

Interest Forums

Interest forums are groups of NAEYC members who share a common interest that is related to the NAEYC mission. They provide members with networking opportunities and the chance to learn and grow together. The following interest forums will hold annual meetings during the NAEYC Annual Conference; all members are invited to attend.

Thursday, November 19

In lieu of a traditional meeting, the **At Risk & Special Needs Interest Forum** will have ongoing meetings and conversation in the interest forum café lounge, outside Halls D/E, where they are sponsoring Stop By & Ask from 10:00 a.m. – 3 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, and 9:00 a.m. -12:00 noon on Saturday. Stop By to Chat. On our informal agenda will be conversation about the NAEYC/DEC Joint Position Statement on Inclusion and how it is being utilized. Looking forward to seeing you. For more information, please contact Cindy Croft at croft@csp.edu or Mary N. Wonderlick at wonderlick.ecsepro@sbcglobal.net or (312) 492-9819.

Join the **CEASE/Violence in the Lives of Children Interest Forum** to celebrate CEASE's thirtieth anniversary. We will be looking back with pride and looking forward with excitement. There is much that needs our active engagement! Please join us to plan future action campaigns and decide on our focus for 2010. We will assess the progress of our efforts to include more on media education in NAEYC conference offerings, and plan what further actions are needed. Our network and multiple collaborations will connect you to resources which support your activism for the well-being of children. For more information, please visit our Web site, www.peaceeducators.org, or contact Lucy Stroock: lucystroock@comcast.net.

4:00-5:00 p.m.

Washington Convention Center, Room 145B

The **Children of Incarcerated Parents (CHIPS) Interest Forum**, now in its fifth year, explores and finds methods that address the needs of the children of incarcerated parents and ways to parent effectively from prison. CHIPS is committed to supporting and helping to raise awareness of this group of children who number three to five percent of the nation's children with most living in poverty. Meet members of CHIPS who work with the children of family members in prison or who themselves have a relative behind bars. Join us to learn and explore classroom resources and/or national organizations that support our efforts to reach out to these youngsters. Please contact Fran Roznowski at froznowski@cpsd.us for additional information.

6:00-7:30 p.m.

Renaissance Washington, Meeting Room 6

Interest Forums—continued

Thursday, November 19 (continued)

Please join the **Diversity and Equity Education for Adults Interest Forum** (new name is pending board approval) as we focus our attentions on the educational work we all do to promote equity and diversity with our children, their families, and their teachers. This interest forum provides a place where people can come together for mutual education, self-reflection, networking, and strategic planning for both our individual and our collective work. It is for everyone within early childhood education who shares a commitment to teaching, training, and preparing adults to do diversity and equity education, including ECE faculty in community and four-year colleges as well as in-services trainers and directors who provide professional development. Anyone who works with adults on equity and diversity matters is encouraged to attend this session devoted to identifying issues in our work, sharing strategies, and promoting collegiality in our shared endeavors. For additional information, contact Chris Amirault at camirault@brownfoxpoint.org.

2:00–3:30 p.m.

Grand Hyatt Washington, Renwick

Come to the **Faculty in Associate Degree Early Childhood Preparation Programs Interest Forum** to confer with other associate degree faculty on issues that you would like to discuss both face to face and in the online interest forum. Learn how this mechanism can be a vehicle of support and serve as a resource for you as you prepare students for careers in early childhood. For more information, please contact Barbara Nilsen at barnil246@frontiernet.net.

10:00–11:30 a.m.

Washington Convention Center, Room 304

Join **Health and Safety in Child Care Interest Forum** to discuss past activities and plans for the upcoming year. Ideas for discussion include: conference proposal/submissions, working with state affiliates, strategies for “meeting” and staying in contact outside of the Annual Conference, and maintaining the web page and discussion board. All interested persons are welcome. Contact Jonathan Kotch at jonathan_kotch@unc.edu for more information.

4:00–5:30 p.m.

Washington Convention Center, Room 301

The **Kindergarten Interest Forum** invites conferees to share and discuss issues related to kindergarten. Come prepared to discuss strategies and advocacy efforts for developmentally appropriate practices for 5- and 6-year-olds, networking with other kindergarten, preschool, and/or primary teachers, and how the Interest Forum may assist you. For more information, contact Marie Kielty at mariekielty@comcast.net.

