

# New Hampshire Association for the Education of Young Children

Our Mission: To support and advance the professional development of affiliate members in their efforts to provide quality care and education for the children of New Hampshire.

#### **NHAEYC President's Message**

Happy February everyone! February is a time of year that I reflect on people who have been influential to my career, specifically, my dad. His birthday was on February 22, the same as George Washington and we always grew up acknowledging President's Day with some sort of birthday cake. As I thought about the Founding Fathers of the United States, I started thinking about how the field of early childhood includes and support males in our fields.

My role as a professor in early childhood provides me with the opportunity to observe the demographics of people who plan to enter the field of early childhood in our state. It may not come as a surprise for you to hear that females greatly outnumber males in our profession. If you are working in an early childhood program, it might not surprise you that many early childhood classrooms have more male than female children enrolled. And, if you attend early childhood meetings, work in a program, provide professional development for the field, etc., you might notice that there are more females than males attending in general.

Men make up approximately 5% of all child-care workers and about 3% of preschool teachers. There are many reasons for these sparse statistics including economic disparities for the field, gender stereotypes, culture conflicts, etc. There is a growing body of research on the limited number of men in early childhood. I encourage you to reflect on your work environment in terms of gender representation and consider ways that you might be able to address this issue, keeping the ideals of an anti-bias approach in mind. The NAEYC has an Interest Forum dedicated to the Men In Education which encourages continual discussion, dialogue, and reflection. This forum also holds sessions at both the NAEYC Annual Conference and the National Institute for Early Childhood.

#### Some additional resources:

http://friendsnrc.org/joomdocs/male\_part.pdf

 $\underline{\text{http://www.earlychildhood/news.com/earlychildhood/article\_view.aspx?ArticleID=400}$ 

http://www.naeyc.org/files/yc/file/201109/On%20Our%20Minds\_Online\_0911.pdf

Have a wonderful month!

Clarissa



### February Board Meeting location —Live & Learn Early Learning Center in Lee

The February board meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 2nd from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Live & Learn Early Learning Center, 114 Mast Road, Lee, NH 03861 We hope you will join us!

Please see page 2 for a list of the upcoming meeting dates and locations.

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#### **Spring Conference Registration**

Hello members and potential members,

The spring conference brochure is going through final edits and will soon be online and open for registration. Look for an email in your inbox for the link to register.

We are overwhelmed with the amazing workshops coming to Plymouth. We have good news to share—no shuttle this year as we are all going to be able to park at Hyde Hall. Please plan on carpooling and we will have a great surprise for you (announced in the brochure). Here is a peek at the new art work for this year.



See you all April 18 and 19!

Johanna Booth-Miner & Jessie Rice, Spring Conference Co-chairs

#### **Spring Conference Scholarships**

It's almost time to register for Spring Conference! NHAEYC has scholarships available for current members to help defer the cost of registering. Scholarships for the conference and other NHAEYC training opportunities are just one of the benefits offered to our membership along with trainings, fun events, and other resources. Join us for the most exciting and informative training opportunity of the year! <u>Click here</u> for information about scholarships. Hope to see you in Plymouth!!!

Kathy Audette, Scholarship Chair

#### **Public Policy Team Announced**

In our January newsletter, we solicited applicants to attend the 2015 NAEYC Public Policy Forum in Washington D.C. in March. We are excited to announce NHAEYC's team that will attend the Forum on March 9th and 10th. Congratulations to MaryLou Beaver, Maryann McNeil, Pat Cantor, and Lisa Bozogan! Jessica Sugrue and I are the NHAEYC Board Member team leads and are very excited for this opportunity Stay tuned for updates!

Alysse Coffey, Public Policy Chair

## **Upcoming Meeting Dates & Locations**

March 9, 2015—Plymouth State University, Plymouth, NH - Board Meeting, 6:00 PM—8:00 PM

**April 18, 2015**—Plymouth State University, Plymouth, NH - Annual Meeting, 8:30 AM (prior to keynote at Spring Conference)

**May 4, 2015**—Windy Hill Learning Center at Colby Sawyer College, New London, NH - Board Meeting, 6:00 PM—8:00 PM

June 1, 2015—Mountain View Montessori, North Conway, NH - Board Meeting, 6:00 PM—8:00 PM