



CHILDREN... THE HEART OF THE MATTER

© 1988 NeAECY

Nebraska Association for the Education of Young Children, Inc.

An affiliate of the National Association for the Education of Young Children



March, 2011 Newsletter

www.NebraskaAEYC.org

FROM THE PRESIDENT Dawn Mollenkopf



Early spring has begun to settle in on Nebraska. After the heavy snows, freezing rain, and sub-zero temperatures most of us are ready for winter to be over. However, winter this year, in spite of the groundhog's "early spring prediction", seems to be reluctant to give in to warmer weather. Instead we see a pervasive "tug-of-war"

between warm, sunny days and blasts of snow and ice. As I look out my window I am intrigued by the incongruity of robins resting in snow-covered trees and crocus shoots tentatively venturing forth through frozen soil. The co-existence of winter and spring is an anomaly that makes children restless and teachers dream of days children can go outside and play.

Winter is not so bad when it is temporary. However, when it lingers it become more challenging and the schizophrenic "winter-spring" anomaly creates an uncertainty that makes it hard for us to judge how long to hold out until spring is a reality.

As we began to prepare for the Week of the Young Child and continue to advocate that the "Early Years are Learning Years", we are also cognizant of the budget negotiations in Congress affecting future funding for programs, children, and families. This anomaly creates uncertainty that can make it hard to be confident when we know the lives of children and families we know may be affected. However, it is when times are difficult that children and families need us more.

May we have the courage to weather the storm until spring becomes a reality.



www.NebraskaAEYC.org

Closing the Gap Between Early Childhood Research & Investments

When it comes to investments in children, do our public policies reflect the body of research that points to the importance of the earliest years of life?

A new report by Voices for America's Children suggests that they don't. Even though young children's brains develop at the fastest rate during the first five years of life and numerous studies have shown the short and long-term impacts of high-quality early childhood programs, we invest our public dollars heavily on older children while the youngest ones receive less attention.

The report finds that when local, state and federal dollars are combined, each child in the 6 to 18 age range receives more than \$9,500 of public investments, as compared to about \$2,400 for each three to five year old and \$600 for each infant or toddler.

Put another way, for each dollar invested in a school-aged child, about 25 cents are spent on a pre-k child and about 6 cents are spent on an infant or toddler.

The author calls for closing this "investment gap" by expanding access to and improving the quality of early screening services, child care and pre-k programs, and parent education and supports. The report also provides data on each state's public spending among the different age groups and other characteristics about its young children and their families.

The above article is from Pre-K Now, March 1, 2011, Pre-K Picks. <http://advocacy.pewtrusts.org/site/MessageViewer?emid=1273.0&dlvId=5186>

Nebraska spends \$607 per child 0-2 years, \$2,178 per child 3-5 years, and \$9,267 per child 6-18 years. For every \$1.00 invested in a school-aged child in Nebraska, 22.9 cents are spent on a pre-k child and 6.6 cents are spent on an infant or toddler.

"The brave don't live forever, but the cautious don't live at all."
Timothy Luce

Voices for American's Children article available at: <http://www.voices.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/11/ELLO.pdf>

Nebraska Association for the Education of Young Children Mission Statement

The Nebraska Association for the Education of Young Children, Inc. is committed to supporting high quality care and education for young children in the state of Nebraska.

The mission of the Nebraska Association for the Education of Young Children, Inc. is to:

- ♥ promote professional development activities
- ♥ advocate for issues relating to children and families
- ♥ serve as a resource for local affiliates and for other agencies involved in working with and for children and families
- ♥ disseminate information supportive of quality services, education, and care for children and their families
- ♥ provide networking opportunities for early childhood professionals and families throughout the state.

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Page 1 - President's Letter, Closing the Gap Article
- Page 2 - Mission Statement, Board of Directors, Staff
- Page 3 - NAEYC Updates
- Page 4 - Advocacy
- Page 5 - NeAEYC Activities
- Page 6 - NeAEYC Activities & Technology
- Page 7 - T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood
- Page 8 - Accreditation
- Page 9 - Membership, Distinguished Service to Children
- Page 10 - Affiliate & Chapter Information—Kearney & Lincoln AEYC
- Page 11 - Affiliate & Chapter Information, Columbus & SCC
- Page 12 - Article and Conferences

Nebraska AEYC Office Staff

Gina DeFreece, Special Projects Coordinator
(402) 476-5672 - gdefreece@NebraskaAEYC.org

Connie Fishburn, T.E.A.C.H. Assistant
(402) 476-5663 - cfishburn@NebraskaAEYC.org

Tracy Gordon, Special Projects Coordinator
(402) 476-5662 - TGordon@NebraskaAEYC.org

