



Annual Report 2020-2021



Missouri Association for the Education of Young Children

Annual Report

Dec 2021



Our Mission

The Missouri Association for the Education of Young Children (MOAeyc) promotes high-quality early learning for all children, birth through age eight (8), by connecting practice, policy, and research. We advance a diverse, dynamic early childhood profession and support all who care for, educate, and work on behalf of young children.

Our members are connected through a network of local chapters that share MOAeyc's and NAEYC's goals in working on behalf of young children and early childhood professionals.

Our work is driven by five strategic priorities and goals outlined by NAEYC:

Priority: High-Quality Early Learning

- **Goal:** *Children birth through age 8 have equitable access to developmentally appropriate, high-quality early learning.*

Priority: The Profession

- **Goal:** *The early childhood education profession exemplifies excellence and is recognized as vital and performing a critical role in society.*

Priority: Organizational Advancement

- **Goal:** *NAEYC is a highly valued, credible, and visible organization.*

Priority: Organizational Excellence

- **Goal:** *NAEYC reflects excellence in all aspects of organizational health and vitality.*

Priority: Leadership and Innovation

- **Goal:** *NAEYC cultivates leadership and incubates innovative strategies that propel the field, profession, and systems of early learning.*

BOARD ACTION



Due to the continued effects of cancelled in-person events during the Covid-19 pandemic, the 2020-2021 MOAEOYC governing board asked themselves, "who are we at this moment in time and how do we want to be involved and seen"? Knowing they must remain a part of the virtual world to remain in contact with members, they focused on new endeavors to provide opportunities to hear from and respond to the current changing times with flexibility and purpose.

The bi-weekly MOAEOYC UPDATE (e-news) continued to be a source of shared information for things like:

- Covid-19 resources for teachers and families
- Links to surveys from NAEYC and other Missouri entities pertaining to impacts of Covid-19 on their child care homes and businesses
- NAEYC and Missouri approved virtual trainings
- Informal chats featuring guest speakers, and hosted by MOAEOYC Board
- Public policy related issues and petitions (NAEYC and Missouri)
- Child care related celebrations and recognitions (NAEYC and Missouri)
- New DAP resources

Informal chats were initiated as a monthly opportunity for members to chat about a specific selected topic, and also highlight other topics of interest on a timely basis. These "chats" were held right before or after the monthly board call, and initial topics were selected through a survey sent out to members. Some of the topics included:

- Virtual learning for children- adapting and supporting
- Virtual support for families - building "connections"
- Diversity and Equity Awareness in the workplace- little things that make a difference
- Show-Me-ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) - Teacher and Family Resources

BOARD ACTION (Continued)

Thanks to the generosity of NAEYC, one of the participants of the Public Policy Forum, Rachel Stull, received an Emerging Leader Scholarship to attend. In addition, another person, Nicci Rexroat, received free admission, as the Missouri representative, to the DAP Symposium. She had also attended the Forum several weeks earlier through MOAEYC funding and expressed a desire to become more involved. These opportunities have been a big win for MOAEYC, as they provided for new faces and potential board members to be nominated from those attendees. Following those opportunities, two new strong leaders have since been elected and joined the board as VP and Secretary.

Advocacy has been a major focus of MOAEYC this past year as collaborative efforts have continued with Kids Win Missouri to update and electronically provide advocacy resources for Missouri. Lisa Thompson, the MOAEYC Public Policy Chair, has been writing new pages to the MOAEYC Advocacy Book around virtual advocacy, and also working with Kids Win Missouri to produce stand alone pieces that can be delivered as tool kits promoting Child & Family advocacy. In addition, MOAEYC has participated in the CRT conversations supported by NAEYC, and have begun writing a DEI statement to be placed on the MOAEYC website in the near future.

There are currently four area chapters, two student chapters, and a group of over 100 people in a Director's Face Book group. While most events this past year were cancelled due

to Covid-19 restrictions, through a collaborative effort with EDUCARE, the Greater Kansas City Chapter of MOAEYC successfully held a free, virtual, five night, mini-conference based on the daily focuses of WOYC. This was made possible with all volunteer speakers and the donation of many technical resources and support time. Attendance was good, with most nights hosting 65-75 people. All sessions were approved for training hours in MO and KS, and the GKC Chapter is working on another training for the coming year.

MOAEYC completion their annual elections for VP and Secretary this past spring. The organizational assessment was postponed to allow for a revision to only the "required" components, while the board also looked at better aligning their specific goals with the DEI sections of the annual report. Holding virtual meetings has been challenging at times, as difficult conversations are harder in the time frame allotted, and getting to know new board members virtually leaves so much to be desired. Needless to say the board is hopeful that in-person board meetings will be possible some time soon.