6:00–7:30 p.m.

Renaissance Washington, Meeting Room 4

Interest Forums—continued

Thursday, November 19 (continued)

The **Technology and Young Children Interest Forum** welcomes new and returning members to our Annual Meeting. Join us as we explore technology innovations, share research, collaborate on new project ideas, and plan technology and young children annual conference sessions for next year! Contact us with questions/ideas/inspirations at lhartle@mail.ucf.edu. We invite your input into future directions for our interest forum. Visit us at our Web site: <http://www.techandyoungchildren.org/>. To join our listserv, e-mail LISTSERV@LISTS.MAINE.EDU. In the body of the message, type: Subscribe ECETECH-L (your name).

6:00-7:30 p.m.

Renaissance Washington, Meeting Room 16

The **Tribal and Indigenous Early Childhood Network (TIECN) Interest Forum** works to provide support to those that educate and advocate for our children and families. TIECN will provide a brief history of TIECN, along with our vision, mission, and guiding principles. We will also provide participants with a summary of survey results identifying the issues/topics that forum participants perceived as areas that needed to be addressed by TIECN or other professionals with expertise in those particular areas. Our main intent is to provide guidance and resources that will inform teachers and others working with indigenous/native children and their families, as well as, those teaching about indigenous/native children and their families. For more info, contact: Dr. Cathy Gutierrez-Gomez, (505) 277-9606, or cggomez@unm.edu.

4:00–5:30 p.m.

Washington Convention Center, Room 144B

Network with fellow early childhood professionals who want to help achieve worthy wages and benefits in our field at the **Worthy Wage Interest Forum**. Share successful strategies in your state and help create action plans. For more information, contact Mary Babula at mbabula@wecanaeyc.org.

4:00–5:30 p.m.

Washington Convention Center, Room 304

Interest Forums—continued

Friday, November 20

Come and share your ideas for the new launch of the **Children’s Global Interest Forum**. Initial forums will center around the following topics: Convention on the rights of the child, Scandinavian care and education models, outdoor preschool programs, and global DAP. We are looking for interested individuals to host a forum. “If you care for children, then you must care for children everywhere for our world is composed of all children.” – Eleanor Roosevelt. Contact Ronda Hawkins at hawkinsr@sandhills.edu for more information.

12:30-2:00 p.m.

Renaissance Washington, Meeting Room 19

Join us at the **Community Collaboration Interest Forum’s** Third Annual Meeting. Recognizing that the best interests of young children can often be served at the community level, when parents, teachers, grandparents, schools, and other community organizations work together, the Community Collaboration Interest Forum seeks to bring together and provide opportunities for dialog and information exchange among early childhood community collaboration organizations across the country. Are you currently involved in a community collaboration effort? Are you interested in starting one? Come and share your experiences with other initiatives. Let’s learn from one another. At the meeting, you will: meet and greet others involved in community collaboration, hear about successful efforts across the country, share brochures and other literature from your community collaboration organization, and help define the mission and goals of this Interest Forum. For more information, please contact Blakely Bundy at blakelybundy@comcast.net.

2:00–3:30 p.m.

Renaissance Washington, Meeting Room 17

Come hear and meet family child care providers from across the country at the **Family Child Care Interest Forum**. Discuss issues about accreditation, star rating scale systems, Head Start, and linking local, state, and national associations. For more information, contact Marva Lyons at happymarva57@yahoo.com.

2:00–3:30 p.m.

Grand Hyatt Washington, Bulfinch

Interest Forums—continued

Friday, November 20 (continued)

The **Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Interest Forum** will hold its annual meeting for NAEYC Conference attendees interested in supporting LGBT staff, parents, and programming that supports all children and families, regardless of sexual orientation. The agenda includes a review of 2009 national and local activities and planning for 2010, as well as opportunities to address key issues for Interest Forum members. Announcements include plans for the 2009 Celebration of Diversity and award winners and the annual social event. Questions and suggestions can be sent to co-facilitators Brian Silveira at prekguy@comcast.net or Jim Clay at jwclayjr@aol.com.
4:00–5:30 p.m.