Jennifer Harris, Accountant
(402) 476-5671 - jharris@NebraskaAEYC.org

Pat Hoffschneider, Office Manager
(402) 476-2092 - phoff@NebraskaAEYC.org

Cindy Jennett, Special Projects Coordinator
(402) 476-5653 - cjennett@NebraskaAEYC.org

Brandee Lengel, T.E.A.C.H. Manager
(402) 476-5658 - TEACH@NebraskaAEYC.org
1-877-656-2005

Linda Zinke, Executive Director
(402) 4776-2089 - lzinke@NebraskaAEYC.org



BOARD OF DIRECTORS January 1, 2011 – December 31, 2011 Executive Committee

President

Dawn Mollenkopf, PhD., Kearney
University of Nebraska at Kearney Professor

Secretary

Pat Enevoldsen, Lincoln
Southeast Community College Professor

Finance Chair

Linda Sullivan, Lincoln
Family Service Association of Lincoln Finance Director

Members

Gina Battey, Omaha, Child Care Teacher

Karen Decker, Kearney, Sugar & Spice Center Director

Jennifer Haggart, Omaha
Early Childhood Consortium of the Omaha Area

Crystal Kozak, Lincoln, Southeast Community College
Professor

Kim Madsen, ED, Chadron,
Chadron State College Professor

Linda Maslowski, Lincoln, Independent Consultant

Deb Ross, Hastings,
Child & Family Development Program Director

Sue Ellen Wall, JD, Lincoln, Wall Law Office Attorney

Kathy Zadina, Columbus,
St. Bonaventure Child Care Center Director

José Zapata, Loup City,
Central Nebraska Community Services Executive Director

Ex-Officio

Public Policy Chair

Sarah Ann Kotchian, JD, Omaha, Building Bright
Futures Early Childhood Coordinator

Nebraska AEYC

650 J Street, Suite 23
Lincoln, NE 68508
Fax: 402-476-5665

www.NebraskaAEYC.org

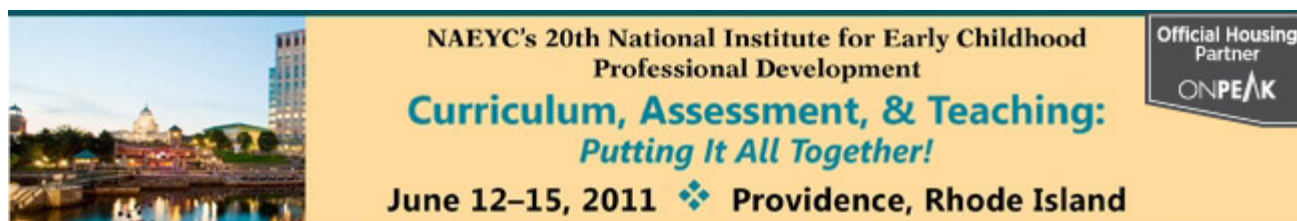
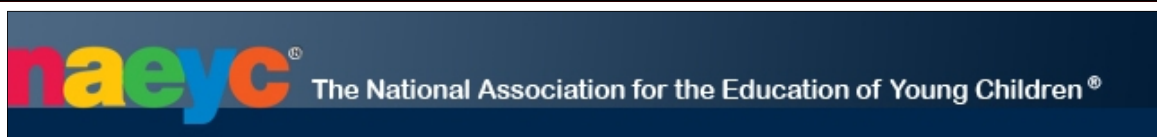
Please submit any articles or information by the
1st of the month of publication/distribution.

We plan to distribute the newsletters by the 15th of the
following months:

January, March, May, July, September, & November.

**Strengthening and supporting Nebraska's
early childhood community since 1976**

NAEYC UPDATES



The 2011 Week of the Young Child will be held April 10-16 and the theme for 2011 is **Early Years Are Learning Years.**



REGISTER NOW FOR THE NAEYC PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE:

This institute is designed for leaders who prepare and mentor early childhood professionals.

Take advantage of the rates now and save \$\$\$!!!

- **Super Early Bird Rate available through March 20**
- Early Bird Rate available March 21 - April 10

NAEYC and VISION 2015

The NAEYC Governing Board recently approved an exciting and strategic Vision 2015 at its September 2010 meeting. NAEYC is asking affiliate leadership at the local and state levels to become acquainted with and aware of this vision. NAEYC is asking that affiliates consider how our affiliate can complement the goals and related benchmarks with Vision 2015 through a plan for our state, and how will this vision influence or impact our future strategic direction.

