



The Newsletter of the Capital Area Association for the Education of Young Children  
Spring 2011

## Letter from the President

Dear CAAEYC members,

Spring is a busy time for all involved in the CAAEYC organization! Many of you attended the annual CAAEYC conference on March 12 at Messiah College. I hope you had an encouraging day of professional development and networking. Check out the article inside this newsletter on how the keynote speaker, Lois Rosenberry, inspired the kindergarten teachers at one center to add several warm, intriguing elements to their classroom environment. Although many of you responded that Lois' ideas seemed unattainable with our limited budgets, we hope you were inspired by her creativity to just change one or two elements in your classroom to capture a child's imagination. You can still sign up for a follow-up session related to Lois' book, *Inspiring Spaces for Young Children*, sponsored by CAAEYC. Go to our website to read more information about the April 29 or May 20 Director Roundtable events.

Advocacy for early learning programs is a top priority at this time of the year. The PA General Assembly is now working on Governor Corbett's budget proposal. Don't miss Early Childhood Action Day at our state capitol in Harrisburg on April 12! This is our opportunity to inform our legislators of the impact of early learning. Action Day is sponsored by our state NAEYC affiliate organization, PennAEYC.

And be sure to check out the opportunity to apply for the CAAEYC innovation grant! You can find more information about the CAAEYC Innovation Grant on our website, [www.caaeyc.org](http://www.caaeyc.org).

We also hope to see you at the Week of the Young Child (WOYC) walk on Harrisburg City Island on Sunday, April 17, beginning at 2:30. Week of the Young Child is another time to recognize the importance of early learning and to celebrate children and all who make a difference in their lives. Walk-in registrations will be accepted and you'll get a beautiful green shirt when you register!

As always, please consider joining a CAAEYC committee. All are welcome to join us in this exciting work! You can contact me at [bgoodli2@messiah.edu](mailto:bgoodli2@messiah.edu). I'd be happy to talk with you about the variety of opportunities waiting for you as part of the CAAEYC organization.

Sincerely,

Bev Goodling  
CAAAYC President



### CAAAYC MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of the Capital Area Association for the Education of Young Children (CAAAYC) is to enhance the lives of children by providing support for adults working with or on behalf of young children. CAAAYC expresses its mission in terms of three broad goals:

- Facilitating improvements in the professional practice of early childhood development and education;
- Increasing public understanding and support for high quality programs for young children and their families;
- Fostering collaboration and building a cohesive community of early childhood professionals.

# The Learning Source



The daily life of an early childhood professional is hectic, to say the least! For over 30 years, The Learning Source educational stores and the Edu-Care School Supply catalog have provided a local source for your educational materials and supply needs, and we are now very pleased to partner with you, CAAEYC members, to provide a discount on the materials you purchase from our stores and order from our catalog!

The Learning Source stores are located in Camp Hill and east Harrisburg. For addresses and telephone numbers, go to [www.elearningsource.com](http://www.elearningsource.com).

At The Learning Source, you will find the art "basics" that you use daily, as well as a selection of curriculum resources, room decoratives, bulletin board materials, age-appropriate games, and quality toys. If you can't find an item, just ask at the counter. We are able to special order items from most of our educational suppliers for you at no additional charge!

Our Edu-Care School Supply educational resources catalog is available online, and includes our early-childhood art supply items. Besides the typical method of online shopping, we have added a new feature this year that allows you to "browse" our catalog page by page, just as you would our print version. Our online catalog presents over 15,000 items to choose from. We also provide our Art Supply Price List in pdf format so you can download and print a paper copy if you wish. The catalog link is: [www.educareschoolsupply.com](http://www.educareschoolsupply.com).

If you'd like a print copy of our catalog, call Penny, our Customer Service Coordinator, at 800-835-5105. She can also answer your questions or concerns. We can provide full-service equipment and furniture sales from many of the top manufacturers in the industry. For information or quotations, call and ask for Bill. And, don't forget, your supply orders usually qualify for free delivery within the greater Harrisburg area! (Furniture and large items usually require a freight quotation.)

When you shop both our store and our online catalog, you have access to one of the largest selections of educational materials and equipment in the nation! Additionally, as a CAAEYC member, you can be assured of a discount when you use your discount card. We look forward to serving you!

## New Member Benefit

As described above, CAAEYC is excited to announce a new member benefit! In partnership with The Learning Source/Edu-Care School Supply, Central Pennsylvania's hometown supplier of early learning toys and materials, CAAEYC is providing members with a discount card that may be used in-store or online at The Learning Source/Edu-Care School Supply ([www.educareschoolsupply.com](http://www.educareschoolsupply.com)). This discount card provides members with the opportunity to receive 10 percent off regular priced items purchased from our local early learning retailer. In order to receive your member discount, please show your discount card and valid driver's license when making a purchase. For online purchases a discount code located on your card may be used. Members may use their discount card throughout the year (no limit on how often). Please be checking your mailbox for this valuable benefit, as discount cards will be mailed out soon!

In addition, The Learning Source/Edu-Care School Supply will be offering CAAEYC members special sales each fall and spring, beginning this fall. These specials will be advertised in the CAAEYC *Courier*, so please keep reading your *Courier* so you don't miss out. This is just another way CAAEYC strives to support you, as early childhood professionals! Questions about discount cards or membership may be directed to Stacey Griffiths at [Stacey\\_griffiths@msn.com](mailto:Stacey_griffiths@msn.com).

