

# CONFERENCE SCHEDULE OVERVIEW\* | 2025 National Conference on the Value of Play: Create | Explore | Inspire! April 15-17, 2025

T U E S D A Y	VENUES	Frangipani	Dogwood	Oak	Walnut	Maple	Special Track (meet in Solarium)
	8:30am	<b>Registration desk opens in the East Lounge (near the "Tree Suites").</b> Posters set-up in Solarium begins (continues through celebration lunch on Thursday) Morning refreshments & snacks in the Tree Suites area.					
	10:00-10:45am	<b>Part I of 2-Part Session!</b> Froebel's Gifts I: Building Blocks for Play-based Education from Early Childhood to Graduate Degrees - Maron-Puntarelli	Designing YES Spaces: Embrace the Power of Play in Child-Centered Environments - Ward	Got Game? Professors Who Play! - Roehl, Kirkdorffer & Zingoni-Phielipp	Playful Learning Takes Flight for Kindergarten Students - McKeehan & O'Callahan	Anji Play: A innovative approach from China - Chen	
	11:00-11:45am	<b>Part 2 of 2-Part Session!</b> Froebel's Gifts II: Building Blocks for Play-based Education from Early Childhood to Graduate Degrees - Maron-Puntarelli	Computational Thinking in a Box - Friend	Cringe! Exploring adult discomfort in children's play - Bishop	Playing from Scratch - Hemphill		
	12:00pm-1:30pm	<b>Lunch &amp; CREATE, Explore, Inspire Keynote with Cas Holman, award winning toy designer and founder &amp; principal at Heroes will Rise</b>					
	1:45pm-2:30pm	Using LEGO® SERIOUS PLAY® To Explore Collaboration, Creativity and Problem-Solving - DeSalle	Research Featured Session Watch and Learn: Observing Children's Development in Play Gold	An Assessment Tool for Play Promotion Practices Implementation in Early Childhood Classrooms - Rendon & Little	Use Your Imagination: Play, Autism, and Sensory Friendly Experiences - Edelstein		
	2:45-3:30pm	Beyond Accessibility: Promoting Participation in Recess for Students with Disabilities - Sullivan	Wild Play: How Forest Schooling Shapes Social Skills... - Crenshaw & <i>Understanding Early Childhood Teachers' Beliefs about Children's Outdoor- and Nature-Based Play</i> - Oh	Nurturing Play and Creativity as Keys to Lifelong Well-being - McMullen & Ponella	Systems changing the face of play: transforming asphalt to nature - De Melo & Stephens		Redefining Fitness: Transforming Exercise into Enjoyable, Sustainable Movement Through Play - Edwards
	3:30pm-4:00pm	<b>POP UP Play Break (Commemorative Garden/Tree Suites Lounge) – practice what you preach...and grab a snack!</b>					
	4:00pm-4:45pm	Reflections on an Infant-Toddler Outdoor Playground Collaborative Project - Wisneski, Lisiecki & Johnson	Failing Forward with Improv - DeSalle	The Power of Adult Play: Discover Your Play Personality to Boost Creativity and Productivity - Saggar & Ward	Exploring creative play for all ages: A comparison of indoor and outdoor play and a call to action - Vigil, Rogers, Heath, Jeffords & West		Playful Connections: Art, Nature, and the Path to Wellness - TestaAvila, Schneider, Milton & Korte
	5:00-5:30pm	Newcomer Social (Solarium)					
	5:00-7:00pm	Break   Dinner on Your Own					
	7:00-9:00pm	<b>A Night of Wonder! Evening Social at Wonderlab Science Museum</b>   Travel on your own (less than a mile) or meet at Biddle circle drive for IU bus shuttle					