Renaissance Washington, Meeting Room 4

Men in Education Network (M.E.N.) Interest Forum invites men and women to its annual meeting. Take the time to learn and share information on a variety of activities for men, fathers, and others who have an impact on the lives of young children. Find out how to recruit more men to your program, and how to support and retain men you already have. Help set the future agenda for the interest forum, have fun, and make new friends! Contact Rodney L. West, Sr., at 619-472-0283 or mwalimurodney@cs.com; Bryan G. Nelson, at 612-724-3430 or bgnelson@menteach.org, and/or Frances M. Carlson, at 770-443-3611 or fcarlson@chattcollege.com for more information.
6:00–7:30 p.m.

Renaissance Washington, Meeting Room 16

The **Play, Policy, and Practice Interest Forum** invites you to join them at their annual business meeting. Plans will be made for the 2010 Annual Conference proposals, future directions, and themes for the Play, Policy, and Practice Connections publication. All are welcome! Contact Sandra Waite-Stupiansky at swaite@edinboro.edu for more information.

6:00–9:00 p.m.

Renaissance Washington, Meeting Room 8 & 9

The **Student Interest Forum Rocks!** Students, Faculty and NAEYC Affiliates! Future Leaders in Early Childhood Rock! Come join us for our business meeting to talk about our future student networking center activities, future conferences, and let's ALL out for dinner and par-tay! For more information, contact Dr. Bill Strader, student interest forum facilitator at 401-486-1363.

6:00–7:30 p.m.

Renaissance Washington, Meeting Room 7

Networking

Tuesday, November 17

DC AEYC will host a reception to welcome its members and friends to the District of Columbia. Please contact Frances J. Rollins, President, at sechild@erols.com or (202) 253-5211 for more information.

7:00–9:00 p.m.

Renaissance Washington, Meeting Room 5

The **National Jewish Early Childhood Network** will be hosting an open membership meeting and welcome reception. For more information, contact Helaine Groeger at 301-354-3203 or laineYG@aol.com. Fee to attend; reservations recommended.

7:00-10:30 p.m.

Grand Hyatt Washington, Independence Ballroom

Join the **National Program for Playground Safety (NPPS)** and **Grounds for Play** for their third Annual Workshop on Planning Outdoor Play and Learning Environments. This event will help child care providers plan outdoor play and learning environments. In addition to planning, participants will also receive the S.A.F.E. Play Areas Book. You must sign up for the workshop by November 11; the fee is \$45. Visit www.playgroundsafety.org or call (800) 554-7529 to register and for more information. Space is limited.

9:00 a.m.–12:00 noon

Renaissance Washington, Meeting Room 5

Wednesday, November 18

The **Adventist Child Care Network** will meet for its annual business and networking meeting. For more information, contact Christine Gillan Byrne at 805-490-6055 or christine@puconline.org.

7:00–8:30 p.m.

Washington Convention Center, Room 305

All OMEP members are invited to attend the **OMEP-USNC** Board of Directors Meeting. Information will be available for the USA and international OMEP agendas for 2010 and the 26th World Congress in Goteborg, Sweden, on August 11-13. There will be opportunities for statements from non-board members during the meeting. For more information, contact Edna Runnels Ranck, president at edna.ranck@verizon.net.

2:00-6:00 p.m.

Renaissance Washington, Meeting Room 16

Networking—continued

Thursday, November 19

Plan to attend AzAEYC's annual networking reception featuring southwestern snacks, a cash bar, and good company. Drawings for books and other items from Arizona will be featured. Contact Naomi Karp at nk.az@comcast.com for more information.

6:30–8:00 p.m.

Grand Hyatt, Independence C

Celebrate and acknowledge our diversity and the important work that we do with children and families at the **Celebration of Diversity Reception**. The event is sponsored by the Asian Interest Forum; Black Caucus Interest Forum; Diversity and Equity Interest Forum; Family Child Care Interest Forum; Latino Caucus Interest Forum; Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Interest Forum; Men in Education Network (M.E.N.) Interest Forum; and the Tribal Early Childhood Network Interest Forum. For more information, please contact Bryan Nelson at 612-724-3430 or bgnelson@menteach.org.

