



# EARLY CHILDHOOD STUDIES

November 2021, Issue 10

## National American Indian Heritage Month

November is National American Indian Heritage Month. This month we pay tribute to the rich heritage, histories, and contributions of the Chumash who are the owners of the land where our university stands. Interesting facts regarding the Chumash related to children include the games designed to teach sportsmanship and the use of stories to teach young children about their cultural and religious beliefs as well as their relationships with nature (<https://www.wishtoyo.org/cp-chumash-history>) all part of their *funds of knowledge*. Look at this website from the Chumash museum for more information and educational resources

<https://www.chumashmuseum.org/educational-resources>.

**How would you teach young children about the history of the Chumash?**

This is a *tomol* a canoe built from Redwood trees built by the Chumash central to their heritage as they traveled to the islands.



Source: <https://www.nps.gov/chis/learn/historyculture/tomolcrossing.htm>

***El Rinconcito de los Libros de la Dra. Perez***  
**Dr. Perez Book Corner**



November is Native American Heritage month and *“We Are Water Protectors”* written by Carole Lindstrom and illustrated by Michaela Goede (both of Native American descent) is a book that allows young readers to gain insight into Objive culture and the Dakota Access Pipeline protests from a young Native American girl’s perspective. Through the book, children will be able to learn about the significance of water in Objive culture, why it’s important to protect water and the Earth from pollution, and about how activists work to conserve our natural environments and its resources. Early educators can utilize this book to extend young children’s knowledge of Native American cultures, brainstorm how young children can play a role in environmental conservation, and to discuss what our young students can do to become activists themselves, such as co-writing a letter as a class to the appropriate political representatives.



Fact: *Did you know that the Aztecs, Toltecs and Mayans had specific times when they celebrated their loved ones who passed away?*

Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) is typically celebrated on November 1st or 2nd (varies by country) and, *“Yo Recuerdo a Abuelito: Un Cuento del Día de los Muertos (Spanish and English Edition)”* written by Janice Levy and illustrated by Loretta Lopez gives young readers a glimpse into the significance behind celebrating the Day of the Dead. For many in the Latinx community Día de los Muertos is an annual opportunity to celebrate loved ones who have passed. This book invites young learners to explore how different cultures and people within the Latinx community (especially from Mexican and Central American descent) grieve and understand death. Día de los Muertos is seen as an opportunity to celebrate, honor, communicate, and remember loved ones who have passed. This book therefore enables early educators to be inclusive of the cultural norms and traditions that might be celebrated amongst their young Latinx learners and their families. The book also enables educators to support the linguistic assets of both English and Spanish speaking students through the book’s multilingual narrative.

## ECS FEATURED STUDENT: MARIAH MELGOZA



I came to CI as a transfer student from Oxnard College. One of the main reasons I decided to come here is because I loved that this school provided me with the opportunity to pursue my education while staying close to my family. Family is so important to me, and my family dynamic is unique. My Father raised my little brother and I on his own, which meant I as the eldest had to step up to the plate and help raise my little brother. Pursuing my education full time, working full time, and being that mother figure for my little brother has been tough, but being able to go to school close to home has really helped. I am now in my last semester of my undergrad here at CI and can't believe how fast the past two and a half years have passed by. CI has provided me with so much knowledge, and experience working with children in the classroom (also Virtually). After I graduate, I will be continuing my educational journey by transferring to Cal Lutheran to complete the Credential Program and attain my M.A. in Educational Leadership. My ultimate goal is to teach Kindergarten. As my time here at CSUCI is coming to an end, I am so grateful and appreciative of all the knowledge I have gained from my former and current Professors, Mentors, and Colleagues. Also, a big thank you to all those who have supported me along the way, especially my family and my boyfriend. #SoonToBeCSUCIALumna!  
#FirstGenGraduate



## ECS FACULTY HIGHLIGHT



Dear ECS Students,

My name is Carol Paasch and I have been teaching in the field of Special Education since 1973 – I call it the “Dark Ages” because this was even before IDEA was passed into law, before it was even mandatory to educate children with special needs. As a result, I feel I have a unique perspective on how much our profession has grown throughout the years. I remember my first year of teaching with elementary aged children then referred to as EMR (educable mentally retarded – so glad terms have become more respectful!!) that I lost all the eyelashes in one eye from stress. Even my supervisor did not know how to support me. It was a rough beginning for this, at the time, new field in education. Society has become much more mindful that someone with a disability is a person first, with wants, desires, and preferences just as anyone else.

I worked for the Ventura County Office of Education for almost 20 years here in Camarillo, retiring in 2017 but still subbing when I can. I have a credential and MA Degree in Early Childhood Special Education with a concentration in autism. I have learned so much from working with this population and their families. Just observing how a child problem solves will often help to develop activities and strategies to enhance the child’s learning. I am a true believer in inclusion, always having typically developing children in my classroom. It is amazing to watch the growth of all children when they interact with each other in a shared environment. The typical child learns things from the child with an IEP that they never would learn in a gen ed classroom. I have taught here at CSUCI since 2012 in the ECS and SPED Departments. I have learned a great deal while here at CI. I never thought I would be able to teach a class online – but with a lot of support – I have been doing that for several years now!

I was born in Kodiak, Alaska. My father was in the Navy, so we moved just about every 2 years. I spent almost 12 years in Germany as my husband, Wolfgang, is German and both of our children were born in Germany. I also lived in Argentina - one of my most favorite places to live! I have 2 grandchildren. I love to sew and find time to sew every day. It is truly my “Zen” time.

