

Conscious  
Discipline  
Track!



The 2024 Ohio

# EARLY CHILDHOOD CONFERENCE

ohioaeyc

## Session List

**April 25-27, 2024 | Kalahari Resort**

Special Topic Tracks: Pages 18-19

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Friday Session List: Pages 30-39

Saturday Session List: Pages 40-48



### Session Concierge

Don't know what sessions to take? Enjoy your very own Session Concierge who will help you create the perfect session list!

*Email [membership@oaeyc.org](mailto:membership@oaeyc.org) to set up your free consultation!*

[www.oaeyc.org/conference](http://www.oaeyc.org/conference)





Thank You To The Following For Their Sponsorship + Support of Early Childhood Educators!

University of   
**CINCINNATI**  
**ONLINE**





# A Night of Laughter:

**A Comedy Event for Early Childhood Educators**

Thursday, April 25, 2024

\$15



**Tell Williams**  
“Mr. WilliamsPreK”



As Seen On



Proudly Sponsored By  
**tandem**



**FREE!**



**A Night of Fun:** For A Purpose!  
**A Benefit for the Mimi Brodsky Chenfeld Scholarship Fund**

**Karaoke with live band  
Dancing  
Cash Bar  
Lots of Prizes!  
Tons of FUN!**



**Friday, April 26th  
8:00PM-10:15PM**

*Hosted by John French!*

Proudly sponsored by



# Keynote Speakers

Made possible by the generous support of



## Mr. Chazz (Chazz Lewis)

*Social Media Sensation and Behavior Expert*

Thursday, April 25, 10:45AM

**The Best Story Ever Stars YOU:  
Learning Your Role in Guiding Children**



## Dr. Debbie Silver

*Facilitator of Joy & Laughter*

Friday, April 26, 10:45AM

**Deliberate Optimism:  
Reclaiming the Joy in Education**



## William Martinez

*Motivational and Inspiring International Speaker*

Saturday, April 27, 10:45AM

**The Power of BELONGing**

**SIGNing the Song:**  
The Power  
of **BELONGing**



# Leadership Retreat

AN EMPOWERING EVENT FOR EXPERIENCED AND EMERGING LEADERS

Thursday, April 25, 2024 | 8:00AM-5:00PM

\$50 | Includes lunch, materials and refreshments



Featuring Leadership Expert

Beth Cannon

Includes 6 hours of Ohio Approved Credit  
as well as materials, lunch, refreshments  
and some additional surprises!

Sponsored by





# Featured Speakers

We are excited to welcome the very best presenters in the country to the Ohio Early Childhood Conference!



**Mister B**  
Dr. Anthony Broughton  
Musician and Educator



**Beth Cannon**  
Leadership Expert



**Debbie Clement**  
Musician, Author and  
Motivational Speaker



**Sharron Krull**  
Play Expert



**Dr. Debbie Silver**  
Facilitator of Joy & Laughter



**Patty Shukla (MissPatty)**  
Patty's Primary Songs  
Internet Celebrity and  
Children's Musician



**Mr. Chazz**  
Social Media Sensation  
and Behavior Expert



**Andi Putt**  
Autism Expert



**William Martinez**  
Inspirational Speaker & Author



**Joanie Calem**  
Songwriter, and  
Disability Awareness  
Advocate



**Mimi Brodsky Chenfeld**  
Author and "Queen of Fun"



**Pam Perrino**  
Curriculum Developer  
& Inspirational Speaker



**Dr. Kathleen Harris**  
Dean of the School of Education  
Seaton Hall University



**Joe French**  
Behavior Expert



**Michelle Salcedo**  
Teaching Strategies



**Dr. Dave Anderson**  
Clinical Psychologist  
Child Mind Institute



**Lance Reed**  
Behavior Expert





# Featured Speakers Continued

## Conscious Discipline® Featured Speakers



Rozlyn Grant



Tonya Byous



Tanyelle Hannah



Megan Shea-Bates

### Literacy



Maya Payne Smart



Dr. Nicol Russell



Meghann Hickey



Dr. Bweikia Foster Steen

### Nature-Based Learning



Meredith Florkey



Diann Gano



Dr. Rachel Larimore



Rachel Konerman



Kathleen Bryan



# Special Conference Tracks

The conference features over 50 topic areas plus entire topic tracks!  
Tracks are dedicated topics presented throughout the conference in great detail.

**Conscious Discipline &  
Challenging Behaviors**



**Language & Literacy**

**Self-Care & Mental Health**



**Leadership & Professionalism**

**Learning Through Play**



**Music & Movement**

**Inclusion**



**Infant & Toddler**





# Conscious Discipline Sessions



## Thursday, April 25

10:45-11:45 AM

Keynote The Best Story Ever Stars YOU: Learning Your Role in Guiding Children

Chazz Lewis

Featured Speaker

1:00-2:30 PM

Overview: Attachment Attunement and Social Play with Infants and Toddlers (Conscious Discipline©)

Tonya Byous

Featured Speaker

Conflict Resolution and Assertive Communication

Chazz Lewis

Featured Speaker

3:00-4:30 PM

Creating A Climate of Composure: Using the Five Steps of Self-Regulation and the Safe Place (Conscious Discipline©)

Rozlyn Grant

Featured Speaker

## Friday, April 26

8:30-10:00 AM

You were chosen for this MISSION: Rise to the Challenge with Perseverance and Grit! (Conscious Discipline©)

Tanyelle Hannah

Featured Speaker

Getting Reinspired and Re-energized While Learning Practical Tools for Success

Chazz Lewis

Featured Speaker

Overview: Attachment Attunement and Social Play with Infants and Toddlers (Conscious Discipline©)

Tonya Byous

Featured Speaker

1:00-2:30 PM

JOY in the Journey: How to Keep My Heart in it When it's HARD (Conscious Discipline©)

Tanyelle Hannah

Featured Speaker

3:00-4:30 PM

Leadership Through the Lens of Connection and Conscious Discipline© Practices

Megan Shea-Bates

Featured Speaker

## Saturday, April 27

8:30-10:00 AM Baby Doll Circle Time

(Conscious Discipline©)

Megan Shea Bates

Featured Speaker

1:00-2:30 PM

Tap, tap tap, Teacher! Dismantling the Power of Tattling (Conscious Discipline©)

Tonya Byous

Featured Speaker

3:00-4:30 PM

Visuals for Problem Solving Conflict in the ECE Classroom (Conscious Discipline©)

Megan Shea Bates

Featured Speaker



Rozlyn Grant



Tonya Byous



Tanyelle Hannah



Megan Shea-Bates

Subject to change


# Language & Literacy Sessions



## Thursday, April 25, 2024


8:00 am -10:00 am

Hear Our Voices!: Engaging in Partnerships that Honor Families

*Dr. Bweikia Foster Steen* 


1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

How to Give a Child a Smart Start

*Maya Payne Smart* 

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Starting Young: Countering Preschool to Prison Pipeline with UDL Principles

*Dr. Bweikia Foster Steen* 

3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Every Interaction Counts: Improving Language Environments Equitably in Early Childhood Education

*Luis Bernal & Colleen Haddad*

3:00 pm – 4:30 pm


Aligning Materials with the Science of Reading

*Kim Davis & Molly Fender*

5:00 pm – 6:30 pm

BONUS SESSION

Inside America's Reading Crisis: How You Can Help & Why You Should

*Maya Payne Smart* 

## Friday, April 26, 2024

8:30 am -10:00 am

When That Cat Named Pat Sat by a Big Black Bat: Embracing the Science of Reading in Early Childhood Classrooms

*Dr. Nicol Russell* 

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm Infants, Toddlers and the Science of Reading

*Kim Davis & Molly Fender*

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Moving Books: Children's Books that Feature Movement & Play

*Dr. Elizabeth Bridges*


3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

The Science of Reading: Unlocking the Foundations of Literacy

*Meghann Hickey* 

3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Lyrics to Literacy: Read a Song and Sing a Book

*Debbie Clement* 

Saturday, April 27, 2024

8:00 am - 10:00 am

Keepin' It Real in Early Childhood: Write On! Early Writing Experiences

*Jane Holtgrefe*

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

It Begins with a Book!

*Karen Crockett & MaryBeth Bush*

3:00 pm – 4:30 pm Building a Brain for Reading

*Leah Boley & Mary Ellen Monroe*

3:00 pm – 4:00 pm Working with Multilingual Learners

*Jessica Burchett*



Subject to change



# Learning Through Play Sessions



## Thursday, April 25, 2024

8:30 am - 10:00 am

The Pedagogy & Practice of Care in Early Childhood Communities  
*Jaclyn Gordon*

Learning through Play: Using Observation and Documentation to Expand and Encourage Child-Led Learning  
*Sheila Bridges*

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Elevate Learning Through Play: Unlocking the Power of Early Childhood Education Part 1  
*Dr. William Christmas*

3:00 pm – 4:30 pm


Elevate Learning Through Play: Unlocking the Power of Early Childhood Education Part 2  
*Dr. William Christmas*

Scrambled Eggs & Icebergs! Physical Activity That Promotes Self-Regulation

*Sharron Krull* 

5:00 pm – 6:30 pm


**BONUS SESSION**  
Joy is Not a Dishwashing Liquid! Still Teaching in the “Key of Life”

*Mimi Brodsky Chenfeld* 

## Friday, April 26, 2024

8:30 am - 10:00 am

Art Smarts with Loose Parts: Building Brains and Creativity Through Play  
*Diann Gano* 

Playing Beyond Walls: Leveraging the Power of Outdoor Play in Early Childhood  
*Dr. Rachel Larimore* 

## Friday, April 26, 2024 continued

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Bag of Tricks! Transition Tools & Tips  
*Sharron Krull* 

3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Everyone Can Be an Artist: The Value of Open-Ended  
*Art Nancy Okuley & Monica Cardenas*

## Saturday, April 27, 2024

8:30 am - 9:30 am

Shake, Rattle and Roll! Parachute Play  
*Sharron Krull* 

8:00 am - 10:00 am

Beyond Crayons and Collages: Exciting Art and Sensory Play for Everyday  
*Alissa Nasiatka*

8:30 am - 9:30 am

Rolling Stones Gather No Moss: Using Movement and Play to Stimulate Learning in Young Children  
*Robin Coleman*

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Cultivate Curiosity with Loose Parts Lori Kowitz Let's Play Principal... (Still Teaching in the 'Key of Life')  
*Mimi Brodsky Chenfeld* 

3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Sensory Spaces: More Than a Feeling  
*Christopher Collen & Caroline Steward*



*Subject to change*

# Self Care & Mental Health Sessions



## Thursday, April 25, 2024

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Mental Health Skill-Building for Educators: Plug-And-Play, Light Lift Wellness Resources for Use in Pre-K to 12 Classrooms (Child Mind Institute)

*Dr. Dave Anderson & Saffiya Addison*

3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Learning to Sail Through the Storm: Identifying the Hurt and Embracing the Moments

*Pamela Perrino*

Featured Speaker

3:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Finding Your Happy Place In and Out of the Classroom: Healthier for You and the Families and Children You Serve

*Marie Economos & Heather Reister*

5:00 pm – 6:30 pm

BONUS SESSION

Laugh The Stress Away

*Joe French*

Featured Speaker

## Friday, April 26, 2024

8:00 am -10:00 am

Learning to Lean In: A Conversation in Rethinking Taking Care of Ourselves and Others

*Patrick McKelvey*

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

From Exhaustion to Empowerment: Building a Culture of Well-Being in Early Childhood Settings

*Dr. Debbie Silver*

Featured Speaker

3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

JOY in the Journey: How to Keep my Heart in it When it's HARD (Conscious Discipline©)

*Tanyelle Hannah*

Featured Speaker

3:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Empower Your Inner Happiness

*James Flynn*

## Friday, April 26, 2024 continued

5:00 pm – 6:30 pm

BONUS SESSION

Noticing the Small Stuff: A Matter of Perspective

*Pamela Perrino*

## Saturday, April 27, 2024

8:30 am - 10:00 am

Let's Recharge and Thrive: Fostering Resilience, Preventing Burnout and Nurturing Compassionate Teaching

*Dr. Kathleen Harris & Dr. Melissa Tamburrino*

Outside Matters: How Nature Can Enable Us to Feel Healthier, More Creative, More Empathetic and Engaged as Teachers

*Carol Juergemeier & Emily Johnson*

3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

The Empowered Teacher: Creating Calm in the Classroom

*Nancy Seacrest & Amy Jo Hamilton*



*Subject to change*



# Inclusion Sessions



## Thursday, April 25, 2024

8:00 am – 10:00 am

Special Education and DEC Recommended Practices:  
They Can Help!

*Elizabeth A Diedrick and Kris Gilland*

1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Recognizing Early Signs of Autism

*Andi Putt*

Featured  
Speaker

3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Talking to Listen: Exploring Family Stressors and Creating  
Positive Relationships to Support Families

*Patrick McKelvey*

Supporting Autistic Children in the ECE Classroom

*Andi Putt*

Featured  
Speaker

## Friday, April 26, 2024

8:00 am – 10:00 am

Welcoming Children With an Official Diagnosis

*Tricia Streharsky & Yolanda Mahoney*

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Access from the Start: Promoting Inclusion of all Young  
Children and Families Across Ohio

*Alexa Zauck, Katie DeMith, Lindsay Morrison &  
Megan Carlton*

Supporting Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children in Early  
Childhood Classrooms through Curriculum Modification  
and Accommodations

*Gretchen Douglas & Keeley Weston*

3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Using Visual Supports in the Early Childhood Classroom -  
(Make-it/Take-it)

*Tricia Streharsky & Yolanda Mahoney*

## Saturday, April 27, 2024

8:30 am - 10:00 am

Let's Accommodate

*Mandy Young*

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Creating Inclusive Early Childhood Environments: Why  
Inclusion Matters

*Stephanie Geneseo & Ashley Wellman*

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

ASL in the Classroom

*William Martinez*

3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

The ABCs of Inclusive Practices in Early Childhood  
Education: Attitudes, Beliefs, and Classroom Strategies

*Dr. Kathy Trainor*



*Subject to change*

# Leadership Sessions



## Thursday, April 25, 2024

8:00 am -5:00 pm

Ohio AEYC Leadership Retreat with Beth Cannon  
(extra fee)

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Strategies to Advance Quality Early Learning: Advocacy  
and Communication 101

*Troy Hunter*

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Developing Shared Leadership and Trust within School-  
Community Partnerships

*Dr. Tatiana Wells*

3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Learning to Sail Through the Storm: Identifying the Hurt  
and Embracing the Moments

*Pam Perrino*

Featured  
Speaker

## Friday, April 26, 2024

8:30 am -10:00 am

Staff Appreciation for Every Budget

*Jane Pernicone & Monica Steiner*

8:30 am -10:00 am

The Art of Emotional Intelligence for Early Childhood  
Education Leaders

*Garri Davis*

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Conflict Resolution: It's Not Personal It's Personality

*Joe French*

Featured  
Speaker

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Leadership Through Children's Literature

*Dr. Thea Wilson*

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

From Exhaustion to Empowerment: Building a Culture of  
Well-Being in Early Childhood Settings

*Dr. Debbie Silver*

Featured  
Speaker

## Friday, April 26, 2024 continued

3:00-4:30

Leadership Through the Lens of Connection and  
Conscious Discipline© Practices

*Megan Shea-Bates*

Featured  
Speaker

3:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Empower Your Inner Happiness

*James Flynn*

5:00 pm – 6:30 pm

BONUS SESSION

Noticing the Small Stuff: A Matter of Perspective

*Pam Perrino*

Featured  
Speaker

## Saturday, April 27, 2024

8:30 am - 10:00 am

9 + 5 = 1: 9 Personalities, 5 Love Languages, and 1  
Mission *Malori McCloskey & Paige Nelson*

8:30 am - 10:00 am Building a Fabulous Team of  
Teachers: Who Want to Play on Your Team!

