

**Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access Update**

I.D.E.A. Co-coordinators Lynn Turner and Leslie Wetzonis-Woolverton

Lynn Turner and I have had the pleasure of working alongside WECAN Board members, our fellow WECAN I.D.E.A Committee members, and WECAN Coordinator Susan Howard, in our continued work with Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access since being named Co-Coordinator this past September. As collaborative colleagues, together and with other members mentioned above, we continue to work with the *I.D.E.A. Committee Living Questions* document reviewed by the Board last spring. Our work in Early Childhood remains crucial and reflective as we continue to work and grapple within issues and questions regarding Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access. And we continue to work with others in how we increase this work with a much wider lens and scope.

Our ever-developing work continues to inform us of much of what is needed in addressing the current social questions of our time. On January 22, I.D.E.A members hosted an online event exploring questions regarding how bias enters into our everyday experiences, the implicit/explicit work in Waldorf early childhood classrooms, and how to hold a *both/and* gesture in our collaborative work together as educators. On this day, participants and I.D.E.A committee members shared aspects of our current and ongoing work. Together we explored questions around race, gender, anthroposophy, and community. These are challenging and healing spaces for us all. We share the commitment of learning and growing together in all areas around Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access.

With this said, we look forward to future events which will keep conversations open within this blossoming initiative. Attached you will find an I.D.E.A Directory introducing the members of the WECAN I.D.E.A. Committee. Please check the WECAN Community Hub for additional resources and updates on our ongoing activities. Lynn and I look forward to joining fellow participants in colleagues in the upcoming WECAN conference February 11-13, titled *Toward A Kinder More Compassionate Society - Working Together Towards Change*, with Keynote Speakers Meggan Gill, Keelah Helwig, & Joaquin Muñoz. Please look and select from the various wonderful workshop offerings. On Saturday, February 12, I.D.E.A Committee members will be present at the Help Desk to assist colleagues with comments or questions. Thank you all!

Together, we both look forward to continuing our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion work in this brand-New Year!

Sincerely,

Leslie Woolverton & Lynn Turner

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