

# **Maria C. Sargent, Ph.D.**

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## **Education**

Kent State University:

- \*Doctor of Education- Special Education (birth-grade 12) / General Education-minor (1995)
  - Full Scholarship and Internship-Akron Children's Hospital and Kent State University & Adjunct Instructor (1988-1994)
- \*Master of Education- Special Education (1987)
  - Full Scholarship and Internship (Akron Children's Hospital, Cuyahoga County Board of Mental Health, and Kent State University)
- \*Bachelor of Science- Education (1985)

## **Current Positions**

- \*Full Professor of Education, Ashland University (1989-95/adjunct; 1995-present/full-time)
  - Major Courses: Assessment
    - Bio-Medical Aspects of Learning
    - Behavioral Support and Social Intervention
    - Introduction to Special Education
    - Assessment Techniques for Educators
- \* Consultant: Education & Special Education/Curriculum Design, Brain Research, Arts Intervention, Licensure Exam/Credentialing Psychometrics, Processing Disorders, and Behavior Support & Intervention

## **Previous Positions**

- \*Director, Behavior and Parenting Resource Center (BPRC): Ashland University
- \*Research Coordinator/Team Leader/Classroom Teacher (various positions over time):  
Children's Hospital Medical Center of Akron; Family Child Learning Center
- \*Behavioral Intervention Coordinator: Cuyahoga County Board of Mental Health
- \*Director, Kent State University Parent, Infant, and Toddler Research Program:  
KSU Child Development Center; Adjunct Faculty

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## REPRESENTATIVE SELECTIONS OF SCHOLARLY WORK

### Additional Publications Listed in Grants or Misc. Sections

Sargent, M. (Submitted for review: September, 2025). *Using the Visual Cue Sequence to Enhance Guided Play*. Young Children Journal.

Sargent, M. (2025). *Educating Young Children: A Neurodevelopmental Approach*. Brookes Publishing. Additional details in **Misc.** section.

<https://products.brookespublishing.com/Educating-Young-Children-P1657.aspx>

[https://www.amazon.com/Educating-Young-Children-Neurodevelopmental-Approach/dp/1681256525/ref=sr\\_1\\_1](https://www.amazon.com/Educating-Young-Children-Neurodevelopmental-Approach/dp/1681256525/ref=sr_1_1)

Sargent, M. (2012-present) at [www.Neuro-Teach.com](http://www.Neuro-Teach.com) (All Materials Free)

- Art Smarts: Developing Neurological Processing, Cognitive, Social, and Behavioral Skills through Dance (Draft Released)---Lily Sargent, Co-Author
- Blizzard of Behavior Cues, Charts, Graphs and Forms (123-page PDF)
- Central Auditory Processing Disorders: When Noise Makes Speech Vanish (12-page PDF)
- Critical Thinking Skills and Logic: The Keys to Making Progress in Academics and Behavior
- Dysgraphia: Hidden Handwriting Disabilities (38-page PDF + two videos)
- Helping Students Find Stability in Today's Chaotic World: Teaching the Skills Needed to Navigate the Fog of Modern Life (63-page PDF)
- Gang-Proofing: Reducing the Influence of Inappropriate Peers (87-page PDF)
- Neuro-Break: 180 Brain Activation Activities for the Classroom (PowerPoint)---Kara Stewart, Co-Author
- Play Intervention: Developing Advanced Play Skills and Using Play to Achieve Behavioral Goals (91-page PDF)
- Processing Problems Questionnaire (PDF)
- Reducing Aggressive Play (58-page PDF + one video)
- Sensory Integration Disorders--- When the World Won't Stay Still! (65-page PDF + one video)
- Sequences: Neurological Steps for Skills (31-page PDF)
- Sounds of Silence: Helping Students Develop Thinking Skills, Self-Reflection, and Internal Behavioral Control (14-page PDF)
- STEM: The Difference between Creating Activities and Creating Meaning
- Supporting Behavior (55-page PDF + three videos)
- Surviving Parenthood: Simple Solutions for Typical Behavior Problems (87-page PDF + video pending)
- Teaching Impulse Control (43-page PDF + one video)
- Teaching Groupness: Developing Skills and Troubleshooting Problems (25-page PDF + one video)
- The Missing Visual Cue Sequence: Solving Literacy Problems in Modern Classrooms (32-page PDF + one video)
- Value Code Shifting: Reaching the Hard-to-Reach Student (49-page PDF + one video)
- Visual Processing Disorders--- When 20/20 Vision Isn't Enough (67-page PDF + two videos)

Sargent, M. & Stewart, K. (2008). Enhancing DECA Behavioral Protective Factors Through the Arts. Ohio Department of Mental Health.

Sargent, M. (2006). The 3-D Curriculum: Enhancing Cognitive, Behavior and Social Skills (Training Series), Ohio Department of Mental Health.

Sargent, M. (1998). *The past, present and future of early childhood education in the United States: A tapestry of many colors*. Japan's National Journal on Early Childhood Development.

Sargent, M. (1997). *I hear but I don't understand: Using cue systems to enhance the instruction of students*. Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development Journal, 5(2), 15-18.

Safford, P., Sargent, M. & Cook, C. (1994). *Instructional models for early childhood special education: origins, issues and trends*. In P. L. Safford, B. Spodek & O. N. Saracho (Eds.), Yearbook in Early Childhood Education: Early Childhood Special Education. (99.72-96).

