

**Integrating the Arts into the Early Childhood Curriculum:  
A Powerful Medium for Young Children**

**August 12 - 16, 2019**

**(three, four and five-day training options)**

**RELAX, RECREATE AND LEARN THIS SUMMER** in the cool tranquility of Lucy School's 17-acre campus in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains and the stimulation of a state-of-the-art arts-based school and teacher training center.

**During this participatory retreat, Sarah Pleydell and Victoria Brown, two master teacher/artists will help you:**

- Discover how to integrate the arts as a dynamic learning medium
- That accommodates curricular demands,
- While nurturing the need for play and active, hands-on learning, and
- Promoting social and emotional development.
- Adapt activities to accommodate and integrate children with special needs.
- Use the arts as a holistic approach to maximize learning, and
- Awaken the artistic educator in yourself

**Three Day Training - August 12 – 14:** This is the core training program. Through multisensory, hands-on experiences in process drama with integration of music, movement and visual arts, you will experience the rich linguistic and cognitive potential of using the arts as a learning medium. We will work with children's literature, exploring how drama may be used to deepen understanding of plot, character and theme. Teacher groups will collaborate in creating practical arts integrated lesson plans. We will pause along the way to analyze key strategies for transferring and broadening this work in the teachers' own classrooms.

**Day Four Option - August 15:**

Teachers will work closely with Andrea McCluskey, Lucy School's early childhood art teacher. Teachers will explore specifics about process art, art in nature, and observational drawing as they continue to work on creating a story-based lesson, integrating related visual arts activities. Andrea is a professional print maker and teaches art part-time at Hood College.

**Day Five Option - August 16:**

Led by Christine Galante, Lucy School's music/dance teacher, teachers will learn how to use music and movement in an integrated way for teaching form, rhythm patterns, story sequence and other curricular content. Christine will help you to combine musical concepts and innovative vocals in storytelling, and to incorporate creative movement activities that enhance the themes in your 5-day extended lesson plans. Christine is a professional performing and teaching artist with over twenty years' experience in Arts-in Education.

*Teachers who take five days of training receive (3) Maryland Department of Education (MSDE) Continuing Education Credits (CPE). Teachers taking the course for MSDE/CPE credit are required to participate full 5-day program, complete a written assignment, or participate in the two-day follow-up in-class coaching option (see below).*

Classes will take place in Lucy School's large gathering room in a magnificent renovated barn overlooking scenic Willow Tree Pond.

**Classroom Coaching Option: We will arrange two visits to your school to model and coach a co-designed lesson.** If you choose the Classroom Coaching option, a mutually agreed upon time will be arranged for the visit to your school.

**Valid for 2019-20 school year.**

Download the [Registration Form](#)

**Lead Instructors, Victoria Brown, Ph.D. and Sarah Pleydell, M.F.A.** have over fifty years hands-on teaching experience integrating the arts into the early childhood curriculum. They are co-authors of the award-winning book *The Dramatic Difference: Drama in the Preschool and Kindergarten Classroom* (2000), Heinemann Press. For more than twenty-five years they have presented keynote addresses and conducted master workshops at conferences nationwide for the National Head Start Bureau, the National Association for the Education of Young Children, the American Alliance for Theatre and Education and Wolf Trap's Institute for Early Learning Through the Arts. They both helped to write the new National Core Arts Standards. Sarah is currently a Senior Lecturer at the University of Maryland and Victoria is founder and director of Lucy School: An Arts Based School (pre-school through eighth grade) and Teacher Training Center in Middletown, MD.

*Have you noticed how much satisfaction children get through engaging a parent in their play? And how an astute parent can use occasions of heightened imagination subtly to drop in extra information, extend the range of vocabulary, or pose a problem? Victoria Brown and Sarah Pleydell have developed a pedagogic style that harnesses this special child/parent teaching moment by establishing that the teacher is a necessary part of the class' dramatic invention.* - Gavin Bolton, Professor at Victoria University in British Columbia.

**Lucy School.** Serving children from age three to middle school, Lucy School's mission is to develop, teach and promote creative arts methodology and practices --- drama, creative movement, dance, puppetry, music and visual arts --- that will stimulate and enhance the intellectual, emotional, physical, social, aesthetic and creative development of young children. Lucy School offers workshops & training seminars for teachers, administrators, child-care practitioners, artists and parents.

Lucy School is an early-childhood, arts-based school founded in 2002. Our campus is located on a 17-acre farm in Frederick County, MD. Lucy School's primary building (also home to our art and music studios) is certified as LEED for Schools Platinum building by the US Green Building Council, the first such designation for a school in the State of Maryland. A 19th century barn has been renovated into a state-of-the-art facility for our preschool – Kindergarten programs. Through carefully designed use of natural light and warm colors and attention to flexible spaces and cozy corners, children are provided with a living-learning environment that is homey-comfortable and at the same time inspires curiosity and love for play, imagination and learning.

Years of planning and experience have gone into the creation of this innovative arts-based program. The curriculum has evolved out of more than twenty years of research, testing and demonstration of concepts and practices that best develop the capacities of children to learn and flourish. Learn more about the Lucy School from this [short video clip](#).

## **Comments from Previous Summer Institute Attendees:**

- *I can't think of an educator, or anyone who works with children, who would not benefit from this workshop because of its thorough approach to children's cognitive, emotional, and social needs. - kindergarten teacher*
- *This workshop should be required for all teachers. The arts are so important - it is truly a part of all our lives. - first grade teacher*
- *Great training! Lots of ideas, lots of hands on practice. I am inspired! I liked the gradual movement of presentations that we had to do - planning, sharing small parts, storytelling, etc. It helped me gain confidence. - first grade teacher*
- *I haven't ever been to a training where I took away as much. - third grade teacher*
- *Fantastic! Opened so many new ways of viewing the learning experience and integrating the arts effectively. - pre-kindergarten, kindergarten teacher*
- *It was a remarkable, new experience every day that brought me joy and excitement about being a teacher again. A beautiful learning and growth experience. - first grade teacher*
- *This workshop was unlike others, where "cute" songs and craft ideas are shared. This workshop was research based and applicable to any and all academic areas. - second grade teacher*
- *I believe taking this course will help me become a better teacher. All your ideas will be put into my teacher's tool box. - kindergarten teacher*
- *This week was a very healthy and inspiring one all around: physically, mentally, spiritually and socially. You provided a wonderful atmosphere for us to experience and discuss and create. K-5 reading intervention teacher*
- *Thorough, engaging, creative, and collaborative. I've learned more in this training than any graduate course I've taken. - early childhood graduate student*