


RIAM Symposium | Programme

Department of Preschool Education and Educational Design (TEPAES)
University of the Aegean – Rhodes

 Hybrid format (in person & via Zoom)



Rhodes, Greece 2025

<https://www.pse.aegean.gr/riam-seminar/>

Tuesday, 13 May 2025

09:00–09:30 | Welcome - 🖐️ Opening Remarks ERUA Office, University of The Aegean

09:30–10:00 | Chairs: Dr. Maria Argyriou & Dr. Nikos Tapsis, University of the Aegean

Session 1: Introducing the Arts@Matter Research Cluster: Universities and Research Laboratories in Collaborative Action Venue: Videoconference Hall, Kleovoulos Building

10:00–10:20 | Keynote: Prof. Panagiotis J. Stamatis, University of the Aegean “The Art of Communication in the Context of Arts Education”

10:20 – 11.30 | Chair: Prof. Panagiotis J. Stamatis, University of the Aegean

Session 2: Technological Innovations and Networking

- **Marius Kalinauskas, Jolanta Pivorienė, Odeta Merfeldaitė:** Gamification design for meaningful aesthetical experiences in education, Faculty of Human and Social Sciences, Mykolas Romeris
- **Aristidis Ilias:** Artificial Intelligence and Technological Revolutions, University of Patras
- **Nikos Tapsis:** Training the Trainers: Building Digital Competencies for Inclusive and Equitable E-Learning Environment, University of The Aegean

11:30-12.00 | Coffee break

12:00–13:00 | Chair: Jolanta Pivorienė, Mykolas Romeris University, Vilnius, Lithuania

Session 3: Presentation of Participating Institutions, Research Laboratories & independent researchers Venue: Videoconference Hall, Kleovoulos Building

- **Jolanta Pivorienė:** Presentation of Faculty of Human and Social Sciences, Mykolas Romeris University, Vilnius, Lithuania (Vice-Dean) (10')
- **Polina Mihova:** Presentation of Health Care and Social Work Department, New Bulgarian University (Head) (10')
- **Guillem Escorihuela:** Introduction to the Department of Didactics of Physical, Artistic and Music Education, University of Valencia, Valencia, Spain: “iMUSED: Exploring Research Activities and Academic Interests in Music Education within European Project Framework” (10')
- **Eliona Lici:** Presentation of Department of Education, School of Humanities, University of Vlora “Ismail Qemali”, Albania (10')
- **Margherita Bergamo Meneghini:** Introduction to the Scènes du Monde Laboratory, Université Paris 8 (10')
- **Kristell Grandet:** Presentation of the EDESTA Doctoral School, Université Paris 8 (10')

13.30 – 14.15 | Workshop 1: Strengthening Arts@Matter Research Practices: Information Literacy and Scholarly Resource Access

Venue: Rhodes Library Branch, University of The Aegean - Facilitator: **Maria Koza**, Rhodes Library Branch, University of The Aegean

14:15–15:15 | Lunch Break (Access to the University Student Dining Room)

15:30–17:30 | Chair: Dr. Maria Argyriou, University of the Aegean

15:30–16:00 | Keynote: Markus Cslovjecssek, Professor Emeritus, School of Education, University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland

16.00 – 17.30 | Workshop 2: Advancing Collaborative Arts@Matter Research: Highlights, Thematic Synergies, and Networking Pathways (Highlights of Current Research Initiatives, Shared Thematic Axes and Collaborative Goals, Open Discussion, Networking & funding Opportunities)

- **Zaharoula Karava & Alexandra Nikolaou:** Presentation of Directorate of Primary Education of Corinth, Greece

Reflections & Conclusion of the First Day's Proceedings of the Symposium

Wednesday, 14 May 2025

09:00–10:30 | Chair: Eliona Lici, Lecturer, Department of Education, School of Humanities, University of Vlora “Ismail Qemali” (Albania) & University of Arts (Tirana)

Session 4: Arts and Pedagogical Innovation: Creative Engagement, and Socio-Emotional Development

Papers included:

