



C4C (Como For Children) Competition for Ideas

In the frame of ACM-SIGCHI IDC09
The 8th International Conference on Interaction Design and Children
www.idc09.polimi.it

C4C (Como For Children) is an initiative of the Chamber of Commerce of Como (Italy), wishing to promote a strong innovation of the approach to education for young children (3-10 years of age). *Modernization, involvement of families, internationalization, professionalization of teachers, use of technologies for interaction/socialization/inclusion, communities of learning, digital educational resources, blended learning, technology-enhanced child-centered physical spaces*, are all key-words for this ambitious project.

In the context of the C4C project, and in cooperation with ACM-SIGCHI IDC09 (The 8th International Conference on Interaction Design and Children), the Chamber of Commerce of Como and HOC-LAB of Politecnico di Milano are pleased to launch the first **C4C Design Competition**. This initiative aims at fostering the development of **new and fresh ideas about technology-supported interaction for children at PRE-SCHOOL** (3-5 years of age), and ultimately to pave the grounds towards building a novel vision of how interactive technology plays in the context of pre-school education.

COMPETITION'S GOAL

The challenge is to imagine a pre-school of the (near or remote) future, where the physical space is enhanced with (existing or future) technologies and children can naturally intermix, at individual or social level, "traditional" playing and learning activities with interaction based on modern technologies of all kinds, including internet, mobile devices, tangibles, e-games, Wii stations, robots, accessible fabrication devices, "smart" materials, and whatever is currently available. This environment will also interconnect on-site teachers and children with families and remote children (e.g., hospitalized children or children who for whatever reason are away from school). The imagined interaction may be about a new game, a socialization tool, a playful didactic activity, which can be supervised by teachers at school and parents at home.

The competition has **two tracks**:

- 1) *Vision of the interactive pre-school of the future*
We look for proposals concerning a **wide vision** about an interactive pre-school, ranging from the high-level design of a coordinated set of applications or installations or learning activities/experiences to the overall (physical and digital) setting of a school space, indoor or outdoor.
- 2) *Interaction at pre-school*
We look for proposals concerning the design of a **specific interactive solution** (e.g. a game, an installation, a learning activity/experience etc.).

SUBMISSIONS

Each proposal should be no more than **2/3 pages** long and should be formatted according to the SIGCHI Conference Publication Format (<http://www.sigchi.org/chipubform//>). The proposal document should include, at the end, a very short CV of proposers and can optionally be integrated with a separate Annex including images, renderings, sketches, video and similar.

All the proposals must be submitted by **April 30th 2009** at the following address: idc09.info@polimi.it, and the subject of the mail must be **C4C submission**.

The competition's organizers reserve the right to make **full use of the material received** and to **involve the proposers for joint** development and implementation of the proposal in the context of the C4C project.

NOMINATIONS AND AWARDS

For each track, a maximum of **3 nominations** will be selected by an international panel of experts. **Each nominee will be offered free registration at IDC 2009 plus 2 nights in hotel in Como for 2 people** (travel expenses will NOT be covered), and is required to present the proposal at the **IDC09** conference (**3-5 June 2009, Como, Italy**) in a **special plenary session**.

A **special reception** will be held, near the Como lake in the wonderful location of Villa Grumello (www.villadelgrumello.it), to celebrate the competition and the nominees.



Villa Grumello, host of the C4C competition

FURTHER INFORMATION

For up-to-date information about the C4C competition please check the IDC 2009 web site www.idc09.polimi.it or contact idc09.info@polimi.it (please mention **C4C** in the email subject).