

EATON COUNTY SECOND ANNUAL EARLY CHILDHOOD CONNECTIONS CONFERENCE

“The Art of Early Childhood”

Saturday, November 5, 2016

9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Eaton RESA

1790 East Packard Highway
Charlotte, Michigan

Presented by



Schedule of the Day

- 8:30** Registration Opens
- 9:00** Welcome: Cindy Anderson, Eaton RESA Superintendent
- 9:15** Keynote: Alice Brinkman, REACH Studios
- 10:00** Breakout Session I
- 11:30** Lunch
- Noon** Breakout Session II
- 1:30** Breakout Session III
- 2:45** Wrap-up, Evaluation Instructions, and Pick Up Door Prizes
- 3:00** On our way....

\$30 conference cost includes: 5 approved training hours, lunch, networking, and a training certificate.





Keynote
Alice Brinkman,
Director of REACH
Studio Art Center

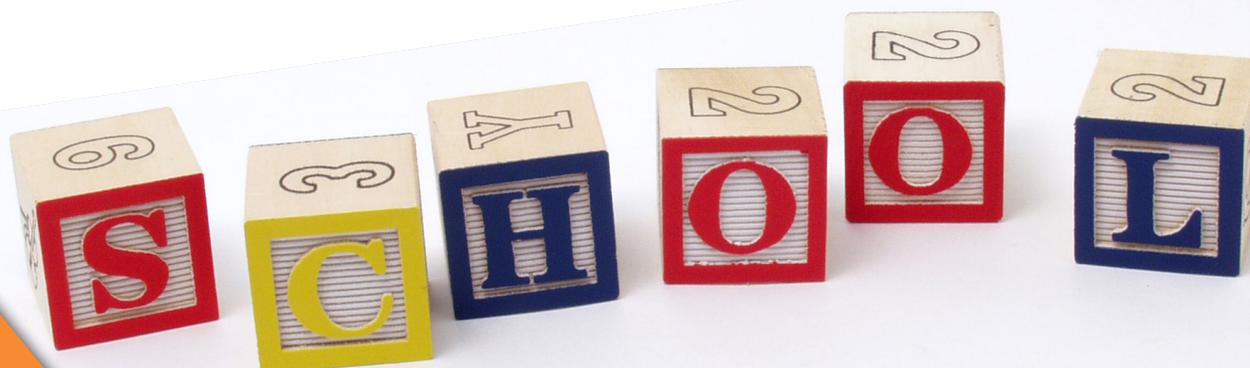
In 2003, Alice Brinkman turned her passions for making things, teaching, and community-building into founding REACH Studio Art Center, a non-profit neighborhood art center in Lansing, Michigan. As REACH's founding Executive Director, Brinkman put her skills as an artist, organizer and

lifelong learner to tangible use overseeing and building REACH into a community gem where thousands of Lansing area residents have met and worked with local artists, made new friends, and connected with their community through hundreds of innovative art projects and programs. Alice continues to lead REACH on new adventures as the organization recently purchased a block of empty storefronts which are being re-developed into a 10,000 sq ft community art center. The facility expansion project promises to increase the Lansing area's access to cultural opportunities; a huge leap from REACH's humble beginnings in an 1100 sq ft space and Alice's own beginnings as a self-employed textile artist.

Alice holds both a B.S. and M.S. in Textiles and Clothing from the University of Illinois (Champaign-Urbana). She grew up in East Lansing, Michigan and since 1986 lives in Lansing where she and her husband, Gary, have raised 2 sons.

Keynote: "Sometimes Art is Messy"

Doing art allows the young child to discover, explore and exercise their imaginations - key ingredients in learning to learn. When we focus on getting young children to try new materials for themselves, without focusing on the end result, we give them an opportunity to engage in the activity, expand their world and grow their level of confidence to participate. Alice will share from her years of experiences doing art with children as a volunteer in the public school system, as a parent, and as the founding director of REACH Studio Art Center in Lansing, Michigan.



BREAKOUT SESSIONS

**A. *The Art of Media Literacy: Helping Kids Challenge Hurtful Messages*
Janet Olsen, Michigan State University Extension**

Young people take in many media messages that influence how they feel about themselves and others. Studies show that many of these messages can have serious impacts on their health and well-being. Learn to help kids develop a critical media lens for deconstructing and challenging hurtful media messages.
Core Area: Health

**B. *The Art of Balancing Meals on a Budget*
Hanna Hazel, Michigan State University Extension**

This presentation will share general guidelines, tips and tricks to create balanced meals on a budget. In addition, we will discuss the importance of a balanced meal and what ingredients to look for in the store. Overall, our goal is to emphasize the impact of planning and repurposing your diet.
Core Areas: Child Development, Health, Nutrition