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	8:00am	Registration desk opens outside Alumni Hall. Posters display in Solarium (continues through luncheon on Thursday).					
	8:00-8:45am	Coffee and Morning Snacks in Tree Suite Commons					
	9:00-9:45am	What does it do? - Bringing the Power of Open Play Back to Toy Design - Hamilton	Children and Families Talk about Why They Like Nature Playgrounds - Quinn & Understanding the Effects of Free Play on Elementary School Students: A Systematic Review - Nehring, Flaspohler & Spangler Copenbaker	Reimagining Play, Movement, and Sport as a Tool for Health & Well-Being - Ortega	Purposeful Play: Asking Thought-Provoking Questions to Maintain Engagement and Deepen Learning - Markavage & Schaben	A New Horizon for Children: Establishing Play and Growth Spaces in East Africa - Kennedy	
	10am-10:45am	All Ages, All Abilities, All the Time - Moore White	The Value of Play and Accessing the 'Inner Child' for Creativity, Inspiration & Design Innov - Davies & Mermaids' Concert Hall: Inspiring Creativity... - Yang	Tots, Teens and the Young at Heart: The role of play in the city for all ages - Zwart, Andraos & Mongiat	The Neuroscience of Active Play: Enhancing Cognitive & Emotional Resilience Across the Lifespan - Edwards		Up the River With a Playful Paddle: Creating Psychological Freedom... - Kimiecik, Kimiecik, Dunn & Storey
	10:45-11:15am	<b>Play Break!</b>					
	11:15am-12:00pm	<b>Part I of 2-Part Session!</b> Breaking Barriers to Creativity thru Loose Parts Explorations Part I: Adult Play & Development - Roussos & Nelson	Playing with Sound - Ponella & Peace Education Practice in Play - Gursel-Bilgin & Castner`	Integrating Education Through Play: The Play360 Approach - Racek	GOAL: Empowering kids and families to learn to play as part of a healthy lifestyle - Kilmark, Barnes, Drake, Puckett, Sherwood-Laughlin & Gloyeske	Legislating Play in Early Childhood Classrooms: How Connecticut Passed a Play Law and What's Next - Oliveira	Rediscover Your Wildhood - Finding Joy, Connection and Healing in Nature - Reader
	12:15-1:45pm	<b>Lunch &amp; Create, EXPLORE, Inspire Keynote with Rick Erwin, Creative Director &amp; Curator at City Museum in St. Louis</b>					
	2:00-2:45pm	<b>Part 2 of 2-Part Session!</b> Breaking Barriers to Creativity thru Loose Parts Exploration Part II: Child-Led Loose Parts Play - Roussos & Nelson	Through a Pedagogy of Play: Teachers' Professional Identity, Self-Efficacy, and Well-Being - Berube & Let's Go Pla(y)ces: Bringing Community into the Classroom through Play - Saggat	Imaginary Adventures: Rediscovering Creativity Through Adult Pretend Play - DePaulis	Beyond the Floor: Rethinking Play in Everyday Life - O'Neill & Hargreaves	The Play Business - Stine & Bishop	
	3:00-3:45pm	To Be Announced! (something awesome is in the works)	Playful Failure: A Reflection on "Ready-Go!" a Master's Thesis - Moreland & The Houston Adventure Playground Association: A History - Sutterby & Kharod	Finding Flow Through Laughter: A Playful Exploration of Positive Psychology - Bucholz	Structured Freedom: The Magic of Guided Play in Early Education - Hall & Ballard		Biophilic Programming: Connecting Participants & Practitioners with Nature - Collins
	4:00-4:45pm	Play at Work: Exploring Participatory Design Models for Children's Play Spaces - Metz	Healthy Balance of Learning and Play in School: Follow the Data - Rhea & In Their Own Words: Conceptualizing the Transition to First Grade in a Shifting Social Context	Four Multi-Year Play Conference Attendees Share Valuable Play Connections - Rumbaugh, Edwards, Jones	Playful Interventions for Enjoyable Learning Processes - Giri		Deconstructive Play - Gull
	5:00pm-7:00pm	Break & Dinner on Your Own & Special Invitation! <b>6:00pm You're Invited!</b> Conference attendees are invited to "Kurt Vonnegut's GHQ: The Lost Board Game," a talk by Geoffrey Engelstein at the Lilly Library. This talk is part of IU's Granfalloon Festival.					
	7:00pm-9:00pm	<b>Evening Social   Bowling &amp; Billards!</b>					

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	8:00am	Registration desk opens outside Alumni Hall. Posters display through luncheon.					
	8-8:30am	Morning Yoga Stretch Session, Coffee & Breakfast in the Solarium					
	8:45-9:30am	Library Forum: Words & Wiggles: Using Creative Mvmt as a Vehicle for Early Literacy - Hyde	A New Horizon for Children: Establishing Play and Growth Spaces in East Africa - Kennedy	The Playful Advocate: Create, Explore, and Inspire Change through Lifelong Play Practices - Calderon	"Blessed Be The Tie That Binds": Wool and Fiber Crafts Creating Resilience-Producing Peaceful Play - Addison	Risk-Failure-Mastery, On the Playground - Cable & Roeder	<b>Yoga Follow Up!</b> The Power of Yoga and Mindfulness: Best Practices for Engaging Children & Adolescents in Playful Yoga - Garner & Davis
	9:45-10:30am	Library Forum: Using Mechanical Puzzles in the Univ Classroom & in Outreach Rhoda	Recess Research: Gathering Information, Telling the Story, Advocating for Change - Von Bank, Ramstetter & Woodham Brickman	Interactive Playgrounds promote active learning through active play - Flanigan	Let's Explore: How Children Develop Cognition While Engaging in Purposeful Play - Adams	Playing For Keeps - A Look at the Barron Park Playschool Approach - Adams	<b>Part 1 of 2-Part Session!</b> Applied Improvisation: Communicating, collaborating, and learning through play - Ansaldo
	10:45-11:30am	To Be Announced! (something awesome is in the works)	Play as a creative and restorative process: Evidence from neuroscience research - Bailey & Zwart	Developing Creative Innovation through Guided Play - Berube	Integrating Language and STEM Learning Through Dramatic Inquiry Play: An Activity Theory Analysis - Kim	The Art of Imagination: Making Time for Unstructured Creative Play - Johnson	<b>Part 2 of 2-Part Session!</b> Applied Improvisation continued - Ansaldo
	11:45am-12:30pm	Market-PLAY-ce of Ideas (Poster Reception, Marketplace, Photo Booth & Fun)					
	12:30-1:30pm	Celebration Lunch with Special Honors & more					
	1:45-2:45pm	<b>Library Lightning Talks!</b> Friedericks, Boone & Sisson; Kirschner; Payne	Promoting Belonging and Inclusivity in Hospital Programming Through Interdepartmental Collaboration - Lercher, Palmer & Ledford	Story, Camera, Imagination: Creative and Collaborative Play Beyond the Screen - Yang	The Schule of Drag: Play My Queen, Play! - Mehay	Use Your Imagination: Play, Autism, and Sensory Friendly Experiences - - Edelstein	
	3:00-3:45pm	Library Forum: Health, Wellness & PLAY Benham & Cucar; McChesney & Hatcher	The Pla(y)ce of Possibility: How making space for play makes room for creativity and productivity - Hanna	Let's talk about play as the antidote for "The Anxious Generation" - Ramstetter & Brickman	Connecting Children to Nature Through Volunteerism & Play - Phillips		

COLOR KEY:	SPECIAL SESSION
	RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM SESSION
	LIBRARIES, LEARNING & PLAY FORUM
	OUTDOOR SESSION