Sargent, M., Hainsworth, M. & Hainsworth, P. (1994). *Let's Begin Learning Series: Engagement Skills*. Recognition Intervention Network: Carlisle, MA.

Sargent, M., Hainsworth, M. & Hainsworth, P. (1995). *Let's Begin Learning Series: Self-Care Skills*. Recognition Intervention Network: Carlisle, MA.

Sargent, M., Hainsworth, M. & Hainsworth, P. (1994). *Let's Begin Learning Series: Engagement Skills*. Recognition Intervention Network: Carlisle, MA.

Hainsworth, M. & Hainsworth, P., & Sargent, M. (1994-1995). Recognition Intervention Network: Carlisle, MA. Author of revisions for sections in these three publications:

- *Let's Begin Learning Series: Sensory Motor* - (extensive involvement)
- *Let's Begin Learning Series: Thinking Skills*- (moderate involvement)
- *Let's Begin Learning Series: Communications Skills*- (limited involvement)

Safford, Philip L. (1989). *Integrated Teaching in Early Childhood*. New York: Longman Inc. Listed (contributing) author for textbook sections titled, *Teaching Techniques*. This section is included in four separate chapters.

## **Grants**

Ohio Deans Compact on Exceptional Children: Ashland University Writing and Implementation Team- Multiple Licensure Programs for Undergraduate Students Pursuing Combined General Education and Intervention Specialist Licenses in Four-Year Period. (\$216,000), 2017-2019.

Ohio Department of Education: Ashland University Writing and Implementation Team: Project R.I.S.E.: Redesigning Intervention Specialist Education. (\$177,000), 2011-2014.

National Model Program / SPARK Project: Kellogg's Foundation, (\$180,000 for writing phase, \$4.5 million for implementation phase), 2003-2008.

Summit County Mental Health & Behavioral Initiative and Associated Training Curriculum and Media---Grants #1, 2 and 3: Ohio Department of Mental Health (\$180,000) (2006-2008 personal implementation; 2008-2009 support for new lead agency/Child Guidance)

Design of Early Childhood Educational Resource Center (ECRC): Sisters of Charity Foundation, Canton, Ohio, (3 million), 1999-2004.

Behavior and Parenting Support Center and Associated Training Curriculum and Media--Grants #1, 2, 3, 4 5, and 6: Department of Human Services, Ohio. (\$567,000), 1999-2003.

NOTE: *Additional grants written for various agencies noted in Misc. Section.*

### **Representative Conferences (Condensed List)**

#### **INTERNATIONAL LEVEL:**

Council for Exceptional Children's Division for Early Childhood International Conference: Portland, Oregon (October 7, 2025; one of 14 submissions selected for a 3-hour preconference workshop)

- Leveraging Neurodevelopmental Techniques to Enhance Classrooms and Skill Development

Council for Exceptional Children's Division for Early Childhood International Conference: New Orleans, Louisiana (September 17, 2024; one of 20 submissions selected for a 3-hour preconference workshop → cancelled due to illness and subsequent multi-month treatment)

- Enhancing Relationships and Interactions w/ Families with Diverse Profiles

Council for Exceptional Children's Division for Early Childhood International Conference: Minneapolis, Minnesota (Nov. 28, 2023; One of 13 submissions chosen for 3-hour workshop)

- The Power of Play: From Basic Support to Advanced Play-Based Interventions

Zero to Three Annual Conference: Virtual Delivery (Oct. 27, 2021)

- Neurological Responsiveness: Modifying Interactions with Families to Support Communication

Council for Exceptional Children's Division for Early Childhood International Conference: Virtual Delivery (September 20, 2021)

- Neurological Processing: Solutions for Struggling Students (Pre-K to 8)  
(Selected for a 3-hour preconference workshop)

Council for Exceptional Children's Division for Early Childhood International Conference: Virtual Delivery (January 21, 2021)

- Combining Brain Research and DAP to Teach Impulse Control & Behavioral Skills  
(Invited session; 3-hour preconference workshop)

Council for Exceptional Children's Division for Early Childhood International Conference: Minneapolis, Minnesota (October 20-23, 2020 → Cancelled due to Coronavirus).

- Combining Brain Research and DAP to Teach Impulse Control & Behavior Skills

High Scope International Conference: Detroit, Michigan (May 16-18, 2018)

- Responsive Experiences in Math and Science: A Developmental Approach,  
and//
- The Power of Play: Using Play to Enable Skills and Support Behavior

Council for Exceptional Children's Division for Early Childhood International Conference:  
Louisville, Kentucky (October 18-20, 2016)

- Combining Brain Research and DAP to Teach Impulse Control & Behavioral Skills

High Scope International Conference: Detroit, Michigan (May 10-12, 2016)

- Using Brain Research to Individualize Plan-Do-Review

Council for Exceptional Children's Division for Early Childhood International Conference:  
Atlanta, Georgia (October 8, 2015)

- Value Code Shifting: Finding Common Ground Between Home and School Behavior Expectations

International Education Conference: Honolulu, Hawaii. Two sessions. (January 7-9, 2007)

- Developing Behavioral and Social Competence in Children.  
and//
- Using the Arts to Develop Social, Emotional and Behavioral Competence

Association for Early Childhood International: International Conference: San Antonio, Texas.  
(April 12-15, 2006)

- Understanding Diverse Value Systems: Enhancing Parental Involvement in Behavior Management Issues.  
and//
- Using the Arts to Develop Social, Emotional and Behavioral Competence

Association for Early Childhood International: International Conference: Washington, D.C.  
(March 23-26, 2005)

- Reducing Social Violence: Helping Children to Become Peaceful, Law-Abiding Adults.

