



2020 Southern Conference on Children

“Behavioral and Mental Health in Early Childhood”



January 25, 2020 • Russell Union • Statesboro, GA

Thank you to our Sponsors!

Kaplan Early Learning Community
Georgia Southern University Birth Through Five Program
Georgia Southern University School of Human Ecology

Thank you to our Exhibitors!

Exhibitors are located in the common area.
Be sure to stop by!

Thank you to our Committee Members!

Dr. Dina Walker-Devose
Georgia Southern University

Michelle Smith Lank
Kids World Learning Center


Rachale LaVoie
Child Care Resource &
Referral of Southeast Georgia

Candace Iavarone
Georgia Southern University

Kristin Goetz
Child Care Resource &
Referral of Southeast Georgia

Tameka Ardrey
Georgia Southern University

Saturday, January 25, 2020

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| 7:00 - 8:00 AM | Registration and Check-In |
| 8:00 - 8:30 AM | Welcome |
| 8:30 - 10:00 AM | Keynote Presentation: Dr. Lindee Morgan "Supporting Students with Disabilities in the Classroom: The Case for Social-Emotional Learning" |
| 10:00 - 10:15 AM | Break Visit Exhibitors |
| 10:15 - 11:45 AM | Session One Breakouts |
| 11:45 AM - 12:15 PM | Poster Session |
| 12:15 - 1:15 PM | Lunch at Dining Commons  (See page 11 for details) |
| 1:15 - 2:45 PM | Session Two Breakouts |
| 2:45 - 3:00 PM | Break Visit Exhibitors |
| 3:00 - 4:30 PM | Session Three Breakouts |

Conference Strands

STEM: Science, Technology,
Engineering and Math
Nurturing Healthy Children
Intentional Teaching Strategies

Including All Children
Play and DAP
Leadership and Professionalism



WiFi Connection Instructions

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3. Enter requested registration information
4. Click "Register" and "Sign On"

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10:15 - 11:45 AM | Session One Breakouts

Room 2073

Doodling, Dreaming and Developing: The Role of Self-Care in Leadership

Jo Crosby, M.Ed., LPC, Clinical Director, Five Stones Counseling Center

It is hard to pour from an empty vessel. As professionals, we know this statement to be true; however, we often attempt to prove otherwise by neglecting self-care and foregoing the time necessary to renew. When we navigate responsibilities from a near empty place, we fail to give our best. Further, we dream less and develop unhealthy ruts as opposed to healthy routines. Self-care is necessary. This workshop will focus on the foundational role of self-care as it relates to professionals in the field of child development. This is an interactive workshop; participants will leave with skills to both refresh and refill.

1:15 - 2:45 PM | Session Two Breakouts

Room 2073

Turn Your Passion Into Action for Georgia's Youngest Children

Mindy Binderman, JD, Executive Director, GEEARS: Georgia Early Education Alliance for Ready Students

Early childhood leaders are invited to come share their stories and learn how their voices can help state leaders better understand and address the needs of Georgia's youngest children and their families. The presentation will include a facilitated listening session to hear about the challenges and benefits of being an early care and education (ECE) professional and a working session on how to advocate for Georgia's youngest children.

3:00 - 4:30 PM | Session Three Breakouts

Room 2073

Embracing the "I" in Equity

Tameka Arderly, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Georgia Southern University

Dina Walker-DeVose, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Georgia Southern University

Using NAEYC's Advancing Equity in Early Childhood Position Statement, this presentation will highlight the role of the early educator in the advancement of equity in the field of early childhood education by providing a framework of practical, culturally-inclusive strategies they can immediately implement and sustain in their early learning environments. Additionally, participants will explore the impact that their own cultural identities and positionalities have on their ability to create equitable learning environments for each and every child.

7:00 - 8:00 AM

Registration and Check-In

8:00 - 8:30 AM

Welcome and Introduction | Theater*Ryan Schroeder, Ph.D., Dean, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences**Jessica DeLaigle, GAEYC Child Educator of the Year***Keynote Presentation****Supporting Students with Disabilities in the Classroom:
The Case for Social-Emotional Learning***Lindee Morgan, Ph.D., CCC-SLP, Emory University, Marcus Autism Center***8:30 - 10:00 AM | Theater**

This presentation will provide an overview of early social-emotional development and how this development diverges in children with autism. Social-emotional learning will be described as an ideal context for addressing the needs of students with developmental vulnerabilities in the classroom and for supporting classroom active engagement. Research using the Classroom SCERTS Intervention Model will be described along with a description of SEE-KS, a community viable model of professional development aiming to support educators in meeting the learning needs of all students. Classroom supports at varying levels of language development will be shared along with classroom video vignettes.

