

Massachusetts Association for the Education of Young Children

presents



Children: Our Link to the Future

A Conference for Early Educators & Administrators

Westford Regency Inn &
Conference Center
219 Littleton Road
Westford, MA 01886



CELEBRATING OUR 11th ANNUAL SPRING CONFERENCE

**Massachusetts Association for
the Education of Young Children**
19 St. Joseph Street
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

Presented with support of the Massachusetts Association
for the Education of Young Children affiliate partners:

**Boston AEYC
Cape Cod AEYC
Essex County AEYC
Montachusett AEYC
Western Mass AEYC
Worcester Area AEYC**

.5 CEUs available for each day pending approval!

Massachusetts Association for the Education of Young Children

KEYNOTE SPEAKER & REGISTRATION

Lisa Murphy, M.Ed., Early Childhood Specialist Founder and CEO of Ooey Gooley, Inc.



Lisa Murphy has been involved with early childhood education for over 20 years; teaching and working with children in various environments including Head Start, kindergarten, private preschools, family childcare, park and rec centers, group homes and many child care centers.

Lisa is the founder and CEO of **Ooey Gooley, Inc.** where her mission is to assist in the transformation of the industry of early childhood education by offering 1) the best workshops and trainings; 2) the most up to date materials and resources; and 3) insightful conversations and connections through the power of social media. Lisa presents hundreds of workshops each year to both domestic and international audiences on various topics related to early childhood education.

Lisa recently completed her Masters degree in early childhood education from Champlain College in Vermont. She has authored four books, produced dozens of teacher training DVD's and is a popular keynote speaker at educational conferences. Lisa's standing room only seminars have become nationally known for their information, humor, inspiration and energetic delivery.

Keynote

MANY KINDS OF SMART!

Understanding the Theory of Multiple Intelligences

Think you are good at your job because you love children? What about the ones that challenge you? Using these powerful questions as a framework, Lisa puts her own spin on Howard Gardner's classic theory. This session is a far cry from simply listing various personality characteristics, needs and preferences. By providing easy to implement, yet possibly challenging, "comfort zone stretchers," Lisa challenges teachers to make sure they are celebrating all of the children in the classroom, not just the ones they like.

Conference Registration Form

Registration closes on **March 1, 2015**. Register early!

- A free continental breakfast consisting of fresh fruit, assorted fruit breads and muffins, danish and croissants, coffee, tea, and fruit juices will be available in the exhibit hall both days.
- LUNCH In an effort to reduce the price on Friday and keep the costs down on Saturday, we will not be providing lunch either day. We hope that allowing you the option to make your own lunch choice will keep the conference affordable to all.
- There will be two options for lunch: Friday & Saturday: The cost is \$20 and must be pre-paid with your registration. The hotel will also offer pre-made sandwiches and salads for sale. Selections will be different both days. Vegetarian options will be available. • Within five minutes of the hotel (by car) is every fast food restaurant you can think of. You are free to leave the premises and purchase food to go.
- There will be no refunds after March 1, 2015. Cancellation prior to March 1, 2015 will incur a \$25 processing charge, no matter what the circumstances. All refund requests must be made in writing.

Two Ways to Register

1. Online at www.massaeyc.com

OR

2. Mail a check or money order payable to **MassAEYC** along With the registration form to: MassAEYC
19 St. Joseph Street
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

(Please Print Clearly)

Name: _____ Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

NAEYC Number (if applicable) _____ Program: _____ College name/id number: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Registration Fees	Fri	Sat	Both
NAEYC Member	\$90	\$90	\$160
Non-member	\$110	\$110	\$210
Student NAEYC Member	\$50	\$50	\$100
Student Non-NAEYC member	\$65	\$65	\$130
Groups of 4 or more from the same organization that are NAEYC Members	\$80	\$80	\$160
Groups of 4 or more from the same organization that are Non-NAEYC Members	\$100	\$100	\$200
Lunch-Soup & Salad	\$20	\$20	\$40

In order to qualify for CEUs for the Saturday Conference you must select a workshop in the same core competency area for both the am and pm session.

Workshop Selections	1st choice	2nd choice	3rd choice
Friday Workshop			
Saturday morning workshop			
Saturday afternoon workshop			

PAYMENT	Registration Fee	Lunch fee (optional)	Total
Friday			
Saturday			
Both days			
TOTAL			

A student member is an individual taking two or more college courses at the time of the conference, who is also a member of NAEYC.

