

Including Children's Voices

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice with the Persona Doll Approach

July 19 to 23, 2021

Schedule: Monday through Friday,
11:00am to 12:30pm and 1:30 to 3:00pm
All times are Pacific Time

Course will be held online.

with **Debbie Laurin**

Pioneering this new antibias approach to Waldorf early childhood education, participants will acquire skills to address antibias education with young children. The aim of the intensive is:

- Understand how a Persona Doll is used
- Identify and plan uses for a Persona Doll in your setting
- Create and tell stories related to the Doll's Persona
- Work with the concept of *Windows and Mirrors* to support inclusion and belonging.
- Explore antibias education through the principles of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice

Persona Dolls are life-like, culturally appropriate dolls made of natural materials used by the adult to actively build inclusivity and to create the conditions for belonging with young children.

Not a puppet, the adult relays to the children through storytelling the Persona Doll's interests, celebrations, and fears. Grounded in a developmental approach the adult responds to children's specific interests and concerns. Children have ideas about how to help the Doll resolve a problem and the approach gives voice to children's ideas. The children relate to the Dolls as 'friends', who may differ from them in language, culture and/or disability. The approach engages children imaginatively through their hearts and minds. Persona Dolls facilitate the powerful blossoming of empathy in children to imagine into the Doll's experience and to perceive similarities and differences in each other. *Windows and Mirrors* describe an approach for supporting children's emerging identity where seeing commonalities, and a representation of self creates a sense of belonging.

**One week intensive course, open to practicing
Waldorf teachers.**



Cost: \$250 CDN

For more information please contact Ruth Ker
ece@westcoastinstitute.org
250-748-7791

Visit our website to register