Early Childhood Conference
Preliminary Program

April 20 – 22, 2017
Amway Grand Plaza Hotel and DeVos Place
Grand Rapids, MI

Register online at www.MiAEYC.org

SCECHs available for conference attendance; pending approval
### Overview

#### Wednesday
**April 19, 2017**
- 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Registration

#### Thursday
**April 20, 2017**
- 7:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Registration
- 7:45 a.m. – 8:15 a.m. Conference Orientation for Students and 1st time Attendees
- 9:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Exhibits
- 8:45 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Workshops
- 4:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m. MiAEYC Public Policy Meeting
- 7:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. MiAEYC Annual Business Meeting

#### Friday
**April 21, 2017**
- 7:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Registration
- 7:45 a.m. – 8:15 a.m. Conference Orientation for Students and 1st time Attendees
- 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. General Session
- 10:05 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Exhibits
- 10:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. ACCESS Meeting
- 10:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Workshops
- 1:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. MiAEYC Leadership SIG Meeting
- 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Learning Fair

#### Saturday
**April 22, 2017**
- 7:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Registration
- 7:45 a.m. – 8:15 a.m. Conference Orientation for Students and 1st time Attendees
- 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. General Session
- 10:00 a.m. – 1:15 p.m. Workshops
- 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. Learning Fair

#### Endorsed by:
- Early Childhood Investment Corporation
- Michigan Chapter of the American Associate Degree Early Childhood Educators
- Michigan Department of Education
- Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Child Care
- Michigan Head Start Association

MiAEYC provides a forum where individuals can gather and discuss issues vital to those who work on behalf of young children and their families. Although MiAEYC encourages the exchange of diverse opinions, the ideas presented do not necessarily reflect any of MiAEYC’s official positions. MiAEYC assumes no responsibility for any statement of fact or opinion presented at this conference, nor does acceptance of advertising or exhibits imply endorsement of any products or services by MiAEYC.

Endorsement of a conference by the Michigan Department of Education assumes active participation of Department of Education staff in the planning and development of the agenda. The Michigan Department of Education is an equal opportunity provider. The conference facility must meet federal and state accessibility standards. Commercial products or services displayed or presented as a part of the conference are not considered endorsed by the Michigan Department of Education.

Regarding Changes in the Conference Program:
MiAEYC provides this preliminary program for your convenience in planning. However, MiAEYC emphasizes that this is a preliminary program. Changes to sessions, times and other aspects of the conference will occur after publication of this preliminary program. The 2017 Early Childhood Conference program that you receive at the conference is the final version.
Michigan Association for the Education of Young Children
2017 Early Childhood Conference

Conference Information

Registration and Fees
- Online registration with credit card (VISA, MasterCard, Discover) or purchase order payment is available until April 13, 2017 at www.MiAEYC.org.
- Registration fees are considerably less for MiAEYC members. To register as a member you must be a current member; membership status is checked. To become a member visit www.NAEYC.org
- The student fee is available to current full-time undergraduate students registered for 9 credit hours or student teaching and current T.E.A.C.H. recipients. A photocopy of your current class schedule must be included with your payment.
- If attending the conference two or more days, register at the full conference rate.
- On-site registration fees are $25 higher.
- Refunds of registration fees are made upon written request. Requests must be received by March 30, 2017. A $15.00 processing fee is deducted from each refund. Absolutely no refunds are issued after March 30, 2017.
- A registration can be transferred to another person upon request.

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Confirmation
- If you preregister by March 30, 2017, you will be mailed a receipt and your conference name badge.
- Bring these items to the Registration Area or the Information Counter, Concourse Level, Amway Hotel, to receive your final program.
- If you do not bring these items, you will need to stand in the on-site HELP line, Registration Area, Amway Hotel.
- If you preregister after March 30, 2017, you will need to pick up your receipt and name badge at the Preregistration Counter, Registration Area, Concourse Level, Amway Hotel.

On-Site Conference Registration
- On-site conference registration takes place in the Conference Registration Area, Concourse Level, Amway Hotel:
  - Wednesday, April 19: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
  - Thursday, April 20: 7:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
  - Friday, April 21: 7:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
  - Saturday, April 22: 7:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Exhibits
- Vendors of equipment and instructional materials, MiAEYC Sales and Presenters’ Marketplace are in the exhibit area.
  - Thursday, April 20: 9:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
  - Friday, April 21: 10:05 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Tracks
- The tracks are for your convenience in finding areas of interest—you may attend any session.
- The conference tracks are: Child Development; Family and Community Engagement; Health, Safety and Nutrition; Interactions and Guidance; Observation, Documentation and Assessment; Teaching and Learning; Professionalism; and Management
- If applicable, the age focus (T-Infant/Toddler; P-School-Age; K-Kindergarten and Primary; S-School-Age) is identified.

Learning Fair
- Learning Fair, Friday, April 21, 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. and Saturday, April 22, 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m., provides a unique opportunity for conferees to view, explore, and collect ideas. Different topics are offered each day.

Special Arrangements
- All sites are handicap accessible.
- MiAEYC honors reasonable requests for aids, services or assistance.
- Requests must be submitted in writing by March 30, 2017.

Food
- On Thursday and Friday, besides the many downtown restaurants, quick-lunch lines are provided by the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel.
- Quick-lunch lines are located in the Center Concourse, Concourse Level of the Amway from 11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- Choices include soup, salads, fruit, sandwiches, cookies and beverages.

Driving
- The Amway Grand Plaza Hotel is located at Pearl and Monroe Streets.
- To receive the most up-to-date travel information, call the Grand Rapids Convention and Visitors Bureau at 800-678-9859 or visit www.experiencegr.com.

Parking
- Amway Grand Plaza Hotel – Overnight guests: $24 self-parking; $29 valet parking. Rates subject to change. MiAEYC Conference overnight guests receive an $8 discount on self or valet parking fees.
- Information about alternative parking is available online at www.experiencegr.com.

Further Information
- For further information call the MiAEYC office, 800-336-6424 or 517-351-4183.
Thursday, April 20, 2017

### 8:45 am–10:00 am

**Child Development**

- **I Had it First! – Fostering Social-Emotional Development in Early Childhood Classrooms**
  Explore social-emotional development and self-regulation. Learn about activities and resources to support children as they learn to self-regulate and respond appropriately to their environment.
  *Lisa Adams and Karen Ferrill, Schoolcraft College Children’s Center*
  *Age Level: PS*

- **Watch Me Jump! Appropriate Risk-taking**
  Children love to take risks! Find out why risk-taking is so important to child development, learn how to meet children’s needs in accordance with licensing rules, and create a plan for supporting children in appropriate risk-taking.
  *Nuola Akinde, Apple Playschools*

**Family and Community Engagement**

- **Family and Community Engagement**
  Research has proven the importance of parent and community engagement in the education of young children. Gain tools and strategies for making this a reality in your setting.
  *Amanda Murray, Lake Superior State University*

**Interactions and Guidance**

- **Ahhhh! This Child is Driving Me Nuts!**
  Learn how to communicate and negotiate with children to create an appropriate learning environment. Gain strategies for connecting with, helping and supporting children exhibiting difficult and/or disruptive behaviors.
  *Janelle Pauldine, Owosso Public Schools and Jennifer Lintner, Linden Public Schools*

**Management**

- **He’s Allowed to Change Diapers? A Director’s Guide to Supporting Male Staff in ECE**
  Discuss questions parents ask and perceived restrictions on what men can do as early childhood caregivers. Explore strategies for fostering trust and support of men in the field of early education and care.
  *Pepper Near, Middle of the Mitten Learning Center*

**Professionalism**

- **Conferencing with Parents**
  Discover the benefits of parent-teacher conference. Learn how to plan creative, productive meaningful conferences and how to evaluate them once done.
  *Kelly Pyle, United Way*

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**Teaching and Learning**

- **Cooking Up Writers: A Recipe for Early Writing Workshops**
  This session will explore the “ingredients” to leading a successful writing workshop in an early childhood classroom, including rationale, practical applications, and examples of student work. Bring your ideas, too!
  *Katelyn Rumsey, Saginaw Valley State University*

- **Science Time**
  You don’t have to be a scientist to have science throughout your classroom. Explore easy and inexpensive science experiments, activities and tabletop props for all ages.
  *Sherry Ann Wolfer, Let’s Dig In*
  *Age Levels: PS, KP, SA*

- **Using Visuals in the Preschool Classroom to Support Students with Autism**
  Learn how using visual pictures can help children with special needs learn classroom routines and procedures. Specifically, during transitions between activities and for completing activities and tasks independently.
  *Michelle Bowman, Lenawee Intermediate School District*
  *Age Level: PS*

- **Why Take Infants Outdoors?**
  Explore the health and developmental benefits that being outdoors provides infants, from boosting brain cells to promoting a positive temperament. Being outdoors results in more curious, happier babies!
  *Amanda Alsdurf, Early Childhood Education Consultant*
  *Age Level: IT*

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**9:00 am–10:15 am**

**Child Development**

- **Preschool Social Studies**
  Social Studies is more than just maps! Learn how to introduce and bring social studies into your early childhood environment.
  *Stephanie Christie, Starfish Family Services*
  *Age Level: PS*

**Family and Community Engagement**

- **Making the Community Connections**
  Increasing voice, choice, and access for families receiving home visiting supports and services is a priority for all home visiting partners in Saginaw County. Hear about the continuum of supports offered to home visitors and parents through shared recruitment systems, professional development, and outreach plans. Learn how to develop strategies of your own for developing your own community programs.
  *Noel Kelty and Julie Kozan, Saginaw ISD*
Thursday, April 20, 2017 (continued)

Interactions and Guidance

Supporting Early Brain Development through Relationship-based Care
Following an overview of early brain development, relationship-based care, an effective approach in supporting healthy infant/toddler brain development, is examined and implementation efforts discussed.
Julie Law, WestEd
Age Level: IT