SCHEDULE OF WORKSHOPS

Friday, March 27, 2015

Workshops **CC-Core Competency, I-Infant, T-Toddler**
9:30 A.M.—3:45 P.M. **P-Preschool, K-Kindergarten, A-Administrator**

F-1. Babies and Brains: Some Assembly Required! Cheryl Hovey, Early Childhood Consultant. -CC#1 - I & T

The first years of life are a crucial time for brain development. Between conception and age 5, the basic foundations of brain development are established. Researchers have learned that healthy brain development is rooted in young children's everyday experiences. It is our educators that can make a difference in supporting healthy brain development. This workshop will help educators better understand how the brain develops and discover ways to nurture healthy brain development in our youngest children and have fun doing so!

F-2. The Emotional Health of the Young Child~ we can make a difference! Debra Johnston Malden, Professor. -CC#4 - I, T, P & K

Children of the 21st century are experiencing stress, and many early childhood professionals are seeking ways to assist children through difficult times. This workshop will allow participants to have a deeper understanding of stress in adults and children, and provide concrete, hands on and practical applications, for their programs and classrooms.

F-3. What About Naps? They're More Important Than You Think! Beth Grams Haxby, Sleep and Parenting

Consultant-CC#1 - I & T

Struggling with napping issues? Discover strategies for helping children with sleep and approaches for communicating with families about naps. Discover significant implications from current sleep research for early childhood and care. Engage in discussion around questions/concerns from your practice.

F-4. Capturing the Mind, Body and Spirit of Children Through Play. Megg Thompson, Behavior and Environmental Consultant &

Samantha Palmer, Lead Teacher-CC#1 - I, T, P & K

Children haven't changed, childhood has. Children no longer have the freedom to explore fields and woods, or find special places. There are so many meaningful lessons learned through play. Schools are forgetting to educate the body and the spirit, but through play these 2 essential parts are cherished, valued and supported. Play guides children through social emotional growth, core learning areas, gross and fine motor skills, and who they choose as friends. This session will explore the importance of play and how to fully integrate play into early learning environments.

F-5. When Enough is Enough. Jeanine Fitzgerald, Behavioral Consultant. CC#2 - I, T, P & K

Throughout the last three decades, several trends related to child behavior have been observed: The prevalence of children with challenging behaviors continues to increase. These behaviors have become more intense at younger ages. The behaviors have been more violent, and random; name-calling and fist fighting have been replaced by knives and assault weapons with laser sights. The level of remorse continues to decrease. The most vulnerable are children who are described as angry, lonely, disconnected or disempowered. This session confronts the unsolved problem of aggression and violence so that we can lead our children to a safer tomorrow, beginning in the earliest of years.

F-6. Connecting with Parents and your Community through Social Media. Maria Bereket, Social Media, Marketing & Design Coordinator -Social Media

marketing has become an indispensable tool for every type of small business, especially schools and preschool programs. Having a solid social media strategy offers an opportunity to build relationships, engage with parents and the school community, as well as increasing enrollments for little or no cost. This workshop will show administrators and educators how to develop a simple, cost effective strategy that will help programs effectively market their business across all of the most popular social media platforms including Facebook, Twitter, Google+, LinkedIn, and Pinterest. You will learn simple and effective tips on how to employ a social media strategy to make positive changes and open communications with ease. -CC#7 - I, T, P & K

F-7. Teaching Healthy Eating Habits in Your Program in 5 Easy Steps. Dina Rose, Sociologist, Feeding Expert, Author & Caron Gremont, Founder, First Bites. CC#4 - I, T, P & K

Teaching kids to eat right is harder than providing healthy food. Learn easy, research-based solutions to common eating problems, how to communicate better with families about eating habits, and how you can offer healthier food, even on a tight budget.

F-8. Allergies, Asthma, and Seizures....Oh, My! Preventing and Responding to Childhood Medical Emergencies. Shanyn A. Toulouse, MEd, BSN, RN.