*Eileen Osborn*

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm Motivating and Retaining Staff  
(Keeping the Best of the Best)

*Stacy Corll*

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Professional Boundaries in Working with Families of  
Young Children Part 1

*Ava Lucky*

3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Create Effective Teamwork By Navigating Work Styles

*Carrie Shockey & MaryBeth Bush*

3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Professional Boundaries in Working with Families of  
Young Children Part 2

*Ava Lucky*

*Subject to change*



# Nature-Based Sessions



## Thursday, April 25, 2024

8:30 am -10:00 am

Nature Play: Indoor & Outdoor Play

*Jamie Shell*

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Exploring Nature Based Programs Around the World

*Kathleen Bryan*


3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Tinkering with Nature, Science and Loose Parts

*Diann Gano* 

## Friday, April 26, 2024

8:30 am -10:00 am Playing Beyond Walls: Leveraging the Power of Outdoor Play in Early Childhood

*Dr. Rachel Larimore* 


1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Growing Up Wild

*Phoebe Atkinson*

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Developing Nature-Based Large & Small Group Activities

*Dr. Rachel Larimore* 

3:00 pm – 4:30 pm Growing Up Wild (Repeated Session)

*Phoebe Atkinson*


3:00 pm – 4:30 pm Nature Sparks! Supporting Infant and Toddler Development Outdoors

*Diann Gano & Sharron Krull* 

## Saturday, April 27, 2024

8:30 am - 10:00 am

Going Outdoors to Build Executive FUNction!

*Meredith Florkey* 

8:30 am - 10:00 am

Outside Matters: How Nature Can Enable Us to Feel Healthier, More Creative, More Empathetic and Engaged as Teachers

*Carol Juergemeier & Emily Johnson*


1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Risks Vs. Hazards in the Outdoors

*Meredith Florkey* 


1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

STEM in the PlayScape: Engaging Children and Enhancing the Environment Part 1

*Rachel Konerman* 

3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

STEM in the PlayScape: Engaging Children and Enhancing the Environment Part 2

*Rachel Konerman* 

3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Enhancing Learning with the Power of Our Senses Outdoors

*Meredith Florkey* 

# Learning Through Play Sessions



## Thursday, April 25, 2024

8:30 am - 10:00 am

The Pedagogy & Practice of Care in Early Childhood Communities

*Jaclyn Gordon*

Learning through Play: Using Observation and Documentation to Expand and Encourage Child-Led Learning

*Sheila Bridges*

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Elevate Learning Through Play: Unlocking the Power of Early Childhood Education Part 1

*William Christmas*

3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Elevate Learning Through Play: Unlocking the Power of Early Childhood Education Part 2

*William Christmas*

Scrambled Eggs & Icebergs! Physical Activity That Promotes Self-Regulation

*Sharron Krull*

Featured Speaker

5:00 pm – 6:30 pm

BONUS SESSION

Joy is Not a Dishwashing Liquid! Still Teaching in the “Key of Life”

*Mimi Brodsky Chenfeld*

Featured Speaker

## Friday, April 26, 2024

8:30 am - 10:00 am

Art Smarts with Loose Parts: Building Brains and Creativity Through Play

*Diann Gano*

Featured Speaker

Playing Beyond Walls: Leveraging the Power of Outdoor Play in Early Childhood

*Rachel Larimore*

Featured Speaker

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Bag of Tricks! Transition Tools & Tips

*Sharron Krull*

Featured Speaker

## Friday, April 26, 2024 continued

3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Everyone Can Be an Artist: The Value of Open-Ended Art

*Nancy Okuley & Monica Cardenas*

## Saturday, April 27, 2024

8:00 am - 9:00 am

Shake, Rattle and Roll! Parachute Play

*Sharron Krull*

Featured Speaker

8:00 am - 10:00 am

Beyond Crayons and Collages: Exciting Art and Sensory Play for Everyday

*Alissa Nasiatka*

8:30 am - 9:30 am

Rolling Stones Gather No Moss: Using Movement and Play to Stimulate Learning in Young Children

*Robin Coleman*

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Cultivate Curiosity with Loose Parts

*Lori Kowit*

Let's Play Principal... (Still Teaching in the 'Key of Life')

*Mimi Brodsky Chenfeld*

Featured Speaker

3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Sensory Spaces: More Than a Feeling

*Christopher Collen & Caroline Steward*

Subject to change


# Infant/Toddler Sessions



## Thursday, April 25, 2024

8:00 am -10:00 am

Hear Our Voices!: Engaging in Partnerships that Honor Families

*Dr. Bweikia Foster Steen* 

8:00 am -9:00 am Setting the Stage for Learning: Intentional Environment (Toddler)

*Elizabeth Fields & Beth Schultz Mills*

8:30 am -10:00 am Learning through Play: Using Observation and Documentation to Expand and Encourage Child-Led Learning

*Sheila Bridges*

The Pedagogy & Practice of Care in Early Childhood Communities

*Jaclyn Gordon*

Supporting Children Where They Live and Learn

*Lisa Golden & Ashlee Watson*

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Attachment, Attunement and Social Play with Infants and Toddlers (Conscious Discipline©)

*Tonya Byous* 

Nurturing Independence in Young Children (Toddler)


*Kristi Lethenstrom & Ali Finnegan*

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

How to Build The Young Scientist

*Samantha Whatley*

Exploring Nature Based Programs Around the World

*Kathleen Bryan* 

3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Every Interaction Counts: Improving Language Environments Equitably in Early Childhood Education

*Luis Bernal & Colleen Haddad*

## Thursday, April 25, 2024 continued

3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Finding Your Happy Place In and Out of the Classroom: Healthier for You and the Families and Children You Serve

*Pam Perrino* 

Let's Say it In Song! Adding Rhythm to Your Routine

*Chuck & Elisa Huss Hage*

3:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Early Childhood Settings

*James Flynn*


Talking to Listen: Exploring Family Stressors and Creating Positive Relationships to Support Families

*Patrick McKelvey*

5:00 pm – 6:30 pm

BONUS SESSION

Brains! Hearts! Porridge! (Still Teaching in the 'Key of Life')

*Mimi Brodsky Chenfeld* 


BONUS SESSION

Laugh the Stress Away

*Joe French*

BONUS SESSION

Inside America's Reading Crisis: How You Can Help & Why You Should

*Maya Payne Smart* 



# Infant/Toddler Sessions Continued



## Friday, April 26, 2024

8:00 am -10:00 am

I See You, I See Me!" The Multicultural Classroom

*Dr. Chenelle Price*

8:30 am -10:00 am

American Sign Language Combined with Music for Interactive Learning with Infants

*Georgia & Kenneth Frawley*

Welcoming Children with an Official Diagnosis

*Tricia Streharsky & Yolanda Mahoney*

Learning to Lean In: A Conversation in Rethinking Taking Care of Ourselves and Others

*Patrick McKelvey*

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Infants, Toddlers and the Science of Reading

*Kim Davis & Molly Fender*

Moving Books: Children's Books that Feature Movement & Play (Toddler)

*Dr. Elizabeth Bridges*

Bag of Tricks! Transition Tools & Tips

*Sharron Krull*

Featured Speaker

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Access from the Start: Promoting Inclusion of all Young Children and Families Across Ohio

*Alexa Zauck, Katie DeMith, Lindsay Morrison, Megan Carlton & Laura Maddox*

3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Everyone Can Be an Artist: The Value of Open-Ended Art

*Nancy Okuley & Monica Cardenas*

What's in Your Classroom? Welcoming Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity Picture Books

*Dr. Kathleen Harris*

Featured Speaker

Nature Sparks! Supporting Infant and Toddler Development Outdoors

*Diann Gano & Sharron Krull*

Featured Speaker

Subject to change

## Friday, April 26, 2024 continued

3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

HOPE- Healthy Outcomes from Positive Experiences

*Melanie Estes Kayla Hairston*

3:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Empower Your Inner Happiness

*James Flynn*

### BONUS SESSION

5:00 pm – 6:30 pm

Inside America's Reading Crisis: How You Can Help & Why You Should

*Maya Payne Smart*

Featured Speaker

### BONUS SESSION

Noticing the Small Stuff: A Matter of Perspective

*Pamela Perrino*

## Saturday, April 27, 2024

8:30 am - 9:30 am

Shake, Rattle and Roll! Parachute Play

*Sharron Krull*

Featured Speaker

8:00 am - 10:00 am

Beyond Crayons and Collages: Exciting Art and Sensory Play for Everyday

*Alissa Nasiatka*

8:30 am - 9:30 am

Rolling Stones Gather No Moss: Using Movement and Play to Stimulate Learning in Young Children

*Robin Coleman*

8:30 am - 10:00 am

Getting Down and Dirty with Potty Mastery: Helping Early Childhood Educators Support Children's Independent Toileting

*Joan Morgenstern*

8:30 am - 10:00 am

Let's Recharge and Thrive: Fostering Resilience, Preventing Burnout and Nurturing Compassionate Teaching

*Dr. Kathleen Harris & Dr. Melissa Tamburrino*

Featured Speaker

# Infant/Toddler Sessions Continued



## Saturday, April 27, 2024 continued

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Professional Boundaries in Working with Families of Young Children Part 1

*Ava Lucky*

STEAM in Infant and Toddler Classroom

*Mel Senter & Desiree Hughes*

It Begins with a Book!

*Karen Crockett & Mary Beth Bush*

Cultivate Curiosity With Loose Parts

*Lori Kowit*

3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

The ABCs of Inclusive Practices in Early Childhood Education: Attitudes, Beliefs, and Classroom Strategies (Toddler)

*Dr. Kathy Trainor*

Little People Big Emotions

*Pamela Perrino*



Sensory Spaces: More Than a Feeling (Toddler)

*Christopher Collen & Caroline Steward*

Say, Sing & Sign! How ASL, Combines with Music Benefits Infants and Toddlers

*Georgia & Kenneth Frawley*

Professional Boundaries in Working with Families of Young Children Part 2

*Ava Lucky*

Supporting Math & Counting 0-5

*Franki Sibberson, MacKenzie Gordon, & Audera Ghee*



**Ohio**  
**DODD**

For a listing of DODD  
approved sessions, please visit  
[www.oaeyc.org/sessions](http://www.oaeyc.org/sessions)

*Subject to change*

## Eliminating the Stigma: Mental Health and Wellness in the Black Community

Session Code: T101  
Session Time: 8:00 AM-10:00 AM

In this session, participants will explore methods for fostering meaningful connections and extracting wisdom from personal encounters, all while equipping themselves, their families, and their communities with the tools to prioritize mental well-being. Through interactive discussions and practical exercises, attendees will develop strategies for nurturing resilient relationships and promoting mental health advocacy in diverse social spheres.

**Presenter: Ashley Glass**

Age Focus: All  
Main Topic: Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging  
Ohio Approved Credit: 2 Hours



## Hear our Voices: Engaging in Partnerships that Honor Families

Session Code: T102  
Session Time: 8:00 AM-10:00 AM



Families are their children's first teachers. Early childhood educators know this, but what does it mean in practice? Participation, involvement, and engagement are the first steps toward the true goal: reciprocal family partnerships. Discover how to move beyond inviting families to program events or connecting them to resources and instead recognize them as experts who meaningfully contribute to children's learning and development. These partnerships are essential to support learner progress and achieving language and literacy development. Attendees of this session will receive the presenter's book: "Hear Our Voices! Engaging in Partnerships that Honor Families."

**Presenter: Dr. Bweikia Foster Steen**

Age Focus: I, T, PRE  
Main Topic: Language & Literacy  
Ohio Approved Credit: 2 Hours



## Mindfulness and Yoga in Trauma

Session Code: T103  
Session Time: 8:00 AM-10:00 AM

The mind is not separate from the body - the body stores certain types of negative emotions. This session will empower participants to have a heightened sense of body awareness, embodiment, choice, and empowerment. Learn skills that will ground and connect our whole bodies. Learn strategies to instill these calming, relaxing techniques with young children in a group setting.

**Presenters: Carrie Taylor, Elizabeth Wagner**

Age Focus: PRE, SA  
Main Topic: Trauma Informed Care  
Ohio Approved Credit: 2 Hours



## The Elevated Employee Experience: Create Your Team's Path to Performance (Part 1 of 3)

Session Code: T104  
Session Time: 8:00 AM-10:00 AM



Join Beth Cannon for a thought-provoking day of reflection and exploration of strategies to help you plan and implement staff recruitment and retention. Participants will leave this session with a better understanding and skills for implementing effective frameworks for employee engagement and new tools for evaluating employees' performance and needs, new strategies to create excitement and motivation within your team, and new tools to design and implement an effective education program. Join this session and leave with a toolbox of new strategies, tools, and renewed hope.

**Presenter: Beth Cannon**

Age Focus: ALL  
Main Topic: Professionalism, Leadership & Ethics  
Ohio Approved Credit: 2 Hours

\*Note: Attendees must pre-register for this all-day session at an additional cost.