Management

Hiring and Retaining High Quality Early Childhood Teachers
Through active participation, explore all aspects of hiring, and keeping, a great team! Topics include recruitment, interview techniques and employee retention.
Michelle Davis and Laura Griswold, Gretchen’s House Child Care Centers

Observation, Documentation and Assessment

Creative Documentation
Explore creative and inventive documentation ideas. Learn the important role documentation presentation plays in the ambiance of the classroom and the significant impact documentation has on children, their parents, and their caregivers.
Kristen Squiers, People’s Church Preschool

Professionalism

Putting Together Your CDA Portfolio
Earning your CDA? Examine what you need to put in your portfolio and how to display it, and review examples and resources.
Janet Parker and Lori Ireland, Educational Child Care Center

The Difficult Conversation–Problem Solving with Co-workers and Parents
Working with adults is not easy; building relationships that foster trust and respect takes work. Learn how to make difficult conversations easier by utilizing a problem solving approach.
Danielle Grimaldo and Sara Guoan, Gretchen’s House

Teaching and Learning

A Mock Project–Using the Project Approach Curriculum
Experience an interactive walk through a project using the Project Approach Curriculum. Gain information about the phases of a project, and how to empower and support children’s project learning.
Sarah Barth, University of Michigan
Age Levels: PS, KP, SA

Math and Science in the Preschool Years
As teachers, we can scaffold children’s curiosity to strengthen math and science skills through every day experiences. Discuss ways to encourage both independent and collaborative activities to prepare strong mathematics and science foundations.
Tiffany Frabotta, Dept. of Army Child Development Center
Age Level: PS

Technology in Early Childhood Learning Experiences
Many teachers and parents wonder how developmentally appropriate it is to use technology in early childhood settings. Learn how Interactive media can have learning benefits for children, improving social and language skills, and even children’s readiness for school.
Kristine Lindemulder, Foundations Preschool of Washtenaw County
Age Level: PS

Using Children’s Books to Build a Culturally Competent Classroom
Books impact how children view themselves and their world. Learn how to use books as an entry point into conversations about differences, allowing children to gain cultural perspectives different from their own.
Kathleen Neumann, Grand Rapids Community College

9:15 am–11:45 am

Child Development

Social Emotional Learning Plan
All educators need more tools in their toolkit to support children’s social emotional learning development. Learn how Ferndale Schools developed a continuum of learning to support students starting in Pre-K. Gain ideas for infusing SEL throughout the classroom and school family environment.
Dina Rocheleau and Heather Pironello, Ferndale Public Schools
Age Levels: PS, KP

Interactions and Guidance

It’s All About Relationships!
Explore the critical nature of relationship building in the classroom and with your colleagues. Examine the components of healthy relationships and gain techniques to specifically build them with children and peers. Leave energized and ready to face another day in your life as an early childhood professional!
Renee Johnson, Kids 1st Fun House

Professionalism

Less Talk, More Connecting
Struggling in your communications with employees, colleagues, parents, children, or others? Interested in speaking to or teaching groups? Learn, based on John Maxwell’s book Everyone Communicates, Few Connect, how to build your communication and connection skills with others. This is a first step in leading others effectively!
Michelle Burkhard, Grow By 1, LLC

Teaching and Learning

Reading and Writing in Kindergarten
Learn powerful teaching and learning strategies to promote literacy in the kindergarten classroom. Explore a multitude of beginning and emergent literacy strategies including reader’s workshop, writer’s workshop and phonics, as well as best practices for English language learners.
Jessica Pingle, Spring Arbor University
Age Level: KP
Thursday, April 20, 2017 (continued)

Science and Math for Infants and Toddlers
Explore how to include math and science concepts as part of everyday routines and play. Discover how what you are already doing can be enhanced through the lens of math and science.
Elizabeth Villaverde, Early Childhood Consultant/Trainer
Age Level: IT

10:30 am–11:45 am
Child Development

Let’s Play a Game!
Games are a great way to build a child’s skill level in all academic areas. Playing games helps build children’s learning and social skills through fun, interactive activities.
Sharon Lampman, Guardian Angels Catholic School
Age Level: KP

Professionalism

20 Ideas I Plan to Steal for My Classroom
As a student, I observe in many classrooms. Learn twenty ideas I’m “stealing” for my future classroom that you can implement now in your existing classroom!
Anna Nowak, Saginaw Valley State University
Age Levels: PS, KP

Office of Great Start Update
Hear an update on progress over the past year on programs, services, and initiatives, and information about future direction and initiatives from Office of Great Start leadership.
Richard Lower and Kaitlin Ferrick, Office of Great Start, MI Dept. of Education

Teaching and Learning

Propping Up Children’s Literacy Experiences
Explore the benefits of using props while reading books with young children. Through active engagement, learn how to select developmentally appropriate books, create usable props, and incorporate early childhood standards.
Margaret Mudge, Oakland University Lowry Center for Early Childhood Education
Age Levels: IT, PS, KP

Word Play!
Reading is FUN-damental, and the result of many small skills that build one upon the other. Learn new ideas for implementing beginning reading activities in hands-on, play-based, fun ways. Activities include sight words, labeling, rhyming words, blending, one to one correspondence, and phonics skills.
Jennifer Lavender-Schott, Detroit Academy of Arts and Sciences
Age Level: KP

Family and Community Engagement

Authentic Family Voice and Engagement
Learn about the benefits of building relationships with families in order to gain authentic family voice and engagement. Explore principles needed to create a culture that promotes engagement and hear practical strategies for implementation.
Rachel Mellema, Office of Great Start, MI Dept. of Education

Health, Safety and Nutrition

Bringing Agriculture into the Classroom
Follow the path from farm to fork with hands-on lessons for every content area. Get your hands dirty with seed, soil and sun lessons, then clean up for nutrition lessons.
Amelia Miller, Michigan Agriculture in the Classroom
Age Levels: PS, KP, SA

Interactions and Guidance

Bias and Racism in Preschool—Creating Anti-Bias Classrooms and Communities
Children display signs of bias as young as three years of age. Learn how we can support children in recognizing and combating prejudice in meaningful, developmentally appropriate ways. Explore steps adults and children can take to create a more just and equal world.
Nuola Akinde and Lauren Galster, Apple Playschools
Age Levels: IT, PS, KP

Responsive Caregiving—Getting in Tune, A PITC Training
Examine how an understanding of three stages of infancy helps adults attune their nurturance of infants and toddlers. Explore factors that influence responsive care and, through active exploration, learn how adults can effectively engage in a responsive “back-and-forth” dance in their relationships with infants and toddlers.
Cindy Basse, Great Start to Quality
Age Level: IT

Office of Great Start Update
Hear an update on progress over the past year on programs, services, and initiatives, and information about future direction and initiatives from Office of Great Start leadership.
Richard Lower and Kaitlin Ferrick, Office of Great Start, MI Dept. of Education

Thursday, April 20, 2017 (continued)

Thursday, April 20, 2017 (continued)
Supporting Brain Development by Building Resilience through Community Engagement
Engage in a strength-based discussion and active exploration of the impact of environmental factors on brain development. Explore the role of the early educator in strengthening resilience through family engagement.

Michelle Stevens, Early Childhood Investment Corporation

Interactions and Guidance
Stress, Love and Learning
Children often experience stress from multiple sources simultaneously, and that stress has an adverse effect on their educational capacity. Keeping the children’s best interest in mind, learn how to recognize the impact stress and gain information about and strategies for dealing with the outcomes of childhood stress.

Jamie Meyer, Annie’s Children’s Center
Age Levels: IT, PS, KP

Professionalism
Moving Beyond Compliance
Training is important, but only if you have a plan to implement the new information into your work. By combining a robust professional development model with engaging evaluation and coaching practices you can increase staff motivation, and ultimately, early childhood classroom quality. Learn how to take training a step further!

Celina Byrd and Emily Paffenroth, Starfish Family Services

Policy, Politics, Services and Outcomes for Young Children and Families
Learn about the ways in which state and national policy are impacted by political decisions, and how your leadership can make a difference in the types of services available for young children, their families, and the professionals who serve them.

Lindy Buch, Early Childhood Education Consultant

Teaching and Learning
Bag of Tricks
You don’t have to be a magician to create transitions that help young children move smoothly and joyfully from one activity to the next. Add to your collection of quick and amusing learning activities to facilitate transitions with children. These “in-between-activity” times are valuable teachable moments.

Sharron Krull, Play Power™ and Discount School Supply
Age Levels: IT, PS

Introduction to the Reggio Emilia Approach
Gain information about the basic tenets of the approach to early childhood education from Reggio Emilia, Italy and be introduced to the Hundred Languages exhibit coming to Michigan!

Nora Thompson, Michigan State University
Age Levels: IT, PS

Math and Science in the Preschool Classroom
Through active engagement, learn about the central concepts around math and science instruction in the preschool classroom. Discuss the importance of embedding language and literacy into these experiences, and how math and science activities aid in the development of self-regulation and pro-social skills. Gain ideas and techniques for immediate use!

Michelle Mertic, Baker College of Allen Park
Age Level: PS

Tricks for Kindergarten and Preschool Too!
Gain new, easy (and perhaps, slightly crazy) ideas that sneak in learning while playing around!

Louis Williams, Sandusky Elementary School
Age Levels: PS, KP, SA

12:45 pm–2:00 pm
Child Development
Developing Empathy in an Infant and Toddler Classroom
Discuss real life scenarios, review infant and toddler environments, and explore teachable moments and activities that help develop empathy skills in infants and toddlers.

Heather Locklear-Newman, Macomb County Head Start
Age Level: IT

Family and Community Engagement
Achieving Effective Family Participation in Early Childhood Education through Parent Meetings
Gain a fresh perspective about parent meetings and explore ideas and activities for more effective and engaging parent meetings.

Laura Roe, Dearborn Public Schools

Developing and Implementing Family Literacy Bags
Learn how to engage families through the use of Family Literacy Bags. Explore the various components of the bag and gain strategies for implementation.

