

**ANNA BERESIN, Ph.D.**

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**APPOINTMENTS**

**University of the Arts**  
Professor

Philadelphia, PA  
Psychology and Folklore  
Critical Studies, Liberal Arts  
2015-Present

Associate Professor

Liberal Arts, 2005-2015

Assistant Professor

Liberal Arts, 1999-2005

Lindback Distinguished  
Teaching Award

2004

**Sarah Lawrence College**  
Guest Faculty

Bronxville, NY  
Psychology, Fall 2021

**Bryn Mawr College**  
Guest Faculty

Bryn Mawr, PA  
Psychology, Fall 2021

**Rutgers University**  
Visiting Professor

Camden, NJ  
Graduate Program Childhood  
Studies, 2011-2017

**University of Pennsylvania**  
Visiting Professor

Philadelphia, PA  
Liberal and Professional  
Studies, 2005-2017

Department of Folklore  
1994-2004

## EDUCATION

**University of Pennsylvania**, Philadelphia, PA

Ph.D. Folklore and Folklife

Ph.D. Psychology of Education, Child Cultures

Joint degree, conferred with distinction, 1993

Phi Delta Kappa Award for Outstanding Dissertation, 1994

Spencer Foundation Dissertation Fellowship Award, 1992

**Harvard University**, Cambridge, MA

M.Ed. Human Development, Interactive Technology

Graduate School of Education, 1986

**Tufts University**, Jackson College, Medford, MA

B.A. summa cum laude

Dual major, Child Study and Sociology, 1983

## PUBLICATIONS

### Books

Beresin, A. and Bishop, J. (Eds.) 2023. *Play in a COVID frame: Everyday pandemic creativity in a time of isolation*. Cambridge, UK: Open Book Publishers.

Beresin, A. 2019. *The character of play*. Washington DC: Council for Spiritual and Ethical Education.

Herrmann, Brigitta, Fischbeck, Manfred, Sinaico, Elia & Beresin, Anna. 2018. *Group Motion in practice*. 2018. Jefferson, NC: McFarland Press.

Beresin, A. 2014. *The art of play: Recess and the practice of invention*. Philadelphia, PA: Temple University Press.

Beresin, A. 2010. *Recess battles: Playing, fighting, and storytelling*. Jackson: University Press of Mississippi.

Winner of the Iona and Peter Opie Award, American Folklore Society.

### Articles and Chapters

Beresin, A. In press. Unequal resources: Space, time, and loose parts and what to do with an uneven playing field. In Olga Jarrett & Vera Stenhouse (Eds.). *Play and social justice*. Peter Lang.

Beresin, A. 2023. 'This is the ambulance, this truck.' Covid as frame, theme and provocation. In Beresin and Bishop (eds). *Play in a Covid frame: Everyday pandemic creativity in a time of isolation*. Open Book Publishers. 167-190.

Beresin, A. 2023. Techno-mischief: Negotiating exaggeration online in quarantine. In Beresin and Bishop (eds). *Play in a Covid frame: Everyday pandemic creativity in a time of isolation*. Open Book Publishers. 371-394.

Beresin, A. 2021. A more serious introduction: A critique of the inherent racism in the play theory of Yrjö Hirn. Special Issue Editor: The *International Journal of Play*.

Beresin, A. 2019. Brian Sutton-Smith's views on play. With Fraser Brown & Michael Patte. In P. K. Smith & J. L. Roopnarine (Eds.). *The Cambridge handbook of play: Developmental and disciplinary perspectives*. 383-398.

Beresin, A. 2019. Play signals, play moves: A gorilla critique of play theory. With Kristen Farley-Rambo, Gorilla Keeper of the Philadelphia Zoo. *International Journal of Play*, March. 322-337.

Beresin, A. 2019. Review of *Prehistoric games of North American Indians subarctic to Mesoamerica*. B. Voorhies, (Ed.). University of Utah Press. *Western Folklore Review*. Vol. 78 Vo. 2/3.

Beresin, A. 2018. O.P.: Collection as celebration of children's self-organized play. Essay in honor of the work of I. and P. Opie. In Julia Bishop & June Factor, (Eds.). *The lifework and legacy of Iona and Peter Opie: Research into children's play*. London: Routledge. 321- 325.

Beresin, A. 2018. Sound ideas: A folk arts response to taboo rhythm games at school. *Journal of Folklore and Education*. Vol. 5, Issue 2. Winner of the Dorothy Howard Award, American Folklore Society.

Beresin, A. 2016. Playing with time. *International Journal of Play*, Reprint, Fifth Anniversary Issue, February 2017. 159-165.

