



October 3, 2005

To Early Childhood Practitioners and Event Directors:

Our 2005 Early Childhood Conference at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville featured Kathy Poelker, with Look At Me Productions, Algonquin, Illinois, as our Keynote Speaker. Our conference drew over 350 participants, and all of them were actively engaged in Kathy's presentation on "Amazing Musical Moments." This was evident as I saw everyone following along as Kathy led us in songs during her presentation – energized by her enthusiasm and obvious commitment to children and early childhood education.

To wrap up the keynote, Kathy sang her new release "Through the Eyes of a Child," a CD she was working on while we prepared for our conference. We were taken with this tribute to the dedicated people who work with young children, and arranged with Kathy to provide a CD of the song for each conference participant. Our Conference Coordinator prepared a PowerPoint presentation that cycled through photographs of children, while Kathy sang the song. It was a powerful and emotional experience for all of us – as we reflected on the valuable role early childhood professionals play in the lives of our children, our families, and our world.

Kathy not only delivered the Keynote Address, she also facilitated three other breakout sessions, sharing with as many people as possible her knowledge and experience with song, movement, music games, dance and drama for children. Conference attendees gave all of her presentations excellent ratings and positive comments on the sessions – for the fun they had learning with her, and for the value of what they learned.

It was delightful working with Kathy – planning her presentations for the 2005 conference, meeting Kathy and her husband when they arrived in Platteville for the event, and working with both of them throughout the day as Kathy moved from session to session and John staffed their exhibit booth. Whenever I spoke with Kathy, I felt that she was making a personal commitment to our conference and that she would do anything she could to help make it a success. Her commitment played out during the entire day – Kathy made her involvement with the event fun and entertaining, as well as educational, and infused the conference with an upbeat tone.

I highly recommend Kathy Poelker as a keynote presenter and facilitator for early childhood conferences, seminars, classes, and other events – without reservation. Please contact me if you have questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marian Maciej-Hiner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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