



# Featured Speaker

ohioaeyc

## Eric Litwin

**Eric Litwin** is a song singing, guitar strumming, # 1 New York Times best selling, award winning author who brings early literacy, music, and positivity together. He is the original author of the Pete the Cat series as well as the author of *The Nuts*, *Groovy Joe*, and *The Poop Song*. Eric is also the co-author of *The Power of Joyful Reading: Help Your Young Readers Soar to Success*, a popular professional development book for teachers. Eric's books promote optimism and get the reader engaged. They have sold over 16 million copies, been translated into 17 languages, and won 26 literacy awards including a Theodor Geisel Seuss Honor Award. Eric is a popular presenter giving engaging performances and keynotes across the country on early literacy and positivity.

### Eric's Story

Eric is a former classroom teacher. One morning he walked past a kindergarten classroom and saw the children immersed in books and reading! One little girl hugged her favorite book like a baby. Later that day he asked his third grade students if they would like to read together. Many of his students appeared uninterested. Eric was deeply concerned and asked himself a simple question. What happened between kindergarten and third grade? He began writing musical interactive stories for young children to help them fall in love with books and build a strong reading foundation. These stories would become his first published books. Eric's books are now found in classrooms and homes across the country and world.



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### Conference Sessions

Thursday, April 23

Bonus Session

5:00—6:00 PM

Mindfulness in 5 Songs!

Friday, April 24

8:30 –10:00 PM

Joyful & Engaging Early Reading!