



**WESTCHESTER ASSOCIATION FOR THE  
EDUCATION OF YOUNG CHILDREN**

**NEWSLETTER, February 2015**

[www.westchesteraeyc.com](http://www.westchesteraeyc.com)  
[westchesteraeyc@gmail.com](mailto:westchesteraeyc@gmail.com)

**WAEYC Mission Statement:**

The Westchester Association for the Education of Young Children is a professional organization which advocates for children birth through eight years. It educates, guides policy, and promotes quality early childhood programs.

## **Spring Training Workshops 2015**

**WAEYC is pleased to present its 2015 Spring Workshop series!**

The Spring Workshops are a terrific opportunity for directors, staff, specialists and parents to continue their education in the early childhood field. These quality programs are designed to bring new concepts and techniques to staff, to enhance the classroom experience for the children we serve, and to provide everyone with training hours and networking opportunities. We invite you to share the workshops with the parents at your program. There are many that would appeal to them also!

### **Afternoon and Evening Workshops**

Open to

Directors, Teachers, Specialists, Staff and Parents

For further information call

Donna Tortorici 914-948-2414

### **A Special Thank You!**

WAEYC would also like to thank Sara Arnon for organizing over 30 Spring Workshops on different days, times and locations throughout the county.  
Thanks Sara!

## President's Message:

Dear Fellow Westchester AEYC members and Early Childhood Professionals:

As many of us paused for the holidays, we might have had some time to consider the many blessings we have in our profession as well as the issues that require our creative problem solving day to day! Early childhood professionals nurture and care for everyone: children birth –eight years, as well as their families. We support early education in so many ways: provide for the emotional well-being and nutritional needs of children; encourage creativity; provide and coordinate specialized services; build the bridge between the medical profession and special education needs; and promote an understanding of human development for families. In all that we do, we serve as advocates for the needs of all young children and their families.

On their website, The National Education Association notes the power of early educational experiences. Research shows that providing a high quality education for children before they turn five yields significant long-term benefits. One well-known study, the *HighScope Perry Preschool Study*, found that individuals who were enrolled in a quality preschool program ultimately earned up to \$2,000 more per month than those who were not. Young people who were in preschool programs are more likely to graduate from high school, to own homes, and have longer marriages. Other studies, like *The Abecedarian Project*, show similar results. Children in quality preschool programs are less likely to repeat

grades, need special education, or get into future trouble with the law.

As a kindergarten teacher, I recognize the impact I have on the families in my district. The early childhood years are the most powerful years for learning, growth and development in the life of a child and kindergarten holds a place in the education of a student as one of the foundations for the attitudes about learning that children and families will carry with them throughout their years of schooling and beyond.

Therefore, think of yourself as an important provider in the scheme of things, because you are!! This issue of our Westchester AEYC details our *Spring 2015 Workshop* series. Take note of what is being offered and provide yourself with professional development that is on target, current, and informational so that you can improve upon your skills as an early childhood professional. I hope you took a few days away from your day-to-day professional responsibilities to relax, catch up with old friends, and curl up on the couch with a good book. Recharging your battery with a long walk or a trip to the gym (I needed to do that!), was a refreshing break. I hope you took time for you!

May the winter be kind to all of us with a couple of snow days thrown in so we can get caught up with the laundry, and here's to health and happiness for all in 2015!

Deborah Mumford, EdD

# WESTCHESTER AEYC SPRING WORKSHOPS 2015

We are pleased to present this series of training opportunities for directors, staff, specialists, and parents to continue their education in early childhood. These quality workshops are designed to bring new concepts, techniques, and ideas to professionals working with young children in order to enhance the classroom experience. These workshops also provide you with the training hours and networking opportunities so necessary to your work. Please share this brochure with colleagues, friends, and parents at your program and encourage them to attend also.

**If your center is a host site, your Director received a voucher for free attendance to any workshop. Please speak to your director about using this voucher.**

Please remember to fill out an evaluation form at the end of each workshop so that we know how well received each presentation was for you. And, we encourage you to join WAEYC, come to our events, and also give us any suggestions of interest areas that you would like our affiliate to focus on for you. Members call the shots in any professional organization---let your voice be heard.

