany and the United States since 1978. She has performed and toured for 10 years with Eurythmy Spring Valley and is now active as a freelance eurythmy teacher.

5. Helping Young Children Get into the Body: Incarnational Support through Playful Movement

This workshop will share two new movement journeys as examples of playful, imaginative movement for young children that support healthy development. There will be lots of active movement during the workshop. Additionally we will spend some time reviewing the foundational senses of touch, self-movement, and balance and how critical their healthy development is for the child's physical and emotional security in the world. We will also touch upon what behaviors we might see if these areas are disordered, to better understand what we are seeing with children in our care. **Please bring along \$3 for photocopies.**

Nancy Blanning has been involved in Waldorf early childhood for over 25 years. She has served as the remedial support teacher at the Denver Waldorf School for the past 9 years as well. She has just completed 4 months back in the kindergarten classroom full time, covering a colleague's sabbatical, to re-experience the reality of the daily work and find out whether she ever really did know something useful for early childhood. Nancy is also a WECAN board member, teacher trainer and mentor, and remedial/therapeutic consultant. She and colleague Laurie Clark are authors of *Movement Journeys and Circle Adventures*.

6. Afternoons in the Waldorf Kindergarten

Families are often stressed today; many children need continuing care throughout a long afternoon. Children having an extended day at school need an extra dose of nurturing care. How can we create an afternoon of warmth, rest, nutrition, rhythmic life and home-like activity that allows children to "digest" the challenging kindergarten morning? How can we make space in school and faculties to support a vital afternoon program? Through presentation and example, work with our hands, and sharing in small and whole groups, we will explore the essentials of an early childhood afternoon program. **Please bring \$5 for materials for a small arts and crafts activity from the afternoon program repertoire.**

Kate Gage has taught at Acorn Hill Waldorf Kindergarten for thirteen years, helping to design, teach and expand the Afternoon Program through the past seven years. She is also Acorn Hill's Parent-Child teacher. She has an MFA in painting, and is a trained Waldorf and special resource teacher.

Vanessa Chang, her colleague, has been teaching the Aftercare (3-5 pm) portion of the program for 3 years.



7. Introduction to Spindle Spinning

In this hands-on workshop we will prepare wool fibers for spinning by washing, teasing and carding them, and we will spin the fibers into yarn using twigs and drop spindles. These processes of transformation of natural materials can enrich the daily life in the kindergarten or other setting and can provide wonderful opportunities for children to participate in meaningful work. **There will be a \$5 charge for wool fibers and spindle sticks.**

Renate Hiller co-directs the Fiber Craft Studio of the Threefold Educational Center in Chestnut Ridge, NY. She co-founded the Applied Arts Program at Sunbridge College in 1996 and has been engaged in working with children and adults for over 20 years in the realm of handwork, crafts and puppetry.

8. Notes from Sugaring Camp: Working with the will in Kindergarten

Why is it so important that we work with the will in early childhood? How should we work with the will? Which influences support, or hinder, its healthy development? How can we recognize and respond to imbalances in the will? What is the will, really? In this two-part presentation/discussion we will explore these and other related questions. The first session will be mostly philosophical in nature. During the second session we will dive into some practical examples and a general discussion of will activity in the kindergarten – and the joys and challenges of this work. We will consider the daily/weekly/yearly rhythm, our approach to play, classroom activities, use of tools, parent education, self-care of the teacher, and many other aspects of kindergarten life. While I hope to bring some new ideas and practical tips, this will not be a “how to ...” course (we will not be building any birdhouses!). Instead it will be an opportunity to think about our work with the young child in a new way.

James Hillier has a B.A. from Norwich University. An alumnus of The Waldorf Institute and Rudolf Steiner College, he is married and the father of three. He has taught for 19 years in the Waldorf kindergarten, mostly in Vermont. James loves woodworking, gardening, swimming, hiking, ultralight aviation, and tinkering on old cars and motorcycles!

9. Healing with Compassionate Communication - Skills for Building Relationships with Children, Parents, and Colleagues

As early childhood teachers we can be overwhelmed by the number and complexity of the relationships we are called upon to foster and tend. Drawing on the Nonviolent Communication work of Marshall Rosenberg, we will explore ways to extend our consciousness into our soul lives in order to bring more understanding, connection, and ease into our relationships—with the children we teach, their parents, our colleagues, and with ourselves. We will learn some basic tools for staying cool when conflicts erupt, some exercises for tending to interactions that went awry, and some strategies for bringing more joy into our lives. There will be some brief teaching segments with the majority of the time spent on practice exercises and conversation.

