

# ITLA Conference News

By the ITLA2017NL Committee



Welcome,

*This is our first ITLA Conference News to inform you about the 14<sup>th</sup> International Toy Library Conference 2017 in Leiden, The Netherlands. We are working hard to make this an interesting and varied conference with lots of moments to meet & greet, workshops, excursions and presentations. But we also need you! We need you to make these days happen. We need your experience, network, knowledge, inspiration and enthusiasm. Together we can make it work.*

## Call for Papers: We are looking forward to your contribution

This is an excellent opportunity to present the toy library work in your city, country or continent. Toy libraries need innovation to keep focused on the main subject: the value of play. There are new changes concerning play in the present and in the future. The world is changing fast, so our challenge is to keep play alive!

In your presentation you can show your colleagues the special activities in this matter, considering that play is under pressure now-a-days for different reasons.

Do you want to share knowledge, activities, success stories that have value for other toy libraries, we invite you to respond.

Please post your initiative in one of the following categories on our website:

- Play – playful activities
- Materials – toys, games and educational materials
- People – training, persons encouraging or facilitating toy libraries
- Place – toy libraries, its surroundings and its place in society

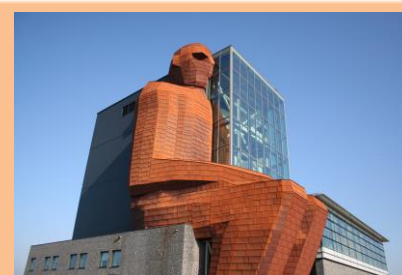
The call for papers deadline is extended to October 21<sup>st</sup> 2016.

Your contribution will be evaluated by a committee

For more information and response: <http://www.itla2017.nl/call-for-papers/>

## News Blog

To introduce you in our world, in this blog a short introduction about Dutch Toy Libraries, their beginning, development and possibilities. The beginning... In the Netherlands, the first toy libraries were started, half way the seventies of last century. The first initiatives originated from parents and institutes for handicapped children. Special toys and adapted materials to play with, were (and are) very expensive. To lent those, was a solution for cooperative use and individual possibilities. Read more? Click [here](#).



### In a special building...

We are organizing the conference in a special building. Corpus is not just a congress centre, but it is also the place where you can make a journey through the human body.



### In an interesting city...

Leiden is our city of children rights! At University Leiden it is possible to get a UNICEF children's rights Degree Master of Laws in Advanced Studies. Located here is also the Defense for Children Right's House. The children's right to play is documented in Article 31 of the UN Convention on the Right of the Child.

### More news?



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## With a special program...

At this moment we want to share a piece of the program for the 14<sup>th</sup> conference of ITLA. We try to contract people as speaker or workshop leader who can tell us new facts about play from different point of views. Things we should know as toy librarians and youth workers. What can we do to keep play alive. What is our task for the community, and is playing changing in this time. For example:

### Mathieu Chielen

*Lector at the Delft University of Technology*

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> 10.30 – 12.00

“Toy design can and will influence play behaviour, so designing toys – just like choosing the right toys – is a way to contribute to children’s wellbeing through play. I would plea for what I call ‘rebellious play’. With this I mean play that supports children’s autonomy; that fuels their experimentation with socially accepted and socially challenged behaviour in play; and that balances social belonging with individual identity-forming.”

### Anne Mijke van Harten

*Owner of Earth Games, development of cooperative games*

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> 10.30 – 12.00

“Earth Games is specialized in cooperative play. In this type of play children learn to play with each other instead of against each other. Every game has a common goal and to complete you have to work together. Children learn to discuss, listen, find solutions, share and think creative. Earth Games develops exactly these kind of games.”

### Irma Smegen

*Trainer at Speel Je Wijs, lecturer at ITEps of Stenden University*

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> 09:30 – 10:15

“ The audience will experience how hand-puppets can build bridges to the world as young children experience it. Stories acted out by the puppets will awaken the children’s curiosity and this motivates them to go on to discover the world. Puppets link fantasy to reality, encourage the ability to empathize as well as stimulate the imagination and children will grow to love the puppets just as much as we do.”

### Marije Magito

*Founder of the Young Child Centre, educational services and training*

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> 15.00 – 16.30

“In Holland we say children need ‘peace, purity and regularity’. For parents this means a baby needs rest to grow. The opposite is true, a baby needs stimulants to grow and develop healthy. Parents have an important role in this matter. They are the ones offering the stimulant. In my workshop I will tell you what and how, but also how to avoid overstimulation. And... how can a toy library contribute.”

### Martin van Rooijen

*PhD Candidate University of Humanistic Studies*

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> 13:30 – 15:00

“An introduction will be giving to the theory of loose parts and the benefits of this play coming from recent research. The value of risk in play is given attention related to the possibilities of loose parts play in practice. An example of a loose parts play intervention is presented, with experiences of children, parents and supervisors.”

### Femmy Brug

*A degree in child development, yoga teacher*

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> 10.30 – 12.00

“In this interactive workshop participants will experience the possibilities of practicing yoga and yoga techniques with children using play, songs and stories. Yoga for children has great possibilities to enable children to connect with their bodies, their minds, nature, the world in which we live and the connection with others. participants will go away with theory, background and lots of ideas which they can implement .”

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## Workshops and speakers

Because the conference is seven months ahead the program of the conference is not complete at this moment. So from now on we inform you on a regular basis our new results of the organization. Of course all news will be shared on our website [www.itla2017.nl](http://www.itla2017.nl) and on our different social media.

## Excursions

We give you the opportunity to visit toy libraries in The Netherlands. We organize different tours on Thursday and Friday. In The Netherlands we have different kind of toy libraries and we want to show you some of them. Each tour visits three toy libraries and during lunchtime we make a stop at a very typical Dutch place. You can choose one tour for one full day.

## And much more...

Beside workshops, readings and presentations we provide time for roundtable discussions, play and time to meet each other. And last but not least, during the conference the General Assembly of ITLA takes place, the link persons meetings, the continental meetings, and a toy fair on Saturday.

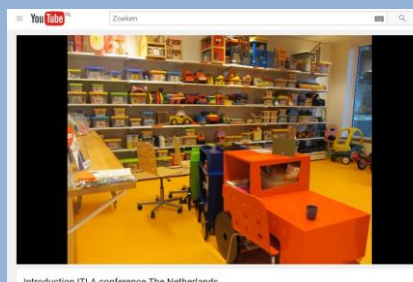
You can already register as a participant on our website: <http://www.itla2017.nl/registration/>. Later on you will be approached to select your choice of workshop, excursion, et cetera.



## Introducing you ITLA 2017 The Netherlands...

In this short video we show you our toy libraries, our national toy library association and our country. Click [here](#) to watch the full video.

Play open your world!



## Colofon

Irma van Dijk  
Valerie Verkaart

News Blog by Marianne de Valck

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