## Acting Essentials for Preschool & School-Age Programs

Session Code: T105  
Session Time: 8:30 AM-10:00 AM

This session will illustrate how to incorporate dramatic arts games and activities into your preschool and school-age classroom. "Creativity is now as important in education as literacy." Sir Ken Robinson. Come observe and engage in warm-ups, basic stage directions, improv games, songs, short skits and more. Leave armed with new ideas to take back and add to your classroom.

**Presenter: Emily Penton**

Age Focus: PRE, SA  
Main Topic: Arts (Performing & Visual Arts)  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Learning through Play: Using Observation and Documentation to Expand and Encourage Child-Led Learning

Session Code: T106  
Session Time: 8:30 AM-10:00 AM

This presentation uses the themes of play schema and the ideas of emergent curriculums to provide a framework to follow a child's lead in their own discovery and learning. Using play schema and emergent curriculum we can expand on the interest and curiosity of children to develop their own learning experiences. Using observation and documentation we can help others to see the learning inside the play.

**Presenter: Sheila Bridges**

Age Focus: I/T, PRE  
Main Topic: Child Growth & Development/Learning through Play  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours





## Music, Movement & More: Let's Go

Session Code: T107

Session Time: 8:30 AM-10:00 AM

Featured Speaker

Get up, get active, and get moving! Put on your dancing shoes and get ready to MOVE with Debbie! Discover simple songs and dances with choreography that crosses the midline, and be prepared to get your heart rate up and laugh and oxygenate your brain and body. Take back ideas on how to build active routines and brain breaks in your classroom. Let's go!

**Presenter: Debbie Clement**



Age Focus: T, PRE, SA

Main Topic: Music & Movement

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Nature Play: Indoor & Outdoor Play

Session Code: T108

Session Time: 8:30 AM-10:00 AM

In this session, we will explore ways to add loose nature materials for infant, toddler and preschool classrooms in a safe manner. We will also look at ways to incorporate sensory bottles, sensory tables, the use of contact paper, and group activities. We will examine how outdoor materials can be used for building, stacking, and sorting and generate a list of nature materials to implement into your classroom.

**Presenter: Jamie Shell**

Age Focus: I/T, PRE

Main Topic: Nature-Based Learning

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours

## Setting the Stage for Learning: Intentional Environments

Session Code: T109

Session Time: 8:30 AM-9:30 AM

The majority of a child's day is spent in the physical environment you design. Organize your space in a way that offers children the opportunity to feel comfortable owning the space. During this session, we will cover both indoor and outdoor environments for the different preschool age groups. We will also discuss being intentional when setting up the different environments in your program allowing the environment to be another teacher.

**Presenter: Elizabeth Fields**

Age Focus: I/T, PRE

Main Topic: Learning Environment

Ohio Approved Credit: 1 Hour



## Shared Services in ECE: A Collaborative Approach to Building Capacity and Increasing Sustainability

Session Code: T110

Session Time: 8:30 AM-9:30 AM

A shared service alliance is a strategy for building stronger systems among early care and education providers. The NWO Shared Services Alliance is one such collaboration partnering to provide tailored services for childcare providers in the Toledo area. Join this panel as they discuss how they work with providers to strengthen business operations, reduce workload and increase the capacity of center directors to support high quality programming, provide resources (i.e. back office, technical assistance, business services, sub pool, work force development), increase parent and community engagement, and improve fiscal health to make them more self-sufficient and financially stable.

**Presenters: Elisa Huss-Hage, Rev. John C. Jones**

Age Focus: ALL

Main Topic: Community Partnerships

Ohio Approved Credit: 1 Hour

## Supporting Children Where They Live and Learn

Session Code: T111

Session Time: 8:30 AM-10:00 AM

This session explores the pivotal role adults play in young children's lives, emphasizing the importance of fostering positive relationships and consistent behavior management techniques for kindergarten readiness. Participants will be introduced to Triple P – The Positive Parenting Program and the Positive Early Childhood Education Program (PECE), research-backed initiatives offering collaborative strategies for parents and educators to promote healthy environments and positive behavior in both home and school settings.

**Presenters: Lisa Golden, Ashlee Watson**

Age Focus: ALL

Main Topic: Guidance/Challenging Behaviors & SEL

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## The DEC Recommended Practices: How to Support Students with Special Needs in Your Classroom.

Session Code: T112

Session Time: 8:30 AM-10:00 AM

Attendees will learn about the DEC (The Division of Early Childhood for the Council for Exceptional Children) from Ohio's aRPy Ambassador. The DEC Recommended Practices (RPs) bridge the gap between research and practice, offering guidance to parents and professionals who work with young children who have or are at risk for developmental delays or disabilities. Attendees will learn practical tips to apply the RP's in their work to improve outcomes for students who have or are at risk for delays. Through collaborative conversation, participants will identify areas of their work that could be supported by the RP's and will develop actionable plans to improve outcomes for students and families.

**Presenters: Elizabeth Diedrick, Kris Gilland**

Age Focus: PRE

Main Topic: Children with Disabilities/Early Intervention & Inclusion

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours

## The Pedagogy & Practice of Care in Early Childhood Communities

Session Code: T113

Session Time: 8:30 AM-10:00 AM

In this session participants will gain a deeper understanding of what care is, the expectations around care in early childhood settings, and practice articulating some common myths and truths about the inseparability of education and care. When you first started teaching; what was the picture in your mind of your role as educator? In this session participants will gain new perspective on their vision of the teacher and confront past hierarchies of care routines and tasks that may be alive in their minds. So much learning happens while humans are engaged in life alongside one another and together we will practice naming the learning that happens while children are engaged in play and care rituals during the school day!

**Presenter: Jaclyn Gordon**

Age Focus: I/T, PRE

Main Topic: Teaching & Instructional Practices

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours

## Using the Creative Curriculum® Cloud to Elevate Family Partnerships

Session Code: T114

Session Time: 8:30 AM-10:00 AM

Featured Speaker

This session is designed to support programs using The Creative Curriculum® Cloud in taking advantage of the ways this system helps build and maintain reciprocal family partnerships. Participants will explore the benefits these partnerships bring to children, families, themselves, and their programs. They will also dig into tools available for interacting with, and engaging families as equal partners in the educational experiences of children. Finally, participants will investigate what it means to create a sense of belonging for children and families in the classroom environment.

**Presenter: Michelle Salcedo**



Age Focus: I, T, PRE

Main Topic: Curriculum-Theories & Approaches

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours

## The Best Story Ever Stars YOU: Learning Your Role in Guiding Children

Session Code: KEYNOTE1

Session Time: 10:45 AM-11:45 AM

Keynote

Mr. Chazz's life mission is to enjoy becoming the best version of himself and help others do the same. His energizing keynote is about growing to understand the behaviors of young children better and utilizing effective strategies to guide them. As early childhood educators, the goal isn't to be perfect every day but to improve every day.

**Presenter: Chazz Lewis (Mr. Chazz)**

Age Focus: T, PRE, SA

Ohio Approved Credit: 1 Hour

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## Attachment, Attunement, and Social Play with Infants and Toddlers (Conscious Discipline®)

Session Code: T201

Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:30 PM



The first three years are important in the child's development. This session is an overview of attachment, attunement, and social play. Caregivers will use skills from responsive caregiving to increase connections and build strong relationships with infants and toddlers.

**Presenter: Tonya Byous**



Age Focus: I/T

Main Topic: Guidance/Challenging Behaviors & SEL

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Conflict Resolution and Assertive Communication

Session Code: T202

Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:30 PM



Join Mr. Chazz for a lively demonstration on using Brain Smart techniques in your classroom to help children disengage from stress and reconnect with peers and teachers. Explore why challenging behaviors occur and discover how to respond effectively. Conflict is an opportunity to teach missing executive or social-emotional skills. Examine strategies such as regulation breaks, shifting brain states, and ACT (Acknowledge, Communicate, Target) that empower both the educator and child, promoting meaningful learning experiences.

**Presenter: Chazz Lewis**



Age Focus: T, PRE, SA

Main Topic: Guidance/Challenging Behaviors & SEL

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Developing Shared Leadership and Trust Within School-Community Partnerships

Session Code: T203

Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:30 PM

This training is geared towards early care and education professionals, school teachers, community-based organization leaders, and before and aftercare program teachers. Participants will be engaged to consider the various community and school resources to link them to families and children. Participants will learn how to establish shared visions and goals with their partnering agencies and families. It takes a village to raise a child and applying the South African Ubuntu philosophy through this training, participants become more aware of their role in the village.

**Presenter: Dr. Tatiana Wells**

Age Focus: ALL

Main Topic: Family Connections & Support

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Elevate Learning Through Play: Unlocking the Power of Early Childhood Education (Part 1)

Session Code: T204

Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:30 PM

Embracing play-based learning enriches early childhood education by promoting creativity, critical thinking, and collaboration. This session will empower educators to create impactful, joyful learning experiences for young learners, laying a strong foundation for their future academic success and overall well-being.

**Presenter: Dr. William Christmas**

Age Focus: PRE, SA

Main Topic: Child Growth & Development/Learning through Play

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours

*Note: This is a multi-part session. In order to receive Ohio Approved credit, you must attend all parts.*

## Exploring Nature-Based Programs Around the World (Not for Credit)

Session Code: T205

Session Time: 1:00-2:30 PM



This session aims to explore the remarkable surge in Nature-Based Early Learning (NBEL) programs across the United States over the past decade. With a nearly 25-fold increase, these programs have become a transformative force in Child Care and Early Education. The session will delve into the trends, benefits, and challenges associated with integrating nature into early learning environments, especially since the influential publication of Richard Louv's "Last Child in the Woods."

**Presenter: Kathleen Bryan**



Age Focus: T, PRE, SA

Main Topic: Nature-Based Learning

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hour



## Exploring the Spectrum: Identifying Early Autism Traits

Session Code: T206

Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:30 PM



In this session, attendees will gain a comprehensive overview of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), including its defining characteristics and common misconceptions. We will explore the early signs of Autism, such as differences in language development, gesture usage, and variations in joint attention, through the examination of video examples. Additionally, participants will learn when an autism evaluation should be recommended and gain practical insights for how to bring up these discussions with caregivers. By the end of this session, attendees will be equipped with valuable knowledge about the wide spectrum of Autism.

**Presenter: Andi Putt**



Age Focus: ALL

Main Topic: Children with Disabilities/Early Intervention & Inclusion

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Help Me Grow Expands Online Services for Ages & Stages Questionnaires® (ASQ Online)

Session Code: T207  
Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:30 PM

Come learn more about a free, important developmental screening tool. Since May 2022, the ASQ Online service at helpmegrow.org has been available for Ohio families with children up to age 3. Beginning in summer 2024, this service will expand for use by Ohio families with children through age 5. Screenings help parents celebrate their child's milestones, know what to look for next, and figure out whether follow-up steps are needed.

**Presenters: Julie Babcock, Sarah Taylor**

Age Focus: I, T, PRE  
Main Topic: Assessment of Young Children  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## How to Build the Young Scientist


Session Code: T208  
Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:00 PM

In this session, attendees will identify ways infants, toddlers, and preschoolers naturally engage in inquiry, reasoning, and problem-solving through everyday routines and learning opportunities. Discover practical ways to build the young scientist by creating an appropriate learning environment.

**Presenter: Samantha Whatley**

Age Focus: I/T, PRE  
Main Topic: Cognitive Development  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1 Hour

## How to Give a Child a Smart Start

Session Code: T209  
Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:30 PM 

Study after study shows that the brain architecture for reading develops rapidly during infancy, and early language experiences are critical to building it. Yet parents, who are children's primary "teachers" in the pivotal first years of life, often don't know what to do, when, or how. In this presentation, Maya Smart describes how language develops from birth and outlines what early childhood educators can do to nurture it at each stage. Audiences leave armed with information about the critical importance of back-and-forth conversational exchanges with young children, plus practical ideas for providing kids with more language nutrition and helping their parents do the same.


**Presenter: Maya Payne Smart**



Age Focus: ALL  
Main Topic: Language & Literacy  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Mental Health Skill-Building for Educators: Plug-And-Play, Light Lift Wellness Resources for Use in Pre-K to 12 Classrooms

Session Code: T210  
Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:00 PM 

This session will present the preliminary results from the launch of Healthy Minds, Thriving Kids Pre-K in Ohio, orient attendees to the Healthy Minds, Thriving Kids curriculum for students from pre-kindergarten through 12th grade, and provide training on how these resources can be seamlessly integrated into school communities. All Child Mind Institute resources will be freely available for download and use following the session.

**Presenter: Dr. David Anderson, Safiya Addison**

Age Focus: PRE  
Main Topic: Self-Care & Mental Health  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1 Hour



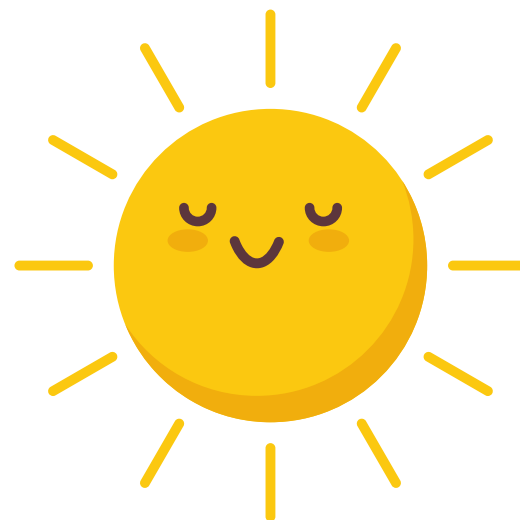
## Nurturing Independence in Young Children

Session Code: T211  
Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:30 PM

Knowing that our children are growing up in a different kind of world now, it is important for educators to adapt the skills that they are implementing and allow children to foster and gain independence within each environment. Building independence in children is necessary for their growth and success in life. Join Kristi and Ali as they walk you through an opportunity to foster independence inside the early childhood classroom. This session will highlight the importance of supporting children's growth and development by having simple, practical, independent life lessons in your classroom. Hands-on practice with the activities and materials will be provided. Return to your classroom ready to create and implement lessons that bolster independence.