The six goals identified by NAEYC are as follows:

1. NAEYC is influential and impacts local, state, and national early childhood **public policy and early childhood professional practice.**
2. NAEYC has **aligned its standards for early childhood programs, practices, and professional preparation with its policy stances.** NAEYC has made significant progress toward evaluating the extent to which its aligned standards lead to improvements in children's development and learning.
3. NAEYC demonstrates a strong **commitment to continuous improvement with respect to organizational wellness and organizational excellence.** NAEYC's commitment to purpose, action, and analysis and feedback is evident in the domains of Diversity and Inclusivity, Governance, Management and Staff Leadership, Facilities, Finance, Human Resources, Programs, and Critical Relationships and Strategic Alliances.

4. NAEYC is a model of **diverse leadership and leadership development.**
5. NAEYC has a **"connected network"** of 250,000 people; alliances with other organization enhance this network.
6. NAEYC promotes the expanded **development of the professional status** of individuals in the various roles represented in the early childhood field through ongoing professional development, professional certification/licensure systems, and equitable compensation.

WE WILL BE FORMING COMMITTEES TO WORK ON EACH OF THESE GOALS.

If you are interested in serving on a committee, please contact Linda at Izinke@NebraskaAEYC.org or Dawn at mollenkopfdl@unk.edu.

"Any committee that is the slightest use is composed of people who are too busy to want to sit on it for a second longer than they have to."

Katharine Whitehorn

ADVOCACY

HR1

The full-year Continuing Appropriations Act, 2011, contains numerous cuts that will negatively impact many programs designed to improve the health care, education and safety of children and youth.

Key points:

- ♥ Head Start/Early Head Start: Proposed cut - nearly \$1.1 billion, or 15%, in addition to the expiration of the ARRA funds. **NEBRASKA would lose 1,272 Head Start/Early Head Start slots, 384 jobs in Head Start, and 108 classrooms**
- ♥ Child Care Development Block Grant: Proposed cut - \$39 million
- ♥ Maternal & Child Health Block Grants: Proposed cut - \$50 million
- ♥ School Based Health Clinics: Proposed Cut - \$61 million to Title V, \$327 million to Title X, \$1.3 billion to Community Health Centers
- ♥ Community Services Block Grant: Proposed cut-\$14.2 million
- ♥ Low Income Heating Assistance Program: Proposed cut -\$390 million
- ♥ Pell Grants: Proposed cut -\$5.7 billion (24 percent). This would affect all 9.4 million students who receive Pell Grants. In **NEBRASKA, 43,000 students** use Pell Grant funds to attend college
- ♥ Workforce Investment Act Youth Service: Proposed cut - \$2 billion (52%). In **NEBRASKA, this would impact 1,100 participants.**

Source: *Every Child Matters education fund, www.everychildmatters.org*

From Sarah Ann:

So far in 2011, I, along with many others, have spent an inordinate amount of time maneuvering through policy arguments to defend against devastating cuts to early childhood care and education at both the federal and state levels.



Sarah Ann Kotchian
Public Policy Chair

We are making progress as an early childhood community, and as a community we need to remember to thank those who are making serious policy evaluations rather than sacrificing the next generation in hopes of saving them. A thank you email or a thank you phone call to those who are making decisions based on what's truly in the best interest of the earliest years is definitely in order to help keep the momentum going this spring and the rest of the year. To that end, thank you so much for all you do to make the most of early childhood.

LB 464

Nebraska Legislative Bill 464, brought forward by Senator Campbell at the request of the Governor, was designated as a priority bill by the Appropriations Committee.

This bill would negatively impact child care subsidies. It eliminates language specifying the rate at which the state will pay, and eliminates language about an increased rate for programs that are nationally accredited.

Access to quality child care is especially crucial for working families.

NAEYC & CHILDREN'S CHAMPIONS

To receive regular, informative email information regarding legislative issues and early childhood, sign up for Children's Champions. Go to www.NAEYC.org, click on Public Policy, and join Children's Champions. These updates are provided by NAEYC and Adele Robinson, JD, Deputy Executive Director, Policy and Public Affairs.

Public Policy Forum - March 29-30, 2011 - Washington DC



Nebraska AIEYC representatives Sarah Ann Kotchian & Tracy Gordon are planning to attend the NAEYC Quality Ratings System Meeting & Public Policy Forum, scheduled for March 28-30, 2011.

The public policy forum is a yearly event for NAEYC members to hear from national experts and federal officials, participate in breakout sessions on key state policy topics, and spend a day visiting your members of Congress. Participants will attend Tuesday sessions to be fully prepared on the key messages for the meetings with Congressional offices. NAEYC will schedule the visits.



"Things which matter most must never be at the mercy of things which matter least."

