

## The Authors

### **Tiziana Altiero – [tiziana.altiero@unimore.it](mailto:tiziana.altiero@unimore.it)**

is associate professor of Zoology at the Department of Education and Humanities of the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia. She teaches Biology in the Master's degree course in Primary Science Education. She is a member of the Research Center of Metaphor and Narrative in Science and the National Biodiversity Future Center. Her research focuses on Science and Environmental Education, Didactics of Biology, Zoology, many aspects of tardigrade biology, also through a citizen science approach.

### **Claudia Baiata – [claudia.baiata@unifi.it](mailto:claudia.baiata@unifi.it)**

earned her Master's degree in Primary Education Sciences with honors from the University of Florence. She is a former teacher and counselor and she completed her PhD at the University of Bologna with a dissertation on gender inclusion and the role of stereotypes in STEM education. Currently, she is a research fellow at the University of Florence, focusing on innovative technological approaches to formative assessment in higher education. Her research interests include digital and gender inclusion, unplugged computational thinking, and formative assessment practices.

### **Alessandro Barca – [alessandro.barca@unipegaso.it](mailto:alessandro.barca@unipegaso.it)**

is researcher in Teaching and Special Education at Pegaso Digital University, Italy, where he teaches General Education. His research interests focus on subject-specific teaching and environmental teaching, learning methods using new technologies, gamification; digital storytelling and multimodal (cross-media and transnational) narratives and their impact on learning. Particular attention is paid to the use of AI in schools, especially for students with special educational needs.

**Sara Baroni – [sara.baroni@unibz.it](mailto:sara.baroni@unibz.it)**

is research assistant at the Competence Centre for School Inclusion, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano. Her research focuses on school inclusion, educational justice, children's wellbeing, and teachers' reflexive practices.

**Elisabetta Bedogni – [elisabetta.bedogni@icmanzoni-re.edu.it](mailto:elisabetta.bedogni@icmanzoni-re.edu.it)**

is vice-principal and primary school teacher at the Istituto Comprensivo A. Manzoni in Reggio Emilia and coordinates the A. Negri Primary School. She has a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from the University of Bologna. For years, she has been exploring innovative teaching practices based on a playful approach, also considered a means of inclusion. In recent years, together with other teacher-researchers at Manzoni, she has been collaborating in introducing a museum-like approach for the entire school.

**Francesca Berti – [francesca.berti@unibz.it](mailto:francesca.berti@unibz.it)**

is researcher at the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano. Her research focuses on play pedagogy, intercultural education and heritage education. The common thread is an enduring passion and extensive research into traditional games as a cross-cultural universal.

**Corinna Borer – [corinna.borer@phzh.ch](mailto:corinna.borer@phzh.ch)**

is lecturer and project manager at the Zurich University of Teacher Education. Her work centers on life and future skills, career guidance, and transcultural communication. She implements educational projects in international development in close cooperation with partner countries and is dedicated to aligning initiatives with local contexts and educational reform needs.

**Marina Brenner – [marina.brenner@uni-koeln.de](mailto:marina.brenner@uni-koeln.de)**

is researcher at the University of Cologne. Her research focuses on lifeworld references in school teaching and learning situations as well as documentary teaching research.

**Rita Casadei – [rita.casadei@unibo.it](mailto:rita.casadei@unibo.it)**

is assistant professor in General and Social Pedagogy at the Department of Education, University of Bologna. Research and teaching activity focuses on

teacher-student educational needs, aimed at life skills, health and well-being, from the perspective of embodiment, with particular regard to the philosophical-experiential disciplines of the Far East.

**Giulia Domenichini – gi.domenichini94@gmail.com**

is educator, teacher, and pedagogue for children aged 0–10, specialized in special education for students with disabilities, with particular interest in playful learning methods.

**Aline Wendy Dunlop – a.w.a.dunlop@strath.ac.uk**

is emeritus professor, chair of Parent Network Scotland (<https://www.parent-networkscotland.com>) and vice-president of Early Education (<http://www.early-education.org.uk/>), Strathclyde Institute of Education at University of Strathclyde. Her current research and writing focuses on children's work-force policy, children's right to just educational transitions, leadership in early childhood and family transitions within local communities.

