

The Necessity of Childhood

Single admission:
\$10 per conversation
\$25 for entire series

Because of limited seating
reservations must be made two weeks
prior to any program.

I wish to reserve

The Child as Child (March 5th)

() Seat(s) @ \$10 each = _____

The Play of Imagining (May 7th)

() Seat(s) @ \$10 each = _____

Unfolding of Nature (June 4th)

() Seat(s) @ \$10 each = _____

Three Conversations

() Seat(s) @ \$25 each = _____

Total Cost _____

Please make check or money order out to
The Touchstone Center
and mail directly to
The Touchstone Center
141 East 88th Street
New York, NY 10128

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

All reservations will be acknowledged when received.

For further information please call:

The Touchstone Center

212-831-7717

rlewis212@aol.com

www.touchstonecenter.net

Thank you.

The Touchstone Center
141 East 88th Street
New York, NY 10128



The Touchstone Center
in association with the Bank Street
College New Perspectives Program
and Wave Hill

presents

The Necessity of Childhood



*A series of informal conversations centered on
the importance of strengthening the intuitive,
imaginative and expressive capacities of
childhood - and the role they play in children's
learning and understanding.*

Moderated by

Richard Lewis,

author of *Living by Wonder:*

The Imaginative Life of Childhood

and the Founder and Director of

The Touchstone Center for Children

The Child as Child

A conversation on the instinctive abilities of children to explore their worlds through their play and imaginative creations. The conversation will feature

William Crain, author of *Reclaiming Childhood* - and **Barbara Feinberg**, author of *Welcome to Lizard Motel: Children, Stories and the Mystery of Making Things Up*.

Saturday, March 5th
Bank Street College
610 West 112th Street
(212) 875-4649
10 to 12 PM

The Play of Imagining

A conversation based on the ideas of the eminent French philosopher, Gaston Bachelard, author of *The Poetics of Reverie: Childhood, Language and the Cosmos*. The conversation will feature **Joanne Stroud**, editor of the Gaston Bachelard Translation Series of the Dallas Institute of Humanities and Culture, and **Susan Kinsolving**, poet, teacher and author of *The White Eyelash*.

Saturday, May 7th
Bank Street College
610 West 112th Street
(212) 875-4649
10 to 12 PM

The Unfolding of Nature

A conversation with **Noah Baen**, Leader of Wave Hill's Family Art Project, and **Tom Goodridge**, Director of The Garden Project, PS 76 (Manhattan) on the need of children to participate, imaginatively and artistically, in the natural world.

Participants are welcome to observe a family art workshop in the afternoon centered around a performance by The Touchstone Center Theatre Ensemble of *In the Space of the Sky*, based on the book written by Richard Lewis and illustrated by Debra Frasier.

Saturday, June 4th
Wave Hill
675 West 252nd Street
(718) 549-3200
10 to 12 PM

*Learning stamps you with its moments.
Childhood's learning is made up of moments.
It isn't steady. It's a pulse.*

— Eudora Welty
from *One Writer's Beginnings*

*When the imagination
is not resting
it's playing and tickling.*

— Andrew, Age 7

The Touchstone Center for Children

was founded in 1969 in New York City by its present director Richard Lewis. Through its publication, arts and education projects, workshops and exhibitions, the Center has been concerned with exploring the role of the imagination in learning. The Center's work has also focused on using elemental themes and images to encourage both children and adults to express, through different mediums, their innate relationship to the natural world.

A new project, *Ways of Imagining*, initiated in the Spring of 2004, consists of a series of travelling exhibitions and video interpretations based on the recent publications of the Center:

Each Sky Has Its Words,
The Bird of Imagining
and

Cave: An Evocation of the Beginnings of Art.

Further information about *Ways of Imagining* - as well as other publications and programs available from The Touchstone Center can be found on the Center's website: www.touchstonecenter.net or by writing to the Center at 141 East 88th Street, New York, New York 10128 and at rlewis212@aol.com.

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