Kathleen Plond, Cornerstone Education Group

Health, Safety and Nutrition
Sleepy Students?
Sleep is critical to a child’s behavior, growth and development, yet not covered in parent workshops or preschool curriculum. Learn about Sweet Dreamzzz innovative, research-based Early Childhood Sleep Education Program. Topics include sleep health and strategies for sharing the information with preschoolers and parents.

Ann Raftery and Nancy Maxwell, Sweet Dreamzzz Inc.
Age Level: PS

Interactions and Guidance
Developing a Socially Just Classroom
Are you tired of hearing, “That’s not fair!”? Explore strategies and ideas that will help you create a fair classroom by developing children’s abilities to problem solve and resolve conflicts.

Colleen Shelton, The Roepner School
Age Levels: PS, KP, SA

Management
Mastering Conflict
Examine conflict and its impact on communication in relation to an overall team charter. Explore the importance of unfiltered, productive conflict for team effectiveness.

Tammy Arakelian, Oakland Schools
Thursday, April 20, 2017 (continued)

Professionalism

Providers Guide to Great Start to Quality Assessment
Process
Hear an overview of the Great Start to Quality rating process, a detailed walkthrough of the assessment process, and what providers can expect to experience. Included is time to share experiences and have questions answered.
Heather Evans and Nicole Kretzschmer, Early Childhood Investment Corporation

Teaching and Learning

A View from the Swing Sets—We’re Outside Looking at Play
Play in the lives of young children has come into a much needed, stronger focus. Our “lens” is outdoor play spaces—how they are designed and created to support children’s play in all developmental domains.
William Strader, New England Symposium on Play and David Reeves, Grounds for Play

Natural Play-based Environment—Explore, Imagine, Wonder, Dream...
Explore exciting ways to integrate natural elements into your environment. Learn about inexpensive ways to enhance your indoor and outdoor space to allow for rich, natural, investigative hands-on learning.
Anna Fryer and Beth Fryer, Teddy Bear Daycare and Preschool
Age Levels: IT, PS, KP

What’s the Difference and Why Does it Matter? Phonological Awareness, Phonemic Awareness, and Phonics
These similar and yet very different components of reading are often confused. The National Reading Panel recommends explicit instruction in phonemic awareness but often it is only used to introduce phonics or taught with random activities. Explore the difference between these related terms and the developmental order in which skills should be introduced and mastered.
Stephanie Cork, Brainspring Educator Academy
Age Levels: PS, KP, SA

1:00 pm – 2:15 pm

Child Development

What Do I Do With These Babies?
Blending what you know about child development theories with real life activities to strengthen infant/toddler development while satisfying curriculum standards. Understanding the intricate milestones of infant/toddlers help Early Childhood Professionals prepare for every day work.
Rose Pardiac, Development Centers
Age Level: IT

Family and Community Engagement

Home Visits—Examining the Perry Preschool Project from a Family Engagement Perspective
The HighScope Perry Preschool Project serves as one of the most convincing cases for high quality preschool. Learn about the least studied aspect of the Project: home visits, to demonstrate the importance of family engagement.
Tomoko Wakabayashi and Sinsery Gardner, Oakland University; Jill Claxton, HighScope Educational Research Foundation; and Elizabeth Grace, Schoolcraft College

Interactions and Guidance

Let Me be Me!
Through active engagement, explore ways to manage children’s difficult behaviors.
Rachel Geyer, Development Centers
Age Levels: IT, PS

Teacher as Detective—Digging Deep to Find the Roots of Challenging Behaviors
When faced with challenging behavior, teachers must discern what children are communicating. Discover what children commonly communicate through their behavior. When the reason behind the communication is proactively addressed, the behavior changes.
Michelle Salcedo, The Sunshine House
Age Levels: IT, PS, KP

Observation, Documentation and Assessment

Seesaw—The Digital Learning Journal, Connecting Home and School
Discover how to connect home and school through a digital learning journal. Whether a beginner or ready to improve, explore new additions and how to take journals to the next level.
Amber Webb, The Roeper School
Age Levels: PS, KP, SA

Professionalism

Building Cultural Competence
We all have implicit bias. Explore bias through activities and learn how to use self-reflection as a technique to build cultural competence.
Kathleen Neumann, Grand Rapids Community College

Learn about navigating the various options within the early childhood higher education system, choices around degrees, and how T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Michigan can ease the financial burden associated with working toward professional development goals.
Kelsey Laird, Michigan AEYC
Thursday, April 20, 2017 (continued)

Teaching and Learning

Contemporary Play in Early Childhood—Revisiting Best Practice
Recent research on contemporary play among preschoolers examines play behaviors, comparing contexts of play with traditional materials and while using technology. With a rapid influx of technology being used in early learning environments, learn about and discuss implications for those caring for children with consideration of best practice.
Christina Mirtes, Eastern Michigan University
Age Levels: IT, PS, KP

How to Use Technology Appropriately in Early Childhood—An Interactive Session
How do you use technology in early childhood? Topics include technology use in the classroom, technology use for family engagement, and being a media mentor for children and their families. Learn about a technology lending library being created at CMU for use by our Child Development and Learning Lab and by area preschools. Through active participation, use and experiment with several different types of tangible technology.
Nathan Jonaitis, CMU Child Development Learning Lab
Age Level: PS

Playground Interactions
Learn how to support teachers in their playground interactions through Google Slides, providing play materials, and on the spot feedback.
Lillian McFarlin, MSU Child Development Laboratories
Age Levels: IT, PS

Exploring Visual Literacy—Writing with Pictures
Through active participation, explore ideas and tools for helping young children both create and comprehend images and become visual storytellers – very necessary skills for effective communication in today’s world.
Stephanie Kammeraad and Kevin Kammeraad, Cooperfly Creative Arts
Age Level: PS, KP

Self-Regulation through Social-Emotional Learning
Gain specific strategies to support individual children’s social-emotional growth using the teachings of Conscious Discipline in a HighScope classroom. Learn how the classroom environment and meaningful connections can help a child develop self-regulation.
Gloria Sabourin and Jill Mack, Spartan Child Development Center
Age Levels: PS, KP

Management

Upcoming Changes for Child Care Licensing and CDC Subsidy Providers
More changes? Michigan is in the process of changing its child care licensing rules to match new federal requirements for the child care subsidy, effective September 2017. Learn what to expect!
Lisa Brewer Walraven, MI Dept. of Education; Mark Jansen and Colleen Nelson, MI Dept. of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs

Teaching and Learning

Cleanup Time—Examining Attitudes, Behaviors and Learning Opportunities
Discover how to support teaching staff in examining their attitudes during cleanup times and how adult attitudes can affect child behaviors. Examine learning opportunities embedded in cleanup time and learn strategies, tips and activities designed to more fully engage preschool children in the process.
Christine Maier, Oakland Schools
Age Level: PS

Supporting Early Childhood Development and Learning through Storytelling
Explore the use of storytelling to engage learning across your program’s curricula and enhance your children’s development within all domains. Discuss application within the program setting and how to link skills and approaches to family and community engagement processes.
Paul Sugar, State of Alaska Dept. of Education and Early Development

1:15 pm–3:45 pm
Child Development

Growing in Harmony—An Introduction to Music Therapy with Young Children
Explore the concept of music therapy with young children, including supporting research, program and service delivery models, case examples, and funding opportunities. Learn from examples of music therapy interventions as well as non-musical treatment goals.
Kellee Hansen, CODA Music Therapy Services, LLC

Interactions and Guidance

Childhood Rage and the Value of Attachment
Look at the normal developmental process and then analyze the root cause of early rage reactions. Learn how to differentiate anger from rage and explore concrete corrective measures to pursue with young children. Investigate the advantages of a secure attachment and gain strategies for forming or enhancing the attachment process.
Phil Hamberg, Head Start for Kent County
Age Levels: IT, PS, KP

2:30 pm–3:45 pm
Child Development

Prewriting Skills for Young Writers
Learn the importance of teaching children, from birth to age 5, the skills necessary for becoming successfully writers.
Rebecca Huberty, Plainwell Community Schools
Age Levels: IT, PS

Family and Community Engagement

Making Every Minute Count during Home Visits
Learn how home visits provide a wealth of information about children’s experiences. Discover the benefits of home visiting and how they help create a bridge between home and school.
Beth Pierson, PR Early Ed
Thursday, April 20, 2017 (continued)

Health, Safety and Nutrition

The Impoverished Brain–Understanding the Importance of Relationships to Healthy Brain Development
Relational health is the key to changing the outcomes for children and families yet many individuals are experiencing relational poverty. Learn the importance of establishing and maintaining compassionate and trauma-informed learning environments.

Gloria Sherman, Parenting and Teaching with G.L.O., LLC

Interactions and Guidance

Slow it Down–Taking the Rush out of our Days with Young Children
How much control do your children have in the timing of their days? Learn how, in the rush of hectic days, to find ways to shift your perspective to one of mindfulness, giving older toddlers and preschoolers opportunities to take the lead.

Heather Blauer, Berkley School District
Age Levels: IT, PS

Management

Are You Hiring the Right Person for the Job? Ways to Recruit, Hire, Train, and Retain the Right Person
The best leaders are individuals that utilize their power with understanding. Gain information about recruiting, hiring, training and retaining the right person for the position. Explore strategies for reducing staff turnover resulting in continuity and consistency for children and families.

Thomasa Bond, MI Dept. of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs

Professionalism

Intentional Co-teaching: Teamwork Making the Dream Work
Teamwork is the ultimate tool that will help children grow into strong, independent, friendly, young people. Discuss the importance of adults modeling how to work well with others in a social setting.

Carolyn Miller, UM–Flint

Teaching and Learning

Multicultural Literature–Creating an Anti-Bias Learning Environment
Effective multicultural literature fosters a positive sense of self, a positive regard for one’s own culture, a deeper understanding of and appreciation for diversity and cultural heritage, and builds one’s ability to function collaboratively in our multicultural society. Learn how to evaluate the quality of multicultural literature, and gain new resources and recommendations.

