

BIRTH TO THREE

Heather Church on behalf of the Birth to Three Working Group

The Birth to Three Working Group is dedicating our time to creating opportunities for you to deepen your understanding of caring for very young children and you will see the fruits of our labour below. This coming year, we are focusing on Parent and Caregiver programs and are eager to collaborate with you to deepen and strengthen this work with families in small and large communities.

As part of our offerings this year, we will host **nine Parent/Caregiver Evenings** covering a broad range of topics (see the lineup and dates below). Our goal is to provide something meaningful for everyone—parents, caregivers, and educators alike. We look forward to having you join us at some or all of these events.

In addition to these evenings, we have several conferences planned for this year. Sophia's Hearth, in collaboration with WECAN, will host the third **Birth to Three Conference - Developing Capacities for Being with Children from Birth to Three: Helping Children Meet the World Through Their Sense of Touch** on November 15 & 16, 2024, in person at Sophia's Hearth.

We are excited to announce our first **West Coast Birth to Three Conference**, which will take place at the Seattle Waldorf School on April 4th and 5th. The conference, titled **Communicative Companionship**, will focus on the collaborative process of speech development in young children, supported by their caregivers. More details will be shared soon.



Companionship through Communication

Caressing the Seeds of Self

Companionship forged through communication, conveyed through touch, voice tone, gesture, and responsiveness, harmonizes and attunes us with the child's internal timing.

Birth to Three Conference
Save the Date - April 4-5, 2025
Seattle Waldorf School

For more information contact Heather Church
@ hchurch@waldorfearlychildhood.org



In February 2025, there will be **two WECAN conferences**, both featuring Birth to Three workshops. The Spring Valley Conference is scheduled for February 7-9, 2025, and the Pacific Northwest Regional Conference will take place from February 14-16, 2025. Registration for these conferences will open in December.

We are also pleased to share a special course being offered at Sophia's Hearth:

Pikler Course: Respectful Care and the Relationship with the Adult, which will take place from March 10-14, 2025, in Keene, NH. This course will explore the importance of attentive and respectful physical care, along with lesser-known aspects of the Pikler® pedagogy, such as the child's developing social behavior and the characteristics of respectful communication.

Finally, we are thrilled to announce our collaboration with the Medical Section and Pedagogical Section to offer the **first CARE 1 Conference in North America: The Arc of Becoming: Medical and Pedagogical Support in the First Phase of Life**. This event will take place from August 6 to 10, 2025, at the Threefold Community in Spring Valley, New York. This conference offers a unique opportunity for those working directly with children to collaborate with professionals providing therapeutic support during the first three years of life (see more details in the newsletter).

We are excited to embark on this journey with you and look forward to seeing you at these events.

Anjum Mir, Magdalena Toran and Heather Church