Sara Arnon, Chairperson, WAEYC Spring Workshops 2015

## MARCH 2015 Workshops:

1. Thursday, March 5 at 4- 6 PM  
*Creating the Resilient Learner---Communication, Self-Control, and Creativity in Your Classroom*

This workshop empowers educators to create a positive learning environment in their classrooms. Teachers learn essential tools that promote successful listeners, communicators and flexible learners. There will be team building activities and participants will learn how to integrate simple activities into the school day that strengthen inner skills, resulting in a class that is focused and ready to learn. In addition, it will emphasize acquiring the skills to customize activities to fit the needs of a particular class dynamic.

Presenter: Monica Levy OCFS: 1, 3  
Site: Transitional Learning Center 914-738-6760  
555 Davenport Avenue  
New Rochelle 10805

2. Monday, March 9 at 7 – 9 PM  
*Uplifting the WHOLE Child Through Art*

Art is a powerful tool allowing children to express their personality, problem solve, and develop self-confidence and feelings of self worth. In this workshop Emily will share some of her most popular art activities that are useful to any classroom. The messages behind her teaching, encourages each child to accept and love themselves.

Presenter: Emily Gosweiler OCFS: 1, 3  
Site: Creative Ways 484-802-7558  
343 Broadway  
Dobbs Ferry 10522

3. Tuesday, March 10 at 4 – 6 PM  
*Rhythm Instruments in the Preschool Classroom*

Come and learn fun, engaging ways of singing, moving and storytelling with rhythm instruments which helps children learn to discern the different sounds and feel of each instrument. Children learn to follow directions while having just plain FUN!!!

Presenter: Mary Ann Becker OCFS: 1, 3  
Site: Mamaroneck Community Nursery School 914-381-2655  
501 Tompkins Avenue  
Mamaroneck 10543

**\*\*Consider Inviting a Friend to Register with You. Share Your Brochure with Parents and Colleagues\*\***

4. Wednesday, March 11

at 4- 6 PM

***The Best of the Best---PART I***

Join 2 well-seasoned teachers (25+years in Early Childhood Education) as they share their favorite curriculum ideas, including science, math, social studies, and social skill-building. The learning that contributes to each activity will be discussed throughout the workshop.

Presenters: Deb Tashoff and Lisa Lowy OCFS: 1, 3  
Site: Early Childhood Center at Memorial Methodist Church 914-949-4187  
250 Bryant Avenue  
White Plains, 10605

**\*\*\*The Best of the Best Workshop has a Part II on April, 23 at 4 – 6 PM\*\*\*  
Consider signing up for BOTH workshops.**

5. Thursday, March 12

at 4- 6 PM

***Speech and Language Development of the Preschool Child***

This workshop will provide a comprehensive overview of the language development of growing children. Following this presentation you will have a greater understanding of activities, means and strategies for enhancing early language acquisition. You will be able to identify a variety of signs that may indicate a delay or deficit is present as well as steps to take if you feel intervention is warranted.

Presenter: Nicole L. Holland, M.A., CCC-SLP TSSLD OCFS: 1, 3, 5  
Site: St. James the Less Nursery School 914-723-1018  
10 Church Lane  
Scarsdale, 10583

6. Thursday, March 12

at 4 – 6 PM

***CROSS FIT---Fitness and Fun for Kids***

The presenter is a certified Cross-Fit Instructor. She will lead a discussion explaining what crossfit is and the immense benefits of implementation of the program in the preschool classroom—such as fighting the epidemic of obesity in America and helping children to grow up healthy and strong and to develop a life-long love of exercise. Goals will be to help build a foundation of fitness in children’s lives. This workshop will be interactive with participants taking an active role in the exercises.

Presenter: Emily Kehoe OCFS: 1, 2  
Site: Creative Playtime at Grace Lutheran Church 914-472-4777  
59 Grand Boulevard  
Scarsdale, 10583

7. Monday, March 16

at 7 – 9 PM

***Using Music To Make Transition Times Easier***

Learn pointers to effectively provide smooth transitions throughout the day and a variety of songs that can aid in this process. Bring a recording device and your singing voice!!! You’ll have lots to share and try in your classrooms the next day!

Presenter: Barbara J. Wright OCFS: 1, 3, 4  
Site: Pound Ridge Community Church Play School 914-764-4360  
3 Pound Ridge Road  
Pound Ridge, 10576

8. Tuesday, March 17 at 4 – 6 PM

***FOR DIRECTORS: Administrative Issues You Did NOT Anticipate! HELP !!!!***

Becoming a Center Director is Exciting and also Daunting. This workshop will help you deal with some of the new issues you have to deal with every day and it will also give you a ‘network’ of new directors with whom you can connect for support and sometimes even a little TLC!!! The Presenter, Joyce Guimaraes has been a Center Director for over 30 years, so she has watched the administrative role change over the years and she will be able to answer your questions and offer you resources. A MUST for the Director who is struggling with any issue.

