



Delaware Association for the  
Education of Young Children



Delaware  
Head Start  
Association, Inc.

present

**The First Annual**  
***Making a Difference:***  
***A Conference for Early Childhood Professionals***

*In collaboration with the Delaware Department of Education, Early Development and Learning Resources and the Delaware Institute for Excellence in Early Childhood*

**Friday and Saturday, March 30 & 31, 2012**

**Delaware Technical & Community College, Terry Campus, Dover**

*About our Friday  
Keynote Speaker...*

**Gigi  
Schweikert**



Gigi Schweikert is the author of twelve published books on early childhood education and parenting. Her latest book series, *Winning Ways*, includes three new resources: *Partnering with Families*, *Being a Professional*, and *Becoming a Team Player*. Gigi also wrote *Prime Times: A Handbook for Excellence in Infant and Toddlers Programs*, with Jim Greenman and Anne Stonehouse. In addition to publishing several books on parenting, Gigi contributes to periodicals and journals including Head Start's *Children and Families*, *eFamily News*, *Northwest Baby & Child*, *Cricket Magazine* and *Exchange*.

Gigi has over twenty-five years of experience in early childhood education. She managed the Johnson & Johnson Early Education Programs and directed the United Nations Child Care -Center in New York City where she attended Bank Street College of Education. Gigi lives in Hunterdon County, New Jersey with her husband and four children. Teaching educators and parents to help every child succeed is Gigi's life passion.

*About our Saturday  
Keynote Speaker...*

**Bob  
McGrath**

*(Bob from Sesame Street)*



Bob McGrath shares his warmth and wisdom gained from over 40 years of experience as an original host on *Sesame Street*. He provides his insight from working with children on *Sesame Street*, performing in hundreds of concerts for young audiences and presenting interactive workshops and keynotes for early childhood educators throughout the country. In addition to his role on *Sesame Street*, Bob is a successful author, recording artist and concert performer. In 1996, Bob was honored by the National Music Council with the American Eagle Award for his support of music education in the United States. *"I believe that music is the key to communication between people of all ages, everywhere."*

***We would like to thank the following sponsors:***

**Delaware Department of Education  
Delaware Maternal and Child Health Bureau  
Teaching Strategies, Inc.  
Nemours Health and Prevention Services  
PNC Bank, Inc.  
The United Way of Delaware**

# Friday Conference Schedule

8:00 - 8:45 a.m. . . . . Registration and Exhibits  
8:45 - 10:15 a.m. . . . . Workshop Session A  
10:30 - 10:45 a.m. . . . . Welcome  
10:45 - 11:45 a.m. . . . . Keynote  
*The Power of One Positive Person*  
*Gigi Schweikert*  
11:45 - 12:45 p.m. . . . . Lunch & Exhibits  
1:00 - 2:30 p.m. . . . . Workshop Session B  
2:45 - 4:15 p.m. . . . . Workshop Session C  
4:30 - 6:30 p.m. . . . . Social - Networking Event

## Session A

### A-1 Playground Safety and the Childcare Provider (G)

It is important for children to have the opportunity to play safely. Find out the answers to the following questions: How do you design an age appropriate playground? How do you provide proper surfacing under and around the playground? How do you properly maintain playgrounds? What does CPSC stand for?

*Daniel Eisenhart, Owner, Green Lane Contractors*  
*Paul Becker, VP Sales, Becker's School Supplies*

### A-2 Reading Aloud: Building Vocabulary and Comprehension for Young Children (T)

Research indicates that reading aloud can both encourage a love of reading and the development of comprehension and vocabulary. Presenters will share the "big ideas" from the research and will demonstrate the application of the "big ideas" enhancing the use of reading aloud in your classroom. Come learn and apply the ideas in your classroom!

*Sarah Williams, Montessori Teacher, Wilmington Montessori School*  
*Linda S. Zankowsky, Head of School, Wilmington Montessori School*

In order to make it easier for you to identify workshops that meet your specific needs and interests, the following letters (designated after each workshop title) indicate the audience for whom the workshop is most appropriate:

*I* - infant providers                      *FCC* - family child care providers  
*T* - toddler providers                    *D* - directors and administrators  
*PS* - preschool providers              *G* - general audience  
*SA* - school-age providers

### A-3 "Hey Teacher! Look What I Did!" Promoting Science Play During Water Play (PS)

Children are curious. Children love to explore water. This makes water play a perfect way for children and teachers to think like scientists, to extend children's natural curiosity and begin to support emerging inquiry skills. In this session, participants will learn ways to promote science inquiry through focused water explorations. **This is a double session workshop. Participants must register for A-3 and B-3.**

*Cynthia Paris, Associate Professor, University of Delaware*  
*Laura Morris, Master Teacher, University of Delaware, Lab Preschool*

### A-4 School Age Environment: Planning and Implementing Enriching Activities (SA)

This workshop is designed for staff who work in before and after school programs. Time will be spent discussing how to plan, schedule, and use transitions to enhance the school age environment. In addition, easy to develop activities in art, science, and math will be presented. **This is a double session workshop. Participants must register for A-4 and B-4.**

*Patti Lynch, Technical Assistant, Children & Families First*  
*Christina Joe, Technical Assistant, Children & Families First*

### A-5 Improving Nutrition Quality in Delaware Child Care (T,PS,D)

This session will cover the Delaware CACFP/Delaware Rules on nutrition in child care centers and family child care homes. Participants will learn how to create CACFP approved menus and identify products that meet the rules. **This is a double session workshop. Participants must register for A-5 and B-5**

*Stefanie Van Stan, Social Scientist, Nemours Health and Prevention Services*  
*Gina Celano, Program & Policy Analyst, Nemours Health and Prevention Services*