Association for Early Childhood International: International Conference: Phoenix, Arizona:  
(April 13-16, 2003).

- Reducing Social Violence: Helping Children to Become Peaceful, Law-Abiding Adults.

World Congress/International CEC Special Conference: British Columbia, Canada (April, 2000)

- The Impact of Brain Research on Play-Based Intervention: Bringing the Strengths of Multiple Disciplines Together.

Council for Exceptional Children International Conference: Washington, DC (December, 1999)

- The Impact of Brain Research on Play-Based Intervention: Bringing the Strengths of Multiple Disciplines Together.

## **NATIONAL LEVEL:**

National Association for the Education of Young Children's National Conference: Anaheim, California. (November 19, 2025; selected for two-hour workshop session)

- Enhancing Relationships, Communication, and Responsiveness for Families with Diverse Interaction Profiles

Council of Exceptional Children National Conference & Expo: Baltimore, Maryland. (March 13, 2025).

- Neurologically-Responsive Techniques to Support Behavior & Social Skills in Diverse Populations (PreK-3rd)

National Association for the Education of Young Children's National Conference: Anaheim, California. (November 6, 2024; Submission chosen for 3-hour workshop → Moved to 2025 due to illness and subsequent multi-month treatment)

- Enhancing Relationships, Communication, and Responsiveness for Families with Diverse Interaction Profiles

National Association for the Education of Young Children's National Conference: Nashville, TN. (Nov. 15, 2023; Submission chosen for 3-hour workshop)

- Neurological Variations in Learning: Implications for General Play Support, Play Expansion, and Play-Based Behavioral Interventions

Council of Exceptional Children National Conference & Expo: Louisville, Kentucky. (March 3, 2023).

- Value Code Shifting: Using Diversity-Responsive Family Collaboration Techniques

Council of Exceptional Children National Virtual Convention: (February 4, 2022).

- Neurological Processing Problems: Uncovering Hidden Barriers to Learning (3-hour preconference workshop)

Council of Exceptional Children National Conference & Expo: Orlando, Florida. (January 16, 2022).

- Neurological Processing Problems: Uncovering Hidden Barriers to Learning (3-hour workshop)

Association of Teacher Educators Summer Conference: Virtual Delivery (August 2, 2021)

- Using Neurological Principles to Support Responsive Teaching and Professional Resilience

Goddard School Nationwide Training Series: (April 28-30; May 1-2, 2020; and October 13-16, 2021 → All cancelled due to Coronavirus).

- Reconceptualization of Brain-Based Curriculum Design & Behavior Support

Goddard School National Directors Conference: Miami, FL (May 1-3, 2019)

- Neurological Variations in Learning and Play: Implications for Program Design (Repeated Keynote Session/Three Segments)

7th Annual STEM Forum & Expo: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (July 12, 2018)

-Enhancing STEM Outcomes: Recognizing and Removing Hidden Learning Barriers (Pre-K through College-Age)

Head Start Conference: Chicago, Illinois (Nov. 4, 2013)

-Constructing Appropriate Behavior Supports and Intervention

National Association for the Education of Young Children's National Conference: Atlanta, Georgia (Nov. 7, 2012)

- Getting Off the Pedagogy-Go-Round: Using Neurological Principles to Evaluate the Developmental Appropriateness of Common Pre-K Practices.

National Association for the Education of Young Children's National Conference: Orlando, FL (Nov. 3, 2011)

-Value Code Shifting: Improving a Behavior and Increasing Family Cooperation with Guidance Plans Despite Divergent, and Possibly Conflicting, Behavior Codes in the Home Environment.

National Association for Dance Education's National Conference: New York, NY (July, 2009)

- Reaching the Hard-to-Reach Child: Recognizing and Removing Hidden Learning Barriers.

National Council of Exceptional Children's Teacher Education Division National Conference: Milwaukee, Wisconsin. (November 7-10, 2007).

-Teaching Behavioral & Social Skills in Inclusionary ECED Classrooms

National Association for the Education of Young Children's National Conference (November, 2000).

- Reducing Social Violence: Helping Children to Become Peaceful

National Association for the Education of Young Children's National Conference: (November, 1993).

- Developmentally Appropriate Practice: Analysis of Application to Young Children with Disabilities.

TASH National Conference: (December, 1990):

- Integrating Young Children with Disabilities into community Preschool/Daycare Programs: strategies for Success.

## **REGIONAL and STATE LEVELS:**

Ohio Early Childhood Conference: Sandusky Ohio. *(Scheduled for April 23-25, 2026).*

- Enhancing Memory Retention and Learning Rates for STEAM Concepts: A Neurodevelopmental Approach

Florida Early Childhood Conference: Orlando, Florida. (October 17, 2025)

- The Power of Play: From Basic Support to Advanced Play-Based Interventions

Wisconsin Promoting Early Childhood Conference- Wisconsin Department of Public Education (June 19 and 20, 2025; invited keynote presentation and breakout sessions).

