

**CURRICULUM VITAE**  
**Lisa J. Ecklund-Flores, Ph.D.**  
[lecklundflores@mercy.edu](mailto:lecklundflores@mercy.edu)  
(917) 664-8241

**EDUCATION**

- 1995            City University of New York Graduate Center  
                  Doctoral Program in Developmental Psychology  
                  Ph.D. – Psychology
- Dissertation Title: Functional Lateralization of Newborn Headturning to Binaural  
                  Speech and Heartbeat Sounds  
                  Mentor: Gerald Turkewitz, Ph.D.
- 1990            City University of New York - Hunter College  
                  M.A. - Psychology
- 1980            State University College at Fredonia, NY  
                  B.S. - Music Therapy

**CERTIFICATES**

- Music Therapist - certified by The Certification Board for Music Therapists
- Dalcroze Eurhythmics Teacher's License - Dalcroze School of Music
- New York State Teacher Certification - Music K-12

**AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION**

- Child Development: Prenatal, Infancy and Early Childhood, Developmental Disabilities, Music Education, Music Therapy
- Arts: Music and Art Pedagogy, Dalcroze Method, Music and Art in Therapy
- Physiological Psychology: Brain/Behavior Correlates, Autonomic Function, Perception, Biological Systems
- Research Methodology: Statistics, Research Design and Analysis, Professional Writing and Manuscript Preparation, Presentation Development
- Philosophy of Science: History of Psychology, Developmental Theory, Integrative Levels Theory, Dialectical Materialism, Dynamic Systems Theory

**ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

- 2004 – Present    Professor, Mercy University, Dobbs Ferry, NY
- Full time professor in the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Department of Psychology; Faculty member in both undergraduate and graduate programs; Mentor in the McNair and COR Programs; Research supervision of Mercy University students at NYSPI-Columbia University; Co-director of COR Program (2005-2008); Program Director for the Master of Science in Psychology (2005-2016).

- 1997- 2004      Adjunct Professor, Mercy University, Dobbs Ferry, NY
- Professor of undergraduate psychology courses; faculty evaluations; student advisement; participation in Gen Ed Assessment, A.C.E.S. Assessment.
- 1991-1992      Adjunct Professor, Long Island University, Brooklyn Campus
- Professor of undergraduate Developmental Psychology courses; student research coordination and advisement

### **RELATED EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATION**

- 1990-2021      Executive Director & Founder, Church Street School for Music and Art  
41 White Street, New York, NY 10013
- Founder, administrator, music therapist and teacher in this community music and art school serving Lower Manhattan. Current annual enrollment approximately 1000 students between the ages of 2 years - adults.
- 1996-2002      Educational Consultant, "Blues Clues", a children's show for Nickelodeon
- Help to establish educational goals and programming strategies for preschool television; Review scripts for developmental and educational appropriateness; Collaborated on eight Blues Clues shows, including the DVD "Blues Big Music Show Movie"
- 1990              Co-coordinator, Greenwich House Music School Summer Program  
46 Barrow Street, New York, NY 10014
- Administrator of children's creative arts summer camp. Coordinator and teacher of music, art, drama and dance program for children ages 3 - 5 years. Organization of theatrical productions created and performed by children.
- 1984-1990      Teacher, Greenwich House Music School  
46 Barrow Street, New York, NY 10014
- Teacher of Dalcroze Eurhythmics and private piano instruction for children 2-10 yrs
- 1985-1987      Dalcroze School of Music, 161 E 73rd Street, New York NY 10021  
Full Teacher's License - Dalcroze Eurhythmics
- 1984-1986      Teacher, Brooklyn College Preparatory Center for the Performing Arts
- Music instruction for children ages 3 - 18 years.
- 1980-Present   Private music instruction for children and adults in piano, guitar, voice and organ;  
private therapeutic intervention for children and adults in music therapy
- 1979-1980      New York Medical College - Flower Hospital  
Developmental Disabilities Clinic and Mental Retardation Institute  
Clinical Internship in Music Therapy

## **GRANTS AT MERCY UNIVERSITY**

- 2024 Faculty Development Grant, Mercy University
- Mercy University grant to support faculty research. Funding for secondary analysis of previously collected data involving fetal heartrate and movement response to music (piano melody)
- 2007-2012 Research Infrastructure in Minority Institutions (RIMI), National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NCMHD), National Institute of Health
- Grant No. 1P20MD002717 (PI Sperling, M.). "The Effect of Maternal Stress on Perinatal Development" – Principal Investigator. Five years of support for a longitudinal study of the relationship between stress in pregnant women and behavior and development in their fetuses and subsequent newborns.
- 2002 Extramural Associates Research Development Award (EARDA)
- Grant No. G11 HD035965 (PI Daniel, S.) “Auditory Stimulation and Effects on Central and Autonomic Nervous System Reactivity in Human Newborns”. Funding for analysis of human newborn cardiorespiratory system reactivity to auditory stimulation, and the training of Mercy College students in research methodology, data collection, and data analysis.