Presenter: Joyce Guimaraes, Director OCFS: 3, 5  
Site: Larchmont Avenue Church Preschool 914-834-3984  
60 Forest Park Avenue  
Larchmont, 10538

9. Tuesday, March 17 at 7 – 9 PM

***Happiest Toddler on the Block Intensive***

Reduce or completely end a tantrum by learning techniques that set limits but establish mutual respect and self-control. Participants will explore the developmental challenges that make toddlers so reactive and adults so frustrated. In addition to instruction for children in the middle of a tantrum, strategies using “time in” communication for patience and self control will be taught. This approach is especially effective for special needs toddlers.

Presenter: Cathy Collyer, OTR, LMT OCFS: 1, 3, 4  
Site: Center for Small Jewels 914-632-9109  
3 The Boulevard  
New Rochelle, 10801

10. Wednesday, March 18 at 4 – 6 PM

***Creating a Music Center in Your Learning Environment***

STRIKE UP THE BAND! This workshop explores the importance of music in an early childhood curriculum, by using simple musical instruments to teach the basic elements of music.

Presenter: David Del Campo OCFS: 1, 3  
Site: Purchase Children’s Center 914-948-2414  
3095 Purchase Street  
Purchase, 10577

11. Thursday, March 19 at 4 – 6 PM

***Supporting Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders...  
And the Parents Who Come With Them***

As increasing numbers of students on the autism spectrum are being identified and mainstreamed, early childhood educators are being stretched in “special” directions. This engaging session will provide practical information and strategies to help general educators reach these challenging students---and their parents. We will explore ways to maximize adjustment and learning, and to broach difficult topics with parents. Ultimately our goal is to facilitate an environment of effective, open collaboration around the children we share.

Presenter: Barbara Boronson OCFS: 1,3,4,5  
Site: St. John’s Nursery School 914-833-2870  
4 Fountain Square  
Larchmont, 10538

12. Monday, March 23

at 4 – 6 PM

***Maintaining a Good Working Relationship---Director and Staff***

How do you get your Director to hear your concerns? How do you make staff understand the reason for policies? Come and learn how to communicate in a productive manner. Questions will be asked and answered. Sometimes it's hard to understand why certain rules (policies) need to be in place, but as an organization grows, becomes licensed and has mandated rules to follow, some things just have to be done by everyone. Come watch and listen as this experienced team helps us learn to be heard without anger.

Presenters: Linda Teubl & Barbara Klein OCFS: 3, 4, 5  
Site: Huguenot Nursery School 914-738- 6346  
901 Pelhamdale Avenue  
Pelham, 10803

13. Monday, March 23

at 7 – 9 PM

***7 Wonders of Managing Difficult Behaviors***

Young children often exhibit challenging behaviors. 7 principles are offered as suggestions to manage such behaviors. Specific scenarios are presented and discussed in order to gain maximum understanding of each principle. Time will be allotted for Q & A and discussion of personal experiences.

Presenter: Vicki L Messina OCFS: 1,3, 4  
Site: Alcott School 914-472-4404  
Crane Road  
Scarsdale, 10583

14. Tuesday, March 24

at 4 – 6 PM

***Develop Your Own Music Program***

We will discuss how we developed our own in-staff music program for 3's and 4's which met our two goals of introducing staff and children to different musical techniques to use in their classrooms and delivering a varied music education for the children. We will share what we tried, what worked, what didn't and how to start or ramp up your own music program.

Presenters: Lois Benevento & Linda Jo Platt OCFS: 1, 3, 5  
Site: Community Nursery School 914-693-9072  
343 Broadway  
Dobbs Ferry, 10522

15. Wednesday, March 25

at 4 – 6 PM

***Music, Dance, Fingerplays with Delores***

There's always something new to learn with Delores. A handout of songs, dances, and finger plays will be used in a participatory program in order to bring new material to the teacher's classrooms. It's definitely a good idea to bring a recording device to this workshop.