**Katharina Egerer – katharina.egerer@tu-dresden.de**

is a scientific associate at the Chair of Primary Education/German at TU Dresden. She teaches in the fields of literacy acquisition and literary learning. In her PhD research, she explores the role of the typewriter and typewriter typefaces in contemporary picturebooks

**Roberto Farné – roberto.farne@unibo.it**

is former full professor of General Didactics at the University of Bologna, Department of Life Quality Studies, where he taught Play and Sport Pedagogy and founded the Research and Training Center on Outdoor Education. His fields of research include media education, play pedagogy, and, in recent years, the relationship between education and sustainability. In 2024, he received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Italian Society of Pedagogy.

**Valerio Ferrero – valerio.ferrero@unito.it**

is currently a PhD student in Education at the University of Turin. His research interests include equity and inequality in education from an

intercultural and decolonial perspective; communities of philosophical inquiry; and democracy in/through education. He has written several papers on these topics.

**Alessandro Gelmi – [gelmi.alessandro@libero.it](mailto:gelmi.alessandro@libero.it)**

has a PhD in Educational Sciences from the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano. His research focuses on Imaginative Education (IE) as an educational philosophy, with particular attention to the role of wonder and imaginative thinking in teacher professional development.

**Franziska Herrmann – [franziska.herrmann@fu-berlin.de](mailto:franziska.herrmann@fu-berlin.de)**

is a research assistant in Primary Education/German Didactics at Freie Universität Berlin, Germany. Her research interests include didactic classroom research; phenomenological approaches to writing and learning; literacy acquisition; children's text research; phenomenological vignette and anecdote research; and professionalisation.

**Jeanette Hoffmann – [jeanette.hoffmann@unibz.it](mailto:jeanette.hoffmann@unibz.it)**

is full professor of Didactics of German Literature at the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, and Director of the EduSpace Children's Literature Lab. She is the author of the multiple award-winning study *Literarische Gespräche im interkulturellen Kontext* (Waxmann, 2011). Her research focuses on graphic storytelling, children's literature, its reception and didactics, literary learning and language education in intercultural and multilingual contexts.

**Doris Kuhn – [doris.kuhn@phzh.ch](mailto:doris.kuhn@phzh.ch)**

is academic associate and project manager at the Zurich University of Teacher Education. As a social and cultural anthropologist she has been working in various education and life skills projects.

**Alessandra Landini – [alessandra.landini@icmanzoni-re.edu.it](mailto:alessandra.landini@icmanzoni-re.edu.it)**

is principal of the Istituto Comprensivo A. Manzoni in Reggio Emilia, with a PhD in Human Sciences, thesis in Physics Education at the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, her main research interests are in teacher training as a community of practice, with particular attention to the development

of creative and playful skills in STEAM, integrating school and museum settings. Her scientific education research project studies a vertical science curriculum based on storytelling and the use of metaphor, between early childhood and secondary school. As an expert in special pedagogy and general didactics, she is adjunct professor at the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia.

**Svetlana Lazic – pedagogns@gmail.com**

is professor and lecturer at the Preschool Teacher Training College in Novi Sad. Her research focuses on the democratization of the educational system through an inclusive approach, on relational competences and interpersonal relations, on family relations and parenting as well as on children's rights.

**Wiebke Lohfeld – lohfel@uni-koblenz.de**

is a professor of Educational Sciences with a focus on aesthetic education at the University of Koblenz. She is associated with the Department of Social Sciences and Education and teaches in the field of teacher education for primary schools. Her main areas of research are: cultural anthropology of play, cultural and aesthetic education, qualitative-reconstructive methods in social sciences, recognition and misrecognition theory, narrative theory and biographical research.

**Giovanna Malusà – giovanna.malusa@unibz.it**

is an educational psychologist and independent researcher, with 35 years of experience as a primary school teacher. She collaborates with the Universities of Bolzano, Trento, and Verona in teacher training. Her work focuses on intercultural and social justice education, active methodologies, and embodied education.

**Michele Marangi – michele.marangi@unicatt.it**

is a media educator, trainer, and supervisor affiliated with Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore. He is specialized in media analysis and designs effective, inclusive communication for educational, social, cultural, and health settings. He teaches educational technologies, media and interculturality, and peers/media education.

