



in  
this  
issue:

NAEYC's Live Learning Center	2
Membership Corner	3
CDA recipients	3
Accreditation Column	4
New Member Welcome	5
November Membership Meeting	5
Save the date	6

## Free Fall Gathering at the Science Museum

*This Wednesday!*

AEYC of WNY invites you to join us on Wednesday, October 19<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8pm at the Buffalo Museum of Science for a tour of the facility “through a child’s eyes.” This event is being offered in the spirit of providing early childhood students and professionals the opportunity to attend free social/educational events that highlight what our hometown has to offer! It’s a great chance to network and learn something along the way.

Last year, our socials were a great success, hosted by The Albright-Knox Art Gallery and Tiff Nature Preserve and this year’s agenda is just as exciting. After October’s evening at the Museum, we plan to offer a gathering at the Botanical Gardens in February. The Week of the Young Child in April will provide several opportunities to celebrate early childhood at locations north and south of the city as well as in the city itself.

So, mark the date on your calendar, invite a friend, and plan to join us as Karen Murphy of the Buffalo Museum of Science helps to identify all of the wonderful learning opportunities offered there for young children.



The AEYC of WNY Newsletter is published four times a year by The Association for the Education of Young Children of Western New York.

The AEYC of WNY Newsletter provides a forum for the discussion of ideas and issues in the field of early childhood education. The opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of AEYC of WNY.

Contributions from members are welcome, and can be submitted to [kelli.simpson@brighthorizons.com](mailto:kelli.simpson@brighthorizons.com) for publishing consideration. Deadlines are as follows:

- Spring edition- March 1
- Summer edition-June 1
- Autumn edition- September 1
- Winter edition- December 1

---

AEYC of WNY  
Board of Directors  
2010-2011

Executive Committee

- President.....*Tracy Touris*
- Past President.....*Tracy Galuski*
- Co-Vice President.....*Kathi James*
- Co-Vice President.....*Kathi Kiblin*
- Treasurer.....*Elizabeth Cercone*
- Corresponding Secretary .....*Barbara Stone Reden*
- Recording Secretary.....*Karen Dearing*

Governing Board

- Accreditation Chair.....*Kate Dust*
- Center Child Care Liaison.....*to be appointed*
- Events Co- Chair .....*Liza Franz*
- Events Co- Chair .....*to be appointed*
- Communication Chair.....*Kelli Simpson*
- Family Child Care Liaison.....*Karrie Smith*
- Head Start Liaison.....*Holly Segal*
- Higher Ed, Co- Liaison.....*Judy Piskun*
- Higher Ed, Co- Liaison.....*Sherri Weber*
- Membership Chair.....*Shawna Carlton*
- Primary Education.....*to be appointed*
- Public Policy Chair.....*to be appointed*
- Recognition/Scholarships Chair..... *MaryEllen Bardsley*
- Special Ed Liaison.....*Deborah Cleary*
- Student Representative.....*to be appointed*
- Week of the Young Child.....*to be appointed*

Are you headed to the NAEYC Conference this year? Have you heard about the exciting new technology being offered?

Introducing the New NAEYC Live Learning Center

Take advantage of this year’s newest online learning opportunity—the NAEYC Live Learning Center. This online educational resource connects you with up to 50 hours of selected sessions from the 2011 NAEYC Annual Conference & Expo. With the Live Learning Center, you can catch up on sessions you weren't unable to attend at the conference and experience twice the knowledge!

When you register for the Live Learning Center, you will gain post-conference access to recorded audio synchronized to presenter Power-Point slides, downloadable MP3s, and speaker handouts from the Opening Keynote Address and all your favorite Featured Sessions. You'll be able to learn at your own pace and follow along with downloadable speaker handouts.

Why struggle to take notes at the conference when you can review critical research and information from industry experts long after the conference concludes? With the Live Learning Center, you can fast-forward to your favorite part, rewind to hear information again, and pause the presentations to take notes. You can even download the audio to your mobile device and take your education wherever you go—even on the drive to work.

Don’t let your learning end when the conference does. Extend your professional development with the NAEYC Live Learning Center.

For full access to the NAEYC Live Learning Center, select the Best Value Package when you register for the conference. Fees apply. Please see the NAEYC website for details.

We’d love to hear a first-hand report about the Live Learning Center– if any of our members take advantage of this new offering at this year’s conference, we invite you to write a review for our next newsletter.



National Association for the Education of Young Children

## Membership Corner

The AEYC of WNY would like to welcome all of our members to another great year. We have many exciting things planned for the upcoming year including the annual NYSEAYC conference being held right here in Buffalo in the spring. We will also be hosting another series of social gathering events and membership meetings.

Our membership meetings will be held at local early childhood programs and free for all members. Each meeting will feature a different training topic, tour of the program, and networking with other early childhood professionals. These meetings are a great way to receive training and get ideas on how to improve the quality of your program. You will also receive a certificate for one hour of approved training. See our announcement on page 5 of this newsletter to learn about our November meeting.

If your program would be interested in hosting a meeting, please contact Shawna Carlton at [shawna.carlton@yahoo.com](mailto:shawna.carlton@yahoo.com) or 841-7762. We are always looking for new programs to share their expertise and showcase their centers.