**Presenters: Kristi Lethenstrom, Ali Finnegan**

Age Focus: T, PRE  
Main Topic: Curriculum - Theories & Approaches  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Starting Young: Countering the Preschool to Prison Pipeline with UDL Principles

Session Code: T212  
Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:30 PM

Featured Speaker

Participants will review and examine the research between the preschool and prison pipeline. During the session, you will examine the 3 Universal Design for Learning Principles (representation, action/expression, and engagement) and how they can effectively mediate the preschool-to-prison pipeline.

**Presenter:**  
**Dr. Bweikia Foster Steen**



Age Focus: ALL  
Main Topic: Family Connections & Support  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Strategies to Advance Quality Early Learning: Advocacy and Communication 101

Session Code: T213  
Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:00 PM

Join Groundwork Ohio, an Ohio-based policy research and advocacy organization, for an introductory training on advancing quality early learning in Ohio through communication and advocacy efforts. The session will define advocacy and examine what the advocacy process looks like in Ohio. It will provide participants with a chance to explore opportunities for advocacy, why and how to build relationships, and strategies for developing a compelling story.

**Presenter: Troy Hunter**

Age Focus: ALL  
Main Topic: Advocacy/Public Policy  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1 Hour

## The Elevated Employee Experience: Create Your Team's Path to Performance (Part 2 of 3)

Session Code: T214  
Session Time: 1:00 PM-3:00 PM

Featured Speaker

Join Beth Cannon for a thought-provoking day of reflection and exploration of strategies to help you plan and implement staff recruitment and retention. Participants will leave this session with a better understanding and skills for implementing effective frameworks for employee engagement and new tools for evaluating employees' performance and needs, new strategies to create excitement and motivation within your team, and new tools to design and implement an effective education program. Join this session and leave with a toolbox of new strategies, tools, and renewed hope.

**Presenter: Beth Cannon**



Age Focus: ALL  
Main Topic: Professionalism, Leadership & Ethics  
Ohio Approved Credit: 2 Hours  
\*Note: Attendees must pre-register for this all-day session at an additional cost.

## Unsilenced Voices: Exploring Controversial Children's Literature

Session Code: T215  
Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:00 PM

This presentation about banned and challenged children's books is an opportunity to rediscover beloved stories and a chance to reflect on the evolving nature of childhood literature, censorship, and the vital role of imagination in a child's development. This session is designed to provide valuable insights, practical tips, and a platform for sharing experiences in a supportive and non-judgmental environment. Together, we can foster a culture of open dialogue, critical thinking, and a love for reading.

**Presenters: Dr. Teri Peasley, Caylee King, Gracie Walker**

Age Focus: PRE, SA  
Main Topic: Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1 Hour



## Aligning Materials with the Science of Reading

Session Code: T301

Session Time: 3:00 PM-4:30 PM

Ohio's Plan to Raise Literacy

Achievement spans birth through college and career readiness. In this session, we'll take a look at curriculum and instructional materials in the early care and education setting and how we can review them with a lens of the Science of Reading. We'll learn about tools and processes, and you'll leave with actionable next steps for reviewing your current curricular materials.

**Presenter: Kim Davis, Molly Fender**

Age Focus: PRE, SA

Main Topic: Language & Literacy

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Creating A Climate of Composure: Using the Five Steps of Self Regulations and the Safe Place (Conscious Discipline®)

Session Code: T302

Session Time: 3:00 PM-4:30 PM

Featured Speaker

This session will help participants identify brain states, triggers and how to help children self-regulate using the Safe Place. Using the Power of Perception, while modeling the Skill of Composure, participants will learn how use the Safe Place in both classrooms and office spaces to teach, practice and model the Five Steps of Self-Regulation!

**Presenter: Rozlyn M. Grant**



Age Focus: ALL

Main Topic: Guidance/Challenging Behaviors & SEL

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours

## Developing Behavioral and Social Competence in Diverse Groups of Students

Session Code: T303

Session Time: 3:00 PM-6:00 PM

This session will explore techniques to provide positive behavior support and skill development (e.g., wait time, impulse control, cooperative social skills, attention, withstand peer pressure, playground behaviors, etc.) Strategies are appropriate for all classroom environments/settings and populations, including students with special needs and/or severe behavioral concerns (e.g., aggressive play, pica, lack of play skills, eye contact, etc.). Special attention will be focused on working with students who have alternative family values and/or caregivers who are non-responsive to behavior concerns.

**Presenter: Dr. Maria Sargent**

Age Focus: PRE, SA

Main Topic: Guidance/Challenging Behaviors & SEL

Ohio Approved Credit: 3 Hours



## Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Early Childhood Settings

Session Code: T304

Session Time: 3:00 PM-6:00 PM

In this session participants will become familiar with the concepts of equity, diversity, and inclusion as those concepts relate to the classroom setting. These concepts will be clearly defined while highlighting their similarities and differences. The interplay of diversity and culture will be explored before examining visible and invisible barriers to inclusive care. Through lecture and interactive small group activities, participants will explore four goals of providing anti-bias education.

**Presenter: James Flynn**

Age Focus: ALL

Main Topic: Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging

Ohio Approved Credit: 3 Hours

## Elevate Learning Through Play: Unlocking the Power of Early Childhood Education (Part 2)

Session Code: T305

Session Time: 3:00 PM-4:30 PM

Embracing play-based learning enriches early childhood education by promoting creativity, critical thinking, and collaboration. This proposed professional development program empowers educators to create impactful, joyful learning experiences for young learners, laying a strong foundation for their future academic success and overall well-being.

**Presenter: Dr. William Christmas**

Age Focus: PRE, SA

Main Topic: Child Growth & Development/Learning through Play  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours

*Note: This is a multi-part session. In order to receive Ohio Approved credit, you must attend all parts.*



## Empathy in Education: Understanding and Supporting Autistic Children in the ECE Classroom

Session Code: T306

Session Time: 3:00 PM-4:30 PM

Featured Speaker

In this session, participants will explore the vital role of empathy in education, with a specific focus on building meaningful rapport with Autistic children through a strengths based and Neurodiversity affirming lens. By the end of this session, participants will have acquired a toolkit of practical strategies and insights to enhance their ability to support and empower Autistic learners within their educational environments.

**Presenter: Andi Putt**



Age Focus: ALL

Main Topic: Children with Disabilities/Early Intervention & Inclusion

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours





## Every Interaction Counts: Improving Language Environments Equitably in Early Childhood Education

Session Code: T307  
Session Time: 3:00 PM-4:30 PM

Over the past decade, peer-reviewed research studies have linked conversational turns to improved socioemotional development, executive functioning, reading skills, and brain development. In this session, we will explore the latest in early talk research and how to put this into practice to promote responsive caregiving. Discover how development and learning are dynamic processes influenced by children's early environment and explore simple strategies for increasing interactive talk during various classroom routines.

**Presenters: Luis Bernal,  
Marlo Parlin**

Age Focus: I/T, PRE  
Main Topic: Language & Literacy  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Finding Your Happy Place In and Out of the Classroom: Healthier for You and the Families and Children You Serve

Session Code: T308  
Session Time: 3:00 PM-4:30 PM

Do you ever feel like you are stressed out just holding on to get through the day? We have some great ideas to help you hold on. Come learn how to identify the physical and emotional reactions that children, families, and teachers display when they are on stress overload. Stress not handled well can have negative effects but stressed identified and minimized can energize your day.

**Presenters: Marie Economos,  
Heather Reister**

Age Focus: PRE  
Main Topic: Self-Care & Mental Health  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours

## Learning to Sail Through the Storm: Identifying the Hurt and Embracing the Moments

Session Code: T309  
Session Time: 3:00 PM-4:30 PM



Often as educators, we find ourselves reacting and not fully understanding why we responded that way. We will explore the types of traumatic wounds that educators have experienced and discuss how we can identify our triggers and choose better self-care strategies to change our reactions to the triggers. As educators, we are responsible for taking care of ourselves to care effectively for the families and children we serve.

**Presenter: Pamela Perrino**



Age Focus: ALL  
Main Topic: Self-Care & Mental Health  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Let's Say It In Song! Adding Rhythm To Your Routine

Session Code: T310  
Session Time: 3:00 PM-4:30 PM

This session is for everyone, both the talented and the "vocally timid". Our first objective is to build each participant's confidence and help them believe in your ability to engage children using music as a means to "teach". Participants will examine a wide variety of ways to enhance their planned daily activities by adapting them to incorporate more music, movement, chants, rhythm, and rhymes. We will share specific ways to "say it in song"... to easily and successfully incorporate music into their own structured lessons, thus creating more positive and meaningful learning experiences. Attendees will leave this session with a myriad of musical activity ideas that they can use immediately in their classrooms.

**Presenters: Elisa Huss-Hage,  
Chuck Hage**

Age Focus: PRE  
Main Topic: Music  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours

## Scrambled Eggs & Icebergs! Physical Activity That Promotes Self-Regulation

Session Code: T311  
Session Time: 3:00 PM-4:30 PM



The most important life skill to teach children is self-regulation! And the prime time for its development is between the ages of 3 to 5. Learn how to integrate movement and self-care activities that support the development of impulse control, focus, and well-being. Playing self-control games, such as "Scrambled Eggs & Icebergs," can help children learn the necessary skill to self-regulate while keeping it fun!

**Presenter: Sharron Krull**



Age Focus: PRE  
Main Topic: Social/Emotional Development  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Standing in the Face of the Pandemic Impact: What We Know, What We Learned, and What We Have Still Yet to Learn

Session Code: T312  
Session Time: 3:00 PM-5:00 PM

In this session, we will explore the impact of COVID-19 pandemic, the importance of using an interconnected systems framework and mindset shift to support the well-being of adults who work with young children. We will discuss effective strategies for promoting self-care and stress reduction in educators and parents to create a healthy, supportive, equitable and inclusive environment for young children.

**Presenter: Lillian McCree**

Age Focus: ALL  
Main Topic: Self-Care & Mental Health  
Ohio Approved Credit: 2 Hours



## Talking to Listen: Exploring Family Stressors and Creating Positive Relationships to Support Families

Session Code: T313

Session Time: 3:00 PM-6:00 PM

Children react differently to stress and trauma, which can sometimes exhibit itself as challenging behaviors in the classroom and at home. This session will help early childhood professionals understand the impact that family stressors (such as a death, food insecurity, changes in placement, community violence, etc.) can have on both children and their caregivers. Participants will learn how to notice these family stressors; how to communicate with caregivers to build relationships that provide a supportive environment for young children; and self-regulation strategies to manage strong emotions when having difficult conversations with caregivers.

**Presenter: Patrick McKelvey**

Age Focus: ALL

Main Topic: Family Connections & Support

Ohio Approved Credit: 3 Hours

## The Elevated Employee Experience: Create Your Team's Path to Performance (Part 3 of 3)

Session Code: T314

Session Time: 3:00 PM-5:00 PM

Featured Speaker

Join Beth Cannon for a thought-provoking day of reflection and exploration of strategies to help you plan and implement staff recruitment and retention. Participants will leave this session with a better understanding and skills for implementing effective frameworks for employee engagement and new tools for evaluating employees' performance and needs, new strategies to create excitement and motivation within your team, and new tools to design and implement an effective education program. Join this session and leave with a toolbox of new strategies, tools, and renewed hope.

**Presenter: Beth Cannon**



Age Focus: ALL

Main Topic: Professionalism, Leadership & Ethics

Ohio Approved Credit: 2 Hours

\*Note: Attendees must pre-register for this all-day session at an additional cost.

## Tinkering With Nature, Science and Loose Parts

Session Code: T315

Session Time: 3:00 PM-4:30 PM

Featured Speaker

Children who play outdoors engage in scientific exploration as they observe and explore nature firsthand. They are exposed to the natural world and develop stronger awareness, reasoning, and observation skills. The outdoors has opportunities to engage in problem-solving and creativity with a limitless amount of loose parts. This session will use natural materials to introduce and extend children's science knowledge through activities that are based in tinkering and play. We will explore connections between open-ended play, science concepts, and nature-based loose parts inside and outside of early childhood classrooms.

**Presenter: Diann Gano**



Age Focus: ALL

Main Topic: Nature-Based Learning

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours





## Inside America's Reading Crisis: How You Can Help & Why You Should

Session Code: TBonus1  
Session Time: 5:00-6:30 PM



The pandemic hurt the reading prospects of an entire generation—and of the society that will share their future. Many school-age children face lasting learning setbacks, as supplemental educational programs haven't made up for lost classroom time. Plus, Covid-era infants, toddlers, and preschoolers show lower verbal, motor, and cognitive performance compared to pre-pandemic levels and frequently suffered delayed access to developmental screenings and early intervention services. But there's hope: us. We all have a role to play in turning the tide, and this session offers inspiring stories of diverse literacy champions who've found creative ways to make a difference. Attendees of this session will receive the presenter's book: "Reading for Our Lives: A Literacy Action Plan from Birth to Six."

**Presenter: Maya Payne Smart**

Age Focus: ALL  
Main Topic: Language & Literacy  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Joy is Not a Dishwashing Liquid! Still Teaching in the "Key of Life"

Session Code: TBonus2  
Session Time: 5:00 PM-6:30 PM



In our high-tech, high-pressure educational environment, it is easy to forget how children and teachers need to experience the JOY and FUN of learning. They need to experience it without stress, without fear of failure, but with confidence, success, and high-quality learning experiences of delight. Through this, children make meaningful connections and communities. Time is our only limitation as we celebrate simple, easy, joyful ways to help children learn and grow.

**Presenter: Mimi Brodsky Chenfeld**

Age Focus: ALL  
Main Topic: Child Growth & Development/Learning through Play  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Laugh the Stress Away

Session Code: TBonus3  
Session Time: 5:00 PM-6:30 PM



How stressed are you? This session will explore various techniques to reduce stress, including laughter. Participants will assess their level of stress and acknowledge that stress contributes to their overall mental health, and take back strategies of how to effectively reduce and manage stress.

**Presenter: Joseph French**

Age Focus: ALL  
Main Topic: Self-Care & Mental Health  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours





## **“I See You, I See Me!” The Multicultural Classroom**

Session Code: F101

Session Time: 8:00 AM-10:00 AM

With age-appropriate literature and unique activities, creating a multicultural classroom experience can provide meaningful learning opportunities for children. We will explore how to effectively use literature and activities to engage children in difference, encourage them to embrace sameness among peers, and to have confidence in their identity.

