

THANK
YOU

Much education today is monumentally ineffective. All too often we are giving young people cut flowers when we should be teaching them to grow their own plants.

John W. Gardner

CONFERENCE PRESENTERS

Linda Brault is the director of Beginning Together, and the California Map to Inclusive Child Care Project, all projects of WestEd, Center for Child and Family Studies in collaboration with the Child Development Division of the California Department of Education.

Prior to directing projects for WestEd, Linda was an early childhood special education teacher for over 18 years. Linda holds board positions in several professional organizations and is a member of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Early Childhood Training Cadre for the International Division for Early Childhood of the Council for Exceptional Children (DEC/CEC).

Linda is passionate about inclusion of children with special needs into child care settings, in part because she is the parent of children with special needs. Linda has published articles and speaks frequently on inclusion of very young children, young children with challenging behaviors, and legal requirements in early intervention/early childhood special education and transition between early intervention and special education.

Ange Burnette holds a masters degree in Special Education with a concentration in Pediatric Development. Ange served as a special education teacher for 8 years with the New York Board of Education and has been the Inclusion Project Coordinator at the Contra Costa Child Care Council for the last 6 years.

Gary Draper has held many roles at Performing Arts Workshop, including student, artist, mentor, and administrator. Gary conducts professional development workshops and supervises the Workshop's Internship programs and the Workshop's staff. Gary's additional duties include curriculum design, writing and revising educational resource materials, program evaluation and fundraising. Gary's education in Theatre Arts and Literature includes study at the American Conservatory Theatre and UC Berkeley.

Early Learning Network (ELN) - The San Francisco Early Literacy Network was formed in 2007 to coordinate, integrate, and strengthen literacy services for children from birth to 5 years old and their families. ELN's community-based non-profit agencies collaborate to help young children develop literacy, critical thinking, and communication skills. They provide workshops, materials, and resources to children, their parents/caregivers, and fellow educators to encourage sharing books and engaging in educational activities that lead to a lifelong love of learning.

ELN members include the San Francisco Public Library, San Francisco – Raising A Reader, KQED Education Network, Childhood Matters/Nuestros Niños, the Children's Book Project, Project READ, The Reading Tree, Tree Frog Treks, Bring Me A Book Foundation, and Jumpstart.

Conference Presenters from ELN:

Janel Bolte was the founding director of San Francisco Raising a Reader and is currently an early childhood consultant working with the San Francisco Unified School District, the San Francisco Public Library and KQED's Education Network.



THANK
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Life will go on
as long as
there is
someone to
sing, to
dance, to tell
stories and to
listen.

Oren Lyons

CONFERENCE PRESENTERS

ELN Partner

Chris Giorni, the Head Frog & Founder of Tree Frog Treks loves to adventure outdoors & exercise his imagination. An avid Dr. Seuss fan he often teaches in rhymes, riddles & alliterations in an effort to help his students stay focused & engaged. A new dad he enjoys reading to his son in the play room, in the bath, in the car, in the park, & even after dark.

ELN Partner

Betsy Keever is the current Director of San Francisco – Raising A Reader. Betsy aspires to cultivate a deep love of words, pictures, and stories in young children through sharing engaging books. When not sharing books, she can be found running on the trails of Golden Gate Park.

ELN Partner

Rachel MacNeilly is currently Manager of Children's Services at San Francisco Public Library's exciting Mission Branch. Offering services to children (and their grown ups!) in both English and Spanish, the library is a true community meeting place. Before becoming a librarian, Rachel was a classroom teacher for many years.

ELN Partner

Lynne Maes (MA; PhD ABD) is the Program Coordinator for San Francisco-Raising A Reader. In addition to having taught reading & literacy to all ages, Lynne has been busily raising two of her own readers for over 12 years.

ELN Partner

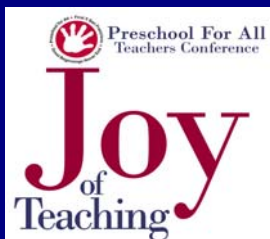
Nichole Schultz is the Senior Site Manager with Jumpstart San Francisco. Nichole loves bringing the joy of Jumpstart to the children of San Francisco. From vocabulary building to phonemic awareness she leads the Jumpstart crew in seeing the day that every child enters school prepared to succeed.

