



SVEUČILIŠTE
U ZADRU
UNIVERSITY
OF ZADAR

ODJEL ZA IZOBRAZBU
UČITELJA I ODGOJITELJA
DEPARTMENT OF TEACHER AND
PRESCHOOL TEACHER EDUCATION
Ulica dr. Franje Tuđmana 24 i
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Interantional Scientific and Artistic Conference

Rethinking Childhood

FIRST CALL

Zadar, June 3–5, 2021

Organizer:

Department of Teacher Education and Preschool Education Studies

University of Zadar

New campus, dr. F. Tuđmana 24 i, Zadar

Co-organizers:

Faculty of Education, University of Maribor

Department of Teacher Education Studies in Gospić, University of Zadar

Croatian Association of Researchers in Children's Literature, Croatia

Conference theme

Guided by modern scientific postulates that justify the scientific dialogue between different scientific fields, whilst striving for a more comprehensive approach to a particular scientific problem, the project is conceived as an interdisciplinary scientific dialogue between the fellow scholar participants, with the goal of merging various scientific, artistic and methodological perspectives in their studies of childhood. Postmodern paradigm shift in the perception of the child and the childhood, based on the change of the childhood image - from the child as a passive to an active member of the social community; from childhood as a developmental stage to the conception of childhood as a social construct - strongly influenced the social sciences and humanities, thus leading to the need for active reflection on the child and childhood. In postmodern scientific polyphony, it is justified to discuss the concept(s) of



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childhood as something structured upon different scientific discourses, as confirmed by the researchers and scientists from various scientific backgrounds that lately converge around the new paradigm of childhood studies.

Following the established framework, the conference will focus on the following general topics:

- **the institutional context of contemporary childhood**
- **the familial context of contemporary childhood**
- **the culture of childhood today**
- **new literacy – the challenges of today**

The presentation themes and abstracts are to be submitted via the official conference site: <http://conference.unizd.hr/childhoodzd2020/>.

The abstract, which is to be submitted in both Croatian and English, ought to emphasize the main idea and the goals of the paper, to state the methodology used, present the results, include the most important postulates and conclusion. In addition to abstract (the length of which can range from 250 to 500 words), five keywords in Croatian and English need to be included.

Modes of participation: plenary session, presentations by sections, art exhibition.

Official languages of the conference: Croatian and English.

Important dates:

December 31, 2020	Abstract submission deadline
January 15, 2021	Preliminary acceptance notice
March 31, 2021	Submission deadline
April 15, 2021	Application deadline for artworks
May 1, 2021	Second notice
May 1, 2021	Registration fee deadline
May 15, 2021	Submission deadline for artworks
June 3-5, 2021	Conference duration

Registration fee and other expenses:

Registration fee	Early-bird fee until February 1, 2021	Late fee until May 1, 2021
Presenters fee	550,00 kn.	700,00 kn.
Artwork presenters fee	350,00 kn	500,00 kn



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Non-presenters fee	350,00 kn.	500,00 kn.
Conference dinner	200,00 kn.	200,00 kn.

The registration fee is to be paid to the account of the University of Zadar:

IBAN: HR53 2330 0031 1001 63243

Model HR00 Reference no. 65000-OIB of participants

(with the note that the fee is intended for the scientific conference *Rethinking Childhood*)

Should you require the pre-order purchase form, please contact Mrs Helga Fatović via e-mail: hfatovic@unizd.hr

Contacts and general information

In the forthcoming period, the official conference site will be updated with news and important announcements: <http://conference.unizd.hr/childhoodzd2020/>

Artistic program – exhibition theme „Rethinking Childhood“

The idea for the exhibition stems from the reasoning and interests of the growing number of artists regarding the phenomenon of child art, which is also becoming applicable in the emergence of modern art. This interest parallels the paradigm shift in the conception of the child and childhood in a kind of "rediscovery" of the child in the context of modern society and its constitution, but also in a departure from the academic barriers that a number of artists have set in trying to create new modes of visual arts. There is a famous quote by Picasso on the matter: "It took me four years to paint like Raphael, but a lifetime to paint like a child." On the other hand, artists such as Paul Klee, Juan Miro or Jean Dubuffet directly refer to, or assimilate into their works, the characteristic elements of the child art aesthetics. For instance, in 1920, Klee delivered the painting "Untitled (Tent City in the Mountains)", which is in fact a copy of his 12-year-old son's painting, Felix. Similar famous examples point to the important role that child art has played in the development of modern art, something that American art historian Jonathan Finberg addresses in his book "Discovering Child Art: Essays on Childhood, Primitivism, and Modernism".



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Similarly to Picasso, whose statement on child art was not solely an affirmation, but also a remark on the loss of creative freedom caused by the academic indoctrination, Paul Klee stated in one of his letters from 1902, just after completing his art studies, that he has found his childhood drawings and noted them to be more free, unrestrained, whilst highlighting the significance the event.

Following the aforementioned arguments, the project seeks to encourage artists-teachers to explore their own early creative work by asking themselves: **How can an artist come to terms with himself in their early works?** The organizer's wish is to encourage artists-teachers to explore the personal experience of their early creation with one work or works (up to three) of their choice, which they can reinterpret using the same medium, or via another medium in which the original work was created. The exhibition is a part of the program of the scientific and artistic gathering "Rethinking Childhood", and as such it will be presented as a part of the group exhibition in the designated gallery space in Zadar. The application process necessitates that the works are to be accompanied by either the works themselves or photos of the works that are being referred to.

The exhibition project, which is part of the international scientific and artistic conference "Rethinking Childhood", seeks to answer the following questions: *How can an artist become a child once again? How can an artist come to terms with himself in his childhood work? Is there a way to reinterpret this encounter in a work of art?* When submitting papers, the original work or a photo of it needs to be attached.

Should you be interested in participation, the formal applications end on April 15, 2021, and the works need to be delivered on May 15, 2021 at the latest to the following address:

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University of Zadar

Franje Tuđmana 24i

23 000 Zadar



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You can finish your application on the official conference site:

<http://conference.unizd.hr/childhoodzd2020/>

In the name of the Organizing Committee, kindest regards,

doc. dr. sc. Maja Cindrić