Presenter: Delores JiJi OCFS: 1, 3  
Site: Creative Playtime at Grace Lutheran Church 914-472-4777  
59 Grand Boulevard  
Scarsdale, 10583

***\*\*\*Register Soon So that You Get Your First Choice Workshop\*\*\****

## APRIL 2015 WORKSHOPS:

16. Tuesday, April 7

at 4 – 6 PM

### *Fun With Science*

Come and see how easy it is for children to become scientists---forming hypothesis, conducting experiments, making observations and drawing conclusions with a variety of simple science activities. Make Science an IMPORTANT part of the day.

Presenter: MaryAnn Becker OCFS: 1, 3, 4  
Site: Mamaroneck Community Nursery School 914-381-2655  
501 Tompkins Avenue  
Mamaroneck, 10543

17. Wednesday, April 8

at 4 – 6 PM

### *Using Questions to Develop Higher Level Thinking Skills*

The QUESTION is one of the main tools in a teacher's repertoire. Learn how to identify the type of questions that promote learning and encourage participation, and practice your question-making craft!!!

Presenter: David Del Campo OCFS: 1, 3,  
Site: Early Childhood Center @ CUMC 914-949-4187  
250 Bryant Avenue  
White Plains, 10605

18. Thursday, April 9

at 7 – 9 PM

### *PROMPT THERAPY---A Tactile Kinesthetic Approach*

This workshop is offered to individuals who are interested in learning about this specialized approach and technique that utilizes tactile-kinesthetic information to help individuals improve their language and speech production skills. Participants will gain an understanding of prompt principles. Participants will learn about efficacy based prompt therapy.

Presenters: Cheryl Small Jackson, SLP and Prompt Instructor OCFS: 1, 3, 5  
Victoria Higgs, SLP 914-632-9109  
Site: Center for Small Jewels, Inc  
3 The Boulevard  
New Rochelle, 10801

19. Monday, April 13

at 4 – 6 PM

### *Web-Based Marketing*

This workshop will help you market your Early Childhood Program through web-based and e-mail marketing. Let the WWW. (world wide web) help you make your program viable to the right population in your target area. This director has had great success using the Internet to communicate to families via, Constant Contact, Facebook, E-newsletters and has marketed for new clients with great success. A MUST if you need to improve your computer skills and also to understand the communication styles of today's young parent's. **Directors**----help your program grow the easy way---the way today's families search and the way they will actually read your information!

Presenter: Niki Guida, Director OCFS: 5  
Site: Weekday Nursery School 914-632-6758  
1200 North Avenue  
New Rochelle, 10804

20. Monday, April 13

at 4 – 6 PM

***Music and Art for Toddlers and Two Year Olds***

Like all the best learning experiences, music and art experiences in early childhood promote development in multiple learning domains. Understanding what you want the children to learn through the experiences helps you design and choose activities that will support specific developmental goals.

Presenter: Donna Wells OCFS: 1, 3  
Site: Weekday Nursery School 914-632-6758  
1200 North Avenue  
New Rochelle, 10804

21. Tuesday, April 14

at 4 – 6 PM

***Welcoming Nature into Your Classroom***

In this “plugged in” era, nature play for children is more important than ever. While getting children outside and into green spaces is ideal, we can also bring nature into the classroom through indoor games and creative use of specimens from the natural world. This session will cover both: we’ll take a short nature walk on the Sheldrake Conservancy property to demonstrate ways to help children engage with nature in the outdoors, whether your classroom is near a park or in an urban setting. We’ll also spend time indoors with hands-on activities, role plays and other tips for stimulating nature play in the classroom.

Presenter: Jenny Geer, Director Community Programs OCFS:1, 2, 3, 4  
Site: Sheldrake Environmental Center 914-834-1443  
685 Weaver Street  
Larchmont, 10538

22. Wednesday, April 15

at 7 – 9 PM

***Adding Gym and Fitness to Your Program***

This certified personal trainer and fitness instructor who teaches adult and children’s classes throughout Westchester County will lead this workshop session. A mother of 2 active boys, she thinks everyone should move their body in a fun and safe setting every day. She will show you how to use stretching, jumping, obstacle courses and age appropriate games to enliven your program. She will explain how children increase motor, social and listening skills all of which help build confidence and self esteem. Through physical activity children strengthen their brain, body, and imagination. She will address safely and how to use your existing space to the fullest.

