

For Immediate Release

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***Cultivate the Scientist in Every Child* exhibition**

Chicago Collaborative Project Illustrates the Importance of Meaningful Educational Change

Chicago, IL (Sept. 17th, 2014) [Cultivating the Early Years \(CEY\)](#), a Chicago based professional network for early childhood progressive educators has partnered with prominent Chicago area organizations to host an interactive exhibit: *Cultivate the Scientist in Every Child: The Philosophy of Frances and David Hawkins*. This exhibit focuses on hands-on and minds-on experiences for educators, parents, and policy makers. It is based on the philosophies of renowned educators Francis and David Hawkins, and has huge implications for educational change for today.

CEY along with Hawkins Center of Learning (HCoL) is collaborating with many Chicago organizations to bring the exhibit to Chicago and develop a professional development series around the exhibit. Angela Fowler, Exec. Director of CEY states, "It has been exciting to have so many important Chicago organizations want to be involved in this project. CEY could not have asked for a better group of collaborators who truly believe in supporting more meaningful learning experiences for young children." The organizations collaborating with CEY to bring the exhibit to Chicago include some of the areas most prominent education institutions including: **Erikson Institute, Loyola University Educational Law and Policy Institute, Chicago Park District, Christopher House Chicago, University of Chicago Laboratory School, and Francis W. Parker School.**

CEY and HCoL advocate for education that engages and extends the child's natural curiosity, facilitating deeper, more personal learning experiences. This exhibit portrays innovative, effective approaches that draw children to explore science and mathematics - at any time, in any place and with easily available resources. These approaches speak directly and powerfully to the current national emphasis on STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) education. Ellen Hall, Exec. Director HCoL, states, "We are dedicated to promoting and spreading powerful curiosity-based educational approaches", which is what this exhibit promotes. The exhibit has already been in several locations throughout the US and is just the inspiration we are looking for in Chicago.

The opening of the exhibit which is schedule for Oct. 5th at 7pm will feature prominent early childhood Professor, educator, and author, Carolyn Edwards along with Ellen Hall, Exec. Director of the Hawkins Centers of Learning. Professional development workshops have also been scheduled while the exhibit is in Chicago. For more information about attending the opening event or to register for workshops go to cultivatingey.com. The exhibit will be at the North Park Village Nature Center Oct. 5th through the end of January.

About Cultivating the Early Years: CEY is a professional network dedicated to supporting a childhood of wonder for every child. The organization connects early childhood progressive educators around the country in support of more meaningful educational practices. We encourage and support a constructivist approach to learning for young children and provide support for educators, administrators, and policy makes in finding ways to make this happen. We draw inspiration from progressive educators like Dewey, Vygotsky, Freire, and Hawkins, and important educational practitioners like Loris Malaguzzi to help early educators find an approach that best supports children's learning.

About Hawkins Centers of Learning: Hawkins Centers of Learning is a 501c3 non-profit organization dedicated to preserving and articulating the work of Frances and David Hawkins, and translating the body of the Hawkins' theories into practice. The organization connects dedicated child advocates worldwide and facilitates engagement of adults using the Hawkins' ideas about teaching and learning. We have inspired and energized many groups of people with ideas on how to improve education in their communities and throughout the world.