10:00 - 10:15 AM

Break | Visit Exhibitors**10:15 - 11:45 AM | Session One Breakouts****Room 2041****STEM****Weird Sciences***Niya Marilla, Early Childhood Education Teacher, Rockdale Career Academy*

Tired of gathering pine cones, rocks and feathers for your science area? Want to do more with science in the classroom? Investigate science STEM activities and new science experiments!

Room 2042**Intentional Teaching
Strategies****Language Facilitation Strategies in Early Learning Programs***Shucrea Victor-Cameron, Ed.S., Teacher, Abilene Christian University*

Children come to school with a wide range of exposure and language experiences. One way to close the language gap is through language nutrition. Language nutrition refers to language-rich interactions that facilitate language development. In this session, participants will learn how to develop a plan to utilize language facilitation strategies in the classroom to support individualized growth and development.

SCHEDULE

Room 2047

Play and DAP

Play Therapy 101: Welcome to the World of Play

Shatisha Wilson, LPC, CPCS, RPT, Licensed Professional Counselor and Registered Play Therapist Supervisor, Wilson's Garden of Hope, LLC Play Therapy and Counseling Center

This workshop will provide attendees with a brief overview of play therapy. Participants will be given the rationale for play therapy intervention as well as opportunities for skill building, applications of techniques, and use of the sand tray as a means to connect with families.

Room 2048

Nurturing Healthy Children

Turn Around the Behaviors

Marci Sawyer, CEO, Creative Childcare Systems

This presentation will leave participants with tons of building blocks to take back to their classrooms! These building blocks will help with the behaviors in life and help take the children from Hulk to hug in no time. Participants will be given tools to help manage all kinds of behaviors that staff commonly experience.

Room 2052

Leadership and Professionalism

Does Your Day SWAG (Start with a Grin)?

Holly Christian, Educational Consultant, There Is a Better Way, Inc.

Kevin Christian, Educational Consultant, There Is a Better Way, Inc.

This highly interactive presentation will show participants how to help students transition from their home life to the structure of the classroom. Research shows that transitions can be the hardest part of the day; SWAG has specially designed and ordered activities to help students enter the classroom and increase their academic outcomes.

Room 2054

Nurturing Healthy Children

Behavior Communicates: Are You Listening?

Katie Hagan, Regional Supervisor of Inclusion and Behavior Support, Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

April Holman, Inclusion Specialist, Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

Designed to build the participant's understanding of the definition of challenging behavior, this session will highlight the importance of using data collection methods to support classroom strategies and evidence-based interventions with young children ages birth through age eight.

Room 2080

Including All Children

Are You the Bully?

Consuella Carter, Ed.S., Instructional Coordinator, CC Educational Training Services, LLC

This course will assist early childhood practitioners in identifying and eliminating their behaviors of bullying with children that have exceptionalities such as autism, oppositional defiant disorder, and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. Participants will learn to recognize triggers and will gain strategies that relieve frustrations and tension in the classroom.

Room 2084

Including All
Children

Tools that Support Families and Caregivers in Monitoring Their Child's Development

Ann Panzica, Child and Family Development Training Specialist, Georgia Department of Early Learning

In this interactive session, participants will learn about best practices for supporting families and children ages 0-5, and discuss the importance of monitoring development in children. Strategies for engaging families will be discussed and resources through the Learn the Signs. Act Early. program will be shared.

11:45 AM - 12:15 PM | Poster Session

12:15 - 1:15 PM

Lunch | Dining Commons



(See page 11 for details)

1:15 - 2:45 PM | Session Two Breakouts

Room 2041

STEM

Entry Into Innovation: Engineering for Early Learners

Courtney Quarterman, M.Ed., Senior Professional Development Consultant, Boston Museum of Science

Are you an early childhood or early elementary educator with a passion for promoting the innovative thinking of our youngest learners? In this presentation, participants will examine the development of engineering practices for early learners through hands-on exploration and discuss how to foster engineering skills and critical thinking for all young children.

