Early Childhood Conference
Preliminary Program

March 31 – April 2, 2016

Amway Grand Plaza Hotel
and DeVos Place
Grand Rapids, Michigan

SCECHs available for Conference and Focus Session attendance; pending approval.

Register Online at www.MiAEYC.org and save $3
Michigan Association for the Education of Young Children
2016 Early Childhood Conference

Overview

Wednesday
March 30, 2016
5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Registration

Thursday
March 31, 2016
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
8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
General Session
10:05 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Exhibits
10:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Focus Sessions
10:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Workshops
4:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.
MiAEYC Public Policy Meeting
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
MiAEYC Governing Board Meeting and Annual Business Meeting

Friday
April 1, 2016
7:00 a.m. – 3:00 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
10:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.
MiAEYC Leadership SIG Meeting
10:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Focus Sessions
10:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Workshops
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Learning Fair
2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
ACCESS Meeting
2:45 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
AEYC Chapter Presidents Meeting
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Auction Finale

Saturday
April 2, 2016
7:30 a.m. – 11:00 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. – 3:30 p.m.
Workshops
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Student Meet ’n Greet with MiAEYC Leaders
12:30 p.m. – 2:30 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 2016 Early Childhood Conference program that you receive at the conference is the final version.
Michigan Association for the Education of Young Children  
2016 Early Childhood Conference

Conference Information

Registration and Fees
- Online registration with credit card or purchase order payment is available until March 24, 2016 at www.MiAEYC.org.
- Mailed registrations must be postmarked by March 11, 2016.
- On-site registration fees are higher.
- 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.
- There is a $10.00 discount when registering for a Focus Session and for the conference, or for two Focus Sessions.
- Registration fees are considerably less for MiAEYC members. A membership form is provided on page 25.

Payment of Fees
- Online registration requires payment by credit card or purchase order.
- Purchase orders are accepted from schools and businesses.
- Make checks payable to MiAEYC Conference.
- Credit cards accepted: VISA, MasterCard and Discover.
- If paying by check, membership can be added on the registration form (enclose a completed membership form from page 25). MiAEYC cannot accept credit card payment for membership on the conference registration form; it can accept credit card payment on the membership form.
- Payment must accompany your form.
- Refunds of registration fees are made upon written request. Requests must be received by March 11, 2016. A $15.00 processing fee is deducted from each refund. Absolutely no refunds are issued after March 11, 2016.
- A registration can be transferred to another person upon request.
- Send your registration form and appropriate fees to:
  - MiAEYC Conference
  - 839 Centennial Way, Suite 200
  - Lansing, Michigan 48917-9277

Confirmation
- If you preregister by March 11, 2016, you will be mailed a receipt and your conference name badge. Focus Session name badges are received on-site.
- 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 11, 2016, you will need to pick up your receipt and name badge at the Preregistration Counter, Registration Area, Amway Hotel.

On-Site Conference Registration
- On-site conference registration takes place in the Conference Registration Area, Concourse Level, Amway Hotel:
  - Wednesday, March 30: 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
  - Thursday, March 31: 7:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
  - Friday, April 1: 7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
  - Saturday, April 2: 7:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Focus Sessions
- Full-day sessions; there are two Focus Sessions on Thursday and Friday.
- Conferees may only register for one Focus Session each day.
- Registration for Focus Sessions is separate from conference registration.
- Conferees receive a $10 discount when registering for a second Focus Session or for the conference.

Center Stage Series
- Center Stage presentations address topics and methods useful for anyone working with young children.

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 (IT-Infant/Toddler; PS-Preschool; KP-Kindergarten and Primary; SA-School-age or All) is identified for each session.

Exhibits
- Vendors of equipment and instructional materials, MiAEYC Sales and Presenters’ Marketplace are in the exhibit area.
  - Thursday, March 31: 10:05 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
  - Friday, April 1: 10:05 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Learning Fair
- Learning Fair, Friday, April 1, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. and Saturday, April 2, 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 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 11, 2016.

Food
- On Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 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 their web site at www.experiencegr.com.

Parking
- Amway Grand Plaza Hotel – $19 for self-parking for overnight guests; valet parking is also available. Rates subject to change.
- Marriott Courtyard – $16 for self-parking for overnight guests; valet parking is also available. Rates subject to change.
- Information about alternative parking is available online at www.experiencegr.com.

Further Information
For further information call the MiAEYC office, 800-336-6424 (Toll Free) or 517-351-4183
Focus Sessions

• Focus Session fees are NOT included in the conference fee. You must pay a separate fee for each Focus Session.
• Focus Session participants receive a $10 discount when registering for a second Focus Session or for the conference.
• The Focus Session fee includes resources and the opportunity to earn SCECHs, pending approval.
• The Focus Session fee does not include lunch; the lunch break is from 12:15–1:15 p.m.
• Focus Session check-in starts at 10:00 a.m. in each Focus Session room (Governor’s or Vandenberg, Amway).
• Focus Sessions are 4.25 hour sessions; they begin at 10:30 a.m. and end at 4:00 p.m.
• To become eligible to earn SCECHs, full session attendance and compliance with all attendance verification procedures are mandatory.

Thursday, March 31, 2016

Focus Session A

Effective Professional Development Strategies that Create Positive Changes in Quality Practices
Michelle Burkhard and John Burkhard, Early Childhood Consultants, Burkhard Consulting

Applying the latest professional development research and change theory to your current professional development practices can produce positive changes. Through active participation, learn how to design and implement effective professional development opportunities, for various audiences, that ensure positive changes in quality practices, whether in a classroom environment or a large organization.

Topics include:
• Current professional development research
• Change Theory
• The 7 parts of an effective professional development cycle
• Choosing appropriate professional development strategies for the intended purpose
• Creating an improvement plan for future success

Separate registration required – See registration form

Focus Session B

Dramatic Play: It Isn’t Just Playing House!
Rebecca Garske, Early Childhood Education Coordinator and Jan Herriman, Early Childhood Education Labsite Coach
Mott Community College

Experience effective, engaging dramatic play ideas and activities that promote social-emotional development through dramatic play. Discover how dramatic play can be incorporated into the everyday classroom, providing countless opportunities for communication, socialization, literacy development and hours of enjoyment. Gain resources and materials for immediate use!

Topics include:
• The role of dramatic play in the classroom
• How dramatic play supports all developmental domains
• The stages of dramatic play
• Using dramatic play as an assessment tool

Separate registration required – See registration form
Focus Session C

**Integrating Nature into the Preschool Classroom**
Rachel Larimore, Director of Education, Chippewa Nature Center

Gain information and skills to incorporate nature-based concepts into daily preschool routines while maintaining the integrity of your best practice curriculum. This high-energy, enthusiastic session will get you fired up about integrating nature into your preschool classroom!

Topics include:
- Benefits of nature-based programming
- Seasonal activities
- Real vs. perceived outdoor risks
- Leading effective excursions
- Integrating nature into indoor spaces and naturalizing outdoor play areas

Separate registration required – See registration form

Focus Session D

**Clear as Mud: Cultural Competencies**
Jill Tarrant, Supervisor, CACS Head Start and Early Childhood Programs

Multicultural and a diverse environment, what does that mean? Explore your own perceptions about culture and diversity and expand your understanding. Learn about NAEYC and State of Michigan licensing expectations regarding incorporating a diverse curriculum for children and families. Gain new strategies and methods for incorporating cultural competencies into your daily program.

Topics include:
- Understanding cultural competencies
- The impact of personal perspectives and biases
- The importance of diversity in early childhood education
- Respecting and celebrating cultures in the classroom
- State of Michigan child care licensing expectations
- The NAEYC Code of Ethical Conduct

Separate registration required – See registration form
Thursday, March 31, 2016

**General Session: 8:30 am – 10:00 am**

**Classroom Management Should be Easier than Herding Cats: 20 Sanity Savers to Run an Effective Early Childhood Classroom**

Discover ways to make your classroom more efficient and nurturing, while having more fun and engagement. Learn about researched social emotional strategies, developmentally appropriate procedures, and classroom management building blocks. Gain practical and effective techniques for coping with and managing any group of children, regardless of the numbers!

Sponsored by Discount School Supply

John Funk, Manager of Educational Programs
Excelligence Learning Corporation

**10:30 am – 11:45 am**

**Child Development**

**Mealtimes with Infants and Toddlers**

Family style dining can be challenging. Learn strategies for promoting successful mealtimes, for children and adults, that are pleasant, appealing and full of rich conversation.

Stephanie O’Hara and Abhirami Gunasingam,
Gretchen’s House, EICC
Age Level: IT

**Developing Healthy Habits for a Lifetime**

Early eating habits have a powerful impact on future habits. Learn how to create enjoyable mealtime environments and establish healthy eating habits to last a lifetime.

Amanda Gallaher, Association for Child Development
Age Levels: IT, PS

**Preschoolers Can Cook?**

Explore strategies, techniques and activities that promote cooking skills for preschoolers, and learn about cooking projects completed.