- **Kanellou, Dimitra**: Enhancing Preschool Music Education through Distance Training: Pedagogical Innovation, Creative Integration, and Socio-Emotional Development
- **Panou, Eirini**: Exploring Preschool Musical Engagement through the Flow Experience Model: Gender Stereotypes, Cognitive Responses, and Practice-Based Research in Arts Education
- **Rogdaki, Despoina**: Assessing Pedagogical Competence in Early Childhood Music Education: An Action Research Study on Undergraduate Students’ Design and Implementation of Music Micro-Activities
- **Tsakou, Eleni & Menegatou, Anna**: Empowering Early Childhood through Emancipatory Music Pedagogy: A Flow-Based Study at Kindergarten №117 “Nadezhda”, Bulgaria

10:30–11:00 | Keynote: Associate Prof. Eleni Nikolaou, University of The Aegean

“The Role of Art in Promoting Children’s Mental Health and Wellbeing: A Developmental and Educational Perspective”

11:00–11:30 | Coffee Break

11:30–13:30 | Keynote & Chair: Associate Prof. Assimina Tsidaki, Department of Primary School Education, School of Humanities, University of the Aegean **“Approaching Painting through Roles and Colours: A Theatre-Pedagogical Arts Programme for Young Adults with Intellectual Disabilities”**

Session 5: Arts/Music and Inclusive Education: Supporting Special Needs, Community Engagement, and Social Well-Being

This session addresses the transformative role of music education in fostering inclusivity, emotional well-being, and community engagement among children with diverse developmental and social backgrounds. Case studies highlight the contribution of music-based interventions in promoting psychosocial, communicative, and psychomotor development in both structured and intercultural early childhood settings.

Papers included:

- **Lici, Eliona· Avdulaj & Lamaj**: Music Education as a Catalyst for Psychosocial and Psychomotor Development in Inclusive Classrooms: Evidence from Albanian Schools
- **Siolou, Afroditi**: Music and Early Childhood Engagement in Military Preschool Settings: An Action Research Study on Social Development through Music Education
- **Zeliou, Ioanna - Maria & Petsalaki, Maria**: Critical Reflections and Good European Practices: Music, Inclusion, and Early Childhood Education in the Context of ERUA Mobility

13:30–14:00 | Round Table Discussion

14:00–15:00 | Lunch Break (Access to the University Student Dining Room)

15:30–16:30 | Chair: Nikos Tapsis, University of The Aegean

Session 6: Arts/Music, Cultural Awareness, and Intercultural Dialogue in Early Childhood Education

Papers included:

- **Luna Xinlu Zheng:** The impacts of early childhood musical experiences on the digital identity development of female genre-crossing composers: lives across cultures
- **Kapasakalidi Illiana:** Music as a Medium for Cultural Awareness and Inclusivity in Early Childhood Education: An Experiential Approach
- **Vasilaki, Pelagia· Vasileiou, Paraskevi· Valionti, Sofia· Moschovaki, Dimitra:** Inclusive Music Education in Preschool Settings: An Erasmus+ Focus Group Study on Undergraduate Experiences and Social Impact
- **Zagkavierou, Evangelia:** Exploring Cultural Understanding through Global Musical Traditions: A Textual Analysis of World Music Pedagogy

16:30–17:30 | Keynote & Chair: Assistant Professor, Dimitra V. Katsarou, University of The Aegean

“Reducing Anxiety in Children with Dyslexia Through Art-Based Cognitive Behavioral Intervention: A Pre-Post Study”


Session 7. Enhancing Cognitive and Emotional Capacities through Arts/Music in Early Childhood

Papers included:

- **Mantsos, Evangelos:** Movement and Joy: A Pilot Study on Dance-Based Intervention for Preschoolers with Early-Onset Parkinson’s Disease
- **Theodoropoulou, Marianna:** Music as a Catalyst for Mnemonic Enhancement in Preschool Education: Parameters, Processes, and Educational Applications
- **Kiousi, Georgia:** Fostering Confidence and Competence through Differentiated Musical Pedagogy in Early Childhood: An Action Research

17:30–18:00 | Coffee Break

18:00–19:00 | Plenary Session – Cluster Feedback & Research Roadmap: Arts, Inclusion and Policy

 Collaborative work by thematic strand

- **Formulation of future research questions/networking**
- **Discussion on next steps for Arts@Matter ERUA Research Cluster**
- **Closing Remarks**

19:30–21:00 | Closing Gathering, Old Town of Rhodes