

Presenter Information

KEY NOTE:

Jocelyn Manzanarez

Jocelyn received her BA from the University of Montana in Music Education and her MA in Music Education from the University of Washington. She is a certified K-12 music educator in Washington state as well as a Washington state S.T.A.R.S. certified trainer for childcare providers.

Jocelyn is the founder of Musically Minded, a Seattle based early childhood music education program that provides weekly music classes at childcare centers and preschools both in person and virtually.

She is a frequent presenter at conferences throughout the Pacific Northwest teaching teachers how to keep circle times fresh and fun through active, hands-on learning.

Jocelyn is the author of *Circle Time Success*, an early childhood curriculum to help teachers take the overwhelm out of circle time by providing engaging activities and practical strategies that bring joy back to teaching.



Session(s): Friday Keynote & From Chaos to Calm: 7 Secrets for Circle Time Success

Janet Allison

With more than 20 years experience - coaching parents, mentoring teachers, and being the featured parenting expert on both radio and TV, Janet loves empowering parents and teachers with proven tools and strategies to raise boys to be confident, caring and capable men. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from the University of Maine, and has completed extensive training in Waldorf Education and NLP (Neuro-linguistic Communication Skills).



Session: Friday- Boys Can Make You a Better Teacher: Responding Masterfully To Boy Energy in the Classroom

Ingrid Anderson, Ed.D

Ingrid is a faculty at Portland State University in the Early Childhood Inclusive Education program. She works with the Master of Early Childhood: Inclusive Ed and Infant Toddler Mental Health programs. She focuses her research on early childhood educator mental health and the role of technology in online learning, teacher and child spaces. She has extensive experience presenting at international, national, and state conferences both in research and practitioner forums. She has keynoted events in 2017-2018 in Digital Landscapes, Early Childhood Emotional Lives, and in Early Childhood STEM. She has presented at the National Association for the Education of Young Children Annual Conference and Professional Learning Institute (3), the International Reconceptualizing Early Childhood Education Conference, National Children's Museum Conference (3x), The National Early Childhood STEM Conference, the Oregon AEYC Conference (5+), among others. Currently she has a Caplan Foundation grant for the study of digital engagement in early childhood.

Session: Friday- Playing in Digital Space: Designing Interactive Environments

Alicia Balfrey, M.S.

Alicia resides in Eugene, OR and is an autism training specialist with STAR Autism Support (SAS) and the OrPATS grant project. She provides workshops, coaching, and consultation to classrooms across the United States and internationally, supporting their implementation of evidence-based strategies. Alicia also enjoys providing caregiver training for families of students with autism. Prior to being a trainer, Alicia taught an ECSE classroom for preschoolers with autism, serving as a training site to model evidence-based strategies for other educational teams around the state of Oregon. She received her Master's in Early Intervention/Early Childhood Special Education from the University of Oregon and maintains an Oregon Teaching License with an Early Childhood endorsement. Alicia also contributes to curriculum development with SAS and as their Diversity Manager, facilitates their Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee. For more information about the OrPATS project, including additional training opportunities, please visit our website: www.orpats.or



Session: Friday- Developing Early Childhood Education Settings to Support Students with Autism and Other Developmental Delays

Lanie Bergin

Bergin Learning Arts Founder and Program Director Lanie Bergin has spent her life using art for transformative development; first as a performer and for the past 20 years as program director and teacher. During a performing arts career as dancer and actress in New York City she found, through work with children, a love of learning - specifically how learning happens through art. Her work is based on the principles of early childhood learning combined with creative arts therapy and education, where the process - rather than performance - is at the heart of learning. Research-driven, her work is focused on consistent artifacts and case studies to establish baselines and outcomes. A documentary, "Whole Child Left Behind" is in progress, based on Lanie's research publication covering her work with all ages and learning abilities. Her programs for teachers, social workers and young children provide proof that when we start with art students of all ages can discover ways to express themselves - creating new stories for awareness and empowerment.