- A-6 The Place and the Space (Creating Environments for Infants and Toddlers) (I,T)**  
 Infant and toddler environments should reflect a space that is efficient for care giving routines and at the same time appropriate for play exploration. In this session, the designing and setting up of infant and toddler care spaces that are simple, comfortable, safe and developmentally appropriate will be explored.  
*Dorit Radnai-Griffin, Coach-Mentor, University of DE, New Directions Early Head Start*  
*Polly Lung, Lead Teacher, University of DE, Early Learning Center, Wilmington*
- A-7 DISCO STEM (Discovering – Investigating – Simulating & Creating Opportunities for Science – Technology – Engineering & Mathematics) InVenTures (PS)**  
 DISCO STEM InVenTures is a training session for teachers and parents of young children. The session helps participants learn how to integrate science, technology, engineering, and mathematics by engaging children’s natural abilities to be inventors. Today’s session contains both hands on and evidence based InVenTures for children as architects, chemists and entomologists.  
*Akil K. Rahim, Chief Learning Officer & Creative Consultant, AKRA – AC Learning Designs Studios*
- A-8 Delaware Stars – Pathways to Quality (D, FCC)**  
 This session will provide a general overview of Delaware Stars for Early Success. Learn how Stars works and how the program can benefit your center or family child care program. Directors and family child care providers currently participating will talk about their experiences.  
*Rena Hallam, Associate Professor, University of Delaware*
- A-9 An Introduction to the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) (PS,D)**  
 The Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) is a tool for observing and assessing the qualities of interactions among teachers and children in classrooms. Participants will gain an understanding of the CLASS, its various uses, and teacher-child interactions that support children’s learning. Additionally, participants will explore the steps necessary to design a coordinated approach in which the use of CLASS for evaluation and monitoring and for professional development is integrated with the systems of which they are a part.  
*Takeisha Edmonds, Project Coordinator, Nemours Healthy Kids Project, Delaware Institute for Excellence in Early Childhood*
- A-10 Let’s Talk! Discussing Sexuality with Your Child: What to Say and When to Say It (PS, SA)**  
 Discussing sexuality with youth sometimes brings about feelings of apprehension and anxiety for parents. This workshop will help to alleviate those concerns by discussing how to talk about sexuality in age appropriate and effective ways, including how to answer those difficult (and sometimes embarrassing) sex questions. ***This is a double session workshop. Participants must register for A-10 and B-10.***  
*Catherine Dukes, Ph.D., VP of Education and Training, Planned Parenthood of Delaware*  
*Rebecca Roberts, M.Ed., Education and Training Manager, Planned Parenthood of Delaware*
- A-11 Working With English Language Learners in Early Childhood (PS)**  
 A significant number of preschoolers entering Delaware early childhood programs are English Language Learners (ELL). Are you prepared to support their learning and to partner with their families? Are you unsure of how to go about the dual language learning process? This session will facilitate your understanding of ELL students and our role as teachers.  
*Andrea Elling, Special Education Preschool Teacher, Cape Henlopen School District*
- A-12 Big Science for Little Hands (PS,SA)**  
 This workshop will focus on fun, literature-based science experiments that use simple, inexpensive items from your kitchen. Discover how the science activities discussed will help you create a stimulating learning environment in your classroom. This session will explain how these exciting, hands-on activities help children make predictions, observe and explore the world around them.  
*Mariah Romaninsky, Education Manager, Delaware Museum of Natural History*
- A-13 Predictable Routines (I,T)**  
 Interacting with babies during caregiver routines is the foundation for teachers’ relationships with babies. In this session, participants will discuss how to carry out routines in a consistent and caring manner, which in turn will create opportunities for rich interactions as well as support babies’ various developmental needs.  
*Peggy Sudler, Program Coordinator, University of DE, New Directions Early Head Start*  
*Megan Barolet-Fogarty, Graduate Assistant, University of DE, New Directions Early Head Start*

## **A-14 Overview of the Teaching Strategies GOLD (I,T,PS,D)**

Teaching strategies GOLD is a computerized assessment system for children birth through kindergarten. Come learn how it is used to plan curriculum that is aligned with the Early Learning Foundations. You will see how the system can be individualized to track the progress of each child.

*Tim Reed, Implementation Coordinator, Teaching Strategies, Inc.*

### **KEYNOTE ADDRESS: GiGi Schwiekert The Power of One Positive Person**

Have you ever thought about the incredible power you have to make a positive difference in the lives of those around you? The positive choices you make each day, the ways in which you help others, and even your smile can change the course of a day, and in some situations, the course of a life. Join us for this informational and humorous keynote session that will renew your spirit and affirm your commitment to working with young children and their families. One positive person does make a difference. Is that positive person you? It can be.

**Continental breakfast and lunch will be available to all conference registrants. Lunch will include a hot buffet; including vegetarian entrée choices. There will be juices, coffee, and water available at meal times as well as during the day.**

## **Session B**

### **B-1 “Who Made Me Boss?” Tips for Supervisors (D)**

Are you wondering, “How did I get here? Why am I the supervisor?” If you’re like most of us, you entered this profession to work with children, not necessarily adults. And here you are, a supervisor, responsible for making sure others do what they’re supposed to do, making sure others get to work on time, and making sure others work well with children. Supervising other adults can be the hardest part of an educator’s job. Join us for this fun, motivating session and learn how to become a better leader. Discover tips to inspire your staff to be the best they can be.

*Gigi Schwiekert, Keynote Speaker*

### **B-2 Heart Healthy Active Centers in Your School Age Program (SA)**

Need hands-on activities specifically focused on school age or mixed aged programs? This session will lead you through prop boxes, active games and easy to use ideas that can be implemented the first day you return to your program. These centers align with Delaware Stars and the SACERS guidelines.

*Pam Kennedy, Associate Executive Director, Western Family YMCA- YMCA of Delaware*

### **B-3 “Hey Teacher! Look What I Did!” Promoting Science Play During Water Play (PS)**

*This is the second part of a double workshop. Participants must register for both sessions A-3 and B-3. See A-3 for workshop description.*

*Cynthia Paris, Associate Professor, University of Delaware  
Laura Morris, Master Teacher, University of Delaware, Lab Preschool*

### **B-4 School Age Environment: Planning and Implementing Enriching Activities (SA)**

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*Patti Lynch, Technical Assistant, Children & Families First  
Christina Joe, Technical Assistant, Children & Families First*

### **B-5 Improving Nutrition Quality in Delaware Child Care (T,PS,D)**

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*Stefanie Van Stan, Social Scientist, Nemours Health and Prevention Services*

*Gina Celano, Program & Policy Analyst, Nemours Health and Prevention Services*

### **B-6 Mathematics for STEM Thinking (PS, SA, D)**

Increasingly students will need higher level thinking skills in mathematics and higher level thinking skills in rational thought and logical choices. This workshop uses patterning, spatial thinking, listening, communicating, and other skills in order to provide these experiences to younger children. This workshop is oriented towards the very young, but the ideas presented (habits of mind) are applicable to all grade levels and all children.

