



## DESIGNER NEWSLETTER

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### Project Honoring Former Teacher, Marjie Collins

The design of the Child Development Research Center (CDRC), located on the Texas Tech University campus, will be used as a



model to educate child care and design professionals throughout the West Texas region and beyond. A city-wide presentation to reveal the master plan is scheduled for October 15th. "A Walk through Nature with the CDRC" fundraiser is scheduled for October 1st in connection with the First Friday Art Trail. Dr. Muntazar Monsur and Saad Andalib have created renderings to give a 3D visual of the outdoor space, and his students have created a 3D master illustrative plan. The design of this project includes a unique shade structure to honor the memories of a teacher who recently passed, Marjie Collins, who worked for the CDRC for 25 years until her retirement.



Our first design project is dedicated to our beloved Marjie Collins. Marjie was a 25 year veteran of the CDRC before her passing in January of 2020. This structure is dedicated to her love of the CDRC, the playground, and the light and color that poured out of her and into all of us. We miss her and are thrilled at the opportunity to honor her memory in this way.

## This issue:

Project Honoring Former Teacher, Marjie Collins

PAGE 01

Stream of Life Christian Academy Final Design

PAGE 02

Welcome to our New Members

PAGE 03

New Resources Available for OLE! Texas Designers

PAGE 04

**OLE!TEXAS**  
OUTDOOR LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

*\*OLE! Texas is an initiative of the Texas Department of State Health Services in partnership with other state agencies, universities, and organizations across Texas. For more information and a full partner listing, visit [dshs.texas.gov/ole](https://dshs.texas.gov/ole).*



TEXAS TECH  
UNIVERSITY





**S.O.L.C.A**  
promotes Frog-  
Street  
curriculum and  
develops critical  
thinking skills,  
allowing for free  
play along with  
teacher-led  
learning.

STREAM OF LIFE  
CHRISTIAN ACADEMY



## Stream of Life Christian Academy Outdoor Learning Environment

DESIGNED BY PBK AND HEALTHY TWEAKS LLC

In partnership with the Harris County chapter, members of the OLE! Texas Designer Network, Brandon Gauthier from PBK and Becky Luman from Healthy Tweaks LLC, created a design for the outdoor learning environment at Stream of Life Christian Academy (S.O.L.C.A) in Baytown, Texas. The center's mission as a Christian center is to help families raise their children into leaders with Christian principles and high academic standards. Their curriculum focuses on teaching children basic pre-school academics as well as basic knowledge and principles.



The center's outdoor space incorporates all 12 Best Practice Indicators and includes over a dozen play and learning settings. Some of the future features include a looping curvy pathway which connects the existing and new outdoor activities, gardens, mud and sand play, balance logs, a playhouse, outdoor classroom space and storage, new vegetation, as well as areas for acoustic and art play. These features will be implemented over various stages in the development of their outdoor learning environment.



TEXAS TECH  
UNIVERSITY



## Welcome to our New Members

Please welcome the newest members of the Trained OLE Designer Network:

Anna McAnelly  
Annie Saathoff  
Armin Piriyaei  
Brandon Gauthier  
Emilie Ogburn  
Huili Wang  
Jaime Zwiener  
Jared Horsford  
Jesse Cruce  
Kalie Brettmann  
Micah Schwartz

These new members completed the revised Designer Training Seminar in July. The content of the training was expanded and used videos of workshops to illustrate the participatory process for the design of an OLE. Thank you to everyone who participated and presented in our training. Special thanks to Cari Browning from the Texas Department of State Health Services and Skyler Mueller from Texas AgriLife Extension for attending.

Once the designers complete the OLE! Texas Training Seminar they are qualified to join the designer network of Trained OLE Designers. The designers in this network are responsible for:

- Participating in networking activities
- Remaining dedicated to continued education and assessment of completed projects through research and dissemination
- Completing specific education and training in OLE! Texas philosophy, its theoretical foundations, the design development process, assessment procedures, and research methodologies
- Providing services such as: coordination of workshops and design workshop preparations, preparation of illustrative master plans, preparation of construction documents, permitting, construction observation, as well as design, build, and/or construction contracting





## New Resources Available for OLE! Texas Designers

We are excited to announce that we have new resources available for our members, which include the Workshop Kit and the Play Settings Notebook. These new resources guide our members through the OLE! Texas design process and provide inspiration for childcare centers.

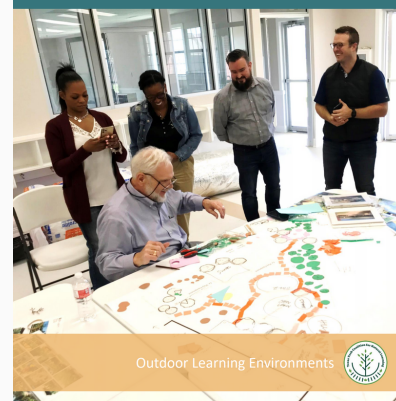
The Workshop Kit has been created as an addition to the Designer Guide to serve as a check-list to guide the Trained OLE Designers through the preparation, activities, needed supplies, and responsibilities involved before, during, and after a workshop with a childcare center. With this resource, designers will have a better idea of what to expect, how to prepare, what to provide, and how to proceed after a workshop has been completed to develop their outdoor learning environment.

The Play Settings Notebook is a great tool for designers and workshop participants to look through to not only gain inspiration for types of play settings that can be incorporated into

the outdoor learning environment, but to also give a better understanding of how each Best Practice Indicator can be integrated into the outdoor learning environment. A variety of examples are provided in the notebook to display how each Best Practice Indicator can be integrated, regardless of a small or large budget.

These new resources are only available to Trained OLE Designers. If you are a Trained OLE Designer seeking one of these resources, please e-mail us at [hs.cnl@ttu.edu](mailto:hs.cnl@ttu.edu). We have also edited and redesigned our Designer Guide! To download the guide, visit our resources page on the TTU Coalition for Natural Learning [website](#). For more information about OLE! Texas visit [here](#).

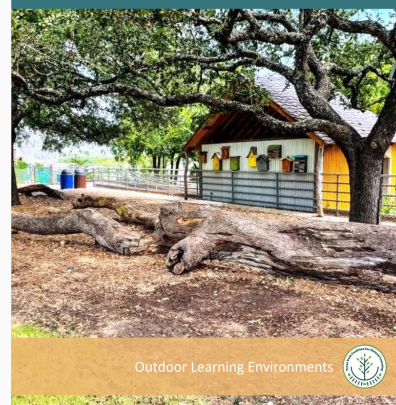
### Workshop Kit



Outdoor Learning Environments



### Play Settings Notebook



Outdoor Learning Environments





# A Walk Through Nature with the CDRC

First Friday Art Trail

Exhibit and Silent Auction

October 1, 2021 | 6-9pm

Ice House Gallery | 511 Avenue K

Join us as we celebrate the arts and the young artists of the CDRC! In addition to the great artwork, we will be auctioning off wonderful items such as a children's birthday party package, custom cookies, bounce house rental, Texas Tech memorabilia, and so much more! All proceeds from the silent auction will benefit the CDRC. You won't want to miss the fun!