**Milena Masseretti – [milena.masseretti2@unibo.it](mailto:milena.masseretti2@unibo.it)**

is a PhD student in Pedagogical Sciences at the University of Bologna. Her research interests are rooted in the world of childhood and the conception of the child as a competent being. Her PhD project explores, with a qualitative approach, risky play in early childhood as an educational and challenging experience, analysing teachers' and parents' perspectives. In addition, she has a strong interest in active methodologies and special education.

**Leonardo Menegola - [leonardo.menegola@unimib.it](mailto:leonardo.menegola@unimib.it)**

has a PhD in Anthropology and is assistant professor in Special Education and Pedagogy, registered psychologist and music therapist. His research focuses on nonverbal mediators in educational and care relationships; music therapy in special education; and digital technologies as pedagogical mediators for inclusive, personalized learning environments in hybrid, face-to-face and remote education.

**Gabriela Moser – [gabriela.moser@fhnw.ch](mailto:gabriela.moser@fhnw.ch)**

is researcher at the University of North Switzerland. Her research focuses on playful learning in primary school and playful learning in general studies.

**Ulrike Beate Müller – [ulrike.mueller@ph-ludwigsburg.de](mailto:ulrike.mueller@ph-ludwigsburg.de)**

holds a deputy professorship for Educational Science with focus on Science Class at the University of Education in Ludwigsburg/Germany. Her research and teaching focuses are internationalization of teacher education, inclusive development of primary education and transition to school. She is an educated teacher and has worked at different universities all over Germany such as Potsdam, Lueneburg, Giessen and Kassel.

**Sven Nickel – [snickel@unibz.it](mailto:snickel@unibz.it)**

is professor of Early Literacy Education at the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano. His research focuses on social and cultural practices of literacy and basic skills such as reading fluency, etc. The common thread running through his work is the promotion of literacy in meaningful contexts.

**Elena Pacetti – [elena.pacetti@unibo.it](mailto:elena.pacetti@unibo.it)**

is associate professor in Didactics and Special pedagogy at the Department of Education Studies, University of Bologna. She is the University's representative at RUS (Italian University Network for Sustainable Development), working group Education, the scientific responsible of CEMET (Research Centre on Education, Media and Technologies), member of CSGE (Study Centre on Gender and Education), member of Game Science Research Centre, scientific responsible of the group on Game and Education at SIPED (Italian Society of Pedagogy). Her research works are concentrated on didactic innovation, ICT's in teaching and learning, citizenship education, gender in education, inclusive education.

**Federica Pelizzari – [federica.pelizzari@unicatt.it](mailto:federica.pelizzari@unicatt.it)**

is research fellow in Special Education and Pedagogy at Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore. Her work focuses on media literacy education, active teaching methodologies, coding and educational robotics, gamification, blended learning, and educational technologies.

**Mareike Pfeiffer – [Mareike.pfeiffer@erziehung.uni-giessen.de](mailto:Mareike.pfeiffer@erziehung.uni-giessen.de)**

is a trained primary school teacher with work experience in a number of primary schools in Germany. She is currently working as a pedagogical employee at the Institute for Childhood and School Education, Justus Liebig University Gießen. Her work and research focuses on preparing student teachers for school placements, on student-teacher-relationships, cooperation and teamwork between teachers and the wider school community.

**Claudia Reggiani – [claudia.reggiani@icmanzoni-re.edu.it](mailto:claudia.reggiani@icmanzoni-re.edu.it)**

teaches Italian, English, History, Art, and Music at the A. Negri Primary School, Istituto Comprensivo A. Manzoni in Reggio Emilia. She graduated in Education from the University of Bologna with a thesis in children's literature. She has led children's literature workshops at the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia and coordinates school projects for citizenship education.

**Sara Ricciardi – [sara.ricciardi@inaf.it](mailto:sara.ricciardi@inaf.it)**

is a senior researcher at INAF (National Institute for Astrophysics) and an adjunct professor at the Department of Education Studies at the University of Bologna. With a background in astrophysics, her research focuses on constructionist practices and play-based learning, aiming to foster a full scientific citizenship. She is also the deputy director of the GAME Science Research Center and a member of the Office of Astronomy for Education Center, Italy.

