



17th Annual Spring Conference  
featuring keynote speaker Debbie Clement

# Bringing the Arts to Life: Nurturing the Creative Spirit

March 27 & 28 2020

Holiday Inn Mansfield-Foxboro

Register at [www.rsvpbook.com/maaeYC2020](http://www.rsvpbook.com/maaeYC2020)

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# Debbie Clement

## TRUST AND AFFIRMATIONS: MAKING MONDAY MATTER

Saturday 8:45am

### Registration

#### One Day Friday or Saturday

NAEYC Member: \$95

Student NAEYC Member: \$70

General Registration (non-member): \$130

#### Both Days Friday and Saturday

NAEYC Member: \$170

Student NAEYC Member: \$125

General Registration (non-member): \$250

*Enjoy a 5% Early Bird Discount when registering  
before March 1st*

*Enjoy a 10% Group Discount when registering 5 or  
more people at the same time*

Debbie Clement is one of the most gifted Arts teachers in the country. Her specialty is staff development and working directly with students. She was recently asked to serve as one of the keynote speakers for the European Early Childhood Conference. Ms. Clement received her Bachelor of Fine Arts from Wittenberg University in 1979. From 1979 to 1996 she served as a teacher and support services coordinator for the Childhood League Center in Columbus, Ohio (a preschool for children with Developmental delays). While on staff with the Childhood League Center, she (1) managed and delivered the Arts and Music program throughout the center; (2) expanded the Arts program through grant writing and cooperative planning; (3) supervised visiting artists interaction with staff and students; (4) supervised the staff development plan for arts enrichment and instruction; and (5) authorized and organized state documentation and licensing requirements.

In 1996 Debbie began Rainbows Within Reach and began to expand the scope of her services. Her numerous workshops every year with Head Start programs, Even Start programs, K - 12 public schools, special education programs, Ohio Department of Education in-services have been received with rave reviews.

In November of 1997, Ms. Clement was awarded the Ella Lyman Cabot Trust Award, awarded in honor of preschool music program for children with special needs in central Ohio. Debbie has released two recordings for children; Debbie's Ditties for Little Kiddies (1997) and Debbie's Ditties 2 Much Fun (2000).