This hands-on workshop will prepare child care administrators and staff to safely and confidently care for children with many common childhood health conditions. Participants will be provided with multiple tools and hands-on practical skills related to identifying and responding to these conditions. Administrative policy and legal information will also be reviewed. -CC#4 - I, T, P, K

F-9. STEM: Making the Connection; Inquiry, Exploration, and Reflection. Sue Quinlan, Assistant Professor & Allison Matthews, Director and Adjunct Faculty. -CC#5 - I, T, P, K

Confucius said "I hear and I forget. I see and I remember. I do and I understand." Come do hands-on activities as you predict, estimate, problem-solve, discover, and reflect while you collaborate with peers. Walk away with a self-made STEM project.

F-10. Integrating Teaching with Play- Active Learning Games to Reach Academic Goals. Monica Levy, Director- Leapsmart. -CC#5 - I, T, P, K

Learn the active way to teach literacy, math, social studies and science concepts! Broaden your curriculum with new ideas and activities that are easy and fun! You will even learn how to tailor activities to reach your particular population and age group.

F-11. A Crash Course In ASL (American Sign Language). K.R. Glickman, American Sign Language Instructor. -CC#5 - I, T, P, K

A Crash Course In ASL (American Sign Language) will be taught in ASL (with voice interpreter) by Deaf instructor K.R. Glickman. Attendees will learn the manual alphabet, how to sign to 25 in ASL on one hand, and the basic colors.

F-12. Road Trip into Great Classroom Environments. Tressa Giordano & Laura Eldredge, co-founders of The SEEDS Network, LLC. -CC#5 - P

Discover how to intentionally set up classroom environments to foster cooperation, exploration, and social development! Educators will also focus on bringing literacy into all learning centers; and incorporating literacy with music and movement through a concept called "Book & Boogie".

F-13. Going From Having Concerns to Having a Plan for a Child in Your Preschool Setting. Maggie Donahue, Inclusive Preschool Teacher. CC#6 - P

This workshop will show participants how to collect data and conference with families when they are concerned about a child's development. What happens after a referral is made will be explained and strategies for supporting the child in your preschool program regardless of the outcome will be provided.

F-14. The Upward Spiral: Igniting Passion, Intentionality and Engagement! Susan MacDonald, Professional Speaker and Coach. CC#8 - A

Positive strength based energy is the key to transforming the quality of early childhood programs. The stress of new initiatives and standards can drain the energy of directors and teachers, creating a school community where low levels of engagement become the norm. Focused, intentional and inspirational leadership will support the development of a vibrant learning community where all children, teachers and adults can thrive!

F-15. Teambuilding & Professionalism for Early Childhood Providers Everyday. Johanna Booth Miner, Live & Learn Early Learning Center.

This workshop will explore the importance of good communication in the workplace. There is a great need to add humor in our lives and use it appropriately. Values are an important part of creating the culture you want in your organization. Depending on what those values are, a center culture will begin to emerge. Through this workshop all participants will leave with something they can implement at their center. - CC#8 - I, T, P, K & A

F-16. Children on the Autism Spectrum. Linda Schumacher, Early Childhood Specialist. -CC#2 - I, T & P

With 1 in 64 children in the US being diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorders, it is increasingly important to learn more about supporting children with autism. This session will provide you with an overview of ASD, suggested adaptations to your communication, interactions, and environment, and a collection of resources.

SCHEDULE OF WORKSHOPS

Saturday, March 28, 2015

Morning Workshops 10:15 A.M.—12:15 P.M.

A-1. The Importance of Early Experiences: How playing IS Kindergarten Readiness! Lisa Murphy, Ooey Goey Inc. **CC#5 - I, T & P**

During this session Lisa will identify the seven things we need to do with children each day. These seven things make up the foundation that supports the house of higher learning. There is nothing wrong with the “academic” expectations within this house: reading, writing, math... the trouble is that many early childhood educators are being pressured to build a house where there is no foundation. And you do not need to be an architect to know that if you build where there is no foundation, the house will come crashing down! Playing is “getting them ready” and through an investigation of each of the “seven things,” Lisa shows you how.

A-2. Active Bodies Lead to Active Minds. Megg Thompson, Behavior and Environmental Consultant & Samantha Palmer, Lead Toddler Teacher. **CC#1 - I, T, P & K**

Movement and learning are connected in our brains so the more we move the more we learn. There are also 6 different movements that children (and adults) need to be successful, feel alert and calm their bodies. Learn what those movements are and how to incorporate them into your curriculum.