Teresea Kauppi, CMU Child Development and Learning Lab
Age Level: PS

**Health, Safety and Nutrition**

**Interactions and Guidance**

**Mindfulness in Childcare and the Classroom: Helping Children Gain Self Control**

Techniques of mindful awareness can help children learn to pay closer attention to their thoughts, feelings and emotions. Explore ways to help children gain self control, learn what the research says, experience mindfulness activities, and discover children’s literature that supports mindfulness practices

Gail Innis, Michigan State University
Age Levels: IT, PS, KP

**Phonemic Awareness in 3D**

Learn how Dance, Dickory Docks and a bit of Do-Re-Mi can teach the essential foundational skill of phonemic awareness that eludes almost 25% of pre-readers. Gain a toolbox of concrete strategies for your classroom.

Andrea Peterson, Funemics® Author
Age Levels: PS, KP, SA

**Professionalism**

**Schedules, Routines and Transitions, Oh My!**

The schedule is the destination, routines are how children get there, even if they don’t know how to. Discuss schedules, explore ways to establish routines, and understand the importance of meaningful transitions.

Jill Tarrant, CACS Head Start and Early Childhood Programs
Age Level: All

**Building Cultural Competence:**

**A Journey Rather than a Destination**

We live in an increasingly diverse world, serving children and families from a wide range of cultures. Explore what culture is, how our own culture influences our work with children and families, and strategies that build cultural competence.

Kathleen Neumann and Erica Harris,
Grand Rapids Community College

**Teaching and Learning**

**Engaging Children in the Art Studio**

Create a Reggio-inspired art studio that focuses on teaching children basic art practices to promote and foster independence, thoughtfulness, and purposeful child-centered work.

Jennifer Nims and Anastasia Bristley,
CMU Child Development and Learning Lab
Age Level: PS

**Awareness: Do You Realize the Impact You Have on Students?**

An exploration of various topics and how they impact student behavior in a positive way. Learn how to incorporate social lessons into your daily schedule and empower children with skills they will use for a lifetime.

Janelle Pauldine and Jennifer Lintner,
Owosso Public Schools and Linden Public Schools
Age Levels: PS, KP

**Thursday, March 31, 2016**

**Registration:**
7:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

**General Session:**
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**Exhibits:**
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10:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**Workshops:**
10:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Teaching Languages to Early Learners

Languages open our children to a new world. Introducing foreign languages to children at the earliest age possible can result in better linguistics, higher academic achievement, better critical thinking, cultural enrichment and more. Start early; the benefits and opportunities are endless.

Jill Scott and Marvin Johnson, Live Learn Travel Kids
Age Level: All

10:45 am–12:00 pm

Child Development

MonkeyPlay: Incorporating Physical Literacy into Early Childhood Development

Childhood obesity and physical inactivity are epidemics in the US and they continue to rise with nearly 33% of children today considered overweight or obese. Learn about MonkeyPlay, a program that involves fundamental locomotor skills and imaginative play while encouraging experiential movement through the mimicry of animal behavior.

Ruth Habrecht, Hutan for World Health
Age Level: All

Active Learning during Transitions

Active learning occurs throughout the daily routine including transition times. Learn how individual needs can be met in a group setting and how to develop a plan for applying active learning to transition times.

Heidi McFadden, Gretchen's House Child Care Centers
Age Levels: IT, PS

Family and Community Engagement

Enriching Your Early Childhood Program through Family Involvement

Explore strategies for communicating with families, informally and formally, including ideas for engaging parents in the classroom community and how to create an inviting environment.

Diana Allen and Katie Davison,
Community Day Care and Preschool
Age Level: PS

Interactions and Guidance

Praise vs. Encouragement

Explore how praise and encouragement differ. Discuss the effects of using praise with children, the rationale for a focus on encouragement, and useful classroom strategies.

Karin Nowak, Pam Preston, and Heidi Hochrein,
Gretchen’s House Child Care Centers
Age Level: All

Management

Are You Ready for Your Licensing Inspection?

Feeling anxious about your next licensing inspection? Learn how to organize the required policies, procedures, and postings so that you are prepared.

Thomasa Bond, Child Care, LARA

12:45 pm – 2:00 pm

Child Development

Preschool Social Studies

Social studies is more than just maps. Learn how to introduce and bring social studies into your classroom.

Stephanie Christie and Susan Watts,
Starfish Family Services
Age Level: PS
Fine Motor Skills: Write Out of the Box!
A discussion and demonstration of gross and fine motor activities and strategies with supporting rationale for improving the future handwriting efficiency and scissor skills of children ages 3-6. Write Out of the Box!
Marianne Gibbs, Gibbs Consulting, Inc.
Age Level: PS

Family and Community Engagement
Wait! Don’t Go! Stop Letting Parents Get Away
Discover ways to build effective relationships with families that will increase connections between home and school. Explore volunteer opportunities and organizational techniques that make the process smoother.
Jennifer Lintner, Linden Public Schools and Janelle Pauldine, Owosso Public Schools
Age Levels: IT, PS, KP

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
Age Level: All

Interactions and Guidance
Infants and Toddlers: The Power of “NO”
The word NO is powerful but often frowned upon for use with infants and toddlers. Drawing on our experiences, discuss the story of NO.
Abhirami Gunasingam and Olivia Wendorf, Gretchen’s House, ELCC
Age Level: IT

Observation, Documentation and Assessment
Early Childhood Count Reports
CEPI collects data from entities within the state including GSRP, HeadStart, Early HeadStart, and Even Start, and reports this data on MI School Data. Learn how early childhood educators can use these reports to summarize child counts, time in program, program overview, age summary, and participation by kindergarten based upon program category and race/ethnicity.
Dana Frederick, Center for Educational Performance and Information, State of Michigan
Age Levels: IT, PS, KP

Teaching and Learning
Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum for Children with Special Needs and Typically Developing Children
Learn how to use the idea of an Individualized Education Plan for all children, starting with where they are and helping them move to the next step in their educational journey. Gain practical, visual, and hands-on ideas for teaching all pre-k children.
Betty Brandt, Iosco R.E.S.A
Age Level: PS

Andy Warhol Can, Can You?
Learn, through demonstration, how to incorporate the artwork, styles and techniques of artists, including Andy Warhol, across all domains of the early childhood curriculum.
Valerie Tibbs-Wynnne, Summers Knoll School
Age Levels: PS, KP, SA

Sharing a Small World: Ecology Activities for Young Learners
Discover hands-on activities that foster environmental awareness among young students while building skills in literacy, math, science and geography. Explore games, role-playing, and problem-solving challenges and discuss effective lesson plans.
Janet Vail, Grand Valley State University
Age Levels: KP, SA

Cooking in Preschool: It’s Fun, Easy and Educational
Cooking with preschoolers is a fun and engaging way to incorporate math, science, literacy, social studies and art into your classroom. Learn how cooking relates to these content areas and how to effectively incorporate cooking into your daily/weekly routine.
Angie Wagner, Paddock’s Early Childhood Center
Age Levels: PS, KP, SA

1:00 pm – 2:15 pm

Child Development
Won’t You Be My Partner? Circle Games and Partner Activities for PreK–1st Grade
Explore a year’s worth of musical circle games and partner activities that promote and nurture language development, spatial awareness, turn taking, working together, social skills, self-confidence and joy.
Gari Stein, Music For Little Folks
Age Level: All

Rebecca Shore, University of North Carolina, Charlotte
Thursday, March 31, 2016 (continued)

**Family and Community Engagement**

**Quality Parent Partnerships**
Explore concrete examples of positive customer service that promote strong interactions while incorporating NAEYC standards of parent partnerships.
Shannon Peitz and Danielle Wiener, Gretchen's House Child Care Centers
Age Level: All

**Interactions and Guidance**

**Setting Limits: A Win-Win!**
The art of setting limits is finding a balance between permissive and authoritative. Setting limits and helping children learn how to set limits results in calmer, safer environments where control is shared and power struggles are avoided. Learn and share effective strategies and techniques for creating balance in your classroom.
Sandra Swan, Community Day Care and Preschool
Age Level: PS

**Management**

**Are You Hiring the Right Person? Ways to Recruit, Hire, Train, and Retain the Right Person.**
Gain information needed to recruit, hire, train, and retain the right person for the job. Explore recruiting techniques to attract the most qualified applicants, how proper training minimizes mistakes, and why retaining the right person reduces staff turnover providing continuity and consistency for children, families and staff.
Thomasa Bond, Child Care, LARA

**Professionalism**

**Ready to Take the Next Step? Credentials, Degrees, and Endorsements in Early Childhood**
Learn about the degrees, endorsements, and credentials on the early childhood education pathway and what career opportunities they can lead to. Find out how T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Michigan scholarships can help you achieve your educational goals.
Kelsey Laird and Matt Foster, Michigan AEYC

**Teaching and Learning**

**Executive Function Skills: Everybody is Talking About Them, But No one Knows What They Are**
Explore the seven skills necessary for life including problem solving, memory, critical thinking and communication, skills critical for future success. Learn how early childhood teachers can support the development of executive function skills in the classroom.
Jennifer Brewer, Concordia University
Age Levels: PS, KP