Session: Saturday- The Teacher's Way Part 1: Implementing Strategies for Self-Care

Kathleen Burrell

My name is Kathie Burrell. I am an early years educator with 37 years' experience (20 as a teacher and 17 as a Preschool/Kindergarten owner). I am a passionate advocate for brain-based education. Since the mid-1990s I have studied and explored a child's developing brain through gaining a Master's degree at Portland State University in brain-appropriate curriculum development and by creating original preschool and Kindergarten curricula for my school (Golden Pond School, Ashburn, VA) with astonishing --even magical results. My husband and I retired to Oregon in September 2019 (right before the Covid pandemic struck). Now that restrictions have reduced due to vaccinations, I am eager to return to my primary love -- training in brain-based education theory. I have trained hundreds of teachers, parents and grandparents of preschool age children in brain-based theory (which provides magical results) and developmentally appropriate practices. LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/kathleen-burrell-45114575/>

Session(s) Friday- Keep Making A Difference: How to Build Stronger Brain / Saturday- A Jar Full of Math: 12 Quick DAP Math Games

Debbie Buta

Debbie Buta is the Community Childcare Initiative (CCI) Business/Early Childhood Education Consultant at Child Care Resource & Referral of Multnomah County. She provides mentoring and training to Early Childhood Educators. Her experience includes work in and with a variety of settings for children including child care centers, family child care homes, Head Start, Early Head Start and laboratory school classrooms with children ranging from 6 weeks to 1 years of age. Debbie's bachelor's degree is in elementary education with a minor in early childhood education. She also obtain an Accountant Business Certificate. She is a Master Trainer with a Step 10 on the Oregon Registry.

Session(s): Saturday- Child's Play: Using Observation and Assessment Based On Children's Play/ Exploring the Development of a Sense of Self for Infants and Toddlers

Julie Cucuel

Julie has over 20 years of experience as an educator and has a true passion for instructional leadership, instructional coaching and early childhood education. Julie specializes in working with teachers to ensure their professional practice supports organization goals, but also their needs as individuals. She is passionate about sharing her knowledge and success with other educational leaders, too! Julie currently supports early childhood educators as an instructor at Columbia Gorge Community College and as a PDS Specialist for the National Council for Professional Recognition. She also serves as the Founding Director of a non-profit preschool in her community, serving families seeking shelter from domestic violence. Her work can be found at www.muchbetterthanyesterday.com, where she acts as the sole contributor, creating resources for instructional leaders nation-wide.

Session: Friday- Growing Your Teachers: One Conversation at a time!

Rachel Elliott, MA ECE

Rachel Elliott earned a Masters of Arts degree in Curriculum and Instruction Early Childhood Education from Portland State University.

Presently, she is an Adjunct Professor at Portland State University and an Early Childhood and Education Specialist for an Oregon statewide Head Start Organization. Additionally, Rachel is the President for the Oregon Association for the Education of Young Children Governing Council board, an affiliate of the National Association for the Education of Young Children. Her many years as a teacher of young children sparked inspirations from the educational approach from the pre primary schools of Reggio Emilia, Italy.

Rachel's additional professional interests include investing her time supporting early childhood professionals in the implementation of Developmentally Appropriate Practices through coaching and mentoring. These practices foster the learning and development of the whole child and build rich life characteristics for our youngest citizens. She is an Oregon Registry Master Trainer, Certified Positive Discipline Parent trainer, and provides professional development workshops and training's on a variety of Early Childhood Education topics.

Session: Saturday- The Power of Early Learning Environments: Creating Classroom Space that Support Learning Through Play

Merrily Haas

Merrily Haas is the former executive director for the Oregon Association for the Education of Young Children and continues to volunteer for us in her retirement. She provides coordination for our Building a Business Cohorts. Merrily is an Oregon Registry Master Trainer with a Step 10 on the Oregon Registry.



Session: Sunday- Beyond Avoiding Burnout

Stephen Karmol

After serving as Executive Director for five years at Wild Lilac, Stephen is excited to transition to a new administrative role focused on supporting Wild Lilac's educational program. As an administrator, Stephen is dedicated to fostering an inclusive learning community that welcomes and honors all of its children, families, and teachers. In addition to serving Wild Lilac, Stephen is also co-president of the Portland Metropolitan Chapter and President Elect of the Oregon Association for the Education of Young Children. As a Certified Master Trainer, Stephen provides professional development through Childcare Resource & Referral of Multnomah County locally as well as conferences and consulting throughout the United States.



Session: Friday

Darby Lasley, M.S.

