



Exhibition of the infant-toddler centers and preschools  
of the Istituzione - Municipality of Reggio Emilia, Italy  
North American Version



In collaboration  
with



Hosted by

First Presbyterian  
NURSERY SCHOOL

and



*As part of The Wonder of Learning exhibition, Para Los Niños presents*

## The School as a Place of Community & Collaboration: The Community as a Context for Learning March 4 - 6, 2010

Inspired by the preschools in Reggio Emilia, Italy, the Para Los Niños early childhood centers and charter elementary school have begun to use their community as a context for learning. The areas of Los Angeles which surround our schools have more often than not been perceived as places where the deficits far outweigh the advantages. However, through a series of encounters with the people and places in our local communities, the students, teachers and parents of PLN are beginning to view our city as one that is rich in potential and full of possibilities. We invite you to share our experience of how these encounters have enriched our students' learning experience.

### Conference Information

- \$225.00 (10% NAREA discount) includes dinner on Thursday, continental breakfast and lunch on Friday, continental breakfast on Saturday, and chartered bus service to and from Downtown Los Angeles on Friday
- LAX is the closest airport to Santa Monica
- Hotel information for the Santa Monica area will be mailed to you upon registration
- Mail registration form (& check, if applicable) to Para Los Niños, 500 Lucas Avenue, Los Angeles CA 90017



### Registration Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Organization Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

◇ Enclosed is a check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ .

◇ Please charge my credit card in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ .

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### Para Los Niños would like to thank:

Sponsors



Partners

CHILDREN NOW



**THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 2010** | 5:30 P.M. – 8:30 P.M. | DOUBLE TREE GUEST SUITES, SANTA MONICA

Welcome, Exhibit Overview

*Judith Allen Kaminsky, NAREA Exhibit Project Coordinator and Communications Consultant*

Introduction to Para Los Niños

*Gisselle Acevedo, President and CEO of Para Los Niños*

Relationship between First Presbyterian and Para Los Niños: Connecting Communities

*Mary Hartzell, First Presbyterian Nursery School Director*

Welcome to LA

*Office of Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa (Invited)*

*Ray Cortines, LAUSD Superintendent*

The Demographics of LA Children and Families

*Dr. David Hayes Bautista, UCLA*

Chicago Commons Experience: Learning and Teaching with Reggio Principles in Urban Settings

*Karen Haigh, Assistant Professor of Early Childhood Education at Columbia College in Chicago, IL*

**FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 2010** | 8:30 A.M. – 5:00 P.M. | PLN FAMILY LEARNING COMPLEX, DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES

Welcome to the Community of Skid Row

*The Honorable Jan Perry, Los Angeles City Councilmember*

Investment in Early Childhood

*Kris Perry, Executive Director, First 5 California*

Para Los Niños Paradigm Shift: Sharing our Journey

*Norma Silva, Para Los Niños Elementary School Principal and Lisa Schaeffer, Director of Pedagogy*

The Community as a Context for Learning – Using the City as Inspiration (Select one:)

- ◇ “Putting a Face on the Homeless in Our Community: A Teacher Planned Student Driven Project”  
*Gabriela Cardenas, Third Grade Teacher, Para Los Niños Charter Elementary School*
- ◇ “Discovering Wire Fences in our Community” & “Seeing our Community Through Windows”  
*Maribel Vasquez, 3 Year-old Classroom Teacher, Vermont Child Development Center*  
*Sylvia Fuentes, 4 Year-old Classroom Teacher, Eisner Family Foundation Child Development Center*

Lunch and Breakout Session

Tours of the Classrooms (Select one:)

- ◇ Vermont Child Development Center
- ◇ Para Los Niños Charter Elementary School and Eisner Family Foundation Child Development Center

Panel discussion with Para Los Niños teachers, administrators and parents

Visibility as a Tool for Learning

*Eugenia Catellani, Reggio Emilia Educator*

**SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 2010** | 10:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M. | FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, SANTA MONICA

Using the Community as Inspiration in Columbian Reggio Inspired School

*Maria Emma Mejia, Fundación Pies Descalzos (Colombia)*

Closing Remarks

*Gisselle Acevedo, Para Los Niños*

Wonder of Learning exhibition tours available before and after closing session. (Select one:)

- ◇ 8:30 a.m.—9:30 a.m.
- ◇ 11:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.