## Membership Drive Winner!

Congratulations to Michelle Randalls, Assistant Director of Dickinson College Children's Center (former Director of Little Angels



Daycare and Preschool) for her efforts in helping CAAEYC increase membership. Michelle was instrumental in obtaining membership for six staff members at her former center. For her efforts, Michelle was presented with a gift basket containing over \$200 worth of prizes.

Currently, CAAEYC has 280 members. We would love to see those numbers increase, so we ask you, our members, to please continue to spread the word about this fantastic organization that works to benefit children, as well as adults working with or on behalf of young children. CAAEYC continues to revamp and improve its benefits and yearly events. If you have any ideas on how CAAEYC can better serve you or if you are interested in joining a committee, please contact Bev Goodling at [bgoodli2@messiah.edu](mailto:bgoodli2@messiah.edu) or Stacey Griffiths at [stacey\\_griffiths@msn.com](mailto:stacey_griffiths@msn.com). We welcome your input!

## 2011 Night of Networking

Mark your calendars!

Monday, November 7, 2011

Plan to join friends and co-workers as we visit other quality early care and education facilities on the east shore. This is a fabulous time to network, gain insight and learn the new trends in the ECE field.

More details will follow!

# CAAEYC Conference a Huge Success!

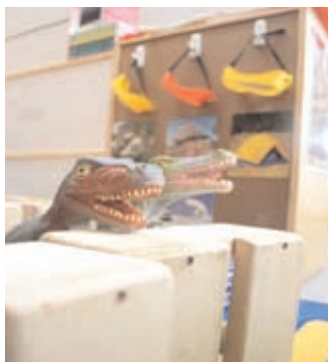
This year marks the highest attendance in CAAEYC history with over 700 attendees! Thank you for all your comments, feedback, suggestions and support. Organizing this event is a huge job for a small group of committed volunteers. Each year we look forward to hearing your suggestions and feedback on what is working and what could be improved. We are committed to taking your thoughts into consideration and already have several ideas to improve your experience for next year! If you are interested in serving on the conference committee, please contact Sue Long at 233-3661 or Bev Goodling at 691-6085. We look forward to having you join the committee and share your expertise and insight.



*Corporate sponsors aid conference success*

## CAAEYC Conference Keynote Inspires Our Kindergarten

*by Jennifer L. Granitz*



At the Goddard School in Harrisburg, many of our teachers were inspired and excited about the simple joys and treasures that Lois Rosenberry (keynote speaker at CAAEYC Conference 2011) offered as suggestions for creating an optimal environment for both children and teachers. Using Rosenberry's book *Inspiring Spaces for Young Children*, Allison Dickerson and Lauren Smalley decided they would revamp their kindergarten classroom. Over the course of a few days, both teachers rummaged through their own homes, made a few trips to local stores, and invited the parents to share any of their "beautiful junk" with the classroom. The children were so eager to see the changes taking place. Naturally they even began to interact with the materials differently than the teachers had seen before. If nothing else, our school as a whole is beginning to appreciate a simpler side of engaging children. "Perfect, store bought" preschool items do not seem to have the same effect on the overall comfort of the environment as our newly fashioned "loose parts."

# Welcome to New CAAEYC Board Members!

## Anna Ileta, M.Ed.



I am honored to be elected by CAAEYC board members as Vice President for Support. I have been teaching young children for 10 years and am currently working as an Adjunct Professor for Harrisburg Area Community College (HACC). I provide workshops to educators, families, and community leaders in early childhood education as a Certified PQAS instructor in PA. I am also a choreographer and an active PAACP (Philippine-American Association of Central PA) member promoting cultural awareness to young children, youths, and adults through dramatic stage play and folk dancing. With the help of colleagues, mentors, fellow educators, and families, we will together advocate and foster quality early learning for young children to succeed in school. I am looking forward to helping CAAEYC by participating and organizing more events which will continually enhance such awareness.

## Eric Jones

Known to children throughout the city as "Mr. E.," I have been a resident of Harrisburg for almost 25 years. Twenty of those years have been dedicated to the growth and development of young children. I am a graduate of the Harrisburg School District, obtained an Associate's degree in Early Childhood Education, and am studying for my BBA in Organizational Psychology and Development. Collaborating with both the Harrisburg School District and Capital Area Head Start, I own two childcare centers within the school district while directing the "Growing Center," a nonprofit childcare center for the Community Action Commission. One of my near future goals is to open a Youth Development Center for youth who are at risk.

## Sara Wrightstone, student representative

I am currently serving as President of SUCAAIEYC which is the Shippensburg University's chapter. I am also student teaching in kindergarten, so my days are pretty busy but I am learning a lot! The last few years our chapter has been inactive so our advisor reactivated it. Last year I signed up to be vice president, and attended the National Conference in Washington D.C. which was a great experience. We also helped the local elementary school in Shippensburg with various activities. Our goal for the chapter this year was to expand our chapter with more members, but it has been challenging getting more members to join. With graduation coming in May, I am excited! As I leave Shippensburg I am looking forward to being a part of CAAEYC in the future!