Katherine Burnett, Gretchen’s House
Age Level: PS

Reaching Our Preschoolers through Active Learning
A demonstration of creative activities to keep little hands busy as children learn basic math, literacy and science skills. As we all know, when the hands are busy, the wheels are turning!

Shell Sturgis and Wendy Sessler, Color “R” World, LLC
Age Level: PS

Strngthening the Young Child’s Spirit–How to Build Resiliency in Early Childhood
Childhood seems carefree, however the reality is children face adversities. Some children recover from these stresses, while others have difficulty. Learn how early childhood educators can build foundational skills of resilience to help children be more adaptable when facing challenges.

Susima Weerakoon, Syracuse University
Age Level: PS

Thinking Like an Artist in Core Curriculum Subjects–A U.S. Department of Education Grant
Learn how Eastern Michigan University and River Rouge Public Schools are spending $2 million over four years on developing a standards-based Arts Integration program.

Janet Mayotte, Eastern Michigan University

2:45 pm–4:00 pm

Child Development

Making Something Out of Nothing
Learn how to create a variety of innovative preschool classroom materials from next to nothing!

Kahlen Smith-Aiello, GSRP
Age Levels: IT, PS, KP

It All Starts Here
Engaging in Interactive music activities teaches children how to approach an audience with comfort and confidence. Explore the impact of eye contact, facial expressions, and manners relevant to the audience, stage etiquette, applause and more.

Eric Ahlteen, Children’s Musician
Age Levels: PS, KP

Preparing your Preschoolers for Future Success
Early social emotional development is critical for later competence. Explore effective strategies to use with preschoolers and discuss how differing preschool curriculum models prepare children for social emotional success as they transition to kindergarten.

Kristin Wolber and Tierney Popp, Central Michigan University
Age Levels: PS, KP

Family and Community Engagement

The Earth Goes Round the Sun–Nature-based Celebrations for the Inclusive Classroom
Children, families and teachers love coming to school to celebrate life’s milestones! Discover how to create celebrations that are meaningful and fun, and that respect the diverse backgrounds of your learning community. Learn new songs, activities and recipes that will engage children, families and teachers alike!

Stefanie Kwit and Nuola Akinda, Apple Garden Playschools
### Thursday, April 20, 2017 (continued)

#### Interactions and Guidance

**Interacting with Toddlers**
Learn about interactions with toddlers in regards to developmentally appropriate toddler expectations. How do we respect, communicate, positively guide, and help toddlers learn through exploration and play. Learn how changing our behavior changes the behavior in our classrooms!

*Michele Woodford, Dept. of Army Child Development Center*

*Age Level: IT*

#### Management

**Happy Staff, Happy Families**
Research has shown that happy and well taken care of staff naturally create an environment that nurtures relationships with customers. Hear about the research and specific scenarios that will help managers take care of their staff, creatively lower turnover, and create happy families in their centers.

*Brooke Wilson, Rainbow Child Care Center*

**Incorporating Volunteers in Your Early Childhood Program—Lessons Learned**
Gain tips and ideas for recruiting and utilizing volunteers. Topics include orientation, training and recognition. Hear about the bonuses as well as the potential challenges of incorporating these valuable resources in your program.

*Beth Walters, Kathy McNinch and Heidi Albertson, Kalamazoo Drop-in Child Care Center*

#### Teaching and Learning

**Bridging the Gap in Education with Language Accommodation**
Examine the importance of implementing African American Vernacular English in the culturally diverse classroom. Gain viable options for translating from one dialect to another to foster student respect and success.

*Nicole Gestwite, Tecumseh Public Preschools*

**Finding Balance—Technology in Early Childhood**
Technology is everywhere! Smart phones, tablets, computer games and websites are all targeted at young children. Learn how to find balance between integrating technology, preparing young children to operate in the technology world, and ensuring developmentally appropriate practices.

*Kylie Rymanowicz, Michigan State University Extension*

**Thinking Outside the Box—Using Aided Language to Support Language Development of All Preschoolers**
Learn about “aided language stimulation”, a strategy which supports language development, providing a window into the thoughts and ideas of preschoolers with complex communication needs.

*Laura Taylor, Alt+Shift*

#### 4:15 pm – 5:15 pm
**Meeting**
*MiAEYC Public Policy Meeting*

#### 7:30 pm – 8:30 pm
**Meeting**
*MiAEYC Annual Business Meeting*

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### Student Networking Center

**Ruby Room, Amway Grand Plaza Hotel**
Join students, faculty and MiAEYC leaders for informal networking!

- 7:45 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Thursday & Friday
- 7:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Saturday

- Meet students from other campuses
- Learn about starting a student chapter on your campus
- Share student chapter successes
- Ask questions…get answers!

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### Conference Orientation

**for students and 1st-time attendees**

Daily 7:45 a.m. – 8:15 a.m.
Friday, April 21, 2017

8:30 am–10:00 am

Keynote

Celebrate Children! Rediscover the Child in You
Exercise your mirth muscles, let your hair down, and allow your inner child to come out and play! Experience a cornucopia of practical and playful ideas including music, movement, and creative activities to help you live, love, laugh, and learn with children. Discover how to create a nourishing environment where children and adults can flourish and reach their potential.
Sharron Krull, Play Power™ and Discount School Supply

10:15 am–12:30 pm

Meeting

MI-ACCESS Bi-annual Board Meeting

10:30 am–11:45 am

Child Development

Beyond Poverty–Brain-Inspired Ways to Understand and Respond to Poverty
Poverty has a synergistic and pervasive negative impact on children’s brains. Learn about the specific damage that occurs in the developing brain, about the power of Neurogenesis for countering the impact of poverty, and how to build hope and capacity.
Gloria Sherman, Parenting and Teaching with G.L.O., LLC

Sensory Tools

Sensory Issues have greatly increased, especially for children on the Autism spectrum. Discover ideas and tools that help reduce sensory overload, and learn how to integrate sensory items throughout your classroom.
Marie Boggan, Bishop Kelley Catholic School
Age Levels: PS, KP

Family and Community Engagement

Collaboration and Partnering between a Local Head Start and University–How it Works
CAA Head Start and Spring Arbor University have had a collaborative partnership for over 20 years, providing support, experience, and ultimately jobs. Learn about the nuts and bolts of how this works effectively.
Sharon Joplin, Spring Arbor University and Jackie Barber, Community Action Agency–Head Start

10:30 am–11:45 am

Interactions and Guidance

Birds Fly, Fish Swim, People Feel
After a review of Erickson and Maslow’s theories, explore the four temperament types and discover how temperament can impact a child’s ability to function in the classroom. Learn about goodness of fit and strategies for supporting young learners.
Michele Smith, Starfish Family Services
Age Levels: IT, PS

10:30 am–11:45 am

Management

The Business Basics of Operating a Prosperous Child Care Facility
Learn the business fundamentals for operating a successful child care center. Topics include marketing strategies for millennial parents, addressing management and financial issues, and information on risk-management concerns.
Elizabeth Cameron and Peggy Thelen, Alma College

10:30 am–11:45 am

Professionalism

Co-teaching–Two Teachers, One Classroom
Discover ways to maximize your potential and build an effective teaching team. Learn how to identify individual strengths and weaknesses and how to use that information to support your team.
Connie Griffore, Saginaw Public Schools and Rita Trinklein, Saginaw ISD

10:30 am–11:45 am

Retaining Enrollment through Infant to Toddler Transitions
Wondering how to walk parents through the transition from sweet infancy to turbulent toddlerhood? Learn about our effective transition strategies beginning at 12 months through the full transition into the toddler room.
Heather Docilait and Samantha Mitchell, Middle of the Mitten Learning Center

10:30 am–11:45 am

Great Start to Quality and You–Benefits of Being a Part of a National Early Childhood Initiative
Hear about Michigan’s participation in the national QRIS [Quality Rating and Improvement System] and the role it plays in supporting high quality childcare, with Michigan’s strides highlighted. Explore the direct benefits to childcare providers, children, and families, and why QRIS is important in Michigan.
Michelle Golus and Jennifer Rountree, Early Childhood Investment Corporation

10:30 am–11:45 am
Friday, April 21, 2017 (continued)

Teaching and Learning

Kindergarten Entrance Age—Does Delayed Entrance Provide Children a Gift of Time?
Explore the issue of whether kindergarten entrance age makes a difference in school success. Learn the results of a study that investigated reading, math and problematic behaviors.
Michael Lloyd, South Lyon Community Schools
Age Level: KP

Literacy Made Fun
Explore ways to include literacy into a before and after school program that excites students excited and encourages active participation. Gain ideas for sparking their creativity as well as enhancing their literacy skills.
Malissa Smith, Milan Area Schools
Age Levels: KP, SA

Musical Pathways to Literacy
Bounce, clap, tap, rhyme, and maybe even snore your way into early literacy skills with Tricia, using tunes that are tales and tales that are tunes. Building a foundation for literacy can be fun!
Patricia Kjolhede and Theodore Kjolhede, Tunes and Tales by Tricia
Age Levels: PS, KP, SA

Real Life Starts Now
Learn how to use real-world situations to teach developmentally appropriate academics. Seamlessly incorporating social lessons into your daily schedule empowers children with skills they will use for a lifetime.
Jennifer Lintner, Linden Public Schools and Janelle Pauldine, Owosso Public Schools
Age Levels: PS, KP

Science Time
You don’t have to be a scientist to have science throughout your classroom. Explore easy and inexpensive science experiments, activities and tabletop props for all ages.
Sherry Ann Wolfer, Let’s Dig In
Age Levels: PS, KP, SA

10:30 am–1:00 pm

Child Development

Recruitment and Retention—Coaching and Mentoring Early Childhood Professionals
Learn effective coaching techniques, how to build effective relationships with staff and how to handle difficult staff when giving feedback. Discover effective forms of communication for building better relationships and how to coach and mentor staff in accordance with their learning styles.
Jewel Davis-Tombul, Early Education Program Specialist

Interactions and Guidance

Rituals and Traditions—Let’s Build a Community
Rituals and traditions have the power to connect children, staff and families; create a sense of belonging; and create a positive learning environment. Discover how you can build a sense of community in your classroom and in your program.
Jill Tarrant, CACS Head Start

Management

Take Your Leadership to the Next Level
Are you new to a leadership role, interested in enhancing your leadership abilities or being more intentional? Learn, based on John Maxwell’s The 5 Levels of Leadership curriculum, how to springboard you and your team towards success. Gain practical techniques and applications based on experience!
Michelle Burkhard, Grow By 1, LLC

Professionalism

Finding Your Voice for Infants and Toddlers Using Professional Learning Communities
Discover how engaging a community of peers in sharing experiences, reflecting on best practices, and becoming a network of support can help navigate the intense world of caring for infants and toddlers successfully. Learn the what, why, and how of establishing a local learning community and simulate a learning community session about the infant/toddler workforce.
Stephanie Dettloff, Great Start to Quality Northeast and Synthia Britton, Early Childhood Investment Corporation
Age Level: IT

Teaching and Learning

Autism 101
Learn basic information to help you understand what autism looks like and explore basic supports for the classroom.
Beth Boogholt, Novel Responses, Inc.