Room 2042

Intentional Teaching
Strategies

Supporting Language and Literacy Development Within a Day in the Life of All Toddlers

Britne McDuffie, Child Development Specialist, Georgia Southern University Child Development Center

Early language and literacy skills are best learned through everyday moments between all toddlers and their environment. This interactive workshop will look at language and literacy development throughout a typical day in a toddler's classroom. Participants will learn how to enhance toddlers' development in language and literacy through everyday interactions, as well as participate in a variety of activities that support language and literacy development at home and in the classroom.

SCHEDULE

Room 2047

Play and DAP

Creatively Playful Wilson: Using Play Therapy in the Academic Setting

Shatisha Wilson, LPC, CPCS, RPT, Licensed Professional Counselor and Registered Play Therapist Supervisor, Wilson's Garden of Hope, LLC Play Therapy and Counseling Center

Have you ever had a difficult child or family that you felt disconnected from? Play Therapy has the capacity to allow members of the helping profession to connect when traditional talk therapy is not effective. This training will provide participants with a different perspective when considering clients across the lifespan, and will offer additional therapeutic techniques for their tool set.

Room 2048

Nurturing Healthy Children

Why Are Children Developmentally Unprepared to Learn? How Brain Science and Action-Based Learning are Revolutionizing Education

Cindy McGarvey, Co-Founder, Action Based Learning

This presentation will delve into how to identify and “fill in” developmental gaps (the brain uses motor patterns as the framework for learning) using developmental movement derived from The 12 Foundations of Learning Readiness, specific to Action-Based Learning™. Understand the key contributors to these gaps and how to create an environment of developmental movement that accounts for these factors, including consideration for behavioral issues by reversing the effects of toxic stress as recommended by Dr. Nadine Burke Harris.



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Room 2052

Leadership and Professionalism

Creating Courageous Contenders

Tosha Croom, M.Ed., Educator, Dekalb County School District

Welcome to a power-packed session for educators who want to maximize their instructional time, while simultaneously diminishing ignorance, distractions and apathy. Leave with the tools necessary to maintain an academic environment where instructional time no longer competes with redirections, debates and referrals.

Room 2080

Nurturing Healthy Children

Crisis Intervention: An Empathetic Approach

Consuella Carter, Ed.S., Instructional Coordinator, CC Educational Training Services, LLC

This presentation will assist early childhood practitioners in distinguishing problems, emergencies and crisis situations. Participants will discuss preventing a crisis and techniques with resources to provide support to children and families. Materials from Better Brains for Babies (BBB) are used in discussing the effects of trauma in early childhood.

Room 2084

Including All Children

Communicating with Families About Child Development

Ann Panzica, Child and Family Development Training Specialist, Georgia Department of Early Learning

This presentation will highlight the importance of monitoring children's development, and the tools and resources available to teachers and families to assist with monitoring that development. The importance of early intervention for children with delays will be discussed, as will strategies for bringing concerns to families. Participants will learn the importance of building relationships with families, be given strategies on how to do so, and will understand the importance of creating partnerships with families to support children in their care.

2:45 - 3:00 PM

Break | Visit Exhibitors

3:00 - 4:30 PM | Session Three Breakouts

First Come First Serve Event • 30 Seats Available • Sign Up at the GAEYC Booth

Theater

Including All Children

No Small Matter

Kristin Goetz, Professional Learning Manager, Child Care Resource and Referral of Southeast Georgia at Savannah Technical College

"No Small Matter" is the first feature documentary to explore the most overlooked, underestimated and powerful force for good in America today: early childhood education.

Through poignant stories and surprising humor, the film lays out the overwhelming evidence for the importance of the first five years, and reveals how our failure to act on that evidence has resulted in an everyday crisis for American families, and a slow-motion catastrophe for the country.

SCHEDULE

Room 2041

STEM

Elementary Classrooms: Teaming with Technology

Misty Head, Local School Technology Coordinator, Gwinnett County Public Schools

Google Classroom and other Google tools provide teachers and students with ways to collaborate effectively and have a greater impact on learning. Utilizing these tools with your peers and students can foster communication, collaboration, organization and a growth mindset.

Room 2042

Including All Children

Thinking Proactively

Ciarra Torres, M.Ed., Director, The Matthew Reardon Center for Autism

Jack O'Connor, M.Ed., BCBA, School Director, The Matthew Reardon Center for Autism

Having recently opened an inclusion preschool, one of the biggest complaints from new parents has been: "My child's preschool is always telling me what my child did wrong. They are just reacting to his/her bad behaviors." Proactive teaching is a skill that takes a lot of time, practice and critical thinking. This presentation will offer insight into positive ways to become a proactive teacher as opposed to a reactive teacher. Proactive teachers will be able to describe the situation, including environmental factors, student factors, antecedents, behaviors, consequences and strategies to help prevent the behavior in the future.