### Accommodations

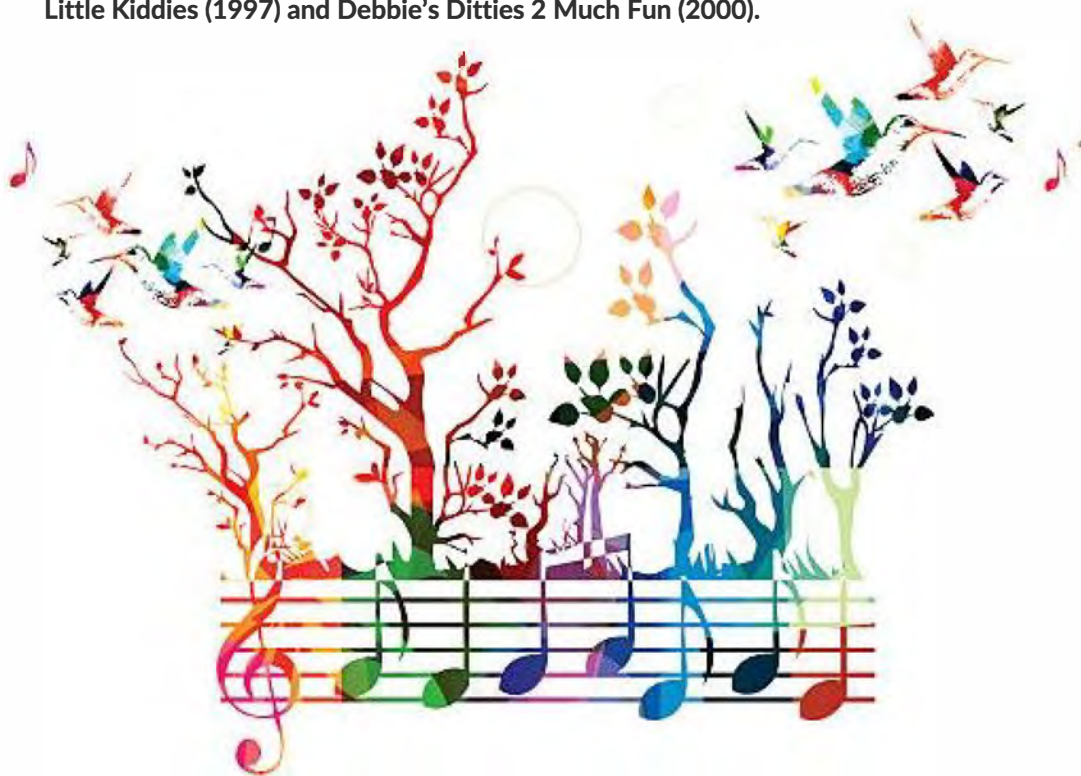
#### Holiday Inn

##### Mansfield - Foxboro

The conference venue is convenient to both I-95 and I-495, as well as accessible by public transportation.

#### Staying over?

Book your room using group code MAE by March 5th to receive the conference rate of \$105/night!



# Conference Schedule

## FRIDAY

MARCH 27, 2020

7:30 am Registration & Breakfast  
9:00 am Opening Remarks  
9:30 am Workshops Begin  
12:00 pm Lunch  
1:30 pm Workshops Resume  
4:00 pm Workshops End  
4:30 pm Yoga  
7:00 pm Karaoke

## SATURDAY

MARCH 28, 2020

7:30 am Registration & Breakfast  
8:45 am Welcome & Keynote  
10:30 am Morning Workshops  
12:45 pm Awards Luncheon  
2:15 pm Afternoon Workshops  
4:15 pm Conference Ends



# Friday Workshops

## 9:30AM - 4:00PM

### **F1: Merge for Equality: Developing Healthy Boys**

*James Arana & Keira Durrett, MERGE for Equality*

**Description:** The Developing Boys workshop promotes understanding of how boys learn about gender, ways that masculinity norms and stereotypes harm boys, and the adult's role in positively supporting healthy gender development.

*EEC Core Competency: 1*

### **F2: When to Play and When to Get Out of the Way**

*Peg Oliveira, Gesell Program in Early Childhood at the Yale Child Study Center*

**Description:** When unfettered exploration is essential, so is scaffolding. In this workshop we will investigate how different types of play, from child directed to adult initiated, can impact learning and brain development. Importantly, we will consider when adult play is helpful, and when it's time for the adult to step back.

*EEC Core Competency: 2*

### **F3: Engaging Diverse Families**

*Linda Schumacher, Early Childhood Specialist*

**Description:** Meaningful engagement with families in an early childhood program supports children's early learning and later success. Early childhood educators have a unique position in the lives of children and families and need to explore strategies for partnering with families, especially diverse families. Examine how culture affects your own beliefs around family and parent engagement and how educators can create a climate of trust by honoring diversity and communicating in a collaborative way to support children's care and education.

*EEC Core Competency: 3*

### **F4: The ARTS Stem into STEAM!**

*Debbie Clement, Keynote Speaker*

**Description:** Use the ARTS to put the STEAM into your STEM explorations. Join nationally award winning Author/Illustrator Debbie Clement as she shares her uniquely STEM driven songs and dances and then takes them one step further by infusing them with an Art-rich response! Sing your way into Science, use Technology to expand your classroom, post-it notes are turned into an exercise in Engineering while Math will be explored through the inherent patterns within Music!

*EEC Core Competency: 5*

### **F5: I've Got the Music in Me! How Music and Movement Help Kids Learn**

*Dotti McDevitt, Educator Trainer, Consultant, Coach*

**Description:** Research says children are kinesthetic learners so it only makes sense to combine our teaching with movement. Add some music and you have fun! You will leave with a plethora of ideas for incorporating music and movement into your teaching.

*EEC Core Competency: 5*

### **F6: Co-Creating Investigations with Children: The Power of Provocations, Pedagogical Documentation and the Reggio Emilia Approach**

*Amber Lowe, Advent School*

**Description:** Young children are creative, curious and capable. In this workshop we will explore how to engage children's creative spirit and capacity through co-constructing long-term investigations. Inspired by the schools in Reggio Emilia we will examine the role of provocations and pedagogical documentation in the process of co-creating curriculum with young children.

*EEC Core Competency: 5*

### **F7: The Art of Childhood**

*Katey Grossman, IEPD trainer*

**Description:** Exploration of art, music, dance, and drama bring us and our children joy. We all know it, but now research confirms and suggests that the arts can bring so much more to children. A recent study showed that children whose daily experience included music, dance, and visual arts demonstrated more cognitive gains overall than children who did not attend an arts-rich program. Equally important, the children showed greater gains in social-emotional development as well. Participants will reflect on their practice and create arts activities that support development across domains, integrating an arts curriculum design.

