

Open call: The Poetics and Politics of Child Culture(s)

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Illustrator: Lisen Adbåge

The conference draws attention to the aesthetic, practical, economic, and ideological possibilities and challenges that culture by, for, and among children and young people are facing today. The *poetics* is a collective term for all kinds of promises created through child and youth culture. The *politics*, on the other hand, refers to different forms of hindering factors for child and youth culture to reach its full potential.

Historically, the Nordic countries are distinguished by a strong consensus regarding children's and young people's right to express themselves and have access to different forms of culture, media, and art. In recent times, however, the field has undergone major changes, and is today facing challenges such as considerable cutbacks, AI, unequal access, disregard of leisure cultures, moral panics and increasing adult control. At the same time the importance of child and youth culture is perhaps the greatest in times of uncertainty such as ours which are marked by the climate crisis, the threat of war and increasing lethal violence in society.

In this issue of *BUKS – Journal of Child and Youth Cultures*, we invite researchers, artists, and practitioners to continue the discussions initiated at the conference. The journal has always been a vibrant meeting place for the actual discussions on children’s cultures, art and explorations and will continue to do so. More than ever a holistic view on children’s culture is needed, and that includes children and young people’s creative and democratic use of digital technologies, media and narratives. In this issue, we want to do this through describing and analysing examples and formulating explorative and as well as critical perspectives on the possibilities and challenges when approaching and supporting child cultures in society and education.

Your contribution can be peer-reviewed or not depending on your choosing. It can contain images, links and drawings as an important part of the text. The text can be delivered in English, Danish, Swedish or Norwegian. The written text is max. 6000 words plus references and a biography of no more than 100 words. In this issue we aim for 8-10 peer-reviewed articles and 2-3 creative ways of expressing children and young people’s culture.

Important deadlines:

- Send an abstract of max. 600 words on the 2nd of June 2025 to Helle Hovgaard Jørgensen and note if you want it peer-reviewed and if you intend to use images: hhjo1@ucl.dk
- Acceptance or rejection 27th of June 2025
- Deadline for manuscript submission 21th of November 2025
- You send the text to guest editor Helle Marie Skovbjerg hms@dskd.dk and follow the instructions here.
- Deadline for peer-review 27th of February 2026
- Deadline for the author’s revision of the article 24th of April 2026
- Deadline for editorial remarks and minor changes 19th of June 2026
- Expected release 21th of August 2026

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