

Oral Stories in the Classroom: Encouraging Preschool Teachers' Use of Cultural Funds of Knowledge: \$190,920 over three years

The primary goal of this project is to improve low-income Latino preschoolers' emergent literacy and social-emotional school readiness skills by building on the cultural funds of knowledge they bring from home into the preschool classroom. Drawing on a close partnership with the East Harlem Bilingual Head Start center in New York City, this project will explore the oral storytelling traditions of low-income pan-Latino families and use that knowledge to develop and assess the efficacy of a culturally-based classroom storytelling curriculum. Support from the Brady Education Foundation will fund the initial phase of the project. The investigative team is led by Drs. Gigliana Melzi and Adina Schick from New York University.