

# Winter/Spring 2012

## Joliet Area AEYC

January 2012

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## Calling All Leaders!

by Jennifer Brosnahan, JAAEYC President

### Calling All Leaders!

For 34 years, JAAEYC has served all young children and their families in the Joliet area. We foster the growth and professional development of our members; we enhance professionalism through scholarship, advocacy, and networking of all persons dedicated to the field of early care and education; and we strive to inform and educate the general public by advocating for the needs and components of quality in both early care and education.

When I volunteered to be on the board three years ago, JAAEYC was on the verge of dissolution. Members were asked to volunteer on the

Board of Directors and various committees. Well, we've come a long way since 2008! Our board was revitalized and innovative, the website was built, and just last year we had our 15<sup>th</sup> Annual "Limit Is the Sky!" Mini-Conference!

I am requesting all members consider volunteering on a committee or the board to secure the success of JAAEYC.

-Jennifer Brosnahan  
President of JAAEYC

**"Coming together is a beginning;  
keeping together is progress;  
working together is success."**

**-Henry Ford**

For our organization to thrive, we need members to be active, to participate on the Board of Directors or on a committee. The success of JAAEYC depends on you!

*Please note: Members who serve on the board may apply for the Membership Scholarship; those renewing or considering obtaining your Illinois Director's Credential (IDC) will be completing a professional contribution.*



Illinois AEYC Statewide Growing Futures Conference 2012  
SAVE THE DATE: September 20-22, 2012  
Springfield Abraham Lincoln Hotel & Conference Center / PCCC

Route 66 Festival is at same time as the conference so book your hotel rooms early!

President Abraham Lincoln Hotel, 701 East Adams, Springfield, IL 62701

Call 217-544-8800 to secure your room (Single and Double \$109.99, Triple \$124.99, Quad \$129.99 + tax). Hotel block is on a first come, first serve basis. You will need to specify that you want a room in the Illinois AEYC Room Block to get the above rates.

Keynote Speakers include: Lilian Katz and Daniel Hodgins

### JAAEYC's Executive Officers:

Jennifer Brosnahan, President  
(815) 545-9750

[jbrosnahan@jaaeyc.org](mailto:jbrosnahan@jaaeyc.org)

Randi McLuckie, Secretary  
(815) 634-8815

[mcluckie5@gmail.com](mailto:mcluckie5@gmail.com)

Diane Morrow, Treasurer  
(815) 729-3735

[dln@mc.net](mailto:dln@mc.net)

A complete list of board members can be found online: <http://jaaeyc.org/board>

## Maria Whelan Named to Mayor's Early Learning Executive Council

November 15, 2012 Illinois Action for Children

Find out how you can make a difference! Advocate! Go to <http://illinoisaeyc.org/action-alerts> to sign up for action alerts. You can also go to <http://www.actforchildren.org> to learn more about Illinois Action for Children.



Illinois Action for Children President and CEO Maria Whelan is among 10 education and human services leaders who have been named by Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel to his new Early Learning Executive Council.

This council will work together to implement Mayor Emanuel's new early childhood education initiatives, including a 5-Star

Quality Rating Improvement System (QRIS) for all city-funded preschool programs, in an effort to serve the most at-risk children with high-quality programs and increase transparency and accountability of the City and individual programs.

The members of the executive council are: Jean-Claude Brizard (Chief Executive Officer of Chicago Public Schools); Bechara Choucair (Commissioner of the Chicago Department of Public Health); Evelyn Diaz (Commissioner of The Department of Family and Support Services); Ric Estrada (President and CEO of Metropolitan Family Services); Janine H. Lewis (Executive Director of the Illinois Maternal and Child Health Coalition); Samuel J. Meisels (President of Erikson

Institute); Diana Rauner (President of the Ounce of Prevention Fund); Jesse Ruiz (Vice President of the Chicago Board of Education); Elizabeth Swanson (Deputy Chief of Staff for Education, City of Chicago); and Maria Whelan (President and CEO of Illinois Action for Children).



## How is your Early Childhood Career growing?



Are you interested in taking the next step on your Early Childhood career path? Are you wondering about the process of achieving Gateways ECE credentials? Are you considering taking college courses to continue your education? Have you taken classes at JJC, but have not finished your degree and/ or applied for credentials?

Did you know that Joliet

Junior College is an entitled institution for Gateways ECE and Infant/Toddler credentials? On March 10, 2012 there will be a "lunch and learn" session at JJC for individuals who are considering Gateways credentials, Associate degrees, and certificates.

This meeting will take place immediately after the JAAEYC conference, from 1:00-2:00 PM. A light lunch

will be served to the first 50 participants, but pre-registration is REQUIRED before March 3, 2012.

For more information on how to help your career "flourish" and to register for this FREE session, please contact Melissa Szymczak, JJC Asst. Professor at 815-280-2433 or [mszymcza@jjc.edu](mailto:mszymcza@jjc.edu) (Registration will not be taken by JAAEYC)





REGISTRATION IS NOW AVAILABLE FOR JAAEYC'S 16<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL

## "LIMIT IS THE SKY!" CHILD CARE MINI-CONFERENCE

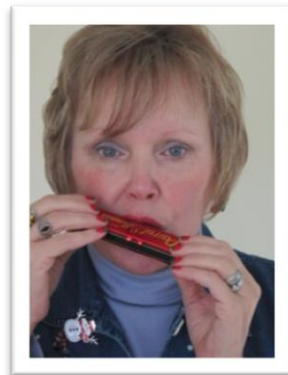
ON SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 2012 FROM 7:00AM-1:00PM

AT JOLIET JUNIOR COLLEGE MAIN CAMPUS

### KEYNOTE PRESENTATION

#### "Potpourri of Music" with Kerri Nolan

Sing and move!! Miss Kerri will have you movin' with the music. Increase the fun factor with her playful, creative examples for using music, rhythm, and props. Collect bright ideas for making your music plans. Acquire key music facts to pass on. Come, Sing, Move, and Learn during this musical potpourri.