*Dr. Ruth Collins, Professor of Mathematics Education, Graduate Division, Lincoln University*

**B-7 Healthy Habits for Life- Sesame Street Toolkit for Preschoolers (PS)**

In this hands on session, participants will explore the toolkit by playing its games and activities that help children learn about being healthy kids; nutritionally and physically. This easy to use resource will also provide preschool teachers with newsletters and activities to engage families.

*Diane Smith, Instructor, Delaware Institute for Excellence in Early Childhood*

**B-8 Department of Defense: Military Child Care Liaison Initiative (D)**

Delaware is one of 13 states selected by the Department of Defense in partnership with National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies to implement the Military Child Care Liaison Initiative. The purpose of the initiative is to expand the availability of quality, affordable community-based child care in Delaware for military families. Professional development opportunities are available for child care providers to support them in their work with military families. In addition collaborations with stakeholders are created to raise awareness of the child care needs of military families.

*Debra Taylor, Military Child Care Liaison, National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies*

**B-9 Using Data to Support Child Outcomes (G)**

Evidence based leaders collect information, analyze it and make positive program changes based on the information collected. Participants will explore ways to organize data collection and analysis into four strategic steps (identified by the National Center on Quality Teaching and Learning) that can support school readiness for all children.

*Takeisha Edmonds, Project Coordinator, Nemours Healthy Kids Project, Delaware Institute for Excellence in Early Childhood*

**B-10 Let's Talk! Discussing Sexuality with Your Child: What to Say and When to Say It (PS, SA)**

*This is the second part of a double workshop. Participants must register for both sessions A-10 and B-10. See A-10 for workshop description.*

*Catherine Dukes, Ph.D., VP of Education and Training, Planned Parenthood of Delaware*

*Rebecca Roberts, M.Ed., Education and Training Manager, Planned Parenthood of Delaware*

**B-11 Using a Unique Literacy Strategy to Help Children Develop Literacy Skills (PS)**

Dialogic reading is an interactive shared picture book reading practice designed to enhance young children's language and literacy skills. During the shared reading practice, the adult and the child switch roles so that the child learns to become the storyteller with the assistance of the adult who functions as an active listener and questioner. This session will help practitioners to gain skills as effective literacy educators. ***This is a double session workshop. Participants must register for B-11 and C-11.***

*Dr. Jim Lesko, Director, Early Development and Learning Resources, Delaware Department of Education*

**B-12 When the Baby Grows Up: Smooth Transitions from Child Development Watch to School Based Programs (I,T,PS,FCC,D)**

Participants learn the difference between Child Development Watch early intervention services and special education services in preschool and school based preschool settings. Participants will also understand the difference between an Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) and the Individualized Education Plan (IEP). This session will cover the new requirements for transition based on Part C legislation in place as of October 2011.

*Hazel Cole, Family School Partner, Parent Information Center of Delaware*

**B-13 Center Administrators and Staff: Staying in Compliance is Easier than You Think! (D)**

Does a visit from your Licensing Specialist have you in a tizzy? Staying in compliance with licensing regulations is not difficult; it just requires some careful attention to detail. Experienced staff from the Office of Child Care Licensing will review regulations for center administrators and staff and offer answers to your questions.

*Pamela Boyle, Licensing Specialist, Office of Childcare Licensing, State of Delaware*

*Sara Reedy, Licensing Specialist, Office of Childcare Licensing, State of Delaware*

**B-14 Overview of the Teaching Strategies GOLD (I,T,PS,D)**

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*Tim Reed, Implementation Coordinator, Teaching Strategies, Inc.*

# Session C

## **C-1 Overcoming Barriers: Helping Adults Succeed (D)**

Would you ever give up on helping a child succeed? Never! So why, as supervisors, are we so willing to throw up our hands in defeat when guiding adults? Assess your supervisory approach, discover ways to communicate your expectations more clearly, and help others overcome the barriers that keep them from succeeding. A must see workshop for anyone who works with adults and gets a little impatient sometimes.

*Gigi Schweikert, Keynote Speaker*

## **C-2 The Importance of Family Involvement (PS)**

Early care and education staff play a critical role in supporting children and families around social and emotional wellness. Participants will learn skills, tools and tips to support families of children with behavioral health challenges and how to use strength-based/culturally competent strategies to engage families in addressing these concerns.

*Janet Taylor-McDowell, Lead Family Contact, Delaware's B.E.S.T for Young Children and their Families, Division of Prevention and Behavioral Health Services, Delaware Children's Department*

## **C-3 Observation and Assessment of Young Children's Literacy Skills (T,PS,SA)**

This workshop focuses on the developmental goals for reading and writing for toddlers to 7 year olds which will frame teachers' observations of children. Also, it will introduce teachers to the Montessori use of observation combined with various assessment tools that help teachers learn more about individual children and provide program information across the early childhood program.

*Linda S. Zankowsky, Head of School, Wilmington Montessori School*

## **C-4 Child and Adult Care Food Program Priorities 2012 and Beyond (D,FCC)**

The Child and Adult Care Food Program has identified program growth, professional development and program integrity as major areas of focus for the foreseeable future. This session will address key components and activities planned in each area, and strategies that center and home based child care providers can use to maximize reimbursement and sustain good standing in the CACFP.

*David Bowman, Education Associate, Community Nutrition Programs, Delaware State Department of Education*

## **C-5 Letting Routines Work for You! Individualized Lesson Planning for Infants and Toddlers in a Multi-Age Setting (I,T)**

"Life is what happens to you while you're busy making other plans"...so true in an infant/toddler classroom! Participants will take a refreshing look at intentional, individualized experience planning for infants & toddlers incorporating routines, child/family goals and observations. Leave with a renewed sense of how your children can plan for you!