8:30–10:30 p.m.

Renaissance Washington, Congressional Ballroom A/B

Join the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Interest Forum and the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) for a **Diversity Panel and Unity Gay-la!** at the HRC national headquarters. The event will include a wine/beer and hors d'oeuvres reception with speakers and a panel discussion on the role of gender, family, diversity, and sexual orientation in Early Childhood programs. Speakers include Louise Derman-Sparks, author of *Anti-bias Curriculum: Tools for Empowering Young Children*; Janet Gonzalez-Mena, author of *Bridging Cultures in Early Care and Education*; Kim Westheimer, Senior Consultant, *Welcoming Schools*; Aimee Gelnow, co-author *Making Room in the Circle: Supporting Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Families in Early Childhood Settings*; and Edgardo Menvielle, MD, Director of the Gender and Sexuality Development Program at Children's National Medical Center. It's a great way to kick off the evening on your way to the Celebration of Diversity. For more information, contact Steve Shuman at graymaleps@gmail.com.

6:00–8:00 p.m.

HRC National Headquarters, 1640 Rhode Island Avenue, NW

Networking—continued

Thursday, November 19 (continued)

Come and learn about the new early Ph.D. in Early Childhood Education offered by **East Tennessee State University**, in Johnson City, TN. This unique program is specifically designed for professionals interested in university and college teaching in the field of early childhood education and leadership roles in public schools, state and community agencies, and other programs that educate and support young children, their families, and those who work with them. Faculty will be available to provide information and answer questions. Light refreshments will be served. Contact Dr. Pamela Evanshen at 423-439-7694 or evanshep@etsu.edu for more information.

6:30-8:00 p.m.

Renaissance Washington, Meeting Room 15

Erikson Institute invites alumni, students, and friends to join them for a reception. Please contact Magda Slowik at 312-893-7113 or mslowik@erikson.edu with any questions.

6:30-8:30 p.m.

Grand Hyatt, Independence H/I

Come join fellow North Carolinians and friends for hospitality and networking at the **North Carolina AEYC** reception. For more information, contact Cathie Feild at 919-510-5034 or cfeild@ncaeyc.org.

6:30-7:30 p.m.

Grand Hyatt, Franklin/McPherson

All current and future OMEP members are invited to take part in the **OMEP-USNC Membership Meeting** to review and plan for international early childhood care and education activities in 2010. For more information about innovative ideas for the coming year, please contact Edna Runnels Ranck at edna.ranck@verizon.net.

4:00-5:00 p.m.

Renaissance Washington, Meeting Room 2

Parents Cooperative Preschools International (PCPI) invites attendees to a networking and information sharing reception. The reception offers an opportunity to meet and exchange ideas and information with members and policy-makers from parent-participatory model schools and cooperative organizations. This is a great opportunity to learn more about how to infuse and grow parent participation in educational pursuits from people working in the field of cooperative education. Refreshments will be served. For more information, please contact Lesley Romanoff, 301-585-7272 or www.tpcns.org.

6:30-7:30 p.m.

Renaissance Washington, Meeting Room 5

Networking—continued

Thursday, November 19 (continued)

The **Program for Infant/Toddler Care** invites PITC graduates and other early childhood professionals interested in infant/toddler topics to meet with PITC staff and faculty for food, drinks, and sparkling conversation. Information on PITC training and materials will be available. For additional information visit the PITC exhibit booth #2515 or contact Alicia Tuesta at 415-289-2300 or atuesta@wested.org.

6:30–8:30 p.m.

Renaissance Washington, Meeting Room 8 & 9

The **SCAEYC** invites conferees to meet and mingle with the South Carolina board, staff, members, and friends at the SCAEYC get together. Come and connect with colleagues and catch up with old friends. For more information, contact Robin McCants at 803-236-0547 or robinmccants4@gmail.com.

6:00–8:30 p.m.

Grand Hyatt Washington, Farragut Square

Join the **Texas AEYC** for an evening of networking and fun. Light appetizers and cash bar will be provided. Please contact Kris Leslie Curtis, President, at 817-706-1528 or kriscurtis@texasaeyc.org for more information.

