

Regional Representatives

Laura Mason, Membership Coordinator

Waldorf early childhood educators and caregivers serve as regional representatives of WECAN in each respective region. Regional reps are our on-the-ground connection to the regions, and their collaborative efforts strengthen the movement. We now have 21 reps in 15 regions and sub-regions. You can find a current list of representatives on the ["Contact Us" Page](#) of our website. We have several new reps to introduce this fall!

We welcome **Melody Birdsong-Shubert** as one of two co-regional reps in the Mid-Atlantic region. Melody is an early childhood teacher at River Valley Waldorf School and serves as a mentor, evaluator, and presenter for other schools.

Rie Seo will be Melody's partner and co-regional rep in the Mid-Atlantic region. Rie is a lead kindergarten teacher at The Waldorf School of Garden City and previously taught at New Amsterdam School as well as Japanese programs inspired by Waldorf education in New York.

Ruth Ker is the new rep in the Pacific Northwest BC region. You may already know Ruth as a WECAN board member, former director of early childhood programming at West Coast Institute, as the founding teacher at Sunrise Waldorf School, and as the author and editor of WECAN books.

We also welcome **Parvati Scatena** as our new rep in the Great Lakes III sub-region, covering Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. Parvati is a lead preschool teacher at the Minnesota Waldorf School and has a rich history of leadership and instructional coaching in various school settings.

All of these new reps are enthusiastic about taking on this additional work to support WECAN and EC programs in their regions. Please join us in welcoming them!

And finally, we would like to thank **Jane Danner**, who has stepped down as the previous representative in the Great Lakes III region. Jane has served the region since 2017. We are deeply grateful for her many hours of volunteerism over the years. Thank you, Jane!

Regional Rep Responsibilities

The primary responsibilities of the WECAN reps in relation to member programs are listed below. Each volunteer rep works to meet the following responsibilities in the manner that best supports the needs of their particular region or sub-region.

- Introduce new programs and initiatives to WECAN and invite them into collegiality within the region.
- Assist programs with the membership path, including reviewing self-studies and site visit reports, and making recommendations to the WECAN membership committee regarding applications for membership and membership renewals.
- Facilitate collaboration within the region, including initiating regional gatherings of early childhood colleagues.
- Share regional trends with the WECAN Board.

While Regional Reps do not solve problems for member programs or get involved in their decision-making, they may be able to provide a listening ear for members to discuss activities and issues

of concern. Feel free to contact your representative if you have questions, would like to support the planning of a regional gathering, or would like to discuss regional issues.

Thank you to all our representatives for their excellent work!