

About Suzanne

Suzanne P. Reese earned her Bachelor of Arts in Child Development from California State University, Northridge (CSUN) in 1995. That same year, she began her career as a massage therapist, completing the foundation for her career. Although she formally left her work in social services in 1997, she continues working with infants, parents & families through her partnership with The International Association of Infant Massage - Sweden and Infant Massage USA.

Suzanne's role in the field of Infant Massage is as an International Educator, Trainer and Humanitarian. Suzanne leads a 4-day comprehensive workshop. Students who complete the certification process go on to be parent educators, guiding parents and families through the process of healthy bonding and attachment through nurturing and compassionate touch. The benefits are far reaching in the areas of the developing brain, body and psychosocial elements of the child.

Suzanne's comprehensive knowledge base, her passion for this work, her integrative approach, the integrity of her commitment to her students and her energetic presentation is what make her courses and presentation educational, inspiring and fun. She is confident that, together, we can help create more compassionate communities worldwide.

In an effort to maintain up-to-date and continue offering her students and audience current and comprehensive information and experiences, Suzanne pursues further studies and focuses on areas that best suit the needs of her students and clients and meet her own interests. She pursues a variety of concentrations and modalities that overlap to create a balanced & comprehensive knowledge base for an advanced and integrative approach.

As a result, Suzanne is a licensed and registered Holistic Health Practitioner (HHP) and has earned National Certification in Therapeutic Massage & Bodywork (NCBTMB). Suzanne is also a Registered Yoga Teacher with Yoga Alliance.

Suzanne's primary role is as an International Educator and Trainer of Infant Massage. She trains clinicians, practitioners and laypersons around the world as Parent Educators of Infant Massage - either adding to and complimenting the individual's area of existing work or helping them develop a whole new direction in their service to infants and families. Suzanne presents at national and international conferences to expand the awareness and knowledge of infant massage as an age-old practice that is scientifically validated as a way to nurture the love our children are born to share. The bells and whistles of infant massage are the list of clinical benefits that can't be ignored. There is so much to get excited about as we learn more about the infant, and the real responsibility we have, as adults, to acknowledge and nurture the potentials of absolute brilliance within each child. It's simply what being human is about.

Suzanne's most recent service to children includes her humanitarian work with the Chernobyl Children's Project International - Ireland (CCPI). In October 2005, Suzanne joined the first United States medical team to take their skills to the Vesnova Children's Asylum in Belarus. Suzanne was the first person to introduce baby massage to the Project and the first to take it to Belarus with CCPI. Successful results became apparent in one week and are still apparent today. Suzanne returned on her second 2-week mission in February and March of 2006. It was at the tail end of that mission that a writer and photojournalist representing People Magazine joined Suzanne and her fellow volunteers to feature the work being done there. The result was a 6-page article in the April 24, 2006 issue of People Magazine. Suzanne returned to Belarus for her third humanitarian mission in August 2006 to continue her service to these children and families in the most radioactive contaminated country on our planet.

Suzanne returned to Belarus for her fourth humanitarian mission in October 2007.

April 2006 marked the release of Suzanne's book: *Baby Massage - Soothing Strokes For Healthy Growth*. Viking Press. Look for it on bookstore shelves!

September 2008 marked the release of Suzanne's CD: *Talk To Me - Happy Tunes For Healthy Growth*. Pacific Coast Jazz/That Other Label. This release of this CD was much anticipated. Suzanne has been singing and songwriting original songs to accompany her work in infant massage for years. After much encouragement and support from students and colleagues, *Talk To Me* became a reality. To hear sound bytes of the songs, see more on this site.

Her formal training includes the following:

- CSUN - Relevant Coursework: Anatomy, Biology, Psychology, Chemistry, Prenatal & Infant Development, Child Growth & Development, Behavior Disorders, Psychological Aspects of Parenting, Modern Family Management, Speech, Speech Pathology, Nutrition, Food Science, Art Therapy, Art for Children, Children's Theater & Drama and Hatha Yoga Skills
- American Pacific University: Doctoral Candidate - Esoteric Studies
- The Touch Therapy Institute: Anatomy, Physiology, Body Movement, Ethics, Communication, Swedish Massage,

Advanced Swedish Strokes, On-Site Seated Massage for the Workplace, Therapeutic Stretching, Sports Massage, Lower Back & Sacrum, Head, Neck & TMJ, Hip, Knee & Ankle, Shoulder, Elbow & Wrist, Rotator Cuff, Myofascial Trigger Point Release, Qi Gong, Qi Gong In Nature, Body Awareness, Relieving TMJ Pain, Deep Tissue Integration, Acupressure, Lymphatic Drainage and Hawaiian Lomilomi.

- Carole Osborne-Sheets/Body Therapy Associates: Pre & Perinatal Massage, Massage Birth Assistance.
- The Upledger Institute: CranioSacral Therapy.
- John F. Barnes : Myofascial Release

- Dr. Eric Scott Pearl: Reconnective Healing & The Reconnection.
- International Association of Infant Massage - Sweden: International Certified Infant Massage Instructor & International Infant Massage Instructor-Trainer.
- Infant Massage USA: Certified Educator of Infant Massage and Educator-Trainer.
- Massage In Schools Program: Certified Massage In Schools Instructor