7:00–8:30 p.m.

Grand Hyatt, Independence D/E

The **Tufts University Eliot-Pearson Department of Child Development** invites you to a reception to celebrate early childhood educators and hear about Eliot-Pearson's early childhood education program and its focus on equity in early childhood education. Meet Eliot-Pearson Department of Child Development faculty: Christine M. McWayne, Ph.D., Incoming Director of Early Childhood Education and Debbie LeeKeenan, M.A., Director of the Eliot-Pearson Children's School. Also come to hear about their current graduate programs, new ideas, and developments in the early childhood field. Light refreshments will be provided. Contact Debbie LeeKeenan at 617-627-3434 or debbie.leekeen@tufts.edu for more information.

6:30-8:00 p.m.

Grand Hyatt Washington, Independence G

Come join our **Western States Leadership Network** friends (past, present, and future) as they kick off the 2010 WSLN in Utah. Our Utah WSLN will be held June 22-26, 2010. Contact Linda Smith, at (801) 221-9930 ext. 193, lsmith@kotm.org, or WSLN2010@uaeyc.org.

6:30–8:00 p.m.

Renaissance Washington, Meeting Room 2

Networking—continued

Thursday, November 19 (continued)

The **YMCA of the USA** invites you to attend our networking event to meet and share with other YMCA early childhood professionals. Meet Kathleen Seeley, Early Learning Technical Advisor for Early Learning at the YMCA of the USA. Come to share the great work you are doing to “build strong kids, strong families, and strong communities!”

6:00-8:00 p.m.

Renaissance Washington, Meeting Room 10 & 11

Networking—continued

Friday, November 20 (continued)

Seventh-day Adventist early childhood professionals are welcome to join the **Adventist Child Care Network** for a sundown worship service. For more information, contact Christine Gillan Byrne at 805-490-6055, or christine@puconline.org.

6:30-8:00 p.m.

Renaissance Washington, Meeting Room 17

Come network with Floridians at the **Florida AEYC (ECA of FL)** casual Get Together. Plan to bring your friends. Come put up your feet, chat, and perhaps you will win a door prize! Want details? Call the FL AEYC (ECA of FL) Office at 813-878-9973 or e-mail them at eca@ecaoffl.org.

6:30–7:30 p.m.

Renaissance Washington, Meeting Room 10 & 11

The **National Jewish Early Childhood Network** will be hosting a Shabbat Dinner by reservations only. For more information contact Helaine Groeger, 301-354-3203, laineyg@aol.com or www.njecn.org.

6:30–10:30 p.m.

Grand Hyatt Washington, Independence G/H/I

If you are an early childhood professional in DC, Maryland, or Virginia, please come and join your colleagues from across the region at a reception co-hosted by the **DCAEYC, MDAEYC, Northern Virginia AEYC and VAECE**. For additional information please contact the following affiliate representatives: Anne Goldstein, NVAEYC President, agoldstein@earlycarecounts.org; Frances J. Rollins, DCAEYC President, sechild@erols.com; or Greg Stevens, MDAEYC President, president@mdaeyc.org.

5:30–7:00 p.m.

Renaissance Washington, West A Ballroom

All conference attendees are invited to attend the **OMEP-USNC** International Reception and Poster session. The themes of the poster session, sponsored by OMEP-USNC and Teaching Strategies, Inc., are “Children and the Environment” and “Celebration of the 20th Anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.” International early educators and organizations are invited to present poster sessions during the reception. Please contact Johnetta Morrison, for submission information: jwm1918@yahoo.com.

6:30-8:30 p.m.

Renaissance Washington, West B Ballroom

Networking—continued

Saturday, November 21

The **Adventist Child Care Network** will assemble for a Sabbath morning worship service and lunch. For more information, contact Christine Gillan Byrne at 805-490-6055, or christine@puconline.org.

10:30 a.m.-12:00 noon

Washington Convention Center, Room 306

The **National Jewish Early Childhood Network** will be hosting a closing meeting and Havdalah Service. For more information contact Helaine Groeger, 301-354-3203, laineyg@aol.com or www.njecn.org.

5:00–7:00 p.m.

Washington Convention Center, Room 141