

May 2015 Newsletter

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The Touchstone Center's May Newsletter

Greetings,

As part of my recent talk to students and faculty of the vibrant [Education Department at Wheaton College](#) on April 27, I concluded with a short piece entitled [A Credo for Our Teaching](#). I share it again with the hopes that it will speak to our individual and collective efforts to keep alive, both for children and ourselves, the decisive role of play, wonder, imagination, and the arts within all aspects of our teaching and learning.

Last week I had the pleasure of attending a reception for Joanne Stroud's new book [Gaston Bachelard: An Elemental Reverie on the World's Stuff](#), a sensitive and engaging reflection on the writings of this important 20th century philosopher of the imagination and poetic image. Included in the book, published by [The Dallas Institute of Humanities and Culture](#), is a chapter entitled *Gaston Bachelard and Childhood Education*. It is based on the talk Joanne gave at *The Necessity of Childhood* conference, sponsored by the Touchstone Center in association with Wave Hill and the Bank Street College of Education in 2005.

Earlier in the month, I was delighted to meet with Nancy Gill, who came to New York City from her home in Washington State. Nancy continues her important

work with children who are often thought to be unteachable, and has, in turn, written about her teaching in her insightful book [*Helping Kids Hope: A Teacher Explores the Need for Meaning in Our Schools and Our Lives*](#).

Best,

Richard

Richard Lewis
Touchstone Center for Children
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