Goethe

NeAEYC ACTIVITIES

Legislative Breakfast

January 31, 2011 7:45 - 9:30 a.m. State Capitol, Room 1023

Partnership activity between
Nebraska Head Start Association
Nebraska Association for the Education of Young Children, Inc.

This is the third year for this partnership event, which was held on one of the snowiest, iciest days of January. The weather kept several board members and Head Start Directors from attending.

Attendance:

- 17 senators or aides
- 1 Head Start Director, Susan Powers-Alexander
- 2 NeAEYC Board members, Dawn Mollenkopf and Jose Zapata
- 5 NeAEYC staff members

Nebraska
Head Start
Association



Each senator received a folder containing information about the status of early childhood in Nebraska, Head Start, a list of Head Start programs in Nebraska, information about T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® NEBRASKA and NeAEYC. A copy of the power point presentation ran on a continuous loop during the open house. Most of the photos of children in the power point presentation were provided by the Nebraska Head Start Association.

Senator Bob Krist was the sponsor of this event.
Special thanks to **Beth Dinneen**, Senator's Krist's Administrative Aide.



Nebraska AEYC NEW BOARD MEMBER

Nebraska AEYC welcomes Crystal Kozak as a new member of the board of directors. Crystal will be representing the Lincoln AEYC Affiliate.

Crystal is currently an Early Childhood Education Program Instructor at Southeast Community College in Lincoln, Nebraska. She is also involved with the SCC Student Group. She has a B.S. in Early Childhood Elementary Education from University of Nebraska-Lincoln and is pursuing her Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction at Doane College, Lincoln.



"The life of a man consists not in seeing visions and in dreaming dreams, but in active charity and in willing service."

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

NeAEYC ACTIVITIES

WOYC Proclamation by Governor Heineman

GOVERNOR'S PROCLAMATION

NeAEYC was again a part of the March Proclamation Signing, as Governor Heineman recognized April 10-16, 2011 as the Week of the Young Child. This event was held on March 9 in the Rotunda of the State Capitol.

NeAEYC presented a children's book to Governor Heineman. It was signed by pre-school children from a CEDARS Northbridge class.

*Brandee Lengel,
Governor Heineman,
Linda Zinke*



TECHNOLOGY

FEATURED WEBPAGE

www.NebraskaAEYC.org/Affiliates/Chapters/Students

Links to:

Local Affiliate Chapters:

- Omaha AEYC - officers, a link to the website
- Lincoln AEYC - officers, informational pages
- Affiliate reporting form - available in this link

Local Chapters:

- Kearney Chapter of Nebraska AEYC
- Columbus Chapter of Nebraska AEYC
- Northeast Chapter of Nebraska AEYC
- Chapter reporting form - available in this link

Student Chapters/Groups:

- Southeast Community College
- Metropolitan Community College
- University of Nebraska at Lincoln
- Includes photos of student activities

Resource Options for Chapters:

- NeAEYC provides resources for chapters, on the basis of points each year. The form to receive the resources is available in this link.

Resources available to affiliates/chapters/students:

- ♥ Professional Early Childhood books
- ♥ Freebies for workshops - pencils, post-it notes, magnets, pens, jotters, bookmarks, portfolios
- ♥ One free membership for a door prize
- ♥ 4 Children's books for door prizes
- ♥ A page on the Nebraska AEYC website (copy ready)
- ♥ Staff visit for board training at a chapter meeting
- ♥ Staff support for funding proposal development
- ♥ Staff assistance with a 2-page member flyer
- ♥ Staff assistance with a 2-page newsletter

Contact Pat at 402-476-2092 or phoff44@hotmail.com to "cash in" your points.

Annual Report

ELECTRONIC DISTRIBUTION:

We have completed the 2010 Annual Report. This year, it has been distributed to the members electronically. If you were unable to open it or did not receive it, please call Pat Hoffschneider at 402-476-2092 or email her at phoff44@hotmail.com.

GoToWebinar

NeAEYC has begun hosting GoTo Webinars to connect centers working on Accreditation and to address Frequently Asked Questions regarding T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Nebraska and Quality Enhancement Projects.

Facebook

NeAEYC is on Facebook

If you are a Facebook Member just type: facebook.com/NeAEYC in your browser and it will lead you directly to our page. Click the "LIKE" button at the top of the page.



Survey Monkey



NeAEYC will be sending a series of brief (10 questions or fewer) surveys to members. These will be electronic, and should take just a few minutes to complete. Please participate, and let us know if you have ideas for more ways to gather feedback.

"Getting information off the Internet is like taking a drink from a fire hydrant."

