



## Information and Registration for the Study Tour to Reggio Emilia, Italy

April 15 – 20, 2012

### 1. The Municipal Preschools and Infant Toddler Centres, Reggio Emilia



The Municipal early childhood programs in Reggio Emilia, Northern Italy, for children aged three months to six years, are internationally acclaimed for the inspirations, challenges, and provocations they provide for all those concerned with the care and education of young children. Observation, documentation, and collaborative interpretation of children's discussions and actions, provide the constant possibility of developing new theories and constructs based on practice.

The schools have developed in direct response to beliefs held about the purpose of education, and in response to the specific cultural, geographic, political, economic and historical experiences of a small city in Northern Italy. This combined with the fact that the theories, ideas and practices in the schools are constantly changing and evolving, means that the schools cannot provide a model for practice in Australia, or a tool for the marketing of schools. Rather they offer an inspiration and a provocation for our thinking and practice.

### 2. The Study Program

- A guided walking tour of the city is provided on the Sunday afternoon of the 15<sup>th</sup> April by the Friends of Reggio Children
- The study programme commences on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April and concludes with a final dinner on the evening of Friday 20<sup>th</sup> April.
- The venue for the week is the Loris Malaguzzi International Centre
- A limited bus service is available to from the city to the International Centre. It is also within easy walking distance from the Astoria Hotel.
- Lectures will be in either English or Italian. An interpreter will be available whenever the Italian language is to be used
- Study topics will include:
  - . Background and history of the Reggio Emilia educational project
  - . Children as citizens with rights
  - . The school as a system of interactions and relationships
  - . The environment and the educational space
  - . Observation, interpretation, documentation
  - . The *Hundred Languages* of Children
  - . Parents' involvement in the life of the school
  - . ReMida (recycled materials as resources)
- The Programme will include:
  - . Presentations and seminars by teachers, pedagogistas and atelieristas
  - . Visits to pre schools and infant toddler centres
  - . Visits to exhibitions



### 3. General Information:

- Accompanying people are welcome to be part of the group, however they will not be able to participate in the study programme.
- It should be noted that the programme is usually very intensive, including evening sessions.
- The program is carefully planned to provide a sequence of knowledge building and it is therefore crucial to attend each session that is offered.
- Two Study Tour Leaders from the REAIE Committee accompany the group.

A group accommodation booking for Australian delegates has been made at the Astoria Hotel in the inner city. While this is by no means compulsory, there are many advantages of being together in a group: daily communications including any changes to the program or to travel arrangements are easy when everyone is together; people also make friends and form small groups that support discussion during the study programme and open possibilities for sightseeing, sharing mealtimes and providing support for each other.

### 4. Travelling to Reggio Emilia:

Delegates are to make their own travel arrangements. A group booking has been made with **Singapore Airlines** through **Judy Goldman at FBI Travel**. The group will depart, from all Australian capital cities on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2012 and travel via Singapore to Milan. The only requirement to participate in the group booking is that the group departs Australia together. Return dates are flexible so participants can extend their stay after the programme. The cost of this airfare is \$1895.00 AU (plus taxes). This group booking does not have to be paid until February 2012. If at the time of booking there is a cheaper fare available Judy will be able to organise this instead. (Please note, payment for cheaper fares will need to be made within 7-10 days of booking.)

To contact Judy Goldman at FBI Travel please call 03 8573 0911 or email [judyg@fbitravel.com.au](mailto:judyg@fbitravel.com.au). Judy is also able to organise travel with other airlines and incorporate other travel arrangements and tours. We strongly recommend her travel services and expertise.

### 5. Insurance

All participants must take out an individual travel Insurance policy for illness, accidents or loss which may occur during the study tour. Travel insurance is available from FBI Travel on application.

### 6. Study Programme Costs:

**The cost of the 2012 Study Tour is \$2995.00 AU.** This represents €1220 including taxes to Reggio Children, plus currency exchange and an administration cost to REAIE.

This cost includes visits to schools and local bus travel, meetings, presentations, final dinner, morning and afternoon teas, interpreters, insurance against damage to schools, printed materials. International delegates are also required to pay a 20% tax to the Italian Government for professional learning undertaken in Italy. This was introduced in 2009.

**N.B** The fee to Reggio Children is an all-inclusive cost to all participants and cannot be altered for non-use of some of the components, e.g. land transportation, final dinner, etc.

**N.B** It does not include accommodation.

The demand for places is high and places will be allocated on receipt of your registration form and **deposit of \$495 AU** on a **first come first serve basis**. **No exceptions are possible**. Registrations will close on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2011 or as soon as all places are filled.

## 7. Contingency Payment:

REAIE has calculated the fee to Reggio Children as close to the current exchange rate as possible to keep costs down for participants. If there is a large drop in the exchange rate between now and when the fee to Reggio Children is paid, a small additional fee (no more than \$250) may have to be charged. REAIE is not in a financial position to absorb the additional costs of the study tour if there is a dramatic fall in the currency exchange.

## 8. Accommodation:

A block booking of accommodation has been made at the Astoria Hotel situated in the centre of the city. To organise accommodation at the conference rate at the Astoria Hotel **bookings must be made through Judy Goldman at FBI Travel**. This is regardless of where your flight arrangements have been made. Please contact Judy as soon as your registration has been confirmed if you wish to stay with the Australian delegation.