*Kelly Freel, Administrative Coordinator, University of Delaware, UD Early Learning Center, Wilmington/New Directions Early Head Start*

*Kristin Chandler, Teacher, University of Delaware, UD Early Learning Center, Wilmington/New Directions Early Head Start*

## **C-6 Staff Professional Development Planning for Directors/Administrators or Staff with Supervisory Responsibilities (D,FCC)**

This session will help participants understand the importance and benefits of professional development planning using the Delaware Competencies and licensing requirements. Participants will learn how to access knowledge and skill levels as well as identify goals to achieve higher level positions or types of training needed to improve specific skills and knowledge.

*Debra Taylor, Military Child Care Liaison, National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies*  
*Lynn E Jezyk, T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood Delaware Coordinator, Delaware Association for the Education of Young Children*

## **C-7 Teaching Phonological Awareness the "Phun" Way (PS)**

Take a look at the different learning styles of young children and gain insight on ways to incorporate phonological awareness in the preschool classroom using multisensory teaching techniques. This workshop will provide best practices and hands-on activities to use with young, diverse learners.

*Vera Meyerholtz, Early Literacy Teacher, Nemours BrightStart!*

## **C-8 Beyond the Basics of the ERS...Tips and Strategies to Prepare for an Environment Rating Scale Assessment (D, FCC)**

This training identifies common low-scoring areas on ERS assessments and provides tips and strategies to help prepare for an assessment, improve assessment scores, and work with staff to accomplish both. This training is geared toward administrators of programs currently in

or planning to enroll in Delaware Stars for Early Success.

*Nicole Hylton, Technical Assistance Coordinator, Delaware Institute for Excellence in Early Childhood*  
*Kim Pridemore, Program Manager, Delaware Technical & Community College Child Development Center*  
*Cheryl Clendaniel, Early Childhood Administrator, The Learning Center*

### **C-9 Developmentally Appropriate Assessment Strategies for Young Children (I,T,PS,FCC,D)**

This session will provide an overview of the different types of child assessment strategies appropriate for young children birth to five years. Participants will review the purposes of different types of assessments and how this type of information can inform their program and instructional planning.

*Rena Hallam, Associate Professor, University of Delaware*

### **C-10 Difficult Conversations (G)**

As an early childhood educator, you are often in the position of having to raise concerns or convey sensitive information to parents about their child. This can be a difficult and uncomfortable situation for everyone involved. This presentation will teach skills and strategies for enhancing communication between educators and parents.

*Lisa Masse, Ph.D., Clinical Lead, Early Childhood Mental Health Consultant, DPBHS*

### **C-11 Using a Unique Literacy Strategy to Help Children Develop Literacy Skills (PS)**

*This is the second part of a double workshop. Participants must register for both sessions B-11 and C-11. See B-11 for workshop description.*

*Dr. Jim Lesko, Director, Early Development and Learning Resources, Delaware Department of Education*

### **C-12 Supervising Early Childhood Staff: An Innovative Proven Approach to Getting Results (D)**

As a supervisor, what if you could get staff to self-regulate their behaviors, improve performance, and bring you solutions rather than excuses? This innovative yet practical approach will open your eyes to a new way of seeing your staff and supporting them to achieve results while enhancing your skills as a supervisor.

*Sid Gilford, Ed.D., Education Manager, Head Start Learning Tree*

### **C-13 Seizure Recognition and Management (G)**

Seizures are vastly misunderstood. Most believe that all seizures are convulsive, but more children have seizures that look like daydreaming or disruptive behavior. This workshop demonstrates what the most common seizures look like and how to manage them in the educational setting.

*Dianne Baker, Educator, The Epilepsy Foundation of Delaware*

### **C-14 The Delaware First Qualifications Process and Using the New Website (D)**

A review of the process for getting staff qualified to meet licensing regulations through the Department of Education's Delaware First and a look at the new website for qualifications review. Soon all qualifications applications and updates will be done via this website. Come and learn how this will work and how to support your staff and new hires.

*Tony Ruggiero, Education Specialist, Early Development and Learning Resources, Delaware Department of Education*

*Sandy Mullett, Administrative Assistant, Delaware First*

**4:30 to 6:30 p.m.**

### **Social – Networking Event**

*Sponsored by Delaware Maternal and Child Health Bureau*

After a full day of workshops, come relax and partake of hors d'oeuvres and refreshments with your colleagues. This is the time to socialize, enjoy the company of others in the early childhood community, and learn about Delaware's new "Help Me Grow" initiative! Attending is optional; however, we do need you to register for the event!

*While children are the focus of our day, this conference is for adults only. To allow everyone the opportunity to learn without distractions, please make other arrangements for your children while you attend this conference.*



# Saturday Conference Schedule

8:00 - 8:45 a.m. . . . .Registration and Exhibits

8:45 - 9:00 a.m. . . . .Welcome

9:00 -10:00 a.m. . . . .Keynote

*Curriculum Connections: Using  
Music to Help Children Learn,  
Bob McGrath*

10:15 - 11:45 a.m. . . . .Workshop Session A

11:45 - 12:45 p.m. . . . .Lunch & Exhibits

1:00 - 2:30 p.m. . . . .Workshop Session B

2:45 - 4:15 p.m. . . . .Workshop Session C

## KEYNOTE ADDRESS: **Bob McGrath** **Curriculum Connections: Using Music to Help Children Learn**

Discover how active music making for young children – infants to school age – is vital not only for stimulating imaginations, but also for developing important early literacy skills. Through active participation, video demonstrations and current brain research, you will come to appreciate Bob's passion for integrating music in early childhood classes.

## Session A

### **A-1 Prime Times for Infants and Toddlers: Giving Children Individual Attention (I,T)**

Caring for infants and toddlers can be busy and exhausting. How do you help every child reach their fullest potential when there are so many little ones? How can you give each child the time and attention he needs while managing the rest of the group and fishing Lego's out of the toilet? In this humorous and practical workshop, you'll learn easy ways to effectively give every infant and toddler individual attention by making care times, prime times.

