



The Early Childhood Professional

A quarterly publication of the Nevada Association for the Education of Young Children

Volume 3, Issue 1

June, 2008

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ECE Goes Green!
We all have those cloth tote bags from conferences we have attended. How about digging them out of the closet and using them for grocery shopping instead of plastic bags? The small things can add up when we work together to save our planet!

Membership in Nevada AEYC

NevAEYC would like to welcome all new members to our organization. We also appreciate all continuing members. Together we can strengthen the Early Care and Education community. NevAEYC is committed to providing programs and services that meet your professional needs. The 2008 NevAEYC Annual Early Childhood Conference held in Las Vegas, April 10-12 provided members with excellent opportunities to network and gain professional development. NevAEYC especially appreciates all of the conference attendees that completed the 2008 ECE Questionnaire. A summary of the information from the questionnaire will be shared in a future newsletter. The information from the questionnaire will also be used by the NevAEYC board as they develop and plan new programs.

If you haven't already, we hope you will discover the value of your membership by accessing the following member services:

Information: www.naeyc.org is the place to go for news and information on early childhood education. Shop for the latest resources at discounted member prices or access professional development resources including *Beyond the Journal*.

Education: Plan to attend the NAEYC 2008 Annual Conference and Expo, November 5-8, 2008 in Dallas, Texas for a great professional development experience. Or, attend Nevada's statewide ECE Conference, to be held in Reno April 2-4, 2009 at the Grand Sierra Resort.

Networking: Attend local and state events to make friends, build professional relationships, and have fun! For information on events in Southern Nevada, contact Jessie Torrero, SNAEYC President at snaeycpres@gmail.com or in Northern Nevada, contact Margaret Oberg at Granmuna@yahoo.com

You can also exchange ideas with other early childhood professionals throughout the United States through NAEYC Interest Forums and Web-based NAEYC Online communities. Go to www.naeyc.org to sign up. Subscribe to one of our NevAEYC listservs to network with Nevada's ECE community and receive our state affiliate news and information.

We hope you will find value in your membership as you receive the **Young Children** journal and participate in local and state events. If you would like to become more involved in NevAEYC as a committee member contact Teresa Byington, V.P. of Memberhip at byingtont@unce.unr.edu

NevAEYC currently has 628 members (175 comprehensive, 349 regular and 104 student members).

Help us grow by encouraging other ECE professionals to join NAEYC. Joining is easy, just follow the membership links at www.naeyc.org/membership or call NAEYC at 1-800-424-2460, extension 2002.

For more information on NevAEYC visit our website at www.nevaeyc.org.

Have a Heart for Foster Care and Adoption in Washoe County

Starting May 5, 2008 Washoe County Social Services has launched a new media campaign designed to increase community awareness of the many needs of foster and adoptive children in our community. This campaign provides information about the need for foster and adoptive homes. Perhaps you've already seen ads on television or elsewhere in the community? There is a difference from past awareness campaigns, including additional information about how members of the community can help support these children in other ways, such as volunteering, donation of in-kind goods, and providing cash donations if they wish. According to Binnie Lopez, Supervisor of Recruitment and Training for Washoe County Social Services, "What we have come to realize in our work with the public relations firm we hired, the Glenn Group, is that many people will reach out to meet the needs of these children, however, if we limit their ability to help only to becoming a foster or adoptive parent we may lose a strong resource to help our children."

The campaign can be seen on local billboards, television, print ads and heard on radio stations. The visual media depicts children from a variety of age ranges, genders, and cultural backgrounds. Their faces, however, are unseen to show that this could be any child in our community, perhaps even a child you know, who needs help. A foundational element to the campaign is the new website www.haveaheartnv.org, which serves as a gateway into our Washoe County web pages devoted to foster care, adoption, and other ways to help.

2008 NevAEYC Annual Conference a Great Success Planning Committee for 2009 Conference is Under Way!

The 2008 NevAEYC Annual ECE Conference was attended by over 500 people in Las Vegas last spring. Many thanks to all those who helped plan the conference, volunteered, presented sessions, and attended the event. This was one of the most successful conferences ever!

Planning for the 2009 NevAEYC Conference has begun! The conference dates, location, and theme have been established; committees are forming and there is still time to get involved! If you would like to serve on any of the following committees, please email your contact information and the committee of interest to wleathers@dwss.nv.gov.

Volunteers are needed for the following committees: exhibitors, clean up, fundraising/sponsorship, presenters, proposals, public policy/advocacy, public relations, registration, reception, logistics, and volunteers.

We look forward to seeing you in Reno at next years NevAEYC Conference. Save these dates!

2009 NevAEYC Annual ECE Conference
"Planting the Seeds to Grow a Green Future"
April 2nd – 4th
Grand Sierra Resort in Reno

We're delighted to announce that this year's keynote will be none other than
Greg and Steve!

Local Affiliate News

Reno AEYC



The Reno AEYC once again sponsored the Walk for Children in celebration of Week of the Young Child. A Director's Luncheon was held in Carson City June 3rd. Cindy Johnson represented the Reno AEYC at the Western States Leadership Network (WSLN) in June.

~ In Memoriam ~

Many of you may know and love the music of Tom Hunter. Tom was a song-writer and long-time ECE advocate. Sadly, Tom passed away June 20th from a rare form of a rapidly progressing neurodegenerative disease called Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease. Tom will be deeply missed and the ECE community sends his family our heartfelt thoughts and prayers.
<http://www.tomhunter.com>

UNR Student Organization

UNR NevAEYC



As the 2007 – 2008 semester came to a close, elections were held in April. New board members have been elected. We are all excited for new events in the coming year and to be involved in the coming events.

The UNR Student Organization is pleased to announce our new board members!

