

MN DEC SPRING PRACTITIONERS CONFERENCE

March 8th & 9th

The Magic and Might of Early Childhood Education!



Thursday Evening March 8th

Registration 5:30 - 6:45

Hors D'Oeuvres Buffet 6:15

Welcome - Judy Swett, President of Minnesota Division of Early Childhood 6:45

Keynote Shannon Paul 7:00 – 9:00 (Break at 8:00)

"Cultural Sensitivity for the Accidentally Insensitive"

Miss Shannan's discussion on "Cultural Sensitivity for the Accidentally Insensitive" uses personal anecdotes and real world situations to teach the audience how to not "be that person" who walks blindly into an awkward situation. Miss Shannan can keep you smiling and keep people of other cultures smiling along with you. During this engaging presentation, Miss Shannan will share her triumphs and challenges as the parent of a special needs child. Plus, lead a discussion on best practices to use when engaging this cultural circle.

Friday March 9th

Registration & Continental Breakfast 7:30-8:15

- Breakfast will be served in the atrium

Come early for EAT AND TWEET - Getting Started with Twitter as a professional tool. Join the conference Twitter Challenge! Hashtag #mndec18 7:30-8:15

Opening Keynote Session: 8:30-10:00

Making the "Magic 8" Work for Each and Every Child

After two years of analyzing the best available evidence, a team of early childhood researchers identified eight key actions that can make the difference between a mediocre learning experience and an excellent one. While the "Magic 8" offer useful guidance for building quality, they don't consider the practices needed to support young learners who are culturally, linguistically, and individually diverse. This presentation will highlight the additional "magical" components necessary to provide quality, inclusive learning and development environments and interactions for each and every child.

Break 10:00 - 10:15 (milk & cookies)

Morning Breakout Sessions 10:15 - 11:45

Title: The Right Stuff: Resources to support the full participation of each young child

Room: Park 1 & 2 (combined)

Description: Come discover rich resources that can support the successful participation of each young child. We'll explore high quality, no-cost resources that align with the DEC Recommended Practices and include activities, evidence-sources, videos, websites, listservs, and landing pads. Handouts will include diverse examples that can be helpful in many settings and applications. This session will feature an engaging combination of presentation and demonstrations of media and websites.

Presented by: Camille Catlett

Title: What early childhood educators need to know about FASD

Room: Terrace 1

Description: In 2016, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimated that as many as 1 in 20 U.S. school children may have a Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD). FASD is a medical condition that consists of a range of physical, behavioral, mental and cognitive symptoms associated with prenatal alcohol exposure. This presentation will provide an overview of the FASD basics; feature examples to aid in the understanding of the challenges young students experience living with an FASD then provides practical, effective strategies geared towards early childhood professionals.

Presented by: Shauna Feine

Title: Coaching families with young children with autism

Room: Terrace 2

Description: This session will explore coaching strategies to use when working with families of children with autism. Strategies will focus on targeting the specific needs of children with autism and we will discuss how families can embed learning opportunities into their daily routines. We will also provide a review of the characteristics of autism in young children and discuss how we bring up concerns with families in programming

Presented by: Chastity Lewis and Jenna Strain Lutz

Title: Reflective practice for early childhood professionals

Room: Terrace 3

Description: Working with young children and their families in inherently arousing and the capacity for reflection on one's own feelings, reactions and behaviors, and those of others is among the essential competencies for multidisciplinary infant and early childhood professionals. Therefore, the complex work is best accomplished with supports that include reflective supervision/consultation. This workshop offers in introduction to this process.

Presented by: Michelle Fallon

Executive Deli Buffet in Atrium 12:00

Be seated in the Atrium 12:00 –1:15

- Award Presentation for DEC Practitioner of the Year, Leader of the Year, and Lifetime Achievement
- Announce Mini-Grant Recipients
- State updates, MDE
- Raffle drawing!