**Presenter: Dr. Chenelle B. Price**

Age Focus: T, PRE

Main Topic: Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging

Ohio Approved Credit: 2 Hours



## **Learning to Lean In: A Conversation in Rethinking Taking Care of Ourselves and Others**

Session Code: F102

Session Time: 8:00 AM-10:00 AM

What if we told you stress isn't something to avoid but to embrace? While we know that self-care is essential for wellness, we must go beyond bubble baths and drinking water to develop skills in real-time self-management to sustain this work. This presentation is not your ordinary self-care talk. In this session we will explore how stress effects ourselves and those we serve; help develop a new understanding of stress and how we can use it to deepen our work with others and apply in-the-moment strategies to use when engaging in difficult situations to mitigate the effects of stress, secondary traumatic stress, compassion fatigue and burnout.

**Presenter: Patrick McKelvey**

Age Focus: ALL

Main Topic: Self-Care & Mental Health

Ohio Approved Credit: 2 Hours

## **Welcoming Children With an Official Diagnosis**

Session Code: F103

Session Time: 8:00 AM-10:00 AM

ALL children should have the opportunity to learn with their peers, and this interactive training explores the needs and supports for welcoming and supporting any child in the classroom. Through knowledge, practice, and a positive attitude, participants will discuss any barriers, common diagnoses and equipment, services, ODJFS forms and rules, assessments, and family connection to support all children's success in the classroom. The goal of this training is to help ease any fears, misinformation, or stereotypes that providers may encounter, so that all children can have the opportunity to meaningfully engage with their peers, as well as allow participants to gain a new attitude and outlook for providing a welcoming environment to all children.

**Presenters: Tricia Streharsky, Yolanda Mahoney**

Age Focus: ALL

Main Topic: Children with Disabilities/Early Intervention & Inclusion

Ohio Approved Credit: 2 Hours



## **When Educators C.A.R.E., Kids L.E.A.P!**

Session Code: F104

Session Time: 8:00 AM-10:00 AM

This session discusses the definition and types of trauma as well as exploration through Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs). Participants will learn to identify traumas and ACEs and learn about the CARE and LEAP acronyms to help guide them through a traumatic event with a child.

**Presenter: Julie Haas**

Age Focus: ALL

Main Topic: Trauma Informed Care

Ohio Approved Credit: 2 Hours

## **American Sign Language Combined with Music for Interactive Learning with Infants and Toddlers**

Session Code: F105

Session Time: 8:30 AM-10:00 AM

Babies can talk! During this hands-on workshop, participants will learn over 15 songs and activities incorporating ASL that will benefit infants and toddlers for communication, early language development, focused listening and watching, and a wonderful hands-on bonding activity. Attendees will practice signing over 80 practical signs and experience how to incorporate them into their daily routine. They will also learn how to analyze and adapt songs and activities to meet the developmental abilities of their children.

**Presenters: Georgia Frawley, Ken Frawley**

Age Focus: I/T

Main Topic: Language & Literacy

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## **Art Smarts With Loose Parts: Building Brains and Creativity Through Play**

Session Code: F106

Session Time: 8:30 AM-10:00 AM

Gain insights on providing a stimulating art environment with loose parts that will spark children's creative energy and joy for art. When given the time, space, and opportunity to explore with loose parts, children's creations become intentional, more meaningful, and spontaneous throughout their play. Practical strategies and resources are paired with beautiful photos to inspire ideas you can take back to your classroom on Monday morning.

**Presenter: Diann Gano**



Age Focus: T, PRE, SA

Main Topic: Arts (Performing & Visual Arts)

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours





## Attachment, Attunement, and Social Play with Infants and Toddlers (Conscious Discipline®)

Session Code: F107  
Session Time: 8:30 AM-10:00 AM



The First Three years are important in the child's development. This session is an overview of attachment, attunement, and social play. Caregivers will use skills from responsive caregiving to increase connections and build strong relationships with infants and toddlers.

**Presenter: Tonya Byous**



Age Focus: I/T  
Main Topic: Guidance/Challenging Behaviors & SEL  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## But First Do No Harm - Songs and Stories to Create (And Maintain) Compassionate, Inclusive Classrooms

Session Code: F108  
Session Time: 8:30 AM-10:00 AM



Inclusive classrooms require teachers to meet an ever-broadening range of instructional, social and emotional needs. Educator and parent of a child with autism herself, Joanie Calem uses original songs, games and practical tips to facilitate conversation that supports teachers in building a community of diverse learners.

**Presenter: Joanie Calem**



Age Focus: PRE, SA  
Main Topic: Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours

## Conflict Resolution and Assertive Communication

Session Code: F109  
Session Time: 8:30 AM-10:00 AM



Join Mr. Chazz for a lively demonstration on using Brain Smart techniques in your classroom to help children disengage from stress and reconnect with peers and teachers. Explore why challenging behaviors occur and discover how to respond effectively. Conflict is an opportunity to teach missing executive or social-emotional skills. Examine strategies such as regulation breaks, shifting brain states, and ACT (Acknowledge, Communicate, Target) that empower both the educator and child, promoting meaningful learning experiences.

**Presenter: Chazz Lewis**



Age Focus: T, PRE, SA  
Main Topic: Guidance/Challenging Behaviors & SEL  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Jump, Wiggle and Hop in the Classroom

Session Code: F110  
Session Time: 8:30 AM-10:00 AM



In this engaging session, we'll explore Miss Patty's educationally-aligned music. Attendees will immerse themselves in participatory songs designed to enhance children's gross motor skills, literacy, and cognitive abilities. Moreover, they'll gain vital skills in identifying educationally appropriate online musical resources. By bridging vibrant songs with modern technology, this workshop equips educators with cutting-edge strategies tailored for today's classrooms, enabling them to elevate learning through the fusion of music and digital resources.

**Presenter: Patty Shukla (Miss Patty)**



Age Focus: ALL  
Main Topic: Music & Movement  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours

## Playing Beyond Walls: Leveraging the Power of Outdoor Play in Early Childhood

Session Code: F111  
Session Time: 8:30 AM-10:00 AM



While the number of nature-based preschools is increasing, there are more young children needing experiences with nature than these programs can provide. At the same time, many early childhood educators who understand the value of outdoor experiences find themselves in a traditional setting unsure of how to meaningfully integrate nature into their programs. This session will help early childhood providers, no matter their situation, consider the principles fundamental to a nature-based approach and integrate those principles into play-based teaching and learning. Using a continuum of NbECE as the overarching framework, Rachel will provide the group with concrete ways to better integrate nature into the program structure, physical environment (inside and outside), and teacher-child interactions.

**Presenter: Dr. Rachel Larimore**



Age Focus: T, PRE, SA  
Main Topic: Nature-Based Learning  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Staff Appreciation for Every Budget

Session Code: F112  
Session Time: 8:30 AM-10:00 AM

In a time when everyone is stressed, it is important to set the tone where all work is valued and celebrated. In this session, we will share several of our past staff appreciation week themes and some of our favorite activities. The ideas are free as are many of the things you can do.

**Presenters: Jane Pernicone, Monica Steiner**

Age Focus: ALL  
Main Topic: Professionalism, Leadership & Ethics  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## The Art of Emotional Intelligence for Early Childhood Education Leaders

Session Code: F113  
Session Time: 8:30 AM-9:30 AM

Educators will discover how the capacity to regulate our own emotions and comprehend those of others enables us to solve problems, exercise critical thinking, navigate tense situations, cultivate a positive sense of self, and foster empathy. All of these skills are crucial for leading a child care program, managing staff, interacting with families and understanding a child's needs.

**Presenter: Garri Davis**

Age Focus: ALL  
Main Topic: Professionalism, Leadership & Ethics  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1 Hour



## Using the Creative Curriculum® for Preschool Teaching Guides to Support Study Based Learning

Session Code: F114  
Session Time: 8:30 AM-10:00 AM



Long-term studies allow children to become engaged in deep-learning as they investigate a topic of interest. In this interactive session, participants will learn the three stages of a study and walk through the process of planning for this approach in their classrooms. Participants will also identify opportunities to build critical thinking skills and embed content learning into every phase of a study.

**Presenter: Michelle Salcedo**



Age Focus: PRE  
Main Topic: Curriculum - Theories & Approaches  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours

## When That Cat Named Pat Sat by a Big Black Bat: Embracing the Science of Reading in Early Childhood

Session Code: F115  
Session Time: 8:30 AM-10:00 AM

In this interactive session, discover how the science of reading can best shape practices and policies in your early childhood programs so that children are primed for success in elementary school. And here's a hint: it's a complex equation that phonics alone cannot solve—but that early childhood educators implementing a comprehensive curriculum can. This session will review what the science of reading is—and what it is not—including the implications and limitations of its current findings. We will discuss practical, easy-to-implement, research-based guidance for effectively and intentionally supporting young children's language development and literacy learning best to prepare them for success in elementary school and beyond.

**Presenter: Dr. Nicol Rusell**



Age Focus: ALL  
Main Topic: Language & Literacy  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## You Were Chosen for This MISSION: Rise to the Challenge with Perseverance and Grit (Conscious Discipline®)

Session Code: F116  
Session Time: 8:30 AM-10:00 AM



We'll discuss the neuroscience behind what fuels passion and sustains persistence over the long haul. Attendees will leave understanding how to cultivate grit - both individually and collectively within teams - to tackle challenges and accomplish missions with courage and conviction. By examining inspirational examples and applying research-based strategies, participants will uncover their "why", gain tools to shift mindsets, and tap into the uplifting power of community. This talk brings the science of success to life by revealing how purpose, practice and perseverance unite to expand the realm of possibility.

**Presenter: Tanyelle Hannah**



Age Focus: PRE, SA  
Main Topic: Professionalism, Leadership & Ethics  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours

## Deliberate Optimism: Reclaiming the Joy In Education

Session Code: KEYNOTE2  
Session Time: 10:45 AM-11:45 AM



This keynote session addresses the challenges faced by early childhood educators today. Through humor, thoughtful insights, and inspired wisdom, Dr. Silver encourages early childhood educators while reminding them of their purpose and their worth. She identifies specific ways educators can choose optimism in the face of adversity. Her presentation is research-based and woven with the true art and heart of teaching.

**Presenter: Dr. Debbie Silver**

Age Focus: ALL  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1 Hour



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## Access from the Start: Promoting Inclusion of all Young Children and Families Across Ohio

Session Code: F201

Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:00 PM

The Early Childhood Inclusion Center of Excellence (CoE) is a division of OhioPROMISE and established within OCALI's Center for the Young Child. The CoE supports early care and education professionals and programs to increase inclusion of children with disabilities in early childhood programs by supporting the use of universal access strategies, assistive technology and evidence-based practices. This session will provide a hands-on opportunity to implement universal access strategies through the exploration of materials available through the CoE.

**Presenters:** *Alexa Zauck, Laura Maddox, Megan Carlton, Katie DeSmith, Lindsay Morrison*

Age Focus: ALL

Main Topic: Children with Disabilities/Early Intervention & Inclusion

Ohio Approved Credit: 1 Hour



## Bag of Tricks! Transition Tools & Tips

Session Code: F202

Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:30PM



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

**Presenter:** *Sharron Krull*



Age Focus: ALL

Main Topic: Child Growth & Development/Learning through Play

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Conflict Resolution: It's Not Personal It's Personality

Session Code: F203

Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:30 PM



Many times we believe that a conflict is personal but it is really personality clash. By using the DISC Profile we will identify and build on individual strengths and explore ways to improve communication skills.

**Presenter:** *Joseph French*



Age Focus: ALL

Main Topic: Professionalism, Leadership & Ethics

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Developing Nature-Based Large and Small Group Activities

Session Code: F204

Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:30 PM



It sounds counterintuitive, but an emergent curriculum that is rooted in play and driven by children's interests requires intentional planning. This session will focus on intentional planning of teacher-led activities (i.e., large and small group activities). We'll explore how to provide teacher-led activities which still emphasize play despite being teacher-led, are connected to children's interests, events happening in the natural world, and broader curricular goals.

**Presenter:** *Dr. Rachel Larimore*



Age Focus: T, PRE, SA

Main Topic: Nature-Based Learning

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours

## From Exhaustion to Empowerment: Building a Culture of Well-Being in Early Childhood Settings

Session Code: F205

Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:30 PM



This session is designed to help early childhood educators build positive relationships through active listening skills. Rather than focusing on triggers (experiences that make you feel anxious and withdrawn), this session illustrates the benefits of identifying glimmers (experiences that make you feel safe and connected) to promote self-care and build a culture of well-being in the workplace.

**Presenter:** *Dr. Debbie Silver*



Age Focus: ALL

Main Topic: Professionalism, Leadership & Ethics

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Getting Reinspired While Learning Practical Tools for Success

Session Code: F206

Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:30 PM



This energizing session explores strategies for implementing a growth mindset approach to your work with children and families. Participants will leave this session empowered to truly see children and trust that they are doing the best they can with the skills they have in this moment, while learning how to more effectively guide them toward self-regulation.

**Presenter:** *Chazz Lewis*



Age Focus: T, PRE, SA

Main Topic: Guidance/Challenging Behaviors & SEL

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Growing Up WILD 1.5

Session Code: F207

Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:30 PM

Participants will receive the Growing Up WILD guide, which includes over 25 lessons designed to lead children through activities that incorporate science, reading, art, math, music and more in a fun, hands-on way. Each lesson includes an opportunity to use nature and the outdoors for an even richer experience for your children. All lessons have been correlated to NAEYC, Head Start and Ohio Early Childhood Content Standards in both science and social studies. Growing Up WILD is an exciting, hands-on workshop that will leave you with a multitude of ideas and information on how to integrate wildlife and the environment into your regular lessons in an inclusive preschool classroom or an ECE/Community preschool classroom setting.

**Presenters: Phoebe Atkinson, Nora Sindelar**

Age Focus: PRE, SA

Main Topic: Nature-Based Learning

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Integrating Music Into the Curriculum With Intentionality

Session Code: F208

Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:30 PM



This highly interactive session utilizes evidence-based approaches for enhancing children's learning, growth, and development through the integration of music. Attendees will explore how teachers can intentionally leverage aspects of music to engage children and enrich the learning experience. This workshop will feature activities across all developmental domains to support attendees in leaving with activities to foster in their classrooms.

