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*AEYC of WNY
extends warm regards and
best wishes for a joyous holiday
season, and a prosperous
new year!*



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 for publishing consideration. Deadlines are as follows:

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

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 2010-2011

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Save the Date!
2012 NYSAEYC Annual Conference
 April 19-21, 2012
 Buffalo, NY
 Hyatt Reganct Hotel and Buffalo Convention Center

Conference Benefits:

Over 100 educational workshops.....90 early childhood exhibitors...free door prizes at events and exhibits..... opportunities to meet and network with Colleagues.... And more!

Featured Tracks & Workshops:

Infant/Toddler, Leadership, Prek-3, Trainers, School Age Child Care, Family child Care, Inclusion, New and Experienced Teachers

Keynote Speakers:

Lillian Katz, PhD, an international leader in early childhood education. Parent, teacher, professor and author of, *Intellectual Emergencies*, an inspirational work for parents and teachers, or anyone who has ever looked into the face of a child and wondered if she was making the right choices. A graduate of Stanford University and teacher at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign for over 30 years and also directed the ERIC Clearinghouse on Elementary and Early Childhood Education. She has lectured in all 50 states and in 55 countries. She has held visiting posts at universities in Australia, Canada, England, Germany, India, Israel, the West Indies (Barbados) and many parts of the United States. She lectures and consults around the world. Katz is one of the founders and past president of the Illinois Association for the Education of Young Children. She has served as vice president and president of the National Association for the Education of Young Children. Katz has written more than 150 publications, including articles, chapters and books about early childhood education, teacher education, child development and parenting. For 13 years, she wrote a monthly column for Parents Magazine on parenting 3 and 4 year olds.

Luis A. Hernandez, T/TAS Early Childhood Education Specialist, holds an M.A. in Bilingual/Multicultural Education from the University of San Francisco. Luis brings solid expertise to his position based on his work history in Head Start, child care, Pre K programs, college and universities, child care resource and referral administration, and professional development design. Luis' work focuses in a wide range of early childhood education and professional development topics. His expertise includes early literacy, dual language learning, adult learning practices, changing demographics and diversity, and ECE management and partnership topics. As a regular presenter and keynote speaker at national, state, and local conferences, Luis is highly regarded for his motivational and energizing presentations. Mr. Hernandez is active in a number of organizations that support children and family interests. At NAEYC, he is active in the new accreditation process, and developing professional and leadership development opportunities. He currently serves on the Advisory Board of the McCormick Tribune Center for Early Childhood Leadership and the United Way's Center for Excellence in Early Childhood. He has served on the Boards of the Florida Children's Forum, the Child Care Workforce, and NACCRRRA, the Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies, and PSP (Parent Services Project) in California. For Luis, a new area of work and professional interest centers in advancing the goals of the World Forum on Early Care and Education.

Training Hours:

Up to 15 Training Hours
 (If attending all sessions from Thursday, 6 pm – Saturday, 4 pm)

Become a Member... and start enjoying the benefits today: Learning, Networking, Teaching Practices, Information, Accreditation, Advocacy, Resources! (Members save on conference registration prices – prices to come)

New Member Welcome

Join us in welcoming the following members who joined AEYC in September, October, November...

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <i>Cifaratta, Kathryn</i> | <i>Kindzierski, Corinne</i> |
| <i>D'Agostino, Sandra</i> | <i>Masocco, Julianne</i> |
| <i>Deacon, Diane Marie</i> | <i>Scarcello, Rachelle</i> |
| <i>Estell, April</i> | <i>Shiposki, Lydia Caroline</i> |
| <i>Fecio, Christina</i> | <i>Summers, Terrilyn</i> |
| <i>Gelnette, Nicole Mary</i> | <i>Whitlock, Kristin Elizabeth</i> |
| <i>Gilbert, Kristi</i> | <i>Zavatti, Anna Insinna</i> |
| <i>Kelchlin, Karie</i> | |

AEYC of WNY Enjoys A Night at the Museum

On October 19, approximately 60 students, teachers and directors gathered at The Buffalo Museum of Science for a tour of the facilities “through a child’s eyes.” Education coordinator Karen Murphy led two groups through the Museum, providing information on each of the exhibits and focusing her attention on the ways in which children could enjoy all the Museum has to offer. The groups were afforded the opportunity to linger in the Explorations Room, designed by Murphy specifically for infants, toddlers and preschoolers. The permanent exhibit boasts a space station with recordings from Neil Armstrong’s moon landing, a light table, an extended water table with flood gates and a water pump, an array of building materials and so much more with which children can engage and create. The group was treated to munchies catered by Adrienne’s Ultimate Catering and enjoyed a wonderful opportunity to network and meet with other educators of young children. This was the first free event of the year. Please mark your calendars for a Saturday visit in February to the Botanical Gardens for our next social/educational event.



You're the Experts!

Kate Dust, M.Ed.

Accreditation Chair
aeyc of wny nysaeyc

As professionals in the early childhood field, we are often asked our opinions and our recommendations for early care and education. Welcome this!