***June 19***

- Neurodevelopmental Variations in Learning: Implications for General Play Support and Environmental Design
- Advanced Neurodevelopmental Techniques to Support Play-Based Instruction and Interventions
- Meeting the Instructional Needs of Each Learner in a Diverse Classroom

***June 20***

- Basic Behavior and Social Skill Support
- Advanced Behavior and Social Skill Support

Southern Early Childhood Association Conference: Houston, Texas (March 22, 2025; Live with simultaneous streaming and post-conference archive on website for on-demand access).

- Neurological Variations in Learning: Implications for Play-Based Instruction and Behavioral Support

Ohio Early Childhood Conference: Sandusky Ohio. (April 24, 2025; chosen for 3-hour workshop).

- Enhancing Relationships, Communication, and Responsiveness for Families with Diverse Interaction Profiles

Wisconsin Training Series (Invited training series / multiple dates).

- September 29, 2024: Power of Play (full day / live)
- Nov. 27, 2024: Power of Play- Impacting Variables (half- day / virtual)
- January 20, 2025: Behavior Support- Basic (full day / live)
- March 7, 2025: Behavior Support- Advanced (half- day/virtual)

Florida Early Childhood Conference: Orland, Florida. (Accepted for October 19, 2024-→ Moved to 2025 due to illness/travel restrictions).

- The Power of Play: From Basic Support to Advanced Play-Based Interventions

Ohio Early Childhood Conference: Sandusky Ohio. (April 25, 2024; chosen for 3-hour workshop).

- Developing Behavioral and Social Competence in Diverse Groups of Students

Wisconsin Promoting Early Childhood Conference- Wisconsin Department of Public Education (March 5, 2024; invited keynote presentation and two breakouts sessions).

- Neurological Responsive Techniques for Diverse Populations (ECED focus)

Arkansas Early Childhood Education Training (January 3, 2024).

- Neurological Foundations of Education and Behavior Support

Indiana Early Childhood Education and School-Age Annual Conference: Indianapolis, IN (May 5 and May 6, 2023 / Repeated Session).

- Neurological Processing Problems: Uncovering Learning Barriers



Ohio Early Childhood Education and School-Age Annual Conference: (April 28, 2022).

- The Power and Mystery of Play: From Basic Support to Advanced Play-Based Interventions

Ohio Early Childhood Education and School-Age Annual Conference: Virtual Delivery. (April 23, 2021).

- Processing Disorders: Different Routes to Learning STEAM

The Early Childhood Professional Association Invited Presentation: (January 12, 2022).

- Processing Disorders: Different Routes to Learning STEAM

CESA #1/Southeastern Wisconsin (November, 2020 → Cancelled due to Coronavirus).

- Neurological Concepts and Strategies to Support Diverse Learners

Ohio Confederation of Teacher Education Organizations (OCTEO) Annual Conference: (Oct 22-23, 2020):

- Using Brain-Based Teaching as a Higher Education Delivery Strategy

Ohio Early Childhood Education and School-Age Annual Conference: Cleveland, Ohio (April 23, 2020 → Cancelled due to Coronavirus).

- Processing Disorders: Different Routes to Learning STEAM

Wisconsin Early Childhood Association Annual State Conference (November 15 and 16, 2019)

- Value Code Shifting: Enhancing Family Collaboration Despite Conflicting Value Codes

and//

- The Power of Play: Using Play to Enable Skills and Support Behavior

Cincinnati and Vicinity: Cincinnati, Ohio (October 1, 2019)

- Neurological Processing Disorders: Techniques for Classroom Educators, OT, PT, Speech & Language Therapists and Other Support Staff

Regional Training: Muskingum Valley ESC: Zanesville, OH (August 12, 2019)

- Positive Behavior Support and Intervention: Introduction (Grades PreK-12<sup>th</sup>)

and//

- Positive Behavior Support and Intervention: Advanced Concepts (Grades PreK-12<sup>th</sup>)

Cincinnati and Vicinity: Cincinnati, Ohio (March 15, 2019)

- Neuro-Break: 180 Brain Activities for the Classroom Educators, OT, PT, Speech & Language Therapists and Other Support Staff

Cincinnati/Forest Hills Schools: Cincinnati, Ohio (August 28, 2018)

- Reaching the Hard-to-Reach Student (PreK-12)

and//

- Developing Behavioral and Social Competence in Diverse Groups of Students (PreK-12)

Hamilton County/State Department Resource Center: Cincinnati, Ohio (April 13, 2018)

-Developing Behavioral and Social Competence in Diverse Groups of Students

Ohio Early Childhood Education and School-Age Annual Conference: Columbus, Ohio  
(May 5, 2017)

- Sounds of Silence: Helping Students Develop Thinking Skills, Self-Reflection, and Internal Behavioral Control

OAASFEP Title I: Ohio Association of Administrators of State and Federal Education Programs  
Annual Conference: Columbus, Ohio (May 4, 2017)

- Brain-Based Literacy: Meeting the Needs of Struggling Students (Keynote)  
and//
- Dysgraphia: Meeting the Needs of Struggling Writers (Session)

East Tennessee Early Childhood Conference: (July 15-16, 2016)

