



## ***Dimensions of Early Childhood***

**Theme: *Sweet Home Celebrations***

**Call for Manuscripts**

**Special Issue 2026**

**Guest Editors: Zlata Stankovic-Ramirez and Maria Rutherford**

**Submissions due: August 31, 2025**

Celebrations continue as a universally shared experience in society. Many are the moments turned into special celebrations at home and with families everywhere. Whether they annually held celebrations or spontaneous ones, they are opportunities marking experiences, events, and accomplishments of special significance to children and families. Celebrations *remain* as a central experience transmitting traditions and values to the child (Tomasello, 2016). They are also experiences that help us in understanding the lived experiences of children (Rogoff et al., 2018).

Because of the importance of celebrations have in the experience of childhood, we are seeking manuscripts with a practitioner and reflective focus that explore and address developmentally based practices for children in early childhood classrooms and programs. The special issue welcomes submissions addressing the role and significance of celebrations for children in the context of their classroom, family and community. Experiences addressing celebrations responding to children's varied contextual realities and heritage and their developmental implications are welcomed.

Authors of manuscripts selected for publication in the special issue will be invited to participate in a panel session at the 2026 SECA Conference scheduled for January 22-24 in Huntsville, Alabama. Conference registration will be waived for authors participating in the panel.

Possible topics include the following as well as other related ones:

### **Suggested Topics**

Role of celebrations during early childhood	Developmental significance of family celebrations
Celebrations and young children's family experiences: Reflective and responsive practices	Need for honoring family celebrations: Developmental implications

Exploration of distinct types of celebrations at home and with families	Family celebrations and the significance of rituals and practices
Learning opportunities through family celebrations	Social functions of home celebrations in children's development
Celebrations across the varied contextual realities and experience of children and families	Celebrations and family engagement opportunities

- Manuscripts should be 10-20 pages including references, double-spaced, and follow APA 7<sup>th</sup>; include supportive references not to exceed 10-12 sources.
- Submit your manuscript as a Word document and include a cover sheet.
- **Send your manuscript via email to [editor@seca.info](mailto:editor@seca.info)**
- For more details on manuscript requirements, please go to [Dimensions | SECA](#)

#### References:

- Rogoff, B., Dahl, A. & Callahan, M. (2018). The importance of understanding children's lived experience. *Developmental Review*, 50, Part A, 5-15.
- Tomasello, M. (2016). The ontogeny of cultural learning. *Current Opinion in Psychology* 8, 1-4.