Afternoon Breakout Session 1:30-3:00

Title: Moving and learning for self regulation: Keeping the body in mind

Room: Park 1

Description: Our busy, stressful lives contribute to poor sleep, diet and exercise - which leads to stressed children, adults and families! Using mindfulness, breathing techniques, yoga-based movement and social/emotional activities for Early Education, participants will be introduced the Yoga Calm® and Moving and Learning® curriculums. This experiential keynote presentation will introduce breathing techniques, integrative movement and social/emotional skill-building games that can be utilized right away - with young children one-on-one, in a classroom or daycare setting and at home. Start your day with breathing, mindfulness and movement

Presented by: Kaye Standke

Title: Service coordination - A framework for establishing interagency collaborations

Room: Park 2


Description: The primary goal of our time together will be to develop a framework for collaborating with interagency resources in your community. You will walk away with examples and handouts that will create a guide for you to take and begin to implement. This session will briefly summarize the Minnesota Department of Education's Service Coordination modules and align with DEC Recommended Practices.

Presented by: Michele Kvikstad and Janell Schilman

Title: Seesaw - An amazing technology tool with multiple uses for Early Childhood

Room: Terrace 1

Description: Overview of how Seesaw can be used for a teaching tool, data collection, collaboration with colleagues, and connecting with families. This free app/website is a huge "game changer". It is compatible with many apps. Come and find out how & why so many people are using it. Ideally: bring a laptop &/or iPad. Download the Seesaw the Learning

Journal App  &/or bookmark the [Seesaw](https://www.seesaw.me) website for hands on experience

Presented by: Jennifer Corcoran and Rebecca Anderson

Title: FGRBI: Why not just play routines and how does that work in daycare settings?

Room: Terrace 2

Description: As Early Interventionists we are taught to work directly with children during play because that is their "work". While play is indeed their work, it's not the only activity in which they engage throughout the day at home or in daycare. And we know that children learn best within the context of their relationships. Part C requires that we work with children in their Natural Environments. That can be home or a daycare in a variety of activities. And how does an Early Interventionist work with multiple activities/ routines in a classroom or daycare setting? In this session we will explore the variety of learning opportunities throughout the day in both home and daycare settings along with how to use FGRBI strategies in those multiple activities in both home and a daycare/classroom setting.

Presented by: Ann Maczuga

Title: Key warning signs for early onset mental illness and suicide prevention best practices

Room: Terrace 3

Description: This session will discuss these two topics specific to early childhood through the lens of development.

Presented by: Lisa Rapke Hoffman

Thank you for attending MN DEC 2018 Practitioners Conference!

All participants will receive an email at the conclusion of the conference. The email will include a link to a shared folder where you can access all session handouts that have been provided by presenters. In addition, you will be invited to provide feedback on the conference. Once you submit your feedback you will be linked directly to clock hours for your attendance.

Presenter Bios

Rebecca Anderson

Rebecca has been working with young children with special needs for 38 years. Her special interest is working with families and children with Autism.

Camille Catlett

Camille Catlett is based at the University of North Carolina's Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute. Her recent research efforts have focused on developing, implementing, and evaluating models for preparing personnel to work with young children who are culturally, linguistically, and ability diverse and models for collaborative, cross-sector professional development. Since moving to North Carolina in 1992, Camille has led strategic planning efforts designed to promote systemic change in professional development in over 30 states.

Since 2000, Camille's work has focused on developing intentional strategies that grow the capacity of early childhood and early intervention professionals to be comfortable, confident, and capable to support young children who are culturally, linguistically, and individually diverse and their families. She led the development of a model for supporting systemic change and improvement in early childhood, early childhood special education, and blended preservice programs (Crosswalks) and has supported successful implementation of that model in ten states. Camille is a frequent presenter at state, national, and international conferences. She coordinates four national listservs (BabyTalk, Faculty Finds, Natural Resources, Resources within Reason), one state listserv, and authors a regular column on implementing evidence-based practices (From Article to Action) in Young Exceptional Children.

Jennifer Corcoran

Jennifer is a seasoned Early Childhood Special Education Teacher. She has recently added the position Technology Integration Specialist for Bloomington's Early Learning Services Programs. Jennifer is a Seesaw Ambassador.

Michelle Fallon

Michele Fallon, LICSW, IMH-E(IV) is a licensed clinical social worker endorsed in Infant Mental Health through the Minnesota Association of Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health. Michele has 45 years of experience working with young children, their families and caregivers, and currently provides infant and early childhood mental health reflective consultation and training for practitioners working with young children and their families across disciplines.

Shauna Feine

Shauna Feine is a Licensed Social Worker and the Training Coordinator for the Minnesota Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (MOFAS). She also serves on the board of directors for the Minnesota Fathers and Families Network (MFFN). Shauna received her bachelor's degree from Minnesota State University - Mankato with a focus on neurodevelopmental disabilities, chemical dependency, and mental health and has more than ten years of experience working with individuals with various types of disabilities.