Growing Up WILD—Life Science in the Outdoor Classroom
Growing Up WILD is a professional development opportunity for early learner educators to engage their students in the wonder of nature, using safe learning in the outdoors, while applying real world scientific practices. Discover the basics of 27 lessons tied to NAEYC Criteria and Head Start Domains. Each lesson includes activities in art, music, centers and social studies, revolving around a life science concept.
Natalie Elkins, Dept. of Natural Resources
Age Levels: PS, KP

10:45 am–12:00 pm

Child Development

Beyond Twinkle, Twinkle—The Role of Music in Child Development
Music is highly motivating for many young children. Hear an overview of children’s musical development and examine music’s role in assessing and developing skills within cognitive, physical, social and communicative domains.
Kellee Hansen, CODA Music Therapy Services, LLC

Mindfulness for the Busy Bee—Encouraging Self-regulation for Kids with Ants in their Pants!
Mindfulness and social-emotional learning top trends. Collect a toolbox of ideas for helping children with active minds and bodies use calming techniques to create more stillness in their days.
Nuola Akinde, Apple Playschools
Age Levels: PS, KP
Family and Community Engagement

Valuable Life Skills for Successful Children—Let’s Start Today
Learn how parents can help their children develop life skills through fun activities at home that support what teachers are doing in the classroom. Develop a one-page calendar that includes executive function skills activities to do at home and in the classroom.

Jennifer Brewer, Concordia University

Health, Safety and Nutrition

Sensible Steps for Reducing Exposures to Contaminants in Early Learning Environments
Learn how and why children are more susceptible to environmental pollutants in indoor environments. Discover no-cost strategies to make early learning spaces safer and healthier for children, and for those caring for them.

Maryann Suero, US Environmental Protection Agency

Interactions and Guidance

Oh No, It’s that Time...
Develop and share strategies to make difficult, stressful parts of the day engaging and meaningful. Discuss common pitfalls and learn how to build support strategies for nap time and outdoor time. Examine these concepts within the context of the PQA.

Beth Pierson, PR Early Ed and Ginna Williams, Education Achievement Authority in Detroit

Age Level: PS

Professionalism

Burn Out in Childcare
Exhausted? Learn about the different stages of burnout, ways to redirect your feelings, and ideas for reducing your stress level.

Jaelyn White and Jane Garcia, Jade Child Development Center

Shifting Mindsets—Why Gratitude, Habits and Happiness Matter Most
Purposefully choosing and practicing small daily habits will dramatically impact your success as a person, professional and leader. It’s a simple choice. Learn about the happiness movement and let positivity change your whole work environment!

Cheryl Priest, Central Michigan University

The Impact of NAEYC Changes on MiAEYC
NAEYC is changing the structure of the national, state and local affiliates. Learn how Michigan plans to transition from 16 local affiliates to 8 regional chapters. Join an open discussion with time for questions and answers.

Kelly Kreider and Erica Willard, Michigan AEYC

Teaching and Learning

Hiking with Preschoolers
There are many ways to intentionally include nature-based programming — you need an enthusiastic teacher, children, and open space! Learn how to include hiking in your curriculum!

Beth Detzler and Bethany Foote, Peoples Church Preschool

Age Level: PS

Language, Communication and Culture with Infants and Toddlers—A PITC Training
Learn how to facilitate language development and communication in infants and toddlers by exploring their experiences with language learning and implementing ten strategies outlined by PITC, with a focus on nurturing relationships between infant and toddler care teachers and children.

Cindy Basse, Great Start to Quality
Age Level: IT

STEM, STEAM and 21st Century Block Play
Block centers should promote creativity, communication, critical thinking, and collaboration. Learn how the Panelcraft magnetic construction system promotes these skills and more!

Jeff Whittaker, Panelcraft
Age Levels: PS, KP

Working with Special Needs Students in Pre-K
Explore how to work with students of different needs including speech, language and cognitive delays, autism, and behavior struggles. Gain information and helpful techniques for helping all children experience success in Pre-K.

Kyle Curtis, Farmington Public Schools

12:45 pm–2:00 pm

Child Development

I Double Dare You! The Importance of Risk-taking
To prevent child injuries and disagreements, safety discussions are held and rules set. But, can these actions be limiting children’s’ development? Explore this question and discover how to encourage children to be thoughtful risk-takers.

Jacqueline Wood, Early Childhood Consultant

Understanding a Toddler’s World
Learn about the four developmental stages of self-control, gain techniques to help toddlers manage their feelings, and explore strategies for reducing tantrums, biting, and other challenging behaviors.

Tracy Trautner, MSU Extension
Age Levels: IT, PS

Family and Community Engagement

Bonding with Infant Families
Gain tips and tools for creating strong and lasting bonds between infants, their caregivers and their families.

Larita Searle and Samantha Mitchell, Middle of the Mitten Learning Center

Management

Child Care Licensing Update—Changes, Changes, Changes!
Learn about the upcoming changes to Michigan’s Public Act 116 of 1973 made necessary to align with federal requirements that impact child care home and center rules.

Katrice Sweet and Erica Bigelow, MI Dept. of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs
Friday, April 21, 2017 (continued)

Observation, Documentation and Assessment

HighScope’s COR for Kindergarten—Results of the Pilot and Implementation Studies
HighScope’s COR for Kindergarten is ready for use as a valid and reliable kindergarten entry assessment and as an ongoing assessment to measure kindergarten achievement throughout the school year. Learn about the results, what we learned about kindergarten assessments, kindergarten teachers’ use of assessments, and the implications for a statewide or district wide comprehensive assessment system.
Jeffrey Beal, HighScope Educational Research Foundation
Age Level: KP

Professionalism

Customer Service in Early Childhood Education
Maintaining high quality customer service can be difficult—so many places, so many needs. Review basic customer service skills and, based on the Zingerman’s model, and others, learn new ideas for giving high quality customer service all the time!
Jessica Carter, Manzanitas Spanish Immersion Playschool and Kate VanHorn, Apple Playschools

Providers Guide to Great Start to Quality Validation Process
Hear an overview of the Great Start to Quality rating process, a detailed walkthrough of the validation process, and what providers can expect to experience. Included is time to share experiences and have questions answered.
Heather Evans and Candice Torrealba, Early Childhood Investment Corporation

Teaching and Learning

Building Coherence from Pre-K to K
Through active participation, explore ways to build staff capacity which, in turns, builds children’s learning capacity! Discover new tools, have fun, and dialogue about being a Children’s Champion.
Dina Rocheleau and Heidi Schmidt, Ferndale Public Schools
Age Levels: PS, KP

Clap it, Tap it, Sing it!
Through active participation, learn songs and rhythm exploration activities to engage and encourage creative thinking and methodized responses from children. The only musical instruments needed are hands for clapping, feet for tapping, and voices for singing!
Karen Bonnici Czarnik, Story Rhythms, LLC
Age Levels: IT, PS, KP

Journey of Empowerment
Learn about the process of an assistant teacher taking on a leadership role in toddler and preschool classrooms using self-reflection and coaching for positive interactions.
Ashley Tafoya and Lillian McFarlin, MSU Child Development Laboratories
Age Levels: IT, PS

Making Small Groups Fun using Math and Literacy!
Looking for new small group ideas? Learn easy math and literacy activities you can implement immediately!
Laura Roe, Dearborn Public Schools

Play and Learn! Using Standards to Plan Meaningful Learning Opportunities
Play offers children authentic ways to practice math and literacy skills. Explore examples of rigorous learning occurring in a play-based kindergarten classroom and gain ideas for successfully instituting play while maintaining rigor.
Melissa Kramer, St. Thomas Aquinas Parish School and Meghan Block
Age Level: KP

Testing Anxiety in Kindergarten Students
Testing anxiety is a relatively new issue affecting kindergarten students. Gain techniques and strategies to help support and aid our youngest learners to minimize the anxiety.
Connie Tonsor, Port Huron Area Public Schools and Kelley Walters, Northcentral University
Age Level: KP

1:00 pm–2:15 pm

Center Stage

Get Your Motor Running! Fun Physical Activities for Toddlers and Preschoolers
Explore cooperative group games and how to use simple equipment to increase moderate to vigorous physical activity, refine motor skills, and improve coordination for all children. Learn how to make inexpensive materials and play props for inside and outside play. Discover how to integrate movement and physical activity across the curriculum while supporting literacy, math, science and children’s social and emotional development. Active play counters obesity while enhancing brain function and learning!
Sharron Krull, Play Power™ and Discount School Supply