**Presenter: Dr. Anthony Broughton**



Age Focus: T, PRE, SA

Main Topic: Music & Movement

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## JOY in the Journey: How to Keep My Heart in it When it's HARD (Conscious Discipline®)

Session Code: F209

Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:30 PM



Teaching is often described as a calling, not just a career. But even the most dedicated educators can struggle to keep their passion and joy alive in the face of everyday challenges. In this inspirational and empowering session, Principal Tanyelle L. Hannah shares practical strategies to rediscover meaning, purpose, gratitude and joy no matter the obstacles. Attendees will leave feeling re-energized, empowered and equipped with fresh tools to foster their own well-being, meaningful relationships with colleagues and scholars.

**Presenter: Tanyelle Hannah**



Age Focus: ALL

Main Topic: Professionalism, Leadership & Ethics

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Leadership Through Children's Literature

Session Code: F210

Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:30 PM

Through a review of children's books, this session examines many attributes of successful leaders. Participants will leave this session empowered to implement these modeled attributes in their personal and professional lives.

**Presenter: Dr. Thea Wilson**

Age Focus: ALL

Main Topic: Professionalism, Leadership & Ethics

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours

## Moving Books: Children's Books that Feature Movement and Play

Session Code: F211

Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:30 PM

The presenter will highlight the importance of play and movement in the early childhood classroom. Research that supports the understanding of how play and literacy are connected will be shared. Examples of children's books for birth through kindergarten will be shared interactively with the participants.

**Presenter: Dr. Elizabeth Bridges**

Age Focus: T, PRE

Main Topic: Language & Literacy

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Music, Movement and Media for Active Learners

Session Code: F212

Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:30 PM



This interactive session will get you moving to music by international YouTube sensation Miss Patty. Participants will discover how to make participatory songs exciting and developmentally appropriate. You will leave equipped to access energetic songs and tech-savvy applications for today's classrooms through the use of smart devices to support learning.

**Presenter: Patty Shukla (Miss Patty)**

Age Focus: ALL

Main Topic: Music & Movement

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Supporting Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children in Early Childhood Classrooms Through Curriculum Modification and Accommodations

Session Code: F213

Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:30 PM

This session will identify ways to support children with hearing loss in your early childhood classroom. Through the use of videos, hands-on examples and problem solving discussion, participants will discover successful supports that are recommended for children with hearing loss.

**Presenters: Gretchen Douglas, Keeley Weston**

Age Focus: ALL

Main Topic: Children with Disabilities/Early Intervention & Inclusion

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Supporting Everyday Literacy Moments Birth to Three

Session Code: F214

Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:30 PM

Language lays the foundation for later reading success. This session will highlight strategies and practices that encourage language development in everything babies and toddlers do and experience.

**Presenters: Kim Davis, Molly Fender**

Age Focus: I/T

Main Topic: Language & Literacy

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours

## Trigger Warning: Do You Know What Yours Are?

Session Code: F215

Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:30 PM

Teachers and administrators are burning out and experiencing compassion fatigue in large numbers. Stress factors abound, and constant cognitive interruptions lead educators into a body state of permanent stress. Emotional triggers are activated more easily when a person is under strain, and can be highly overwhelming, causing a person to lose control. This training informs educators about emotional triggers, teaches what that might look like when activated, and supports them in exploring their own internal landscape toward awareness of both their own triggers and trigger effects.

**Presenters: Karen Gruenewald, Kathleen Montoya**

Age Focus: PRE, SA

Main Topic: Self Care & Mental Health

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours

## Young, Gifted and Black: Centering Joy and Belonging in Black Children

Session Code: F216

Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:30 PM

Featured Speaker

The experiences of Black children are often told from a deficit lens clouded by inequity, discrimination, and bias. However, this is not a complete picture. In this session, we will shine a light on the joy and magic of being young, gifted and Black. We will discover ways to cultivate positive racial and cultural identity and explore strategies to help children develop an authentic sense of self and belonging in early childhood spaces and beyond. These strategies will be linked to the four goals of anti-bias education (identity, diversity, justice, and activism).

**Presenter: Dr. Nicol Rusell**



Age Focus: ALL

Main Topic: Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours





## Behavior: Understanding vs. Expression-Building Relationships

Session Code: F301

Session Time: 3:00 PM-4:30 PM



Every child is different and behavior techniques should fit the individual child. This workshop will explore behavior analysis (understanding and expression). The cue system will be explored to offer helpful hints in dealing with behavior issues.

**Presenter: Joseph French**



Age Focus: ALL

Main Topic: Guidance/Challenging Behaviors & SEL

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Empower Your Inner Happiness

Session Code: F302

Session Time: 3:00 PM-6:00 PM

This session focuses on the concept of happiness and practical methods that one can use to harness to create happiness. Inner happiness increases our capacity to provide quality services to families and children. During the course of examining the idea of improving our level of happiness, we will also study some of the barriers. This session benefits everyone, but especially those who may be experiencing job burnout, high levels of stress or compassion fatigue.

**Presenter: James Flynn**

Age Focus: ALL

Main Topic: Self Care & Mental Health

Ohio Approved Credit: 3 Hours

## Everyone Can Be an Artist: The Value of Open-Ended Art

Session Code: F303

Session Time: 3:00 PM-4:30 PM

Why does everyone keep pushing process art? Is there research to back this up? Do you need any fun, new ideas – come see us! With a combined total of 70 years in the field of early childhood education, we have some great ideas for open-ended art activities with materials you already have in your classroom. There will also be make-it/take-it opportunities for each participant!

**Presenters: Nancy Okuley, Monica Cardenas**

Age Focus: I/T, PRE

Main Topic: Arts (Performing & Visual Arts)

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Growing Up WILD 1.5

Session Code: F304

Session Time: 3:00 PM-4:30 PM

Participants will receive the Growing Up WILD guide which includes over 25 lessons designed to lead children through activities that incorporate science, reading, art, math, music and more in a fun, hands-on way. Each lesson includes an opportunity to use nature and the outdoors for an even richer experience for your children. All lessons have been correlated to NAEYC, Head Start and Ohio Early Childhood Content Standards in both science and social studies. Growing Up WILD is an exciting, hands-on workshop that will leave you with a multitude of ideas and information on how to integrate wildlife and the environment into your regular lessons in an inclusive preschool classroom or an ECE/Community preschool classroom setting.

**Presenters: Phoebe Atkinson, Nora Sindelar**

Age Focus: PRE, SA

Main Topic: Nature-Based Learning

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours

## HOPE- Healthy Outcomes from Positive Experiences

Session Code: F305

Session Time: 3:00 PM-5:00 PM

HOPE builds upon the recent explosion in strengths-based approaches, using this growing body of knowledge to better understand and support child health and development. We now know that positive childhood experiences drive healthy development and mitigate the long-term effects of adverse ones. Our vision is a world that recognizes, honors, and fosters positive experiences because they are fundamental to people's health and well-being.

**Presenters: Melanie Estes, Kayla Hairston**

Age Focus: ALL

Main Topic: Social/Emotional Development

Ohio Approved Credit: 2 Hours



## It's Cool to be Kind: Teaching Compassion Through Songs, Stories and Music Games

Session Code: F306

Session Time: 3:00 PM-4:30 PM



Using songs, games, and dramatized musical stories, participants will actively explore ways to expose children to the beauty and challenge of kind, compassionate communities. Take back resources to build an inclusive classroom where kindness is cool.

**Presenter: Joanie Calem**

Age Focus: ALL

Main Topic: Music & Movement

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours





## Leadership Through the Lens of Connection and Conscious Discipline® Practices

Session Code: F307  
Session Time: 3:00 PM-4:30 PM



How do we create cultures of resilience and perseverance in our educational systems? We do this through connection. In this workshop, you will discover and share ideas on how to create healthy adult connections that drive your mission and values, as well as learn about the implementation of Conscious Discipline through a leadership lens.

**Presenter: Megan Shea-Bates**



Age Focus: PRE, SA  
Main Topic: Guidance/Challenging Behaviors & SEL  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Lyrics to Literacy: Read a Song & Sing a Book

Session Code: F308  
Session Time: 3:00 PM-5:00 PM



Join author, illustrator and "music-lady" Debbie Clement as she shares her original songs and books for children. Discover the latest STEM/STEAM through an exploration of the monarch butterfly's metamorphosis and migration. Return to your classroom with ideas for integrating singing into your day and establishing an enthusiasm for reading.

**Presenter: Debbie Clement**



Age Focus: ALL  
Main Topic: Language & Literacy  
Ohio Approved Credit: 2 Hours

## Nature Sparks! Supporting Infant and Toddler Development Outdoors

Session Code: F309  
Session Time: 3:00 PM-4:30 PM



Young children learn through their senses and what better way than in the outdoors? Discover how to give our youngest the time, space, and opportunities to explore and investigate a wide variety of natural and creative materials that provide meaningful experiences. Learn how to design outdoor learning environments that create areas of curiosity, challenge, wonderment, and movement. Unique outdoor activities for babies will be shared. Celebrate the power of outdoor learning for young minds.

**Presenters: Diann Gano, Sharron Krull**



Age Focus: I/T  
Main Topic: Nature-Based Learning  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours

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## Prescriptions for Preventing Power Struggles

Session Code: F310  
Session Time: 3:00 PM-5:30 PM

In this session, participants will discover how to identify power struggles and the many practices that they can utilize to prevent power struggles. Together we will examine our backgrounds so that we can understand how our own thinking might make us more susceptible to being in a power struggle. You will be introduced to two strategies for dealing with power struggles and be able to acknowledge the importance of forgiving yourself when you make mistakes or get pulled into one.

**Presenters: Colleen Wallace, Katlin Carpenter**

Age Focus: ALL  
Main Topic: Social/Emotional Development  
Ohio Approved Credit: 2.5 Hours

## So, Is This Problem Solving?

Session Code: F311  
Session Time: 3:00 PM-4:30 PM



Conflict resolution and problem solving are a mystery educators must solve before they are able to change the behavior of children. This session will help participants understand and recognize children's different perspectives in conflict situations and Identify and use HighScope's 6 steps of conflict resolution.

**Presenter: Lance Reed**



Age Focus: PRE  
Main Topic: Guidance/Challenging Behaviors & SEL  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Teaching Strategies - The Power of Observation in an Early Childhood Classroom

Session Code: F312  
Session Time: 3:00 PM-4:30 PM



Explore how effective observation can help you individualize instruction, strengthen family connections, and effect positive child growth over time. Participants will be given multiple opportunities to practice conducting observations and define the qualities needed to make informative observations in the early childhood classroom.

**Presenter: Michelle Salcedo**



Age Focus: ALL  
Main Topic: Observation & Assessment  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## The Science of Reading: Unlocking the Foundations of Literacy

Session Code: F313

Session Time: 3:00 PM-4:00 PM

Featured Speaker

Uncover the practical roadmap to literacy success! This focused exploration delves into identifying and addressing fundamental skills pivotal for effective reading. Walk away with concrete strategies for immediate implementation, ensuring proficiency and a robust foundation for a lifetime of development. Participants will work towards developing actionable strategies for immediate application, ensuring tangible outcomes in academic growth.

**Presenter: Meghann Hickey**



Age Focus: PRE, SA

Main Topic: Language & Literacy

Ohio Approved Credit: 1 Hour



## Trauma in Our Classroom

Session Code: F314

Session Time: 3:00 PM-5:00 PM

This session will introduce trauma and the affects it has on the children in our classroom, as well as offer tips on becoming a trauma-responsive classroom.

**Presenters: Malori McCloskey, Jen Lee**

Age Focus: ALL

Main Topic: Trauma informed Care

Ohio Approved Credit: 2 Hours

## Using Visual Supports in the Early Childhood Classroom (Make- It/Take-It)

Session Code: F315

Session Time: 3:00 PM-4:30 PM

In an early childhood classroom, it is essential to use visual representations to communicate. Since most young children do not read, the use of visuals to support their knowledge supports not only those with disabilities, but all developing children. This session examines how children learn, the importance of using Multiple Intelligences and Universal Design for Learning (UDL), and various ways to incorporate visuals into basic skills, classroom management, and independence. Participants will create visuals to take back to their classrooms and utilize with all children.

**Presenters: Tricia Streharsky, Yolanda Mahoney**

Age Focus: ALL

Main Topic: Children with Disabilities/Early Intervention & Inclusion

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours

## What's In Your Classroom? Welcoming Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity Picture Books

Session Code: F316

Session Time: 3:00 PM-4:30 PM

Featured Speaker

This session will discuss the importance and the need for all young children to be exposed to diverse literacy. We will analyze samples of high-quality picture books and share ways to promote a developmentally and culturally responsive classroom library for all children.

**Presenter: Dr. Kathleen Harris**



Age Focus: T, PRE, SA

Main Topic: Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours







## Cultivating Excellence Through Hip Hop in the Classroom

Session Code: FBONUS1  
Session Time: 5:00 PM-6:00 PM



This highly interactive workshop will feature evidence-based approaches for cultivating growth and development through Hip Hop Play. Attendees will explore Hip Hop and Hip Hop Play to gain an understanding of this global phenomenon and its possibilities in early childhood. This workshop will feature example activities across all developmental domains to support attendees in leaving with activities to foster in their classrooms.

**Presenter: Dr. Anthony Broughton**

Age Focus: T, PRE, SA  
Main Topic: Music & Movement  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1 Hour



## Noticing the Small Stuff: A Matter of Perspective

Session Code: FBONUS2  
Session Time: 5:00 PM-6:30 PM



As educators, we are often so busy focusing on the end goal that we forget to reflect on the small stuff, “the sparkle,” that makes each teacher, child, and family unique. We will explore our own perspective using some of the reflections used by Andy Andrews in his book “The Noticer” to reflect on the importance of our role in the lives of families and children. Refocus on your sparkle so you can share it with others.

**Presenter: Pamela Perrino**

Age Focus: ALL  
Main Topic: Self-Care & Mental Health  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Beyond Crayons and Collages: Exciting Art and Sensory Play for Everyday

Session Code: S101  
Session Time: 8:00 AM-10:00 AM

There has been a great deal of discussion in early childhood care and education about "process" vs. "product" art. We know that process art is more appropriate and meaningful to young children but how do we become intentional in our efforts to provide a variety of art and sensory experiences everyday? In this hands-on session, participants will identify skills acquired through art and sensory play as well as engage in multiple art and sensory experiences. Activities will be focused on children 2 1/2-6 years old, but most can be extended/modified for older children. Be prepared to get messy and have fun!