A-3. Media Cues & Gender Connections: The links between young children's familiarity with media characters and their emerging awareness of gender. Barbara Colombo-Adams, Educational Consultant. **CC#1 - T & P**

Statewide research on toddlers' & young preschoolers' media use and links between character familiarity and gender knowledge will be presented. Workshop activities will help participants counter effects of stereotyping and promote gender-inclusive messages and activities in their early education and care programs.

A-4. Considering the Special Needs of Children in Foster Care. Lori Carvalho, Independent Court Investigator/ Family Mediator

Thousands of children enter foster care in Massachusetts each year. This workshop will assist educators in understanding the experiences of children entering care, recognize developmental concerns and identify measures to provide an added sense of stability, safety and security. **CC#1 - I, T, P & K**

A-5. You Can Make a Difference: Shifting Your Teaching Practice to Support the Development of Children's Self-regulation! Christine Jutres & Barbara Wilder-Smith, Tools of the Mind. **CC#2 - P & K**

What is self-regulation? Why is it important for children's social-emotional development and learning? Learn current research on self-regulation and leave with 5 tools to support the development of self-regulation in young children.

A-6. Developing Self-Esteem and Resiliency in Children. Abigail Kelley, Professor/Consultant. **CC#2 - I, T, P & K**

This workshop presents an in-depth study of resiliency and how we can incorporate resiliency into early childhood programs. We will examine how to do this in early childhood education and how to develop strategies for fostering self-esteem and resilience.

A-7. Trusted to Co-Raise a Child: Connecting Families through Building Family Connection and Support. Johanna Booth Miner, Live & Learn Early Learning Center. **CC#3 - I, T, P & K**

Learn how to have simple ways to connect families regularly with your center. Successful partnership includes being respectful and responsive to parents' concerns about work schedules, family responsibilities, and past experiences. Parents need to be empowered to identify solutions that make sense within their cultural and family context and that fit with their individual parenting style. Are you doing everything possible to structure your program or service in a way that welcomes moms, dads, and other caregivers, invites their trust, and helps them to feel comfortable?

A-8. Nutrition: the Cornerstone to Active Minds & Bodies. Kuerstin Fordham, Family Nutritional coach. **CC#4 - I, T, P & K**

Proper nutrition that supports growth, cognitive function, and physical activity is essential for the success of all children. The types of food children consume have a direct result in their ability to learn, play, and grow. Learn the specifics on nutrients, dyes, preservatives, and chemicals and how to incorporate this information into your curriculum.

A-9. Science for Early Childhood Educators. Jeffrey Mehigan, Museum of Science. **CC#5 - P**

Join us for a fun-filled workshop that introduces educators to strategies and activities that support science and engineering education for young learners. We will examine the new state standards for science, and provide resources to take back into the classroom.

A-10. Storytelling That Evokes Imagination and Education. Shawn Middleton, Storytelling by Shawn. **CC#5 - I, T, P & K**

Add Storytelling to your teaching repertoire! This uplifting, high-energy workshop teaches different storytelling techniques to foster proactive listening, oral language, reading and writing skills, and the sheer enjoyment of the magical imagination of stories.

A-11. Play, Learn, Grow! Developmentally Appropriate and Fun Thematic Activities for Toddlers and Preschoolers. Jacqueline Lopez, Little Hands, Busy Minds. **CC#5 - T & P**

Participants will learn how to use easily accessible items to develop activities for toddlers and preschoolers in all learning centers. Topics to be discussed include: science and art activities, math, and language and literacy.

A-12. Family Child Care Accreditation by the National Association for Family Child Care. Linda Schumacher, ECE Specialist. **CC#8**

Accreditation by the National Association for Family Child Care is a national standard of high quality. Come learn the importance of becoming a nationally accredited family child care program, upcoming changes to the accreditation process and standards, and current funding and support available in Massachusetts to help you become accredited. We will also discuss how QRIS and NAFCC accreditation go hand-in-hand for a high quality family child care program.

A-13. Healthy Technology Environments for Young Children: Supporting Parents and Schools. Jean Rogers, Kids Media Diet. **CC#3 - I, T, P & K**

Young children today engage with digital technologies nearly from birth. Media messages can shape their identity and their future. This session highlights protective benefits of digital devices, while addressing safety and the struggle to maintain critical parenting foundations. Practitioners gain tools for coaching parents in various early childhood settings.