*About the Presenter: Kerri L. Nolan has presented numerous workshops, concerts and keynotes to help early childhood providers really get a better understanding of how to incorporate music and feel comfortable as they engage children in their classrooms. Kerri has her Master's in Early Childhood Education, and continues her training in music to give the most up to date information on music. Kerri says, "Music is a passion of mine and I love sharing it with children, parents, and teachers!"*

### BREAKOUT SESSIONS

*"Move Your Boogie Body" with Tamara Notter*

*"Are You Lost in the Missing Zone? Become a more organized you with the Gateways Registry" with Mark Obuchowski*

*"Multicultural Make & Taste" with Linda Braam*

*"Summertime Activities" with Sherry Ann Wolfer*

*"Creative Art" with Sherry Ann Wolfer*

*"Language & Literacy for Infants & Toddlers" with Rebecca Kroiss*

*"Creating Healthy Indoor Environments for Children" with Jack Barnette*

More breakout sessions will be announced soon.

Registration is available online! Please register at

[JAAEYC.org](http://JAAEYC.org)

Contact Jennifer Brosnahan (815) 545-9750 for more information or to register by phone.

### SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS OF "LIMIT IS THE SKY!"



## JAAEYC Updates

Interested in serving on the board or committee? Job descriptions and committee descriptions are now available for all who are interested in serving on the JAAEYC board.

For more information, or to view the descriptions, email [info@jaaeyc.org](mailto:info@jaaeyc.org) For a copy by mail, call Jennifer Brosnahan at (815) 545-9750.

Make a difference! Complete the nomination application today!

Have you attended a conference or training that you would like reimbursement for? JAAEYC offers Professional Development Mini-Grants to its members! Call Diane at (815) 729-3735 for more information or to download the application at [jaaeyc.org/scholarships](http://jaaeyc.org/scholarships)

Scholarships are also available to students at Joliet Junior College who have attended Child Development classes. These scholarships

are in the form of reimbursements. To apply, download the application at [jaaeyc.org/scholarships](http://jaaeyc.org/scholarships)



## Upcoming Events

### “Special Care Training” with Tamara Notter

Saturday, March 3rd, 8:00AM-4:30PM at Rasmussen College in Romeoville

Register by calling Tamara Notter 815-741-1163 ext. 226

### “Limit Is the Sky!”

16<sup>th</sup> Annual Mini-Conference

Sat., March 10, 2012

7:00AM-1:00PM at

JJC Main Campus

More information on page 3 of this newsletter!

### Recognition Night “Words to Affirm, Guide, Support, & Inspire” with Mary Wonderlick

Fri., April 13th, 6:00-9:00PM

More information on page 5 of this newsletter. Register online at [JAAEYC.org](http://JAAEYC.org)

### Week Of the Young Child

**Event:** on Sun., April 22nd, 8:30AM-12:30PM at Joliet Park District, 3000 West Jefferson in Joliet More information coming soon. Please save the date!

### “Stewards of Children”

Tue., April 24th, 6:00-8:30P & a repeat training on Wed., April 25th, 9:30A-12:00P at Rasmussen College in Romeoville. Register by calling Tamara Notter 815-741-1163 ext. 226

Co-Sponsored by:



WILL GRUNDY KENDALL KANKAKEE COUNTIES

### Caravan to Creativity

Sat., May 5th, 8:30AM-12:30PM

The caravan will be meeting to carpool at 8:10AM. Locations to be announced.



## Science: Water and Ice in the Winter!

Let's have some fun with science this winter!

Check out the JAAEYC Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/jaaeyc](http://www.facebook.com/jaaeyc) for links to YouTube videos of “Watching A Bubble Freeze”, “Dry Ice Bubble”, “Blowing Frozen Bubbles”, “Shooting A Super Soaker in the Cold”, “-110 degrees

meets 210 degrees”, and “Sledding On A Frozen Towel”.

Have a science activity you want to share? Post the idea on our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/jaaeyc](http://www.facebook.com/jaaeyc) or email it to [info@jaaeyc.org](mailto:info@jaaeyc.org)



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**JAAEYC is dedicated to improving the well-being of all young children, with particular focus on the quality of educational and developmental services for all children from birth through age eight.**



## Coming up in 2012

### Joliet Area AEYC Recognition Night with the inspirational Mary Wonderlick!

Fri., April 13, 6:00-9:00PM at Joliet Junior College Main Campus, Rm. A-1002, in Joliet

-Cost: \$20 for members and students; \$25 non-members  
 -3 Contact Hours  
 -Registration required.  
 Registration is available online at JAAEYC.org  
 Call Jennifer (815)545-9750 for more information.

### Play: Where Learning Begins *Week Of the Young Child Event*

Sun., April 22, 2:00-4:00PM at Joliet Park District Multipurpose Center in Joliet.

### Caravan to Creativity

Saturday, May 5, 2012, 8:30AM-12:30PM  
 The Caravan is meeting to carpool at 8:10AM.  
 Locations to be announced.  
 Don't be late!



If you want the faces of your students to look like those above, don't miss out on our Caravan to Creativity! Tour other child care facilities and get fresh ideas to use in your classroom!  
 More information coming soon!