**Turning Bad Guys into Good Guys**
Children have a natural curiosity about what adults label as “bad”. Discover important strategies to support the controversial topics (bad words, gun play, lying, bullying) that occur every day in a preschool classroom.
Robert Callahan and Breanna Waugh, UM-Flint Early Childhood Development Center
Age Level: All

**Playful Learning and The Project Approach**
Let’s play the Reggio-inspired way! Discover how to encourage, guide, and document playful learning by using The Project Approach to meet standards while still honoring a true “Image of the Child.”
Shelly Humphrey, Clarkston Early Childhood Center
Age Level: All

**Nursery Rhymes in Movement and Story Boxes**
Understand how simple nursery rhymes can be used for sensory integration movement activities, and how children can use story boxes to present their own puppet shows. Gain ideas you can begin implementing next week!
Joani Lackie-Callighan, Traverse City Cooperative Preschool
Age Level: PS

**Making Small Groups Fun using Math and Literacy**
Gain fresh and new small group ideas! Learn easy math and literacy activities you can immediately implement.
Laura Roe, Dearborn Public Schools
Age Level: All

**1:30 pm – 4:00 pm**

**Child Development**

**Utilizing the Project Approach in the Preschool/Pre-K Classroom**
Explore multiple documented projects that show how project work leads to in-depth and meaningful learning. Topics include curriculum goals, home-school connections and documentation of children’s work.
Margaret Mudge, Lowry Center for Early Childhood Education-Oakland University
Age Level: PS

**Interaction and Guidance**

**Children with Trauma: How to Help**
Gain information about the symptoms of trauma and how trauma affects the brain. Learn effective strategies to help children cope and to improve outcomes.
Elizabeth Villaverde, Villaverde Consulting, Holly Karlsten, West Shore Education Service District and Jill Lynch
Age Levels: IT, PS, KP

**Professionalism**

**Mentor Coaching: Lessons Learned from the Field**
Mentor coaching is a very effective form of professional development if implemented with fidelity. Hear about the five important lessons I’ve learned as a mentor coach. Gain new ideas and a renewed outlook about your own practice as a mentor coach.
Patricia Ulman, Wayne Metro Community Action Agency

**Teaching and Learning**

**Working with Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders in the General Education Setting**
Following a brief overview of autism spectrum disorders, explore daily strategies to help children with autism in the general education setting.
Kyle Curtis, Farmington Public Schools
Age Level: All
Beyond Awareness
Is it enough to be aware of the diversity in your classroom? Learn how to move past awareness and become competent using effective techniques for creating an anti-bias learning community.
Kristen Dillard, Baker College of Cadillac
Age Level: All

Clean-up Time: More than a Transition
Explore clean-up time as a distinct and important part of the daily routine. Discuss common problems and challenging behaviors, and brainstorm solutions. Devise and share strategies to make clean-up time fun, engaging, and educational.
Christine Maier, Oakland Schools
Age Level: PS

Investigation-Based Teaching Practices to Foster STEM
Investigate open-ended play deepens STEM skills and broadens STEM experiences for young children. Learn about practical Investigation-Based Teaching Practices™ to intentionally facilitate children’s learning through active exploration with intriguing open-ended materials.
Wanda Muhammad, Kodo Kids
Age Level: All

2:30 pm – 3:45 pm
Child Development

It’s All in a Name
Learn about a variety of unique experiences that foster fine motor development. Discover, through active participation, how to encourage children to strengthen their fine motor muscles as they work towards the ability to draw and write their names.
Lisa Adams and Karen Ferrill, Schoolcraft College
Age Level: PS

Family and Community Engagement

Involving Fathers in the Classroom
Studies have shown that a child’s father plays a significant role in the child’s cognitive, social, and emotional development. Early father involvement leads to successful academic performance, higher self-esteem, and better relationships with others. Learn how to invite and increase the engagement and involvement of fathers in early childhood settings.
Sinsery Gardner, Oakland University
Age Levels: IT, PS, KP

Health, Safety and Nutrition

Beyond Poverty: Brain Inspired Ways to Understand and Respond to Poverty
Over 51% of children in public schools live in poverty. Learn techniques to help these children overcome the barriers and become successful in school and life. Gain strategies you can use immediately.
Gloria Sherman, Parenting and Teaching with G.I.O., LLC
Age Level: All

Interactions and Guidance

A Proactive Approach to Challenging Behavior in Early Childhood
Young children with challenging behavior can test even the most seasoned caregivers and teachers. Learn what adverse experiences contribute to challenging behavior and create a toolbox of proactive strategies that support behavior changes through social-emotional skill development.
Peggy Thelen, Alma College and Carrie Tovar, Eight Cap, Inc.
Age Level: PS

Observation, Documentation and Assessment

Where Those Wild Things Are: Meeting the Needs of Children with Diverse Abilities
Gain information to adapt your classroom, activities and teaching strategies to meet the needs of children with diverse abilities and challenging behaviors. Discuss strategies and techniques today you can implement tomorrow!
Sally Adler, Washtenaw Community College
Age Level: All

Professionalism

Early Care and Education Online BA Degree through MSU
MSU is offering an online Bachelor of Arts degree in Early Care and Education through the Great Plains IDEA. Learn about the program and have your questions answered about admission, transfer credits, practicum requirements, content covered and career opportunities after graduation.
Karen Mills and Laurie Linscott, Michigan State University

Teaching and Learning

Implementing Your Curriculum with Fidelity
Learn how programs can structure internally, using their curriculum as a guide, to intentionally teach and assess program and child outcomes.
Jean Allison, Jackson County ISD
Age Level: PS

Supporting Communication, Language, and Literacy Learning with Infants and Toddlers
Communication, language and literacy learning for infants and toddlers take place within the context of trusting relationships. Learn how to present a language and print rich environment, and how to provide sensory motor experiences that engage children allowing them to learn about language and literacy in meaningful ways.
Christiana McKiddie and Karin Nowak, Gretchen’s House Child Care Centers
Age Level: IT

From Scribbles to Writing Success!
Through active participation, learn how to cultivate drawing and spelling skills of emerging writers by exploring the progression of writing development from scribbles to words and illustrations through engaging activities.
Amber Parks and Stephanie Plescher, The Learning Project
Age Levels: PS, KP, SA
How to Scaffold Preschoolers’ Early Writing Skills
Guiding preschoolers’ writing skills can be a challenging feat. Learn skills to effectively scaffold children’s early writing skills so children can be successful in any stage of their writing development.
Susima Weerakoon and Wan-Hsuan Lin, MSU Child Development Laboratories
Age Level: PS

Websites and Apps All Teachers Should Know
Learn about a variety of websites and apps that are helpful to teachers for all age-levels. Those showcased include Shutterfly, Donors Choose, and Pinterest; come with ideas to share!
Nicole Weibel, The Roeper School
Age Level: All

2:45 pm – 4:00 pm
Center Stage

Active Music, Active Bodies, Active Brains: How to Incorporate Great Music and Transitions into Your Day
Any teacher, whether musical or not, can use music to successfully shape the classroom day. Explore Gail’s new teacher curriculum resource that combines great music and new transitions, and learn how to implement it in your classroom.
Gail Burnett, Miss Gail Music

Child Development

In Tune with Infants and Toddlers
Research supports music as a foundation for multi-sensory learning. Explore methods and materials for interactions with infants including 1:1 and everyday routines. Discover activities for toddlers that impact language and listening as they stretch, move with Mother Goose, and enjoy books to sing.
Gari Stein, Music For Little Folks
Age Level: IT

Family and Community Engagement

Successful Home Visiting Tips: Make-it and Take-it Projects
Explore a practical guide to successful home visiting including the initial meeting and techniques for developing and maintaining successful relationships with families. Gain insight through educational and social stories, and learn about games and activities families can make from items in their homes.
Mary Snyder and Joy Barrett, Monroe County ISD
Age Levels: IT, PS

Interaction and Guidance

How To Play: A Guide for Adults
Play comes naturally for children yet as we grow into adulthood, we sometimes lose the ability to freely explore and try out ideas. Discuss how you can best support children’s learning through play?
Leslie Promenchenkel and Heidi Miles, Teddy Bear Day Care & Learning Center
Age Level: All

Management

Time Management for Administrators
Understand the benefits of time management and how to apply a range of tools, techniques and concepts to enhance your productivity, lower your stress and improve your leadership effectiveness.
Michele Kimmel-Fors, ENCOMPASS

Professionalism

NAEYC Program Accreditation: Benefits, Strategies and Practical Tips
Learn about NAEYC Program Accreditation from seasoned validators and assessors, and those currently involved in the process.
Carol Williams, Baker College of Allen Park

Teaching and Learning

Dynamic Science for the Preschool Classroom
Gain tools to make your science area dynamic and exciting! Explore science units on dinosaurs, sound, and color and light. Receive practical ideas for activities that cross the curriculum, as well as rationale on how and why to implement engaging and entertaining science in your classroom.
Debra Hennon, Alpha Montessori
Age Level: All

