

Summer 2010

AECA Update

Dear Members,

I look forward to seeing many of you at the 49th Annual Arkansas Early Childhood Association conference to be held October 14-16, 2010! This year's conference theme is *Professionalism Today: Listening, Learning, and Leading*. I hope that you find that the conference will enrich your needs professionally.

We have a wonderful keynote speaker set for Thursday, musician Red Grammer. I've heard him perform and fell in love with his music and his message. The speaker for Friday, Rob Cleveland, is just as amazing. Rob will have our attention in conjunction with the professional luncheon provided for all conference attendees on Friday. I've only heard glowing reviews about Rob Cleveland and his stories.

Some very exciting things will be happening during the AECA conference this year. We will be introducing new candidates for each of the opening AECA board positions. We have had an excellent response to the call to duty! Election ballots will be sent out shortly after the conference, so please take the time to meet the candidates during the conference.

Some exciting events are oldies but goodies, like the silent auction. We are still looking for donations for silent auction items for the conference. I personally love this part of the AECA conference. It is excellent shopping and for a good cause! Please consider bringing item(s) to the conference for the silent auction. We love to receive things from all different areas in the state! Contact Kate Runder, Second Vice President-Membership, at katierunder@gmail.com, for further information.

Next year's conference will be AECA's 50th Anniversary conference, and 50 years is really something to celebrate! I'm actively looking for ideas to make the 50th year an extra special year. I would love to connect with AECA members to gain historical information, stories, and hopefully even some photos. Please contact me at rgcaudl@uark.edu to share anything or just bring it to the conference. I will have an interest session on Saturday to rally the association for a big celebration!

Last but not least, this newsletter has two very important forms that we encourage you to submit. One form is for the outstanding AECA member. We all know someone that is outstanding, so would it be nice to recognize that person publicly. The other form is for scholarships for two individuals to attend SECA for the first time. We highly recommend you consider applying. Unfortunately, we are unable to provide all expenses, but every little bit helps.

Thanks you for all that you do for children, families, and professionals in Arkansas.

Sincerely,

Robin Jones

AECA President

**2010
Executive Board**

President

Robin Jones
Fayetteville

Immediate Past President

Barbara Gilkey
Little Rock

Secretary

Jamie Morrison
Greenbrier

Treasurer

Dawn Jeffrey - Southside

Historian

Joy Smith - Batesville

1ST VP Publications

Jennie Gates
Beebe

2nd VP Membership

Kate Runder - Little Rock

Members-at-Large

District #1

Kathy Pillow-Price
Batesville

District #2

Evelyn Bass
North Little Rock

District #3

Michelle Wynn- Springdale

District #4

Angela Vann - Magnolia

SECA Representative

Joanna Grymes
Jonesboro

Conference Reminders!

♦T-Shirts are for sale again at the conference! Go to the AECA Booth in Exhibit Hall A to buy yours! There are a limited number available!

♦Remember if you paid the full-conference registration fee, you are invited to the Friday luncheon with guest Rob Cleveland.

☞Also, please gather any pictures you have that will help update our AECA scrapbook! Joy Smith, our historian, is looking for pictures. You may mail them to Joy Smith 1900 Lyon Batesville, AR 72501 or bring them to the conference!



♦If you would like to volunteer at the conference, please contact Christ Johnson at christijohnson@conwaycorp.net. This is such a great way for our members to support AECA!

♦Don't forget to come to the networking event, Friday October 15th from 4:45-5:30 in Exhibit Hall A!

Don't forget the 62nd Annual SECA Conference coming up in January! We hope to see you there!!



AECA Mission Statement : Enhancing the lives of children, families and early childhood professionals in the state of Arkansas.

Maggie Reynolds/ Deltha Sharp Scholarship Award

Complete this form and mail it to AECA:

Arkansas Early Childhood Association
PO Box 2898
Little Rock, AR 72203
Phone: (501) 771-1680

The Arkansas Early Childhood Association awards up to two scholarships annually to its members. This scholarship will pay for a portion of an individual's expenses to attend the 62nd Annual Southern Early Childhood Association Conference. The 2011 conference will be held in Savannah, Georgia, January 27-29, 2011. The scholarship will include conference registration and \$350.00.

Criteria to be considered for a scholarship included:

- Applicant must be a member in good standing in AECA.
- Applicant must be a first-time attendee of a SECA conference.
- Applicant must provide evidence of commitment and dedication to the goals of AECA
- Applicant must provide evidence of leadership potential.