Presenter: Jeannine Palermo OCFS: 1, 2, 3, 4  
Site: St James The Less 914-723-1018  
10 Church Lane  
Scarsdale, 10583

23. Thursday, April 16

at 4-6 PM

***Strengthening Preschool Literacy Skills***

This presenter will share tips on how to strengthen listening and verbal skills and pre-reading and pre-writing skills in the classroom. These tips are also terrific to share with parents, as well as sharing simple activities that can be done in the classroom and at home. **Consider inviting a parent to attend with you.**

Presenter: Barbara Dann, Teacher OCFS: 1, 3  
Site: Community Nursery School 914-693-9072  
343 Broadway  
Dobbs Ferry, 10522

24. Thursday, April 16

at 4 – 6 PM

***Shared Resource ECNY: An Exciting Membership Benefit from New York State Assoc. for the Education of Young Children***

If you are a Member of Westchester AEYC, you need to attend this workshop to be introduced to a FREE member benefit available right now for you! Directors can save time and money. Teachers can use this web-based benefit to add value to their classroom. You must be a member to access the site, but if you are not a member, we welcome you to attend and see what you are missing. Membership information will be available for you.

Presenter: Lynda Merchant, President NYS AEYC OCFS: 5  
Site: Beginning Years ECC of Temple Beth El of 914-238-3928  
Northern Westchester  
Chappaqua, 10514

25. Monday, April 20

at 4 – 6 PM

***Appropriate Referrals to EI and CPSE: A Brief Overview***

This workshop will walk attendees through the process of appropriate referrals to either Early Intervention (EI) or Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE) systems.

Presenter: Suzanne Peretz OCFS: 1, 3, 4, 5  
Site: Westchester Institute for Human Development 914-493-1709  
Cedarwood Hall, Room A106  
Valhalla, 10595

26. Tuesday, April 21

at 7 – 9 PM

***The Nuts and Bolts of Developmentally Appropriate Practice***

Developmentally appropriate practices are the basic building block upon which high quality early childhood programs and classrooms are based. Let's see what it is and what it isn't. Let's see how research and theory back up its use and how to ensure that our activities are developmentally appropriate.

Presenter: Debbie Silver OCFS: 1, 3  
Site: Early Childhood Center at CUMC 914-949-4187  
250 Bryant Avenue  
White Plains, 10605

27. Thursday, April 23

at 4 – 6 PM

***The Best of the Best- Part II***

If you enjoyed Part I in March, please join us as we continue to share more of our favorite curriculum ideas. **(If you missed Part I, you can still gain lots of knowledge from Part II)** Come for a fun afternoon filled with learning and gathering new ideas for science, social studies, and social skill building.

Presenters: Deb Tashoff & Lisa Lowy, Teachers OCFS: 1, 3, 4  
Site: Early Childhood Center at CUMC 914-949-4187  
250 Bryant Avenue  
White Plains, 10605

28. Thursday, April 23

at 7 – 9 PM

***Fun Circle Time Activities***

Learn songs and movement activities to do during Circle Time. Enhance your curriculum through fun and engaging songs and activities. You'll be able to take these back to your classrooms and try them with your children. Bring a recording device.

Presenter: Barbara J Wright OCFS: 1, 3,  
Site: YWCA—White Plains 914-949-6227  
515 North Street  
White Plains, 10605

29. Monday, April 27

at 4 – 6 PM

***Incorporating Cooking and Nutrition into the PreK Classroom:  
A STEAM Experience***

Explore how to cook and influence the food experience of your little friends. Through observations, questions and conversations we will show examples of how to extend literature by food exploration, how to extend science by food preparation, and how to use math as a basis of cooking lessons. STEAM skills will be outlined. We will share recipes, offer examples of classroom activities and prepare goodies to go. We will also discuss strategies to influence food preferences and how to develop nutritious eating habits. The challenges of food allergies in the classroom will also be explored. It will be a delicious hands-on experience!

Presenters: Catherine Crean & Cheryl Smith OCFS: 1, 2, 3, 4  
Site: St. James the Less 914-723-1018  
10 Church Lane  
Scarsdale, 10583

30. Monday, April 27

at 7 – 9 PM

***Biting and Hitting and Dumping, Oh My!!***

Let's look at the challenging behaviors toddlers sometime demonstrate. We will discuss how development impacts behavior, the difference between discipline and punishment and guidelines for positive discipline.

Presenter: Debbie Silver OCFS: 1, 2, 3, 4  
Site: Briarcliff Nursery School 914-941-4373  
40 Morningside Drive  
Ossining, 10510

31. Tuesday, April 28

at 4 – 6 PM

***Clay and Dough in the Classroom***

Spend a fun couple of hours learning how to make different clays and doughs. Children adore the tactile of activity of working with their hands and creating something---so will you. This workshop includes project ideas, and examples of store-made clays, books, and a useful handout.