*Gigi Schweikert, Early Childhood and Parenting Expert,  
Friday's Keynote Speaker*

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*Takeisha Edmonds, Project Coordinator, Nemours  
Healthy Kids Project, Delaware Institute for Excellence in  
Early Childhood*

### **A-3 1-2-3 Read Aloud with Me! (PS)**

What makes that book so great? Focus on ways to make your children's story time experience engaging and exciting. Discover the importance of reading good stories to young children and explore the benefits of exposure to early literacy, language development, enhanced vocabulary and increased imagination.

*Kimberly Holley-Nelson, Certified Parent Educator,  
Parents as Teachers*

### **A-4 Free Play – Is There An App For That? (PS)**

Wouldn't it be great if there was an app that gave you strategies, ideas and an extra set of hands for free play time in your classroom? If you haven't found that app yet, we'll share our own ideas for setting up engaging play areas, managing traffic flow and clarifying the teacher's role and expectations for the children. Come with questions and leave with an arsenal of ideas!

*Leslie Silk Eslinger, Education and Product Development  
Specialist, Becker's School Supplies*

**A-5 When the Baby Grows Up: Smooth Transitions from Child Development Watch to School Based Programs (I,T,PS,FCC,D)**

Participants learn the difference between Child Development Watch early intervention services and special education services in preschool and school based preschool settings. Participants will also understand the difference between an Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) and the Individualized Education Plan (IEP). This session will cover the new requirements for transition based on Part C legislation in place as of October 2011.

*Hazel Cole, Family School Partner, Parent Information Center of Delaware*

**A-6 Allowing the Play (T)**

Come see how to create experiences that allow toddlers to learn through active involvement and play. See for yourself as a facilitator in a child directed classroom where learning happens naturally as children explore the environment you have created for them.

*Michelle Richards, Delaware Stars ERS Assessment Coordinator, Delaware Institute for Excellence in Early Childhood*

*Shelley M. Silber, Curriculum Coordinator, Babes on the Square Too*

**A-7 Center Administrators and Staff: Staying in Compliance is Easier than You Think! (D)**

Does a visit from your Licensing Specialist have you in a tizzy? Staying in compliance with licensing regulations is not difficult; it just requires some careful attention to detail. Experienced staff from the Office of Child Care Licensing will review regulations for center administrators and staff and offer answers to your questions.

*Betty Gail Timm, Resource and Development Manager, Office of Child Care Licensing, State of Delaware*

*Ann M. Ryan, Licensing Specialist Supervisor, Office of Child Care Licensing, State of Delaware*

**A-8 Playground Safety and the Childcare Provider (G)**

It is important for children to have the opportunity to play safely. Find out the answers to the following questions: How do you design an age appropriate playground? How do you provide proper surfacing under & around the playground? How do you properly maintain playgrounds? What does CPSC stand for?

*Daniel Eisenhart, Owner, GreenLane Contractors*

*Paul Becker, VP Sales, Becker's School Supplies*

**A-9 Delaware Stars – Pathways to Quality (D, FCC)**

This session will provide a general overview of Delaware Stars for Early Success. Learn how Stars works and how the program can benefit your center or family child care program. Directors and family child care providers currently participating will talk about their experiences.

*Rena Hallam, Associate Professor, University of Delaware*

**A-10 Understanding Bilingualism: Working with Bilingual Children in the Preschool Classroom (PS)**

English Language Learners (ELLs) provide challenges in instruction and in determining what abilities they possess. Myths around ELL students will be debunked, and stages of second language acquisition will be explained. In addition, appropriate instruction in the classroom (Tier 1) will be discussed, as well as assessing ELL students and monitoring their progress. **This is a double session workshop. Participants must register for A-10 and B-10.**

*Natalie Atkinson, Company President, Bilingual Speech-Language Pathologist, Total Language Connections, Inc.*  
*Edris Goolsby-Harrell, Bilingual Psychologist*

**A-11 Heart-Healthy Active Centers in Your School Age Program (SA)**

Need hands-on activities specifically focused on school age or mixed aged programs? This session will lead you through prop boxes, active games and easy to use ideas that can be implemented the first day you return to your program. These centers align with Delaware Stars and the SACERS guidelines.

*Pam Kennedy, Associate Executive Director, Western Family YMCA – YMCA of Delaware*

**A-12 DE Stars Health and Safety (G)**

Hand washing, diapering, sanitation, and safety procedures are important aspects of the Environment Rating Scales used by DE Stars to assess program quality. Learn the expectations and have questions and concerns addressed. Appropriate for child care programs participating in DE Stars and programs looking for future participation.

*Peggy Winslow, DE Stars Technical Assistant, Children & Families First*

*Laurel Lamparelli, DE Stars Technical Assistant, Children & Families First*

### **A-13 The Revised Early Learning Foundations – Using Them to Plan Activities that Support Learning (I,T,PS)**

The Delaware Early Learning Foundations have been updated. This session helps practitioners design activities that enable children to work on multiple skills while engaged in well-planned learning activities. Participants will look at strategies to combine several “learning opportunities” into a single activity. Participants will come away understanding how to plan intentional activities that support learning.

*Dr. Jim Lesko, Director, Early Development and Learning Resources, Delaware Department of Education*

### **A-14 The Delaware First Qualifications Process and Using the New Website (D)**

A review of the process for getting staff qualified to meet licensing regulations through the Department of Education’s Delaware First and a look at the new website for qualifications review. Soon all qualifications applications and updates will be done via this website. Come and learn how this will work and how to support your staff and new hires.

*Tony Ruggiero, Education Specialist, Early Development and Learning Resources, Delaware Department of Education*

*Sandy Mullett, Administrative Assistant, Delaware First*

## **Session B**

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### **B-1 Literacy, Language, Math and Music (G)**

Bob McGrath enthusiastically provides an interactive, hands-on session that focuses on using favorite songs to help develop literacy, language and math concepts. Participants will explore a variety of songs and discover that they offer young children the opportunity to develop phonemic awareness skills, the ability to listen to and follow directions, sequencing skills, alphabet knowledge and an understanding of number concepts.