- The Power and Mystery of Play: From Basic Support to Advanced Play-Based Interventions (Friday, July 15)  
and//
- Sounds of Silence: Helping Students Develop Thinking Skills, Self-Reflection, and Internal Behavioral Control (Saturday, July 16)

Ohio Department of Education Region #12: Hammondsville, Ohio

- Literacy Support for Diverse Learners (May 11, 2016)

Ohio Early Childhood Education and School-Age Annual Conference: Columbus, Ohio  
(April 21, 2016)

- The Power and Mystery of Play: From Basic Support to Advanced Play-Based Interventions

Lakeshore Learning Materials (Invited Speaker): Detroit, Michigan (April 15, 2016)

- Integrated Use of High Scope KDI's: An Integrated Approach

Ohio Department of Education Region #12: Cambridge, Ohio

- Brain-Based Literacy: Meeting the Needs of Struggling Students (Staff Audience:  
Feb. 18, 2016)

Ohio Department of Education Region #2 Elementary School Professional Training: Sandusky, Ohio

- School-Age Behavior Support (Feb. 4, 2016)  
and//
- Preschool Behavior Support (Feb. 5, 2016)

Ohio Department of Education Region #12: Cambridge, Ohio

- Brain-Based Literacy: Meeting the Needs of Struggling Students (Admin. Audience:  
Dec. 3, 2015)

Lakeshore Learning Materials (Invited Speaker): Detroit, Michigan (October 30, 2015)

- Developmentally Appropriate Math and Science Experiences for Infants and Toddlers

Lakeshore Learning Materials (Invited Speaker): Dayton, Ohio (August 19, 2015)

-Unlocking the Power of Blocks

East Tennessee Early Childhood Conference: (July 17, 2015)

-Reaching the Hard-to-Reach Child: Recognizing and Removing Hidden Learning Barriers

Lakeshore Learning Materials (Invited Speaker): Shelbyville, Kentucky (May 29, 2015)

-Providing Social-Emotional Support: Simple Solutions for “Little” Behaviors

Ohio Early Childhood Education and School-Age Annual Conference: Columbus, Ohio (May 21, 2015)

-Dysgraphia: Meeting the Educational Needs of Struggling Writers

Ohio Department of Education Region #9 Professional Training: Massillon, Ohio (April 18, 2015)

- Neurological Processing Problems in the Early Childhood Classroom: Solutions for the Struggling or Hard-to-Reach Child

Ohio Department of Education Region #15 Professional Training: Portsmouth, Ohio (April 17, 2015)

-Using Brain Research to Enhance Teaching (Keynote)  
and//

-Processing Disorders: Hidden Barriers to Learning (Breakout #1)  
and//

-Using Brain Research to Enhance Teaching of Appropriate Behavior (Breakout #2)

Lakeshore Learning Materials (Invited Speaker): Indianapolis, Indiana (February 27, 2015)

- Family Interactions and Behavior Supports: New Ways to Develop Successful Relationships

Ohio Department of Education Region #2 Elementary School Professional Training: Sandusky, Ohio (Feb. 20, 2015)

-Dysgraphia: Meeting the Educational Needs of Struggling Writers

Ohio Department of Education Region #2 Professional Training: Elyria, Ohio (Feb. 13, 2015)

-Neurological Processing Problems in the ECED Classroom

East Tennessee State University Annual Early Childhood Conference (July 25-27, 2014)

-Reaching the Hard-to-Reach Child: Recognizing and Removing Hidden Learning Barriers

Lakeshore Learning Materials (Invited Speaker): Shelbyville, Kentucky (June 6, 2014)

-Enhancing Literacy Goals: Techniques for the Very Young

Ohio Early Childhood Education and School-Age Annual Conference: Columbus, Ohio (April 10, 2014)

-Processing Disorders: Different Routes to Learning

Annual Early Childhood Conference: Grand Rapids, Michigan (April 3, 2014)

-Processing Disorders: Different Routes to Learning

Indiana Regional Professional Development Series: Indianapolis, Indiana (Feb. 28, 2014)

-Family Interactions and Behavior Support: New Ways to Develop Successful Relationships

Ohio Head Start Leadership and Professional Development Annual Conference: Dayton, Ohio (June 5, 2013)

-Constructing Appropriate Behavior Supports and Interventions

Ohio Head Start Administrative Annual Conference: Columbus, Ohio (February 8, 2013).

-Keynote Speaker: Reaching the Hard-to-Reach Child....and Family  
and//

-Breakout Session: Processing Disorders Uncovering Hidden Barriers to Learning and Behavior

Ohio Early Childhood Education and School-Age Annual Conference: (April 19 & 21, 2012)

- Getting Off the Pedagogy-Go-Round: Pre-K Through 3  
and//

-Using the Arts to Develop Social, Emotional & Behavioral Competence

Ohio Early Childhood Education and School-Age Annual Conference: (April 28, 2011)

- Value Code Shifting: Obtaining Cooperation in Difficult Situations

Ohio Early Childhood Education and School-Age Annual Conference: (April 30, 2010)

- Neurological Processing Problems: Uncovering Hidden Barriers for Learning

State of Tennessee, Speaking Series: April 16-18, 2008:

-Developing Behavioral and Social Skills in Students (university students)  
and//

-Essential Behavioral Concepts for Pre-Professionals (university faculty)

Ohio Early Childhood & School-Age Annual Conference: Columbus, Ohio (March 30, 2006)

-Reaching the Hard to Reach Child: A Developmental Approach

Ohio Dept. Education Annual Conference: Columbus, Ohio (October, 2001)

-Transforming Aggressive Play: Helping Children Play and Socialize in Appropriate Ways

Ohio Dept. Education Annual Conference: Columbus, Ohio (October, 1999)

- The Impact of Brain Research on Play-Based Intervention: Bringing the strengths of Multiple Disciplines Together.