Presenter: Marjorie Winter OCFS: 1, 3, 4  
Site: Mamaroneck Community Nursery School 914-381-2655  
501 Tompkins Avenue  
Mamaroneck, 10543

We hope that this series of workshops will be helpful to you in your classrooms. It is always good when we learn more to develop our skills to become better teachers and it's wonderful to meet colleagues from other programs and hear what they are doing in their classrooms.

**REGISTRATION INFORMATION:**

Do you have any questions? Call Donna Tortorici or Judy Betz at **914-948-2414**

- Please use a separate registration form for each person. Make copies of the form as necessary.
- Please list individual names and evening telephone numbers if registering from a Center.
- Each workshop is \$ 15. Please make all checks to WAEYC and send to the Registrar listed below.
- Please circle all workshop numbers you would like to attend on the form and return it with the appropriate fee of \$ 15/workshop.
- WAEYC Spring Workshops allow NO WALK-INS. Enrollment is limited so please do not wait until the last minute.
- If a workshop is cancelled, you will be contacted to choose an alternate workshop. There are NO REFUNDS.
- NEED DIRECTIONS? Contact the telephone number given for each workshop site. Please call between 9 AM and 2 PM.
- Attendance Certificates and workshop evaluations will be given out at the END of each workshop. Evaluations are to be returned to the host.
- OCFS numbers represents the category of training that each workshop covers.

**Registration Form for Westchester AEYC Spring Workshops 2015**

Please send registration to:

Donna Tortorici, Purchase Children’s Center

3095 Purchase Street, Purchase, NY 10577

Make checks payable to **WAEYC**. Your cancelled check is your receipt.

NO REFUNDS will be issued.



NAME \_\_\_\_\_

HOME ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL/CENTER (If applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

WORK PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ CELLPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

Workshops: Please circle your choice (s):

**March, 2015**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15									

**April, 2015**

16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31								

Each workshop is \$ 15. Please only one person per registration form.

# \_\_\_\_\_workshops at \$15 = \_\_\_\_\_ Enclosed

## The Week of the Young Child (WOYC) April 12 - 18, 2015 Celebrating our Youngest Learners

The purpose of the Week of the Young Child is to focus public attention on the needs of young children and their families and to recognize the early childhood programs and services that meet those needs. It is a time for programs to spread the word about early childhood education. We are challenging you to come up with ways to reach the public and policy makers and increase their knowledge. Let the community know we are not BABYSITTERS. Let them know we EDUCATE. Let them know PLAY IS LEARNING.

WAEYC wants to know your stories. Send us photos, videos or copies of letters, showing how you spread the word. Some suggestions:

- Invite your parents, local officials, and State Senators to visit your facility and notice the nurturing and inviting environment. Give them information on what ECE truly means and how children can learn through play.
- Do more than just 'preach to the choir'. Go beyond that. Start the discussion at the dinner table, on the grocery line, and see where that conversation leads
- Ideas to use in your centers and share with your families can be found on the NAEYC website by following this link [www.naeyc.org/woyc](http://www.naeyc.org/woyc). This is a great opportunity to raise public awareness and support for the role quality early childhood education plays in our communities!
- NAEYC first established the Week of the Young Child in 1971, recognizing that the early childhood years (birth through age 8) lay the foundation for children's success in school and later life. Is your center doing anything special for the WOYC? Let us know and we can help spread the word.

### Scholarship Opportunities

#### Linda Lattimer Professional Tuition Scholarship

*Funded by the Westchester Association for the Education of Young Children*

The Linda Lattimer Professional Tuition Scholarship was established to honor the memory of Linda Fraser Lattimer who was the founding director of the *Purchase College Children's Center*. The purpose of the award is to make professional education in the field of early childhood education more readily available to WAEYC members currently working in the field.

#### Beth Anne Farkas Special Education Scholarship

*Funded by the Westchester Association for the Education of Young Children*

The Beth Anne Farkas Special Education Scholarship was established to honor the memory of Beth Anne Farkas, the former executive director of the Alcott School in Scarsdale. The purpose of this award is to assist WAEYC members who have previously been employed in the field of Early Childhood Education and are currently enrolled as either full time undergraduate or graduate students pursuing a degree in the field of Early Childhood Special Education, or WAEYC members currently employed in the field of Early Childhood Education, enrolled as part-time undergraduate or graduate students in the field of Early Childhood Special Education.