*EEC Core Competency: 5*

### **F8: A Day in the Life of a Massachusetts Audubon Preschool: Bringing Nature into your Classroom**

*Rina Zampieron, Jill Canelli, Diana Stinson & Karen First, Curriculum Specialist and Preschool Directors*

**Description:** What does a day at a nature preschool look like? Learn about the nature-based curriculum used at our Audubon preschools and how you can incorporate a variety of environmental activities into any program.

*EEC Core Competency: 5*

### **F9: Open the Doors to Learning: Linking the Creative Arts and Children's Literature**

*Debby Rawson Stratton, Preschool Program Director*

**Description:** Exploring the creative arts with young children can inspire problem-solving, stretch imaginations, and foster learning in powerful ways! Come and explore how to use all of the creative arts – visual arts, drama, music, storytelling, poetry and creative movement – to bring favorite stories to life while promoting early literacy skills. Bring your favorite children's book and together we will create a plan to infuse the Arts into your early childhood curriculum.

*EEC Core Competency: 5*

### **F10: Using Visual Languages to Explore the Natural World**

*Val Driscoll, Art Studio Supervising Teacher*

**Description:** Come explore a world of intersubjectivity. You will see how the children at the Smith College Center for Early Childhood Development use the outdoor art studio to use their many expressive languages to make meaning of the natural world around them. We will share rich examples in the form of learning stories, and you will explore materials with your own hands! Discover how science, math, social-emotional learning and the arts can all come together through work with natural materials.

*EEC Core Competency: 5*

### **F11: Let's Have Fun with Math!**

*Suzanne Wildman, Professional Development Facilitator*

**Description:** Math can sometimes feel intimidating. This hands-on workshop will give you the confidence to know that you are already doing math. Learn how to reframe activities to highlight math concepts, and explore strategies for creating a math-rich environment across curriculum areas.

*EEC Core Competency: 5*

### **F12: Engaging the Senses through Literacy and Art Experiences**

*Mary Wilson, Pitter Patter Enterprises, Inc.*

**Description:** In this hands-on workshop you will engage in art experiences that are tied to early literacy and using the senses. We will examine the developmental aspects that underlie the goals of each activity. You will leave with activities you can use the next day in your program.

*EEC Core Competency: 5*

### **F13: Ready, Set, Tell!**

*Shawn Middleton, Storytelling with Shawn Middleton*

**Description:** Add storytelling to your teaching repertoire! In this uplifting, high-energy and comprehensive workshop you will feel refreshed and excited to be able to introduce storytelling into your program. You will learn stories, songs, finger-plays and games from around the world that can be used immediately in your curriculum. We will explore different storytelling techniques to foster proactive listening, oral language and writing skills, as well as the sheer enjoyment of the magical imagination of stories.

*EEC Core Competency: 5*

### **F14: Technology and Marketing Strategies that are Right for YOU!**

*Abhas Jain*

**Description:** In this presentation you will learn how you can leverage technology (online advertising using social media, Google/Facebook ads) to attract new customers, manage and measure inquiries/interest, manage staff and children, communicate with millennial parents, and manage/collect fees.

*EEC Core Competency: 7*



# Saturday Morning Workshops

## 10:30AM - 12:30PM

AM & PM Workshops must be from the same EEC Core Competency to qualify for CEUs

### **AM1: Children with Sensory Processing Issues**

EEC Core Competency: 2

*Linda Schumacher, Early Childhood Specialist*

**Description:** Do you know a child who just doesn't seem to listen, or can't sit still, or over-reacts to everything? Children who have difficulty processing sensory input can also have challenges with behavior, communication, and carrying out everyday activities. Learn more about this complex disorder and discover how you can adapt your environment and interactions to support these children.

### **AM2: Peace Education 101: Peace Education and Creative Arts**

EEC Core Competency: 2

*Craig Simpson, Retired Infant Toddler Teacher & Jessica MacLeod, Director URI Child Development Center*

**Description:** In this workshop, we will explore how to use creative arts to teach young children about peace education. We will share ideas and resources in finding ways to teach children about peace and how to integrate peace education and social skills into curriculum.