Ohio Dept. Education Annual Conference: Columbus, Ohio (October, 1998)

- Behavior Management: Developing Intrinsic Control in Young Children (extended session).

Ohio Dept. Education Annual Conference: Columbus, Ohio (October, 1997)

- Behavior Management: Developing Intrinsic Control in Young Children (extended session).

Ohio Head Start Association State Conference: Columbus, Ohio (October, 1997)

- Behavior Management: Developing Intrinsic Control in Young Children (extended session).

Ohio Head Start Association State Conference: Columbus, Ohio (May, 1994)

- Developmentally Appropriate Practice: Analysis of Application to Young Children with Disabilities

Ohio Preschool Special Education Annual Conference: Columbus, Ohio (April, 1991)

- Targeting Goals Through Play: Meeting the Needs of All Children within a Developmentally Appropriate Classroom.

Ohio Early Childhood Education State Conference: Columbus, Ohio (March, 1991)

- Integrating Young Children with Disabilities into Community Preschool/Daycare Programs: Strategies for Success.

Ohio Association for the Education of Young Children Annual Conference: Columbus, Ohio (May, 1990)

- Integrating Young Children with Disabilities into Community Preschool/Daycare Programs: Strategies for Success.

Ohio Association for the Education of Young Children Annual Conference: Columbus, Ohio (May, 1989)

- Appropriate Education in the Public Elementary School.

### **LOCAL LEVEL (Sessions from 1990-2002 not listed):**

Youngstown City Schools Training Series (Invited training and support series / multiple dates).

- March 3, 2025: Observation Follow-Up
- February 27, 2025: Observation Follow-Up
- February 13, 2025: Classroom Observation
- January 20, 2025: Play and Behavior Support- Basic (half- day/live)

Our Lady of the Elms Schools, Pre-K to 12 (August 15, 2023):

- Developing Behavioral and Social Competence in Diverse Groups of Students

Cleveland Dioceses, Ohio: Vermilion, Ohio (June 2, 2017)

- Reaching the Hard-to-Reach Child: Recognizing and Removing Hidden Learning Barriers

OhioDance Spring Festival and Conference: Columbus, Ohio (April 30, 2017)

- The Power of the Arts: Understanding How Dance Teaches Behavioral, Social, Academic, and Neurological Skills to Children

Akron Head Start Association, Parent/Caregiver Training Session (All Regions): Akron, Ohio (March 2017)

-Developing the Behavior and Work Skills That Will Help Your Child Excel in Sports, Business and Other Future Careers

Akron Head Start Association (Multiple Sessions-All Summit County): Akron, Ohio (August 22-24, 2016)

-Helping Students Develop Thinking, Choice-Making, And Self-Reflection to Support Behavior and Social Skill Development

Columbus JCC: Columbus, Ohio (August 9, 2016)

- Using Brain Research to Construct Developmentally Appropriate Programs in Pre-K and Kindergarten Classrooms

Lorain City Schools: Lorain, Ohio (January 19, 2016)

- Using Brain Research to Construct Developmentally Appropriate Programs in Pre-K and Kindergarten Classrooms

Hamilton County Educational Service Center: Cincinnati, Ohio (Nov. 4, 2015)

- Using Brain Research to Construct Developmentally Appropriate Programs in Pre-K and Kindergarten Classrooms

Alliance Early Childhood: Alliance, Ohio (April 9, 2015)

- Using Brain Research to Construct Developmentally Appropriate Programs in Pre-K and Kindergarten Classrooms

Akron Head Start Association, Parent/Caregiver Training Session for Region B: Akron, Ohio (February 26, 2015)

-Developing the Behavior and Work Skills That Will Help Your Child Excel in Sports, Business and Other Future Careers

Early Childhood Resource Center: Canton, Ohio (February 11, 2015)

- Using Brain Research to Construct Developmentally Appropriate Programs in Pre-K and Kindergarten Classrooms

Akron Head Start Association: Akron, Ohio (January 26, 2015)

-Play-Based Behavioral Interventions

Akron Head Start Association, Parent/Caregiver Training Session for Region A: Akron, Ohio (January 22, 2015)

-Developing the Behavior and Work Skills That Will Help Your Child Excel in Sports, Business and Other Future Careers

Lorain City Schools: Lorain, Ohio (January 20, 2015)

-Reaching the Hard-to-Reach Child: Solutions for Processing and Behavioral Problems in the ECED Classroom

Akron Head Start Association: Akron, Ohio (October 24, 2014)

-Positive Behavior Support

Early Childhood Resource Center: Canton, Ohio (March 27, 2014)

- Neurologically Sound Behavior Supports: Matching Techniques to the Classroom and/or Student

Delaware Valley AEYC Conference: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (March 22, 2014)

