



# Gesell Institute

## 2008-2009 Annual Report



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## Board Chair's Message



Wendy Wells

Serving on this Board – most recently as its president – has been a rich and enlightening experience, especially in the last two years. Membership has grown to include representatives of wider constituencies and experience, affirming more visibly our presence locally. We have expanded our reputation nationally as well, in the vital community of those who concern themselves with children and the wholesome environments in which they can happily discover the world and themselves.

Gesell's instrument for reliable observation is now very much up-to-date. We will continue to host small social events and hope to have enthusiastic guests from near and far at the Institute's sixtieth birthday celebration in 2010. The versatile and dedicated Board, the amazingly competent and conscientious staff, may even be able to keep pace with our dynamic Director, whose knowledge and experiences are impressive and numerous – and whose energy and determination are apparently boundless!

It is gratifying that as I leave the Board and the Institute they are far stronger and more vibrant than they were when I joined them nine years ago. This is an exciting time for Gesell Institute!

*~Wendy Wells*

## Executive Director's Message



Marcy Guddemi, PhD, MBA

As this report goes to press, I am celebrating my two year anniversary! I am happy to report that coming to Gesell Institute has been one of the most rewarding decisions of my professional career. Not only am I continuing to focus on my lifelong passion of promoting the rights of children to well development (including the child's right to play – see [www.ipausa.org](http://www.ipausa.org) for additional information) but I have been given the incredible opportunity to rejuvenate an important institution with such a rich history.

It is extremely exciting to be returning Gesell Institute to its rightful prominence in today's developmental and educational arena, at a time when understanding and respecting child development is perhaps even more critical than ever.

Truly, our work at Gesell Institute could not be more timely for America's children. As our new administration discusses how to close the achievement gap and how to educate and nurture children to be successful in the 21st century, Arnold Gesell's work in understanding how children learn guides the way.

So what have we done in FY08-09? I can't possibly list everything here, but first and foremost, I am proud to report that the national technical study to collect normative and exploratory data on the Gesell Developmental Observation (GDO)

*continued on page 10*



## Our Foundation

Gesell Institute of Human Development is a New Haven based non-profit that has been associated with understanding how children grow and learn since 1950. Gesell programs and publications help parents and educators understand the ages and stages of childhood.

Understanding the stages of child growth and development and using this knowledge to interpret behaviors,

to plan appropriate curricula, and to manage the classroom are essential to quality teaching practices. Gesell workshops link the continuum of growth to the use of an effective screening tool, the Gesell Developmental Observation.

Our mission is to educate, guide, and support parents and educators in understanding child growth and development so that all children may be nurtured, encouraged, and empowered as they grow and learn.

Gesell Institute provides multiple sources of information for parents, teachers, and schools to assist them in making important decisions about children. We do not set policy or provide recommendations surrounding issues of retention, placement, or readiness “scores” in association with the Gesell Developmental Observation.

## A Look Into the Past: A Brief Review of Our History

The Institute’s namesake, Arnold Gesell, Ph.D., MD, began his ground breaking work in the early 20th century. He developed a set of norms illustrating sequential and predictable patterns of growth and development, used as the basis of the Gesell Developmental Observation. Dr. Gesell was the first director of the Yale University Clinic now known as the Yale Child Study Center, as well as the nation’s first school psychologist. He was also a founding member of the National Association for Nursing and Education, now known as the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).

Following Dr. Gesell’s retirement from Yale in 1950, his colleagues opened the Gesell Institute in New Haven, Connecticut, to continue his life’s work. Since that time, the Institute has offered a variety of medical and educational programs and services to promote the healthy development of children and adults worldwide. Today, the work of the Institute is focused on educating and supporting teachers and parents in order to ensure the future success of all children, in the United States and abroad.



## IN MEMORY OF LOIS RHO



We mourn the loss of a dear friend and Board of Directors Member, as Lois Rho passed away on September 10, 2009 at the age of 79 following a brief battle with cancer. Lois began her career as a teacher with the National Head Start Program in the early 1960s in New Haven, Connecticut and then moved to the Cheshire Public Schools, where she worked as a teacher and elementary school administrator for nearly thirty years.

In 1972, Lois became Director and then Principal of the Darcey School in Cheshire. While at Darcey School, she began a collaboration with the Yale University Architecture Department, pioneering one of the first early childhood learning programs to consider the space and design of a child’s learning environment and its effects on child development.

Following her retirement from Cheshire Public Schools, Lois joined Gesell Institute’s Board of Directors in 2002, while also consulting with Area Cooperative Educational Services (ACES), a Regional Educational Service Center serving south central Connecticut.

Lois devoted her life to children, her own and those of others. Her wisdom, experience, and gentle insistence made significant differences in many lives, as well as in the integrity and focus of the Gesell Board’s endeavors. She is and will continue to be sorely missed.

