10TH ANNIVERSARY OF OUR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION CONFERENCES AT MANHATTANVILLE COLLEGE!!

Saturday, October 15, 2022

Highlights from the past 9 years include:

Creative Movement • Storytelling and Song
Science Exploration and Discovery • Math Fun and Games
Literacy and Language • iPADS, Apps and Robotics
and more!!!

Keynote: Early Childhood Education Today and the Challenges of Teaching and Learning for Teachers and Children in the Pandemic

Dr. Patricia A. Vardin

Panel: Dr. April Grundman, Amy Lynch, Jamie Morelli, Laura Woodson
Keynote Speaker

Dr. Patricia A. Vardin

Dr. Patricia Vardin has been an Associate Professor and Chairperson of the Department of Early Childhood Education and Director of the Program in Early Childhood Education at Manhattanville College during the past twenty years. She has co-directed the Early Childhood conferences at Manhattanville for the past ten years and initiated the STEAM Institute at the college. She is the past President of the New York State Association of Early Childhood Teacher Educators and one of the founders of the National Association of Early Childhood Teacher Educators. She has been honored for her ten years of work designing and implementing a highly successful early childhood model “The Comprehensive Curriculum Model” in New York City. She also was the creator of ChildChart, one of the first technology-based assessment systems used to monitor the progress of young children and published a DVD entitled “Highly Successful Strategies to Guide Young Children’s Behavior” with Educational Activities, Inc. Dr. Vardin has written articles and spoken at international and national conferences, served as a consultant to organizations and corporations, served as a guest expert for the media and written an education blog. She has many years of experience working with young children, students, teachers, parents, and administrators and has been a member of numerous educational organizations and boards devoted to the education and welfare of young children. She was given a LifeTime Achievement Award from Who’s Who and recently founded an educational consulting firm.

Panelists:

Amy Lynch
Amy Lynch is an alum of Manhattanville College. With nearly two decades as an educator, she has been privileged to work with young children and teachers in a variety of early childhood settings and is currently a preschool teacher at Greenwich Catholic School.

Laura Woodson
Laura Woodson is a preschool Director for Highbridge Head Start in the Bronx. She has been teaching and leading in the education field for over 25 years, including 15 years as an Adjunct Professor at Manhattanville College.

Dr. April Grundman
Dr. April Grundman has over fifteen years of teaching experience at the elementary and college level. Her expertise lies in Early Childhood Development and Literacy. She currently is a fifth grade ELA teacher on City Island, New York and an Adjunct Professor at Manhattanville College.

Jamie Morelli
Jamie Morelli is a graduate of Manhattanville College, former early childhood educator, a real estate agent licensed and practicing in Connecticut. Her favorite and most important role is being a mother to a daughter and a twin daughter and son.
PROGRAM

Registration, Reception, Refreshments & Exhibits  8:00AM - 9:00AM

Welcome  
Dr. April Fatato Grundman, Dana Parsons  
Co-Presidents, ECE Alumni Association

Dean Shelley Wepner  
School of Education

Dr. Patricia Vardin  
Director, Program in Early Childhood Education

Keynote Speaker  
Dr. Patricia Vardin  9:10AM-10:00AM  
Early Childhood Education Today and the Challenges of Teaching and Learning for Teachers and Children in the Pandemic

Panel: Dr. April Grundman, Amy Lynch, Jamie Morelli, Laura Woodson

Interactive Presentation 1  10:15AM - 11:00AM
Vendor Walk  11:00AM - 11:15AM
Interactive Presentation 2  11:15AM - 12:00PM
Vendor Walk  12:00PM - 12:45PM
Raffle  12:45PM

• Each presentation will be repeated twice.
• Participants are free to choose any presentation and to attend multiple presentations
• Professional development hours certificates will be given for each presentation if the participant stays for the entire presentation.

Vendors, Raffles, and more!!!
**Interactive Presentations**

**Dr. Barbara Allen-Lyall**  
**Go. Math! Go. Geometry!**

This workshop takes early childhood educators into the world of the brain and learning mathematics. Engage with manipulatives and learn how to get the most out of early geometry challenges that draw children in. Build upon research-based ideas, experience guided investigation protocols, and enhance your own understanding of geometry for early learners. Problem-based experiences are ready to incorporate into your own active classroom!

Dr. Barbara Allen-Lyall is an Assistant Professor of Mathematics Education at Manhattanville College. A former elementary school educator, Dr. Allen-Lyall helps teachers to engage their own students with rich mathematics explorations. An important goal is for teachers to extend their own mathematical understanding as they promote naturally connected mathematical ideas in their own classrooms. Dr. Allen-Lyall presents nationally on topics related to teaching and learning.

