

Burnaby Mountain Community of Educators Conference 2014

Featuring Ann Pelo



Early Childhood Educators: Professionals in the Education Community

Ann Pelo

*Teacher educator, program
consultant, and author*



**“A Sense of Wonder:
Cultivating an Ecological
Identity in Young Children
and in Ourselves”**

Eco-philosopher and environmental educator David Orr describes ecological identity as “driven by a sense of wonder, the sheer delight in being alive in a mysterious, beautiful world.” This is the particular task of early childhood—the development of a sense of wonder towards and connection to the earth and its pulsing life. As children grow older, they are able to add the tools of reflective consciousness and critical thinking to their literacy repertoire, and, so, develop the ecological identity that is at the heart of committed environmentalism. But first: wonder.

Ann Pelo is a teacher educator, program consultant, and author whose primary work focuses on Reggio-inspired, social justice, and ecological teaching and learning. She worked as a teacher and teacher mentor for sixteen years at Hilltop Children’s Center, a full-day childcare program in Seattle, Washington. Currently, Ann works with early childhood educators and administrators in North America, Australia, and New Zealand, thinking with them about inquiry-based teaching and learning, pedagogical leadership, and the necessary place of ecological identity in children’s – and adults’ – lives.

Keynote address:

Magdalena Rudko

is a graduate of the Childhood Education (ECE) bachelor program and Masters of Early Childhood Studies program at Ryerson University. She is currently



pursuing her Doctoral degree in Education at Simon Fraser University. Her research interests include: exploring young children’s experiences within natural and forest environments, as well as conducting and advocating for participatory research with young children.

WHEN

Saturday, February 22, 2014

8:30 - 9:00AM - Registration

9:00 - 3:30 PM - Conference

(Light lunch included)

3:30 - 5:00 PM - Tour of SFU Childcare Societies Centers

WHERE

Diamond Alumni Center at Simon Fraser University (Burnaby)

8888 University Drive East, Burnaby, BC

CONTACT

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