Beresin, A. 2015. Inventing the discipline while you break it down: An essay in honor of Brian Sutton-Smith. *Children's Folklore Review*. (37), 2015.

Beresin, A. 2015. Pen tapping: Forbidden folklore. *Journal of Folklore and Education*. (2).

Beresin, A. 2015. Playgrounds. In Simon Bronner & Cindy Dell Clark, (Eds.).

*Youth cultures in America*. Santa Barbara: ABC- CLIO.

Beresin, A. 2012. Play counts: Pedometers and the case for recess. *International Journal of Play*. August. Issue 1 (2). 131-138.

Beresin, A. 2012. Play. *Oxford bibliographies on-line*. Oxford University Press.

Beresin, A. 2010. Children's museums and children's bodies. In Drew Chappell (Ed.). *Children under construction*. Peter Lang. 127- 128.

Beresin, A. 2009. Charades. In R. P. Carlisle (Ed.). *Encyclopedia of play*. Sage.

Beresin, A. 2009. Teasing. In R. P. Carlisle (Ed.). *Encyclopedia of play*. Sage.

Beresin, A. 2004. School power, children's play, and the timing of recess violence. In Myrdene Anderson, (Ed.). *The cultural shaping of violence*. Purdue University. 18-23.

Beresin, A. 2002. Children's expressive culture in the light of 9/11/01. *Anthropology and Education Quarterly*. Special Issue. 33 (3). 331-337.

Beresin, A. 1997. Folk games. In Thomas Green (Ed.). *Folklore: An encyclopedia of forms, methods and history*. ABC-CLIO. 393-401.

Beresin, A. 1997. Folk toys. In Thomas Green (Ed.). *Folklore: An encyclopedia of forms, methods and history*. ABC-CLIO. 494-499.

Beresin, A. 1996. 'Sui' generis: Mock violence in an urban school yard. *Children's Folklore Review*. 18 (2) Spring. 25-35.

Beresin, A. 1995. Double dutch and double cameras: Studying the transmission of culture in an urban school yard. In Brian Sutton-Smith et al (Eds.). *Children's folklore: A source book*. Garland Press. 75-91.

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE/ INNOVATION**

**Fulbright Scholar** University of Sheffield, UK. Spring 2024

**Co-Editor** *International Journal of Play*,  
By Invitation. 2016- Present

**Co-Founding Scholar** Global Recess Alliance.  
Post COVID-19 Research  
April 2020- Present

**Curriculum Specialist**

Autism Program, LEGO Snapology  
King of Prussia, PA, 2019

**Founding Co-Director**

NEUARTS: Neighborhood  
Engagement at The University of the  
Arts, 2014-2019

Esri ArcGIS Grant Award, 2018  
Fortune Foundation, 2018, 2017  
Zeldin Foundation, 2018-2014  
Beneficial Foundation, 2017  
Harry Chapin Foundation, 2017  
Dolfinger Foundation, 2016

**Founding Director**

Recess Access, 2010-2014

University of the Arts Grant, 2010  
Society for American Music, 2010

**Conference Papers, Selected**

"Three Communities in One City: Inequitable Play Spaces During Covid." The  
Association for the Study of Play. Virtual Presentation. May 2023

Discussant, "Pandemic Play Experiences: Practices/ Activities/  
Objects/ Texts," Play Observatory Virtual Conference. January 2022

"Techno Mischief: A Micro-ethnographic Study of Virtual Play During COVID,"  
*Creativity during the COVID Lockdown: Life and Renewal During the Pandemic.*  
Folklore Society and Royal Anthropological Institute. October 2021

"Play and Social Justice," Invited Speaker, Alonzo A. Crim Center for Urban  
Educational Excellence. Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA. November 2020

"Play Theory," Invited Keynote, Digital Playwork Conference. Virtual, London, UK.  
June 2020

"A New Child Normal: Health, Play, and the Great Indoors in Philadelphia," Panel  
sponsored by the Society for Medical Anthropology. American Anthropology  
Association. Vancouver, BC. November 2019

"Recess and Social Justice: A Call for Advocacy," Panel: Play and Social Justice. The Association for the Study of Play. Harrisonburg, VA. March 2019

"It/Not It: Playing with Sutton-Smith's Concept of Dialudics," Harrisonburg, VA. March 2019

"Migrations Imagined," Panel on Children, Families, and Migration: Adapting, Imagining, and Resisting. American Anthropology Association. San Jose, CA. November 2018

## **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

- children's expressive cultures
- language, play and creativity
- play and social justice
- microethnography