

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Laura Mason, Membership Coordinator

We continue to fulfill our commitments to DEI through our support of members, our public resources, and our work as a board. In May, led by the committee, the board began a study of the book *The Identity-Conscious Educator: Building Habits and Skills for a More Inclusive School* by Liza A. Talusan. We're finding it to be a resource that could be of great value to educators in the Waldorf movement and we encourage you to consider it as a study individually or with your colleagues.

We'll be hosting an Alma Partners course designed for site visitors again this year. We also expect many regional reps, board members, and staff to attend, along with teacher trainers, and AWSNA support and accreditation team visitors. All WECAN site visitors will be expected to complete the course or demonstrate equivalency by the end of the next school year in the interest of ensuring that our site visits are objective, equitable, and supportive of the work our programs are being asked to take up.

Alma Partners also hosted a pre-conference DEI event for attendees of our February Conference in Spring Valley earlier this year. It was well-attended and much appreciated by attendees, who had the opportunity to discuss the successes and challenges they had experienced in this work. Thank you to Alma Partners for indeed being soulful partners in our work!

Our online events on racial identity development, anti-bias education, supporting gender-expansive families, and creating family culture were well-received. We still have one event scheduled to take place on June 11 at 8:30 pm Eastern Time. Amber Chavez will present on Supporting Healthy Gender Identity Development and Understanding Gender Diversity Across Culture. This will be our last Parent/Caregiver Evening of the year. We look forward to announcing more events that will support your work around diversity, equity and inclusion in the coming year.



We hope that our focus on these themes leads us all to a better understanding of the people we encounter in our work and lives, and leads to more respect and dignity for all!