**Stefano Rini – [stefano.rini@ic12bo.istruzione.it](mailto:stefano.rini@ic12bo.istruzione.it)**

is a primary school teacher and a contract professor at the University of Bergamo, Faculty of Primary Education Sciences. He is currently completing a PhD focused on creativity and constructivist practices in public education. His research explores innovative teaching and learning methods that foster creativity in the classroom. Stefano is passionate about promoting student-centered approaches to education, believing that such practices can enrich both teaching and learning experiences.

**Michael Schlauch – [michael.schlauch@hu-berlin.de](mailto:michael.schlauch@hu-berlin.de)**

is postdoctoral researcher at the Humboldt University of Berlin. His research bridges technology and critical pedagogy, focusing on narrative and game-based learning, inclusive learning environments, and the evolving role of AI in education. Through design-based research methods, he develops and studies educational interventions in close collaboration with practitioners.

**Simone Seitz – [simone.seitz@unibz.it](mailto:simone.seitz@unibz.it)**

holds the professorship for General Didactics and Inclusive Education (Faculty of Education) and is Director of the Competence Center for Inclusive Education at the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Italy. Her research focuses on primary education with a focus on teaching, learning, and school development; inclusion and educational (in)equity; international comparative educational research; achievement and assessment in relation to inclusive education.



**Alma Tasevska – [alma@fzf.ukim.edu.mk](mailto:alma@fzf.ukim.edu.mk)**

is full professor at the Institute of Pedagogy, Faculty of Philosophy in Skopje. Her research and academic engagement focuses on early childhood education, play, and play-based learning. Within the PALS framework, she examines play as an educational approach that supports children's learning, holistic development, and the acquisition of essential life skills.

**Alfonso Trillicoso – [alfonso.trillicoso@icmanzoni-re.edu.it](mailto:alfonso.trillicoso@icmanzoni-re.edu.it)**

graduated in Italian Literature from the University of Bologna. As a primary school teacher at the Istituto Comprensivo A. Manzoni in Reggio Emilia he teaches at the A. Bergonzi Primary School. He is an expert teacher in STEAM education and is also the educational technology coach at the Istituto Comprensivo A. Manzoni .

**Elisabeth von Leon – [Elisabeth.vonLeon@unibz.it](mailto:Elisabeth.vonLeon@unibz.it)**

is a Children's Literature lecturer at the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano and coordinates as a research assistant the EduSpace Children'sLiteratureLab. Previously, she was deputy headmistress of the EmiLe-Montessori-School in Munich. She studied German language and literature as well as education, philosophy and psychology at the University of Vienna. Her research focuses on the aesthetics and didactics of picturebooks.

**Bernd Wagner – [bernd.wagner@uni-leipzig.de](mailto:bernd.wagner@uni-leipzig.de)**

holds the professorship for Social Science Education in Primary School at the University of Leipzig, Germany. In 2014 he received the Best Practice Award from the International Council of Museums ICOM – CECA (Committee for Education and Cultural Action). His teaching and his international comparative research focus on the following areas: historical and political learning processes, didactics of material culture, education for sustainable development and early social science education.

**Wiltrud Weidinger – [wiltrud.weidinger@phzh.ch](mailto:wiltrud.weidinger@phzh.ch)**

is professor and lecturer at the Zurich University of Teacher Education. Her research focuses on the development of life skills, future skills and transcultural learning for children, adolescents and teachers coming from different cultural and social backgrounds.

**Klaus-Christian Zehbe – [klaus-christian.zehbe@uni-leipzig.de](mailto:klaus-christian.zehbe@uni-leipzig.de)**

is research associate in the research project “Education and Objects” at Leipzig University. His research interests are transformational processes in education, cultural education, heritage pedagogy, rhetorics and learning with objects.

**Franca Zuccoli – [franca.zuccoli@unimib.it](mailto:franca.zuccoli@unimib.it)**

is a full professor at the University of Milan-Bicocca. She teaches General Didactics and Art Education. Her research focuses specifically on the relationship between cultural heritage, both tangible and intangible, and the fields of education and mediation. She is president of Opera Pizzigoni.