- Processing Disorders: Different Routes to Learning

Early Childhood Resource Center: Canton, Ohio (February 12, 2014)

- Reaching the Hard-to-Reach Child: Recognizing and Removing Hidden Learning Barriers

Hamilton County Educational Service Center: Cincinnati, Ohio (November 15, 2013)

- Reaching the Hard-to-Reach Child: Recognizing and Removing Hidden Learning Barriers

2013 Annual Reading Conference: Cleveland State University's (Oct 25, 2013)

- Processing Disorders: Hidden Barriers to Common Core Literacy Goals

Head Start Regional Conference: Piqua, Ohio (May 31, 2013)

- Processing & Behavioral Issues Uncovering Hidden Barriers to Learning and Classroom Function

Ohio Head Start Regional Conference: Piqua, Ohio (April 8, 2013).

- Processing Disorders Uncovering Hidden Barriers to Learning and Behavior

Together Against Stigma Conference: Mental Health and Recovery Services Board (MHRSB) of Stark County (Sept. 28, 2012).

- Keynote Speaker: Children and Stigma: How Societal Pressure Shapes Therapy and//

- Breakout Session: Using Social Pressure Reduction Techniques to Strengthen Family Commitment to Management Programs

Mahoning County Educational Service Center: (Aug. 17, 2012).

- Constructing Formal Behavior Supports.

Mid-Ohio Educational Service Center: (Jan. 7, 2011).

- Constructing Formal Behavior Supports.

North Central Regional Early Childhood Conference: (Oct. 15, 2010).

- Sensory Processing Problems: Recognition, Intervention, Academic Assistance & Behavioral Support

NWOESC Regional Conference: (Oct. 22, 2009).

- Neurological Aspects of the Learning Process

Northeast Regional Conference: (Aug. 29, 2009)

- Behavioral and Intervention Strategies: PreK-12

Akron Area Association for the Education of Young Children's Early Childhood Institute: Akron, Ohio: (March 21, 2009)

-Keynote Speaker: Reaching the Hard-To-Reach Child

-Breakout Session: Advance Reinforcement Techniques: Constructing Appropriate Programs

Crawford County BRD/MRDD Regional Training: (March 27, 2009)

-Using Brain Development to Improve Student Outcomes

Wooster City Schools Inservice Series: Wooster, Ohio (Oct. 17, 2008)

-Individualizing Interventions for Struggling Students (Pre K-12<sup>th</sup> grade)

Wayne County Children Services: Foster Parent Regional Training: Wooster, Ohio (Sept. 6, 2008)

-Understanding Brain Development

Akron Area Association for the Education of Young Children's Early Childhood Institute: Akron, Ohio (March 1, 2008)

-Keynote Speaker: Reaching the Hard-To-Reach Child

-Breakout Session: Roadblocks to Success: Recognizing Hidden Processing Difficulties That Hinder Success

Regional Training for educational, social service and mental health staff. Mid-West Ohio Regions (2005-present).

-Supporting Children's Behavior Through Developmental Teaching

Akron Children's Hospital and Medical Center/Summit County Children Services/Summit County Board of Mental Health/Summit County Family Court (Judges & Prosecuting Lawyers): 2005 Symposium on Violence (April 2005)

-Keynote Speaker: Reaching the Hard-To-Reach Child

Regional Training for educational, social service and mental health staff. Held at Robinson Memorial Hospital and Sponsored by Portage Children's Center for Behavioral Health Services to Children, Adolescents and Families. (August 9, 2004).

-Supporting Children's Behavior Through Developmental Teaching

Regional Training on Behavioral Intervention: Full-Day Training (provided for) Ohio Association of Infant Mental Health (Dayton Chapter), Samaritan Behavioral Health's Young Children's Assessment and Treatment Services, ADAMHS CATT Project, Miami Valley Hospital, Wright State University's School of Professional Psychology and Early Childhood Department of Sinclair Community College (May 7, 2004)

-Topic: Promoting Self-Regulation and Aggression Management in Children



Akron Children's Hospital and Medical Center/Summit County Children Services/  
Summit County Board of Mental Health/Summit County Family Court (Judges & Prosecuting  
Lawyers): 2003 Symposium on Violence (April 8 & 9, 2003).

-Investing in Youth today for a Safer Tomorrow (presentation)

and//

-Next Steps: Closing Question & Answer Session (panel)

### **Honors**

Taylor Teaching Award: Outstanding University Faculty Nominee (Eleven times from 2004 until  
present)

Trustees Award: Professor of the Year Finalist: 2009.

Senior Study Leave Award: Winter/Spring 2005-06.

