

World Forum Mission

The ultimate purpose of the World Forum Foundation is to enable children of the world to experience nurturing and stimulating childhoods, free from hunger, disease, hatred, and violence. Study after study has proven that experiences in the first six years of life go a long way toward determining the future prospects for individuals by shaping their cognitive, social, physical, and emotional foundations.

The World Forum Foundation is working to accomplish its mission by helping develop future generations of early childhood professionals who are equipped and motivated to work with families and communities to create supportive and stimulating learning environments for young children.

World Forum History

For three decades, *Exchange*, the leading trade publication for early childhood professionals in North America, has been reporting the growing body of evidence on the developmental importance of the early years. Not only has the publication closely followed emerging research on the tremendous life-long impact of early experiences, but it has also reported on the wonderful transformations children experience in quality early childhood programs.

At the same time, *Exchange* has also noted that many children are deprived of positive childhood experiences by war, famine, poverty, disease, and ethnic conflict. And, children in communities not directly impacted by these scourges are having childhoods compromised by media violence, video distractions, poor nutrition, academic pressure, and social isolation.

Exchange decided that it could take a small step in returning childhood to children by bringing together early childhood professionals from around the world to share ideas on delivering quality services for children and families. The hope is that by meeting together, getting to know each other, and learning from each other, participants would be better equipped and highly motivated to provide nurturing environments for the children in their communities.

Thank you for this special opportunity for exchange and for learning together, for evaluating what we are doing and for recognizing that there are many of us in the same path.
Roxana Salazar, Bolivia

This initiative was launched in 1999 in Honolulu, Hawaii, when 525 delegates from 36 countries came together at the first ever World Forum on Early Care and Education. Delegates arrived with high expectations and immediately began to exchange stories of their lives and work. After four days of talk and laughter, tears and songs, delegates returned home as colleagues and friends — energized by ideas and relationships that continue to inform and sustain their work.

This success led to five more World Forums in Singapore (2000), Athens (2001), Auckland (2002), Acapulco (2003), and in Montreal (2005) where over 800 delegates from 75 nations participated. Then, to build upon serious conversations started at World Forums, the World Forum Foundation started organizing “Working Forums.” These were designed to be smaller, highly interactive events focusing on a single topic.

The first Working Forum was held in Belfast, Northern Ireland, and focused on the power of early childhood education to bring communities back together after periods of armed conflict. In 2006, two more Working Forums were conducted on reconnecting children with nature at the Arbor Day Farm in Nebraska and on managing multi-site organizations in Amsterdam.

The World Forum has gone beyond my expectations concerning perfect organization, the interesting and highly relevant topics, and the warm and friendly atmosphere. I've attended several international conferences; the chemistry of the World Forum is special.

Ali Shaar, Palestine

World Forum Leadership

The World Forum Foundation is a non profit tax exempt corporation governed by an international board of directors. The work of the Foundation is enhanced by three other groups:

- ▲ The International Organizing Committee consists of 20 early childhood representatives from Asia, Africa, Oceania, Europe, Latin America, and North America. It guides the foundation in seeking sites for World Forum activities and in shaping the programs for these events.

A roaring success!
Barnabas Otaala, Namibia

- ▲ World Forum National Representatives. In each of 95 nations, the World Forum has appointed National Representatives who are charged with promoting active participation in World Forum events by early childhood professionals in their countries.
- ▲ The World Forum Alliance is a partnership between the World Forum Foundation and major international early childhood organizations. Members of the Alliance support the World Forum by contributing program suggestions and by promoting the World Forum to their members.

The World Forum is such a unique experience. It provides a wonderful forum for exchange and conversation among world leaders in early care and education.

