nyaeyc

New York Association for the Education of Young Children

2026 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

TURNING STONE RESORT | APRIL 22 - APRIL 24

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

NEW YORK AEYC

WELCOMES OUR KEYNOTES

Welcoming Keynote
Wednesday, April 22
4:00pm - 5:00pm

Kenneth Sherman
Education and Professional Development Director at HighScope Educational Research Foundation

Beyond Behavior: Supporting Executive Function and Social Skills Through Play

Thursday Keynote
Thursday, April 23
8:30am - 9:30am

Lucy Recio
Executive Leader, Published Author, Certified Coach, and Entrepreneur at Third Bloom Consulting

Reframing Darkness: Fortifying Our Capacity to Lead in Times of Uncertainty and Rapid Change

Friday Keynote
Friday, April 24
3:30am - 4:30pm

Rachel Wagner, MSW
Lead National Trainer and Early Childhood Mental Health Specialist at the Devereux Center for Resilient Children

A Moment Like This... Requires Resilience!

SCHEDULE UPDATE

This year, the conference will start earlier on Wednesday, April 22 and end with a Closing Keynote on Friday, April 24! You can find the training hour breakdown below:

2 workshop sessions, Keynote, and documentary viewing on Wednesday (up to 5 hours)
5 workshop sessions and Keynote on Thursday (up to 6.5 hours)
5 workshop sessions and Keynote on Friday (up to 6.5 hours)

Attendees may earn up to 18 total OCFS training hours if all sessions and keynotes are attended in full.
The full Workshop Listing will be available mid-February on our website!

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

KAPLAN EARLY LEARNING COMPANY
Lakeshore®
Child's Play®
Gardner Media
community playthings®
DISCOUNT SCHOOL SUPPLY

Questions? Email us at contactus@nyaeyc.org.

https://bit.ly/nyaeyc2026

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Registration Package Breakdown

We offer four package options; choose the best option for you!

	Package A	Package A (Student)	Package B	Package C (Thurs)	Package C (Fri)
Wednesday Workshops and Keynote	✓	✓	✓		
Wednesday Dinner Event	✓	✓			
Thursday Workshops and Keynote	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Thursday Dinner Event	✓				
Friday Workshops and Keynote	✓	✓	✓		✓

Conference Cost Breakdown

Early Bird Registration Rates
January 7 - February 23

	New York AEYC Member	Non-Member	Student
Package A	$305	$335	$220
Package B	$240	$270	$140
Package C	$140	$180	$110

Regular Registration Rates
February 24 - April 13

	New York AEYC Member	Non-Member	Student
Package A	$320	$350	$235
Package B	$255	$285	$155
Package C	$155	$195	$125

A La Carte Meal Options

	New York AEYC Member	Non-Member	Student
Wednesday "Welcome to Verona" Dinner	$85	$90	$80
Thursday "Champions for Children" Dinner	$80	$85	$75

NEW! Boxed Lunch Options ($35)

(All Boxed Wraps and Sandwiches include Chips, Pasta Salad, Chocolate Chip Cookie, Condiments on the Side, and a Drink)

CLASSIC GOLFER'S DUO WRAP
Turkey, Ham, Diced Tomato, Leaf Lettuce
TURKEY WRAP
Turkey, Garlic Mayo, Diced Tomato, Leaf Lettuce
SOUTHWESTERN VEGGIE WRAP
Mixed Greens, Black Beans, Avocado, Diced Tomato, Pickled Onion

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CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Wednesday, April 22

10:00am - 6:00pm	Registration and Name Badge Pick-Up
11:00am - 12:30pm	Session 1 Workshops
2:00pm - 3:30pm	Session 2 Workshops
4:00pm - 5:00pm	Welcoming Keynote Address
5:00pm - 6:00pm	Exhibitor Opening Reception
6:00pm - 7:30pm	Welcome to Verona Dinner Event
8:00pm - 9:00pm	Make A Circle Documentary Viewing