A-14. One Smile, 5 Fingers and a Helmet: An Evidence-based Approach to Health and Wellbeing in the Early Years. (Part 1) Must attend both sessions. Danielle Twigg, ECE Consultant.

CC#4 - I, T, P & K

Early childhood educators feel increasingly under pressure to 'solve' a plethora of extremely complex health and societal problems. Whenever public interest and media attention arises, there is often a suggestion that these issues should be addressed in schools and early childhood settings. This workshop is designed to help prepare early educators in the development of a 'toolkit' to promote the social and emotional wellbeing of the children in their care, while caring for themselves as well as their colleagues. Resources will be provided at the presentation.

A-15. Exploring the Reggio Emilia Approach to Education. (Part 1) Must attend both sessions. Susan MacDonald, Professional Speaker, Coach and Consultant. **CC#5 - I, T, P & K**

This workshop provides unique and meaningful learning experiences while actively exploring the Reggio Emilia Approach to education in participants' professional contexts. Attendees will engage in interactive provocations, hands on activities, and in-depth discussions as they construct their own knowledge and explore ways to bring vision to life in an early childhood setting.

A-16. Utilizando las Observaciones y las Evaluaciones para Apoyar el Aprendizaje de los Niños. (Part 1) Must attend both sessions.

Marcela Simpson. M. Ed. CC#6- I, T, P & K

La observación y la evaluación juegan un papel crítico en la práctica apropiada para el desarrollo. Utilizando los resultados de las evaluaciones individuales de niños, los educadores y las familias pueden trabajar juntos para satisfacer las necesidades únicas de cada niño. En esta capacitación discutiremos el valor de la observación, la documentación y la evaluación para comprender y mejorar el aprendizaje y el desarrollo de los niños. Durante la sesión de la mañana, los participantes aprenderán técnicas y estrategias para hacer observaciones efectivas con un enfoque en evaluaciones de los niños y la planificación del currículo. Durante la sesión de la tarde, destacaremos los componentes de la herramienta de evaluación TS GOLD, y la herramienta de detección, Edades y Etapas. Concluiremos esta capacitación ofreciendo estrategias para integrar a las familias en el proceso de evaluación del niño.

SCHEDULE OF WORKSHOPS

Saturday, March 28, 2015

Afternoon Workshops 1:30 P.M.—3:30 P.M.

P-1. Let's Go Outside! Outdoor Time is NOT Wasted Time.

Lisa Murphy, Ooey Goey, Inc.-**CC#5 - I, T, P & K**

This session begins with participants taking a walk-about that facilitates individual reflection on their own outdoor play experience. Following a discussion of their reactions and responses, Lisa shares a power point slide show of outdoor play experiences and activities that can be implemented immediately in both family childcare and center based settings. Best of all, they are activities that use materials you probably already have in the garage or the shed!

P-2. Learn the Signs. Act Early! Elaine Gabovitch, CDC Act Early Ambassador to Massachusetts. **CC#1 - I, T & P**

Learn the tools to educate parents about early childhood development, including early warning signs of developmental concerns, via a variety of media materials that illustrate milestones and red flags as part of the CDC's campaign to promote screening and detection.

P-3. Winning Isn't Everything. Abigail Kelley, Professor.

This workshop examines team development, effective communication skills and conflict resolution. Attention will be given to discussion as well as information delivery. Attendees will be asked to participate in both individual and group activities. - **CC#2 - T, P & K**

P-4. Strengthening the Partnership between Parents and Childcare Providers: Improving Infant and Toddler Sleep Together. Teresa Stewart, Infant/Toddler Sleep Consultant. **CC#4 - I, T & P**

This workshop will review parent/family issues regarding sleep practices, as health, safety and nutrition are all impacted by children's sleep. We will also discuss how educators can work in partnership with parents to ensure a healthy sleep environment for children.

P-5. Lyrics to Literacy: Read a Song and Sing a Book. Debbie Clement, Arts Enrichment Specialist. **CC#5 - P**

Join a nationally award winning author/illustrator of picture books in an inspirational look at her work. Learn the songs that become book text. Learn the sign language to support their performance. See the children's artwork in response to the quilted illustrations.