Room 2047

Play and DAP

Music for Minds and Muscles

Shelly Lawson, Technical Assistance Coordinator, Child Care Resource and Referral

Why should children experience music? This discussion will cover why music is important to the development and growth of children. Participants will be able to incorporate engaging musical activities that are goal-oriented into their curriculum.

Room 2048

Nurturing Healthy Children

Advocating for Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health in the Georgia Legislature

Callan Wells, Health Policy Manager, GEEARS: Georgia Early Education Alliance for Ready Students

Mindy Binderman, JD, Executive Director, GEEARS: Georgia Early Education Alliance for Ready Students

In 2019, the Georgia Early Education Alliance for Ready Students (GEEARS) was instrumental in establishing and planning a House Study Committee on Infant and Toddler Social and Emotional Health. This presentation will outline GEEARS' strategies throughout the process, including big wins and lessons learned. Participants will also learn how to message Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health to different audiences.

Room 2052

Leadership and Professionalism

Social and Emotional Development in Adults: Who Is Developing You?

Consuella Carter, Ed.S., Instructional Coordinator, CC Educational Training Services, LLC

Many early childhood practitioners are developing children's social and emotional growth but neglecting their own needs, which may be a leading cause of inappropriate incidents of bullying and abusing children. This presentation will bring awareness to early childhood practitioners the importance of their own social and emotional development to eliminate adverse reactions to stress, especially incidents involving children with exceptionalities.

Room 2080

Including All Children

Parent-Teacher Communication: Creating a Healthy and Inclusive Classroom Environment

Meosha Banks, Preschool One Lead Teacher, Georgia Southern University Child Development Center

All families require various types of communication forms. Personal lifestyles, previous childcare settings and scheduling all play a role in the wants and needs of parents' preferred communication styles. This session will provide ideas and tips on building successful, effective and inclusive parent-teacher relationships. Throughout the session, participants will gain a better understanding of the importance of creating forms of communication that work best for each individual family to enhance the classroom as a whole.

Room 2084

Nurturing Healthy Children

Preventing and Managing Aggressive Young Children

Paulette Harris, Ed.D., Director and Professor, Augusta University

In this session, teachers will be given information on how to prevent and manage aggressive young children. Included will be an overview of each stage of a crisis with accompanying preventative strategies for each.



Be sure to take your ticket to lunch. Your lunch ticket will be found in your nametag. Please enjoy as much as you would like, but note, all food and drinks must be consumed in the Dining Commons. There are no take-outs allowed.

Location: Next to the University Store and across from Centennial Place

Enjoy Lunch in the Dining Commons!

You may choose to dine at any (or all) of the following:

- **Brick Oven:** made-to-order pasta and pizza by slice
- **Traditions:** home-style cuisine
- **No Whey!:** special dietary needs
- **Today's Brew:** specialty coffee drinks and real fruit smoothies
- **Signatures:** fresh salads, soups and sandwiches
- **The Breakfast Club:** traditional breakfast food all day
- **Mongo's:** Asian themed Mongolian grill station
- **Sweet Shop:** glassed-in bakery and dessert area
- **Food Theater:** chefs prepare something special right in front of you
- **Backyard Gourmet:** grilled favorites like burgers, fries, chicken sandwiches and more

Choose a beverage of your choice!

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organization.**

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Georgia Association for the
Education of Young Children



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This image shows a full page of blank, lined paper. It features approximately 20 evenly spaced horizontal grey lines across its entire width, providing a template for writing or drawing. The margins are consistent on all sides.

Help shape the lives of Chatham County children and beyond with
Georgia Southern University's new

Birth-Kindergarten Teacher Education bachelor's degree concentration!



Georgia Southern's School of Human Ecology and the Department of Elementary and Special Education have teamed up to offer a degree that prepares graduates to address the needs of children (ages birth to five) and their families with a strong background in child development as well as vital teaching and student learning methodologies. Candidates in the B.S. in Child and Family Development, Birth-Kindergarten concentration will complete over 1,000 hours of hands-on, in-field practice during their studies and can earn initial teaching certification in the state of Georgia.

Now taking applications for Fall 2020
Offered on the Armstrong Campus
GeorgiaSouthern.edu/BK