On a final note for the years accomplishments, the incoming President proposed a new format for the MOAEYC board to focus their events and goals around, and challenged them to "connect, cultivate, and champion", as they look at creating supportive networks for practitioners and leaders, support quality through life-long learning, and advocate for the field - all with DEI in mind.

STRATEGIC PLAN AND GOALS



Missouri Association for the
Education of Young Children

MOAEOYC Strategic Plan 2017-2021

approved Aug 2018

Goal 1: Missouri AEYC advances developmentally appropriate practices as a mark of high quality early learning. (High Quality Early Learning)

Outcomes

- MOAEOYC will work with early childhood professionals who serve children ages **Birth to 8** to provide information on developmentally appropriate practices
- MOAEOYC will support Centers advancing DAP
- MOAEOYC will support Individual adults and entities advancing DAP

Goal 2: Missouri AEYC supports the early childhood education profession to exemplify excellence and to be recognized as performing a vital and critical role in society. (The Profession)

Outcomes

- MOAEOYC will work towards early childhood professionals being valued, supported, well compensated, and recognized as the workforce that provides children with the best foundation for success
- MOAEOYC board is involved in national and state-level policy-related work.
- MOAEOYC will inform, equip, and support membership and board on policy issues

Goal 3: Missouri AEYC is a highly valued, credible, and visible organization. (Organizational Advancement)

Outcomes

- MOAEOYC will demonstrate value through increased membership
- MOAEOYC will demonstrate value through increased attendance at conferences
- MOAEOYC will increase visibility through the use of social media or other means between state and local chapters.

Goal 4: Missouri AEYC reliably and effectively functions in response to the early learning community. (Organizational Wellness)

Outcomes

- MOAEOYC will be a high performing, inclusive organization.
- MOAEOYC will seek additional funding for long term sustainability
- MOAEOYC will support and promote emerging leaders

Goal 5: Missouri AEYC provides a vibrant leadership presence and offers opportunities for leadership development. (Leadership and Innovation)

Outcomes

- MOAEOYC will offer professional development on leadership
- MOAEOYC will create strategies to develop new leaders.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

FY17 Financial Report (9/01/20-08/31/21)

INCOME	Membership Dues	15,262.90
	CYY	0
	Advocacy Book Sales	85.56
	Chapter Contributions	8,000.00
	Board Donations	346.26
	Job Board postings	0
	KRT Leadership Funds (In/out)	0
	TOTAL	\$ 23,609.16
EXPENSES	Annual SOS Registration	
	Office Supplies	164.06
	PO Box and postage	168.00
	Phone	137.28
	Insurance-D&O and Liability	2,859.00
	Contract Services	22,000.00
	Website hosting/maintenance/program	456.68
	CYY	0
	Child Advocacy Day	50.00
	KRT Funds/receptions (in/out)	0
	Rivers Bend Conference	0
	Chapters Other	0
	Public Policy Forum	799.90
	TOTAL	\$ 26,634.92

ASSETS

MOAEYC Checking Account	\$ 19,445.32
MOAEYC Savings	\$ 24,080.66
Rivers Bend Reserve	\$ 10,752.00
MOAEYC Reserve fund	\$ 10,314.29
Total MOAEYC	\$ 64,565.27
Other chapters accounts	\$ 37,575.08
Kathy Thornburg Leadership Funds (overseen by MOAEYC)	\$ 166,336.93

ADVOCACY

MOAEOYC 2020-2021 Public Policy Work

Lisa Thompson, Public Policy Chair



Lisa Thompson,
MOAEOYC Public
Policy Chair

ADVOCACY:

Advocacy is an activity by an individual or group which aims to influence decisions within political, economic, and social systems and institutions.

MOAEOYC participated in several NAEYC Campaigns this past year designed to support children by informing voters and legislatures on various issues.

The MOAEOYC Public Policy Chair, Lisa Thompson, guided the work of the board and participated in national and statewide efforts in the following ways:

Sept 2020- Signed a **solidarity letter** for Congress to pass stabilization funding for the K-12 education and child care sectors.

Sept 2020 - Promoted NAEYC's **#Save Child Care** Wednesday's initiative and distribution of [state-by-state survey data on child care in the pandemic](#)

Sept 2020- Posted reminders that 9/22/20 was **National Voter Registration Day**

Oct 2020- Compiled information about **Amendment 3** to inform members for the November election.

Oct 2020- Spoke to three **Northwest MO State University classes** (on Zoom) about Advocacy.