### **Misc.**

National Endowment for the Humanities (October, 2025): Federal Grant Reviewer

*Educating Young Children: A Neurodevelopmental Approach* is both a professional and college-level  
textbook of 300+ pages in length and is available in both hard copy and e-text form. Topics cover all  
aspects of education, including neurological function and memory enhancement, assessment,  
behavior management, curriculum design, processing disorders and disabilities, family support, and  
professional development. (Brookes Publishing, April, 2025)

ArtSparks Program Board Member and Project Design Consultant (2012-present)/ Board President  
(2018-June 2023 / end of tenure in 2023 required by non-profit by-laws)

*ArtSparks is part of a select group of dance intervention programs stemming from the Associates  
of National Dance Institute (ANDI) and created by NYC Ballet dancer Jacques d'Amboise.*

*Funded by the Ohio Arts Council, Akron Community Foundation and many other funders, the  
program typically operates in a wide variety of locations and covers the total grade band and/or  
age group, when located in a school (representative list of locations during board tenure below):*

- Akron Public Schools (28 building)
- Barberton City Schools (2 buildings)
- Ballet Met Wiggle Jig
- Cleveland Metropolitan School District
- Cleveland Clinic Spotlight on Learning Head Start
- Cuyahoga Falls City Schools (6 buildings)
- Field Public School District
- Head Start: Akron Summit County Community Action, Inc. (6 total centers)
- Mansfield Public Schools (1 building)
- Portage County Developmental Disabilities Board (2 locations)
- Ravenna City Schools (1 building)
- Summit County Developmental Disabilities Board (4 locations)
- The Center For Arts Inspired Learning: Avon Middle School, Avon High School, Archbishop Lyke, East  
Cleveland City Schools, Cleveland Art Museum/Peer to Peer Workshops, Cleveland Public Schools,  
Cleveland Public Libraries, Communion of Saints Program, Marion Sterling Preschool, Shaker Heights  
Public Schools, St. Thomas Aquinas, and the Berea/Middleburg Heights/Strongsville Branches of  
Cuyahoga County Library
- United Disability Services (Firestone Park-Akron, Kent, Main Street-Akron, and Twinsburg programs)
- Weathervane Playhouse (Neighborhood Playhouse and Spotlight on Learning collaboration)
- Woodridge Public Schools (1 building)

- *Summer Pop-Up Programs: Akron Art Museum, Akron Children's Museum, Akron Zoo, Akron City Cascade Plaza, Ed Davis Community Center, Ellet Community Center, Exchange House, Firestone Park Community Center, High Bridge Glens Park, Joy Park Community Center, Keyser Park, Lawton Street Community Center, Lion's Park, Mason Park Community Center, Northwest Community Center, Patterson Park Community Center, and Quirk Cultural Center, Reservoir Park Community Center*

<https://wallethub.com/edu/best-worst-cities-for-families-in-ohio/18727#ask-the-experts> (interviewed professional expert). Titled: *Best & Worst Places to Raise a Family in Ohio*.

Akron Community Head Start/Akron Public Schools---Development of integrated behavioral and cognitive support system for all Head Start locations (2014-2018).

National Licensure Support and Training Project--- Author of new national training curriculum configured for online/web delivery, development of program system, and manual and video design. (2012-2014). *Note: project discontinued in early 2014 when authorizing directors were reassigned in response to federal budget sequestration.*

Behavior and Educational Consultation--- (*Examples of Locations: Alabama, Arizona, Australia, California, China, Florida, Indiana, Japan, Kentucky, Michigan, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Philippines, Switzerland, Taiwan, Tennessee, Texas, Washington and Wisconsin.*)

Ohio Department of Mental Health: Phase Two Team—Mental Health Consultants Education Program/Certification Pilot Study and Training Licensure Manuals. (2010-2011).

Ohio Department of Mental Health: Development of behavioral techniques, standards and training licensure and curriculum manuals for mental health consultants working within educational settings. Project Team (2008-2010).

Ohio Department of Education and Associate Support Agencies: Development of new content standards, classroom practices and training curriculum manuals (behavior and mental health) for professionals working with young children ages birth-8 years. Project Co-Chair (Feb. 2008-2010).

Project: Governor's Cabinet, American Academy of Pediatricians, Ohio Department of Mental Health, Ohio Department of Education and Ohio Department of Health: Development of five-year plan (2009-2013) for state behavioral and mental health standards, system design, training curriculum and university degree protocol. (2007-2010)

Summit County/Ohio Department of Education and Mental Health Agencies: Summit County Mental Health Initiative. Sargent, M. & Sharpe, T. (2006 – 2008).

Ohio Department of Education: Development of State of Ohio Core Knowledge Standards. Project Director and Final Editor. (2006-2007)

Consultant: Program and Curriculum Design and Research Protocol Leader: Rosie O'Donnell's Foundation: Rosie's Broadway Kids. Arts intervention curriculum for troubled urban youth: junior high/high school (2004-2007)

Expert Witness, Misc. Districts, Ohio Court System (2003-present)

Behavior Video/Satellite Lecture: RISE Project (Filmed in 1999, still in current usage)

Behavior Management Series: Warner Cable and WAKR radio's Public Lecture Series (1997)

School Works Television: Behavior Intervention Segment (filmed in 1996, usage status unknown)

Behavior Support Training Series: *Developing Intrinsic Control in Young Children*. Series ran in SERRC centers across state of Ohio. (1995- 1999)

Early Recognition Intervention Network (E.R.I.N.), HCEEP Validated Model: Co-Author of Curriculum and Training Manuals (1994).

Ohio Department of Education, Project Prepare/State Integration Personnel Preparation Model (1991): Training system coordinator with Judy Hudgins and Bonnie Strickland; state-wide preparation of module writing teams; creation of Project Dare Integration and Personnel Preparation module as part of final series.

Akron Children's Hospital/Kent State University (1990): Peer Interaction and Mainstreaming of Medically Fragile and Technology-Dependent Children.