Mitchell Kapur

Messaging T.E.A.C.H. in the New Year

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® has emerged as an effective national strategy to help address the need for a well-qualified, fairly compensated and stable workforce. The T.E.A.C.H. (Teacher Education and Compensation Helps) Early Childhood® Project (T.E.A.C.H.) was created by Child Care Services Association in 1990 in North Carolina. It now is operating in 22 states and the District of Columbia. T.E.A.C.H. provides comprehensive scholarships to enable early childhood teachers to take coursework leading to credentials and degrees at local community colleges and universities within each state. The model requires that early childhood teachers commit to staying in their child care program or the field for six months to a year, depending on the scholarship model.

- > **T.E.A.C.H.** increases child care quality without more regulation or increases in parent fees.
- > **T.E.A.C.H.** supports job growth by reducing costs to small businesses nationwide.
- > **T.E.A.C.H.** is a shared cost model not an entitlement program.
- > **T.E.A.C.H.** purchases local college classes and materials.
- > **T.E.A.C.H.** is about helping teachers and family child care providers help themselves.
- > **T.E.A.C.H.** supports working adults.
- > **T.E.A.C.H.** supports the steady rise in education levels for the employed.
- > **T.E.A.C.H.** addresses parent beliefs that early childhood must have formal education to work with their child.
- > **T.E.A.C.H.** helps teachers continue to work in the field and in their classroom and provides stable settings for young children in care in unstable economic times.
- > **T.E.A.C.H.** has been supported in a bi-partisan way across the country for over 20 years.
- > **T.E.A.C.H.** is completely accountable both internally and externally.

T.E.A.C.H. is...
**about building strong
community approaches to
workforce development.**

T.E.A.C.H. addresses the enduring challenges that plague the early childhood field — high turnover, low compensation and insufficient teacher education. Funding for T.E.A.C.H. scholarships comes from a variety funding sources including local, state and federal governments, foundation and corporate grants, employers, and participant co-payments.

Resources

T.E.A.C.H. Annual Reports: and Fact Sheets:

http://www.childcareservices.org/ps/case_workforce.html

The Economy's Impact on Parents' Choices and Perceptions About Child Care (NACCRRRA 9/10):

<http://www.naccrra.org/publications/naccrra-publications/economy-impact.php>

The State of Working America

- Steadily rising education levels for employed:
<http://www.stateofworkingamerica.org/charts/view/35>
- Trends of average hours worked for married couples with children:
<http://www.stateofworkingamerica.org/charts/view/161>



A product of the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® National Technical Assistance and Quality Assurance Center

PO Box 901
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
919.967.3272 – telephone
919.967.7683 – facsimile

www.childcareservices.org

© Child Care Services Association 2011

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® NEBRASKA is a licensed program of Child Care Services Association.

"The whole purpose of education is to turn mirrors into windows." Sydney J. Harris

ACCREDITATION

Accreditation Retreat Planned for **MAY 13**

NeAEYC will be hosting a second Accreditation retreat on May 13 in Lincoln in the lower level of the Mill Towne Building (7th & J Street).

This informative and interactive retreat will focus on:

- ♥ The Four Steps in the NAEYC Accreditation Process
- ♥ Creation of Classroom Portfolios and Program Portfolios including information on the web-based portfolio options (Participants are encouraged to bring their portfolios with them)
- ♥ Criteria review and analysis
- ♥ Networking with other programs in the Accreditation process
- ♥ Sharing secrets, successes and challenges associated with the process

Snacks, lunch, retreat materials and plenty of free parking will be provided!

Questions? Contact Tracy Gordon at 402-476-5662 or tgordon@NebraskaAEYC.org. Interested in attending? Contact Pat Hoffschneider at 402-476-2092 or NeAEYC@NebraskaAEYC.org



Tracy Gordon,
Special Projects
Coordinator

Changes to the NAEYC Accreditation Criteria

Recently, NAEYC has removed a number of the Accreditation Criteria from select resources and tools related to Self-Assessment. **As of 2/23/11**, certain criteria were intentionally removed from the NAEYC All Criteria Document, the 2008 Sources of Evidence Checklist, and all tools related to Self-Assessment. These criteria will no longer be assessed during site visits and verification visits for NAEYC Accreditation. **This is effective for all programs submitting Candidacy or Renewal Materials 1/31/11 and beyond.**



An examination of the repetitive nature of certain criteria and analysis of data from site visits has allowed NAEYC to identify 39 criteria that can be removed from the assessment instruments without altering the validity and reliability of the site visit. NAEYC still considers these criteria to be statements of best practice, but no longer requires programs to gather specific documentation related to how they are met.

Many of the criteria that are no longer directly assessed are assessed in other, similar criteria. It is likely that these changes are initiated from the results of the Gilliam Report, feedback from the field during the criteria review process, and data collected during site visits.