Oct 2020- Participated in **Kids Win MO** work group in visioning sessions and shared surveys that led to the development of a **Missouri Early Childhood Road Map** to be published in 2021.

Nov 2020- Began serving on the planning committee for **Missouri Child Care**

Advocacy Day 2021.

Nov 2020—promoted the new, fourth edition of the **Developmentally Appropriate Practice (DAP)** position statement.

Nov 2020- Continued editing **Their Future is in Our Hands** (MOAEOYC Advocacy Book for ECE) and began work towards co-publishing a new and updated edition with Kids Win Missouri.

Jan 2021- Signed onto **Thank You Letter** to President Biden and VP Harris for Prioritizing Child Care Relief in their American Rescue Plan.

Jan through May—attended the Kids Win MO **weekly legislative updates**.

Feb 2021—The **NAEOYC Public Policy Forum** was completely virtual with live-streamed meetings on Feb 28 and Mar 1 and recorded sessions that could be accessed any time. MOAEOYC had a team of nine. Missouri's team met with legislative aides from the offices of Senator Roy Blunt, Representative Sam Graves, and Representative Billy Long. Congressman Long was able to join in the Zoom call.

Jan 2021-Facebook posts promoting **Missouri Child Advocacy Day**, one promoting joining Missouri's team for NAEYC's Public Policy Forum, and one promoting NAEYC resources regarding coping during the pandemic

February 2021- Posts about Missouri Child Advocacy Day; 1 post from NAEYC about navigating **Public Relief Dollars**; 1 post promoting **Kids Win Survey about Relief funds**

ADVOCACY

March 2021–Served on the planning committee for **Missouri Child Care Advocacy Day 2021** and participated in virtual sessions and the virtual rally in March.

April 2021 –Requested and received Week of the Young Child proclamations from several cities, including St. Louis City, St. Louis County, Kansas City, Columbia and published information for others across the state to do the same.



April 2021 –Worked with the **Child Care NEXT** committee to develop a grant proposal and made Face book post about federal legislation and Missouri Medicaid Expansion funding.

April 2021- Shared NAEYC's template for the **Representatives "Dear Colleague" appropriations letters** for child care and early learning

May 2021 –Spoke to a Becky Moore's **Northwest MO State** class about advocacy

May 2021 –Facebook post promoting **NAEYC Webinar: Centering Early Childhood Educator Expertise in Policy-making**; Facebook post about **Provider Appreciation Day** (Child Care Aware)

June 2021–Facebook post promoting **NAEYC Survey**

July 2021- Participated in a sign-on opportunity for state organizations on a **letter for Capitol Hill** about the importance of comprehensively funding all early learning provisions.

July/August/September–participated in **Kids Win Missouri Early Childhood Policy Priority Workgroup**

August 2021 –Facebook post promoting **NAEYC's State Survey results**.

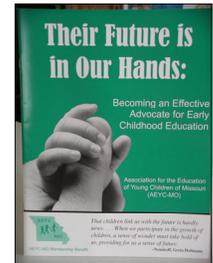
October 2021– Participated in NAEYC Zoom meetings about Affiliates Facing Political Opposition and briefed the MOAECY Board about **legislative threats to diversity, equity, and inclusion work**.

October 2021–Facebook post promoting NAEYC's information about the **Build Back Better federal legislation**

October 2021- Signed on with a number of national organizations working to make clear the individual and collective importance of the **Build Back Better Act**, provisions that directly support families – specifically, paid family and medical leave, the child care and preschool components, and the Child Tax Credit.

November 2021–Began meeting with **Child Advocacy 2022** Planning Committee

December 2021- signed onto a statement about priorities for **spending ARPA funds in Missouri**.



This book is a brilliant introduction to the legislative process in Missouri, and is a must-read for every advocate who seeks a fully-funded early childhood system in our state.

Books can be purchased online through the MOAECY website in the "shop" section.

Note: New Edition Coming Soon

ACCREDITATION

Congratulations to the thirty child care facilities in Missouri (listed below) that have successfully achieved or renewed their NAEYC Accreditation in the 2020-2021 fiscal year. You are making a difference in the lives of children and families every day!

These centers have survived the unprecedented times of the past two years, and some may have had to delay their accreditation or renewal because of restrictions.

Currently there are ninety two NAEYC Accredited facilities across the state, up from 72 at this time last year.

As we strive to continue improving quality programming for children in MO, our hope is that more centers will pursue accreditation and those currently accredited will seek renewal.

A search box to locate Accredited programs across USA can be found



on the NAEYC [website](#). Along with more information about the accreditation process and requirements .

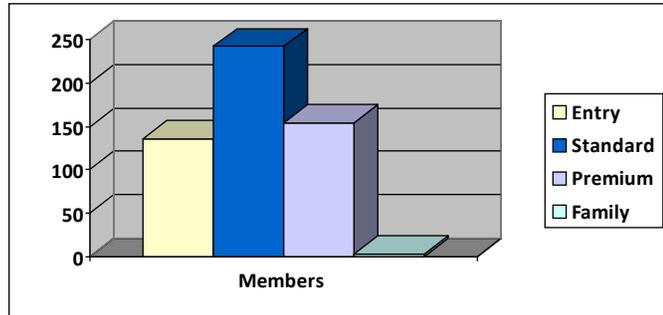
Moberly Head Start	707 Sinnock Avenue	Moberly	MO	65270
Kids International Early Childhood Education Center	412 Old State Road	Ellisville	MO	63021
Ritenour School for Early Childhood	3580 Woodson Road	St. Louis	MO	63114
Good Shepherd Preschool & Infant/Toddler Center	5990 Page Blvd.	Saint Louis	MO	63112
Good Shepherd Preschool & Infant/Toddler Center	5005 Union Blvd.	Saint Louis	MO	63115
United Cerebral Palsy Heartland CDC	3804 Santiago Drive	Columbia	MO	65203
Corporate Kids, 601 LLC	601 East 12th Street	Kansas City	MO	64106
Webster Child Care Center	624 Lohmann Forest Lane	Webster Groves	MO	63119
Child Development Center	13467 Headquarters Avenue	Fort Leonard Wood	MO	65473
United Inner City Services/ St. Mark CDC	2008 East 12th Street 1st	Kansas City	MO	64127
Monroe County Head Start	309 Third Street	Monroe City	MO	63456
Ralls Head Start	209 Carstarphen Road	New London	MO	63459
Washington University Nursery School	6926 Forest Park Parkway	St. Louis	MO	63130
Creative Expressions Learning Center, Eureka	76 Legends Pkwy	Eureka	MO	63025
Superior Children's Center	7501 Maryland Ave	Clayton	MO	63105
University School for Young Children, SEMO	2089 Bessie Street	Cape Girardeau	MO	63701
KinderCare Learning Center	1900 Zumbahl Road	St. Charles	MO	63301
KinderCare Learning Center	2275 Village Green Parkway	Chesterfield	MO	63017
Brookside Charter Pre-Kindergarten	1815 E. 63rd Street	Kansas City	MO	64130
Interserv's Early Care and Education	5210 Mitchell Avenue	Saint Joseph	MO	64507
Kindercare Learning Center	4105 Telegraph Road	St. Louis	MO	63129
Macon Early Head Start	406 Blee Industrial Drive	Macon	MO	63552
Prairie View KinderCare Learning Center	5900 NW Prairie View Road	Kansas City	MO	64151
Downtown Children's Center	607 North 22nd Street	St. Louis	MO	63103
Kiddie Academy of O'Fallon	4088 Winghaven Blvd.	O'Fallon	MO	63368
Woods Chapel KinderCare	821 NW Woods Chapel Drive	Blue Springs	MO	64015
Kidz Biz Inc dba Kidz Biz Prep	7118 N. Hanley RD	Hazelwood	MO	63042
Callaway Child and Family Development Center	1600 Westminster	Fulton	MO	65251
Kindercare Learning Center	8643 Raytown Road	Raytown	MO	64138
Kindercare Learning Center	3107 Cook Road	Saint Joseph	MO	64506

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

MOAEYC Membership by the Numbers

Aug 31, 2020

Entry	136
Standard	242
Premium	154
Family	2
TOTAL	534



We look to continue creating chapters, thereby bringing more early childhood trainings and support to local communities across the state.

Membership Engagement through Chapters

In total we have six chapters established, and conversations continue around starting chapters in two other regions and at two other colleges.

The GKC Chapter has actively pursued virtual trainings which have been open to all members across the state and part of Kansas.

All chapter events are open to any NAEYC member, and additional information can be found on the MOAEYC website as each event develops.

We are looking to continue creating chapters, thereby bringing more early childhood trainings and support to local communities across the state. Additional information on requirements to start a chapter are also on the website.

Critical Steps to Keep Member Date Updated at NAEYC

To continue receiving electronic updates through NAEYC and MOAEYC, members must keep their personal data updated.

To check your data and/or make updates to your address, phone number, and **email**,

- First access the NAEYC website: <http://www.naeyc.org>
- Then follow the “Member Login” link in the upper right hand corner of the home page
- Follow instructions on each of the linked pages to access your personal data.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Early Childhood Director's Credential

The Missouri Early Childhood Director Credential was first introduced at the Early Childhood Summit on Nov. 13, 2008. It is approved by NAEYC and is reciprocal with the Kansas Director Credential.

The Credential validates competencies achieved by early childhood professionals in three areas:

- Education,
- Experience, and
- Service

There are two levels of credentials offered:

- Provisional Director Credential
- Director Credential.

The application and directions for both Credentials can be found on the MOAEOYC website.

Several universities offer a pathway to fulfilling the nine hour block of Early Childhood leadership and management courses required to earn the Director's Credential, including.

- Southwest Missouri State University (SEMO),
- Missouri State University
- Park University,
- University of MO at Kansas City
- University of Central MO

All offer a streamlined way to achieve the educational requirements.

The Director Credential Commission is overseen by the Program Quality, Outreach, Support and Accreditation Chair, and consists of three other

board members who review each individual's application for recognition.

They also approve all Higher Education Institutions that have developed the nine (9) hour block of Early Childhood leadership and management courses.

Any Higher Ed institution that would like to apply for this recognition can contact MOAEOYC to request an application.

Go Further!

**THE MISSOURI
EARLY CHILDHOOD
DIRECTORS CREDENTIAL**

Recognizing the professional development achievements of center-based early learning program directors in Missouri, featuring reciprocal requirements in Kansas.

Missouri Association for the Education of Young Children
877-296-2852 • moaeyc@moaeyc.org • www.moaeyc.org

moaeyc
Missouri Association for the Education of Young Children

**“ It is approved
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Sept 2020– Aug 2021 GOVERNING BOARD



Michelle Mathews,
Columbia , MO

- President MOAEC
- Director of MU Child Development Center
- Assistant Teaching Professor, MU



Karrie Snider
Liberty, MO

- President Elect
- Assistant Professor, University of Central MO



Tracey Stanton,
St. Louis, MO

- Vice President
- Preschool Teacher, St. Louis Public Schools, Mason Elementary



Judy Simpson
St. Louis, MO

- Secretary
- President/COO, TodayCare Children's Centers



Trinetta Brewer
Columbia, MO

- Treasurer
- Owner, Creative Futures Child Care



Cindy Rouner
Maryville, MO

- Parliamentarian
- Director, Northwest MO State University, Leet Child Care Center



Lisa Thompson
St. Louis, MO

- Public Policy Chair
- Instructor, Early Childhood Careers, South Technical High School



Lacy Butler
Kansas City, MO

- Program Quality Outreach, Support & Accreditation Chair
- MARC –Head Start Education Coordinator/Coach



Kim Roam,
Springfield, MO

- YPAC Liaison
- Professor in the Child & Family Studies Department, Missouri State University



Samantha Frank
Lynn, MO

- YPAC/Student Rep
- Student/University of Central MO



Kayla Roderman
Purdy, MO

- Regional At-Large Rep
- Instructional Coach at Monett School District



Sam Schissler
Leawood, KS

- Regional At-Large-Rep
- Educational Consultant/Kaplan



Jodi Jordan
St. Louis MO

- Regional At-Large -Rep
- Harris Stowe State College



Darla Wells
Rolla, MO

- Regional At-Large -Rep
- ECSE Teacher, Rolla Public Schools



Cindy Imhauser
Lee's Summit, MO

- Executive Director

GOVERNANCE

Nicci Rexroat -Elected April 2021 MOAEYC Governing Board Vice President



Nicci Rexroat
Holts Summit, MO

*Nicci assumed the role of
Vice President
Sept 1, 2021*

I attended Pennsylvania State University, majoring in Energy, Sustainability, and Policy. I began my career in early childhood during my college years, working as an assistant teacher at a preschool part time during school. When I moved home to Missouri, I worked for other privately owned preschool programs as a lead teacher, assistant director, and director. I purchased my own center in June of 2015, and have since expanded to two large centers in Holts Summit. I currently work as the administrator of these two programs.

During my high school years, I was the President of both French Honor Society and Environmental Club. During college, I chaired a committee for the Penn State Habitat for Humanity organization. In my professional life, I have taken on leadership roles in each of the licensed facilities where I was employed, and have recently taken on advocacy work with Kids Win Missouri and MOAEYC.

I am interested in working with MOAEYC to further the work of legitimizing the profession of early childhood, and bring awareness to the importance of Early Childhood work. I am passionate about advocating not only for the young children of Missouri, but the Early Childhood workforce, and the families that rely on us. My passion and dedication to this work is in addition to the experience of belonging to the workforce and the unique viewpoint of being a private center owner.

GOVERNANCE

Sandy Seipel -Elected April 2021 MOAEYC Governing Board Secretary



Sandy Seipel
Ravenwood, MO

*Sandy assumed the role of
Secretary
Sept 1, 2021*

I started my educational career in kindergarten as an educational assistant and continued my focus on early childhood education as a Parent as Teachers educator for six years. I so enjoyed working with families, going to their homes, and providing support and guidance. During that time, I started a preschool program to meet the needs of families in the community. I then accepted a kindergarten position and continued in that role for ten years. As an elementary principal, I worked closely with Parents as Teachers, preschool teachers, and K-3 teachers to provide safe engaging learning opportunities for young children. I worked to secure the MPP grant and after- school child-care grant. Now, as an early childhood assistant professor, I get to work with students and teachers every day. I get to be with children in classrooms and share the joy and passion of early childhood education.

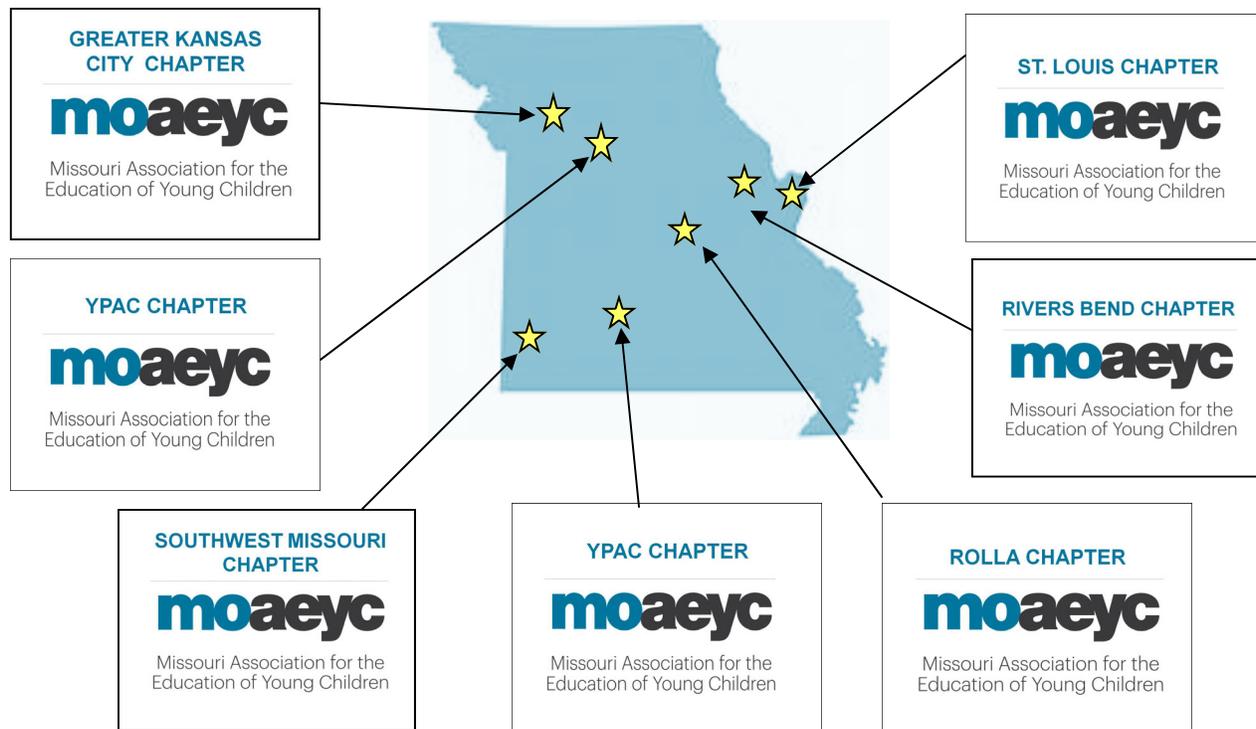
As a teacher, I was involved with various committees as a member and chair; district professional development committees, district and building leadership teams, and district teacher organizations. As a principal, I was the Northwest District Missouri Association of Elementary School Principals president for two years and was nominated as Principal of the Year in 2014. I was involved with district leadership teams, Professional learning communities leadership team, and a member of state and local organizations. As an assistant professor, I helped develop and am advisor to a student organization: Education Around the World, serve on faculty senate, and coordinator of early childhood programs. As a current alternate on faculty senate and soon to be faculty senator, I take notes and share information with my department in a timely manner.

I am interested in serving MOAEYC Governing Board because I want to contribute and provide service to the state organization. I feel this is a great opportunity to give back to an organization that has provided so much to me over the years. At the national level, I volunteered to be a conference proposal reviewer and have enjoyed the work.

I am organized and can communicate with organization members to provide accurate information to all members. My past experience erving on committees and organizations has given me the skill set to successfully complete the duties given to me. It would be an honor to assume the duties within the MOAEYC Governing Board and serve the state of Missouri and advocate for early childhood. I am most excited to be part of an organization that celebrates early childhood and is fully devoted the needs of young children and families.

MEMBER EVENTS

All Chapters are encouraged to offer opportunities for providers that support their professional development. In addition, families events are provided to encourage involvement and to demonstrate developmentally appropriate practices for children.



Planned Chapter & Affiliate Membership Engagement Events July 2020-2021

Chapters were hopeful they could return to more in-person events in 2021. However, most events were still held virtually. The following table indicates the planned activities and the actual number of attendees at the events that were held.

Greater Kansas City Chapter					
WOYC– Music	2 Hours	March 4, 2021	Kansas City	83	Virtual
WOYC– Cooking	2 Hours	March 11, 2021	Kansas City	66	Virtual
WOYC– Families/Parents	2 Hours	March 18, 2021	Kansas City	62	Virtual
WOYC-ART	2 Hours	March 25, 2021	Kansas City	85	Virtual
WOYC-STEM	2 Hours	April 1, 2021	Kansas City	67	Virtual
Director’s institute	5 Hours	Oct 22, 2021	Kansas City	12	In-person
Director’s Institute-Part 1	1.25 Hours	Nov 5, 2021	Kansas City	22	Virtual
Director’s Institute-Part 2	1.25 Hours	Dec 3, 2021	Kansas City	17	Virtual
Director’s Institute –Part 3	1.25 Hours	Dec 10, 2021	Kansas City	15	Virtual
Director’s Institute-Part 4	1.25 Hours	Dec 17, 2021	Kansas City	16	Virtual
Sesame Street Conference		Oct 2, 2021	Kansas City		In person/ Cancelled

MEMBERS EVENTS (Continued)

MOAEYC Affiliate Events

Title	Topic	Date	Format
Virtual learning for children	Adapting and supporting children during Covid	Oct 20, 2020	Virtual
Diversity and Equity Awareness in the workplace	Little things that make a difference	Oct 29, 2020	Virtual
Virtual support for families	Building "connections" during Covid	Jan 19, 2021	Virtual
Show-Me-ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes)	Teacher and Family Resources	Feb 16, 2021	Virtual
Taking Care of You Plan	Personal mental fitness and support systems	Mar 16, 2021	Virtual
Kids Win MO	Advocacy—initiatives and opportunities for involvement	Apr 20, 2021	Virtual
DESE	Formation and work of new MO Office of Early Learning	July 20, 2021	Virtual

YPAC Chapter at UCM

Promoting Problem Solving, Social Skills, Addressing Bullying & Valuing Diversity	Using Personal Dolls in the classroom	Nov 9, 2021	24 Attended	Virtual- 2 Hours
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NAEYC Events and Opportunities

NAEYC Conference 2020	Nov 7-9, 2020	Virtual	One free registration awarded by NAEYC
Public Policy Forum 2021	Feb 28-Mar 1, 2021	Virtual	Scholarships for eight Attendees awarded by MOAEYC
NAEYC DAP Symposium	June 9-10, 2021	Virtual	One free registration awarded by NAEYC
NAEYC Conference 2021	Nov 6-9, 2021	Virtual	NAEYC Scholarship provided to emerging leader /awarded by MOAEYC

LEADERSHIP AWARDS and GRANTS

Kathy R. Thornburg (KRT) Awards Guidelines Revised



Kathy Thornburg
Columbia, MO

In 2004, the MOAEYC Board established the KRT Leadership Fund to recognize Dr. Kathy R. Thornburg's contribution to the early childhood field, MOAEYC, and specifically her dedication to supporting and developing new leaders.

The intent of the KRT funds is to support MOAEYC leadership initiatives, including strengthening membership, student and young professional initiatives, creating new chapters, conference attendance, mentor projects, etc.

Applicant qualifications:

- Current MOAEYC Member
- Active leadership with the local chapter/state board/committees

The complete guidelines and application are available on the [MOAEYC website](#).

An online submission form and budget template are also provided. Applications will be accepted year round and applicants will be notified within sixty days of application.

NAEYC/MOAEYC SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT REPORT

By Amy Diamond, Jackson, MO



Amy Diamond

My name is Amy Diamond. I am an early childhood special education teacher at the Jackson R-2 School District in Jackson, Missouri. This is my 8th year teaching, and all of them have been with Jackson teaching early childhood special education. It is where my heart is and I love being able to make such a significant impact for so many students! This was my 3rd year participating in the annual NAEYC conference. My director invited me to go to my first one in Nashville 3 years ago, and I have been hooked ever since.

I love the opportunity to get first

hand information regarding not only professional development and research but also getting updates on the current state of affairs of early childhood across the country. I am particularly interested in NAYEC's focus on developmentally appropriate practices and how to maintain that practice in our current climate.

Thanks to MOAEYC's generous sponsorship, I was able to participate in NAEYC's annual conference again. This year's conference was held virtually but that did not take away from the exceptional opportunities available through the conference

NAEYC/MOAEYC SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT REPORT

Cont from Page 18

experience. Each day kicked off with interactive chats or self care opportunities.

For example, on Monday, I participated in an armchair yoga session. I have to admit I felt a little silly sitting in my empty classroom but as I followed along, I really felt myself become more grounded, centered and focused. It was a great way to kick off a day of learning!

During the conference, I tended to follow more of a DAP and research track. Another presentation I attended involved research on the large numbers of expulsions at the early childhood level, citing Gilliam & Shahar, 2006, and that preschoolers are expelled at a rate 13x higher than that of public school students. Rather than exploring reasons why that is, the presenters explored how to avoid expulsion as an option for preschools. They highlighted a proactive approach rooted in formal theorists such as Vygotsky, Piaget and Dewey. They went on to incorporate the need for developmentally appropriate approaches and the necessity of regarding preschoolers as individuals with individual needs.

One of the highlights of the conference is always the Expo and the opportunity to connect with a variety of vendors. Several vendors had additional PD opportunities available throughout the conference. Teaching

Strategies, Scholastic and Sesame workshops were just a few that I took advantage of.

The most significant presentation of the conference for me was the Day 2 Plenary speaker, Dr. Bruce Parry from the Neurosequential Network. His focus on brain development was not only enlightening but empowering as an early childhood professional. His research focuses on the need to deliver individualized interventions which account for and integrate students and providers prior learning and experiences. Dr. Parry highlighted so many practices that we already know as necessary but provided the brain science to back it up. He also emphasized the critical role that quality relationships play in remediating adverse scenarios in students' lives.

The critical nature of quality relationships is the reason it is so vital for the people serving in these systems to be regulated, supported and cared for. He referred to these relationships as a relational presence and cited them as the key to change and the best way to reach the cortex.

According to Dr. Parry, when you learn something through a relational presence, you learn it in fewer repetitions. However, it is difficult if not impossible to provide this relational presence when you are not regulated yourself. This is the reason it is absolutely essential to our education system as a whole, that we strive to support

and change our current system. We cannot expect results of change from the same broken system.

He went on to rally the necessity of investing in our early childhood programs, citing numerous developmental studies denoting the significant long lasting effects of quality early childhood education. He has been working to inform policymakers about the brain science behind early intervention and why it's worth the investment.

It was ironic that Dr. Parry presented on the necessity of supporting our early childhood educators. Throughout the entire conference, it was difficult for me to attend presentations due to lack of staff and substitutes. Even having extended access to the conference was difficult because without dedicated time to attend, I found myself constantly trying to multi-task and not fully attending to any one thing.

I will be attending NAEYC again next year, no matter what the format. NAEYC once again provided exceptional content during their annual conference, but it was the current debilitated state of our education system that made it difficult to fully benefit from such an excellent opportunity. I am honored to have been the recipient of this opportunity and grateful to MOAEYC for their sponsorship.

We're on the Web:
<http://www.moaeyc.org>

2021-2022 Calendar

- November 2021 -NAEYC Conference –Virtual
- February 28-Mar 1, 2021-Public Policy Forum– Virtual
- March 10-11, 2022-Conference on the Young Years (CYY) -Virtual
- March 15-22, 2022 - MO Advocacy Day– Virtual
- April 2-8, 2022- Week of the Young Child (WOYC)
- April 2, 2022-GKC Chapter Conference –Lee’s Summit, MO
- June 8-10, 2022 Project Approach Institute, Lee’s Summit, MO
- June 12-15, 2022 - PLI– Cleveland, OH
- July 1, 2022- Annual Report -NAEYC
- November 16-19, 2022– NAEYC Conference– Washington, D.C.

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