ELN Partner

Nancy Yamamoto is with the KQED Education Network and works with educators and families promoting media-based learning. Nancy has worked with children and families for 24 years. Her new favorite PBS friends are Sid the Science Kid, Word Girl and Captain Huggy Pants!

Chagua Camacho-Olguin is Co-Director of Project Commotion. She has worked with children of diverse ages and abilities for over 7 years, including children on the autism spectrum with overwhelmingly positive results in their abilities to understand their bodies and develop improved social skills. Her training with renowned child psychiatrist Dr. Bruce Perry has influenced the program's curriculum. Her work has been included in a study by UCSF Department of Physical Therapy and Rehab Science. She holds a Certificate in Child Development and Family Studies from City College of San Francisco. She holds a Safety Certification and a KAT Certification (Kinder Accreditation for Teachers) from USA Gymnastics.

Gabriele Fain is a research analyst at the American Institutes for Research (AIR), a non-profit education research firm. She is currently directing the process evaluation of PFA for First 5 San Francisco. Gabriele has worked in early childhood research and evaluation for over twelve years. She is a former second grade teacher and Head Start volunteer.



THANK
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Many things we
need can wait.
The child
cannot. Now is
the time his
bones are
formed, his
mind
developed. To
him we cannot
say tomorrow,
his name is
today.

Gabriela Mistral

CONFERENCE PRESENTERS

Diane Ferlatte grew up in Louisiana steeped in a rich oral tradition where she spent her early childhood years on her grandparent's porch with the family and neighbors swapping stories. Diane's passion for story telling began with the family ritual of nightly story reading for her two children. Diane has wowed audiences starting from her two children and reaching across the globe including Austria, New Zealand, France, Bermuda, Sweden, Canada, Singapore, and Malaysia. She is known for her dynamic characterization with animation, expression, and interaction.

John Gunnarson an independent consultant in early care and education, providing training and technical assistance to early childhood programs throughout the United States. His areas of specialization include early literacy, diversity, project work and administration. He is currently a Steering Committee member of BANDTEC, A Network for Diversity Training, served as the lead trainer and coordinator for Every Director Counts. John is an instructor at Napa Valley College.

Nina Hinman holds a B.S. in Adaptive Physical Education. Nina served as a Head Start Disabilities Coordinator for 4 years and has been working as an Inclusion Specialist at Contra Costa Child Care Council for the last two years. Nina is a strong advocate for inclusion which began as a support for her own daughter and over the years she has become a strong voice in the community for all children with special needs.

Susan Osterhoff is the Co-Director of Project Commotion has 9 years of experience with children of all ages and abilities in movement programs at recreational after-school programs as well as in the San Francisco Unified School District. Susan discovered the art of capoeira in 1996, which nourished her love of movement and inspired her to combine this passion with her joy and fascination of working with children. Now with over 10 years of training under world-renowned Mestre Urubu Malandro, she is a graduated student, known in the Capoeira world as "Professora Formiguinha." Susan has created multiple Capoeira programs for children and youth ages 3 and up.

Susan is also a faculty member in the Child Development and Family Studies Department at City College of San Francisco. She holds a BS in Communications from the University of Michigan, a Certificate of Completion in Child Development/General from the City College of San Francisco, and both a Safety Certification and a KAT (Kinder Accreditation for Teachers) Certification, from USA Gymnastics.

Annabella Tong received her BA from the University of California, Berkeley double majoring in Psychology and Social Welfare and a Master degree in Education concentrated in Early Childhood Education. She has been involved in the field for many years. Her experiences include work in a lab school and overseeing a family based child care. She is currently serving as an Anchor/Assessor/Coach at Gateway to Quality using the Early Childhood Environmental Rating Scale Revised (ECERS-R), Infant Toddler Rating Scale-Revised (ITRS-R) and Family Child Care Rating Scale –Revised (FCCR -R). Ms. Annabella Tong speaks, writes and reads fluently in Cantonese and Mandarin.