Thinking while Tinkering: The Making of a Maker
Making, tinkering, creating, and building; the maker movement is growing! Find out what children are really building as they work with a variety of different materials.
Shelly Humphrey, Clarkston Early Childhood Center
Age Levels: PS, KP, SA

Math Throughout the Day
Math happens all around us! Can you find it? Learn strategies for supporting mathematical learning in all areas of your classroom and in all parts of the day.
Joyce Neyer, Early Childhood Specialist
Age Level: PS

Pinterest in Early Childhood Education
Discover how to use Pinterest and “pin” new ideas for all subjects including science, math, literacy, and fine motor. Learn how to create boards and store your ideas for future use. It’s super easy and addicting, beware!
Laura Roe, Dearborn Public Schools
Age Level: All

Better Small Group Time
Are you frustrated or bored with small group time? Learn about our child-initiated small group collaboration approach and how to transform your small group time into success for all.
Breanna Waugh and Robert Callahan, UM-Flint Early Childhood Development Center
Age Level: PS

4:15 pm – 5:15 pm
Meeting
MiAEYC Public Policy Meeting
General Session: 8:30 am – 10:00 am
Dr. Deborah J. Leong, Executive Director of Tools of the Mind and Professor Emerita of Developmental Psychology, Metropolitan State University of Denver

**Why Play Matters: The Development of Self-Regulation/Executive Functions in Young Children**
How does self-regulation/executive function (S-R/EFs) develop and what are the barriers to its development, including toxic stress? How can play promote the development of S-R/EFs? Learn about the current neuroscience research on S-R/EFs and their pivotal role in cognitive and social-emotional development, and how to scaffold play to promote the underlying cognitive and social emotional skills necessary for success and happiness in the future.

Sponsored by Lakeshore Learning Materials

10:30 am–11:45 am
Meeting
MiAEYC Leadership Significant Interest Group Meeting

**Child Development**

Art for Toddlers
Explore materials and ideas for toddler-friendly artistic expression.
Patricia Cudahy and Lillian McFarlin, MSU Child Development Laboratories
Age Level: IT

So Many Books, So Little Time: Tots to 2nd Grade
Literature offers opportunities to focus, listen and learn. Stories encourage movement which is essential in the curriculum. Learn how incorporating props and music enhances literacy experiences, adding new elements and dimension – your story time will never be the same!
Gari Stein, Music For Little Folks
Age Levels: PS, KP, SA

**Family and Community Engagement**

Working with Blended Families
The number of step families is continually increasing. Every family is the same, yet every family is different. Develop a better understanding about and learn techniques for engaging blended families into your programs.
Stephanie Christie, Starfish Family Services
Age Level: All

**Health, Safety and Nutrition**

Keeping Children Safe from Injuries
Explore a new, interactive curriculum from the American Academy of Pediatrics that includes playground, transportation, helmet, burn, and medication safety strategies tailored for child care settings.
Andrew Hashikawa, UM Children’s Emergency Services
Age Levels: IT, PS

Interactions and Guidance

Helping Children Integrate Loss Through Storytelling
Fostering a child’s ability to tell their own story through collaborative interaction develops higher level brain function. Explore research-based teaching strategies for helping children integrate loss through storytelling.
Suzanne Bayer, Suzanne J. Bayer, LLC
Age Level: PS

Praise vs. Encouragement
Explore the difference between praise and encouragement, the effects of using praise and the rationale for using encouragement. Gain useful and effective strategies.
Pam Preston, Paige Sienko, and Heidi Hochrein, Gretchen’s House Child Care Centers
Age Level: All

Observation, Documentation and Assessment

Using Formative Assessment to Drive Instruction = Student Success!
Learn what formative assessment is and how it is a powerful tool that leads to student success. Explore the Formative Assessment Tool Kit binder.
Vicky Bowman, Reed City Public Schools
Age Level: All

**Professionalism**

Are You a Leader, or Could You Be?
You don’t have to be in management to be a leader. Learn how to develop your skills and connections to become a leader in your workplace and in the early childhood field.
Pat Sargent, Office of Great Start, MDE

**Teaching and Learning**

Lesson Planning for Mixed Age Groups
Are you frustrated with trying to meet the needs of all ages in your home? Save your sanity and learn new strategies for planning your day while meeting the developmental needs of the children in your care.
Sheila Anderson, Mother Goose Time
Age Level: All

Meet Detroit Wolf Trap: Move, Chant, Dance, Remember!
Discover fun and engaging strategies for moving imaginations both in place and through the space! Learn to create child-inspired dances and imaginary journeys that encourage and reflect planning, sequencing, mapping and recall.
Kimberli Boyd, Living Arts–Detroit Wolf Trap
Age Levels: PS, KP
Friday, April 1, 2016 (continued)

An Exploration of Health with Preschoolers
Learn how an active group of children learned about their bodies, inside and out, participated in various physical activities, and explored movements and foods of countries that interested them.
Lydia Goodman and Ranay Gursky,
CMU Child Development and Learning Lab
Age Level: PS

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, discuss practical implications for those caring for children with consideration of best practice.
Christina Mirtes, Adrian College
Age Levels: IT, PS, KP

10:45 am–12:00 pm
Child Development

Mindfulness and Social-emotional Learning in Early Childhood
Learn about the main components of social-emotional learning, self-management; self-awareness; social awareness; relationship skills; and responsible decision-making, and what they look like in an early childhood setting.
Katie Chappell-Lakin and Nuola Akinde,
Green Apple Garden Playschool
Age Level: PS

Family and Community Engagement

Home/School Connection Activity Kits: Extending Learning at Home
Learn how to create low cost monthly curriculum-based activity kits for home use that engage parents and promote repeated and extended learning for children.
Andrea Hagensen and Joanna Rust, Morrice Area Schools
Age Level: PS

Interactions and Guidance

5 Lifelong Lessons We Teach Students Daily
Teachers do more than teach concepts, they teach many lessons including respect and perseverance. Explore the critical lessons taught daily which play an integral part in the social development of every life encountered.
Rhonda Jackson, Teacher
Age Level: All

Management

Updates from the Office of Great Start
Leadership from the Office of Great Start, Michigan Department of Education, provide an update on progress over the past year and information about future direction and initiatives.
Richard Lower, Office of Great Start, MDE

Observation, Documentation and Assessment

How to Read and Understand an IEP
Better understand the IEP process and explore specific components educators need to be most aware of.
Kyle Curtis, Farmington Public Schools
Age Level: All

Professionalism

Race to the Top with Great Start to Quality
Learn about the Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenge Grant activities designed to increase program and provider participation in Great Start to Quality!
Kelly Kreider, Early Childhood Investment Corporation

Making Team Teaching Work in the GSRP Classroom
Primarily focusing on the role of the associate teacher in the GSRP classroom, explore how the lead and associate teacher add value to the team teaching environment.
Leslie Love Smith, Mount Clemens School District

Teaching and Learning

Shared Reading, Singing, and Dancing
Learn the pedagogy behind shared reading, how to implement it, how to integrate it with music and movement to reach more students, and extension activities.
Risa Cohen, West Side Montessori
Age Levels: PS, KP

Rocking Writing in Kindergarten
Writing is an essential skill and one that children are excited to begin at an early age. Engage in fun writing activities including movement activities, creating tools to assist in proper writing, interesting prompts, rubrics, and center ideas. Rock out your writing plans!
Jennifer Lavender-Schott, Detroit Academy of Arts and Sciences
Age Level: KP

Making Storytime Count: Using Children’s Books to Teach Math Concepts
Learn engaging ideas for using children’s literature to plan large and small group activities which promote mathematical thinking.
Sally Mowers and Kufre Udoeyop,
MSU Child Development Laboratories
Age Level: All

Intentional Teaching and the Environment
Children are directly impacted by their environment. Discuss the role of the classroom environment and how researching, redesigning, and reflecting on intentional environment changes can effect children’s learning.
Shauna Phillips and Breanna Waugh,
UM-Flint Early Childhood Development Center
Age Levels: IT, PS

Hands, Hands, Fingers, Thumb
Learn about the importance of fine motor development in children from birth to five years of age. Hear the perspective of an occupational therapist and gain information, strategies and techniques for use in the early learning environment.
Cara Wicks-Ortega, Everyday Wonders Educare and Hannah Dornworth Saginaw Public Schools
Age Levels: IT, PS, KP
Science Time
You don’t have to be a scientist to do or have science in your classroom. Through active participation, explore easy and inexpensive science experiments, activities and table top props for all ages.
Sherry Ann Wolfer, Let’s Dig In
Age Levels: PS, KP, SA

12:45 pm–2:00 pm

Family and Community Engagement

What Did My Child Do Today?
Gain information and strategies for answering this question that helps parents understand what infants and toddlers are learning through play.
Katherine Ealy and Patricia Cudahy, MSU Child Development Laboratories
Age Level: IT