# 2008-2009 Year

## New Resources for Teachers and Parents

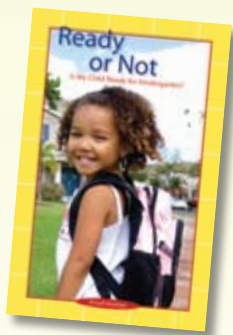
We have concentrated much of our efforts on providing new resources for parents and teachers this year, a goal aligned with our mission. Our **latest products and publications** are highlighted in our catalog, another new initiative in 2008-2009. Now updated three times per year rather than the four times our retired workshop brochure was distributed, our new catalog is saving both environmental and economic resources.



We are most excited about our brand new **Parent/Guardian Questionnaire** and **Teacher Questionnaire**, both of which help to create a complete picture of the young child. These forms complement the ©2007 Gesell Developmental Observation (GDO) but also stand alone, and can easily be used in conjunction with other classroom assessments as valuable tools providing and documenting critical insight from the individuals who know the growing child best—parents, guardians, and teachers.



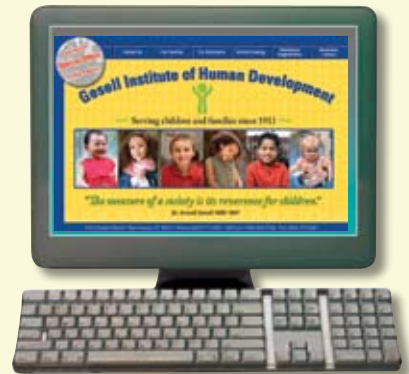
Another new resource released this past year is the updated booklet **Ready or Not**, revised and expanded to reflect current research and practice in helping parents understand their developing child. It takes into consideration not only the child's readiness for traditional academic work, but how to know if a Kindergarten setting is ready for the child.



Additional new offerings in our catalog include **New Seminar Titles** for school districts to choose from for professional development and parent education, as well as the addition of some highly recommended **New Books** for sale. (Our thanks to Graphic Designer Linda Hoffman for the great new look of our products and catalogs.)

Last but not least, have you seen our **New Website**, officially launched on August 1st and including all new resources for parents and educators? What a difference! We now have an additional on-line presence via our **Facebook Page** and will be joining other non-profits on Twitter and Wordpress very soon. Look for new features and a technical overhaul to the Book Store and Workshop Registration functionality on our website this

coming year. Our thanks are extended to talented web designer Kristin Rider; Andre Barnes, the technical whiz behind our newly designed site; and IT interns Steven Washington and Tiffany Burke for helping us along technologically.



## Community Connections

We are happy to report on the local level that we sit on the **New Haven Early Childhood Council**, to which the Mayor officially appointed Executive Director Marcy Guddemi this past year, and through which we also participate in the **Kindergarten Transition** subcommittee. The **Parent-Teacher Connection Program** was also continued – see the story on page 6 for more detail – and we provided three **Parent Seminars** for parents of young children in New Haven. We have also administered the GDO privately upon request by area families.

As new members of the **Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce** this year, we have enjoyed the opportunity to increase our networking and learning opportunities, attending monthly **Technology Council** meetings and taking advantage of discounts on training offered by local businesses. Associate Director Crista Marchesseault benefited from a one-on-one Dreamweaver training with **Connecticut Computer Assistants** ([www.consultcca.com](http://www.consultcca.com)) in July, and we look forward to continued opportunities to work with area businesses and other non-profits. Our goal is not only to be visible but to support the community in which we reside. We have made many new friends and made valuable business contacts—some of whom we have enjoyed hosting at our biannual **Friend-Raiser Receptions**. These intimate social events were held at the Institute in November and April, along with an afternoon tea in February, and led to the inception of **four new Board Members**.

We continue to enjoy participating in the Fellowship Program at **The Edward Zigler Center in Child Development and Social Policy**, our Yale University neighbors here at 310 Prospect Street. Marcy was honored to present on *The Role of Play in an Overly Academic Kindergarten* for the **Zigler Lecture Series** on the Yale campus. Visit our website at [www.gesellinstitute.org/presentations.html](http://www.gesellinstitute.org/presentations.html) to link to a podcast of that presentation.

At the **state level**, we have begun attending some very helpful workshops available to us through our membership with the **Connecticut Association of Non-Profits** ([www.ctnonprofits.org](http://www.ctnonprofits.org)). Program Coordinator Andrea Sambrook attended *Fund Raising in Current Economic Times*, and Marcy enjoyed a session on *Effectively Organizing Non-Profit Boards*. Marcy was also proud to be a guest on **Branford Community Cable TV's Classroom Connections**, which played in several communities across the state.