## **AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

- 2021 National Guild Milestone Award – National Guild of Community Arts Education, in recognition of long-standing exceptional service to the field, for demonstrating outstanding commitment to supporting and advancing community arts education.
- 1995-2003 Postdoctoral Fellowship – New York State Psychiatric Institute-Columbia University
- 2000 Second Prize Winner – Essay Competition, 3<sup>e</sup> Congres International du Rythme, Institut Jaques-Dalcroze, Geneva, Switzerland
- 1991-1992 University Fellowship - City University of New York
- 1990-1991 Graduate Assistantship - City University of New York
- 1988-1990 National Research Service Award (NRSA) Fellowship

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

- 2004 – Present Research Scientist, Department of Developmental Neuroscience, NYS Psychiatric Institute-Columbia University, 722 W. 168th Street, New York, NY
- Ongoing research projects in Infancy Lab; Collaboration with other researchers in data collection and analysis; Supervision of student research. NIH funded research on fetal and newborn response to sound as it relates to maternal stress during pregnancy.
- 1995- 2003 NYS Psychiatric Institute, 722 W. 168th Street, NY, NY 10032  
Mentor, William Fifer, Ph.D.

Postdoctoral Research Fellow. Participated in funded (NICHD) longitudinal study of neurological development and cardiovascular responsiveness from the fetal period to one year postnatal age related to SIDS (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome), as well as continued research of fetal and newborn response to sound.

- 1998 Developmental Consultant, Center for Advanced Study in Education (CASE)  
City University of New York Graduate Center, New York, NY
- Evaluation and research of keyboard training program in two NYC public schools
- 1990-1991 Graduate Assistant, City University of New York Graduate Center  
Department of Psychology
- Statistical Methods in Psychology I & II - Tutoring in statistical theory and applied statistical computer programs, in this doctoral level course
- 1980-1983 Psychometrician/Psychological Assistant  
William Floyd School District, Mastic Beach, NY
- Administration and scoring of intellectual, achievement, perceptual and projective Tests under the supervision of school psychologist; supportive intervention with children ages 5 - 18 years; participation in parent conferences and child study team meetings.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

- Zavala, J., Ecklund-Flores, L., Myers, M.M. and Fifer, W.P. (2020). Assessment of autonomic function in the late term fetus: The effects of sex and state. *Developmental Psychobiology*, 62, 224-231.
- Ecklund-Flores, L., Myers, M.M., Monk, C., Perez, A., Odendahl, H., and Fifer, W.P. (2017). Maternal depression during pregnancy is associated with increased birth weight in term infants. *Developmental Psychobiology*, 59, 314-323.
- Trenz, R., Ecklund-Flores, L., and Rapoza, K. (2015). A comparison of mental health and alcohol use between traditional and nontraditional students. *Journal of American College Student Health* DOI:10.1080/07448481.2015.1040409
- Ecklund-Flores, L. (2009). Green Guru. In L. Fassa *Green Kids, Sage Families*. New York, NY: New American Library/Penguin Books, pp181-186.
- Ecklund-Flores, L. (2008). Green Guru. In L. Fassa *Green Babies, Sage Moms*. New York, NY: New American Library/Penguin Books, pp 96-98, 214-216.
- Ecklund-Flores, L. (2007). Golden Oldies: Music Soothes More Than the Soul. *Thrive, January 2007*, 22-23.
- Ecklund-Flores, L. (2001). Rhythms from the Womb: Innovations in Fetal and Newborn Research. In *The Role of Rhythm in Human Development*. The Third Congress on Rhythm and Eurhythmic. Geneva, Switzerland: Institut Jaques-Dalcroze. Second Prize Winner.
- Ecklund-Flores, L. (1998). Music and the brain: A developmental analysis. Report commissioned by the Center for Advance Studies in Education (C.A.S.E.) *The City University of New York*.

- Ecklund-Flores, L. & Turkewitz, G. (1996). Asymmetric headturning to speech and non-speech in human newborns. *Developmental Psychobiology*, 29(3), pp. 205-217.
- Ecklund-Flores, L. (1993). Cries and Whispers: Advances in Understanding Fetal and Newborn Development. In *Parents League Review 1993*. New York: The Parents League of New York, Inc.
- Turkewitz, G., Ecklund-Flores, L., & Devenny, D. (1990). Development of sensorimotor capacities relevant to speech and concurrent task performance. In G.E. Hammond (Ed.) *Cerebral Control of Speech and Limb Movements*. North-Holland: Elsevier Science Publishers.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