### **AM3: Reflect, Empathize, Strategize: Discover Opportunities in a Child's Difficult Behaviors**

EEC Core Competency: 2

*Learning Seeds*

Using input from art therapy and OT, we will guide educators through our child-planning cycle to Reflect, Empathize, Recognize, Strategize, and Set Intention. Explore and discover how to plan for the hidden potential in a child's difficult behaviors.

### **AM4: Talking Toddler**

EEC Core Competency: 2

*Michelle Mady, Program Coordinator/Lead Teacher*

**Description:** Explore how to communicate with toddlers, helping them to understand and problem-solve. Learn how to better connect with toddlers to help them express and manage their emotions and develop self-regulation skills.

### **AM5: Save your Sanity! Learn Meridian Tapping for Stress Relief**

EEC Core Competency: 4

*Tijana Coso, EFT Trainer, Coso Consulting*

**Description:** Does your classroom overwhelm you and create a longing to either throw a tantrum or start sucking your thumb? There is a better way – Meridian Tapping! In this experiential workshop you will learn Tapping for stress relief. It's easy to learn and most importantly, it works!

### **AM6: A Child's Place on the Planet: Environmental Education for Young Learners**

EEC Core Competency: 5

*Kelly Korenak, Teacher and Curriculum Developer*

**Description:** In this hands-on workshop we will engage in games, role-playing and cooperative group activities that build academic skills (in literacy, numeracy, geography and science) while broadening ecological awareness and global citizenship in children in K-3 classrooms. We will share lesson plans that align with state standards.

### **AM7: Fueling the Mind through Art**

EEC Core Competency: 5

*Michael Ruzza, Early Childhood Consultant*

**Description:** Why did STEM turn into STEAM? In this workshop we will reflect on the importance of creative arts in an early learning environment, and how the arts fuel all the other areas of a child's development.

### **AM8: Open Ended Art: A Platform for All Learning Domains**

EEC Core Competency: 5

*Cynthia Parker & Kathleen Del Prete, Nion Early Education*

**Description:** Through open-ended art children have the opportunity for self-expression and creativity. It also provides a platform for science, math, and literacy. We will explore how art supports learning across all domains, tying the learning frameworks together.

### **AM9: Coding and Robotics for Little Learners? Yes!**

EEC Core Competency: 5

#### **Integrate Arts and Storytelling with KIBO, the Creative STEAM Robot**

*Katherine Blagden, Science Coach/STEAM Teacher, Beverly Public Schools & Dan Riles, Technology Integration Specialist, Brookwood School*

**Description:** Explore how to implement robotics activities into your PreK-2nd grade classroom. In this hands-on workshop you will learn how robotics can support age-appropriate, curriculum relevant STEAM activities. You will leave with ready-to-launch lesson plans that celebrate children's creativity.

### **AM10: Fostering Creative Thinking: STEM in the Early Years**

EEC Core Competency: 5

*Niloo Hennings, STEM Educator, Early Start STEM, LLC*

**Description:** STEM curriculum is open-ended, creative, and promotes critical thinking and problem-solving skills in a team building environment. In this interactive workshop you will use every day materials to learn how to effectively implement STEM instruction in your program.

### **AM11: Bringing Nature In: Adapting a Nature Preschool's Curriculum to Fit Any Preschool**

EEC Core Competency: 5

*Jessie Trowbridge, Lead Teacher & Rina Zampieron, Curriculum Specialist/Lead Teacher, Massachusetts Audubon*

**Description:** Nature education is gaining momentum for its role as a vital part of young children's educational experience. We will demonstrate how to incorporate nature curriculum into any preschool program through hands-on activities and scenarios.

### **AM12: Songs for Circle Time...or Any Time!**

EEC Core Competency: 5

*Hugh Hanley, Early Childhood Music/Play Specialist*

**Description:** Do you need some new music/play activities to rejuvenate your Circle Time singing sessions? In this participatory workshop we will share a variety of developmentally appropriate songs, finger-plays, and music activities that you can incorporate right away. You will discover techniques that make hands-on musical play an enriching, FUN part of your daily preschool curriculum.

### **AM13: Setting the Stage and Guiding Child-Directed Dramatic Play for Equity and Cultural Inclusion**

EEC Core Competency: 5

*Ellie Friedland, BU Wheelock College of Education and Human Development*

**Description:** In this workshop you will gain strategies for creating and guiding child-directed dramatic play that is culturally inclusive and actively anti-bias.