For further details on either scholarship, please go to [www.westchesteraeyc.com](http://www.westchesteraeyc.com) to the Scholarship tab to download these applications. The deadline for submitting the applications is April 1, 2015. Scholarships will be awarded at our Annual Meeting on May 11, 2015.

**Send the complete set of documents by April 1, 2014 to: Cheryl Smith, Scholarship Chairperson at St James the Less Nursery School, 10 Church Lane, Scarsdale, NY 10583.**

## **Public Policy Update December 2014**

**Katharine Page, Public Policy Chair**

Senate passes the \$1.1 trillion spending bill with a vote of 56 to 40, sending it to President Obama's desk for his signature. The bill will fund most of the government (with the exception of the Department of Homeland Security) through next September, averting a government shutdown.

The bill includes:

- A \$75 million increase for the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG), totaling to \$2.4 billion
- Funding for Head Start and Early Head Start – Child Care Partnership Grants remained constant, at \$8.6 billion
- Funding for the Preschool Development Grants remained constant, at \$250 million
- Funding for the School Improvement Grant program remained constant, at \$506 million.

### **Invest in US: Challenging Everyone to Commit to Early Learning**

On December 10th President Obama held the White House Summit on Early Education.

Invest in US is a challenge to the following people to help expand high-quality early learning programs for all young children.

- Public and private partners
- Business leaders
- Philanthropists
- Advocates
- Elected officials
- Each and every one of us

Many corporate and philanthropic leaders have committed to the challenge, making over \$330 million in new commitments.

Together with federal awards, the current total investment in the education and development for our nation's youngest learners is over \$1 billion.

### **ECE Consensus Letter: Scholars and Researchers Agree on the Importance of Quality Early Learning**

- An expansive list of notable researchers issued an Early Childhood Education Consensus Letter (<http://nieer.org/publications/ece-consensus-letter-researchers>) a useful advocacy tool.
- This letter was issued to policymakers, confirming agreement that research shows that high-quality early childhood education produces better education, health, economic, and social outcomes for children, families, and the nation as a whole.
- Among the signatories of the ECE Consensus Letter for Researchers is Kyle Snow, NAEYC's Senior Scholar and Director, Center for Applied Research.

### **New Resources Available on the Child Care Development Fund**

The Office of Child Care has created a resource page for the Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) under the recent Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Reauthorization. CCDF is comprised of federal funding for child care under both CCDBG and the Social Security Act, providing subsidies to families in addition to resources to raise the quality of care. The 2014 reauthorization of CCDBG renews authority for CCDF through FY 2020.

([https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/occ/occ\\_reauthorization\\_webinar.pdf](https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/occ/occ_reauthorization_webinar.pdf))

For more information on CCDF, please visit (<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/occ/ccdf-reauthorization>)

## Upcoming Events

### March - April 2015

WAEYC Spring workshops at nursery schools and daycare centers throughout Westchester County-  
[www.westchesteraeyc.com](http://www.westchesteraeyc.com) and this newsletter for more information

### April 9 – April 11, 2015

2015 NYS AEYC Annual Conference, Verona, NY For more information: [www.nysaeyc.org](http://www.nysaeyc.org)

**2016 NYS AEYC Conference will be in Westchester County next year.**

### Monday, May 11, 2015 at 6:00 PM

WAEYC Annual Dinner

### June 7- 10, 2015

NAEYC's 2015 Professional Development Institute, in New Orleans, LA.

## Updated Board List as of January 2015

If you are a NAEYC member and are interested in becoming a member of the WAEYC Board of Directors, please send an email to [westchesteraeyc@gmail.com](mailto:westchesteraeyc@gmail.com). This is your organization and we need your help! Help us shape the organization as a valuable asset to our members.

**To contact any board member, please send an email to [westchesteraeyc@gmail.com](mailto:westchesteraeyc@gmail.com)**

### Executive Board

President:	Deborah Mumford	Newsletter:	Lynda Merchant
Past President:	Suzanne Boydston	Week of	
Public Policy:	Katherine Page	Young Child:	Katherine Page
Membership:	Melissa O'Halloran	October Conference	Elena Nitecki
Program:	Elena Nitecki	Spring Training Workshops:	Sara Arnon
Secretary:	Gigi Aronoff	Scholarship	Cheryl Smith
Treasurer:	Linda Jo Platt	At Large Board Members:	Aki Ohseki
			Jeannette Mirabile
			Mary Lou Sgro
			Jennifer LeFevre

### Board Members:

Accreditation:	Idie Benjamin
Assistant Treasurer	Catherine Bucci

In a continuing effort to go GREEN, we would like to email the WAEYC newsletter to all the centers in Westchester County instead of mailing them. If you know the email address for your center, please send it to [westchesteraeyc@gmail.com](mailto:westchesteraeyc@gmail.com).