# Year in Review

## National Connections & Beyond

Nationally, we have been expanding our ever-growing presence by forming new alliances with other professional organizations. Marcy sits on the **Committee on Child Rights (CRC)**, a national committee promoting the signing of the 1989 United Nations' Convention on the Rights of the Child. Our exhibit booth at the annual **National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)** conference in Dallas was a huge success, as thousands of early childhood professionals came by to say hello and see what we are now doing. As we begin planning for our next big initiative, our **Early Childhood Leadership Conference** being held in October 2010, we are also thrilled to announce our first conference sponsor, the **U.S. Alliance for Childhood** ([www.allianceforchildhood.org](http://www.allianceforchildhood.org)).



We continue to be heard nationally on **BAM Radio**, a website where Marcy is one of the experts interviewed on topics related to child development, and **Gesell-Sponsored Tips** are featured on many of the segments. Marcy and Crista also co-authored an article published in **SEEN**, a **trade magazine** focusing on the issues of today's educational system ([www.seenmagazine.us](http://www.seenmagazine.us)). Visit our website at [www.gesellinstitute.org/articles.html](http://www.gesellinstitute.org/articles.html) to download a copy of the article, entitled *The Goldilocks Dilemma: When is the 'right time' to start Kindergarten?*

**Internationally**, we were hosted in September 2008 by **Dr. Ming Li** of the Department of Pediatrics, The First Hospital of **Peking University in Beijing, China**, where Marcy and National Lecture Staff member Norman Heimgartner provided several seminars to parents and teachers. Dr. Li is a member of our Advisory Council and has used a version of the GDO in China for some time. Marcy also had an article and an interview published in **China's Parenting Science magazine**.

## External Connections

Since we are a small staff locally, we do rely on our outside connections to help. We convened our **Advisory Council** by conference call in March and gathered our talented **National Lecture Staff (NLS)** for an annual retreat in May. Both groups provide invaluable resources for the Institute in various ways. Our esteemed Advisory Council members give us a view from the outside and our expert NLS members give us a view from inside our workshops and schools around the country. The NLS also help us in providing invaluable feedback in the development of **updated workshop materials** intended to enhance our very popular three-day training for users of the Gesell Developmental Observation.



## New Interns & Staff

We have been very fortunate to expand our **internship program** with some **top-notch Interns and Volunteers** helping us accomplish our mission this year. They have collected and entered data for the GDO Technical Study and Parent-Teacher Connection Program, conducted home visits, solved IT problems, upgraded our computers, and much more. We were also sad to see some staff go this past year, as they moved on to other ventures, but thrilled to welcome **two new staff members**. Program Coordinator Andrea Sambrook's primary responsibility is the oversight of the GDO study, and Program Associate Ashley Firth began as a volunteer data collector on the study. We also contracted with some **new consultants** this year, including grant writers Kaitlyn Falk Wong and Sarah Miller Desimini of FM Consulting,

assisting us on grant writing for our upcoming 2010 conference and advising us in a variety of fund-raising capacities. See page 9 for a complete list of Staff, Consultants, and Interns.



## A Busy & Successful Year

To bring it back home, our year has been most successful, but we couldn't do it without our dedicated supporters. We thank those who responded to our **First Annual Appeal**. Your support is truly appreciated as we continue to strive to help all children grow and learn in the best ways possible. As Dr. Gesell said, "The measure of a society is its reverence for children." We applaud your reverence! **See page 10 for details on how to pledge your support this year.**

# FY'09 Program Testimonials

*I recommend the 2½-6-year-old workshop for all PK-2nd grade teachers and parents that are interested in recognizing developmental growth of their children.*

-Michelle, Wichita, KS

*I thoroughly enjoyed the workshop and would recommend it to anyone interested in the development of young children.*

-Wesley, Bear, DE

*As the presentation progressed, I began to understand many of the behaviors that I have observed while teaching first grade and Kindergarten. Thank you!!*

-Susan, Gig Harbor, WA

*This was an extremely valuable workshop for me as a teacher coming back after 20 years raising my own children. The presenter was delightful, informative, and fun. This will help our whole team this fall.*

-Ricka, Escobar, TX

*A well-planned workshop giving the participant research based information as well as hands-on experience.*

-Sister Darlene, Jacksonville, FL

*The Gesell workshop was absorbing, interactive, and enlightening. It provided us with amazing insights and tools to understand the cycles of development, and the child holistically. This was one of my best learning experiences.*

-Maria, Tacoma, WA

*Great opportunity for sharing experiences and asking questions. The instructor was open to observations and comments, and was knowledgeable and organized.*

-Sandy, Knoxville, TN

*This was one of the most informative conferences I have been to. The material and content will be used immediately!*

-Shannon, Golden, CO

*Fantastic workshop. I will use this information in my planning and prep from here on.*