P-6. ABC 123 Storytelling for the Wee Little Folk. Shawn Middleton, Storytelling with Shawn. **CC#5 - I, T, P & K**

Discover developmentally and age-appropriate stories, songs, finger plays that will get your children sing, clapping, dancing, chanting and roaring with laughter.

P-7. From Sandpit to Natural Playscape on a Budget. Megg Thompson, Consultant & Samantha Palmer, Lead Toddler Teacher. **CC#5 - I, T, P & K**

Come find out how you can turn your playground into a natural playscape that boasts authentic and real objects that charge children's imaginations and empower them to enjoy nature and the world around them!

P-8. Essential Songs for Young Children and the Reasons Behind Them! Fran Friedman, Ph.D. **CC#5 - I, T & P**

Have fun learning essential songs for children, while learning the rationales for using these songs: enhanced knowledge of phonics, math, colors, body parts, sign language, and increased positive interpersonal skills and kindness.

P-9. The Gift of the Teachable Moment. Johanna Booth Miner, David Miner, Geraldine Mathieu. Live & Learn Early Learning Center. **CC#5 - I, T, P & K**

In a world that is fast paced and goal oriented it is hard to remember to follow the lead and interest of the children. Time schedules and "to-do lists" often take priority over the slug wandering slowly or the discovery of what lives under the log! Nature gives us a host of discoverable moments no matter where you are. Come and explore how to follow the children's wonder and discover nature based curriculum that grabs their interest. Participants will examine intentionally gearing the environment and curriculum for every child.

P-10. Effective STEM Professional Development for EEC Educators & Programs. Anne Beatty and Gay Mohrbacher, WGBH Educational Foundation & Dr. Eleonora Villegas-Reimers, Wheelock College. **CC#7 - I, T, P & K**

This session will provide an overview of WGBH's work in early childhood STEM education and professional development, focusing on our partnership with MA Department of Early Education and Care and other collaborations. Presenters and participants will discuss action items the state is pursuing with regards to STEM professional development for different age groups and disciplines. Participants will leave with an understanding of these recommendations and an introduction to two new examples of (free) STEM professional development that address the most current recommendations:

P-11. Leading Early Childhood Anti-bias Programs: A Guide for Change. Debbie LeeKeenan, Lesley University & John Nimmo, ECE Consultant. **CC#8 - A**

The program leader plays a central role in creating an anti-bias community. The principles of anti-bias leadership are strategic and intentional. They involve reading the context of your program, creating a mission statement and structures for anti-bias work, working with staff and families, managing and negotiating disequilibrium and conflict, documenting and assessing anti-bias change, and meeting the challenges of anti-bias education in an era of regulations and standards. An anti-bias framework is integrated into all aspects of the program. Participants will have an opportunity to ask questions, share ideas and apply ideas to their own setting.

P-12. Steps to Success-Early Childhood, Mathematics and the Common Core. Dr. Cathy Livingston, Ann Marie Garabedian & Gail Joniec, Northeastern University. **CC#5 - P**

Using the Common Core as a framework, this workshop will include instruction on how to use and choose a variety of manipulatives to reinforce math skills, appropriate math activities, as well as ways to infuse mathematics into daily routines. Early childhood mathematics topics include: Principles of Counting and Cardinality, Patterning, Geometry and Math Literacy.

P-13. One Smile, 5 Fingers and a Helmet: An Evidence-Based Approach to Health and Wellbeing in the Early Years. (Part 2) Must attend both sessions. Danielle Twigg, ECE Consultant. **CC#4 - I, T, P & K**

Early childhood educators feel increasingly under pressure to 'solve' a plethora of extremely complex health and societal problems. Whenever public interest and media attention arises, there is often a suggestion that these issues should be addressed in schools and early childhood settings. This workshop is designed to help prepare early years educators in the development of a 'toolkit' to promote the social and emotional wellbeing of the children in their care, whilst caring for themselves as well as their colleagues. Resources will be provided at the presentation.

P-14. Exploring the Reggio Emilia Approach to Education. (Part 2) Must attend both sessions. Susan MacDonald, Professional Speaker, Coach and Consultant. **CC#5 - I, T, P & K**

This workshop series provides unique and meaningful learning experiences while actively exploring the Reggio Emilia Approach to education in participants' professional contexts. Participants in this workshop will discover how to develop unique and meaningful learning experiences for children. Attendees will engage in interactive provocations, hands on activities, and in-depth discussions as they construct their own knowledge and explore ways to bring vision to life in an early childhood setting.