To see the list of the 39 criteria that will no longer be assessed go to: www.naeyc.org/torch. Go to resources/10 standards/all criteria document. At the bottom of this document is a link to this list.

NEBRASKA AEYC ACCREDITATION SUPPORT

TRACY GORDON is available to provide training, coaching and support to programs working on their accreditation process. She has been working with programs in both Omaha and Lincoln. She can provide a one-time training event, or ongoing support, scheduled together with the program.

For more information, contact Tracy at tgordon@NebraskaAEYC.org or 402-476-5662.

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SUPPORT

Nebraska Department of Education provides support for accreditation through funds for partial payment of self-study, application, candidate and annual report fees.

Contact: Linda Meyers – 402-471-2980 or linda.meyers@nebraska.gov

Percent of Children Under 6 years with All Parents in the Labor Force: 2007

Nebraska: 74% US: 61.7%

UNO Center for public Affairs Research

*“Education is for improving the lives of others and for
leaving your community and world better than you found it.”*

Marion Wright Edelman

MEMBERSHIP

CONGRATULATIONS

THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE HAVE BEEN MEMBERS OF NeAEYC FOR AT LEAST 10 CONSECUTIVE YEARS

Michelle Avilla, Omaha
Alicia Baillie, Lincoln
Helen Bartee, Omaha
Barbara Beck, Hastings
Lea Behrens, Council Bluffs, IA
Jo Ellen Beil, Lincoln
Karen Bluvas, Omaha
Kerri Bockelman, Wisner
Laurie Brasile, LaVista, NE
Sheila Braun, Norfolk
Becky Brazau, Lincoln
Phyllis Chandler, Malmo
Ereline Clements-Stubbs, Ne City
Becky Conway, Hastings
Marcia Corr, Eagle
Gina DeFreece, Omaha
Elizabeth DeGraw Renna, Omaha
Karen Deboer, Minnesota
Karen Decker, Kearney
Gay DeMars, Hastings
Debra Doerr, Lincoln
Pam Dolberg, Lincoln
Susan Dolezal, Papillion
Carolyn P. Edwards, Lincoln
Roxanne Effle, Lincoln
Rita Eichelberger, Wisner
Patricia Enevoldsen, Lincoln
Tyler Esch, McCook
Kathleen Mary, Feller, Iowa
Carol Fichter, Omaha
Shari Freeman, Columbus
Lillian Fripp, Bellevue
Marsha Fuchs, Ainsworth
Penny Gildea, Omaha
Pam Glidewell, LaVista
Susan Goodrich, Lincoln
Tracy Gordon, Lincoln
Jennifer Haggart, Omaha

Jane Hall Happe, Bellevue
Shanna Harald, Omaha
Pauline Harms, Superior
Dawn Hove, Omaha
Roxanne Humphrey, Morrill
Stephanie Humphrey, Omaha
Nancy Hunt, Lincoln
Jeanine Huntoon, Papillion
Mary Huss, Omaha
Rick Jacobsen, Omaha
Terry Jenson, Omaha
Jody Johnson, Lincoln
Julie Jones-Branch, Lincoln
Sue Kassmeier, Fremont
Deborah, Killough, Omaha
Susan Klein, Kearney
Marjorie Kostelnik, Lincoln
Crystal Kozak, Lincoln
Jane Kreifels, Lincoln
Cynthia Kritenbrink, Omaha
Jo Lambrecht, Lincoln
Brandee Lengel, Lincoln
Kim Madsen, Chadron
Christine Marvin, Lincoln
Donna McGuire, Yutan
Cheryl McMurry, Lincoln
Sandra Melilli, Omaha
Linda Meyers, Lincoln
Martha Munoz, Arizona
Nancy Munson, Columbus
Martha Nash, Elkhorn
Sandra, Nienkamp, Edgar
Denise Olderbak, Arizona
Margie Ory, Omaha
Angie Osborn, Bellevue
Ann Penn, Lincoln
Lavonne Plambeck, Omaha
Kerri Presser, Omaha

Helen Raikes, Ashland
Tina Reeble, Lincoln
Judy Ripke, Seward
Rose Roberts, Omaha
Patricia Roland, Lincoln
Michelle Rupiper, Omaha
Dave Schinzel, Omaha
Leah Serck, Seward
Eleanor Shirley-Kirkland, Lincoln
Connie Shonka, Omaha
Cara Small, Hickman
Kenneth E. Smith, Omaha
Lynn Snoza, Omaha
Barbara Soukup, Morse Bluff
Margaret Stander, Lincoln
Joan Stearnes, Omaha
Susan Strahm, Pender
Kristin Swan, Omaha
Effie Swinarski, Omaha
Janis Thelen, Lincoln
Judith Thietje, Lincoln
Debra Thomas, Lincoln
Sharyn Thomas, Norfolk
Linda Thompson, Omaha
Deanna Turner, Lincoln
Jane Ulrich, Omaha
Kelly Vanness, Columbus
Alice Waller, Omaha
Linda Walters, Omaha
Jeanne Webb, Grand Island
Anita Weber, Omaha
Sheri Wiermann, Lincoln
Kathryn Winkenwerder, Lincoln
Judy Witte, Kearney
Marcia Wythers, Lincoln
Kathy Zadina, Columbus
Linda Zinke, Omaha