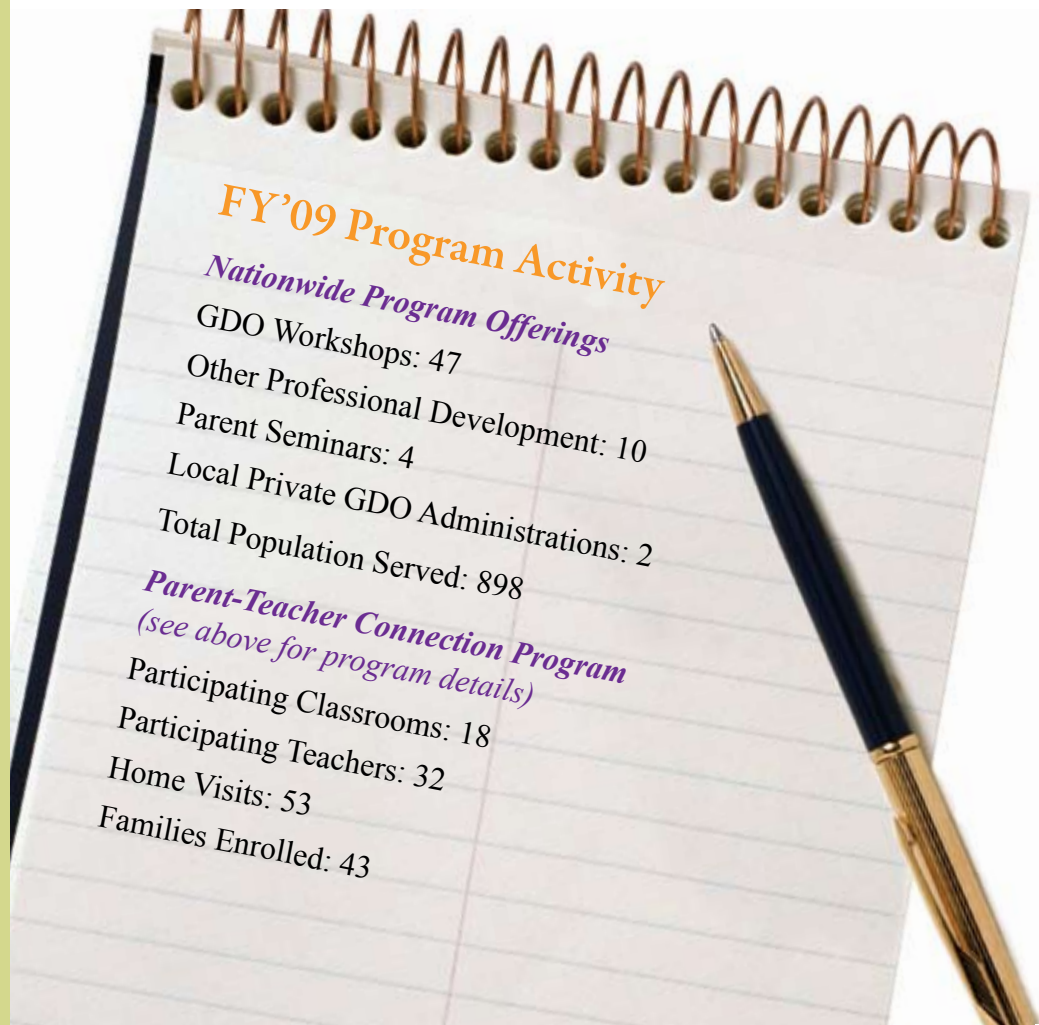
-Melissa, Waddington, NY

# Parent-Teacher Connections

Gesell Institute and New Haven Public Schools successfully implemented a full year of the Parent-Teacher Connection Program (P-TCP), initially piloted in Spring 2008, for the Head Start LINK grant. The purpose of the program is to promote the school success and adaptation of 4-year-olds in three area early childhood programs, as well as to prepare children and families for Kindergarten transition. The P-TCP is based on a successful program previously implemented in Somerville, Massachusetts by Martha Garcia-Sellers, PhD at Tufts University. It is a replication of Dr. Sellers' Home-School Connection Program (H-SCP) model, on which Gesell Associate Director Crista Marchesseault worked as a graduate student and which she has modified to fit the needs of the New Haven community and the participating programs.

The program focus is on strengthening communication between parents and teachers, while also addressing children's school adaptation problems due to cultural differences and/or discrepant expectations between home and school. By visiting children and parents in their homes, program personnel (parent-teacher liaisons) are able to inform parents about school activities, educational expectations, and ways in which they can support their children in the transition to school, whether preschool or the more formal school entry of Kindergarten.

Program liaisons also observe children in the classroom setting and meet with teachers to discuss children's overall adaptation and success. Through this process, recommendations are made to teachers to try to help them understand children's behavior in the context of their family's values. Added components to the P-TCP include mentoring of teachers through meetings about the children and the home visits, meetings with parents to educate them on normal ages and stages of child



# continue in New Haven

development, as well as resource kits for families including books, activities, and other materials to support children's transition to Kindergarten.

The P-TCP promotes school success and adaptation for children by strengthening the connection between home and school, empowering families with information about the transition to Kindergarten and with recommendations for interacting with schools and teachers.