Sherry Jennings has been a Waldorf Early Childhood teacher for over 30 years at the Pine Hill Waldorf School in Wilton, NH. She has developed the Nursery and Parent and Child Programs, mentored beginning teachers, and taken active roles in carrying the school. Most recently Sherry has been studying the Nonviolent Communication model developed by Marshall Rosenberg and has completed two years of Leadership Training. At Pine Hill Sherry offers classes for adults on Compassionate Parenting, coaches parents and teachers in relation to specific communication situations, and applies the principles of Compassionate Communication in her classroom.



10. *Breathing, Play and Telling the World (about why we do things differently)*

We will play some games with singing and silk so that we can breathe together and play together. These games and songs can be used with children and adults. We will follow this with talking together about the inner work of the Waldorf teacher and its place in preparation and its place in parent education: offering parents ways to work with you as a teacher, inviting them to work in the revolutionary way we work in Waldorf Education. Learning how to remain calm, compassionate and non-reactive in a critical world is difficult. Courage and confidence in explaining to newcomers the depth of the support children need and a Waldorf Early Childhood Center offers can help. Understanding the ways reading readiness is cultivated in early childhood, underscored by recent research, can help parents understand why we do what we do in Waldorf schools.

Patrice Maynard is the current Leader for Outreach and Development for the Association of Waldorf Schools of North America. Patrice received her training in class teaching and early childhood teaching at Antioch University. She was a class teacher and a music teacher at the Hawthorne Valley School for thirteen years and was involved in remediation and Care Circle work. She was one of the founders of the Merriconeag School in Maine and is the mother of three grown children.

11. *An Introduction to Flower Essences and their Healing Potential in the Early Childhood Environment*

Who has not been inspired in some way by flowers - their rainbow colors, wing like petals, intriguing fragrances, and captivating forms? But can they be used for healing? What are flower essences and how do they work? Is there a place for their use in the early childhood environment? This workshop will combine presentation, discussion, and hands-on activity. **There will be a \$7 charge for copied materials and one take-home flower essence preparation.**

Rena Osmer, M.A., has taught children, parents, and teachers for many years. She served as a WECAN board member, founding board member of Sophia's Hearth, and LifeWays North America Board member. Rena taught at the Pine Hill Waldorf School, the Center For Anthroposophy, Antioch New England, and Rudolf Steiner College, where she was the co-founder of the Caldwell Early Life Center and the LifeWays Children's Center. She currently teaches a mixed-age kindergarten in a new Waldorf initiative, Sea Star, in Boca Raton, Florida.

12. *Festivals – Creative Celebration with the Young Child*

An experiential journey through the seasons of the year will be shared as we explore hands-on festival activities to nourish the development of the senses while deepening the child's relationship with nature. In seeking essential archetypes, we will work with the inspirations of earth, air, water and fire in preparing and sharing simple and beautiful celebrations for the young child. **Please bring along \$12 for supplies.**

Janene Ping has been teaching in Waldorf early childhood education for over 20 years. She is the founder of the Magical Puppet Tree, an arts initiative that has been dedicated to enriching the festival and cultural life of the Hawthorne Valley school community since 1992.



13. *Needle Felting a Spring Story*

We will both wet and dry-felt the characters - a little girl, tulips and a fairy baby – in “the Fairy Tulips”, an old English legend I have adapted. I will also have kits for “the Fly and the Bumble Bee”, a spring story, and if there is time, we will make the three characters for that story as well. Participants will go home with one or two charming spring stories for home or classroom. Everyone will receive copies of the stories, a foam pad, a felting needle and plant dyed wool roving for the puppets. **Please bring \$15.00 for supplies for “the Fairy Tulips”, and an additional \$5.00 for “the Fly and the Bumble Bee”.**

Celia Riahi taught kindergarten at the Rudolf Steiner School in New York and the Hartsbrook School in Hadley, Massachusetts before opening her new Cottage Garden program in her home, where she is now working with very young children. She has taught felting in the Hartsbrook community and at the Rudolf Steiner Institute, where she is a board member.

