



Monthly Update from Gabriela ~ October 2018

Professional Development: an on-going investment at GPCP

Investing in the professional growth of our staff members is a priority at our school. Together, with our colleagues in Project Infinity, we develop opportunities for our educator's growth each year. The study of the Reggio Approach is an ongoing effort at GPCP. Initiatives such as The Whole Project Professional development Day we recently had a few weeks ago, is one of the many examples of these initiatives.



Project Infinity is an action research project involving schools for young children in Atlanta and Greenville, SC. The Project is a non-profit organization that promotes the exchange of ideas & points of views regarding the education of young children and has been in on-going dialogue with the Reggio Emilia Approach since 2002.

GPCP is proud to be a founding school member of the Project. Since 2002 we have been working in collaboration with our sister schools. Project Infinity's guiding principle is to support collaborative learning and continuous growth within and between ordinary schools of early childhood. The Project asks the schools of three main requirements:

- A genuine school-wide interest in studying the experiences and values of Reggio Emilia
- An active investment in the welfare of all schools in the Project
- An active investment in the welfare of schools in the wider community

This year, we have embraced a new challenge of hosting the Educator Exchange Day and the New Teacher Experience, in collaboration with one of colleague schools, The Nest Nursery School. This is an amazing opportunity to showcase our school, share our work and exercise the concept of collaboration. Presenting work at conferences and opening our school to other educators helps us see our work through the eyes of others. Thanks to Margie Cooper's strong leadership and generosity, we have been benefiting from Project Infinity's investment for the past 17 years. We have been fortunate to have the opportunity to learn first-hand from Amelia Gambetti, a former educator from the schools in Reggio Emilia, as well as other professionals from the schools in Reggio. The inspiration gathered during these initiatives ignites our passion and creativity.

Stroller K Fundraiser for Project Infinity



Raising funds is an important component of making these initiatives possible. Last year we launched the first fundraiser for Project Infinity, **The Stroller-K**. **GPCP will have strong participation again this year, on Saturday, October 20th, from 9 to 11am. We want to encourage ALL the GPCP FAMILIES to join us in this event. It is a family friendly, fun event and it raises money for a worthy cause. Please consider registering to run or walk, or make a donation on behalf of GPCP. www.inspiredpractices.org/stroller-k/**

Welcome new team Members to the GPCP Team



Welcome Kelsey Falconer! Kelsey is joining the Frogs team as Amanda's co-educator, replacing Tiffany Atkinson.

Kelsey is a nature loving, creative world traveler born and raised in Atlanta, Georgia. Early childhood education has always been a natural passion of hers and she is thrilled to learn and grow with her new students at GPCP. She studied Sociology at the Loyola University of New Orleans with a concentration in social justice and equality. During this time, she volunteered in schools and fell in love with watching children thrive as they followed their natural passions. Since then she has taught English in India and Indonesia. While traveling is very exciting, she is grateful for the opportunity to return to her hometown and work in such a creative encouraging preschool environment.



Welcome Makenna Hill! I am thrilled to welcome Makenna Hill to the GPCP team. Makenna will hold a substitute position and is available to work some mornings and afternoons.

Makenna is a recent graduate from Hampshire College. While there, she studied a combination of arts integration, literature, and film, with a focus on the complex relationships between each subject. For her senior thesis she created a gallery show about home, and childhood memory. She has worked as a substitute teacher for four years in her home state of Connecticut. She is passionate about teaching, and looks forward to

working at GPCP!

CALENDAR

Saturday, October 13th 9:30am – CT Ladybugs Class Meeting and Class Social

Saturday, October 13th – Workday

Weeks of October 15th and 22nd – Family-Educator Conferences refer to your class' sign-up sheet)

Saturday, October 20th – Stroller K Fundraiser for Project Infinity

Thursday, October 25th – Lantern Making Workshop @ GP Campus

Friday, October 26th – Grant Park Lantern Parade

Thursday, November 8th: Educator Exchange Day & New Teacher Experience at GPCP and The Nest Nursery School

Saturday, November 3rd – Chomp & Stomp

Week of November 19th – Thanksgiving Break