Families who are concerned that they have the best medical care for their children will ask for recommendations from health care professionals. Families look for the best school districts; they investigate the district and ask teachers what they think. Families looking for housing, look to professional realtors for guidance. This makes perfect sense.

January is a new beginning and families are looking ahead. Kindergarten registration starts mid-winter and childcare centers open registration at that time as well.

Aeyc of western New York's Mission, Vision and Value Statement reflects language that highlights quality for members, children, families and community. People want to know who we are and what we think. Welcome the conversation!

When families ask you: How do I Choose Childcare or Preschool?
Use this guide.

N Notice everything! How does the center look, sound and "feel"? Never second guess if things don't seem quite right. Are children laughing and playing on your visit? Are adults smiling and engaged? Is the center clean, organized and inviting? What is outside? What are emergency plans?

A Always ask! Visit centers armed with questions. Ask about everything from operating times, staff qualifications, family partnerships and programming. How do you register and what are the responsibilities of the center to family and the family to the center?

E Everything counts! Consider location, cost, accessibility, policies, health & safety measures, leadership, relationships, family support, materials, enrollment and curriculum.

Y Your family is priority! Look for clearly organized management systems in leadership. What are family opportunities for partnership and participation? Your child is yours – how is this reflected and respected? How is your child and family personally recognized?

C See naeyc! A center accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (naeyc) assures families and children of the absolute highest quality in care and education. A naeyc accredited center considers all of the letters that spell quality and success for each child – naeyc!



Under Construction

AEYC of Western New York offers two scholarships during the year; the Lillian Brand Conference Scholarship and the Student Scholarships. The Lillian Brand Scholarship sponsors student attendance at the state conference. The Student Scholarship provides \$500 for a high school and college student towards their early childhood education.

The Chapter will be adding several additional scholarship and grant programs! Grants will be available to members to support various professional development activities. The details and requirements are being finalized. Additional information and details will be posted on the website and facebook in a couple of weeks. Join AEYC of Western NY on facebook so you are one of the first to know.

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.

Jamila Abdaliah, *Bethel Head Start Langfield Center*
Yusra Alnaji, *Bethel Head Start St. James Academy*
Michele Beck, *Bunny Bunch Daycare*
Yelitza Castillo, *CAO Head Start Ferry Academy*
Tessa Estes, *Mary's Little Lambs*
Kristin Frapwell
Olga Gonzolez, *CAO Head Start St. Agatha's Academy*
Yonna Harper, *Lincoln Child Day Care, Inc.*
Chenese Jones, *CAO Head Start Drexel Academy*
Keonna Keith, *Lincoln Child Day Care, Inc.*
Marilea Mirek, *Creative Child*
Cherly Marvin, *Belle Center Day Care Program*

Davale Nettles, *Bethel Head Start EOC Academy*
Ana Maria Paz, *Bethel Head Start Harlem Rd Academy*
Lindsay Peters, *EduKids, Inc*
Loretta Powell, *Bethel Head Start GKA Academy*
Katrina Saddler, *CAO Head Start Ferry Academy*
Lindsay Siepal, *East Aurora Community Nursery*
Jacqueline Walter, *CAO Head Start Frontier Academy*
Deborah Weaver, *CAO Head Start Memorial Temple Academy*
Candace Whitfield, *Bethel Head Start St. James Academy*
Aletha Williams, *Bethel Head Start 1424 Academy*
Darreleya Woods, *Bethel Head Start 1424 Academy*

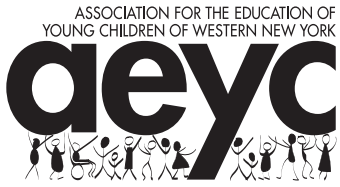
AEYC of Western New York had a mini conference on Recognizing Delays in Preschool Children. The event was held at Baker Victory Services, Early Childhood Program in November. This event was FREE for members! Our presenters included a Speech Pathologists, Occupational Therapists and Physical Therapists who have worked directly with Early Intervention and Preschool children.

The Therapists gave some simple activities that teachers and parents can do in the classroom and at home to improve on speech, fine/gross motor concerns. The hot topic was "Sensory Concerns" all participants learned how some children are "Sensory Seekers" or "Sensory Avoiders." There was discussion on the milestones of Early Childhood and when teachers/parents should be concerned.

Here are some tips for teachers on How to Raise Concerns with Families:

- Choose a time, other than drop-off or pickups, when everyone can be relaxed and have time to talk.
- Meet in a private, comfortable setting
- Prepare documentation that is objective and nonjudgmental.
- Ask parents if they see some familiar behaviors at home.
- Make a copy of materials so families can look at them during the meeting and later at home. Include your notes about their child, information about typical development, and a list of organizations and names of contact person including phone numbers to call for an early intervention evaluation.
- A few web sites to visit -www.cdc.gov/ncbddd.actearly.index.html and First Signs-www.firstsigns.org





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community online.

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