### **AM14: Brave Leadership: You Can Do This! Deep, Go All In and Show Them the Love**

EEC Core Competency: 8

*Patricia Sinclair, Center Director*

**Description:** Being a program director is a complex position. In this workshop you will sharpen your leadership skills, engage in self-reflection, learn from each other and hear stories of resiliency. Are you ready to become a whole-hearted leader?

# Saturday Afternoon Workshops

## 2:15PM - 4:15PM

AM & PM Workshops must be from the same EEC Core Competency to qualify for CEUs

### PM1: The Magical World of Puppet Play

*Patti Jo Wilson, Professional Development Specialist*

EEC Core Competency: 2

**Description:** There is something magical about puppet play with young children. Puppets can be used for intentional lesson planning, helping children handle emotions, and to lay the foundation for conflict resolution. Discover how to develop puppet play strategies to support children's social-emotional development.

### PM2: The Art of Play Therapy: Strategies to Support Peer Interaction

*Denise Galford-Koeppel, Child and Family Therapist, Early Intervention Specialist*

EEC Core Competency: 2

**Description:** Educators need specific skills to manage groups of children while promoting positive social interaction between peers. Learn how to use drama, music, and tactile arts in small and large groups to build social-emotional skills, emotional regulation, self-control and emotional literacy.

### PM3: Brave Children: Exploring an Enhancing Identity, Belonging, and Social-Emotional Literacy through Art and Construction

*Patricia Sinclair, Director & LeeAnn Sinclair, Teacher*

EEC Core Competency: 2

**Description:** Young children need to be seen, to belong, and to practice emotional literacy in the midst of conflict, creative expression and play. In this workshop we will explore the intentional skill development of labeling emotions, learning from mistakes, and modeling language that creates stories that are shame resilient. We will provide a framework for digging deeper into the emotional literacy from a non-judgmental perspective.

### PM4: Mind-Body Classroom: Caring for Yourself and Your Children

*Theresa Melito-Connors, Out of District Special Education Coordinator, Melrose Public Schools*

EEC Core Competency: 4

**Description:** Overwhelming stress can accompany the joys of being an early childhood educator. We will evaluate the strengths and weaknesses around self-care and learn new techniques. We will share strategies to understand how to use and improve self-care practices to cultivate a positive culture and improve outcomes. You will leave with a variety of self-care activities and tools that you can implement immediately.

### PM5: Mindfulness, Creativity and the Arts

*Suzanne Wildman, Professional Development Facilitator*

EEC Core Competency: 5

**Description:** Mindfulness is being present in the moment. You might wonder "What does that have to do with the arts?" Let's get creative! This hands-on workshop will help us to think "outside the box" to create meaningful mindfulness activities using the Arts.

### PM6: The Storytelling Experience

*Traci Glynn, Early Childhood Educator*

EEC Core Competency: 5

**Description:** The academic push towards learning letters, sounds and vocabulary has reduced the creative process of storytelling. Storytelling involves movement and actions, emotional responses, and social connections to characters and experiences. It is playful enjoyment, which is the basis for learning. You will leave with examples and strategies to enhance your storytelling and increase the active participation of your children.

### PM7: Shimmy...Shake...Create!

*Pepper Leclerc*

EEC Core Competency 5

**Description:** Let's get moving! Young children can have difficulty sitting still. What better way to engage children than with activities that let them wiggle and jiggle while they learn! Gross motor activities don't have to be just for the playground. Big Art is a great way to incorporate hands-on art with large motor skills. We will also share ideas for including movement with math, literacy and STEM activities.

### PM8: Exploring Self-Portraits with Young Children

*Joanna Doyle, Director of Training and Professional Development, Clarendon Early Education Services*

EEC Core Competency: 5

**Description:** Self-portraits allow children to explore identity, emotions and diversity. Join us to discover inventive ways to explore self-portraits with young children, and engage with various mediums as we discuss and share best practices for encouraging and supporting this creative process in your program.

### PM9: Nature Art: Awaken, Nourish and Create Outdoors

*Victoria Hackett, The Outdoor Classroom*

EEC Core Competency: 5

**Description:** Fostering a love for the arts and the outdoors can be done in so many different ways. In this workshop we will visit The Gardens for Art and Beauty and explore how the natural landscape and its loose parts can inspire nature-based art lessons around shapes, colors, properties, and patterns. Come ready to play, share, reflect and create. Leave feeling a new sense of wonder and creativity. Add boundless "Seeds of Inspiration" for outdoor learning to your teacher tool kit. This hands-on workshop will tap into your creative genius and will guide you to teach outdoors with confidence.