14. *Throwing Stones at Frogs: Our Challenges with the True Nature of Boys*

Every boy and every girl deserves our best effort. How willing are we really to accept the true nature of some boys? By understanding the essential needs of boys, we will gain a valuable picture of how a boy’s nature can often be challenging and require more of our presence. Join with others reviving a sense of hope and meaningful direction to hold boys in our media-driven and chaotic modern world. Through large and small group discussions, creative activities, and intuitive imaginings on the children in our care, we will explore the spectrum of gender. We will leave with practical tools both physical and spiritual to serve all, but particularly boys, more authentically.

“... trailing clouds of glory do we come,
From God, who is our home:
Heaven lies about us in our infancy!
Shades of the prison-house begin to close
Upon the growing boy.”
- William Wordsworth

Joe Robertson has worked in early childhood since 1982. The last 15 years he has focused on parent/toddler groups with children under three years old, founding and directing *Free To Be Under Three* in NYC. With wholehearted gratitude he assists Louise deForest in the Two’s Plus program at the Steiner School in NYC. Joe holds a Masters Degree in Early Childhood Education/Waldorf from Sunbridge College.



15. *The Alexander Technique – A Lively Quiet*

The Alexander Technique helps people who wish to lead active lives without succumbing to the mental stress or muscular strain of overload. This workshop will begin with a short period of lying down. Participants will rest the back as they receive hands-on help and learn to mentally send simple instructions that will quiet the busy mind. We will continue with exploration of activities you might do in a classroom, (i.e., bending, kneeling, reaching, walking, carrying, sitting, etc.). Each participant, with the teacher's guiding hands and words, will have time to become aware of habits that constrict movement, and then find new ways of moving with more ease and comfort. Individuals will learn through the experience of the hands and words, but also by observing others. Participants should wear layered clothing, preferably pants, to accommodate lying on the floor.

Ruth Rootberg is an AmSAT certified teacher of the Alexander Technique, a Laban Movement Analyst and designated Linklater voice teacher. The Alexander Technique helped her recover from back and knee pain, and has led her to many new discoveries as a singer. Ruth enjoys teaching private lessons, workshops and group classes in Amherst, Massachusetts and on many college campuses in the Northeast. Ruth and her husband will watch their daughter graduate from Hartsbrook High School in June. Information on the Alexander Technique can be found at www.atcne.com.

16. *Working with Wood in the Early Childhood Classroom*

Woodworking connects us with nature; it is magical to use our hands and imagination to create something from a piece of wood. This will be a workshop for beginners and includes hands-on work, conversation, and sharing of information. Participants are encouraged to bring along a rasp, carving knife, or any wood working projects they have made. **Please bring along \$5 for a supplies fee.**

Su Rubinoff from the Meadowbrook Waldorf School in Rhode Island has been working in many capacities with children for over 30 years and has been involved in Waldorf education for 20 years. She has three adult children and is about to become a grandmother for the first time. She has many interests she likes to bring into her work with children, such as gardening and nature, woodworking, cooking, crafts, and animals.

17. *The L.O.V.E. Approach to Child Guidance – Cultivating Listening, Laughter, Order, Objectivity, Versatility, Vulnerability, Energy and Enthusiasm in our Presence with Young Children.*

This is a key session of LifeWays Early Childhood and Human Development Training. The presentation will include exercises and opportunities for movement and reflection.

Susan Silverio is the director and lead teacher of Spindlewood Waldorf Kindergarten and LifeWays Center on the grounds of her three-generation family homestead in Lincolnville, Maine. She guides the Northeast LifeWays Training in Maine.



18. *Essentials of Home Care – a natural approach to caring for the young child in health and illness*

Emphasis will be placed on prevention and health-building principles such as the importance of warmth and rhythms and strengthening the immune system. Health will be presented as an activity that includes times of acute inflammatory illnesses. Emphasis will be placed on healing an illness versus suppressing it, based on the model of the threefold and fourfold human being. A brief introduction to care in the home will be presented. The first session will be a lecture with helpful handouts. The 2nd session will include demos and practice of external therapies such as compresses, wraps, inhalations, and footbaths.