Thursday, April 23

7:00am - 5:00pm	Registration and Name Badge Pick-Up
8:30am - 9:30am	Opening Keynote Address
10:00am - 11:30am	Session 2 Workshops
11:30am - 1:00pm	Lunch and Networking in the Exhibit Hall
1:00pm - 2:30pm	Session 3 Workshops
3:00pm - 4:30pm	Session 4 Workshops
4:45pm - 5:45pm	Session 5 Workshops
6:30pm - 9:30pm	Champions for Children Awards Ceremony and Dinner

Friday, April 24

6:00am - 12:00pm	Registration and Name Badge Pick-Up
7:00am - 8:00am	Session 1 Workshops
8:30am - 10:00am	Session 2 Workshops
10:30am - 12:00pm	Session 3 Workshops
12:00pm - 1:30pm	Lunch and Networking in the Exhibit Hall
1:30pm - 3:00pm	Session 4 Workshops
3:30pm - 4:30pm	Closing Keynote Address

Questions? Email us at contactus@nyaeyc.org.

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GENERAL INFORMATION

6 Things to Know about the Annual Conference

1. **Workshops** Workshops are available on a first-come, first-served basis, and pre-registration is not offered for general sessions. We recommend selecting both a first- and second-choice workshop to ensure you have an option available if your top choice reaches capacity.
2. **The Aspire Registry** We will track attendee participation at workshops through the conference app. The information will be uploaded into the Aspire registry for you so you can easily view and track your professional development with your online account. Don't have an account? Sign up today!
3. **Certificate of Participation** If you are not tracking your PD through Aspire, you will receive an emailed certificate 4 to 6 weeks after the conference. Please note, we will be scanning all attendees into sessions for tracking and certificate purposes.
4. **Name Badges** Your name badge will be your all-access pass to the Annual Conference and will be provided at registration when you check in. Please be sure to keep it on you at all times!
5. **Room Reservations** Our room block is available now and sells out quickly. We encourage you to make your room reservations today.
6. **Food Options** Concessions will be open near registration in addition to the food court and restaurant options at Turning Stone. Pre-purchased boxed lunches, along with our Wednesday and Thursday dinners, are available for purchase during pre-registration.

Conference Venue

Turning Stone Resort Casino
5218 Patrick Road, Verona, NY 13478

Reserve your room prior to March 19th and benefit from our reduced room rates.
Please call 1-800-771-7711 to make your reservations, and be sure to mention the NYAEYC Annual Conference to receive the discounted rate.

Room Rates at the Tower/Hotel
Single/Double: $215
Triple: $225
Quad: $235

Room Rates at the Sandstone Hollow (off-site with shuttle service to main center)
Single/Double: $125
Triple: $135
Quad: $145

Parking is free to all conference attendees.

New This Year: Welcome to Verona Dinner Event at Seven Kitchens!

For the first time, we'll gather at Seven Kitchens on Wednesday night for an evening like never before! Included with Package A registration, and available for purchase with Packages B and C, we invite you to enjoy a grand buffet dinner alongside other conference attendees. Connect, unwind, and savor delicious food as we kick off our 2026 Annual Conference!

GENERAL INFORMATION (cont.)

Educational Incentive Program (EIP)

Apply for EIP by visiting www.ecetp.pdp.albany.edu/mytraining/EIPAPP/preapp.aspx.

When requesting EIP funding, please request the full rate ($350). The early bird rate will be applied at the time of payment if applicable.

Once your award has been approved in the EIP portal, please register for the conference online. Package A will not be available on-site. If available, on-site registration prices (for packages B and C) will be at an increased rate.

EIP Proof of Attendance: If you track your workshop attendance in Aspire, you can download your transcript/certificate from there.

EIP Cancellation Policy: If you have been issued an EIP award and do not attend the conference (and have not cancelled by March 1), you are responsible for payment of your registration fees. You **must** cancel with both EIP and NYAEYC.

QUALITYstarsNY

Eligible participating programs can apply for QUALITYstarsNY funding to attend the Annual Conference. Please contact your Quality Improvement Specialist for more information.

Carol Ely Scholarship

Students enrolled in a credit-bearing early education program at an accredited university can apply to receive a scholarship to attend the Annual Conference. For more information about this scholarship, please visit our website.