### PM10: Transitional Card Games

*Mike Melo, Educational Author and Inventor*

EEC Core Competency: 5

**Description:** Fill your daily transition times with fun, play based instructional card games. You will learn a way to teach one-on-one a variety of learning objectives in a short amount of time, using 4 levels of instruction.

### PM11: The Power of Intention: Reconsidering Everyday Early Childhood Practices

*Lisa Kuh, Director of Early Education, City of Somerville & Iris Ponte, Director/Teacher, Henry Frost Children's Program, Ponte and Chau Consulting Inc.*

EEC Core Competency: 5

**Description:** The Complementary Curriculum Approach is built on Four Intentions that support self-regulation and engagement. Learn how to follow children's interests, design compelling materials, give explicit presentations, and scaffold learning responsibly. Experience the power of intention and how discovery and explicit instruction coexist.

### PM12: Block Play: It's More than "Just a Mess"

*Meredith Burkett, Early Childhood Specialist & Trudi Wagner, Pre-K Teacher*

EEC Core Competency: 5

**Description:** Art and creativity come in a variety of forms in a multitude of experiences. Join us to learn how to support creativity through the use of purposeful block play in your program.

### PM13: Cultivating a Creative Center

*Rebecca Putnam, Regis College*

EEC Core Competency: 8

**Description:** In this workshop we will focus on cultivating a creative center. Discussion will include the role an administrator plays in nurturing an environment that fosters innovative thinking, the steps to make it happen, and bridging home and school. You will leave with ideas and strategies to implement in your program.

### PM14: Building and Maintaining Inspiration in the Early Childhood Community

*Donna Gorman, The Inspirational Educator*

EEC Core Competency: 8

**Description:** Inspiration! We all had it at one time. We were inspired to change the world, teach the next generation, support each other, and really make a difference. Somewhere along the line many have lost their inspiration. Let's find ways to bring JOY back to the adults who are caring and educating young children.

# Events and Activities

## FRIDAY

### **Lunch 12:15 pm - 1:15 pm**

Boxed lunch at the Holiday Inn is included in Friday's conference registration. Selection varies (sandwich, salad, etc.); please indicate any dietary restrictions or allergies on your registration form. The Holiday Inn will do their best to accommodate special dietary needs. MAAEYC will notify you in advance if the hotel is unable to accommodate your dietary request.

### **Yoga 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm**

Cost: \$5

Being an early childhood educator is extremely rewarding. It is also a stressful occupation! Practicing yoga cultivates an ability to stay calm, focus, and find relaxation. Yoga can positively affect three aspects of ourselves that are associated with stress: our body, mind, and breathing.

Come learn some fundamentals of yoga during this one hour session! Gail Epstein is both a Registered Yoga Teacher and Early Childhood Specialist. She will bring humor and fun to this session where we will experience the ancient self care practice of yoga.

### **Karaoke 7:00 pm - 11:00 pm**

Cost: \$10

Relax, unwind, celebrate. Spend time with colleagues and make new connections. Singing optional!

The evening will kick off with a special performance by keynote speaker Debbie Clement, followed by Karaoke entertainment provided by Betty Berkowitz. Betty Berkowitz has been entertaining people for corporate functions, weddings, bar mitzvahs, and fund raising events for years. She has appeared on Star Search and brings excitement to any function.

Dessert & coffee will be served and a cash bar is available. See you there!

## SATURDAY

### **Poster Exhibit 7:30 am - 10:30 am**

Visit our poster exhibit to see best practices on display from colleagues throughout the mixed delivery system. Looking to share your knowledge? Submit your poster proposal by February 15th at [www.maaeyc.org](http://www.maaeyc.org); selected poster exhibitors are offered complimentary one day registration to the conference.

### **Excellence in Education Awards**

#### **Luncheon 12:45 pm - 2:00 pm**

MAAEYC is proud to award the Gwen Morgan Leadership Award and the Butterfly Award for Excellence in Early Education. Award winners will be recognized and honored at this buffet lunch.

A ticket to attend this awards luncheon is included when you register for the conference for Saturday. For those not registered for the conference, tickets can be purchased separately at \$25 per person.

Learn more about the awards and  
submit a nomination at  
[www.maaeyc.org](http://www.maaeyc.org)