Mark Ginsberg, United States

Members of the World Forum Alliance include:

- The National Children's Nurseries Association
- Association for Childhood Education International
- Canadian Association for Young Children
- Canadian Child Care Federation
- Christian Children's Fund
- The Consultative Group on Early Childhood Care and Development
- Coordinating Council for Early Childhood Education in the Philippines
- Early Childhood Australia
- Early Childhood Council Inc.
- International Child Resource Institute
- International Step by Step Association
- National Association for the Education of Young Children
- National Association of Early Childhood Care and Education Malaysia
- Pacific Pre-School Council
- UNESCO
- The British Association for Early Childhood Education
- National Day Nurseries Association
- Save the Children Alliance

Here was a place where people met. Here was a place where people smiled. Here was a place where people communicated. Here was a place where we made a reunion of families.

Poonam Mehta, China

World Forum 2007

The next World Forum will be held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, May 15 - 18, 2007. With the enthusiastic support of the Malaysian early childhood community, we anticipate up to 800 attendees from 75 nations. Major themes to be explored at the 2007 World Forum include poverty and children curriculum models, teacher education, nature education, men in early childhood, advocacy, staffing, funding, and indicators of quality.

This was a lifetime experience I will always value. It was my first World Forum and I will definitely be back for more.

Anna Carriage, Australia

World Forum Format

Designed to facilitate the connections among delegates, the World Forum operates under these unique guidelines:

Equality. Rather than being an event where large numbers of professionals gather to be informed by a few experts, the World Forum operates from the assumption that all delegates add value to the experience with their unique ideas and perspectives.

Community. Many features of the World Forum are designed to create opportunities for delegates to dialogue in depth and develop relationships that continue beyond the event itself.

Diversity. The World Forum promotes no single approach, philosophy, or point of view. The goal, rather, is to provide a safe, neutral meeting place where a wide diversity of opinions and strategies can be weighed and debated.

Over the years many features have been added to the World Forum to accomplish these organizing strategies, including, for example:

Wide-Open Planning. Everyone who has attended or will attend a World Forum is invited to share in program planning. Over 600 early childhood professionals from nearly 100 nations participated in the planning of the World Forum 2005 in Montreal.

It was exciting and magical.

Dina Aidzhanova, Kazakhstan

World Forum Sponsorship Overview

The World Forum Foundation is indebted to the generous support over the years from its sponsors.

Organizations such as Lakeshore Learning Materials, Community Playthings, JohnsonDiversey, IBM, Johnson & Johnson, Children's Creative Learning Centers, High Reach Learning, Pademellon Press, High/Scope Educational Research Foundation, Teaching Strategies, and Bright Horizons have been valuable World Forum sponsors. We invite you to consider sponsoring the 2007 World Forum by considering the attached sponsorship opportunities.

Welcome Reception

After an inspiring Opening Ceremony, delegates will attend a gala reception with Malaysian food and beverages, and local entertainment and decorations.

Farewell Luncheon

The finale of the World Forum will be a luncheon where delegates will be treated to an assortment of Malaysian cuisine, shown an inspirational farewell video, and participate in a variety of farewell activities.

Breakfast and Breaks

Breakfasts and breaks are key networking times at the World Forum. Ample food and beverages will be provided in spaces amenable to small gatherings.

EC eTeaching Exchange

This project is designed to foster the effective use of technology to educate the world's early childhood workforce. Education is the best hope for a promising future for the 1 billion children living in poverty. Technology offers opportunities to extend this education worldwide. The World Forum will host a gathering of those delivering promising distance education practices. Participants will learn from each other, support each other's work, and identify practices that can be promoted to improve education worldwide.

Men in Early Childhood Education

At the 2005 World Forum in Montreal, a group of men came together to promote the increased participation

of men in early childhood programs. At the 2007 World Forum this initial team will be joined by male advocates from around the world to plan strategies for moving the cause forward.

World Forum Conference Materials

Sponsorship is sought for the following items which will be passed out to all World Forum delegates:

- ▲ Official program binder of the World Forum
- ▲ Official World Forum bag
- ▲ World Forum t-shirts
- ▲ World Forum name tags

World Forum Handouts

Several booklets coming out of the 2005 World Forum are being published and distributed. The first is a booklet on drawing authored by Roxana Salazar and Maria Schulze from Bolivia. The second is an advocacy guide produced by the Global Leaders from India.