Application Deadline: February 21

Student Poster Session

If you are a higher education faculty member and would like for your student(s) to present their work at the 2026 Annual Conference, please contact Joan Buzick (joan.buzick@sunyempire.edu) for more information. Presentations may take the form of reports on work they did in a class, research they may have done about an aspect of early childhood development, parenting, teaching or related subjects and will take place on Thursday, April 23.

Special Feature: Make A Circle Documentary and Panel Discussion

We are excited to partner with WXXI Rochester's Early Learning Department this year to bring you a one-hour viewing of Make a Circle, a powerful documentary that uncovers the heart of early childhood education through the voices of educators. The film explores the challenges facing the ECE workforce, from low wages to limited support, while also celebrating the commitment and impact of those who care for and teach young children. Through personal stories and powerful emotions, Make a Circle spotlights why early educators are essential to strong communities. The viewing will take place on Wednesday evening and will be followed by a panel discussion on Thursday morning. You can receive credit for attending only the panel discussion on Thursday, but you must attend both the viewing and panel discussion (up to 2.5 hours) to receive credit for the viewing.

SAMPLING OF WORKSHOPS

Family Child Care Providers	Boosting Your Child Care Business Through Digital Engagement Mindful Moments: Cultivating Calm and Connection With Your Environment Safe Spaces, Strong Children: Trauma-Informed Play in Early Learning Settings
Professional Development Providers	Behind the Curtain: How the Aspire Registry Supports Quality Assurance in Training Approval The Art of Coaching Reflective Supervision and Supporting Ongoing Professional Development of Staff
En Español	Musica y Movimiento Conviértase en un detective del comportamiento: identifique la razón detrás de los comportamientos Trayectorias profesionales

A special thank you to the organizations that sponsored the partner tracks below.

Early Care & Learning Council Infant/Toddler	Acknowledge, Ask, and Adapt: PITC's Approach to Communicating with Families Little Minds, Big Conversations: Language, Communication, and the Developing Brain Understanding Infant Behavior
Farm to ECE	Meaningful Conversations: Family Cafés on Child Nutrition At My Daycare There's a Farm E.I.E.I.OOOO Buying and Serving Local Foods in Your Childcare Program
Prevent Child Abuse New York	ACEs, Resilience, and Your Role in Strengthening Families Building Resilience in Ourselves and Others Reflective Supervision and Supporting Ongoing Professional Development of Staff
OCFS	Regional Office Leadership: "Can You Hear Me Now?" OCFS Division of Child Care Services-News You Can Use From Big Ideas to Everyday Realities: Shaping Child Care, Communities and Change
QUALITYstarsNY	An Introduction to QUALITYstarsNY: Getting Recognition and Support for Program Quality From Rules to Relationships: Why a Handbook Matters Thinking Outside the BLOCKS!
Eco Healthy Child Care	Responding to a Changing Climate Healthy Spaces, Healthy Futures: Integrating Environmental Health into Child Care Operations Shortcuts to Keep it Clean...Really?
NYS Pyramid Model Initiative	Stronger Together: Elevating Teaching and Leadership Through Communities of Practice Introducing Teaching Tools for Young Children to Support Desired Expectations Making Connections with Music

The full Workshop Listing can be found on the conference website starting mid-February.

Questions? Email us at contactus@nyaeyc.org.

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PRE-CONFERENCE EVENTS

We are excited to offer two pre-conference events for Professional Development Providers this year. Please take a look at the information below and register today! Space is limited.

Stages of Change Approach
Resistance to change can be as constant as change itself. The Stage of Change Approach to Professional Development is a model that addresses personal and organizational change by offering strategies matched to the learner's stage of "readiness to change."

This session is for individuals who currently hold their T-TAP, are in the process of completing their T-TAP or are NYS Pyramid Model PDN. All registrants must have an active Aspire Trainer or TA Professional account.