If awarded a scholarship, the recipient must be willing to volunteer for the SECA conference for at least 2 hours during attendance. The recipient must also submit a short write-up (200 words or less) for the AECA newsletter concerning his or her learning experiences at the SECA conference. In addition, assistance at the AECA Silent Auction is also required during the following AECA Conference.

Applicant Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

Professional Title: _____ SECA ID # _____

Place and Location of Employment: _____

Application Checklist

Include all of the following in the application

- ✓ Professional Resume
- ✓ Cover letter that includes:
 - Professional experience
 - Participation in AECA and/or local affiliate
 - How attendance at a SECA conference would benefit the children of Arkansas
 - Why you chose to be an early childhood professional
 - Any additional information to support your eligibility
- ✓ Letter of nomination from an AECA member
- ✓ Scholarship Form

Signature _____ Date _____

Application must be POSTMARKED by October 3, 2010

AECA Outstanding Member Award Nomination Form

Complete this form and mail it to AECA:

Arkansas Early Childhood Association
PO Box 2898
Little Rock, AR 72203
Phone: (501) 771-1680

Person Being
Nominated: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please include the following in the nomination packet

- ✓ Nominee's resume (if available)

- ✓ Cover letter that includes nominee's
 - Education
 - Professional experience
 - Professional affiliation(s)
 - Professional activities that indicate professional recognition
 - Contributions to the cause of better childhood education
 - Leadership roles in local and state associations
 - Honors and other justifications for award

- ✓ Nomination form

- ✓ Reminder: Nominee cannot be a current AECA board member and must be a member in good-standing in AECA.

Signature _____

Date: _____

Nominator's contact information:

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

—

Nominations must be POSTMARKED by October 3, 2010



Hot Springs Early Childhood Association is gearing up for another year of interesting and educational programs for its members. The theme for the year: *Creating an Environment for Better Beginnings*. All meetings are held at St. Michael's, 1125 Malvern Avenue, Hot Springs from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Monday, September 13, 2010

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

“Begin with Families”

*Presented by Dot Brown and Terri Helms
Early Childhood Consultants*

*Examine our ethical responsibilities to families.
Explore strategies for building positive
relationships
with families.*

Monday, October 11, 2010

6:30 – 8:30 p.m

“True Colors”

*Presented by Jill Maxfield and Carol Moseley
ASU Childhood Services*

*Learn how to open up lines of
communication, bring out the best in
everyone and work together more
effectively. True Colors is a simple method
for gaining insight into people and why
they behave as they do.*

Monday, November 8, 2010

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

“What Did You Do at School Today?”

*Presented by Diana Courson
ASU Childhood Services*

*Participants will be guided through the
process of creating documentation panels to
share children’s learning experiences with families
and with the community. It will be fun and “hands-on.”*

Training Hours

**CEUs (Continuing Education Units) will be
at each meeting*

**Hours count toward DHS Licensing
Requirements for annual training hours*

**Training is registered in the TAPP Registry*

**Northwest Arkansas Early Childhood Association
Upcoming NWAECA Meetings**

October 7, 2010

Meet and Greet with

NWA Childcare Licensing Agents

*Location: Pinecrest Private School
1300 SW Liberty Ave
Bentonville, AR 72712*

November 4, 2010

Ask a Kindergarten Teacher

*Location: Bright Haven Christian Learning
110 Mathias Drive
Springdale, AR 72762*

December 2, 2010

NWAECA Christmas Open House

*Location: Bright Beginnings
(Family Home Center)
308 S. Wright
Siloam Springs, AR 72761*

Center Tour: 6:30 p.m.

Program: 7:00 p.m.

For more information contact:

*Debbie Mays
NWAECA President
479-549-7498*



P.O. Box 2898
Little Rock, AR 72203

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 02485
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS

Return Service Requested

*Arkansas Early Childhood Association
49th Annual Conference
October 14-16, 2010
Hot Springs Convention Center
305 Malvern Avenue
Hot Springs, Arkansas*

For more information visit
www.arkansasearlychildhood.org
and select **Conference**.

I encourage you to fill out and return the included forms! We'd love to have a great response and recognize some of our wonderful members!

We need YOUR member contributions for our upcoming fall newsletter. You might consider sending a short reflection on the conference or maybe you have some great fall/winter classroom ideas to share with your peers! You may email your submission to me at jkgates@asub.edu or mail them directly to Jennie Gates P.O. Box 1000 Beebe, AR 72012. Deadline is November 10th!

We look forward to seeing you in October!

Sincerely,
Jennie Gates
Jennie Gates
First Vice-President - Publications