Despite funding cuts half-way through the school year, the project was continued in year two with two public school preschool classrooms and two large Head Start sites in New Haven. Approximately 32 teachers and assistant teachers from 18 classrooms participated in the project. During the Spring pilot, 57 children and families were contacted for participation in the study, followed by an additional 148 families contacted in Summer '08 to be recruited for summer and fall involvement. We began Fall '08 with 38 families engaged, and began a new recruitment cycle from over 200 newly enrolled families.

A total of 59 families were engaged across all sites out of 575 attempted recruits since the start of the program in the Spring of 2008, which equates to a 10% overall response rate. Of these families, a total of 43 were engaged during the 2008-2009 school year, of 183 attempted recruits beginning in the summer of 2008 (a 24% response rate). Of these 43 families, 13 families were lost to attrition due to the child transferring to an alternate school (9) or the family's unknown whereabouts (4), leaving us with 30 currently engaged and active families.

The Institute looks forward to serving a new cohort of New Haven classrooms and families through the P-TCP and currently anticipates a 2-year extension of the project beginning in November 2009.



Photos by Larry Ferree

## National Study Well Underway

Gesell Institute's national technical study is well underway, with normative and exploratory data being collected on the Gesell Developmental Observation (GDO) from schools across the nation. This important study will result in brand new, updated technical data and current trends for the GDO, a widely used and deeply loved assessment tool among early childhood educators across the country.

Participating in the GDO Study consists of the full administration of the GDO and pilot items, as well as a Teacher Questionnaire and Parent/Guardian Questionnaire for each participating child. Eligible participants must be between 2.3 and 6.3 years of age and speak English as the primary language. As a thank you, the Institute provides all GDO study forms free of charge to each participating school, and remunerates schools \$10 per completed set of data, which equates to four completed forms.

"Community-based research is a rich and rewarding form of study," says new study coordinator Andrea Sambrook. "It allows us the privilege to measure a child's growth in his or her school and family contexts in

a personal way." Andrea has hit the ground running this past year, working hard to recruit new sites and keeping the data flowing in. She also works closely with researchers at McREL (Mid-Continent Research for Education and Learning), where Bruce Randel, Sha Balizet, and Susan Shebby are only a phone call away to provide methodological advice, technical consulting, and statistical analysis.

Gesell Institute's staff is grateful for the many hundreds of families already enrolled in the study, and for their willingness to support the continued development and use of the GDO. Likewise, teachers and other examiners play a core role in the data collection process by giving their time and attention to the administration of the GDO, as well as the administrative focus to transcribing, collecting, and packaging the materials for the Institute.

The goal for this national study is to sample over 1600 children, and more data is expected on an on-going basis. As of this printing, 654 GDOs have been entered into the study database and more are coming in each day.

### Currently, the following schools are active participants in the study:

Acton Coop Preschool, MA  
Amberly Elementary, MI  
Appleby Elementary, NY  
Applewild Elementary School, MA  
Bible Center Christian School, WV  
Bolles School, FL  
Brookwood School, MA  
Charlotte Preparatory School, NC  
Coyote Valley Elementary, CA  
da Vinci School, TX  
Doane Academy, NJ  
Dwight Preschool, CT  
Early Childhood Learning Center, CT  
Early Learning Center, VA  
Elm Drive Elementary, NY  
Evergreen Country Day School, CO  
Franklin Academy, NC  
Forsyth Country Day, NC  
Grace Brethren School, CA  
Greater Portland Christian School, ME  
Greenhill School, TX  
Helene Grant, CT  
Heathwood Hall Episcopal School, SC  
Hill Central Music Academy, CT

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Photo by Crista Marchesseault

## IN MEMORY OF Tassy Gesell Walden

The daughter of Arnold Gesell, Katherine (“Tassy”) Gesell Walden died peacefully on Dec. 21, 2008 at the age of 95. She was the wife of the late Joseph W. Walden, and she was born in New Haven on November 5, 1913 to Arnold and Beatrice Gesell. Tassy graduated from Vassar College in 1935, volunteered as a sustaining member of the Junior League, and earned her first Masters Degree in Education at New York University in 1953. Before moving to Guilford in 1962, she taught at the Riverdale Country School in Riverdale, NY, and in a one-room schoolhouse in Bedford, NY. In Guilford, she taught at the elementary level at Calvin Leete, and the Church Street School. In the 1970s, she received a Masters Degree in Library Science before finishing her career as Librarian at the Cox School. Following retirement, she served as President of the Connecticut State Library Association; volunteered as a docent for the British Art Center at Yale; served two terms as President of the Guilford Library Board; taught Children’s Literature at Connecticut College in New London, CT; was a member of the Governing Board for the Vassar Alumnae Association; chaired the Guilford Community Fund Drive; and was active with the Literacy Volunteers of America. She also sat on the Board of the Women and Family Life Center. Recently, the Shoreline Arts Alliance named an annual competition in her honor, titled “The Tassy Walden Awards” and for new voices in children’s literature. She is remembered fondly by her friends and family, and a very touching memorial service was held in her honor on January 17, 2008.