**C. *The Art of Making and Supporting Early On and Project Find Referrals*
Stephanie Hirschert-Walton, Early On, Eaton RESA**

Learn the how, what, when and where of referring children and their families for support from birth to five through Early On and Project Find. Discuss collaborative efforts of referrals, limitations and alternative resources in the community. Leave with an overview, quick links and one page handouts for easy reference.
Core Areas: Child Development, Observation, Documentation and Assessment, Family Engagement, Community Collaboration

**D. *The Art of Increasing Quality With Great Start to Quality (GSQ) Participation*
Nancy Sherd, Central Resource Center, Office for Young Children**

Quality efforts to ensure that children with high needs are able to access high quality child care are being supported by the Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge (RTT-ELC). RTT-ELC is a federal initiative implemented across the state through the Office of Great Start and is offers Quality Improvement grant opportunities for licensed providers who are participating in Michigan's Great Start to Quality. Join this session to learn about the funding levels, eligibility requirements, reporting processes and how you can apply for the grants. (If you have not completed your Self-Assessment Survey we can assist you in this process).
Core Areas: Professionalism

E. The Art of Pre-K Connections: MI School Data for Early Childhood
Rhonda Provoast, Eaton RESA

This session is designed to explore the connections between data and student participation in Early Childhood programs before kindergarten. In addition, participants will dig deeper into the Child Count and Kindergarten Count reports for information that may influence program enrollment and student preparation.

Core Areas: Observation, Documentation and Assessment, Community Collaboration

F. The Art of Supporting Emotional Development
Kittie Butcher, Michigan State University Extension

Supporting a child's emotional development is one of the most important things an early childhood teacher can do. In this session we will share information on how we provide emotional support for children and how to share these strategies with the families you serve.

Core Areas: Child Development, Interactions and Guidance, Family Engagement

G. The Art of Mandated Reporting
Amanda Burch, Eaton County Department of Health and Human Services

Educating Mandated Reporters of the What, When and How to report suspected abuse and/or neglect.

Core Areas: Health, Safety

H. The Art of Understanding the Impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences on Adult Health and Well-being
Michael Foley, Michigan Children's Trust Fund

The Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) study has made it increasingly clear that abuse, neglect, and other forms of family dysfunction in childhood can have a lasting impact on adult health and well-being. This session will describe the ACE research findings and current replication of the ACE study in Michigan, plus strategies for using ACE data as a tool for education and advocacy. Implications to daily practice with children and families as well as strategies to prevent or mitigate ACEs will also be briefly discussed.

Core Areas: Child development, Health, Safety, Community Collaboration

I. The Art of Early Childhood Mathematics
Mary Ann Schmedlen, Eaton RESA

In this breakout session, participants will learn background information about Pre-K and kindergarten math standards. They will leave with several ideas of math games they can play with young children to encourage development of number sense.

Come prepared to interact with other participants!

Core Areas: Child Development, Interactions and Guidance, Teaching and Learning, Family Engagement

J. The Art of Messy Play!

Morgan Sabastian, Weymouth Child Development Center

This presentation will focus on the importance of messy play in the infant / toddler years. We will discuss what this looks like, how it can be achieved, and why it is vital that young children have these experiences.

Core Areas: Child Development, Teaching and Learning

K. The Art of Avoiding Most Common Rule Violations

***Erika Bigelow, Area Manager and Jenny Brundage,
Licensing Consultant LARA, Child Care Licensing***

This presentation will cover the most common rule violations for licensed facilities.

Core Areas: Interactions and Guidance, Health, Safety, Nutrition

L. What's on Your Mind?

Deb Fraccarolli and Maribeth Schueller, Eaton RESA

This workshop will use a developmental milestone framework to address questions you may have regarding a child's speech and language development. Questions such as "What do I do to help this child?" or "When do I become concerned?" are just some examples of the questions that will be addressed. This will be an open discussion session. Bring your questions and join us in this informative workshop.

Core Areas: Child Development

M. Pre-Kindergarten Essential Instructional Practices in Early Literacy

Rhonda Provoast, Eaton RESA

The focus of this session is on classroom practices, rather than on school- or systems-level practices. The ten recommended practices will be reviewed with those in the session as outlined in the whitepaper provided by MAISA.

Core Areas: Child Development and Teaching and Learning

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Please register online at www.eatonresa.org/prodevelopment

Please send your **\$30** check or money order to:

Eaton Great Start
1790 East Packard Highway
Charlotte, MI 48813

Note BEC3 on your check. Registrations will not be confirmed until payment is received. A limited number of scholarships are available for parents and guardians.

Call **517-541-8987** for scholarship information.

Questions?

Contact Eaton Great Start at:

517-541-8989 or rrucker@eatonresa.org