*Bob McGrath, Keynote Speaker*

### **B-2 Putting Toddlers on the Right Path to Academic Success: The Value of a Toddler’s Play (T)**

“Help!” Working with toddlers is a challenge and now the parents want us to teach them academics. What can we do?” This humorous, yet practical,

workshop will teach you how to create an environment that stimulates toddler play, address the academic demands of parents, and develop a toddler curriculum that lays the foundation for success in school. A “can’t miss” session for those who work with toddlers.

*Gigi Schweikert, Early Childhood and Parenting Expert, Friday’s Keynote Speaker*

### **B-3 See It! Hear It! Do It! Touch It! (PS)**

Research supports multisensory instruction as a best practice for early literacy development among struggling learners. Discover how multisensory methods engage preschool children in the learning process using more than one sensory modality. This session will explore effective techniques that foster development in the building blocks of early literacy. ***This is a double session workshop. Participants must register for B-3 and C-3.***

*Vera Meyerholtz, Early Literacy Teacher, Nemours BrightStart!*

### **B-4 Planning and Managing a Multi-Age Program for Children (FCC)**

This training introduces strategies for planning activities that engage children of all ages and developmental abilities and identifies ways to manage day to day routines that are inclusive of all children. This helps create a positive learning environment that meets the needs of every child and encourages growth in all areas of development. ***This is a double session workshop. Participants must register for B-4 and C-4.***

*Jen Cortes, Owner/Director, Creative Corner Daycare and Preschool*

### **B-5 Beyond the Basics of the ERS...Tips and Strategies to Prepare for an Environment Rating Scale Assessment (D)**

This training identifies common low-scoring areas on ERS assessments and provides tips and strategies to help prepare for an assessment, improve assessment scores, and work with staff to accomplish both. This training is geared toward administrators of programs currently in or planning to enroll in Delaware Stars for Early Success.

*Nicole Hylton, Technical Assistance Coordinator, Delaware Institute for Excellence in Early Childhood*  
*Kim Pridemore, Program Manager, Delaware Technical & Community College Child Development Center*  
*Cheryl Clendaniel, Early Childhood Administrator, The Learning Center*

**B-6 Fostering Change: Combating Negative Attitudes in the Workplace (G)**

Are you day in and day out dealing with challenging behaviors and pessimistic beliefs? Do your colleagues or students approach every situation with a negative attitude? This workshop will explore the causes of what instigates negative perceptions, the spectrum of attitudes and how to foster change by promoting a positive environment. **This is a double session workshop. Participants must register for B-6 and C-6.**

*Jennifer Clement, Director, Delaware Center for Youth Development, Children's Beach House*

**B-7 Teaching with Intention in Early Childhood (PS)**

What does it mean to be an "intentional teacher?" Learn the importance of striking a balance between adult-guided and child-guided experiences. Explore the art of effective lesson planning and thoughtful room arrangement. Join us as we explore observation and goal setting while being open to the unexpected opportunities of teachable moments.

*Andrea Prettyman, M.Ed., Delaware Stars Program Coordinator, Children & Families First*

*Debra Rommel, Teaching Assistant, Avenue Preschool*

**B-8 Thinking with Your Children about Thinking! (PS)**

Can teachers help children become aware of their own thinking? Can teachers help them see themselves as capable thinkers and learners? In this session, you will learn ways to interact with children so that you can understand what your children are thinking and help your children become strong and capable thinkers.

*Rebecca Godwin, University of Delaware Undergraduate Student*

*Cynthia Paris, Associate Professor, University of Delaware*

*Katie Pollock, Master Teacher, University of Delaware*

**B-9 Outdoor Centers Create New Opportunities for Learning (PS)**

The PACTT Center at Sussex Tech enhanced the value of playground time through implementing outdoor center activities. The children love the activities and learn from them as well. Participants will have an opportunity to design their own outdoor centers.

*Dr. Rebecca Moscoso, Technical Assistant, Children & Families First, Delaware Stars*

*Kathy Moore, Early Childhood Administrator, Parents And Children Together at Tech (PACTT)*

**B-10 Understanding Bilingualism: Working with Bilingual Children in the Preschool Classroom (PS)**

***This is the second part of a double workshop. Participants must register for both sessions A-10 and B-10. See A-10 for workshop description.***

*Natalie Atkinson, Company President, Bilingual Speech-Language Pathologist, Total Language Connections, Inc.*

*Edris Goolsby-Harrell, Bilingual Psychologist*

**B-11 Family Childcare Providers: Staying in Compliance is Easier than You Think! (FCC)**

Does a visit from your Licensing Specialist have you in a tizzy? Staying in compliance with licensing regulations is not difficult; it just requires some careful attention to detail. Experienced staff from the Office of Child Care Licensing will review regulations for family child care providers and offer answers to your questions.

*Ann M. Ryan, Licensing Specialist Supervisor, Office of Child Care Licensing, State of Delaware*

*Betty Gail Timm, Resource and Development Manager, Office of Child Care Licensing, State of Delaware*

**B-12 Understanding Leadership, Management and the Difference Between Them. (D,G)**

Participants will engage in lively discussion and some exercises to identify the characteristics of effective leaders. With several laughs and light hearted perspective, they will also learn about the role of leaders and managers in operating effective agencies and programs.

*Jeff Benatti, Executive Director, New Castle County Head Start, Inc.*

**B-13 Positive Behavioral Classroom and Schoolwide Strategies (T,PS,SA,D)**

The best way to maintain positive behavior in your school or agency is to prevent it! The top research proven strategies will be presented. Hands-on strategies will be discussed to prevent behavioral concerns including: classroomwide, individual, and schoolwide tools, visuals, and behavioral charts for students with and without delays. Participants will leave with resources they can use immediately in their organizations to improve and prevent behavioral challenges!