Health, Safety and Nutrition

The Importance of Vaccines for Early Learning Providers: Myth Busters
Explore why vaccines are so important for early learning providers with an interactive discussion debunking the many myths associated with vaccine use.
Andrew Hashikawa, UM Children’s Emergency Services
Age Levels: IT, PS

Interactions and Guidance

Bullying: Superman to the Rescue!
Recent research shows a connection between the decrease in super hero play and a rise in bullying in early childhood environments. Learn about the different types of bullying, what to do with bullies and the bullied, how super hero play can help, and your role in super hero play. Wear your cape if you desire!
Michelle Burkhard, Burkhard Consulting
Age Level: All

Management

I Want GSRP in My Community Program
Review the process available to community-based programs interested in attaining Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) slots. Learn about the process for programs in the Oakland ISD service area and about the state requirements all ISDs must follow.
Tammy Arakelian, Oakland Schools
Age Level: PS

Observation, Documentation and Assessment

HighScope’s NEW Kindergarten Assessment System: Overview of the COR for Kindergarten
Hear what teachers have to say about administering the assessment and their ability to use the results in meaningful ways. Discuss how COR for Kindergarten can be used as an integrated system for formative, interim, and summative assessments for school reports, parent reports, and Title 1 and Special Education purposes.
Jeffrey Beal, HighScope Educational Research Foundation
Age Level: KP

Professionalism

Coaching and Mentoring: Growing Yourself, Your Staff and the Profession
Coaching and mentoring can lower staff turnover, increase teacher skills and improve student outcomes. Learn basic coaching skills and discuss how to implement them in your program.
Meredith Long, Learning Tree Preschool and Elizabeth Villaverde, Villaverde Consulting

Teaching and Learning

Math is Here, Math is There, Math is Everywhere!
Every day, all day we use math skills – counting, comparing, problem solving, and collecting data. Learn how to capitalize on these teachable moments and gain practical ideas and strategies for incorporating more math opportunities in your classroom.
Cody Blair, Jonesville Community Schools and Alicia Simmons, Hillsdale Community Schools
Age Level: PS

Addressing Inclusion in Associate Degree Early Childhood Education Teacher Education Programs
Learn about professional development activities associated with a U.S. Department of Education grant that focused on enhancing the Associate Degree Early Childhood Education curriculum at Washtenaw Community College. Explore the potential implications of the Department’s policy statements regarding support for inclusion in early childhood programs.
Laurie Dinnebeil and William McInerney, University of Toledo
Age Level: PS

Closing the Achievement Gap while Conquering Poverty
Gain information to implement an intense reform with a focus on reading that will improve student achievement and result in sustainable change within a school culture.
Shawn Hurt, Muskegon Heights School District
Age Level: KP

There’s Got to Be a Better Way: Where Poverty, Neuroscience, and Education Connect
Using a multidisciplinary approach, findings within the neuroscience and education fields on the pervasive effect of poverty point toward a new approach to intervention. Highlights include recent findings in research, strategies for closing the achievement gap, and a demonstration of programs and software designed to improve executive functioning for early childhood populations.
Adam LeRoy, East Detroit Public Schools
Age Levels: PS, KP, SA

The New IQ?: Understanding and Teaching Executive Function Skills In and Out of the Classroom
Teaching young minds to think clearly and efficiently is a universal goal. When children have poor or underdeveloped executive functioning skills they appear disorganized, unprepared and unmotivated. Learn about the “Top 7 Skills for School and Life Success.”
Gloria Sherman, Parenting and Teaching with G.L.O., LLC
Age Level: All
1:00 pm–2:15 pm

**Center Stage**

**Engineering: The E in STEM**  
Identify ways engineering is happening everyday in the classroom. Learn, through hands-on experiences, how to deepen critical thinking and the engineering mindset in children through play and investigation using open-ended materials.  
*Diane Spahn and Wanda Muhammad, Kodo Kids*

**Child Development**

**Creating Caring, Cooperative Classrooms**  
Discover how to help children acquire positive interaction skills through environment, curriculum, and hands-on activities. Learn how to use intentional teaching as a guide to create opportunities for children to practice social skills.  
*Wan-Hsuan Lin and Shantinique Jones, MSU Child Development Laboratories*  
**Age Level: PS**

**Family and Community Engagement**

**Every Child Ready to Read: Partnerships and Supporting Resources**  
Learn about Every Child Ready to Read (ECRR) and the Michigan eLibrary (MeL) early literacy resources as a way to partner with your community’s public library and build your students reading proficiency. Many Michigan public libraries use the ECRR, a community early literacy program, to build collaborative environments for family literacy.  
*Karen Reish and Deb Renee Biggs, Library of Michigan, MDE*  
**Age Levels: IT, PS, KP**

**Health, Safety and Nutrition**

**Does Nemo get Chemo?**  
After a review of Erickson’s stages of development and the stages of grief, discuss ways to support young children and their families as they cope with chronic and serious illness.  
*Michelle Smith, UM Health Systems Child Care Center*  
**Age Level: All**

**Interactions and Guidance**

**Shaping the Next Generation**  
Early childhood is one of the most challenging, important and rewarding professions. Gain a renewed passion for your work and tools to help create a better tomorrow.  
*Rebecca Kozlow, Kids 1st Child Development Center*  
**Age Level: All**

**Professionalism**

**CDA From A to Z 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 (R) MICHIGAN scholarship program can help you pay for it.  
*Debbie Antone and Dianna Erickson, Michigan AEYC*

**Teaching and Learning**

**Race Does Matter**  
Hear research results from a 2013 study on the effects of self-image for young biracial children ages 6 and 7. The findings indicate a phenomenon occurs within this age group that affects how they view themselves including some surprising outcomes regarding racial bias.  
*Sharon Joplin, Spring Arbor University*  
**Age Level: All**

Friday, April 1, 2016 (continued)

1:00 pm–3:00 pm

**Learning Fair**

**Improving Behavior Management Using Materials from CSEFEL and TACSEI**  
Kelly Ashley, Discovery Days and Elizabeth Villaverde, Villaverde Consulting

**Ahhh, the Beautiful Stuff**  
*DjCarda Aubrey and Starletta Rett-Henry, UM-Flint Early Childhood Development Center*  
**Age Level: PS**

**Formative Assessment through Math Games**  
*Vicky Bowman, Reed City Public Schools*

**Creating an Outdoor Classroom**  
*Rena Dennison, Indiana AEYC*

**Use What You Have**  
*Rachel Geyes, Development Centers*

**Interactive Play with Open-ended Materials**  
*Joslyn Marinelli and Breanna Waugh, UM-Flint Early Childhood Development Center*

**Who Wrote The Book?**  
*Sue Meier, Ithaca South Elementary***
**Friday, April 1, 2016** (continued)

1:30 pm–4:00 pm

**Child Development**

**PQA**
Discover what large group, small group, plan-do-review and transitions should look like. Explore ideas for successful implementation in your preschool classroom that will increase your star rating in the Great Start Readiness Scoring System.
*Kim Carpenter, GCCARD*
*Age Level: PS*

**Autism 101: An Introduction**
An introduction to autism including key indicators. Discuss how common autism is, explore techniques to better reach children who are on the spectrum, and learn about available resources.
*Julie Trout and Susan Watts, Starfish Family Services*
*Age Levels: IT, PS*

**Interactions and Guidance**

**Conflict Resolution: A Focus on Curriculum Concepts Involved in the Process**
Observe and understand the breadth of curriculum concepts and skills involved when using HighScope’s Six Steps of Conflict Resolution. Examine video clips and engage in simulations to analyze and discuss addressing rich curriculum content throughout this process.
*Christine Maier, Oakland Schools*
*Age Level: PS*

**Professionalism**

**Say What? Effective Communication for the Early Childhood Workplace**
Explore the importance of professional adult-to-adult communication in the early childhood setting. Using the NAEYC Code of Ethical Conduct as the guiding resource, learn strategies to improve communication with co-workers and parents including managing gossip, effectively embracing change, and managing conflict through the use of appropriate, assertive communication.
*Rebecca Stoessner, Gretchen’s House, ELCC*

**Teaching and Learning**

**Meet Detroit Wolf Trap: The Earth Spins & So Can I!**
Explore where creative dance and understanding the natural world converge by artfully supporting emergent literacy and science concepts through children’s literature. Moving stories promote observations, predictions, and physical knowledge through the use of picture reading, props with music designed to engage both child and adult learners.
*Roberta Lucas and Kimberly Boyd, Living Arts–Detroit Wolf Trap*
*Age Levels: PS, KP*

**Utilizing the Project Approach in the Preschool/Pre-K Classroom**
Explore multiple documented projects and discover how project work leads to in-depth and meaningful learning in children. Topics include curriculum goals, home-school connections and documentation of children’s work.
*Margaret Mudge, Lowry Center for Early Childhood Education-Oakland University*
*Age Level: PS*