Child Development

Early Education Practices to, not Squash, Emerging Executive Functions
Explore key practices to cultivate exceptional levels of emerging executive functions in young children, contrasting them with common child rearing and early education practices that squash emerging executive functions.
Ginny Trierweiler, Ginny Trierweiler Consulting
Age Levels: IT, PS, KP

Family and Community Engagement

LGBTQ+ Inclusion in the Early Childhood Classroom
Examine the importance of including and supporting lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered and questioning students and families in your early childhood program.
Nicole Gestwite, Tecumseh Public Preschools

Health, Safety and Nutrition

All Aboard for Whole Grains!
Explore the health benefits, types, and ways to include more whole grains in one’s daily diet. Discover fun ways to encourage children’s enjoyment of and learning about whole grains in developmentally appropriate ways.
Ann Kluting, Camp Fire West Michigan 4C
Age Level: PS
Interactions and Guidance

Using a Problem Solving Approach with Infants and Toddlers
Do you struggle with aggressive behaviors in your infant and toddler settings? Learn tips and techniques for fostering problem solving and diminishing aggression in the earliest years.
Sara Guoan and Danielle Grimaldo, Gretchen’s House
Age Level: IT

Management

How Does the Child Care Subsidy Work?
There are several changes taking place with the Child Development and Care (CDC) subsidy program. Learn about how the application process works for parents and for providers, and how to bill successfully.
Lisa Brewer Walraven and Evelyn Oliver, MI Dept. of Education

Teachers have Developmental Stages Too
Learn about teacher developmental stages and how knowing the developmental stage of a teacher shapes training, coaching and mentoring. Gain an understanding of “reasonable expectations” for teachers at various stages and what you can do as a trainer or director to support teachers at each stage of their development.
Janine Martel, Dept. of Army Child, Youth and School Services

Meeting
MiAEYC Leadership Significant Interest Group
Jennifer Champagne, MiAEYC Leadership SIG

Observation, Documentation and Assessment

Screening Tools to Detect Developmental Delays
Learn about different screening tools available for educational staff and parents. Information gained will aid in decisions about which screening tool to use for children, birth to age 5, who are exhibiting signs of development delays.
Rebecca Huberty, Plainwell Community Schools

Professionalism

Quality for Michigan’s Children and School-agers
Explore the work done to ensure children aren’t aging out of quality care. Hear an overview of how stakeholders have been developing recommendations to expand Great Start to Quality to be inclusive of out-of-school time programs. Gain an understanding of what has happened so far, where it’s going from here, and more about the out-of-school time field in Michigan.
Jordan Blough-Orr, Early Childhood Investment Corporation and Lorraine Thoreson, Office of Great Start, MI Dept. of Education
Age Level: SA

Take a Peek at Michigan’s New Professional Development Registry
Michigan’s Professional Development Registry is an online recognition system for early childhood and after school professionals. Learn how the registry allows each professional to track her/his experience, education, credentials and training, and allows for placement on our new statewide career pathway.
Robin Zeiter, Office of Great Start, MI Dept. of Education
Age Levels: IT, PS, SA

Teaching and Learning

Boys will be Boys!
Take a look at the unique, fun and energy-filled ways you can help boys be successful. Gain tips and techniques for helping high-energy boys to get back on track with the curriculum.
Kyle Curtis, Farmington Public Schools

Nature-based Curriculum through the Seasons
Providing children with a curriculum based on seasons and natural happenings allows children to experience Mother Nature and their environment. Gain a variety of curriculum ideas and hands-on activities as we explore the seasons and learn how to connect this learning to all developmental areas.
Anna Fryer and Beth Fryer, Teddy Bear Daycare and Preschool
Age Levels: PS, KP

Now I Know My “ADZ’s”–Understanding the Early Indicators of Dyslexia in Preschool and the Early Grades
Dyslexia is a learning difference that affects 1 in 5 people. Learn the facts, identify early warning signs, and develop strategies to support all learners.
Amanda Tover, Somerset Academy
Age Levels: PS, KP

1:00 pm–2:30 pm

Learning Fair

Full STEAM Ahead–Integrating STEAM Concepts in the Preschool Classroom
Deidre Wasson, Bundles of Blessings Child Care

Hands-on Open-ended Activities
D’Carda Aubrey and Khloe Girard, UM–Flint Early Childhood Development Center

Integrating Nature into the Preschool Classroom, Inside and Out
Kathleen White and Penny Folsom, Grand Rapids Community College Lab Preschool

More than Uno, Dos, Tres–Incorporating Spanish into Your Classroom
Abigail Lopez, Saginaw Valley State University

Toddler Treasures
Heather Thomason, St. Paul’s Lutheran ECC

Who Wrote the Book?
Sue Meier, Ithaca South Elementary
Friday, April 21, 2017 (continued)

1:30 pm–4:00 pm

Family and Community Engagement

Family Nights—Bringing School and Families Together
Family Nights are a way to bring school and families together—a perfect opportunity to help children develop skills and build the foundation for school success. Learn how to create a Family Night program from the first steps to inclusion of literacy and math activities.
Vicky Bowman, Crossroads Charter Academy

Interactions and Guidance

Developing Children’s Self-Regulation Skills—Strategies to Support Children with Challenging Behaviors
Early childhood theories support a direct correlation between school success predictors and a child’s ability to demonstrate cognitive control, otherwise known as self-regulation. Self-regulation is a critical social and emotional skill underpinning children’s ability to act pro-socially. Learn strategies to develop children’s self-regulation skills and how to support children demonstrating challenging behaviors.
Lisa Keiper and Mary Frances Bertolino, Rainbow Child Care Center
Age Levels: IT, PS

The Art of Discipline
It takes a great deal of creativity and ingenuity to manage a classroom of young learners. Explore aspects of classroom management with an emphasis on being proactive through role modeling using positive communication techniques and effective discipline strategies with a focus on working with children from 3 months to 5 years.
Renee Johnson, Kids 1st Fun House

Teaching and Learning

Daily Routines for Infants and Toddlers
There is still much to be learned about best practice and high quality infant toddler care. Through ongoing research and careful consideration, reflect upon current practices to provide optimal learning and care environments for our youngest children.
Rebecca Stoessner, Grand Rapids Early Discovery Center
Age Level: IT

Words Matter—Focusing on Vocabulary in Preschool Settings
Hear about recent research concerning vocabulary development and the much discussed “word gap”. Gain distinct and concrete strategies for supporting increased vocabulary development for all children in their preschool settings.
Christine Maier, Oakland Schools
Age Level: PS

2:30 pm–3:45 pm

Child Development

Get Off Your Crisscross Applesauce and Move with Me!
Music and movement are essential tools for creating healthy habits, building a child’s sense of self, and providing educational opportunities. Discover how to get children moving throughout the day while providing benefits that shape the whole child.
Michael Martin, Learning Care Group
Age Level: PS

Family and Community Engagement

Grandparents as Partners in the Classroom
Seniors have a wealth of knowledge to share. Learn how to incorporate grandparent/senior volunteers into your program and gain valuable opportunities for intergenerational relationships.
Judie Mirabelli-Migaldi and Beth Detzler, People Church Preschool

Working with Families in GSRP—Preliminary Results from a Two-year Study of GSRP Family Engagement
Through facilitated discussion, learn about and explore the preliminary results from a two-years GSRP family engagement study in three ISDs that include findings from teacher and ISD official interviews and family surveys.
Bethany Wilinski and Kacy Martin, Michigan State University

Interactions and Guidance

Understanding and Supporting Children’s Emotions
Developing the skills to control emotions is a difficult process! Learn what brain research tells us about children’s capabilities for controlling their emotions and gain strategies for supporting children and their families.
Kirsten Charnesky, Somerset Academy

Professionalism

Race to the Top with Great Start to Quality
Hear an overview of the Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge activities, including updates and accomplishments, related to Great Start to Quality, Michigan’s Quality Rating and Improvement System. Receive information to support you in your work with an opportunity to ask questions.
Kelly Christman and Renae Visscher, Early Childhood Investment Corporation

How to Fly through a PQA with Minimal or No Turbulence
Teachers stress over a Program Quality Assessment being conducted in their classroom. Explore strategies teachers can use before the day of the PQA to be well informed and better prepared for a classroom evaluation.
Karen Paciorek, Eastern Michigan University
Age Level: PS
Teaching and Learning

Genius Hour—What It Is and How to Implement
Learn about Genius Hour, a way to inspire wonder, curiosity and passion, while incorporating learning goals, as children explore their passions.
Amber Webb, The Roeper School
Age Levels: PS, KP, SA

Kindergarten Entry Assessments and Continuity of Practice
Join a discussion around how we connect early childhood experiences with early elementary experiences and where kindergarten entry assessments fit into continuity of practice.
Jeffrey Beal, HighScope Educational Research Foundation
Age Levels: PS, KP

Schema Play Theory—Choosing Materials for an Engaged Classroom
Explore ways to harness the natural curiosity and instincts of children to promote learning and take behavior from challenging to fully engaged. Learn how to use schema theory to choose materials to enhance learning through play.
Laura Wagonlander and Linda Mora, Fenton Area Public Schools World of Wonder Early Learning Center
Age Levels: IT, PS, KP

STREAM into Early Childhood
Learn how to engage young learners by offering fun, hands-on experiences that require them to communicate as they work together to solve problems.
Janelle Pauldine, Owosso Public Schools and Jennifer Lintner, Linden Public Schools
Age Levels: PS, KP, SA

Treasure Baskets on a Budget
Treasure baskets contain open-ended materials that support sensory learning, language development, and physical development for infants and toddlers. Learn about the importance of treasure baskets and discover wonderful materials that are free or inexpensive.
Amanda Alsdurf, Early Childhood Education Consultant
Age Level: IT

Working Together to Develop Early Literacy Skills
Identify factors that place a child at risk for delays in literacy development. Learn about the components of literacy development and the signs to look for that indicate a child is having difficulties.
Tracy Trautner, MSU Extension
Age Levels: IT, PS