Lisa Rapke Hoffman

Lisa is an Early Childhood Educator and Clinical Social Worker. She has worked with young children and their families for 30 years in both education and social services. She has lived and worked in three countries with a variety of family cultures, races, religions, socioeconomic status, languages and ethnicities.

Michele Kvikstad

Michele Kvikstad has been an active member in county Interagency Early Intervention Committees (IEIC) in the state of MN. For the past 20 years Michele has been passionate about creating interagency supports for children and families both in the public schools and non-profit education settings. Michele received her Bachelor's degree in Communication Disorders, a Master's degree in Early Childhood Special Education, and is currently working on a Director's License in Special Services.

Chastity Lewis

Chastity Lewis is an Early Childhood Special Education teacher. She is currently working for Minneapolis Public Schools and has experience working with the Minnesota Centers of Excellence as a trainer in Family Guided Routines Based Intervention. She has worked with teams in varying districts across the state to implement coaching techniques into their early intervention programs. Chastity earned her Master's degree from St. Cloud State University in Early Childhood Special Education. Chastity has years of experience coaching and working with families of young children with special needs.

Jenna Strain Lutz

Jenna Strain Lutz is an Early Childhood Special Education Teacher serving as a birth-three teacher for Minneapolis Public Schools. Jenna has been trained in Autism Navigator and utilizes evidence-based coaching strategies with families who have a child with autism or social-communication needs. Jenna received her Masters in Education from the University of Minnesota.

Ann Maczuga

Ann Maczuga is the MN Statewide Content Lead for the Family Guided Routines Based Intervention Innovation. Previous to this position, she worked in the Minneapolis Public School System for 35 years as both an ECSE classroom teacher and an Early Intervention Birth-to-Three Practitioner. Her Masters Degree was obtained in Early Childhood Special Education from St. Cloud State University. She started her FGRBI work in 2010 in Minnesota with Juliann Woods in the Masters Cadre program. Her work continued as a Trainer in the Family Guided Routines Based Intervention Innovation until she became the Content Lead for the FGRBI Innovation in 2017.

Shannon Paul

A self-labeled Geek, Miss Shannan Paul brings roaring laughter to even the most curmudgeonly of crowds. Twin Cities newspaper, the City Pages says, "No matter where you've seen (or heard) her, you know just how great Miss Shannan is. With comedy that's personal and relatable, she has the ability to make you feel like you've been friends for years, even if you're only seeing her for the very first time." Her storytelling and infectious smile are sure to crack up even the most stone-faced curmudgeon. She can relate to just about everyone whether they be students, Sci-Fi fans, jocks, or soccer moms. Her diverse professional background has given her an incredibly broad communication set and allowed her to work with people and groups covering a spectrum of ethnicities, age ranges and education levels. In addition, she is a touring stand-up comedian who has performed for a wide range of audiences. She has hosted numerous corporate and charity events. Miss Shannan is a regular guest on local TV talk shows speaking on pop culture and diversity.

Janell Schilman

Janell Schilman is the Interagency Coordinator for Dakota County Social Services and the Dakota County Interagency Early Intervention Committee. She has Bachelor's Degree in Social Work and a Master's Degree in Public Administration. Janell has worked with high risk families in Child Welfare for 20 years, and is a strong advocate for interagency communication and collaboration to better support at-risk children and their parents.

Kaye Standke

Kaye Standke is forever grateful for the benefits yoga provides her with on a daily basis. Kaye is so happy to be a part of the Yoga Calm family. Kaye teaches yoga to a wide range of students from preschool age to adult and everyone in between. Kaye has been teaching Yoga Calm at a Children's Hospital Mental Health Units, several metro schools, and as Yoga Calm presenter. Kaye received her 200 hour Yoga Certification in 2006, and has added several other certifications to her repertoire of movement teachings. In addition Kaye has been a special education teacher for the past 11 years, and has received her masters degree in School Counseling in 2013. Kaye currently teaches yoga and works from home as "Mama" to her 2 fun loving spirited children whom are her greatest teachers. You can catch Kaye teaching yoga at preschools, schools, hospital, community events, and Blooma Minneapolis.