Distinguished Service to Children Award Nominations

The Distinguished Service to Children Award was developed in 1983 to recognize a member who has contributed outstanding service to the organization, its program of work, its development and its membership; or a Nebraskan who has done exemplary work to promote the rights, services, status and programs for/of children.

If you have a nominee, please send the name of the nominee and the reasons why you think they should be recognized by Nebraska AEYC to Pat Hoffschneider at phoff44@hotmail.com or fax to 402-476-5665.

AFFILIATE AND CHAPTER INFORMATION

Kearney Area Chapter of Nebraska AEYC

Kearney Chapter Event

The Kearney Area Chapter had 30 Child Care Providers in attendance at the Scavenger Hunt held on Monday, February 28. Tours of the UNK Child Development Center, Smiling Faces Academy, Little Shepherds Kidz Place, and Kidtopia were followed by fellowship and dessert at Pane Bello. Information was shared on NAEYC memberships. The Chapter will pay for ½ of the membership fee. The focus was to promote interest in starting a UNK chapter of AEYC.



Karen Decker,
Kearney
Chapter

Upcoming Events:

- ♥ **“Gotta Love Those Toddlers”** is a 2 hour in-service workshop scheduled for, **Monday, March 28**, with Marcia and Mindy of FYI as presenters. It will be held at UNK Student Union in the Cedar Room from 7:00-9:00 p.m. NAEYC members are free, non-members just \$5.00.
- ♥ Plans are being finalized for the WOYC. The Chapter will host an **art display at the Hilltop Mall** in Kearney, from **April 6 to April 15**. Art work from local Child Care Centers will be featured and information on NAEYC will be available.

The Kearney Chapter Officers meet monthly at Perkins, 12:00-1:00 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month. The Kearney Area Child Care Center Directors meet at Perkins, 1:00-2:00 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month. Topics are current issues each month.

For more information on joining the KAAEYC, please contact Judith Riddle, Chapter President, at (308) 234-1883 or Sue Klein, Chapter Secretary/Treasurer at (308) 237-9622. The chapter will pay ½ of the membership fee.

Lincoln Association for the Education of Young Children

EARLY CHILDHOOD CELEBRATION

Saturday, April 9, 2011

9 a.m.- 1 p.m.

Southeast Community College Gymnasium

Please join us to celebrate the Week of the Young Child!!

There are stage performances and free activities that encourage developmentally appropriate activities for all children.



Submitted by
Amber McCants



Options for Joining Lincoln Association for the Education of Young Children

1. Print a Membership Application from the NeAEYC website.
You will need to put Nebraska AEYC and Lincoln AEYC as your local affiliates.
1. Join/Renew online through the NAEYC website. Follow the online instructions.

One membership fee includes membership in the local affiliate/chapter, Nebraska AEYC, Midwest AEYC, and National AEYC.

“In early childhood you may lay the foundation of poverty or riches, industry of idleness, good or evil, by the habits to which you train your children. Teach them right habits then, and their future life is safe.”

Lydia Sigourney

AFFILIATE AND CHAPTER INFORMATION

Columbus Chapter of Nebraska AEYC

The Columbus Chapter is actively working on Week of the Young Child activities.

A **community-wide art display** is planned for the week of **April, 10, 2011**, with area early childhood programs connecting to local businesses for display.

The Chapter is developing an information sheet about WOYC and key early childhood education facts that will be posted at each display and will also be sent home with families of the participating programs. An article about the display and what comprises quality early care and education for young children will be in the local paper, and there will also be coverage on the local radio stations.



Kathy Zadina, Columbus Chapter

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Southeast Community College Student Group

The SCC Student Group has had two fundraising projects this winter:

- ♥ We have sold Mylar balloon bouquets for Valentine's Day, and
- ♥ We have unveiled our new Student Group T-shirts which have been a HUGE success!!!

Students have been collecting donations to support the Child Advocacy Center. We have collected art supplies, stuffed animals, and children's books.

On March 4th, in conjunction with **Read Across America Day**, the Student Group sponsored a reading activity in the SCC Child Development Center where Early Education Program students volunteered to read to children throughout the day. The group then donated 100 new children's books so each enrolled child was able to take a book home.