*Eileen M. Baker, Ed.D., School Psychologist, Morris Early Childhood Center, Positive Behavior Support Project Coach, Center Disabilities Studies.*

# Session C

## **C-1 Reconsider Your Footprint (PS, T, SA, D, FCC)**

With the support of DNREC and Recycle Bank grants, Children's House Montessori School created a professional DVD showing how even the youngest individual can make a difference in ensuring a future, healthy planet Earth. Recycling has become a part of the school culture both in and out of the classroom. Join us in sharing ideas and learning more about classroom lessons and activities centered around community contributions and the science of recycling.

*Barbara Lewis, Curriculum Coordinator & Elementary Lead Teacher, Children's House Montessori School*

## **C-2 Developmentally Appropriate Assessment Strategies for Young Children (I,T, PS, FCC, D)**

This session will provide an overview of the different types of child assessment strategies appropriate for young children birth-five years. We will review the purposes of different types of assessments and how this type of information can inform your program and instructional planning.

*Rena Hallam, Associate Professor, University of Delaware*

## **C-3 See It! Hear It! Do It! Touch It! (PS)**

*This is the second part of a double workshop. Participants must register for both sessions B-3 and C-3. See B-3 for workshop description.*

*Vera Meyerholtz, Early Literacy Teacher, Nemours BrightStart!*

## **C-4 Planning and Managing a Multi-Age Program for Children (FCC)**

*This is the second part of a double workshop. Participants must register for both sessions B-4 and C-4. See B-4 for workshop description.*

*Jen Cortes, Owner/director, Creative Corner Daycare and Preschool*

## **C-5 Early Language and Literacy Skills for Babies and Toddlers (I,T)**

This workshop focuses on ways to support early language and literacy skills for babies and toddlers. We will discuss ways to create lesson plans that support the language and literacy components of the Early Learning Foundations through interacting with babies and toddlers during activities (songs, finger plays, pretend play), with materials (books, puzzles, writing materials), and care giving routines (meals, toileting, dressing).

*Martha Buell, Professor, University of Delaware*

## **C-6 Fostering Change: Combating Negative Attitudes in the Workplace (G)**

*This is the second part of a double workshop. Participants must register for both sessions B-6 and C-6. See B-6 for workshop description.*

*Jennifer Clement, Director, Delaware Center for Youth Development, Children's Beach House*

## **C-7 The Importance of Family Involvement (PS)**

Early care and education staff play a critical role in supporting children and families around social and emotional wellness. Participants will learn skills, tools and tips to support families of children with behavioral health challenges and how to use strength-based/culturally competent strategies to engage families in addressing these concerns.

*Janet Taylor-McDowell, Lead Family Contact, Delaware's B.E.S.T for Young Children and Their Families, Division of Prevention and Behavioral Health Services, Delaware Children's Department*

## **C-8 MVPA – Everyday (PS)**

This session relates to the IMIL goal of increasing MVPA (Moderate to Vigorous Physical Activity). We'll get up and move to show you how to increase physical activity throughout the day. Most children do not get enough MVPA during their day. As a result of this session participants will recognize how school readiness skills are supported through MVPA.

*Laura Greenlee Sparks, Technical Assistant, Delaware Institute for Excellence in Early Childhood/Delaware Association for the Education of Young Children*

## **C-9 Project Learning Tree: Teaching Young Children about Nature (PS, SA)**

This workshop will provide educators with ideas about teaching children how to explore nature with their five senses, meet neighborhood trees, and experience trees through the seasons. They will learn how to engage children in outdoor play and exploration through the trees around them.

*Paula Holloway, Director of Education, Delaware Museum of Natural History*

## **C-10 Staff Professional Development Planning for Directors/Administrators and Staff with Supervisory Responsibilities (D,FCC)**

This session will help participants understand the importance and benefits of professional development planning using the Delaware Competencies and licensing requirements. Participants will learn how to access knowledge and skill levels and identify goals to achieve higher level positions or

types of training needed to improve specific skills and knowledge.

*Debra Taylor, Military Child Care Liaison, National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies*  
*Lynn E Jezyk, T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood Delaware Coordinator, Delaware Association for the Education of Young Children*

### **C-11 Creating Welcoming, High-Quality Infant and Toddler Learning Environments (I,T)**

A welcoming, high-quality learning environment is an essential piece to promoting successful learning in all domains of development for infants and toddlers. Come and learn how to plan a high-quality, responsive environment that meets the needs of young children and their families.

*Michelle Brown, M.Ed., Manager, District of Columbia Head Start State TTA Center, ICF International/Region III Head Start TTA System*

### **C-12 Parent, Family, and Community Engagement Framework Engaging Families (I,T,PS,SA)**

Parent and family engagement is about building relationships with families that support family well-being, strong relationships between parents and their children, and ongoing learning and development for both parents and children. The Parent, Family, and Community Engagement (PFCE) Framework is a road map for progress in achieving the kinds of outcomes that lead to positive and enduring change for children and families. Come learn how the PFCE Framework shows an agency how to work together as a whole—across systems and service areas—to promote parent and family engagement and children’s learning and development.

*April Hill-Addison, Director, Head Start State Collaboration Office, Delaware Department of Education*

### **C-13 Intentional Teaching Strategies to Support Children at Risk of Having Disabilities (PS, D)**

The Response to Intervention model will be explored to help teachers identify and track progress of children who struggle to learn. Participants will learn how to plan meaningful activities to increase their children’s developmental success.

*Verna Thompson, Education Associate, IDEA 619/ECAP, Delaware Department of Education*

**The workshops will take place in several buildings on Del Tech’s Terry Campus. Please dress for the weather.**



## **-- Travel Information --**

### **Directions to Delaware Technical & Community College, Terry Campus, Dover**

**From north and south:** Take Route 1 to Dover. Take the North Dover exit (#104). Do not turn on Route 13. Cross Route 13 and then turn right at the first light onto the DTCC campus. Follow S Delaware Tech Drive to the Conference Center which is attached to the Education and Technology Building. Registration will take place in the main lobby of the Conference Center.

#### **FREE Bus Transportation**

Free bus transportation will be offered from New Castle County and Sussex County on Saturday, March 31 only. Please indicate on the registration form if you will be taking advantage of the conference’s “Park and Ride” opportunity.

**New Castle County Bus Stop #1** – School bus will depart at 7:00 a.m. and return at 5:30 p.m. from the Park and Ride off Route 1 at the corner of Route 273 and Rte. 7, Newark.