Child Development

Impact of Trauma and Adversity on Infant and Toddler Development
Discover how trauma and stress impact the development of infants and toddlers. Explore effective strategies to support very young children and their families.
Jennifer Champagne, Oakland Schools
Age Level: IT

Play Your Way to Better Behavior
Learn how to empower children to solve their own problems. Through role playing, social stories and real life scenarios, explore ways to teach children to learn from their experiences.
Casey Sterle, Leslie Public Schools

Family and Community Engagement

Every Child Ready to Read in Michigan—Engaging Parents in Early Literacy Practices
Hear background information about and an overview of the Public Library Association’s Every Child Ready to Read, 2nd Edition. The ECRR focuses on five practices: talk, sing, read, write and play. Learning these skills, beginning at birth, has a long-term impact on children’s reading achievement and academic success.
Cathy Lancaster, Library of Michigan

Using Technology to Communicate with Parents
Technology puts communication options at your fingertips. Learn how to connect and engage with families using 21st century technology tools.
Ashleigh Mowers, Livingston ESA

Health, Safety and Nutrition

The Benefits of Cooking with Kids
Children engaged in cooking experiences learn math and science, and further their social skills. Explore the language of cooking as you actively participate and sample the results.
Shaide Tallent and Carolyn Miller, UM–Flint Early Childhood Development Center

Interactions and Guidance

How Chronic Stress Impacts Development and Learning
Learn about the causes of chronic stress for children and families, and their impact on development and classroom function. Identify classroom situations which may indicate stress and discuss options for working with children and families to promote positive outcomes.
Jean Allison, Jackson County ISD
Age Levels: PS, KP

Take a Breath and Stress Less—Strategies for All Ages
Discover strategies to reduce stress and improve learning while creating a more emotionally soothing environment for staff and children. Participate in proven techniques from yoga and other stress reduction methods for young children and adults.
Kimberly Doudna and Linda Dove, Western Michigan University

2:45 pm–4:00 pm

Center Stage

Exploiting the Brain’s Backdoor for Easy Access to the Hardest Letter-Sound Skills!
Learn how to increase early learner-momentum in reading and writing by taking advantage of learning loopholes that are rooted in the brain’s plasticity. These brain-changing teaching tricks and tools will leave you armed and ready for Monday morning!
Katie Garner, Author and Literacy Consultant
Friday, April 21, 2017 (continued)

Management

**Leadership—How Encouragement and Appreciation Link to Higher Standards of Excellence**
Examine the principles and practices that support the basic human need to be appreciated for who we are and what we do. Learn how leaders can apply these principles and practices to their daily work.

*Shannon Peitz and Molly Davis, Gretchen’s House*

**Observation, Documentation and Assessment**

**From Clipboard to Classroom—Using Child and Program Assessment Data Together to Strengthen Teaching Practices**
By analyzing child data and program data, teachers can determine how to adapt the classroom environment, materials, daily routines, and preschool teaching strategies. Learn how to use child and program assessment data collectively to determine celebrations and areas for growth. Data used will be the COR and PGA.

*Elizabeth Beck and Jessica Logan, Berkley Schools*
Age Level: PS

**Teaching and Learning**

**Building Math Sense in Kindergarten**
Building strong mathematical foundations for young children is crucial for developing critical thinking and reasoning skills. Learn how to integrate trade books and math hands-on-learning stations to help children build a strong foundation.

*Janie Ashcraft Winn*
Age Level: KP

**Teaching with Intention**
Learn how to use project work and children’s interest to drive your curriculum. Explore examples of how to plan for, extend, and assess children’s learning experiences in all developmental areas.

*Erica Colon, MSU Child Development Laboratories*
Age Level: PS

**Utilizing Open-ended Questions—When and How to Use Them**
Learn how to utilize open-ended questions to enhance language development and critical thinking skills in preschoolers.

*Catina Anderson, Mini University, Inc.*
Age Levels: PS, KP, SA

**Professionalism**

**Discussion Panel—Men in Early Childhood**
Middle of the Mitten Learning Center has 7 men on staff who work in all classrooms—infant, toddler, preschool and school age. Learn about the joys, and challenges, and have your questions answered honestly and thoughtfully.

*Pepper Near, Middle of the Mitten Learning Center*

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**MiAEYC Conference Silent Auction**

**Going once, going twice – sold!**

MiAEYC is sponsoring its eleventh silent auction at the 2017 Conference to raise money for the Student Scholarship Fund. Sale items, including early childhood materials and equipment, books, hotel packages and gift certificates, will be on display in the exhibit area Thursday, April 20 and Friday, April 21.

Bidding closes at 4:30 p.m. Friday, April 21 and winners will be announced from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

**Call for Volunteers!**

The MiAEYC Conference runs smoothly because leadership is organized and ready, and volunteers offer invaluable assistance!

We have a volunteer spot for you! You can be a host, help staff the MOYC™ or public policy tables, or help with many other tasks.

Please give your professional association an hour or two of your time.

To volunteer, contact us!

Email: volunteer@MiAEYC.org
Phone: 800-336-6424
517-351-4183
Saturday, April 22, 2017

8:30 am–9:30 am

**Keynote**

If You Build It, They Will Come!
Learn how to build the classroom that you want and that your children need. Laying the groundwork is the first step to preventing those challenging classrooms and behaviors. Neverland or Lord of the Flies, it’s all up to you!
*Michael Martin, Learning Care Group*
Age Levels: IT, PS

10:00 am–11:15 am

**Child Development**

You’re Not My Friend! Friendship in Early Childhood
How much do young children understand about the complex concept of friendship? Learn the research behind how and when children develop friendships, and what you can do to support social competence development.
*Honilynn Hendricks and Alayna Bialick, Somerset Academy*
Age Levels: PS, KP

**Family and Community Engagement**

Sharing is Caring, We Can Make a Difference–Community Outreach
Explore ideas that engage students, families, communities and businesses in teaching social justice. Learn about monthly service projects that not only help make a difference but provide students with valuable life lessons.
*Kathleen Beaudoin and Susan Dieter, Techumseh Public Schools Preschool*

**Interactions and Guidance**

Ask–Listen–Encourage
Learn how to communicate with youth to make them feel supported and heard. Explore techniques that help build supportive, youth-centered relationships including how to ask effective questions, listen actively, and offer encouragement rather than praise.
*Tonya Clevenger, Camp Fire West MI 4C*
Age Level: SA

Developing Possibilities–Pathways from Struggles to Resilience
Learn effective strategies to prepare children to handle stress while teaching them about resilience. Learn the 7 C’s for resilience, which is the spark to assist students in healthy social emotional growth.
*Gloria Sherman, Parenting and Teaching with G.L.O., LLC*

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

**Good Morning Boys and Girls! Recognizing and Addressing Gender Bias in Language**
Teachers have a tremendous influence on how children develop ideas of gender and gender significance. Preschool age is a significant developmental period when children learn the “differences” between genders and what is expected of them as a person of the gender they were assigned at birth. Join us for a reflective conversation on the language we use with children and how to adapt for a more gender inclusive future!
*Alexiss Eleffson and Nuola Akinde, Apple Play Schools*
Age Levels: IT, PS, KP

**Observation, Documentation and Assessment**

The Magic of Observation
Infant and toddler care is very busy work. Discover joy by stepping back and observing what children can do – the magic word is ‘wait.’
*Bethany Foote, Peoples Church Preschool*
Age Level: IT

**Professionalism**

CDA from Start to Finish with Help from T.E.A.C.H.
Navigate the CDA credentialing process from start to finish and learn how the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Michigan scholarship program can help you pay for it.
*Debbie Antone, Michigan AEYC*

**Teaching and Learning**

Natural Born Learners–How Outdoor Experiences Affect Learning in Early Childhood
Outdoor play provides immediate and long-term benefits to children’s social, emotional, and cognitive development. Dispel erroneous beliefs on play, gain numerous ideas for implementing outdoor play, address learning in all development areas, and get questions answered.
*Elizabeth Zajac, NCRESA*
Age Levels: PS, KP, SA

The Magic of Movement
Dalcroze, a Swiss movement methodology, uses purposeful movement enriching classroom learning. Learn how we use a combination of music, and rhythmic and creative movements, to enhance neural plasticity in the preschool child.
*Monique Salinas and Erin VanDellen, Mind Meets Music*
Age Levels: PS, KP, SA

Today’s Children, Tomorrow’s Leaders
Learn about the importance and benefits of teaching young children leadership skills and qualities, and how to incorporate leadership activities into your programming.
*Shelby Parks and Kaitlyn Oracz, Central Michigan University*
10:00 am–12:30 pm

Interactions and Guidance

Biting and Challenging Behaviors
Learn about developmentally appropriate practices and strategies to support children demonstrating aggressive and challenging behaviors. Explore and discuss teaching practices, social-emotional development, self-regulation, how to help children establish and sustain positive relationships with adults and peers, and the learning environment.
Lisa Keiper and Mallor Przygocki, Rainbow Child Care Center
Age Levels: IT, PS

Professionalism

Let Me Help You be a Happy Leader!
Together, let’s explore the concepts of happiness, leadership, and being the best you can be. Learning what makes you happy is the first step in being happy!
Kelli Williams, ABS Preschool & Childcare

10:15 am–11:30 am

Child Development

Progressions in Art
Children follow a natural progression with art development and showcase their growth and learning on a daily basis through their art. Explore this natural progression by viewing and assessing examples, from children, birth through age eight, including drawing, painting, mixed media, and modeling. Use this knowledge to enhance or make changes in your early childhood environment.
Michelle Burkhard, Grow By 1, LLC

Family and Community Engagement

Unique Collaborations to Build and Strengthen Relationships with Families
For children to thrive and be ready for life, we need to use every resource available in our community. Hear how our community has creatively and uniquely brought together community partners around child wellness and school readiness to help all children reach their unique full potential.
Megan Koops-Fisher, Ready for School