Date/Time: Tuesday, April 21, 2026, 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Location: Turning Stone Resort and Conference Center
Registration Close Date: Friday, April 3, 2026
Cost Structure: NYAEYC Member – $180 | Non-Member – $210 |NYS Pyramid Model PDN Member – $25

Register Now

Eco-Healthy Child Care® Training for Trainers
Children are uniquely vulnerable to environmental hazards due to their developing bodies and exploratory behaviors, such as mouthing objects. These hazards, including harmful chemicals, lead, unsafe plastics, and poor indoor air quality, can lead to long-term health impacts like asthma, intellectual disabilities, and even childhood cancer. Moreover, child care professionals—disproportionately low-income women of color—are at increased risk from these exposures in their workplaces.

This interactive training explores how the Children's Environmental Health Network's Eco-Healthy Child Care® program empowers child care providers to create safer environments for children and staff. Attendees will gain actionable insights into identifying and mitigating environmental hazards using low-cost and effective strategies.

Participants will engage in problem-centered, collaborative activities designed to solidify key concepts, such as sorting through examples of common child care materials (i.e., teethers, toys, bottles and sippy cups) to identify safer alternatives. The session will address:

· Environmental hazards in child care settings and their effects on children's health;
· The disproportionate impact of environmental hazards on Black, Brown, and low-income communities;
· Practical, Eco-Healthy practices for reducing risks in child care environments;
· Resources available to support child care professionals in improving environmental health.

Please note: The purpose is for you to imbed the content you learn in this session into trainings you already offer or develop in the future.
Date/Time: Wednesday, April 22, 2026, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
Location: Turning Stone Resort and Conference Center
Registration Close Date: Friday, April 3, 2026
Cost Structure: NYAEYC Member – $75 | Non-Member – $90
There is an option to add a pre-purchased lunch box for an additional fee.

Register Now

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New York Association for the Education of Young Children

2026 Annual Conference ◆ April 22 - April 24 ◆ Regular Registration Form

This is an individual registration form. Please email us at contactus@nyaeyc.org for group registration forms, or find them on our website at bit.ly/nyaeyc2026.

Mail: 230 Washington Ave Ext., Albany, NY 12203 **Email:** contactus@nyaeyc.org **Fax:** (518) 867-3520

NYAEYC Member/Customer ID_____ Exp Date_____

Contact Information (Please print clearly to avoid delays in processing your registration.)

Name Cell Phone

Email

Organization Position

Address City State Zip

NAEYC Accredited ☐ Yes ☐ No Years of Experience Aspire ID

Registration Rates

	Member	Non Member	Student
Package A	☐ $320	☐ $350	☐ $235
Package B	☐ $255	☐ $285	☐ $155
Package C**	☐ $155	☐ $195	☐ $125

Please note: Student Package A includes ONLY the Wednesday night dinner.)

** ☐ Thursday Workshops OR ☐ Friday Workshops

Meal Events (Available a la carte with Packages B and C. Optional.)

	Member	Non Member	Student
Wednesday Dinner	☐ $85	☐ $90	☐ $70
Thursday Dinner	☐ $80	☐ $85	☐ $75

Please list any special or dietary needs.

_____

Lunch Options (Available a la carte with all packages. Optional.)

Thursday Lunch Box	☐ $35	☐ Turkey, ham, tomato, lettuce	☐ Turkey, garlic mayo, tomato, lettuce	☐ **Southwestern Veggie Wrap** (Mixed Greens, Black Beans, Avocado, Diced Tomato, Pickled Onion)
Friday Lunch Box	☐ $35	☐ Turkey, ham, tomato, lettuce	☐ Turkey, garlic mayo, tomato, lettuce	☐ **Southwestern Veggie Wrap** (Mixed Greens, Black Beans, Avocado, Diced Tomato, Pickled Onion)

New York State Credentials

☐ Training and Technical Assistance Professional Credential (PDS)

☐ Training and Technical Assistance Professional Credential (Coach)

☐ Training and Technical Assistance Professional Credential (Content Specialist)

Total Registration Fee: $_____

☐ Check payable to NYAEYC: Check # ☐ Purchase Order (enclosed): PO #

Registration will not be processed without payment. Returned checks will result in a $30 charge. By submitting this registration form, you are accepting our Terms and Conditions, which can be found at **bit.ly/nyaeyc2026.**

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