**New Castle County Bus Stop #2** – School bus will depart at 7:00 a.m. and return at 5:30 p.m. from the Chase Center on the Riverfront parking lot, near Frawley Stadium, Wilmington.

**Georgetown Bus Stop**- School bus will depart at 7:00 a.m. and return at 5:30 p.m. from the parking lot of the Georgetown Delaware Technical and Community College Campus.

**All buses will depart Delaware Technical and Community College, Terry Campus, Dover, promptly at 4:30 p.m.**

Continental breakfast and lunch will be available to all conference registrants. Lunch will include a hot buffet; including vegetarian entrée choices. There will be juices, coffee, and water available at meal times as well as during the day.

*While children are the focus of our day, this conference is for adults only. To allow everyone the opportunity to learn without distractions, please make other arrangements for your children while you attend this conference.*



## REGISTRATION FEES

**\$38 for one day** either Friday, March 30 or Saturday, March 31

**\$70 for two day attendance**, attending both Friday, March 30 AND Saturday, March 31

**The Friday night social event is FREE, however, please register if you plan to attend.**

For the most efficient registration process and the best chance of getting your first choice, please register online. We cannot guarantee first come/first served for registrations received by mail or fax, regardless of how early they are sent.

**To register online** for the *Making a Difference: A Conference for Early Childhood Professionals* visit: [www.dieec.udel.edu](http://www.dieec.udel.edu). **First time visitors** must create a registration profile. Select New User to complete a profile and obtain a user name and password. **Returning visitors** please login with assigned user name and password. In order to complete your training registration, you must have valid credit card or check. All registrations are completed through a secure transaction. You also need access to the internet and an email address. **Online registration ends Friday, March 16, 2012.**

**If no internet access:** Please call 302-831-3239 to confirm space availability. Then complete the registration form and send your check made payable to **University of Delaware**, credit card information, or money order to: **Delaware Institute for Excellence in Early Childhood, Department of Human Development & Family Studies, 111 Alison West, University of Delaware, Newark, DE 19716**. Or fax your completed form with credit card information to 302-831-8776.

**NO REFUNDS WILL BE ALLOWED!!**

## Hotel Arrangements

For those individuals attending both days of the conference and wish to remain in Dover, arrangements have been made with the Hampton Inn for a reduced room rate. The cost will be \$93.06 per night plus tax. There are a limited number of rooms available at this discounted rate, so please contact the Hampton Inn and reserve early to insure availability.

**Mention the "Making a Difference"**

**Conference when reserving at**

**The Hampton Inn**

**1568 N. Dover Highway, Dover, DE 19901**

**302-736-3500**

## Quality Assured Training

A full day's attendance will result in 5.5 Level 2 training hours. Participants who attend both full days will receive a total of 11 Level 2 training hours!



## Registration Form

Make copies of this form as needed and submit one form per participant.

**Must be received by DIEEC no later than Friday, March 16, 2012. NO Exceptions.**

**Session Registration:** Please write the letter and number of your first, second and third choice for each session. (Example: 1st choice, A-1; 2nd choice, A-3; 3rd choice, A-6). Those not indicating alternate choices for each workshop will be randomly assigned a workshop if their 1st choice is unavailable.

### Friday, March 30, Session A 8:45 – 10:15 a.m.

1st Choice \_\_\_\_\_  
2nd Choice \_\_\_\_\_  
3rd Choice \_\_\_\_\_

### Saturday, March 31, Session A 10:15 – 11:45 a.m.

1st Choice \_\_\_\_\_  
2nd Choice \_\_\_\_\_  
3rd Choice \_\_\_\_\_

### Friday, March 30, Session B 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

1st Choice \_\_\_\_\_  
2nd Choice \_\_\_\_\_  
3rd Choice \_\_\_\_\_

### Saturday, March 31, Session B 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

1st Choice \_\_\_\_\_  
2nd Choice \_\_\_\_\_  
3rd Choice \_\_\_\_\_

### Friday, March 30, Session C 2:45-4:15 p.m.

1st Choice \_\_\_\_\_  
2nd Choice \_\_\_\_\_  
3rd Choice \_\_\_\_\_

### Saturday, March 31, Session C 2:45-4:15 p.m.

1st Choice \_\_\_\_\_  
2nd Choice \_\_\_\_\_  
3rd Choice \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Last 4 digits of SS# \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (work) \_\_\_\_\_ (cell) \_\_\_\_\_

Current Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Work Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Conference Fee:** (\$38 per day or \$70 for two days)

Attending only **Friday, March 30:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Attending only **Saturday, March 31:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Attending **both** days of Conference  
(Friday & Saturday, March 30 & 31): \$ \_\_\_\_\_

#### Social Event:

\_\_\_\_\_ **Yes**, I will attend the free social event from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.  
on Friday, March 30

\_\_\_\_\_ No, I will not attend free social event.

#### Bus Transportation on Saturday, March 31st:

\_\_\_\_\_ I will ride the New Castle County Bus #1 (Newark)

\_\_\_\_\_ I will ride the New Castle County Bus #2 (Wilmington)

\_\_\_\_\_ I will ride the Sussex County Bus (Georgetown)

**Amount enclosed \$** \_\_\_\_\_

Method of Payment:  check  money order

Amount to bill credit card: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please choose one:  Visa  MC  Discover  AmX

Account #:

\_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: Month \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name as it appears on credit card

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Delaware Association for the  
Education of Young Children**

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Wilmington, DE 19809

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**First  
Annual Conference  
March 30 & 31, 2012  
Register by  
March 16, 2012**



**You are invited to the  
Delaware Association for the Education of Young Children  
AND**

**Delaware Head Start Association, Inc.  
First Annual *Making a Difference* Conference**

**Don't miss out seeing keynote speakers, *Gigi Schweikert* and  
*Bob McGrath*. You will have the opportunity to chose from two  
days of workshops that cover a wide range of early childhood  
issues. Attendees can receive 5.5 Level 2 training hours per day!**

**REGISTER TODAY - SPACE IS LIMITED**