P-15. Utilizando las Observaciones y las Evaluaciones para Apoyar el Aprendizaje de los Niños. (Part 2) Must attend both sessions. Marcela Simpson. M. Ed. **CC#6 - I, T, P & K**

Please see A-16 for description.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE & INFORMATION

Friday Schedule

8:00 - 9:00 A.M.	Check in/Breakfast
9:00-9:15 A.M.	Welcome/Announcements
9:30 -12:00 P.M.	Morning Workshops
12:00 - 1:00 P.M.	Lunch/Exhibits Open
1:15 - 3:45 P.M.	Afternoon Workshops
4:00—5:00 P.M.	Exhibition of Promising Classroom Practices
5:00-7:00 P.M.	Excellence in Education Awards Reception

Saturday Schedule

7:30-8:30 A.M.	Check in/Breakfast/Exhibits
8:45-9:00 A.M.	Welcome/Announcements
9:00-10:00 A.M.	Keynote Speaker
10:15-12:15 P.M.	Morning Workshop
12:15-1:15 P.M.	Lunch/Exhibits
1:30-3:30 P.M.	Afternoon Workshop

At the Excellence in Education Awards Reception we will present three awards this year. In 2005, the Massachusetts Association for the Education of Young Children established the Gwen Morgan Emergent Leader Award. This award is given on a yearly basis, when merited, to an individual that has taken advantage of a leadership opportunity to improve the quality of care for children and families, or to advance workforce and professional development opportunities for early education and care professionals. Nominations are due by February 7, 2015. In 2009, the Men's Interest Forum launched the Steve Shuman Men in Early Education Award to honor individuals who work tirelessly for gender balance and equity in the profession of early childhood education. The Men's Interest Forum has also added a new award called the Emerging Professional Award. Nominations for this year's award can be sent to Craig Simpson at cs4202144@yahoo.com. Please join us for drinks and appetizers as we honor this year's winners. Nomination forms for all the awards can be found on our website www.massaeyc.com.

The MassAEYC conference committee is proud to introduce the 1st annual MassAEYC Poster Exhibit on Promising Practices in Education. This is an exciting opportunity to showcase your promising practices in early childhood education for others in the field. Presenters will choose an aspect of their work with young children and display it in poster format for others to view and learn from. As an exhibitor, you will have the opportunity to share with others and engage in professional dialogue. It will be a valuable forum where you can present your innovations in the field as well as network with other educators. We invite all educators to submit an application to participate in the Poster Exhibition. Please visit our website www.massaeyc.com to download the poster exhibition application. The poster exhibition will take place on Friday, March 27th from 4:00-5:00 P.M.

Vendors will be available from 8:00 AM—4:00 PM on Friday and from 7:30 AM to 3:45 PM on Saturday. MassAEYC and the conference committee assume no responsibility for any statement of fact or opinion presented at this conference, nor does acceptance of advertising or exhibits imply endorsement of products or services.

DIRECTIONS TO THE WESTFORD REGENCY INN & CONFERENCE CENTER

Westford Regency Inn and Conference Center
219 Littleton Road
Westford, MA 01886

The Westford Regency is off Route 495, exit 32. It is right down the road on the right. Watch for the stone wall.

Accommodations

Westford Regency Inn 219 Littleton Road, Westford MA
978-692-8200

Double Room Rate: \$105 per room/per night. Tell the hotel you are attending the MassAEYC Conference.

Amenities: Health club, indoor pool, jacuzzi, full service restaurant, in-room irons, hair dryers.

Deadline for reservations is February 14, 2015.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Chair: Dotti McDevitt & Marley Couchon

Committee Members

<i>Jo Ann Borinski</i>	<i>Karen Gale</i>	<i>Sarah Sian</i>
<i>Nancy Toso</i>	<i>Nancy Casten</i>	
<i>Brenda Powers</i>	<i>Sarah Sian</i>	
<i>Becky Geer</i>	<i>Deborah Abelman</i>	

We extend our thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of this conference.

Any questions? Call 617-875-0928 or email officemassaeyc@gmail.com