Crystal Kozak
SCC Chapter
Advisor

In April, we are planning to participate in the Early Childhood Celebration to be held at Southeast Community College and will share an informational project with our college community during the Week of the Young Child.



Students and children at the
SCC Child Development
Center with some of the
new books.



"One of the greatest dignities of humankind is that each successive generation is invested in the welfare of each new generation."

Mr. Rogers

30 Healthiest Foods

From Exchange EveryDay, February 18, 2011

Looking for ideas to make school lunches (or your own lunch) healthier? Real Simple asked the country's top dietitians and nutritionists which super-powered ingredients people should be incorporating into their diets regularly. Here are their combined top 30 recommendations:

Mushrooms
Barley
Walnuts
Whole-grain pasta
Peanut & Almond butters (natural)
Oatmeal (steel-cut or old-fashioned)
*Quinoa
Skim milk
Almonds
Lentils

Extra virgin olive oil
Chicken breasts (boneless, skinless)
Nonfat Greek yogurt
Blueberries
*Bulgur
Eggs
Sardines
Spinach
Kiwi
Wild salmon

Kale
Avocados
Kidney beans
Sweet potatoes
Chard
*Edamame
Pumpkin
Oranges
Broccoli
Black beans

*Quinoa—a grain like crop grown for its seeds. Limited availability commercially.

*Bulgur—a cereal food made of different kinds of wheat—most often used in Middle East cooking

*Edamame—a preparation of immature soy-beans in the pod commonly founds in Japan, China, Hawaii, & Korea

*"Did you ever stop to taste a carrot? Not just eat it, but taste it?
You can't taste the beauty and energy of the earth in a Twinkie."*

Astrid Alauda

CONFERENCES AND UPCOMING EVENTS

- ♥ **March 29-30, 2011: NAEYC Public Forum**, Washington, DC. For more info: www.NAEYC.org
- ♥ **April 1-2, 2011: NFCCA Provider's Day Out**, Lincoln. Contact kaysdaycare@huntel.net
- ♥ **April 2, 2011: Early Childhood Conference**, Peru. Contact Cara Small at csmall@esu6.org
- ♥ **April 4-8, 2011: National Head Start Association Conference**, Kansas City, MO.
- ♥ **April 9, 2011: Early Childhood Celebration, SCC Gymnasium**, Lincoln. Contact: Josette @ (402) 416-3461
- ♥ **April 10-16, 2011: Week of the Young Child**, Nation-wide. www.NebraskaAEYC.org/www.naeyc.org
- ♥ **April 12-14, 2011: ERS Training**, North Platte. Contact Jessica.lachere@nebraska.gov
- ♥ **April 15-16, 2011: Rocky Mountain Early Childhood Conference**, Denver, CO. Contact info@ecconference.com
- ♥ **April 29, 2011: Infant Toddler Symposium**, Omaha. For more info, contact: OmahaAEYC.org
- ♥ **April 30, 2011: Early Childhood Conference**, Columbus. Contact kvaness@esu7.org
- ♥ **May 16-17, 2011: Early Development Network Annual Conf**, Kearney. Contact Jessica.lachere@nebraska.gov
- ♥ **June 12-15, 2011: NAEYC Professional Development Institute**, Providence, Rhode Island. Contact naeyc.org
- ♥ **June 15, 2011: Early Childhood Conference**, Seward. Contact Annette.oliver@cune.edu
- ♥ **June 21-23, 2011: ERS Training**, Lincoln. Contact Jessica.lachere@nebraska.gov
- ♥ **July 13-14, 2011: Kindergarten Conference**, Kearney. Contact marybethpistillo@nebraska.gov
- ♥ **July 19-21, 2011: ERS Training**, Omaha. Contact Jessica.lachere@nebraska.gov
- ♥ **July 20-23, 2011: National Family Child Care Conference**, Henderson NV. Conference@nafcc.org
- ♥ **September 26-29, 2011: ERS Training**, Kearney. Contact Jessica.lachere@nebraska.gov
- ♥ **October 18-20, 2011: ERS Training**, Omaha. Contact Jessica.lachere@nebraska.gov
- ♥ **November 2-5, 2011: NAEYC Annual Conference**, Orlando, FLA. Www.naeyc.org

WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD, 2011

If your center or program or group is hosting Week of the Young Child activities, send photos of them to us and we'll post them on the website.

(Be sure you have releases from all children included in any photos.)

To Donate

Visit the website/[To Donate](#), and you can donate to NeAEYC operating costs, any of the projects or student groups.

You can send a check or donate with a credit card - we'll send you a letter for your taxes.