2:30 pm–3:45 pm

**Meeting**

**ACCESS Meeting**

**Child Development**

**Progressions in Art: How to ‘See’ a Child’s Brain Develop**
Children follow a natural progression with art development and showcase their brain development on a daily basis through their art. Explore this natural progression and view and assess art from infants through school-agers. What you learn will encourage you to make changes in your early childhood environment.
*Michele Burkhard, Burkhard Consulting*
*Age Level: All*

**Building a Rich, Best Practice Infant Environment**
Building best practice rich relationships and routines in an infant classroom is crucial. Explore a variety of best practice ideas and examples for each learning domain.
*Marisa Diaz and Katherine Ealy, MSU Child Development Laboratories*
*Age Level: IT*

**Health, Safety and Nutrition**

**Curriculum for Managing Infectious Diseases in Early Education and Child Care Settings**
Learn the latest tips from the American Academy of Pediatrics on how to prevent, recognize, and manage infectious diseases in child care settings, with time for questions and answers.
*Andrew Hashikawa, UM Children’s Emergency Services*
*Age Levels: IT, PS*

**Interactions and Guidance**

**Classroom Climate: How to Have More Sunny Days**
Learn simple strategies for improving the classroom climate and building authentic relationships with children that help reduce challenging behaviors and lead to a more relaxed, fun atmosphere for both children and teachers. Teaching can and should be fun!
*Michele Broniak, Starfish Family Services*
*Age Levels: IT, PS, KP*

**Management**

**Attaining Accountability While Maintaining Positive Relationships**
When working with another in the role of fiduciary and sub-recipient, maintaining the balance of support and accountability can be difficult. Explore relationship-based project management strategies to maintain positive relationships with grant partners while maintaining accountability. The GSRP document review process is used as a sample project.
*Tammy Arakelian, Oakland Schools*
*Age Level: PS*
Observation, Documentation and Assessment

HighScope’s COR for Kindergarten: Kindergarten Entry Assessment and Ongoing Assessment of Common Core State Standards
Learn how HighScope developed their Kindergarten Assessment System for ease of use and to quickly assess students in five important dimensions at kindergarten entry and to track student progress toward Common Core State Standards through the school year. Examine the results of the pilot study with a representative sample of kindergarten students.
Jeffrey Beal, HighScope Educational Research Foundation
Age Level: KP

Professionalism

Leadership 101 in Early Childhood
Explore and discuss key leadership elements, what it means to be an early childhood professional and why this is important to you and to the field.
Liz Garman, Baker College of Muskegon and Carol Williams, Baker College of Allen Park

Teaching and Learning

Teachers as Researchers: The Process, Reflections, and Learning Benefits
Experience the journey of a group of new teachers as they identified an area of study and developed a research question. Learn about the action steps used to encourage children to engage differently.
Ranay Gursky, Central Michigan University
Age Levels: PS, KP

Do You Want to Play with Me? Enhancing Learning through Dramatic Play
When thought about intentionally, dramatic play can enhance learning and development in many key areas. Through active participation, explore and understand the skills children refine while engaging in role play and make believe/pretend play in the four areas of development: social-emotional, physical, cognitive and language.
Lillian McCuen, Education Networks
Age Levels: IT, PS

Active Learning Outdoors
Explore the role the outdoor environment plays in supporting active learning outdoors and assess your current outdoor environments, looking at both strengths and modifiable issues.
Karin Nowak and Pam Preston, Gretchen’s House Child Care Centers
Age Levels: IT, PS

Wired to Move: Successful Approaches to Teaching and Parenting Boys
Neuroscience helps us to understand the difference in male and female brains. Learn how to adjust your methods to transform your classrooms and homes into “boy friendly” environments.
Gloria Sherman, Parenting and Teaching with G.L.O., LLC
Age Level: All

2:45 pm–4:00 pm

Center Stage

Finding Calm in the Storm: Using a Trauma-Informed Approach to Address Difficult Behaviors
Learn how to use a trauma-informed approach to de-escalate intense situations. Examine triggers for adult and child behavior, and explore ways to remain calm while supporting social emotional competence.
Jennifer Champagne, Oakland Schools

Meeting
MiAEYC Chapter Presidents Meeting

Child Development

Creating a Developmentally Appropriate Toddler Environment
Building relationships with toddlers is as essential and crucial as building a developmentally appropriate classroom. Learn how to create a toddler-friendly environment, plan developmentally appropriate activities and explore materials that support all learners.
Sarah Belanger and Katie Nicholson, MSU Child Development Laboratories
Age Level: IT

The How and Why of Thematic Webbing
Through active participation, learn how to create a thematic web by integrating activities across the developmental domains.
Lillian McFarlin, MSU Child Development Laboratories
Age Levels: PS, KP

Tag, You’re It!
Outside, children are more likely to engage in games. Through active participation, learn about a variety of invented and established outdoor games for children.
Jackie Weller and Nathan Jonaitis, CMU Child Development and Learning Lab
Age Level: PS

Family and Community Engagement

Partnering with Families Across Lines of Difference
Explore the ways teachers can use asset-based thinking and other strategies to strengthen relationships with families. Hear excerpts from the latest research and gain information about concrete next steps.
Michelle Ormsby, Gretchen’s House Child Care Centers
Age Level: All

Interactions and Guidance

Riding the Emotional Roller Coaster
Learn to recognize conflict situations as opportunities for infants, toddlers and preschoolers to practice important social skills. Discuss and understand where emotions come from, and learn how to acknowledge children’s emotions in conflict situations.
Beth Renner and Shannon Steinbach, Gretchen’s House Child Care Centers
Age Levels: IT, PS
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
Registration: 7:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
General Session: 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
Workshops: 10:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Learning Fair: 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 2, 2016

General Session: 8:30 am – 9:30 am
Susan Harrison, Singer-Songwriter, Author and Performance Artist, Palamazoo

The Healing Power of Music: Going on a Journey
Hear Susan’s vision of healing, support and hope as she creatively addresses life’s challenges in her book and CD, Going on a Journey. Discover how the powerful lyrics engage children of all ages as part of the story and how this compelling book promotes discussion, coping and healing.

10:00 am–11:15 am

Child Development

Yoga Ed. Tools to Support Child Development
Yoga can support child development and improve physical and emotional health. Explore brain-based learning and social-emotional learning, and learn how Yoga Ed. Tools for Teachers supports both theories.
Candis Ogilvie, Yoga Ed.
Age Level: All

Developing a Socially Just Classroom
Are you tired of hearing, “That’s not fair!”? Are you using appropriate interventions but not seeing results? Explore ways to make your students problem solvers and negotiators, and empower them to be part of the solution when upsets arise.
Colleen Shelton, The Roeper School
Age Levels: PS, KP, SA

Health, Safety and Nutrition

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
Age Levels: IT, PS

Interactions and Guidance

Igniting Greatness: Helping Everyone Flourish
Nurtured Heart Approach is a strengths-based approach to build inner wealth in children and adults. The NHA philosophy looks at creating healthy relationships and recognizing the inherent greatness in others. Learn to energize success versus mistakes.
Gloria Sherman, Parenting and Teaching with G.L.O., LLC
Age Level: All

Professionalism

Ethics and the Early Childhood Professional
The NAEYC Code of Ethics can be a confusing document. Learn how to break it down to make it less intimidating. Discover how to apply the code in your daily professional life and how to deal with those pesky ethical dilemmas.
Heidi Friedel, Lambs of Our Savior Christian Preschool

Teaching and Learning

Using Formative Assessment to form Small Learning Groups
Learn to use formative assessment data to form small learning groups, that are individualized to meet the needs of every student which will move learning forward. Receive information and tools that will help you individualize and differentiate instruction to meet all students needs.
Vicky Bowman, Reed City Public Schools
Age Level: All

Music in the Preschool Classroom
Learn how to incorporate musical activities into a variety of preschool curriculums and settings in alignment with the Michigan Early Learning Standards of Quality for Prekindergarten.
Alyssa McNally and Janice Chen, Community Daycare and Preschool
Age Levels: PS, KP

Because They Have Less, We Must Provide More
Children experiencing poverty need teachers who are specifically prepared to meet their individual needs. Learn about the impact of poverty on children’s brains and what educators can do to minimize that impact. All children deserve a chance to succeed, learn how you can help.
Katie Sloan, Oakland Family Services
Age Level: All

Playing with Materials and Meeting Early Childhood Standards
Explore using hands-on materials to learn and to stimulate curiosity and creativity. Learn how to select materials and how to present them as invitations for exploration in alignment with early childhood standards.
Laura Wagonlander and Linda Mora, World of Wonder Early Learning Center
Age Levels: PS, KP, SA

Teaching and Learning

Appropriate Scaffolding for Individualized Objectives
Children learn at different paces. Discuss how to appropriately scaffold children’s learning by identifying their next step and working with them to reach it. Through active participation, gain valuable resources and strategies.
Kirsten Charnesky and Alayna Bialick, Somerset Academy
Age Levels: PS, KP
10:15 am–11:30 am

Child Development

Thinking Beyond Circle Time: Creating Meaningful Large Group Interactions
Learn creative and meaningful ways to make your large group times more engaging as well as developmentally appropriate.
Honilynn Hendricks and Amanda Tovar, Somerset Academy
Age Levels: PS, KP, SA

