



infant massage usa
"It's amazing!"

Tender Loving Care

August 2013

Thoughts to Share

We are happy to announce that Infant Massage USA® has a new Executive Director. Mercedes Del Castillo has accepted the position. She is a very personable and dynamic person. She left the for-profit world to devote her energies to help shore up non-profits in the Los Angeles area during the economic down turn. Mercedes now has the opportunity to focus nationally and joins Infant Massage USA® with a great passion for our mission to share Infant Massage with all families. We all look forward to her imprint on our chapter.

Welcome Mercedes Del Castillo!

*Angela Rau, MS,
CEIM*

President of the Board

The Tao of Motherhood by Vimala McClure

Perspective

**Remember, you and your child
are travelers through infinite time.
How you interact is important
enough to change lifetimes of
karma; yet it is an insignificant
drop in the ocean of relationship
through which you both move.**

**Keep in mind the endless nature of
of being, and your journey will
gain perspective.**

**Fussy Baby Network
Training**

News of the Month

Erikson Institute's Fussy Baby Network® and Infant Massage USA® are partnering to offer a one-of-a-kind 2-day, advanced training continuing education workshop for CEIMs.

Participants will learn the Fussy Baby Network's FAN approach to parent engagement. The FAN approach offers professionals a framework to guide interactions with parents, particularly when parents have an urgent concern about their baby and/or are experiencing high levels of stress. In this two day advanced training, CEIMs will gain skills to support parents in their Infant Massage classes who are experiencing early regulation issues such as excessive crying, disrupted sleep, feeding issues or general fussiness. Training in the FAN approach guides professionals to understand what might be most helpful to parents in the moment, and how to respond in a way that matches their baby's needs. Additionally, this advanced training will provide Infant Massage Educators with more insight into infant regulation based on Heidi Als' Synactive Theory of Development.

Expand your knowledge and expertise to support families!

October 23 and 24, 2013
9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Erikson Institute
451 North LaSalle, Chicago, IL
60654-4510

Presenters: Linda Gilkerson,
Marsha Baker and Jennifer
Hofherr
Cost \$325 prior to October
10, 2013, after October 10,



The work of Berry T. Brazelton has unquestionably been one of the greatest influences on our current understanding of the needs and development of babies. In this interview, “Dr. Brazelton On Guiding Parents And Learning To Listen”, Dr. Brazelton (now 95 years old, and still working) explains where it all began, as an eight-year old boy on his grandmother's porch. [Read the full article.](#)

1 in 5 children suffer mental illness. Should parents worry, and what's being done?

Mental health issues in children are increasing. One in five kids now suffer from a mental disorder, according to a recent [report](#) from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

These mental health disorders include commonly known illnesses like depression or ADHD. But there are also mental health issues that are rarely associated with elementary schoolers, like Obsessive Compulsive Disorder.

[Read More.](#)

\$350.

Space is limited for this workshop. Register early.

To register or for more information contact:

Margaret Reardon, MReardon@Erikson.edu

Also Making News

~ Advice about parenting from the British government is being described as "corrosive" and "harmful" by some academics. [Read more.](#)

~ The American Academy of Pediatrics is asking Paediatricians to screen infants for signs of toxic stress. [Read more.](#)

Model Explains Crucial Links Among Looking, Learning, and Memory

Researchers at the University of Iowa have documented an activity by infants that begins nearly from birth: They learn by taking inventory of the things they see.

In a new paper, the psychologists contend that infants create knowledge by looking at and learning about their surroundings. The activities should be viewed as intertwined, rather than considered separately, to fully appreciate how infants gain knowledge and how that knowledge is seared into memory.



“The link between looking and learning is much more intricate than what people have assumed,” says John Spencer, a psychology professor at the UI and a co-author on the paper published in the journal *Cognitive Science*.

[Read More](#)

More Items of Interest

~ Babies who "fail to thrive" at a younger age are more likely to catch up to their peers, than older low-weight babies. [Read More](#)

~ Babies have less complex visual processing brain circuitry, except when it comes to faces: which

A Short Primer on Skin-to-Skin

That first cuddle with your newborn is a magical time, but did you know it's also an important time for the health of both mum and baby?



There's plenty of research to support the benefits of skin-to-skin contact immediately after birth and beyond. It is said to impact positively on parent-baby bonding, breastfeeding and baby's health.

So what exactly is skin-to-skin and why is it important?

Skin-to-skin contact is when a naked baby is placed tummy-down on the mother's (or father's) bare chest. When this is done immediately after the baby is born there is said to be many benefits for both mum and baby.

[Read More.](#)

Rally4Babies

Rally4Babies: Learning Happens from the Start is a national virtual baby rally that will mobilize people across the country to demand that early learning investments begin with babies and toddlers.

they process with the complexity of an adult brain. [Read More](#)

~ A baby's hunger cries elicit different sorts of responses in men's and women's brains. [Read More](#)

Have you found us on Facebook? Come Join us!

Get additional information through the Infant Massage USA Facebook page.

A virtual baby rally was streamed live July 8 on YouTube using Google+ Hangouts on Air, and featured prominent speakers in a live program about why we need our early learning policies to begin at birth. You can [watch](#) the rally from wherever you are by accessing YouTube.

Shop Amazon for your back to school needs and support IMUSA.

Just link through Infant Massage USA homepage to amazon and shop for all of your needs. Best of all IMUSA will receive a percentage of purchase. Thanks for your support.

We want to thank the Australia Chapter to the International Association of Infant Massage for their work in collecting much of the information in this newsletter.

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Knowledgement for information found in the IAIM Australia Chapter May newsletter.

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