Jeanne Schirm is a registered nurse. She has taught homecare workshops at the Green Meadow Waldorf School for staff and parents, and has taught at Waldorf schools in Connecticut and New Jersey. Jeanne was a coworker at the Fellowship Community for many years, and was first introduced to Anthroposophical Medicine there. She is currently a school nurse in the public school, and has been the medical consultant to Green Meadow for a number of years.

19. *The Fourfoldness of the Human Being*

When a child stands before us we may ask ourselves, “of what are you made?” Rudolf Steiner developed the ancient four-fold picture of the human being, using the theosophical terms of physical body, etheric body, astral body and I. In this workshop we will explore these members of man’s being, to aid us in understanding the children in our care.

Elizabeth Sustick R.N., L.M.T. has been actively engaged in and studying the work of Anthroposophical Medicine and early childhood education for 30 years. She is the mother of 3 Waldorf graduates, a grandmother, and a homemaker.

20. *Parent-Child Groups Begin at Birth*

This workshop will focus on creating family well-being, a healthy beginning for every child, and resilience for life through the understandings of Waldorf education and the insights of the Pikler Institute. It will include presentations, viewing of video material, and experiential activity, offering insights and practical steps into this critical work of our times. We will focus on four developmental periods central to the building of strength for both children and parents in these first three years. The workshop will also include exercises and sharing of work.

Susan Weber is the Director of Sophia's Hearth Family Center. She has been a public school teacher and administrator, Waldorf early childhood teacher, Waldorf early childhood teacher training coordinator at Antioch University New England, and adult educator. She has also completed extensive training at the Pikler Institute in Budapest, Hungary.

Nancy Macalaster is Director of Family Programs at Sophia's Hearth, facilitating the Joyful Beginnings parent infant and toddler playgroups and home visiting program. She is a graduate of Sophia’s Hearth Family Center’s training program, has completed training at the Pikler Institute in Hungary, and holds an early childhood degree from Connecticut College.



21. *Hand Gestures, Songs and Movement Games by Wilma Ellersiek*

The parent-child and teacher-child relationship can be supported by hand-gesture games developed by Wilma Ellersiek in Germany. These games, based on a deep understanding of child development, language, music, and rhythmic movement, include touching in playful and loving ways. The use of these hand games with young children in Waldorf programs contributes not only to the child's love of language but also to the forming of healthy relationships. Together with Lisa Beckmann from Baltimore, Kundry will present gems from a new collection soon to be published, called *Trotting Pony, Dancing Hand*, and some favorites from earlier collections.

Kundry Willwerth, from Ithaca, New York, has dedicated many years to translating these games and publishing them through WECAN Books. A member of the International Working Group on Gesture Games and Movement, Kundry is interested in forming a group of practitioners to take this work further into the future.

22. *Songs for Work and Play in the Kindergarten*

We will explore how lightness and playfulness can enliven our singing, and also how singing can accompany our meaningful work activities in the kindergarten. We will sing songs that have arisen out of play in the kindergarten, and songs intended to support our work activities - all in the "mood of the fifth". We will also incorporate Werbeck singing exercises.

Eleanor Winship is Faculty Chair and director of the music program at the Waldorf School of Atlanta. A graduate of Garden City Waldorf School, she studied music at Julliard and Oberlin, and studied Werbeck singing extensively in Europe. Eleanor has taught for over 25 years. She was the keynote speaker at the Australian Vital Years Conference last summer, speaking on the arts in early childhood education.



Getting Here

AIRPORT PICKUP

A Threefold community member can be hired to pick you up from the airport; please make arrangements directly with him. Call Jan Kadula at (845) 425-0087.

SHUTTLES FROM NEWARK AIRPORT

The Air Brook Express Shuttle operates from 7:00 am (5 am on weekdays) to midnight, seven days a week, between Newark and the Montvale Transportation Center in New Jersey, where you can arrange for pick-up or call a taxi (\$10) to take you to Hungry Hollow Road. Just call 1-800-432-1826 after you arrive and Air Brook will instruct you from there. The fare is \$30, \$55 for a round trip.