Family and Community Engagement

Invest in Home Visits
Find out why home visits are beneficial in a tuition based program. Hear one teacher’s perspective and how it changed her relationships with families. Learn how to increase family involvement and classroom participation, and watch the investment in children’s education grow!
Susan Ford, UM-Flint Early Childhood Development Center
Age Level: All

Interactions and Guidance

Problem Solving with Infants and Toddlers
Learn how to recognize conflicts as learning opportunities. Explore HighScope’s 6 steps of conflict resolution and understand the importance of recognizing and supporting emotions during conflict situations.
Beth Renner and Chissy McKiddie,
Gretchen’s House Child Care Centers
Age Level: IT

Observation, Documentation and Assessment

Conferencing with Parents
Understand the benefits of parent-teacher conferences, identify creative ways to make them meaningful, and explore strategies for evaluating their effectiveness.
Kelly Pyle, Macomb Family Services
Age Levels: IT, PS, KP

Professionalism

CDA From A to Z 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 (R) MICHIGAN scholarship program can help you pay for it.
Debbie Antone and Dianna Erickson, Michigan AEYC

Leading in 0 to 3
Passionate leaders are needed in all areas of the early childhood system. Discuss the importance of leadership and how this can impact Michigan’s youngest population.
Synthia Britton and Michelle Golus,
Early Childhood Investment Corporation
Age Level: IT

Teaching and Learning

The STEAM Powered Classroom
Increasing materials, processes, and people related to Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Mathematics increases learning. Through interaction, discover how to STEAM power your classroom. Gain ideas about skill development, community contacts, multidisciplinary approaches, and materials to add to your classroom.
Michelle Burkhard and Josh Burkhard, Burkhard Consulting
Age Level: SA

Friends Against Bullying: Are You a F.A.B.ulous Kid?
Explore multi-sensory, musical, visual and combined narratives for developing skills for bullying situations. Learn about creative tools which build dignity, high confidence, resilience and hope.
Rudy Lawson, Creative Arts and Humanities Fund
Age Level: All

It’s All About the Plan
Intentional and purposeful planning makes all the difference in children’s development. Explore why you do the things you do and the purpose behind planning for the day.
Jill Tarrant, CACS Head Start and Early Childhood Programs
Age Level: All

Oodles of Fun!
Explore art materials in a new way including 25 ways to paint without a brush! Learn how to document with photos which can easily be shared with parents, and remember to keep singing!
Denene Yarger and Shelia Meyer,
Paddock Early Childhood Center
Age Levels: IT, PS

12:00 pm–1:15 pm

Child Development

Potty Training 101: Open Forum
Learn about the what, where, when, who, why, and how of potty training including how to tell when a child is ready and how to talk with parents.
Stephanie Kaiser, Algonac Childcare
Age Levels: IT, PS

Infants and Toddlers: How They Communicate with Those Around Them
Infants and toddlers communicate in many different forms. Learn strategies that support their development and enhance the classroom environment.
Carolyn Miller, UM-Flint Early Childhood Development Center
Age Level: IT

Family and Community Engagement

The Home School Connection: Getting Families Involved
Do you have 100% parent participation for parent/teacher conferences? Are you struggling to involve families in the education process? Explore ways to get families involved in their children’s education.
Elizabeth Clark and Meghan Smith, Sturgis Public Schools
Age Levels: PS, KP

Interactions and Guidance

Teaching the Whole Child
Understand how the various backgrounds and environments of children can determine classroom behavior. Learn how to address the whole child to help all children learn in a classroom environment.
LaDonna Moore, Early Childhood Educator
Age Level: All
Saturday, April 2, 2016 (continued)

Management

Providers Guide to Great Start to Quality Assessment Process
Hear a general overview of the Great Start to Quality rating process followed by a detailed walkthrough of the assessment process and what providers can expect to experience. An opportunity for questions and answers, and sharing experiences included.
Heather Evans, Early Childhood Investment Corporation
Age Levels: IT, PS

Professionalism

The Power of Engagement: Making Your Environment the Third Teacher
So many children, so many needs! Learn how to create provocations that inspire creativity and innovation, and Challenge children to think further using nontraditional, open-ended materials, setting them up to engage constructively and meaningfully.
Mary Lynn Gottler and Nikki Swink, UM-Flint Early Childhood Development Center
Age Levels: IT, PS

Teaching and Learning

Connecting with Your Library: Early Literacy Programs and Storytime Secrets
Discover the early literacy-focused programs happening at your local library and the great resources available. Learn about fun programs that you can easily adapt for your organizations and classrooms, and gain effective, successful storytime book and activity recommendations.
Erin Davison and Jennifer Savage-Dura, Herrick District Library
Age Levels: IT, PS

So You Think You Can’t Sing: Supporting Learning through Music
Learn ways to incorporate music throughout your day to enhance learning and transitions. Gain a repertoire of songs and ideas for adapting music activities to meet the needs of your students. Best of all, you don’t have to be a great singer to be successful!
Janine Martel, Department of Army
Age Level: All

The Learning Environment
The learning environment plays a vital role in early childhood education. Discuss principles of design and how to apply them to the classroom. Learn how these principles align with state standards and curriculum.
Elizabeth Meza, Community Daycare and Preschool
Age Levels: IT, PS, KP

Helping Children to Succeed
It’s our responsibility to understand and believe in each child, even those who resist despite our best efforts, and to help them unlock their potential. Explore effective strategies and techniques for helping all children succeed.
Katina Price and Rebecca, Kozlow Skeels Christian School
Age Levels: PS, KP

12:30 pm–1:45 pm

Child Development

Identifying Signs of Giftedness without Testing
Learn how to recognize behaviors which may identify a child as gifted. Explore strategies and ideas for working with these children and their parents.
Colleen Shelton, The Roeper School
Age Level: All

Family and Community Engagement

Dads Make a Difference! Strategies for Father and Family involvement
There are many benefits that come from the active engagement and participation of fathers. Explore ways to implement activities that will increase the involvement of fathers and other family members.
Katie Baker and Marija Vuk, Somerset Academy
Age Level: All

Health, Safety and Nutrition

Happiness is a Warm Blanket!
The fierce, passionate attachment children have to their comfort objects is not a sign of neediness, but security—hence the term security blanket. Comfort objects provide children with a means to self soothe and self regulate. Explore the research that supports children’s use of comfort objects and brainstorm ways to feel empowered in supporting all children in finding happiness with their warm blankets!
Elizabeth MeLampy, Gretchen’s House Child Care Centers
Age Levels: IT, PS

Interactions and Guidance

Guarantee Academic Success through Appropriate Student Behavior
Teach To’s is a highly successful research-based set of classroom management strategies that help teachers become effective classroom facilitators. Learn why programs that implement these strategies see a rise in student scores, parent involvement and support, and teacher satisfaction.
Lynette Bell, Little Rock Schools
Age Level: All

Observation, Documentation and Assessment

SeeSaw: The Digital Learning Journal
Digital learning journals improve student and parent engagement in class activities and learning. Learn how to quickly and easily create a digital learning journal for each student that can be shared daily with parents. Please bring a digital device to the session to facilitate your work.
Amber Webb, The Roeper School
Age Level: PS, KP

Professionalism

Making Small Home Daycare into a Professional Business
Explore the benefits of keeping a program small while maintaining professionalism, implementing developmentally sound practices and curriculum, hiring staff, and balancing your own family. Home preschool and childcare is much more than babysitting.
Desiree Novak, Little People, Big Minds and Melissa Macinkowicz, A Place to Grow Home Daycare
Age Levels: IT, PS
**Teaching and Learning**

The Culturally Competent Teacher
Learn what you can do to meet the demands of a culturally competent classroom, while meeting the needs of a diverse student population.
K'Sandra Earle, Sara Johnstin, and Tricia Jackson, Early Learning Neighborhood Collaborative (ELNC)
Age Level: PS

Free Materials for Free Play
Learn about many ways you can incorporate free open-ended materials into your environment that promote exploration and experimentation. Gain ideas for creating items inexpensively for home and classroom use.
Stephanie Keck-Warren, Natural Journey Child Care and Consulting
Age Levels: IT, PS

Music, Literacy, and the Young Child: Reaching a Higher Note
Structured musical interventions increase literacy, academic achievement, 21st century skills, and enhance brain development. Learn how Mind Meets Music bridges the gap between the arts and academic achievement by implementing a research-based curriculum targeting young children.
Monique Salinas and Daniel Stauffer, Mind Meets Music
Age Levels: PS, KP, SA

Under the Big Top
Find out how to present a quality, fun and entertaining production with young children. It is completely possible to get your children ages 18 months through kindergarten to have fun acting, singing and creating using STEAM.
Jana Walker and Tami Walker, Teachers
Age Levels: IT, PS, KP

**1:45 pm–3:00 pm**

**Child Development**

The Whole World in Your Hands!
Explore the benefits of exposing young children to many cultures. Learn how understanding that each child comes from a different culture with different sets of values, perspectives and opinions can help facilitate transformative learning inside and outside the classroom.
Hannah Chin, Starfish Family Services
Age Levels: IT, PS