Also please make sure that your email address is correct on your membership information on the NAEYC website. WAEYC has been sending out valuable alerts using Constant Contact regarding training opportunities, job postings, public policy alerts and other information that is date sensitive. Please make sure that [westchesteraeyc@gmail.com](mailto:westchesteraeyc@gmail.com) is not sent to your spam on your email. If you have not been receiving these alerts for the past two years, your membership may have expired or your email address is incorrect. Please email [westchesteraeyc@gmail.com](mailto:westchesteraeyc@gmail.com) so we can correct our list. If you did not put an email address in the NAEYC online application, please let us know that as well, so that you can continue to receive these valuable alerts. An alert was sent out in early January regarding some Early Childhood fellowship opportunities. Check your spam if you did not receive it. About 100 of the 400 emails were opened, so we know we have a lot of members who are not getting our emails.

# FAQs About Nursery Schools and OCFS Licensing

## Most often asked questions

There is often some confusion about the difference between a “Nursery School” and a “Child Care Center.” Here are the most often asked questions and the answers that the Child Care Council receives.

### **What is a “child day care center?”**

“Child day care center means a program or facility which is not a residence in which child day care is provided on a regular basis to more than six children for more than three hours per day per child for compensation or otherwise, except those programs providing care as a school-age child care program as defined in this Section.” (OCFS regulations) It is about how many hours any one child is in the program.

### **What if my program is a “nursery school?”**

“The name, description or form of the entity which operates a child day care center does not affect its status as a child day care center.” (OCFS regulations) If your program operates for more than 3 hours a day, under New York State law, it must be licensed by OCFS (Office for Children and Family Services).

### **If my program has been in operation for years, why does it need to get licensed?**

The simple answer is that it is the law. However, it is important to see licensing regulations as a framework for keeping children healthy and safe in a well-rounded program. There are procedures for emergencies and administration of medicine. Staff receive background checks. They protect children, families, the program, and the staff.

### **Why do we need to be licensed if we offer a developmentally appropriate program not a day care program?**

It is wonderful that you do. However, “day care” does not mean a substandard program. It is not babysitting. All children should have access to a high quality program that supports their development. “Day care” simply refers to a program that offers a day of care for working families. If your program is licensed by OCFS, you will not need to make any changes in your program’s philosophy or design as long as it is a developmentally appropriate program that meets licensing guidelines.

### **What is our program does not want to open early in the morning and close late in the afternoon?**

Each licensed program determines its own hours. Being licensed allows a program to have a program of more than 3 hours if they choose to do so and to meet the needs of their families.

### **Would our program have to take “nursery school” out of our name?**

No, not at all. Each program determines its own name.

### **Our teachers have master’s degrees in early childhood and know what they are doing, why should our program need to be licensed?**

It is commendable that you have a highly qualified staff. However, all programs can benefit from following the same health, safety, and research based program standards. In addition, it is the law in New York if your program operates for more than 3 hours. Many child care centers also employ teachers with advanced degrees.

### **What happens if our program chooses to become licensed? How much extra work will it be for us?**

There is a process that starts with an orientation and then an application. There will be inspections to determine if the space meets the regulations. There will be more paperwork documenting medical records, training, attendance, etc. It might seem daunting at first but will soon become a part of how you operate. The Child Care Council can help a program through each step.

### **What happens if our program is caught operating for more than 3 hours?**

The program immediately will not be allowed to operate for more than 3 hours a day. If the program chooses to become licensed, it will be able to extend past 3 hours once it is licensed.

### **Where can a program go to ask about becoming a licensed program or to ask questions?**

You can contact the Spring Valley Regional Office of OCFS at (845) 708-2400, go to the OCFS website - <http://ocfs.ny.gov/main/childcare/becomeaprovider.asp>, or call Idie Benjamin at the Child Care Council of Westchester at 914-761-3456 ext. 108 or [jdieb@cccwny.org](mailto:jdieb@cccwny.org).

**WAEYC  
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