



THE AFRICA REGGIO EMILIA ALLIANCE (AREA)

2026 Online Symposium on the Language of Drawing co-promoted by
REGGIO CHILDREN



Unlock the Language of Children's Drawing The Secret Power of Graphic Expression

Explore **drawing** as a powerful language for **children's** thinking, expression, learning, curiosity, imagination, and meaning-making.

1 SEPTEMBER – 13 OCTOBER 2026

What's included?

Webinars

Three pre-recorded webinars and a live interactive online session with **Maddalena Tedeschi**, President of Reggio Children, in Reggio Emilia, Italy, and **Sara De Poi**, atelierista and video documentation creator.

Recordings available throughout the symposium period.

Live online session

Tuesday, 22 September 2026, 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm (SAST)

Connect online with Reggio Emilia; recording available until **13 October**.

Why join?

Inspired by Reggio Children's exhibition *The Pleasures of Drawing – the visual thinking of children*, this symposium invites educators to deepen their understanding of drawing as a living language. The presentations will be in Italian and will be translated into English.

Topics include

- **Webinar 1 with Maddalena Tedeschi**

INVENTIONS IN DRAWING

This webinar looks at drawing as a powerful, essential* language going back to the earliest days of humanity. It is expressive and poetic, often linked to verbal language, but it can also reveal ideas before words are formed. A mark (segno) and a drawing (disegno) become traces of our identity and points of view as we relate to others and the world around us.

*in the sense of being both indispensable and containing an essence.

- **Webinar 2 with Sara De Poi**

THE PLEASURE OF DRAWING. THE VISUAL THINKING OF CHILDREN

This webinar looks at the language of drawing and analyses drawings by children from 0-10 years. It



explores how the language of drawing helps children to think, make choices, and build ideas, revealing what children show through their drawings as they create them.

- **Webinar 3 with Maddalena Tedeschi**

IMAGINE A FOREST

This webinar shares a project on trees as natural connectors of the Earth, from the infant-toddler centres and preschools of Reggio Emilia. Children explored trees through marks and drawings. The project involved the whole city and led to a public exhibition in the main square of Reggio Emilia's historic centre.

Live interactive session: Share questions, reflections, and comments in a 90-minute interactive session with Maddalena Tedeschi and Sara De Poi.

PLEASE NOTE:

After registering below, participants will receive an invoice for R200 within 2 business days. Proof of payment with your name and surname as the beneficiary reference must be emailed to admin@reggio.co.za. Registrations will be confirmed, and further information and instructions will be emailed on receipt of your proof of payment.

R200 per registration, all-inclusive

For more information, email admin@reggio.co.za

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