# Winter Memory

By Katherine Gesell Walden  
(Daughter of Arnold Gesell)

Bundling up with earmuffs, scarves, mittens and knee socks we load our skates into the car. Funny Skates they were too, they clamped on to our heavy shoes like roller skates. Dad put on his old fur hat, his eyes sparkled as he wrapped his long muffler around his neck. When he grabbed his favorite cane I knew we were off... and ready for fun.

The old Chevrolet sputtered and chugged out through the park, out to Skiff Street on the edge of Whitneyville. It was high adventure to go so far out of town. Freezing on the bank of the reservoir we struggled with clamping on our skates and at last ventured down to the ice. Dad’s cane beat the ice near the shore to be sure of our safety. Sometimes giant rumbles would be heard spreading out along the shore, but Dad knew all about good ice so I never feared, after all he had skated on the frozen Mississippi River since he was a little boy. I knew those stories well.

My ankles sagging inward, off we went. When out in the clear... the greatest joy occurred! Dad would offer me the crook of his cane, he held the other end... and wings would spread on my feet! His long strides, and natural grace were magic.... I felt I could skate anywhere... Of course you could skate, skate anywhere... that was the secret message he conveyed... His long legs must have skated a thousand miles on the Mississippi River, he knew distance on ice without thinking about it. He knew the fun, the exhilaration, and the buoyant good health on skates... this was his gift to me. It was all transferred through that cane... and on we skated he and I on a brilliant winter’s day in Whitneyville.

Time and time again I remember the getting ready, the going, the skating, the companionship, the sounds of the ice, the taste of wet mittens when the wind dried my throat, the homecoming... triumphant to tell my mother of the magic miles.





## BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2008-2009

**Wendy Wells, MS, MA (President)**  
Teacher and administrator, retired  
Hopkins School (Connecticut)

**Virginia Wilkinson, MAT, MA (Vice Pres)**  
Teacher and administrator, retired  
Public and independent schools

**Richard Ruiter, MA (Secretary)**  
School administrator, retired  
Farmington Public Schools (Michigan)

**William Bakke, MA, JD, LLM (Treasurer)**  
Chief Financial Officer, retired  
Hopkins School (Connecticut)

**Judy August**  
School Psychologist, retired  
Cheshire Public Schools (Connecticut)

**Linda Calarco, MA**  
Former teacher and guidance counselor  
New York City Public Schools

**Tynetta Darden**  
Training Officer  
CT Commission on Community Service  
CT Department of Higher Education

**Robert Osborne**  
Educator  
New Haven Public Schools

**Lois Rho, MS (deceased 9/09)**  
Educational Consultant  
Area Cooperative Educational Services

**Barbara Stern, MS, MBA**  
Principal  
Darcey School

**Marcy Guddemi, PhD, MBA (ex-officio)**  
Executive Director  
Gesell Institute

## New in FY 09-10

**John Cirello, JD**  
Attorney  
Cirello and Vessicchio, LLC

**Kathy DeStefano**  
First Grade Teacher  
West Haven Public Schools

**Michelle Rivelli, MD, FAAP**  
Pediatrician  
Pedicare Associates

**Carole Weisberg**  
Coordinator, Early Childhood & Youth Ed.  
Charter Oak State College

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Parker Centennial Professor, Emeritus  
University of Texas

**Martha Garcia-Sellers, PhD**  
Professor, Eliot-Pearson Dept. of Child Dev.  
Tufts University

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Assistant Professor, Yale Child Study Center  
Director, The Edward Zigler Center, Yale Univ.

**Jim Grant**  
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Director, Calvin Hill Day Care Center and  
Kitty Lustman-Finding Kindergarten

**Sharon Lynn Kagan, PhD**  
Associate Dean for Policy, Teachers College  
Columbia University

**Ming Li, MD**  
Professor, Child Neuro-habilitation Clinic  
The First Hospital of Peking University, China

**Sandra Malmquist, PhD**  
Director, Creating Kids, Creating Curriculum  
Connecticut Children's Museum

**Tina Mannarino, PhD**  
Supervisor, Early Childhood Education  
New Haven Public Schools

**Linda Mayes, MD**  
Arnold Gesell Professor of Child Psychiatry,  
Pediatrics, and Psychology  
Yale Child Study Center

**Rae Pica**  
Director, Moving and Learning  
Barnstead, NH

**Dorothy Singer, PhD**  
Senior Research Associate  
Yale Child Study Center

**Jerome Singer, PhD**  
Professor of Psychology, Emeritus  
Yale Child Study Center

**Fred Volkmar, MD**  
Director, Yale Child Study Center  
Yale University School of Medicine

**Miriam Westheimer, EdD**  
Director, Home Instruction for  
Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPI)  
International