**Dr. Rhonda Clements and Sharon Schneider**  
**Using Creative Movement Activities to Enhance Learning in the Early Childhood Classroom**

This presentation offers twenty five creative movement activities that early childhood educators can immediately implement in the classroom. The session includes innovative follow-along poems, simple partner games, whole group activities for limited spaces, and homemade equipment for limited budgets.

Dr. Rhonda Clements has served as a Professor and Director of the Graduate Program in Physical Education and Sports Pedagogy at Manhattanville College for the past seventeen years. She has authored or edited numerous books and articles in the area of movement, play and game activities for children and has presented papers at over one hundred international, national and local conferences. She is past president of The American Association for the Child's Right to Play and has served as a consultant to many organizations and corporations including NAEYC, Children's Television Workshop and Head Start.

Ms. Sharon Schneider is a professor of early childhood movement at Hofstra University and the author of books and articles on early childhood movement activities. She has served as a physical activity consultant for the Head Start body Start Program.

**Dr. Victoria Fantozzi**  
**Digital Tools for Creating and Connecting**

Informed educators play a critical role in helping to guide technology choices and model the use of devices so that children have experiences with technology that nurture them as active critical and creative thinkers. The presentation will share examples of open-ended apps that allow children to collaborate, create and communicate with peers and families. This presentation focuses on supporting teachers and administrators in making intentional choices to use technologies to support developmentally appropriate practice. Dr. Fantozzi will share a framework for evaluating and integrating technologies that focuses on using technologies to create, collaborate and connect with peers and families.

Dr. Victoria Fantozzi is a professor of Early Childhood and Childhood Education at Manhattanville College. Her research centers on the developmentally appropriate use of technology with young children and she has partnered with preschools to integrate technology into their curricula. Her work has been presented at NAEYC, NCTE, and IRA and has been published in Young Children and The Reading Teacher. Her book Digital Tools for Learning, Creating, and Thinking: Developmentally Appropriate Strategies for Early Childhood Educators was published by NAEYC in 2022.
**Dr. Diane W. Gómez and Dr. Diane E. Lang**

**Bilingual Early Childhood Books and the New New York State Standards**

The opportunity to support a child’s home language and English as a new language, ENL, will be explored reviewing new multilingual books and materials as well as cultural relevant practices related to these materials.

Dr. Gomez has been an Associate Professor of TESOL & Foreign Languages and Department Chair of Educational Foundations & Special Subjects, Manhattanville College School of Education. She is currently the interim Professional Development Schools (PDS) Coordinator, Manhattanville College. Her recent publications include two chapters in PDS and Community Schools: The Nexus of Practice (IAP, 2022) and coediting of “The Response and Responsibility of School-University Partnerships in a Time of Crisis” in School-University Partnership.

Dr. Lang is the Director of Instructional Support services at Orange Ulster Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) in Goshen, New York.

Dr. Lang is the author and co-author of numerous books, chapters and journal articles and was awarded the School Administrators Association of New York Leadership and Support Award in 2015. She has served on the New York State Department of Education Task Force on Early Learning.

**Bill Gordh**

**Stories in Action: Paths to Literacy**

This workshop will offer a range of dynamic stories and activities that will engage children in any early childhood or childhood setting. We will share story-songs, drawing stories, folktale fingerplays and storytelling tips. We will explore how to move stories into literacy building experiences for all young children.

Bill Gordh is the Director of Expressive Arts at The Episcopal School in the City of New York where he leads the storytelling classes with a curriculum he designed. He is the author of Stories in Action: Interactive Tales and Learning Activities to Promote Early Literacy. He was an adjunct professor at Manhattanville College for nearly 20 years teaching the graduate courses “Arts in Education”, “An Arts Approach to Literacy”, “Aesthetic Literacy”, “Storytelling and Literacy” as well as co-directing the “Summer Arts Institute” (2002-2011). He has designed curriculum for the Jacob Burns Film Center, the Peck Slip School, Rockefeller University Early Childhood Center and was the Storytelling Curricular Consultant to the Innova Schools in Lima, Peru. His storytelling performances include the Clearwater Festival, the New York Philharmonic and the White House Easter Egg Roll. He is the Storytelling host of the podcast World Music Institute Folktales, in which he tells a folktale from the World cultures.

**Dr. Jacqueline Grennon Brooks**

**Using Children’s Play to Teach Science**

Play serves an important role in human development. The creative expression of play enhances deep learning when supported by teachers who challenge students’ thinking. Early childhood teachers who recognize and foster the science and engineering practices within children’s playful endeavors push the envelope of children's thinking. Workshop participants will engage in an interactive activity with simple materials and then analyze their own learning through the lens and language of the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS).