- Ecklund-Flores, L. (2021). Developmental psychology basics for parents: What parents can do (and not do) to nurture creativity in their children. *Invited virtual podium presentation, Hudson River Park Mamas, February 10, 2021*.
- Ecklund-Flores, L. (2020). Music as a tool for wellness. *Invited virtual podium presentation, Drew University, November 16, 2020*.
- Zavala, J., Perez, A., Ecklund-Flores, L., Myers, M.M., and Fifer, W.P. (2017). The effect of fetal sleep state and sex on autonomic function. *Accepted poster presentation for the International Society for Developmental Psychobiology Conference in Washington, DC., November 8-10, 2017*.
- Ecklund-Flores, L. (2015). Prenatal Experience and Perinatal Behavior. *Invited podium presentation, 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Educational Psychology and Methodology Research Colloquium, SUNY Albany, May 8, 2015*.
- Ecklund-Flores, L., Monk, C.E., Myers, M.M. and Fifer, W.P. (2014). Relationships Among Maternal Depression, Heart Rate, and Heart Rate Variability During Pregnancy and Full-Term Birth Weight. *Poster presentation given at the International Society for Developmental Psychobiology Conference in Washington, DC., November 2014*.
- Trenz, R., Ecklund-Flores, L., and Rapoza, K. (2014). College women at risk: SES, Ethnicity, Mental health and Alcohol Use. *Podium presentation at the Eastern Psychological Association Conference, Boston MA, March 14, 2014*.
- Trenz, R., Ecklund-Flores, L., and Rapoza, K. (2014). College women at risk: SES, Mental Health and Alcohol Use. *Poster presentation at Faculty Seminar Day, Mercy College, Spring 2014*.
- Ecklund-Flores, L., Matatyaho, D., Fifer, W.P., Myers, M.M., Zavala, J., and Perez, A. (2011). Motor Correlates of Fetal Heart Rate Orientation to Sound. *Poster Presentation for the Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD), Montreal Canada, April 2011*.
- Ecklund-Flores, L., Downs, E., Amahazion, T., Perez, A., Matatyaho, D., Fifer, W.P., & Myers, M. (2011). Maternal depression during pregnancy and neonatal birth weight. *Platform presentation to the International Perinatal Brain and Behavior Network, November 8, 2011, International Society for Developmental Psychobiology Conference, Washington, DC*.

- Ecklund-Flores, L. (2012). Perinatal development in the context of maternal depression. *Platform presentation at the Faculty Research Symposium, May 3, 2012, Mercy College, Dobbs Ferry, NY.*
- Ecklund-Flores, L., Zavala, J., Perez, A., Vignola, E.F., Nugent, J.D., Fifer, W.P., Myers, M.M. (2012). Fetal heart rate orientation to sound in the context of movement. *Poster presentation at the International Society for Infant Studies (ISIS) Conference, June 7, 2012, Minneapolis, MN.*
- Lisa Ecklund-Flores; Erica Downs; Tighisti Amahazion; Albany Perez; Dalit J. Matatyaho, PhD; William P. Fifer; Michael M. Myers (2012). Maternal depression during pregnancy and neonatal birth weight: A U-shaped function? *Poster presentation at the International Society for Infant Studies (ISIS) Conference, June 8, 2012, Minneapolis, MN.*
- Ecklund-Flores, L. & Downs, E. (2009). Maternal Stress as Risk Factor for Future Pathologies. *Presentation at the Health and Wellness Day Conference, April 2009, Mercy College.*
- Blanc, A., Fifer, W. P., Ecklund-Flores, L., Perez, A., & Zavala, J. (2008). Can significant heart rate change be predicted in the near term fetus? *Poster presentation at the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS), November 2008, Orlando, FL.*
- Casanueva, A., Fifer, W.P., Ecklund-Flores, L., and Vilanova, T. (2008). Comparison of two technologies in the assessment of heart rate in the near term human fetus. *Poster presentation at the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS), November 2008, Orlando, FL.*
- Ecklund-Flores, L., Fifer, W.P., Gilliom, M.B., & Gibbs, C. (1996) Newborn response to auditory stimulation as a function of postural tilt and state. *Poster presentation given at the 10th Biennial International Conference on Infant Studies in Providence, Rhode Island, April 1996.*
- Fifer, W.P., Ecklund-Flores, L., Gilliom, M.B., & Myers, M.M. (1995). Cardiac and respiratory response to postural changes and sound in human newborns. *Poster presentation given at the International Society for Developmental Psychobiology Conference in San Diego, CA., November 1995.*
- Ecklund-Flores, L. (1994). Lateralization of newborn headturning to speech and heartbeat sounds. *Poster presentation at the International Conference on Infant Studies in Paris, France, June 1994.*
- Ecklund-Flores, L. (1992). The infant as a model for the teaching of introductory psychology. *Podium presentation as part of a Symposium entitled "Technical Advances and Cultural Diversity: Challenges in Teaching Psychology" at the Annual Meeting of the American Psychological Association in Washington, D.C., August 1992.*
- Ecklund-Flores, L., Turkewitz, G. & Edmondson, D. (1992). Differential lateralization of auditory processing in newborns. *Poster presentation at the International Conference on Infant Studies in Miami Beach, May 1992.*