## STAFF 2008-2009

**Ashley Firth**  
Program Associate

**Marcy Guddemi, PhD, MBA**  
Executive Director

**Crista Marchesseault, MAT, MA**  
Associate Director

**Shannon Midolo, MA**  
Program Coordinator

**Andrea Sambrook, MA**  
Program Coordinator

**Elizabeth Santy**  
Program Assistant

**Annette Watert**  
Operations Manager

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Linda Halverson, Director (Arizona)  
Kiki Ammons (Florida)  
Suzy Ferree (Oklahoma)  
Norman Heimgartner (Washington)  
Sally Keller (Michigan)  
Marilyn Mansberry (Florida)  
Richard Ruiter (Michigan)  
Cheryl Wolfe (North Carolina)

**Consultants**  
Andre Barnes  
Kaitlyn Falk Wong  
Stefanie Foster  
Martha Garcia-Sellers  
Linda Hoffman  
Ang Li  
Sarah Miller Desimini  
Kristin Rider

**Interns & Volunteers**  
Eliza Behymer  
Jennifer Bowers  
Philip Gardner  
Dawn Grady  
Joseph Guddemi  
Victoria Knezek  
Sue Landisio  
Julia Joy Morgillo  
Alexander Oji  
Ashley Peters  
Kristen Provost  
Andrea Reinhardt  
Jessica Simmons  
Steven Washington  
Aleesha Young

## New in FY 09-10

**Tiffany Burke**, IT Intern  
**Marina Pappas**, P-TCP Coordinator

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is progressing magnificently under the direction of Program Coordinator Andrea Sambrook. We will soon have up-to-date technical data to support our beloved and classic developmental assessment for children ages 2.5-6. In the coming year, we will shift our focus to creating a new state-of-the art developmental screener for ages 3-6 by combining the best of the classic Gesell items and new items that are being piloted in the study.

Locally, our Parent-Teacher Connection Program, under the leadership of Associate Director Crista Marchesseault, served more than 50 families of four-year-olds enrolled in four New Haven preschool programs this past year. Program data will be presented at NAEYC again this year, and will be used to strengthen the continuation of the P-TCP over the next two years. The program model is certainly worthy of national replication, and is another source of pride for the Institute. Our thanks are extended to New Haven Public Schools Early Childhood Education Supervisor Tina Mannarino and Head Start Director Claudia McNeil for collaborating with us and for securing the funding for this fabulous program.

Be sure to read our “Year In Review” article beginning on page three for more on all that we have accomplished this year, including offering new products and seminars as part of our growing cache of resources for teachers and parents. Check out our catalog for details – or call Annette Watert, Operations Manager, who is celebrating her 27th year with Gesell Institute!

Our staff is small, but mighty! With the help of a dedicated National Lecture Staff and dynamic Board of Directors, we are well on our way to introducing – and celebrating – the new and improved Gesell Institute of the 21st century. Look for more soon on our 2010 Early Childhood Leadership Conference, to be held in tandem with the Institute’s 60th anniversary. Indeed, these are exciting times!

*~Marcy Guddemi*

### Active participants *(cont. from page 7)*

International School of Louisiana, LA	Ravenscroft School, NC
International School of Minnesota, MN	Rosebud Elementary, SD
John Martinez School, CT	St. Anslem School, OH
Kessler School, TX	St. Bernadette School, LA
Living Word Christian Academy, CT	St. Maria Goretti Preschool, AZ
Madison Academy, AL	Southwest Covenant School, OK
Marlboro School District, NY	Truman Head Start, CT
Naugatuck Early Child Dev. Center, CT	Upland Country Day, PA
NaugatuckValley Community College Child Center, CT	Wesleyan School, GA
Noah’s Ark Pre-School, MI	Westminster Academy, TN
Oakland Christian School, MI	Zigler Head Start, CT
	Zimmerman School, ND

## Board Treasurer’s Note

Financially, the fiscal year ending August 31, 2009 was a tough one for the Institute. Grants, charitable contributions, and short-term interest revenues were up from the prior year, thankfully. However, revenues from programs and the sale of books and materials, our major sources of income, were down from the prior year. A significant portion of the increased draw from our endowment was to offset the expenditure of funds for the Gesell Developmental Observation technical study, which we believe will have a major positive impact on future revenues, when the process is completed in the first calendar quarter of 2010.

*~Bill Bakke*

### Take Action: Help Support Children and Families!

Our work is focused on educating and supporting teachers and parents both locally and across the globe, in order to ensure the future success of all children. After nearly 60 years of helping children succeed, we remain committed to our ever-expanding mission, but as a non-profit, it can be challenging to achieve our goals each year.