President: Heidi Wilhelm
VP of Programming: Vanessa Ralston
VP of Membership: Lauren Bentley
Secretary: Lisa Cohen
Treasurer: Sarah Hubbs

Announcing the Nevada Association for the Education of Young Children

Emerging Leaders Scholarship Application for Comprehensive Membership

NevAEYC is interested in identifying and recruiting emerging leaders in the field of early childhood education. Head Start or Early Head Start staff (managers and teachers), participants in Nevada's Child Care Apprenticeship and T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood ® Nevada programs and college students majoring in Early Childhood Education (ECE, HDFS) are encouraged to apply.

What will you receive?

- * A one-year comprehensive membership to NAEYC, which includes all the benefits of regular membership plus five new books from NAEYC throughout the year (a \$90 value)
- * Priority to attend NevAEYC pre-conference day at the Nevada Legislature during the 2009 conference in Reno!

In return, recipients agree to provide leadership in some way during the year following their "Emerging Leaders" scholarship. Applications will be reviewed by a NevAEYC committee and are due no later than September 15, 2008. Applications can be found on the NevAEYC website, www.nevaeyc.org. For details contact Margot Chappel, (775) 830-7275, or mchappel@dhhs.nv.gov

Families First Conference 2009: "Imagine The Possibilities"



Nevada's Conference for Families of Children and Young Adults
with Disabilities or Special Health Care Needs,
and The Professionals Who Support Them

MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!!!
Friday, October 2nd & Saturday, October 3rd

Joe Crowley Student Union, University of Nevada, Reno

More information at www.familiesfirstnv.org

Or call Project ASSIST at 1-800-522-0066

The 2009 conference will provide information benefiting families, administrators, advocates, medical professionals, educators, caregivers, policymakers, and others providing support and care for children or young adults with disabilities or special health care needs.

- Learn from national and local speakers on various topics of interest, such as early intervention, education, recreation, health care, mental health, building community, family support, inclusion and transition.
- Participate in discussions facilitated by advocates and parents.
- Meet, network and make connections with other families and professionals.
- Work collaboratively to strengthen ties and enhance family support.
- Examine the products and services offered by various organizations in the exhibit hall.

Congratulations to Board President Christine Matiash, and her new husband, Hans de Groot, who were married May 25th. The couple exchanged vows on the beach in Barbados at sunset. We wish Christine and Hans a lifetime of love and happiness!



2008 Board Members

Christine Matiash, President
cmatiash@dwss.nv.gov

Peggy Pulver, President-Elect
2009 Conference Co-Chair
ppulver@washoe.k12.nv.us

Heather McEnulty, Secretary
hmcenulty@juno.com

Debra Tarantino, Treasurer
Finance Committee Chair
Tara6576@msn.com

Shelly Nye, Treasurer-Elect
snye@washoe.k12.nv.us

Sue Turbow, VP of Prof. Development
Prof. Development Committee Chair
turbow@charter.net

Margot Chappel, VP of Public Policy
Public Policy Committee Chair
mchappel@dhhs.nv.gov

Teresa Byington, VP of Membership
Membership Committee Chair
byingtont@UNCE.unr.edu

Crystal Swank, VP of Comm & Tech
Comm & Tech Committee Chair
cswank@tmcc.edu

Catherine Lyons, Past-President
Affiliate Council Representative
catherine.lyons@unlv.edu

Sherry Waugh, Member At-Large
Accreditation Chair
swaugh@unr.edu

Alice LeDesma, Member At-Large
Nominations Committee Chair
aledesma@washoecounty.us

Anna Severns, Member At-Large
Development Committee Chair
aseverns@doe.nv.gov

Margaret Oberg, President
RAEYC Representative
granmuna@yahoo.com

Jessi Torrerro, President
SNAEYC Representative
snaeycpres@gmail.com

Whitney Leathers
2009 Conference Co-Chair
wleathers@dwss.nv.gov

Ex-Officio Members:

Heidi Wilhelm, President
UNR Student Group

Ikaika Regidor, President
UNLV Student Group
ikaika.regidor@unlv.edu

NevAEYC
P.O. Box 4988
Sparks, NV 89432
www.nevaeyc.org

NevAEYC Governing Board News

(Right) The 2007-08 Governing Board at the Board Retreat at Zephyr Cove, Lake Tahoe.



The NevAEYC Governing Board meets on a monthly basis, alternating between Reno and Las Vegas throughout the year. Meetings dates are posted to the calendar on the NevAEYC website. Members are welcome to attend board

meetings, agenda items may be sent to the Board President two weeks in advance of each meeting. Meeting minutes are also posted on the website.

Elections for the Governing Board are held in the fall of each year. To nominate an individual for a board position and/or volunteer to serve on the board or board committee, please contact the Nominations Committee Chair and/or the VP of Membership.

Bylaws for the Governing Board are reviewed and revised as needed annually. The bylaws are also posted to the NevAEYC website.

The NevAEYC Governing Board has the following standing committees:

- Development
- Governance
- Finance
- Public Policy
- Accreditation
- Membership
- Nominations
- Professional Development
- Annual Conference
- Communication and Technology
- Personnel

Each committee is chaired by a member of the Governing Board. Members who are interesting in participating on a committee are encouraged to contact the committee chair. For complete information on Standing Committees, see the NevAEYC website.

*The Early Childhood Professional is an **electronic** quarterly publication of the Nevada Association for the Education of Young Children. Newsletters are published according to the following schedule.*

Deadline

October 15th
January 15th
April 15th
July 15th

Publication Date

November 15th
February 15th
May 15th
August 15th

Submissions for the newsletter should be sent as a simple Word document to cswank@tmcc.edu. The NevAEYC reserves the right to edit contributions for length and content.