Management

Child Care Licensing Update–Changes, Changes, Changes!
Learn about the upcoming changes to Michigan’s Public Act 116 of 1973 made necessary to align with federal requirements that impact child care home and center rules.
Rose Rafferty-Aguirre and Jackie Sharkey, MI Dept. of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs

10:45 am–11:00 am

Child Development

Boys, Boys, Boys–Encouraging Boys Engagement in Activities
Develop a better understanding about the differences between how boys and girls learn. Engage in fun activities and gain ideas for using recycled and throw away materials to encourage boys and to support all students.
Marlene White, Henry Ford College
Age Level: PS

Every Day Early Literacy with Infants and Toddlers
Learn practical techniques to engage infants and toddlers with critical early literacy skills throughout the day using the Every Child Ready to Read framework public libraries use to inform their early literacy programs.
Erin Davison, Herrick District Library
Age Level: I

Literacy–More than Just Books!
Learn different ways literacy can be presented including using props, story baskets, dictation, songs and finger plays. Gain interactive ideas you can use immediately!
Shawnna Cunningham and Shawn Waters, Dept of Army Child Development Center
Age Levels: IT, PS

Read-Aloud Strategies for Teachers
Explore a collaboration of research-based information and hands-on reading strategies for teachers to use during large group reading times including effective techniques for reading aloud.
Cecilia Campbell, Michigan State University
Age Levels: PS, KP, SA

11:45 am–1:00 pm

Child Development

Creating Cultural Competency in Rural Michigan
Discuss and discover tips and tricks for incorporating local culture in your classroom, even in rural Michigan.
Samantha Mitchell, Middle of the Mitten Learning Center
Family and Community Engagement

Inviting Fathers into the Classroom
Fathers’ involvement plays an important role in children’s lives. Early father involvement provides a positive role model at home and in the classroom. Gain techniques and strategies for including and supporting fathers in your classrooms and programs.

Sinsery Gardner, Oakland University

Health, Safety and Nutrition

Working with Children with Food Allergies
Food allergies are more and more common, and meeting the needs of children nutritionally while keeping them safe is becoming more challenging. Learn effective strategies for dealing with food allergies from both a parent perspective and a teacher perspective, and share experiences.

Heidi Friedel, Lambs of Our Savior Christian Preschool

Interactions and Guidance

Change Your Language, Change Their Lives
Brain research reveals how the specific language used by adults who teach and mentor children has a much more profound effect than previously realized. Learn new ways of talking with children that builds resilience, promotes intrinsic motivation, and aids children in essential life skills.

Gloria Sherman, Parenting and Teaching with G.L.O., LLC

Open-ended Play
Learn about the importance of open-ended activities and play, and how they support creativity, questioning, problem-solving and learning.

Brittany Kunzelman, Rainbow Preschool

Professionalism

If You Fill a Teacher’s Basket
Teaching young children can be stressful. Learn strategies for supporting coworkers, avoiding workplace toxicity, and filling your own basket to better enable you to care for children and their families.

Sally Mowers and Brittany Roulo, MSU Child Development Laboratories

Teaching and Learning

Amazing Children, Powerful Learning, and Intriguing Projects
Hear stories about the successes and challenges of small group inquiry projects.

Susan Verwys and Early Childhood Students, Calvin College

Age Levels: PS, KP

Messy Sensory with Infants and Toddlers
Learn about the importance and benefits of sensory exploration, and discover ways of incorporating developmentally appropriate sensory activities on a daily basis using basic items.

Christina Clarke and Kelly Shawver, Dept. of Army Child Development Center

Age Level: IT

Music in Early Childhood
Explore the importance of music in a preschool classroom and discuss a variety of ways to incorporate musical activities into a typical preschool day. Learn activities you can try immediately!

Alyssa McNally and Chris Clark, Community Daycare and Preschool

Age Level: PS

Stop or Go–Learning to Regulate Behavior
Explore and experience information and fun activities for helping children to regulate their own behavior by learning when to stop and when to go.

Ginny Witte, Early Childhood Movement and Learning Specialist

Age Levels: IT, PS, KP

12:00 pm–1:15 pm

Child Development

Why Won’t They Listen? Appropriate Expectations and Language
Explore developmentally appropriate practice and effective communication strategies for developing children’s listening skills.

Katie Baker and Andrea Kitchner, Somerset Academy

Age Level: PS

Family and Community Engagement

Building Bridges–Supporting the Development of Children’s Anti-bias Views
Hear research about children’s emerging understanding of race and culture, and ways educators can help children develop positive views towards those unlike themselves. Discuss the importance of self-reflection, open dialogue with children, messages in the environment and family partnerships.

Information from the Program for Infant Toddler Care’s (PITC) Ten Keys to Culturally Sensitive Care shared.

Cindy Basse, Great Start to Quality

Interactions and Guidance

It’s Good to See You Again! Nurturing Attachments in Infants and Toddlers
Early attachments help determine our lifelong worldview! Discuss the importance of attachment in social emotional development, explore the different stages and types of attachment, and gain strategies for supporting secure attachments in infants and toddlers.

Jade Teachey, Rose Rittinger and Kelly Lessard, Gretchen’s House Child Care

Age Level: IT

Using Music and Silly Rhymes for Transitions
Transitions can be a challenging time for children. Learn how to use silly songs, rhymes, and laughter to get children (and teachers!) from one place to another with smiles on their faces.

Jessica Kelley, Peoples Church Preschool

Age Level: PS
Saturday, April 22, 2017 (continued)

Management

How to Market your Child Care Home
You have an amazing family or group child care environment and program but how do you promote it? Explore advertising and marketing strategies, and how to build demand for your program.
Tori Webster, Best Friends Child Care

Professionalism

Reduce Stress for You and the Children
Learn about the risks and benefits of stress in order to limit the effects of unhealthy stress in your life. Stress reduction can help you create a more supportive and nurturing environment for children, families, and colleagues. Most importantly, reducing stress will help you be a better professional and a healthier person.
Annie Friday, A Friday Perspective

Teaching and Learning

Home Childcare—Why Does It Matter?
Home child care offers parents an alternative option for early childhood learning. Learn what a good quality program looks like, what parents like about this option, why it’s an important part of the community, and why you should care.
Patricia Bellant and Hailey Bellant, Peppermint Patty’s Play Space

Journal Writing and Young Children
Young children are eager writers. Learn about the stages of writing development and gain practical strategies for encouraging early writing in every setting.
Roxanne Rowley, Early Childhood Specialist
Age Levels: IT, PS

Storytelling—Not Just for Bedtime Anymore!
Storytelling can be effectively used to draw in young children and connect with content. Through active participation, learn how to tell a story using visual, audio, kinesthetic and emotional anchors, which will engage children to the fullest and result in learning that sticks.
Cheryl Matas, Oxford Community Schools
Age Levels: PS, KP, SA

Wonder, Discovery and Experience—What Bev Bos Taught Us about Early Childhood
Bev Bos, a preschool director for nearly 50 years, taught us that children learn best through play. Learn how to support children by providing a rich environment to trust and explore, which will help them develop a sense of self and how to interact with others. Celebrate Bev’s legacy of joyful learning!
Kathie Hoffman, Camp Fire West Michigan 4C

Increase your compensation through education!

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood MICHIGAN provides financial assistance for tuition, books, travel, and release time for providers who are currently working in the early childhood field.

For more information, visit: www.MiAEYC.org and click on the T.E.A.C.H. tab
Hotel Information

Amway Grand Plaza Hotel, Curio Collection by Hilton
The Amway Grand Plaza Hotel is the conference headquarters. A variety of restaurants and lounges are available to cater to your mood and appetite. The Kitchen Counter by Wolfgang Puck for a quick bite; GP Sports for the latest sports action along with burgers, pizza, sandwiches and specialty drinks; The Kitchen by Wolfgang Puck serving authentic global classics; Ruth’s Chris Steak House serving the best steaks; Cygnus 27 at the top of the hotel; the historic Lumber Baron bar; and Starbucks. An indoor pool, jacuzzi and exercise room are available and complimentary WiFi Internet in guest rooms and public areas. Overnight guests receive $8 off parking rates at the time of the conference.

Group Code:  MIAEYC
Rate:  Single, Double, $144
        Triple or Quad
For reservations call:  800 253-3590; 616 776-6450
Online reservation link:  https://aws.passkey.com/e/48985053
Reservation deadline:  March 29, 2017
Website:  www.amwaygrand.com

Downtown Courtyard by Marriott
The Downtown Courtyard by Marriott is connected by skywalk to the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel and DeVos Place. The hotel features a restaurant/lounge, indoor pool, fitness center, and complimentary WiFi Internet. Self-parking is available for a fee of $16 per night, subject to change.

Rate:  Single, Double, $139
        Triple or Quad
For reservations call:  616-242-6000
Online reservation link:  https://aws.passkey.com/e/48985053
Reservation deadline:  March 29, 2017
Website:  www.marriott.com

Holiday Inn Downtown
The Holiday Inn Downtown is a short walk to the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel and DeVos Place. The hotel features a restaurant/lounge, an indoor pool and whirlpool, a fitness center, and complimentary WiFi Internet and parking.

Rate:  Single, Double, $129
        Triple or Quad
For reservations call:  616-235-7611
Reservation deadline:  April 4, 2017
Website:  www.higrdt.com

Instructions:

•  Call early for reservations
•  Call the hotel of your choice.
•  Identify yourself as attending the MiAEYC Early Childhood Conference
•  Provide the following information:
  - Arrival and departure dates and times
  - Number of rooms required
  - Accommodations desired:
    - Single
    - Double
    - Triple
    - Quad
  - Number and names of people sharing the room
  - Credit card name, account number, cardholder name as it appears on the card and the expiration date
  - Your mailing address
  - Daytime telephone number with area code
  - Special requests (handicap accessible, feather-free bedding)

Deposits
Hotels in Michigan require a credit card number or a first night deposit to hold your room. If you are not paying by credit card, mail a deposit (check or money order) directly to the hotel.

Changes, Cancellations
All changes and cancellations must be made directly with the hotel.