*Now more than ever,  
we need your support.*

Even the smallest donations aid us in our efforts to expand our programs,

*helping children to succeed.*

If you would like to join others in contributing to our important work so that all children may be nurtured, encouraged, and empowered as they grow and learn, please contact us:

**1-800-369-7709**

**info@gesellinstitute.org**

*Pledge your support today.*

Mail us your tax-deductible contribution, payable to Gesell Institute:  
310 Prospect Street, New Haven, CT 06511

*Credit Cards are accepted.*

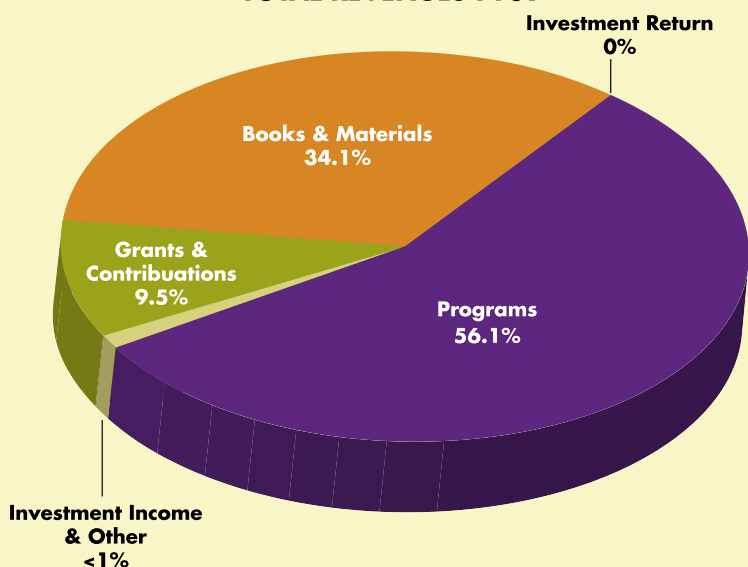
*Thank you!*

# Financial Overview

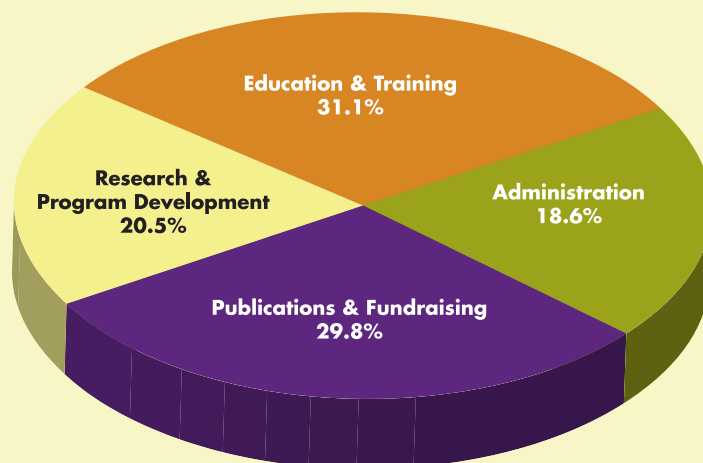
Revenues & Expenses		
	August 31	
	2009	2008
<b>REVENUES</b>		
Programs	\$267,288	\$354,550
Books & Materials	162,173	186,546
Investment Return	0	167,093
Grants & Contributions	45,449	9,839
Interest Income & Other	1,300	24
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$476,210</b>	<b>\$718,052</b>
Investment Losses	(468,256)	
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Education & Training	\$244,172	\$393,156
Program Development	160,660	180,761
Publications & Fund raising	234,230	37,922
Administration	145,745	124,701
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$784,807</b>	<b>\$736,540</b>

Comparative Statement of Financial Position		
	August 31	
	2009	2008
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash & cash equivalents	\$ 4,807	\$10,416
Accounts receivable	17,301	18,298
Prepaid expenses	12,503	7,000
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>34,611</b>	<b>35,714</b>
<b>Limited Use Assets</b>		
Investments	1,598,775	2,399,671
Furniture & equipment	10,451	10,451
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$1,643,836</b>	<b>\$2,445,836</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable	\$77,918	\$61,592
Accrued expenses and other	(18,671)	8,080
Accrued payroll & related expenses	12,135	11,716
Accrued vacation	4,539	4,539
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>75,921</b>	<b>85,927</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		
Unrestricted	1,567,916	2,359,909
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$1,567,914</b>	<b>\$2,445,836</b>

**TOTAL REVENUES FY09**



**TOTAL EXPENSES FY09**



GESELL INSTITUTE

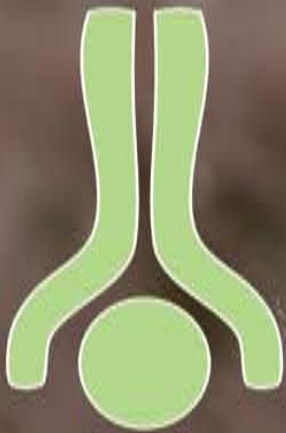


310 Prospect Street  
New Haven, CT 06511



## 2008-2009 Annual Report

Educating and supporting parents and teachers worldwide.



GESELL INSTITUTE

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