Darby resides in Eugene, OR and works with STAR Autism Support (SAS) to provide workshops and hands-on consultation to classrooms throughout the country. She is a training supervisor for SAS and is also the Project Coordinator for the OrPATS grant project. Darby brings classroom experience as an elementary life skills teacher who helped create the first elementary OrPATS training site in Lane County. She previously served as a Program Supervisor overseeing the elementary life skills program and the regional autism program for Lane Education Service District. She also served as a senior instructor for Portland State University providing workshops and hands-on training. Darby holds a Master's Degree in Special Education, a Bachelor's Degree in

Early Childhood Development and a current Oregon Administrator License and Oregon Teaching License with endorsements Autism, Special Education and Early Childhood Education. For more information about the OrPATS project, including additional training opportunities, please visit our website: www.orpats.org



Session: Friday- Developing Early Childhood Education Settings to Support Students with Autism and Other Developmental Delays

Kelley Lawson

Kelley has worked in early childhood Education for 25 years in many capacities. She was a preschool and Infant Toddler teacher for 20 years and is currently the training specialist at Clackamas Child Care Resource & Referral. Kelley earned her bachelor's degree at Portland State University in Child, Youth, Family Studies and her Master's degree in Early Childhood Inclusive Education.



Session(s) Friday- Picking Up the Pieces: Strategies to Support Children in the Aftermath of Trauma & Disasters

Saturday-We Belong: Recognizing Special Needs in Infants & Toddlers: Connecting Parents with Early Intervention Referrals & Saturday- Help! Caregiver in Distress

Sunday: Privilege is Not A Dirty Word

Paula Lynam

Paula is a certified, experienced Waldorf early Childhood practitioner who thoroughly enjoys her days working with children and their families. Paula earned her Masters in Waldorf/Holistic early childhood education and is currently writing her Ph.D. dissertation in applied Eco-Psychology/Art Therapy and the importance of Nature.



Session: Saturday Exploring Strengthening Families

Aoife McGee, PhD

Aoife earned a doctoral degree in Special Education from the University of Oregon Early Intervention Program. Her research and professional interests have been largely focused on the social-emotional development of young children and how positive parenting and teaching practices may contribute to healthy development, promote resiliency and mediate risk factors.

Aoife is an instructor, supervisor, consultant, and professional development specialist for students and practitioners in the areas of Early Childhood Education, Early Intervention/Early Childhood Special Education and Parenting Education. Aoife is a Master Trainer for the Oregon Registry and frequently provides community based and private workshops for early childhood educators.

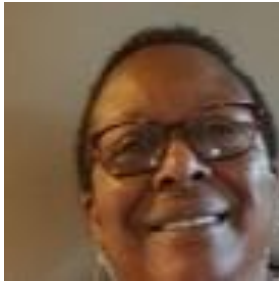


Sessions: Friday- positive Relationships: Building Skills and Behavior for Healthy Social Dynamics

Saturday- Emotion Coaching for Young Children

Hadiyah Miller

Hadiyah is an early childhood consultant. She is currently the president of the Oregon Association for the Education of Young Children. Hadiyah also works at the Childcare Resource and Referral of Multnomah County as the African American Family Childcare Network Coordinator, and Early Childhood Education Consultant. Black Child Development/PDX Board Early Childhood Chairperson. Presently focused on Expulsion and Suspension Prevention of Black Children in early learning.



Session: Saturday-Advocacy in Early Childhood: The Expulsion Dilemma

Edith Ramirez

Edith Ramirez es nativa de Mexico, graduada de Psicología por la Universidad Technological de Guadalajara. Además cuenta con un Asociado en Mental Health, Social Services and Addiction Counseling por Mt. Community College, es miembro activo del grupo asesor estatal de programas de Career Technical Education (CTE) representando la voz del estudiante. Actualmente coordina y presenta classes sobre Salud Mental para la Biblioteca del Condado de Multnomah County.

Edith Ramirez is from Mexico, graduated in Psychology from the Technological University of Guadalajara, she also has an Associate in Mental Health, Social Services and Addiction Counseling for Mt. Community College, is an active member of the State Advisory Group for Career Technical Education (CTE) programs representing the voice of the student. She currently coordinates and presents classes on mental health for the Multnomah County Library.