A closing thought:

“Be Kind, for everyone is fighting a hard battle”

Plato

# ECS NEWS

- Welcome Laura Soria our new Early Childhood Administrative Support! Laura will be assisting with different aspects of the program, please welcome her at [laura.soria281@csuci.edu](mailto:laura.soria281@csuci.edu).
- Follow the Roadmap and the CARR to ensure you are on your way to graduation. Contact Dr. Cortez, Chair, if you need more information at [mari.riojas-cortez@csuci.edu](mailto:mari.riojas-cortez@csuci.edu). Go to our website for the roadmap <https://education.csuci.edu/programs/early-childhood-studies.htm>
- This year's Chilfasa Posada is on **Wednesday, December 1<sup>st</sup> from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.** You can find additional details here: [https://csuci.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_2mGwRgXb81FheD4](https://csuci.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2mGwRgXb81FheD4) If you've never attended a Posada, please join it is a lot of fun!

## Job Announcements

### St. Vincent's Early Childhood Education Program

4200 Calle Real Santa Barbara, CA 93110

Hiring Full-time and Part-time teachers, internships available

Send your resume to

Human Resources [HR@sv-sb.org](mailto:HR@sv-sb.org)

### Noah's Ark Preschool

120 Church Rd. Ojai, CA 93023

Preschool Teacher

Part time and Full-time positions

Send Resume to Monica Hayes at [monicanoahsark@gmail.com](mailto:monicanoahsark@gmail.com)

\* Employee's will also receive tuition discounts for their childcare if space is available

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### Child and Youth Programs within Naval base Ventura County

Vacancy Announcement Number NAF-64-21

Job Title, Plan, Series, & Grade Child and Youth Program Assistant, CY-1702-01/02

Location Child & Youth Programs, NBVC

Status Full-Time (35 – 40 hours/wk.)

Rate of Pay \$15.45 - \$18.97 per hour or equivalent salary (includes locality pay)

Opening Date 25 October 2021

Closing Date Open until Filled 2nd cut off: 25 November 2021

Who May Apply Open - Relocation Expenses Not Paid

How to Apply <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/618760400?t=1637365573983>

Announcement closes at 9:00pm PST

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## NEW CDTC Online Child Development Permit Application Option Available

The Child Development Training Consortium (CDTC) is accepting applications for the Child Development Permit Stipend and the ECE Educational Support Grant.

Go to this link to apply for this great opportunity <https://www.childdevelopment.org/>

## Graduate School Opportunities

Interested in Graduate School at CI. Go to this link for more information about the Master of Arts in Education with an emphasis in Curriculum and Instruction

<https://education.csuci.edu/programs/master-arts-education.htm>

Contact Nitzia Castaniero, Graduate Program Counselor at [nitzia.castaniero@csuci.edu](mailto:nitzia.castaniero@csuci.edu)

Or Dr. Jeanne Grier, Chair of Graduate Programs at [jeanne.grier@csuci.edu](mailto:jeanne.grier@csuci.edu)

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Interested in a master's degrees in Child Development, Early Childhood, Law and Policy and others go to the Erikson's Institute Graduate Programs website. ***Financial aid and scholarships available. Some with online options.***

<https://www.erikson.edu/graduate-education/masters-degrees/>

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### PROJECT IDEA scholar at the University of Oregon

Funding is available for scholars' full tuition, fees, books, travel, and ongoing professional development to become a Project IDEA scholar today! Scholars participate in specialized training and mentorship aimed toward serving infants, toddlers, and preschoolers with disabilities from historically marginalized and underserved communities of the United States, including children of color and those who are indigenous, immigrants, and/or who speak languages or language varieties other than standardized American English.

Scholars must commit to attend weekend summer workshops and complete their student practica in Oregon. After graduating, scholars also commit to 2 years of service to children with disabilities for each year of funding received. Scholars in early intervention can complete their master's degrees and obtain licensure while working via [our distance program](#). Due to the nature of the federal funding, only US citizens or permanent residents are eligible to apply.

To be considered, please submit a letter of interest in Project IDEA that (a) describes your personal and/or professional experience, interest, and intent to serve infants, toddlers, and/or preschools with disabilities from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds, and (b) specifies if you identify as a person with a disability, a person of color, a person who speaks a language or language variety other than standardized American English, a person who is the first in their immediate family to graduate college, and/or a person who is a primary caregiver for an individual with disabilities. Through this opportunity, Project IDEA seeks to expand higher education opportunities among students of color, students who speak languages other than English, and students with disabilities. Preference will be given to students who self-identify with these backgrounds. **Send this letter by the general application deadline to Dr. Lauren Cycyk (January 15<sup>th</sup> for speech-language pathology applicants; [lcycyk@uoregon.edu](mailto:lcycyk@uoregon.edu)) or to Dr. Lillian Durán (February 1<sup>st</sup> for early intervention applicants; [lduran@uoregon.edu](mailto:lduran@uoregon.edu)).** Completion of the general application for both programs is also required by the deadline to be considered. For speech-language pathology, see the general application instructions [here](#). For early intervention, the general application instructions are found [here](#). Please feel free to reach out to us with questions!

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**HAVE A HAPPY AND SAFE THANKSGIVING!!!!!!**

**Wear your mask**

**Keep social distance**

**Wash your hands**

**Don't let your guard down!**

**Keep yourself, your family, your friends healthy!!!!!!**

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**Thank you for reading. For more information or questions please email:**

**Professor & Chair: Dr. Mari Riojas-Cortez at [mari.riojas-cortez@csuci.edu](mailto:mari.riojas-cortez@csuci.edu)**