**Presenter: Alissa Nasiatka**

Age Focus: T, PRE, SA  
Main Topic: Arts (Performing & Visual Arts)  
Ohio Approved Credit: 2 Hours



## Going Outdoors to Build Executive Function!

Session Code: S102  
Session Time: 8:00 AM-10:00 AM



This playful and high energy workshop will examine building executive function skills in the outdoor learning environment. We will explore the importance of these skills, the connection to our senses, and key questions and tools for teachers to use to scaffold learning to build these skills. Participants will learn about both broad practices in nature-based education as well as practical activities to bring to the classroom right away.

**Presenter: Meredith Florkey**



Age Focus: PRE  
Main Topic: Nature-Based Learning  
Ohio Approved Credit: 2 Hours

## Keepin' It Real In Early Childhood: Write On! Early Writing Experiences

Session Code: S103  
Session Time: 8:00 AM-10:00 AM

What is early writing really all about? What do we mean by prewriting skills? There are so many skills a child needs to develop even before picking up a pencil, but what are they and how do I set up an appropriate environment? How does gross motor have anything to do with a child's ability to form letters? How do I set up a writing center that children will actually use? Let's explore the answers to these questions and more, as we look at what it takes to support beginning writers in your early childhood classroom.

**Presenter: Jane Holtgreffe**

Age Focus: PRE  
Main Topic: Language & Literacy  
Ohio Approved Credit: 2 Hours



## 9+5=1: 9 Personalities, 5 Love Languages, 1 Mission

Session Code: S104  
Session Time: 8:30 AM-10:00 AM

In this session, participants will examine the nine Enneagram personality types and Gary Chapman's five "love languages". Together, we will identify the ways they interact to help build and maintain strong connections and relationships in the early childhood classroom and beyond.

**Presenters: Malori McCloskey, Paige Nelson**

Age Focus: ALL  
Main Topic: Professionalism, Leadership & Ethics  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## An Introduction to STEAM Learning

Session Code: S105  
Session Time: 8:30 AM-10:00 AM

What exactly is STEAM learning anyway? Come discover how STEAM learning experiences encourages children to develop real-life problem solving skills. Participants will reflect on their own mindsets about science and math learning and gain a better understanding of how their personal mindsets impact children's learning. Through collaborative conversations and hands-on learning experiences participants will build a framework for engaging children of all ages in STEAM learning.

**Presenter: Elizabeth Fields**

Age Focus: ALL  
Main Topic: Science  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Baby Doll Circle Time (Conscious Discipline®)

Session Code: S106  
Session Time: 8:30 AM-10:00 AM



Baby Doll Circle Time is an excellent curriculum for quick 5-10 minute lessons that help aid in self-regulation and integrate healthy attachment and attunement experiences for children. Baby Dolls can also be replicated as a "center" in the classroom after lessons are taught, and children will have a natural opportunity to practice those skills independently to recreate those healthy attachment moments. As ECE practitioners, we notice that this is an excellent SEL curriculum to help break up the day, and create a foundation for emotional skills as our preschoolers were infants when the pandemic started. Make sure to bring a stuffed animal or baby doll for the session!

**Presenter: Megan Shea-Bates**



Age Focus: T,PRE  
Main Topic: Social/Emotional Development  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours

## Building a Fabulous Team of Teachers: Who Want to Play on Your Team

Session Code: S107  
Session Time: 8:30 AM-10:00 AM

Do you manage a group of employees or a team of professionals? Susan M. Heathfield said, "The integrity of the leadership of the organization is critical. The truthfulness and transparency of the communication with staff is also a critical factor. The presence of a strong, unifying mission and vision can also promote trust." This session will give you five concrete tools to build your team. You will discover how to define a goal, set honest expectations, build solid trust, develop a predictable schedule, and cultivate effective communication. Take back a plan that supports staff training for continued learning and growth.

**Presenter: Eileen Osborn**

Age Focus: I/T, PRE  
Main Topic: Professionalism, Leadership & Ethics  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Cultivating Excellence Through Hip Hop in the Classroom

Session Code: S108  
Session Time: 8:30 AM-9:30 AM



This highly interactive session will feature evidence-based approaches for cultivating growth and development through Hip Hop Play. Attendees will explore Hip Hop and Hip Hop Play to gain an understanding of this global phenomenon and its possibilities in early childhood. This workshop will feature activities across all developmental domains to support attendees in leaving with activities to foster in their classrooms.

**Presenter: Dr. Anthony Broughton**



Age Focus: T, PRE, SA  
Main Topic: Social/Emotional Development  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1 Hour

## Different is Not Dangerous - A Musical Trip Around the World

Session Code: S109  
Session Time: 8:30 AM-10:00 AM



Using simple songs, stories and games with age appropriate applications and variety for learning styles, this session provides teachers hands-on tools to help children build friendships and a welcoming community. Participants will take back a collection of songs from around the world that emphasize friendship, compassion, and inclusion of people from different backgrounds. Material presented is applicable for children in preschool and early elementary.

**Presenter: Joanie Calem**



Age Focus: ALL  
Main Topic: Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Getting Down and Dirty with Potty Mastery: Helping Early Childhood Educators Support Children's Independent Toileting

Session Code: S110  
Session Time: 8:30 AM-10:00 AM

Are you ready to flush away the confusion around children's toilet learning and transform their potty challenges into potty triumphs? Join this interactive session where you'll learn to navigate the twists and turns of this important developmental milestone. Together we'll explore effective strategies, debunk common myths and share practical tips for creating a supportive and empowering classroom environment that supports children's potty learning. From managing expectations to fostering independence, you'll leave with the tools you need to confidently guide children on their toilet learning journey.

**Presenter: Joan Morgenstern**

Age Focus: I, T, PRE  
Main Topic: Developmentally Appropriate Practices  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours

## Let's Accommodate

Session Code: S111  
Session Time: 8:30 AM-10:00 AM

Does the term accommodation frighten you? This session will demystify our beliefs about accommodation. Join a lively discussion that will dive deeply into what we mean when we say terms such as equity, equality, universal design, and accommodations vs modifications. Leave with a better understanding of how accommodations can be implemented successfully in the classroom to support the child, family, and teacher.

**Presenter: Mandy Young**

Age Focus: ALL  
Main Topic: Children with Disabilities/Early Intervention & Inclusion  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Let's Recharge and Thrive: Fostering Resilience, Preventing Burnout and Nurturing Compassionate Teaching

Session Code: S112  
Session Time: 8:30 AM-10:00 AM



With the ever-increasing demands on teachers after the Pandemic, the subject of teacher wellness, self-care, and finding balance is very timely. This workshop will explore a variety of strategies for attaining a professional and personal balance, leading with grace by introducing the soft skills of leadership and spiritual practices to keep cultivating curiosity, compassion, and joy in the classroom.

**Presenters: Dr. Kathleen Harris, Melissa Tamburrino**

Age Focus: T, PRE, SA  
Main Topic: Professionalism, Leadership & Ethics  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours





# Saturday, April 27 | 8:30AM + 10:45AM Keynote

## Outside Matters: How Nature Can Enable Us to Feel Healthier, More Creative, More Empathetic and Engaged as Teachers

Session Code: S113  
Session Time: 8:30 AM-10:00 AM

The Approaches Toward Learning Domain in the Ohio ELDS centers on the dispositions and attitudes that children bring to social interactions and learning experiences. The Ohio CKC also has a list of dispositions that apply to early childhood professionals and how they approach all aspects of their work. There is significant overlap between the desired characteristic dispositions of students and teachers and both can benefit from spending time in nature to grow in areas such as curiosity, flexibility, perseverance and cooperation. Together we will name the desired traits of students and teachers in the how they do things and practice a variety of simple actionable activities that can easily be done inside or outside to bring more nature into our lives.

**Presenters: Carol Juergemeier, Emily Johnson**

Age Focus: PRE  
Main Topic: Nature-Based Learning Ohio  
Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Shake, Rattle and Roll! Parachute Play

Session Code: S115  
Session Time: 8:30 AM-9:30 AM

**Featured Speaker**

Grab an edge of the parachute and join in the FUN! Participate and learn games and activities that promote cooperative group play, gross motor development, and physical fitness. Developmentally appropriate activities for toddlers to school-age children will be shared. Come play "Pop the Bubbly," "Volcano," "Motor Boat," and many, many more!

**Presenter: Sharron Krull**



Age Focus: T, PRE, SA  
Main Topic: Developmentally Appropriate Practices  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1 Hour

Sponsored By



## Rolling Stones Gather No Moss: Using Movement and Play to Stimulate Learning in Young Children

Session Code: S114  
Session Time: 8:30 AM-9:30 AM

All learning begins with the body. From grasping your finger, to grasping a toy, to grasping the mechanics of crawling, standing, walking, jumping, and running, every move a young child makes (whether intentional or accidental) leads to learning. It is imperative that we, as educators, provide young children opportunities to learn through movement and play as much as they can in their most formative years. Participants will analyze the importance of movement and play in the early childhood setting and identify ways to incorporate this important skill into their teaching. Take back resources to engage children in meaningful movement!

**Presenter: Robin Coleman**

Age Focus: ALL  
Main Topic: Child Growth & Development/Learning through Play  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1 Hour

## What's Your Story and Why is it Important? (Family Child Care Providers Empowered)

Session Code: S116  
Session Time: 8:30 AM-10:00 AM

Do you ever feel burnt out and want to leave the field because people do not appreciate all you do for children and families? Join this session and discover a unique way to illustrate your story and emphasize the importance of your work to parents and colleagues. Learn how to identify competencies, core knowledges, and support systems that will help your business flourish. As our field is beginning to be recognized as a profession, our work cannot be accomplished in isolation.

**Presenters: MaryBeth Bush, Carrie Shockey**

Age Focus: ALL  
Main Topic: Professionalism, Leadership & Ethics  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## The Power of BELONGing

Session Code: KEYNOTE3  
Session Time: 10:45 AM-11:45 AM

**Keynote**

This powerful and unique keynote highlights the key factors in student engagement and success. Equity, access, language, community, and the power of belonging are showcased to remind us of the foundations for a safe student environment. William's incredibly impactful message is vital for ALL educators to witness so they can connect back to their "WHY" and truly grasp the power of their words and actions on EVERY child.

**Presenter: William Martinez**

Age Focus: T, PRE, SA  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1 Hour

Made possible by



## ASL in the Classroom

Session Code: S201  
Session Time: 1:00-2:30 PM



William's unique and engaging breakout session provides educators with an opportunity to experience and practice ASL signs that support creating and maintaining a calm and respectful classroom by using ASL to communicate. With just sixteen ASL signs, educators will discover how to give instruction and directions, differentiate student response strategies, redirect unwanted behavior, and offer positive guidance without interrupting the classroom flow. Introduce your students to another language and culture and teach a lifetime skill!

**Presenter: William Martinez**



Age Focus: T, PRE, SA  
Main Topic: Language & Literacy  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Comforting the Hearts, Minds, and Souls of Children

Session Code: S202  
Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:30 PM



More than ever, mental health has been on the minds of early childhood teachers over the past two years. This workshop will define and examine how promoting spiritual literacy can endorse a holistic curriculum focused on the whole child and the interconnectedness of the mind, heart, and soul. The importance of mindfulness will be explored with practices for improving spiritual well-being through its effects on mental health.

**Presenter: Dr. Kathleen Harris**



Age Focus: T, PRE, SA  
Main Topic: Trauma Informed Care  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours

## Creating Inclusive Early Childhood Environments: Why Inclusion Matters

Session Code: S203  
Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:30 PM

Ever get a phone call from a prospective family that volunteered that their child has a differing ability, and you suddenly were hesitant to schedule the interview and unsure how to proceed? Already have a child or two within your care with differing needs and abilities that have gradually developed over time and are unsure how to move forward? Has a parent presented to you a speech therapist, an occupational therapist, etc. to come to your facility with little notice and your gut reaction is to deny them? Inclusion is difficult, but not impossible. It reaps benefits beyond your classroom. This session will define inclusion and illustrate how to apply it to your program. We will review resources and discuss how to integrate professional services to create environments that support the inclusion of every child.

**Presenters: Stephanie Geneseo, Ashely Wellman**

Age Focus: ALL  
Main Topic: Inclusion  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Cultivate Curiosity with Loose Parts

Session Code: S204  
Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:30 PM

"Loose parts" is a term coined by architect Simon Nicholson, who carefully considered landscapes and environments that form connections. He believed that we are all creative and that "loose parts" in an environment will empower our creativity. Come experience the philosophy of loose parts! This session will explore the benefits for young children when loose parts play is a part of their daily educational experiences. Take back ideas to incorporate loose parts to support a child's learning, growth and development.

**Presenter: Lori Kowitz**

Age Focus: ALL  
Main Topic: Learning Environment  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Everyday Strategies for Challenging Behaviors in Preschool and Early Care Settings

Session Code: S205  
Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:30 PM

In this session, participants will explore strategies for managing challenging behaviors faced daily in early care and preschool settings. This will include effective whole class strategies as well as more intensive strategies for individual children. Participants will have opportunities to collaborate with presenters and colleagues to develop a plan and create materials to implement in their classrooms.

**Presenters: Julia Wilmer, Colleen Mudore**

Age Focus: PRE  
Main Topic: Guidance/Challenging Behaviors & SEL  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Fostering a Culturally Responsive Trauma-Informed Curriculum with a Growth Mindset

Session Code: S206  
Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:30 PM



This workshop will feature evidence-based approaches for supporting children who experience or have experienced trauma through a culturally responsive curriculum. Attendees will explore how teachers foster growth, development, and learning through trauma-informed practices. This workshop will feature exemplary activities across all developmental domains to support attendees in leaving with activities to foster in their classrooms.

**Presenter: Dr. Anthony Broughton**

Age Focus: T, PRE, SA  
Main Topic: Trauma Informed Care  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## "If You Can't Sing Well -- Sing Loud!"

Session Code: S207  
Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:30 PM



This session is designed for the educator that tells others, "I can't carry a tune." Participants will gather to learn short, simple songs with easy melodies that would be appropriate for the youngest children, children with special needs, and teachers needing to build confidence. Join in on "spoken" songs – where there's no need to be able to sing a melody. Take a baby step in the direction of adding music to your day. Discover how to incorporate puppets and props to give you confidence.

**Presenter: Debbie Clement**

Age Focus: T, PRE, SA  
Main Topic: Music & Movement  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## It Begins with a Book!

Session Code: S208  
Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:30 PM

Participants will be invited not only to interact with each other and the presenters but will also interact with samples of exemplary children's literature to develop plans to take back and implement in their work settings.