Closing PowerPoint Show

It is a World Forum tradition to close with a PowerPoint presentation with candid photographs captured by the World Forum photographer throughout the first three days. The show is always a highlight and afterwards is put up on the World Forum web site for attendees to remind themselves of the event and for future attendees to learn about the nature of the World Forum experience.

Targeted Social Events

To increase fellowship and sharing the World Forum Foundation hosts a series of receptions along with a dinner and a dance. These events are designed to bring together delegates with similar responsibilities — educators, operators of multi-site organizations, advocates, public officials, members of the World Forum International Organizing Committee, and World Forum National Representatives.

World Forum Fellowships

A contribution of US \$3,000 will support the attendance of one delegate from a low income community at the World Forum.

World Forum Leadership Circle

A sponsor becomes a member of the World Forum Leadership Circle with a donation of US \$50,000 or more.

Members of the Leadership Circle receive:

- ▲ Recognition on back cover of the program binder
- ▲ Space for a full page ad in the program binder
- ▲ Recognition on signage throughout event
- ▲ Recognition from podium in Closing Ceremony
- ▲ Recognition in World Forum Press Release
- ▲ Recognition on the World Forum web site
- ▲ Recognition in a full page ad in the World Forum issue of *Exchange* magazine
- ▲ Four complimentary World Forum registrations

World Forum Champion

A sponsor achieves "Champion" status by underwriting one of the following:

- ▲ Welcome Reception — US \$30,000
- ▲ Farewell Luncheon — US \$26,000
- ▲ EC eTeaching Exchange — US \$24,000 (2 available)
- ▲ Men in ECE — US \$25,000

World Forum Champions receive:

- ▲ Space for a full page ad in the program binder
- ▲ Recognition on signage at the hosted event
- ▲ Recognition in World Forum Press Release
- ▲ Recognition on the World Forum web site
- ▲ Recognition in *Exchange* magazine
- ▲ Three complimentary World Forum registrations

World Forum Benefactor

A sponsor achieves "Benefactor" status by underwriting one of following:

- ▲ Breakfast — US \$12,500 (3 available)
- ▲ ~~World Forum program — US \$15,000~~ *sponsored*
- ▲ ~~World Forum bag — US \$13,000~~ *sponsored*
- ▲ ~~Printing Bolivia book — US \$10,000~~ *sponsored*

World Forum Benefactors receive:

- ▲ Space for a full page ad in the program binder
- ▲ Recognition on signage at the hosted event
- ▲ Recognition on the World Forum web site
- ▲ Recognition in *Exchange* magazine
- ▲ Two complimentary World Forum registrations

World Forum Patron

A sponsor achieves "Patron" status by underwriting one of the following:

- ▲ Refreshment breaks — US \$8,500 (5 available)
- ▲ Printing India booklet — US \$8,000
- ▲ ~~World Forum t shirt — US \$6,000~~ *sponsored*
- ▲ Closing Power Point show — US \$6,000

World Forum Patrons receive:

- ▲ Recognition in the program binder
- ▲ Recognition on signage at the hosted event
- ▲ Recognition on the World Forum web site
- ▲ One complimentary World Forum registration

World Forum Donor

A sponsor achieves "Donor" status by underwriting one of the following or by making a donation to the general fund of the World Forum of \$1,000 or more.

- ▲ International Dance — US \$3,600
- ▲ IOC/National Reps Reception/Dinner — US \$3,500
- ▲ Educators' Reception — US \$3,000
- ▲ Multi-Site Organizations Reception — US \$2,000
- ▲ Fellowship for one delegate — US \$3,000
- ▲ ~~World Forum name tags — US \$3,000~~ *sponsored*

World Forum Donors receive:

- ▲ Recognition in the program binder
- ▲ Recognition on the World Forum web site