Montessori at a Glance
After an overview of the history and fundamentals of the Montessori classroom and philosophy explore how some practices from Montessori can be integrated in today’s modern classroom.
Geanine Edwards, Kids Come 1st
Age Level: PS

Family and Community Engagement

Found! Using Everyday Items and Materials to Engage Families during Home Visits
Learn how to help families of infants and toddlers find and use everyday items to support their child’s learning and development in the home.
Rose Pardiac, Development Centers
Age Level: IT

**Interactions and Guidance**

Change Your Language, Change Their Lives: What Adults Can Say Differently Today to Transform the Tomorrows of Children
Neuroscience discoveries have revolutionized our understanding of how the brains of children and adults develop. What adults say to children matters. Gain tips and strategies to help children develop into healthy, resilient adults.
Gloria Sherman, Parenting and Teaching with G.L.O., LLC
Age Level: All

**Professionalism**

Making Meaningful Connections with Community
Learn about the work of the University of Michigan Flint ECDC and the events and interactions between their local community and the children. Through special events, pop-up school days, friendships with the Flint Farmer’s Market, and participation in various campus events, explore the many unconventional ways that children have become contributors to culture in their community.
Mary Lynn Gottler and Nikki Swink, UM-Flint Early Childhood Development Center

**Teaching and Learning**

Children and Screen Time: What You Need To Know at School and at Home
Children are spending more and more time in front of screens, which may reduce social interactions and inhibit their ability to recognize emotions and think creatively. Learn how to keep your children safe and healthy in a technology driven world.
Jenna Buffman and Michelle Bryant, Mid-Michigan Child Care Centers
Age Levels: IT, PS, KP

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Jump Inside Fables and Folktales with Mother Goose Time
Sheila Anderson, Mother Goose Time

Formative Assessment through Literacy Games
Vicky Bowman, Reed City Public Schools

Integrating Nature Into The PreschoolClassroom: Inside and Out
Penny Folsom and Kathleen White, Grand Rapids Community College

Dollar Store Science
Amanda Hovis, Saginaw Valley State University

Hands-On Science
Gina Liverpool, Education Achievement Authority

Dollar Store Sensory Time
Caitlin Sullivan, Saginaw Valley State University

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Saturday, April 2, 2016 (continued)
Bringing the Natural World to Children
Put down the phone and learn to reconnect with nature!
Through active participation, explore and understand
the benefits of educating children with various elements of
nature.
Katie Duffy and Shelby Parks, Central Michigan University
Age Level: All

Using Natural and Open-ended Materials in the Classroom
Discover the importance of providing open-ended and natural
materials to children and learn how to find and incorporate
these materials into every area of your classroom. Discover
what you can do with rocks, sticks, felt pieces and more and
make a take-home project that can be used in your classroom!
Danielle Grimaldo and Kim Tiemann,
Gretchen’s House Child Care Centers
Age Levels: IT, PS

Blocks, Games and Play, Oh My!
Learn how to advocate for play in your kindergarten program.
Explore strategies for incorporating math knowledge through
play activities.
Jazmyne Jacobs, Saginaw Valley State University
Age Level: KP

Addressing Challenging Behaviors
Learn about effective practices to minimize challenging behaviors
and to ensure that these behaviors are addressed when they
occur. Discover how to create systems that respond to behavior
as opposed to policies that stigmatize individuals as “difficult.”
Nancy Northey, Teddy Bear Day Care and Learning Center
Age Level: All

2:15 pm–3:30 pm
Child Development

Asperger Syndrome, the Female Perspective
Become more familiar with and learn about the little known
differences between males and females with Asperger’s from
the perspective of a 43 year old woman diagnosed with
Asperger’s 4 years ago.
Tracey Cohen, Author
Age Level: All

Interactions and Guidance

Preschool and School Age Behaviors: It’s Developmental!
Understanding the behavior of preschoolers and
kindergarteners can be a curious business. Learn unique ways
of raising levels of developmental curiosity and engagement
while lowering anxiety, all without tears.
Nancy Tuckey, Consultant
Age Levels: PS, KP

Management

They are Educated, but Can They Nurture?: Evaluating
Teachers
A teacher’s academic success can be measured by
assessments, but what about the nurturing aspect? Nurturing is
an essential quality in a teacher. Learn what it ‘looks like’ and
how it can be measured.
Debbie Houtzer, Blue Ridge School

Observation, Documentation and Assessment

Nerd Alert: Using Data to Improve Early Childhood Practice
We spend a lot of time taking notes, entering information into
databases and checking off boxes, but do we use that
information to inform our practice? Explore how to turn all that
work into motivation to move forward!
Emily Paffenroth, Starfish Family Services
Age Levels: IT, PS, KP

Professionalism

Quality Begins With You: Improving the Quality of Your
Childcare Program
Administrators and child care center owners – learn how to
transform and increase the overall level of quality of your
programs.
Catina Anderson, Mini University, Inc.

Teaching and Learning

Multiculturalism in Preschool
Create a community within your classroom by reflecting
your classroom’s population. Learn how to teach children to
respect themselves and others as they explore their differences
and similarities.
Amber Mahaney and Sharon Wartley,
Foundations Preschool of Washtenaw County
Age Level: PS

Agriculture in your Classroom with a Farm a Month
Peaches, pears and pumpkins, oh my! Bring local farms
to your students with a featured food each month. Activities
include practice graphing, reading maps, counting, and plant
science lessons, each paired with a suggested book.
Amelia Miller, Michigan Farm Bureau
Age Levels: PS, KP

Playing with Literacy: A Journey through Real-Life Examples
and Ideas
Explore how to use literacy in each part of the daily routine
including transitions, implementation in cross-curricular
activities, storytelling, the classroom environment, problem-
solving, home-school connections, and so much more!
Megan Thompson, Community Day Care and Preschool
Age Level: PS

Administrator Institute

March 1, 2016
Macomb ISD, Clinton Township
Visit www.MiAEYC.org
MiAEYC Hotel Reservations

Please read this page before calling to make your hotel reservation

Call Early for Reservations!

Instructions
• 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.

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; Garden Court Lounge for breakfast or beer, wine or a cocktail in the evening; and Starbucks. An indoor pool, Jacuzzi and exercise room are available and complimentary WiFi Internet in guest rooms and public areas. Self-parking is available for a fee of $19 per night, subject to change.

Group Code: MIAE
Rate: Single, Double, Triple or Quad $139

For reservations call: 800-253-3590; 616-776-6450
Online reservation link: https://aws.passkey.com/event/14208553/owner/25299966/home
Reservation deadline: March 15, 2016
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, Triple or Quad $134

For reservations call: 616-242-6000
Reservation deadline: March 15, 2016
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, Triple or Quad $126

For reservations call: 616-235-7611
Reservation deadline: March 15, 2016
Website: www.higrdt.com

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Focus Sessions (If you are not registering for a Focus Session, skip this section.)
Thursday and Friday Focus Sessions – 10:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Register for only one Focus Session per day.

Thursday, March 31, 2016
A. Professional Development
B. Dramatic Play
C. Nature in the PS Classroom
D. Cultural Competencies

Friday, April 1, 2016
A. Professional Development
B. Dramatic Play
C. Nature in the PS Classroom
D. Cultural Competencies

Focus Sessions run concurrently with regular Conference Sessions. Do not register for a Focus Session and the Conference on the same day.

Conference Information/Fees: Workshop Sessions begin after the General Session; last sessions end at 4:00 p.m. Thursday and Friday, and 3:30 p.m. Saturday. If attending the conference two or more days, register for the full conference.

Important Member Note: To register as a member you must be a current member; membership expiration date is shown above. Membership status is checked.

Student Fee: The student fee is available to 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 this form and your payment.

Please circle one category and one dollar amount

Member

Non-Member

Current T.E.A.C.H. Recipient or Full-time Undergraduate Student

Subtotal

Discount

Register for more than one Focus Session, or a Focus Session(s) and the Conference, and deduct $10

MiAEYC Student Scholarship Fund Donation (tax deductible)

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If paying by check, attach a completed membership form from page 11

Sorry, MiAEYC cannot accept credit card payment for membership on the conference registration form. See page 11.

Enclose check, money order, or purchase order (PO # __________) payable to MiAEYC Conference, or provide credit card information.

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[ ] Do not share my contact information with NAEYC, MiAEYC local chapters, or other non-profits. MiAEYC does not share or sell member or conferee information to for profit or commercial vendors.

Early registration deadline is February 26, 2016. Mail-in registration deadline is March 11, 2016. Online registration deadline is March 24, 2016. On-site registration fees are higher.

Payment must accompany this form. Registrations are not processed until payment is received. A $15.00 processing fee is charged for refunds. Absolutely no refunds are issued after March 11, 2016.

Mail to: MiAEYC Conference, 839 Centennial Way, Suite 200, Lansing, MI 48917-9277