



A.A.A.E.Y.C. SUMMER 2009 NEWSLETTER

President's Message

Hello to all of you!

Wow! Where did the summer go? I hope all of you have had a great summer so far and will enjoy the month of August also! As summer winds down, our A.A.A.E.Y.C. program year starts up. I am excited about the upcoming programs that we have scheduled so far and look forward to these great events. Our first meeting of the 2009-2010 program year will be at the Resource Center for Early Childhood Educators Center at the Akron Public Library. You will want to make sure that you attend this meeting. You will have a chance to see & use the resource center along with an opportunity to meet the board members that evening. Our meetings are always a great place to network with other early childhood educators.

Networking with others in the field is a very important part of our profession. Now, more than ever, listening and sharing ideas, information and support is so important in these uncertain economic

times that are impacting the families and children that we serve. OAEYC has adopted a new tagline which you will see on our website and any information going out from A.A.A.E.Y.C.. The tagline is *Express your voice, engage in a professional community and influence the future of early childhood.*

I know each of you do this in your everyday lives, but please consider gathering with other early childhood professionals at our A.A.A.E.Y.C. meetings and events. Your voice, your ideas and your expertise is crucial in making our affiliate a strong and responsive group which is supported by the membership. Please consider becoming an active member of our board or volunteer for one of the many opportunities to serve in this coming year.

And most importantly, let us know how A.A.A.E.Y.C. can serve you! Contact us through the A.A.A.E.Y.C. website or email, call or write any board member. Check out the website periodically for

updates on pertinent information in our field also.

As in the last newsletter, we are recognizing those centers in Summit, Medina and Portage counties that are now star rated. We identified those centers through the ODJFS website. If for some reason we missed your center and you are star rated, please send me an email poviatt2@aol.com and we will be sure to note that in the next newsletter.

I, along with all the members of the board, hope to see you on Sept. 24th at the Akron Public Library! [Go to our web page for more information on this program.](#)

Pam Oviatt
President,

A.A.A.E.Y.C.

Summer Issue

August 2009

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Membership Survey

The mission of OAEYC is changing to be more focused on our members and on engaging and meeting the needs of our membership. The new tag line for OAEYC is:

Ohio AEYC is the voice of early childhood professionals!

Express your voice.

Engage in a Professional Community.

Influence the future of Early Childhood.

The Governing Board of your Akron affiliate wants to get to know you, our members. We are planning a meet and greet event this September at the Resources for Early Childhood Educators Center located in the main branch of the Akron-Summit Library. Hope you can join us! We have also developed a short survey for members to gather your input, and encourage you to engage in the professional community. Use the link below to

EXPRESS YOUR VOICE, ENGAGE IN A PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY AND

INFLUENCE THE FUTURE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD!

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=a7FdJbxgCO88bX5F8Pj9gA_3d_3d

Survey will be available until August 28, 2009



Good Idea Grant Recipient

Congratulations to Christine Schaffer, winner of the first **A.A.A.E.Y.C. GOOD IDEA GRANT**.

Christine is a preschool teacher at Apple Tree Preschool in Garrettsville, a small rural community in Northern Portage County. Christine is fairly new to the field of early care and education and is currently working on her Child Development Associate credential. Recognizing how important literacy and pre-reading skills are for young children, Christine presented her Good Idea to purchase a portable library and media center for her small preschool. This media center would allow all children in the preschool to access some new books during school time; as well as, encourage children to take a book home and share with their families. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education, "reading to young children promotes language acquisition and literacy development and, later on, achievement in reading comprehension and overall success in school. The percentage of young children read aloud to daily by a family member is one indicator of how well young children are prepared for school." From Reading is Fundamental, Family Reading Fast Facts.

Resources for Early Childhood Educators

Welcome to a new service provided by the Akron-Summit County Public Library with support from Akron Community Foundation. This new service provides a Lab housed at Main Library and collections of teacher resources housed at all 17 branches and Main Library for teachers to borrow.

The Lab is housed in the Children's Library and will be hosting the September 24th A.A.A.E.Y.C. meeting. The Lab contains equipment for use by early childhood educators to create materials for their classrooms. Users will find Ellison Die Cut machines, laminators and binding machines. There is a small charge for paper, laminating film and binding supplies but you may bring your own paper for the Ellison. For questions about the Lab call 330.643.9050.

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The circulating teacher resources include a parent/teacher collection of books on a wide variety of subject areas and contain activities to enhance your classroom. Kits for Kids are theme based kits that contain 6 related books, a DVD or CD and some extension activities. And of course there are 100s of wonderful picture books sure to enhance any unit.

We hope to see you September 24 so you can explore the riches the Resources for Early Childhood Educators service has to offer.

Congratulations to these programs, administrators and teachers for their dedication in striving to provide quality child care programming to the young children in our community.

Center Recognitions

A.A.A.E.Y.C. recognizes that many programs may be participating in **Step Up to Quality**, the star rating system developed by the Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services. This process has many stages and A.A.A.E.Y.C. recognizes that some programs are in the beginning steps to becoming star rated, some programs may be waiting for verification, or awaiting the results of their verification visit. [Please check the A.A.A.E.Y.C. web site for the current list.](#)

A.A.A.E.Y.C. would like to acknowledge the following Centers that are **NAEYC accredited**.

A.A.A.E.Y.C. recognizes that some centers may in the process of accreditation, waiting for verification, or awaiting the results of their verification visit. The list below contains programs that are on the National Association for the Education of Young Children accredited list in July 2009. [Please check the A.A.A.E.Y.C. web site for the current list](#)

A.A.A.E.Y.C. wishes to extend Congratulations to these programs, administrators and teachers for their dedication in striving to provide quality child care programming to the young children in our community.

For information about Step Up to Quality, please visit the ODJFS website at:

www.jfs.ohio.gov/cdc/stepUpQuality.stm

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Check the NAEYC website for information about the accreditation process,

www.naeyc.org/academy/

A.A.A.E.Y.C. Marilyn Parks Scholarship Recipient

And the winner of the **A.A.A.E.Y.C. Marilyn Parks Scholarship** is.....**Kylie Bakle**. Kylie attends the University of Akron, majoring in Early Childhood Education, with a minor in Child Development and a Reading Endorsement. Kylie's future plans include student teaching in Las Vegas, Nevada at Ronzone Elementary this fall and graduating in December 2009. She currently works with the Pre-K class at Summa Bright Horizons, where she has been employed for the last 2 ½ years. Kylie hopes to continue her journey with Bright Horizons and working at the center in the Venetian. Congratulations Kylie!!!

A.A.A.E.Y.C

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Our Vision

A.A.A.E.Y.C. Strives to lead and consolidate the efforts of individuals and groups working to achieve healthy development and constructive education for all young children.

Our Mission

A.A.A.E.Y.C.'s mission is to serve and act on behalf of the needs, rights and well-being of all young children and their families in Summit Portage and Medina counties of Ohio with special emphasis on the developmental and educational services and resources; and to foster the growth and development of the membership in their work with an don behalf of young children.

**Express your voice,
Engage in a professional
community,
Influence the future of Early
Childhood**