Session: Viernes: Autocuidado a través de Metas Inteligentes

Teniel Sabin

Teniel ha trabajado en educación y servicio comunitario durante casi 20 años! Actualmente es Consultora y Instructora para la educación temprana y especialista en salud emocional infantil. Ha trabajado con profesionales, familias y niños en muchos entornos diferentes, incluso: la evaluación, la intervención y la educación de la primera infancia hasta la adolescencia, la orientación para padres y la capacitación profesional de educadores. Puedes aprender más sobre los servicios y el apoyo que ofrece a padres y educadores en su página web www.ecetraining.org buscarla en Facebook y YouTube.

Teniel has worked in education for almost 20 years! She is currently an early education Trainer & Consultant and a Specialist in child emotional health. She has worked with professionals, families, and children in many different settings, including: assessment, intervention, and early childhood through adolescent education, and professional training of educators. You can learn more about the classes and support she offers parents and educators on her web page, www.ecetraining.org, or search for her on Facebook or YouTube.

Sessions: viernes- Colaboracion de Padres: Cultivando Cambios

sábado: Menos Estrés, Más CALMA: Cómo mantener TU calma para ayudarles a que encuentran SU calm

Rhonda Schock, AKA Miss Rhonda,

Rhonda founded Great Beginnings Childcare & Preschool, The Great Outdoors (a nature immersed, play based forest preschool experience) and Great Enrichment's (a full bodied after school program) with the belief that play is the foundation on the road to the house of higher education.

Her personal journey with children began in 1975 – at the tender age of 11 – when she acquired her first paying summer babysitting job. And the seed was planted. She has been actively involved in all aspects for child care: home care, center care, public school, after school and private care, as well as a community organizer of many children's events.

Miss Rhonda believes in supporting all children with respect to abilities, race, religion, orientation and family culture.

The motto of all of her GREAT programs is “Where Loving and Learning Go Heart to Heart and Hand in Hand”.

Sessions: Friday- Play Based Learning: Building the Curriculum into the Environment

Saturday- Exploring Strengthening Families

Ben Smith, PhD

Ben has a career in Special Education spanning more than 30 years as a special education teacher, professor, researcher, and consultant. Throughout his career his focus has been on building the capacity of individuals within schools and the community to understand, prevent, and address troubling problem behavior including tantrums, aggression, and other dangerous escalations. He is the president of iBehaviorSupport.com that provides professional development, technical assistance, and tailored consultations to professionals, parents, and individuals around the globe. He is an Oregon Registry Master Trainer and his past trainings have always been highly rated and regarded by participants as some of the most useful and easily applicable to create lasting change for children and professionals alike.



Session: Friday- The 30 Most Common Behavior Support Mistakes Professionals Make & What To Do Instead

Amy Williams

Amy earned her BS in education from the University of Georgia and her MA in dance movement therapy and counseling psychology from Antioch University New England. She has worked with children, adolescents and adults as an expressive arts therapist, counselor, educator and teacher for decades. She is a seasoned coach and teacher to both parents and educators. She believes in the power of community and the benefits of breaking out of isolation. Professional development CAN be fun. It CAN be useful. It CAN make an impact. It's a personal investment in yourself from which your students, families, and community directly benefit. When your work excites you, that excitement is reflected in your relationships and in your classroom. Find out more about her and what she offers at amywilliamsacademy.com



Session: Friday- Dream. Connect. Action. Get Off That Carousel!!

Coaches Roundtable- Facilitators

Daphnee Nicolas: Mentor Coach/ Outreach Coordinator

Daphnee uses her experiences as a former early Childhood Educator to support coaches in building positive relationships with educators, students, and families

Lorena Rodriguez: Mentor Coach/Outreach Coordinator

Lorena's work focuses on ways in which to establish and maintain strong relationships with early childhood educators in order to support nurturing and high quality environments for children to thrive in.

Dorit-Harvey Skidmore: Mentor Coach/ Outreach Coordinator

Dorit's work focuses on building strength-based relationships and collaborative conversations with early learning professionals to grow inclusive practices in our field.

Jasmin Rivera: Mentor Coach/ Outreach Coordinator

Jasmin's work focuses on building positive relationships, collaborating, learning and growing with the early education workforce as well as partners in the field.

Dominic Paz: Mentor Coach/ Outreach Coordinator

Dominic's work focuses on strength-based practices, relationship-based supports to improve practices and building authentic and meaningful connections with early education professionals.

Session: Friday- Coaches Roundtable: A Celebration of Coaching in Oregon's Early Learning Systems