**Presenters: Karen Crockett, MaryBeth Bush**

Age Focus: ALL  
Main Topic: Language & Literacy  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## "Let's Play Principal..." (Still Teaching in the "Key of Life")

Session Code: S209  
Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:30 PM



A total participation celebration of simple and effective ways to magically turn your program or school into a loving community of learning. Like a family! This session invites administrators of early childhood programs to share, through active experiences, ideas that turn policies into realities. How do administrators, shape the climate, mission, and spirit of your programs? How do you create life-affirming, loving, safe and joyous environments for our children, staff, families and communities? The responsibility for such a challenge is in your hands (and in your heart). Be ready to move and be moved!

**Presenter: Mimi Brodsky Chenfeld**

Age Focus: ALL  
Main Topic: Child Growth & Development/Learning through Play  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Motivating and Retaining Staff (Keeping the Best of the Best)

Session Code: S210  
Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:30 PM

This session will provide owners and administrators with tips and tricks to motivate and retain their staff in fun and exciting ways. Take back strategies to keep staff excited about their positions.

**Presenter: Stacy Corll**

Age Focus: ALL  
Main Topic: Professionalism, Leadership & Ethics  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Professional Boundaries in Working with Families of Young Children (Part 1)

Session Code: S211  
Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:30 PM

This session will challenge early learning professionals to consider their personal responsibility of establishing and maintaining clear professional boundaries with families of children enrolled in their programs. As professionals we are faced with many decisions concerning the care of young children and operating within a child care program. Daily we interact with a diverse range of adults including parents of enrolled children and with other adults in professional settings that require rapport, mutual respect and trust. This session will identify skills needed for successful relationship building in a child care program as well as review ethical guidelines for professionals in an early learning setting.

**Presenter: Ava Lucky**

Age Focus: ALL  
Main Topic: Professionalism, Leadership & Ethics  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours

*Note: This is a multi-part session. In order to receive Ohio Approved credit, you must attend all parts.*





## Risks vs. Hazards in the Outdoors

Session Code: S212

Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:00 PM



When we work outdoors with natural materials either in the outdoor classroom or in natural areas, there will be opportunity for developmentally appropriate risks. This training will help participants see the link between both social emotional skills and executive function in these natural environments. We will learn how to anticipate and plan for engaging with natural materials and phenomenon.

**Presenter: Meredith Florkey**



Age Focus: PRE

Main Topic: Nature-Based learning

Ohio Approved Credit: 1 Hour



## STEAM in Infant and Toddler Classrooms

Session Code: S213

Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:00 PM

Let's discover how to use STEAM in infant and toddler classrooms. This session will provide an overview and background on STEAM and the research on why focusing on STEAM is such a powerful technique in early childhood. Explore examples of STEAM in infant and toddler classrooms that include a description of activities, pictures, and links to materials. Take back ideas for creating STEAM interest bins for the art center and a STEAM learning center this is safe for infants and toddlers.

**Presenters: Melanie Senter, Desiree Hughes, Sami Bartone**

Age Focus: I/T

Main Topic: Science

Ohio Approved Credit: 1 Hour

## STEM in the PlayScape: Engaging Children and Enhancing the Environment (Part 1)

Session Code: S214

Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:30 PM



This session utilizes interactive video content, a collection of readings, illustrative photos and videos, small and large group discussion, and individual reflection to deepen an educator's understanding of the potential for STEM learning to occur through nature play, when supported by the intentional interactions of teachers.

**Presenter: Rachel Konerman**



Age Focus: PRE

Main Topic: Nature-Based Learning

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours

*Note: This is a multi-part session. In order to receive Ohio Approved credit, you must attend all parts.*



## Tap, tap tap, Teacher! Dismantling the Power of Tattling (Conscious Discipline®)

Session Code: S215

Session Time: 1:00 PM-2:30 PM



Tattling is a natural response to learning about rules, but children can learn it is unnecessary in every rule-breaking situation. Remember that sometimes children tattle for other reasons beyond rule-breaking, such as getting attention from grown-ups or because they want a peer to get in trouble. During this session, participants will understand how to view behavior differently. They will identify the three types of tattling, how to recognize them, and how to respond.

**Presenter: Tonya Byous**



Age Focus: PRE

Main Topic: Developmentally Appropriate Practices

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours

## The Social Resilience Model and the Brain-Body Connection (Part 1)

Session Code: S216

Session Time: 1:00 PM- 2:30 PM

The Social Resiliency Model, founded by Dr. Laurie Leitch, Threshold GlobalWorks, was created to accelerate leading-edge initiatives, informed by neuroscience, that amplify social resilience, health literacy, and human potential. SRM is based on four Core Concepts: Attachment, Safety, Attention, and Activation. Together we will discuss the human nervous system, considering how stress, distress, and trauma affect us and how we can build our capacity for the skills of tracking, grounding, resourcing, and shift and stay to widen our resiliency zone.

**Presenters: Kayla Hairston, Lindsay Green**

Age Focus: ALL

Main Topic: Social/Emotional Development

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours

*Note: This is a multi-part session. In order to receive Ohio Approved credit, you must attend all parts.*



## Building a Brain for Reading

Session Code: S301

Session Time: 3:00 PM-4:30 PM

Early childhood educators facilitate literacy for preschoolers in a variety of ways. Research tells us that by supporting oral language, print awareness, and phonological awareness, teachers can build a brain that is ready to read. This session shares reading readiness strategies, the "why" of best practices, a bit about brain science, and some fantastic open-ended activities to keep children engaged.

**Presenters: Leah Boley, MaryEllen Monroe**

Age Focus: PS

Main Topic: Language & Literacy Ohio

Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Building Empathy with Name Songs

Session Code: S302

Session Time: 3:00 PM-4:00 PM

In this session, participants will discover why name songs are essential to every early childhood classroom. Research has proven that both music and silence are effective means of nurturing social emotional learning and empathy. We will practice using name songs to help all members of a class feel welcome, included, and valued. Take back specific tools and songs to create and maintain an empathetic learning environment where all are welcome. Literacy extensions will also be discussed.

**Presenter: Risa Beth Cohen**

Age Focus: ALL

Main Topic: Social/Emotional Development

Ohio Approved Credit: 1 Hour

## Create Effective Teamwork By Navigating Work Styles

Session Code: S303

Session Time: 3:00 PM-4:30 PM

Have you ever had conflict with someone when trying to work together? Does it seem like others approach work differently than you? In this session we will look at the variety of work styles and how each style can influence the team. These working styles affect how people make decisions; deal with change, how they treat risks and how they respond to each other. Participants will identify their dominant work style and discuss examples of what they need based on that work style and the ways to work with others who have different styles. Participants will leave understanding how all approaches to work can add value and enhance teamwork and collaborate.

**Presenter: Carrie Shockey**

Age Focus: ALL

Main Topic: Professionalism, Leadership & Ethics

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Enhancing Learning with the Power of Our Senses Outdoors

Session Code: S304

Session Time: 3:00 PM-4:00 PM



Beyond just the usual five senses, we'll explore how our body, emotions, and brain are all activated when we spend time learning outdoors. This fun and invigorating session full of play and discovery will walk participants through these benefits as well!

**Presenter: Meredith Florkey**

Age Focus: PRE

Main Topic: Nature-Based learning

Ohio Approved Credit: 1 Hour



## Little People Big Emotions: PBIS Model

Session Code: S305

Session Time: 3:00 PM-4:30PM



Join us for an interactive look at little people's big emotions and what we can do as early childhood educators to make it okay to explore these emotions. We will discuss why young children's emotions seem so large and what we can do as adults working with them to help direct them to better strategies and choices. Take back PBIS (Positive Intervention & Supports) tools and strategies you can add to your toolbox.

**Presenter: Pamela Perrino**

Age Focus: T, PRE, SA

Main Topic: Guidance/Challenging Behaviors & SEL

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## Professional Boundaries in Working with Families of Young Children (Part 2)

Session Code: S306

Session Time: 3:00 PM-4:30 PM

This session will identify skills needed for successful relationship building in a child care program as well as review ethical guidelines for professionals in an early learning setting.

**Presenter: Ava Lucky**

Age Focus: ALL

Main Topic: Professionalism, Leadership & Ethics

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours

*Note: This is a multi-part session. In order to receive Ohio Approved credit, you must attend all parts.*



## **Relationships 101: Relationships Within the Early Childhood Environment**

Session Code: S307  
Session Time: 3:00 PM-4:00 PM

In this session, participants will analyze the impact relationships in early childhood have on children's learning and development. The session reviews the importance of relationships in early childhood and help providers foster those relationships to support children's growth and development. It provides strategies for positive child-child, child-caregiver, and caregiver-family relationships.

**Presenter: LaToya Dixon**

Age Focus: ALL  
Main Topic: Social/Emotional  
Development  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1 Hour



## **Say, Sing & Sign! How ASL Combined with Music Benefits Infants and Toddlers**

Session Code: S308  
Session Time: 3:00 PM-4:30 PM

This fun hands-on ASL workshop will provide participants with powerful concepts and insights on how to use American Sign Language combined with songs and activities to foster early communication and strengthen early learning for babies and toddlers. American Sign Language is used across the U.S. to provide hearing children with a way to communicate, increase their vocabulary, and stimulate brain development. No previous signing or singing ability is necessary. This workshop offers practical information based on research and real life experience.

**Presenters: Georgia Frawley,  
Ken Frawley**

Age Focus: I/T  
Main Topic: Music & Movement  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours

## **Sensory Spaces: More Than a Feeling**

Session Code: S309  
Session Time: 3:00 PM-4:00 PM

This session defines sensory spaces (tables, stations, bins, etc.) and provides a brief explanation of sensory memory and how sensory spaces effectively function. We will explore types of materials for varying age groups and sizes and discuss effective management strategies. Participants will leave with examples of the many developmental benefits of sensory spaces.

**Presenters: Christopher Collen,  
Caroline Steward**

Age Focus: T, PRE  
Main Topic: Learning Environment  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1 Hour



## **STEM in the PlayScape: Engaging Children and Enhancing the Environment (Part 2)**

Session Code: S310  
Session Time: 3:00 PM-4:30 PM



This session utilizes interactive video content, a collection of readings, illustrative photos and videos, small and large group discussion, and individual reflection to deepen an educator's understanding of the potential for STEM learning to occur through nature play, when supported by the intentional interactions of teachers.

**Presenter: Rachel Konerman**

Age Focus: PRE  
Main Topic: Nature-Based Learning  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



*Note: This is a multi-part session. In order to receive Ohio Approved credit, you must attend all parts.*

## **Supporting Math and Counting Ages 0-5**

Session Code: S311  
Session Time: 3:00 PM-4:30 PM

In this session, participants will explore the many ways counting and other math concepts develop across the ages 0-5. They will examine the implications for learning as well as the role that classroom materials can play in math exploration throughout the daily routine. Hands-on activities that can support young children in developing math and counting concepts will be provided.

**Presenters: Franki Sibberson,  
Mackenzie Gordon,  
Audera Ghee**

Age Focus: I/T, PRE  
Main Topic: Mathematics  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## **The ABCs of Inclusive Practices in Early Childhood Education: Attitudes, Beliefs, and Classroom Strategies**

Session Code: S312  
Session Time: 3:00 PM-4:30 PM

Creating an authentic inclusive environment and learning experiences with positive outcomes for the diverse children in our programs can be challenging. The first steps to developing positive inclusive practices includes reflecting on our own attitudes and beliefs about inclusion and young children with diverse abilities and needs. In this session, we will explore evidence-based environmental, instructional and guidance strategies to support all children.

**Presenter: Dr. Kathy Trainor**

Age Focus: T, PRE  
Main Topic: Children with  
Disabilities/Early Intervention  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours





## The Empowered Teacher: Creating Calm in the Classroom

Session Code: S313

Session Time: 3:00 PM-4:30 PM

This session will provide theory, techniques and a short yoga practice to demonstrate how mental wellness techniques and yoga can help children and teachers create a calm environment in the classroom. Participants will explore various yoga tools, calming techniques, and literature to help promote mental wellness for themselves and the children in the classroom and at home.

**Presenters: Nancy Secrest,  
Amy Hamilton**

Age Focus: T, PRE, SA

Main Topic: Social/Emotional  
Development

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours



## The Social Resilience Model and the Brain-Body Connection (Part 2)

Session Code: S314

Session Time: 3:00 PM-4:30 PM

The Social Resiliency Model, founded by Dr. Laurie Leitch, Threshold GlobalWorks, was created to accelerate leading-edge initiatives, informed by neuroscience, that amplify social resilience, health literacy, and human potential. SRM is based on four Core Concepts: Attachment, Safety, Attention, and Activation. Together we will discuss the human nervous system, considering how stress, distress, and trauma affect us and how we can build our capacity for the skills of tracking, grounding, resourcing, and shift and stay to widen our resiliency zone.

**Presenters: Kayla Hairston,  
Lindsay Green**

Age Focus: ALL

Main Topic: Social/Emotional  
Development

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours

*Note: This is a multi-part session. In order to receive Ohio Approved credit, you must attend all parts.*



## Visuals for Problem-Solving Conflict in the ECE Classroom (Conscious Discipline®)

Session Code: S315

Session Time: 3:00 PM-4:30 PM

Featured  
Speaker

Under the age of five, the brain is highly sensitive to peer interactions in social norms and context, in addition to the fact that children encode their world in pictures until the age of seven. Daily conflicts between children in the ECE classroom are inevitable! In this session, we will be reflecting on our own adult beliefs regarding "behavior" first, become equipped with visual tools from a variety of sources to assist in conflict resolution to build independence with children, use positive reinforcement strategies, and share our love for learning in the room with one another. Join us to be problem solvers instead of admiring endless problems!

**Presenter: Megan Shea-Bates**



Age Focus: PRE, SA

Main Topic: Guidance/Challenging  
Behaviors & SEL

Ohio Approved Credit: 1.5 Hours

## Working with Multilingual Preschoolers

Session Code: S316

Session Time: 3:00 PM-4:00 PM

Teaching preschool multilinguals goes beyond "just good teaching". It requires explicit planning and instruction of activities that encourage language development. Students learning English for the first time need language supports that targets specific language goals that can also be assessed. This session gives an overview of research and specific strategies and ideas that can be applied in the classroom.

**Presenter: Jessica Burchett**

Age Focus: PRE

Main Topic: Language & Literacy  
Ohio Approved Credit: 1 Hour



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