Dr. Jacqueline Grennon Brooks is Professor Emerita in the Department of Teaching, Literacy and Leadership at Hofstra University. She is a co-founder of the Long Island Explorium, a children’s museum of science and engineering in Port Jefferson, NY. She served as the founding director of the Biotechnology Teaching Lab and the Discover Lab at Stony Brook University and directed its Science Teacher Preparation Program. At Hofstra University, she directed the Institute for the Development of Education in the Advanced Sciences, the Science Education Program, and STEM Studio, a clinical practice site for new teachers.
Travis Sluss

MakeInspires: Robotics and Coding for Early Childhood Educators

Robotics have entered the world of early education in a strong way over the last 5 years. There are dozens of products on the market to assist a classroom with coding and robotics. But what's right for my classroom and is it even worth a teacher’s time? This workshop will explore the power of play and exploration with coding and robotics to invigorate students to explore computational thinking, problem solving, creativity, engineering and more! The presentation will include products and methods that have proven to inspire students and add to the teacher’s curriculum.

Travis Sluss is the founder of MakeInspires program for ages five through seventeen, which he started in 2011 with the goal of empowering students and organizations with the knowledge of new technology. MakeInspires makerspace is a collaborative workspace filled with creative tools such as computers, robots, electronics, 3D printers, woodworking tools and more. With MakeInspires, students explore technologies and industries at the forefront of the future while cultivating computational reasoning, critical thinking and creativity. MakeInspires mission is to inspire lifelong learning through STEAM education. Travis has traveled to over a dozen countries and over 30 states for various technology related events.

Kyle Troy

Exploring Marine Ecology in the Long Island Sound

This presentation will include an exploration of marine ecology including a firsthand look at examples of marine life in the Long Island Sound such as the horseshoe crab, the spider crab and other animals. Participants will also learn about what makes an estuary so special and important.

Kyle Troy is a biologist, naturalist and Director of the Marine Education Center in Mamaroneck, New York. She began her career in Florida working with manatees and sea turtles. Before returning to New York, she was head restoration biologist for Malibu Creek Watershed in California working, with steelhead trout, next with North Atlantic right whales in Massachusetts and, after that, as an ornithologist in Eastern New York. Kyle currently directs the Marine Education Center in Mamaroneck, New York, working on several projects with particular focus on the The Long Island Sound.

The Program in Early Childhood Education at Manhattanville College has accreditation through NAEYC and is nationally recognized as a program of excellence. The program offers both undergraduate and graduate New York State certification in Early Childhood Education, Early Childhood and Childhood Education and Early Childhood and Early Childhood Special Education.

The Early Childhood Alumni Association was established in 2007 and focuses on creating opportunities for professional development, networking, sharing instructional practices and social activities. If you are interested in joining the Early Childhood Education Alumni Association, please contact April.Grundman@mville.edu.

CONFERENCE DIRECTORS

Julianne DeLuca
Dr. Victoria Fantozzi
Jaime Morelli
Dr. April Fatato Grundman
Jennifer Geskie

Amy Lynch
Jaime Morelli
Dorothea Muccigrosso
Dana Parsons

Renee Torchiano
Dr. Patricia Vardin
Nicole Welge
Laura Woodson
Registration Form
EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

Saturday, October 15, 2022

The Program in Early Childhood Education
The Early Childhood Alumni Association

10th Anniversary Conference
Highlights from Our Past Nine Years!

Manhattanville College
Purchase, New York

Individual Name: ________________________________________________________________
School or Program Name: __________________________________________________________
If School Group, Name of Each Teacher/Director in Group: ___________________________________________

Mailing Address: Individual or School
City: ___________________________ State/Province: __________ Zip: __________
Telephone: (______)______________________ Fax: (______)_________________________
Email: ________________________________________________________________

Registration Fees: Includes morning reception, keynote speaker, two workshops

PLEASE CHECK APPROPRIATE REGISTRATION FEE:

- Individual $30
- School Group (Includes fee for six teachers/directors) $100
- Student $25
- Graduate Credit: 1 credit Special Discount $450

Total: $ _______

If you are Manhattanville alum, please check here: □

Register on line at www.mville.edu/eca
Payment method: Check or Money Order payable to: Manhattanville College – Early Childhood Education Professional Development Conference
Please check appropriate box: □ Check □ Money Order
Please mail completed registration form with payment to:

Early Childhood Education Conference
Dr. Victoria Fantozzi
2900 Purchase Street
Manhattanville College
Purchase, New York 10577

Email: patricia.vardin@mville.edu

Registrants will select to attend workshops on the day of the conference.
Registrants can also move from one workshop to another during the conference.
Dr. Patricia A. Vardin
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School of Education
Manhattanville College
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Purchase, New York 10577

To: