

Anchorage Association  
for the Education of  
Young Children



Anchorage AEYC  
mission is to lead  
families,  
professionals,  
policy makers, and  
members of our com-  
munities to  
promote a vision of  
all young children  
living and learning in  
a diverse &  
supportive world.

Anchorage AEYC is a  
membership  
organization  
affiliated with the  
National Association  
for the Education of  
Young Children

Please Post

Conference & Workshop  
Description Information  
Visit  
[www.anchorageaeyc.org](http://www.anchorageaeyc.org)



## Anchorage Association for the Education of Young Children

Volume WIV, Issue II

Winter 2011



### President's Perspective

**Early Childhood—**  
Where Our Future Begins

The Conference Committee has been working hard on planning the 2012 Conference "Strengthening Relationships: children, families, communities, and educators. This year the conference will be held February 2, 2012 -February 4, 2012 at the Anchorage Hilton. The Conference provides three days of networking, keynote speakers, workshops, and exhibits. The Conference also includes a special event on all three days. You can register and pay online at [www.anchorageaeyc.org](http://www.anchorageaeyc.org). Once on the webpage click conference and then the Register Here icon. If you have any questions about this conference or your registration, don't hesitate to call Cecilia or Christie, Con-

ference Coordinators at 696-5884 or e-mail [anchorageaeyc@mtaonline.net](mailto:anchorageaeyc@mtaonline.net).

The holiday season is here. Many of you might be trying to think of the perfect gift to give to a friend, co-worker, or family member that works with young children. An NAEYC membership is a great gift. Some of the benefits of being a member include; Online access to current issues of Young Children, five issues a year of either Young Children or Teaching Young Children, discount on registration for conference, 20% discount on prices in the NAEYC catalog of hundreds of books, videos, brochures, and poster, access to "members only" area on NAEYC website and

voting rights on NAEYC elections. If you join as a Comprehensive Member you'll receive five publications automatically as they are released throughout the year (a \$100 value). Becoming or renewing an NAEYC membership helps those in the field stay current on research, issues, and trend in the early childhood field.

On behalf of the Anchorage AEYC Board, I would like to wish everyone a wonderful Holiday Season filled with laughter and joy.

Happy Holidays.  
Anna Castillo  
President

## 31st Annual Anchorage AEYC Early Childhood Conference

*Strengthening Relationships  
Children, families, communities, educators*

*February 2-4, 2012*



# Anchorage AEYC Fundraisers



## Flamingo Flocking Fund Raiser



Anchorage AEYC is having a fundraiser to generate funds for membership events by holding a Flamingo Flocking Fund Raiser! Join the FUN!

When you least expect it members of Anchorage AEYC will visit a front yard and proceed to fill it with 20+ Pink Flamingos! In order to have the tacky pink birds removed, the "victim" must make a donation to Anchorage AEYC! Once a donation is made, the "victim"

gets to choose who will be the next recipient of the Flamingo Flock! Anchorage AEYC will then remove the flamingos and deliver them to the next selected recipient. This cycle continues until no snow remains.

Do you have a special friend you'd like to make a "victim"? For \$25 your friend can become the next "victim". Call Christina Eubanks, Anchorage AEYC Membership Chair at 350-3024 or email Christina at

christnaann58@hotmail.com to arrange for your victim to receive a Flamingo Flocking!

Flamingo Insurance? This guarantees that you'll never be flocked! For \$50 you can purchase "Flamingo Insurance" which insures that the Flamingos will never visit your yard! Simple pay the "insurance premium" up front.

## CPR/1st Aid Fund Raiser

**Infant/Child/Adult CPR and Basic First Aid  
(Medic Pediatric First Aid)**

Call Cecilia or Christie at 696-5884 to set up a date that works specifically for you and/or your program.

threatening situations but not limited to: Assessing the victim; clearing a blocked airway; rescue breathing; One rescuer CPR; control of bleeding; Managing shock; Intro to illness and injury; warning signs of possible life threatening conditions.



Are you or your staff in need of CPR and First Aid training? Anchorage AEYC continues to offer this class as a fundraiser for the association.

Cost: \$35 Anchorage AEYC Members  
\$75 Nonmembers

This class will train adults how to apply techniques for the possible life

# Team "Anchorage AEYC"



The Alaska Visitor Industry Charity Walk celebrates commitment to the community through a fun, festive community event that raises money for non-profit agencies throughout the state of Alaska. Since the first walk in 2000, over one million dollars have been distributed to Alaskan charities. Typically the Charity Walks takes place the first weekend in May so mark your calendars NOW and plan to join Team Anchorage AEYC! Stay tuned for more information as it becomes available.



Visit  
[www.anchorageaeyc.org](http://www.anchorageaeyc.org)  
For the latest  
Anchorage AEYC News and Conference information!



## naeyc Radio

BAM Radio Network

ON AIR NOW!



Karen

### Strategies for Supporting Dual Language Learners

The ability to teach dual language learners is becoming increasingly important as our demographics shift across the nation. In this segment our guest clarifies misconceptions on the topic and shares practical strategies.



<http://www.naeyc.org/newsroom/NAEYCRadio>

It's almost time for the 2012 Governing Board Election—here's what you need to know.



### The Candidates

The slate of candidates for the 2012 Governing board election has been announced. Learn more about the candidates by reading the November issue of *Young Children* or by visiting [www.naeyc.org](http://www.naeyc.org).

### Voting

Everyone who is an NAEYC member on December 1, 2011 will receive an e-mail ballot in early January 2012. The e-mail will direct you to a secure web-site where you can cast your vote. Voting ends March 1, 2012.

## SECRETARY ARNE DUNCAN PROPOSES NEW OFFICE OF EARLY LEARNING

Participants at NAEYC's Annual Conference had the pleasure of hearing first-hand from Dr. Jacqueline Jones that Secretary Duncan has proposed a new Office of Early Learning in the U.S. Department of Education. The Office of Early Learning will be situated within the Office of Elementary & Secondary Education, which will help support a birth through age eight continuum of early childhood education.

In his statement, Secretary Duncan said, "For too long, federal programs and funding streams for early learning have functioned in isolation, lacking strong, coordinated collaboration across agencies and even within our own Department. Establishing a dedicated office underscores a critical step in progressing the national dialogue about improving outcomes for young children. It will institutionalize, increase, and coordinate federal support for high-quality early learning, manage outreach to the early learning community and enhance support for building high-performing early education systems in states across the country." NAEYC looks forward to working with this new office, as well as other offices and divisions working on higher education, innovation, early intervention and special education to support high quality early childhood programs, services and professionals who work with young children. More details will

## Public Policy

Save the Date! Future NAEYC Public Policy Forums Released



The NAEYC Public Policy Forum is a Members-Only benefit to meet with senior national policymakers and advocates, enhance your knowledge of federal and state policy issues, and to meet with your members of congress.

All meetings for the 2012 & 2013 NAEYC Public Policy Forum will be held at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, DC, with special rates for NAEYC attendees.

Dates:

February 28-29, 2012  
(Tuesday-Wednesday)  
Room Rate: \$209 plus tax (single/double)

Dates:

March 19-20, 2013  
(Tuesday-Wednesday)  
Room Rate: \$219 plus tax (single/double)

Join the 24,300 people following NAEYC



Facebook



Twitter



YouTube

Save the Date!

# Profession of Play:

Celebrating **30** Years of Early Childhood Education in Southeast Alaska

AEYC is celebrating our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2012! Join us in Juneau on **Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup>** and **Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup>** at Centennial Hall for our annual Early Childhood Conference.

**Keynote presentations by Dr. Thomas Moore, Holly Elissa Bruno and our "founding mother" Dr. Marjorie Fields**

This year we'll have workshops on:

- \* using humor and fun to build lasting teams
- \* reclaiming your passion for everyday work
- \* integrating music into your curriculum
- \* and so much more!



Questions? Interested in presenting?  
Please contact Lauren at AEYC at 789-1235.



## Ready to Read Resource Center



Play is one of the best ways for children to learn language and literacy skills. Pretend play helps children think symbolically and develop oral language skills. Dramatic play helps develop narrative skills as children make up a story about what they're doing.

~ An Anchorage Public Library Project ~  
~ serving those who work with infants and toddlers ~

Check out our **Ready to Read tubs:**



30+ board books and picture books  
carefully selected by professional librarians

Return postage stamps  
included for those  
outside of  
Anchorage!

For more information:

readytoread.ak.org  
Phone 907-343-2970  
WeckerleTN@muni.org



## A Special Invitation!



Being a director can at times feel isolating. Do you wish that you could meet with colleagues to share information and get new ideas for working with children, families and staff? We are offering you a chance to collaborate and converse with other directors at the Anchorage AEYC conference.

You may attend one of these cafés even if you are not registered for the conference and you are invited by Anchorage AEYC to stay for the keynote presentation following the café.

For conference information or to register to attend any additional sessions visit  
[www.anchorageaeyc.org](http://www.anchorageaeyc.org)

Thursday, February 2  
Friday, February 3  
Saturday, February 4  
7:00AM

Anchorage AEYC EC Conference  
Hilton Anchorage Hotel

"Conversations That Matter"

Join us for a light breakfast  
and guided conversations  
about our shared goals,  
dreams and opportunities for  
children, families, and staff.

Please RSVP to Kathy Kline by Friday,  
January 27th at 265-3104 or  
[kkline@threadalaska.org](mailto:kkline@threadalaska.org)

Hosted by:

Larry Johns, Professional Development Chair,  
Anchorage AEYC

Sheila Wray, Special Projects Coordinator, thread  
Kathy Kline, Director of Professional Development, thread

# Town Hall with Senator Begich

Let your voice be heard: Share your thoughts and concerns about early care and education in Alaska.



Friday, February 3rd  
5:30-7:00pm at the Snow Goose  
Restaurant in Anchorage. Appetizers  
and refreshments provided. For more  
information call **thread** at  
907.265.3100

**EARLY EDUCATORS!!!  
RECEIVE 1 **thread**  
TRAINING HOUR  
FOR ATTENDING**





# BEST BEGINNINGS

## Alaska's Early Childhood Investment

Nov. 2, 2011  
For immediate release  
Contact: Barbara Brown, (907) 297-3309  
bbrown@bestbeginningsalaska.org



### **Bring a Movie Premiere to Your Community**

*Best Beginnings produces free video and books for babies, their parents*

Best Beginnings is recruiting hosts for “100 Premieres” to be held Feb. 25-March 4, 2012. The 100 Premieres will be hosted all over Alaska to introduce *Babies on Track*, a 14-minute DVD for parents plus two companion baby board books. Using delightful images of Alaska babies on location around the state, the video and books foster early learning and healthy brain development at home in easy, convenient ways.

All told, 7,500 sets of the DVD and board books will be distributed free throughout Alaska to families with children under 2 years of age.

Premieres can be held anywhere families of young children gather, such as Imagination Library family events, local library lapsits, Early Head Start family programs – even private homes. The premiere may be a special event or part of a regularly scheduled meeting. The target audience is families with children under 2 years. For more information about hosting a premiere, go to [BestBeginningsAlaska.org](http://BestBeginningsAlaska.org).

Hosts' responsibilities include organizing and publicizing the event. Every premiere will include showing the video; distributing the free baby books to participating families; modeling fun, brain-building activities for children; and helping parents write postcards to their legislators about the importance of early learning. Premiere hosts will receive free sets of the books and DVD ahead of time as well as a helpful host packet with step-by-step instructions and materials.

-- more --

3350 Commercial Drive, Suite 104A • Anchorage, Alaska 99501  
t. 907.297.3300 • f. 907.297.3304 • [BestBeginningsAlaska.org](http://BestBeginningsAlaska.org)

*Best Beginnings* is a public-private partnership that mobilizes people and resources to ensure all Alaska children begin school ready to succeed.

The premieres are an opportunity to share the importance of early learning. They will bring reading materials to Alaska's youngest babies, allow parents of young children to gather and exchange ideas, and gather support for early learning through advocacy.

The fundamental principle behind *Babies on Track* is that the baby brain grows more in its earliest years – before 3 years old – than at any other time in human life. It's also the time when language is taking shape in their brains. Talk, conversation, singing, and other forms of interaction are critical in this period. The video introduces a simple model families can follow in their own interactions with their babies:

- T** = Talk
- R** = Respond
- A** = Ask Questions
- C** = Connect
- K** = Keep at it
- S** = Sing and Tell Stories

The more parents talk with their babies and children – the more conversation and interaction that occur – the easier it is for the baby to pick up language later. They have larger vocabularies, and they're ready for kindergarten by age 5.

The *Babies on Track* books were made possible by grants from the Alaska Children's Trust, The CIRI Foundation, and ConocoPhillips Alaska. The DVD was supported by contributions from the Alaska Department of Education & Early Development and Alyeska Pipeline Service Company. Both are productions of Affinityfilms, Inc.

Best Beginnings is a nonprofit advocate for early learning in Alaska. It is a statewide umbrella for Imagination Library, promotes and supports local early childhood partnerships, and produces and distributes materials and information for early learning.

###



## NEWS RELEASE

For more information

contact:

[sleonard@threadalaska.org](mailto:sleonard@threadalaska.org)

907.265.3108

# Thinking of Going Back to School or a New Career? **thread** offers online classes, education funding and information promoting the early childhood workforce

ANCHORAGE, AK – **thread**, Alaska's Child Care Resource & Referral Network, is a hub of information for the early childhood workforce. **thread** announces the launch of a new and cutting-edge tool for early educators, an online distance learning program and a volunteer opportunity through AmeriCorps.

"It is the right time to support people working in early childhood and those that might be interested in the field and a change in their career," said Stephanie Berglund, **thread**'s CEO. "Some people may consider going back to school during a time when the economy is making it hard to find jobs."

**thread** has three current programs focused on supporting the early childhood workforce that includes child care providers, certified teachers, early interventionists, administrators and others working in jobs that support children. These programs include:

**The Alaska SEED Registry** – a database with information about the early childhood workforce. The database is also a tool for early educators to document their professional accomplishments as well as be first in line to receive funding opportunities. ([www.seedalaska.org](http://www.seedalaska.org))

**Child Care Aware Training Academy** – an online program offering high-quality and self-paced courses available to child care center and family child care providers. **thread** partners with the Child Care Aware Training Academy to provide a variety of course topics designed for the Alaska early childhood professional.

**thread's AmeriCorps Strengthening Families Project** – an AmeriCorps volunteer opportunity at selected early care and education programs around Anchorage, supporting families and children. AmeriCorps members receive a monthly living allowance of \$1008, an education award of \$5550 after a year of completed service, health insurance and child care assistance.

In Alaska, the 7,300 residents that are directly employed in the early care and learning workforce generate \$150 million in payroll and support over 32,000 working families with child care services.

ADD PAGE 1

**thread's** mission is to advance the quality of early education and child development by empowering parents, educating child care professionals, and collaborating with our communities. **thread**, with staff in 10 communities statewide, has helped over 7,000 families find child care, trained 2,500 early educators and consulted with 200 programs to improve quality. [www.threadalaska.org](http://www.threadalaska.org).



## NEWS RELEASE

For more information

contact:

[sleonard@threadalaska.org](mailto:sleonard@threadalaska.org)

907.265.3108

“We know over 7,000 Alaskans are working in the early care and learning profession right now and more are interested in finding jobs in this field,” Berglund says. “This interest is good for people seeking jobs, it is good for working families seeking child care and it’s good for Alaska’s economy.

For more information about **thread** programs, please visit [www.threadalaska.org](http://www.threadalaska.org) or call 907.265.3100.



###

**thread's** mission is to advance the quality of early education and child development by empowering parents, educating child care professionals, and collaborating with our communities. **thread**, with staff in 10 communities statewide, has helped over 7,000 families find child care, trained 2,500 early educators and consulted with 200 programs to improve quality. [www.threadalaska.org](http://www.threadalaska.org).

## **Alaska Early Intervention Awards Call for Nominations**

*The Alaska Infant Learning Program Association (AILPA) is now accepting nominations for three awards to be presented to three individuals who have made significant, long-term contributions in the area of early intervention (birth to three) within the state of Alaska. Awards will be presented at the AEYC Conference in Anchorage in Feb. 2012.*

### **I. Early Intervention Leadership Award**

Selection criteria

1. Candidate's contributions have markedly benefitted the growth and development of early intervention systems in Alaska.
2. Candidate is respected by colleagues in the field for their knowledge, skills and implementation of innovative service delivery strategies.
3. Candidate has made significant contributions toward promoting best practice approaches to early intervention in Alaska.

### **II. Early Intervention Provider Award**

Selection criteria

1. Children, families and the early intervention program within the community have markedly benefited from the candidates contributions.
2. Candidate is respected by colleagues in the field for their knowledge, skills and innovative approaches in working with families and other team members.

### **III. Early Intervention Advocacy Award**

Selection criteria

1. Candidate has made a significant contribution to the advancement of early intervention in the State of Alaska. Their efforts are clearly beyond those of typical professional duties or responsibilities and have significantly benefited the field.
2. Candidates may include, but are not limited to policy makers, legislators, administrators, parents or physicians.

### **Instructions for Submitting Nominations:**

Awards will be presented at the AEYC Conference in Anchorage in February, 2012.  
Nominations are due by January 6, 2012. All nominations should be submitted on the attached form.

## Alaska Early Intervention Award Nomination

Check which award this nomination is for:

- Early Intervention Leadership Award
- Early Intervention Provider Award
- Early Intervention Advocacy Award

**Name of Nominee:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Phone Number for Nominee:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Person Making Nomination:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Nominee's Years of Service in Early Intervention:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Statement of Contribution (Why I feel this person should receive the award):**

**Please send all nominations to:**

**Laurie Thomas  
Community Connections  
201 Deermount Street  
Ketchikan, AK 99901  
Fax: 907-225-1541**

**You May Not Know It,  
But if you are a member of Anchorage AEYC you are a member of  
NAEYC, Alaska AEYC & Anchorage AEYC**



**National Association for the Education of Young Children**  
PO Box 97156,  
Washington, DC 20090-7156  
Website: [www.naeyc.org](http://www.naeyc.org)

**State Affiliate**



**Alaska AEYC**  
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Juneau, Alaska 99802  
Gara Bridwell President  
E-mail: [info@aeyc-sea.org](mailto:info@aeyc-sea.org)  
Website: under construction

Administrative Assistant:  
Robin Bergey  
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**Local Affiliate**



**Anchorage AEYC**  
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Website: [www.anchorageaeyc.org](http://www.anchorageaeyc.org)

Administrative Staff & Conference  
Coordinators:  
C&C Services, Cecilia & Christie  
PO Box 771884, Eagle River, AK 99577  
Phone: 907-696-5884

(Other local AEYC affiliates in Alaska are:  
Fairbanks AEYC & AEYC-Southeast)



**2011-2012 Anchorage AEYC Board Members**



**EXECUTIVE MEMBERS**

President  
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**ELECTED MEMBERS**

Program Quality: Outreach, Support & Accreditation  
Chelley Correa—  
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Historian & AKAEYC Representative  
Mary Gibson—279-2511 x 7323  
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