**Please do not contact the hotel directly.**

The costs quoted are **per room** and include bed and breakfast.

If two people are sharing a room the costs will be divided.

All rooms have their own bathrooms.

Single Room:

- 1 person only approx \$140.00AU per night – this is subject to currency fluctuation

Double or twin room:

- 1 or 2 persons approx \$190.00AU per night – this is subject to currency fluctuation

**Please note:**

It is not possible to triple-share a room except for a family with a child under 7 years of age.

There are only 10 single rooms available. These will be allocated on a first come first serve basis for those staying for the 10 nights. If you wish to have a single room after this you will have to book and pay for a double room. You will be notified of this on booking.

For information about other accommodation options please refer to the Reggio Children website [http://zerosei.comune.re.it/inter/rc\\_wstay.htm](http://zerosei.comune.re.it/inter/rc_wstay.htm)

## 9. Cancellation Fees:

REAIE has signed a contract with Reggio Children (RC) in Reggio Emilia for a specific number of REAIE Study Tour delegates. REAIE is required to pay a non refundable deposit to RC for the total number of delegates on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2012.

- Delegates who cancel their registration before 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2011 will incur an administration fee of \$80.
- Registration cancellations that occur between and inclusive of 1st December, 2011 and 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2012 will incur loss of the full deposit paid (\$495)
- Cancellation after 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2012 will incur total loss of fee of \$2995 where the place is unable to be filled by another delegate. If the place is filled the loss incurred will be the deposit of \$495

## 10. General information about travelling to Reggio Emilia, Italy:

- The best way to reach Reggio Emilia by public transport is by train, half an hour from Bologna or two hours from Milan. There is a bus from most airports to a railway station. Reggio Emilia is conveniently situated for travel by train to many destinations.
- More information about the City of Reggio Emilia can be found on the web. The city's tourist information website in English can be found at:

<http://www.municipio.re.it/IAT/iatre.nsf/pagine/070EF0CE7AF2F4E0C12568DC0066FC14?OpenDocument&lng=eng>

## 11. Getting from Milan Malpensa Airport to the Astoria Hotel Reggio Emilia:

- REAIE will organise a bus from Malpensa Airport, Milan to the Astoria Hotel, Reggio Emilia on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> April, 2012 and from the Astoria Hotel, Reggio Emilia to Milan Malpensa Airport on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> April, 2012. Australian delegates and accompanying persons are also invited to travel on these buses.
- Details and costs will be sent out once your registration has been received.

## 12. Day trips to Florence and Venice:

- REAIE will organise a bus tour to Florence on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> April, 2012 and to Venice on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> April, 2012.
- We strongly recommend these trips as a way of settling into the group and for getting to know each other before the intensive study program begins. Delegates on past study tours have commented that they hadn't realised how much the quality of their study week would depend on feeling part the group – and how important the bus trips were for getting to know each other.
- Details and costs will be sent out once your registration has been received.

## Registering for the Study Tour.

Please complete the registration form and return it to REAIE with your **deposit of \$495.00AU**. Places will be allocated on a first come first serve basis on receipt of your registration form AND deposit. Your deposit will be fully refunded if we are unable to offer you a place in the Study Program.

**N.B. A final invoice will be sent out in January 2012 and the final payment is due by 13<sup>th</sup> February 2012.**

Payment can be made by cheque, money order, or credit card (please make sure you write your name on the back of cheques). Cheques should be made payable to: **Reggio Emilia Australia Information Exchange Inc.**

The REAIE office is open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9.30am to 3.30pm for enquiries and information.

Phone (03) 9810 3166/26 Fax: (03) 9818 1672, Email: [admin@reggioaustralia.org.au](mailto:admin@reggioaustralia.org.au)



**REGISTRATION FOR REGGIO EMILIA STUDY TOUR April 15 – 20, 2012.**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name on passport (if different to above)** \_\_\_\_\_

Visas not required for Australian passport holders

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Is this your home or work address?                      Home                      Work

**Place of Employment:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Position:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:**     (W) (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_                      (H) (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

(Mobile) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:**     (W) \_\_\_\_\_

(H) \_\_\_\_\_

**Please circle your preferred email address:**                      Home                      Work

All confirmations and correspondence will be via email.

**If your invoice details are different from above please enter them below:**

**Invoice Contact Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Invoice Address Details:** \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

**Invoice Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

<p><b>PAYMENT DETAILS</b>                                              <b>I enclose a deposit of \$495.00 AU</b></p> <p><b><i>Please make cheques payable to Reggio Emilia Australia Information Exchange Inc.</i></b></p> <p>I understand that this is refundable in full if I am not offered a place in the Study Program.</p> <p>Please debit my <b>CREDIT CARD</b>                      <input type="checkbox"/> Visa                      <input type="checkbox"/> Mastercard     Amount:\$ _____</p> <p>Card No: ____ ____ ____ ____                                              Expiry date: __/ __</p> <p>Name on card: _____</p> <p>Signature: _____</p>
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LEGAL DISCLAIMER BY REAIE

By submitting this registration form, registrants accept that REAIE Inc is not and cannot be held responsible for any changes to this program.