DRIVING DIRECTIONS FROM NEWARK AIRPORT

- Exit airport and follow signs for I-95/NJ Turnpike north.
- When highway splits, take western exits, still heading north.
- Exit onto I-80 west towards Garden State Parkway.
- Exit onto Garden State Parkway north.
- Take the Garden State Parkway north to Exit 172 (Grand Avenue.)
- Turn left at the bottom of the ramp, go under the overpass and turn right at the stoplight onto Chestnut Ridge Road (Route 45.)
- Continue for about two miles, through two traffic lights, the New York State border and a third traffic light.
- Just past the first sign for Green Meadow Waldorf School on your left, turn left onto Hungry Hollow Road (the Hungry Hollow Co-op will be on the far corner.)

BY CAR, FROM THE SOUTH

- Take the Garden State Parkway north to Exit 172 (Grand Avenue.)
- Turn left at the bottom of the ramp, go under the overpass and turn right at the stoplight onto Chestnut Ridge Road (Route 45.)
- Continue for about two miles, through two traffic lights, the New York State border and a third traffic light.
- Just past the first sign for Green Meadow Waldorf School on your left, turn left onto Hungry Hollow Road (the Hungry Hollow Co-op will be on the far corner.)

BY CAR, FROM THE NORTH OR EAST

- Take the New York State Thruway (Route 87) to Exit 14A (Garden State Parkway)
- Take the first exit (Red Schoolhouse Road, also identified as Last Exit in New York)
- Turn right at the stop sign and go to the stoplight at Chestnut Ridge Road (Route 45), turn left
- Then take the first right turn onto Hungry Hollow Road (the Hungry Hollow Co-op and Green Meadow Waldorf School are on the north and south corners of Hungry Hollow Road.)

PARKING ON HUNGRY HOLLOW ROAD

Just past the bottom of the hill on your left is the parking lot for short-term visitors to the Main House that houses the WECAN office and Dining Room. Orchard Lane, the first actual street on your left, which is marked "Holder House", is the entrance for Holder House and visitor parking. Parking is also available on the front lawn of the Auditorium, further down Hungry Hollow Road on the right.



2009 WALDORF EARLY CHILDHOOD CONFERENCE

FEBRUARY 12 - 14, 2010

Waldorf Early Childhood Association of North America

WECAN Conference Registration Form

Contact Information (Please Print Clearly and Use One Form Per Faculty Member)

Name: _____ Daytime Phone (____) _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ E-mail: _____

School/Affiliation: _____ Teaching Position: _____

Workshops: Please register for one double session (list a first, second and third choice)

1st Choice: _____ 2nd Choice: _____ 3rd Choice: _____

Conference Fee: \$130 for Members of WECAN
 \$140 for Non - Members

You can go online to waldorfearlychildhood.org to become a member of WECAN and receive conference and publication discounts.

Fee includes program, snacks, eurythmy and puppetry performance, and the Dessert Café on Saturday evening,

Housing: Please make your own arrangements. There will be a special rate for WECAN Conference attendees at the Courtyard Marriott in Montvale, NJ.

- Courtyard Marriott, Montvale, NJ: (201) 391-7700 \$89.00/night
- There is housing at the Holder House dorm. Contact holderhouse@threefold.org to check on availability.
- Limited Community Housing is available for \$35 - \$40 per night, please e-mail housing@threefold.org to check availability.

Meals: The menu will accommodate vegetarian with vegan and gluten-free, dairy-free options.

Select one (No refunds are possible for pre-paid meals.)

- All meals - \$76 (Beginning with Friday night supper and ending with Sunday lunch)
- All meals except breakfast - \$62

A list of local food alternatives will be provided for those not participating in the meal plan.

Total Conference Fees:

Conference Fee:	\$
Meals:	\$
Total Due:	\$

Refund Policy:

50% of conference registration fee is refundable in the event of illness or travelers' advisory weather conditions. WECAN must be notified no later than 12:00 noon on Friday, February 12th.

I would like to add a donation for WECAN work in North America \$ _____

Payment Methods:

- ① Register online at www.waldorfearlychildhood.org. Payment must be made with credit card at time of registration.
- ② Mail the completed form and full payment (make checks payable to **WECAN**) to:

WECAN Conference
Attn: Susan Wallendorf
285 Hungry Hollow Road
Spring Valley, NY 10977

Registrations will not be accepted by telephone or without full payment.
NO REGISTRATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER JANUARY 19th