### Child Development Associate (CDA)

In keeping with its goal to meet the growing need for qualified early child care and education staff, the Council for Professional Recognition administers the Child Development Associate (CDA) National Credentialing Program. The CDA Program is designed to assess and credential early childhood education professionals.

The Council recognizes and credentials professionals who work in all types of early care and education programs - Head Start, pre-k, infant-toddler, family child care, and home visitor programs.

AEYC would like to recognize the accomplishment of all those who receive their CDA. If you have recently received your credential, and would like to be included in our next newsletter, please contact Gayle B. Nixon at 877-6666 ext. 3018 or email [Gnixon@wnychildren.org](mailto:Gnixon@wnychildren.org).

#### Child Development Associate (CDA) Recipients

Jessica Comstock  
Jeanette Dalton  
Becky-Jo Janis  
Leah Klinger  
Regina Koterak  
Sarah Rounds

Early Head Start Durham Academy  
Storytime Child Care, Inc.  
Creative Child  
Childrens' Kastle Christian Learning Center  
Creative Play Learning Center  
Brierwood Child Care Center

## “Lovies”

Kate Dust, M.Ed.

Accreditation Chair nysaeyc aeyc of wny

I was talking with families recently and our discussion turned to “loviaes”. Loviaes are those ratty little toys and worn blankets that seem to melt into children becoming part of their being.

This is a topic that I always welcome and whenever it comes up, parent (and teacher’s) questions are the same: What can you do about children crying for threadbare blankets or insisting on their frayed little toy to hold on to? When do they grow out of this?

As early childhood educators and administrators much of our time is educating parents about early education. We talk extensively about curriculum, health & safety, literacy and readiness. That’s fine and certainly topics of importance but a discussion about loviaes gives us the chance to talk about emotions, trust, attachment and the beginning coping skills of young children.

When asked here is my advice: Respect a “lovie” and allow children to find security and comfort in a little piece of home. Children in school and in child care are in high demand environments. Groups by definition are “more than one.” They share space, attention and time. While this is exciting and a wonderful part of life, it can be stressful. Children also need personal space and sense of autonomy. Loviaes can provide this.

Loviaes are concrete, individualized and cherished bits of security. They are bits of family children can hold on to, they are something that no one else can take from you without your permission, they are tiny scraps of material to gigantic (an adult’s perspective) stuffed animals.

Infants are often swaddled in the same blanket which is then used for naps as a toddler. Preschoolers and young school agers are now attached and intentionally look for that blanket which has provided years of security, comfort and

consistency. Changes, stress or illness will often see children reattach to old security systems or hold onto a lovie with focused attention. They are looking for what they know and what they can count on.

In childcare and group settings a lovie offers transitional anchors, a place of respite in a busy and motion filled environment. It won’t upset other children, it won’t collect germs from the floor (keep your floors clean for the loviaes!) and only becomes a distraction when the teacher considers it so. What it does do is sooth a tentative child and offer real comfort in confusion.

Through children’s many changes a lovie remains, in the child’s eye, the same. Trust your children. They will know when enough is enough. When they are ready they will leave their lovie be. It will only show up in family pictures and fond memories.

***There is a wonderful picture of a dear friend of mine when he was little. He wore his blanket so thin that his mom made a poncho out of it. Now that’s respect for the “lovie”.***

...and here’s another- well-loved, indeed...



*New Member Welcome*

*Join us in welcoming the following members who joined AEYC in June, July, and August...*

*Ciminelli, Michelle Renee*

*Cowart, Allen*

*Davis, Mercedes*

*Digati-DuFrane, Pauline*

*Finger, Susan Marie*

*Gonzalez, Ruby*

*Guirguis, Ruth*

*Henriquez, Sencion*

*Mirek, Marilea*

*Moberg, Margaret Elizabeth*

*Pinzone, John Carlo*

*Santiago, Felicia*

*Smith, Lauren Marie*

*Vega, Nidia Maria*

*Zulewski, Julie A*

*The best and most beautiful things  
in the world cannot be seen or  
even touched.  
They must be felt  
with the heart.*

*- Helen Keller*

**Save the Date:**

**AEYC of WNY invites you to attend our first membership meeting/mini conference of the year!**

**Recognizing Delays in Preschool Children**

**Come learn about preschool milestones in Speech, OT, and PT. Find out what signs to look for in the classroom, what activities teachers can do, and how to talk to parents about issues.**

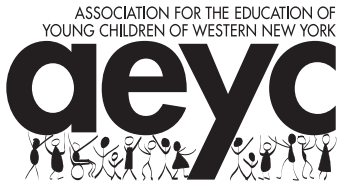
**November 15, 2011  
6:30-8:00 PM**

**Baker Victory Services, Early Childhood Center  
51 St. Johns Parkside  
Buffalo, New York 14220**

**Located in Cazanovia Park in South Buffalo  
plenty of parking available & refreshments will be provided**

**Free for AEYC members  
\$10.00 for Non-members**

**R.S.V.P. to Shawna Carlton at 716-841-7762, or  
shawna.carlton@yahoo.com**



c/o UB Child Care Center  
100 St. Rita's Lane  
Amherst, NY 14260

Non-Profit  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
BUFFALO, NY  
PERMIT NO. 122

current resident or:



We have a goal of reaching **110** facebook friends by December!  
Anyone who joins the aeyc of wny facebook page between now and  
the end of November will be entered in a random drawing for early  
childhood books for your program!

Visit us and join the conversation today.....