

STEAM

curiosity unleashed!

science, technology, engineering, art, and math in early education

Early Learning Symposium | March 12-14, 2020 | Centennial Hall | Juneau, Alaska

Sponsored by AEYC

Co-Sponsored by the Juneau STEM Coalition, JEDC, thread, and Central Council of Tlingit & Haida



seaaeyc

Southeast Alaska Association for the Education of Young Children

AEYC 3200 Hospital Dr., Suite 204, Juneau, AK 99801 | Phone: 907.789.1235 Fax: 907.789.1238 | www.aeyc-sea.org



Thursday March 12 –Ballroom 1

5-8 pm Science of Graceful Leadership with Margaret Bauer (includes dinner)

Friday March 13th

7:30-8:30 am	Registration & Coffee Time (UAF and CDA Short Orientation in Ballroom 1)				
8:30-10:00 am	Welcome and Keynote with Peggy Ashbrook, <i>Ballroom 2&3</i>				
10:00-10:15 am	Break				
	<i>Ballroom 2/3</i>	<i>Ballroom 1</i>	<i>Egan</i>	<i>Hickel</i>	<i>Hammond</i>
10:15-11:45 am Session 1	Sesame Street in Communities Lisa Arehart	Exploring Ways to Engage Families in the Digital Age Amie Collins	Supporting Childhood Creativity with Technology Amanda Duvall	Developing Integrated STEAM Lessons Using Children's Literature Heidi Johnson & Tara Kulbeth	What Fills Your Cup? Kathleen Hansen, Julie Peters, Emily Arkus
11:45 am-1:15 pm	Lunch: Professional Recognition Celebration				
1:15-2:45 pm Session 2	Bear Blitz! Abby McAllister	Water Flow Peggy Ashbrook	Paint! Exploration & Expression Linda Torgerson & Beth Rivest	Baby Steps to STEAM Nicki Shelton	Incorporating Culture into STEAM Tess Olympia & Rebecca Hsieh
2:45-3:00 pm	Break				
3:00-4:30 pm Session 3	Using Our Outside Voices Margaret Bauer & Joy Lyon	Water Flow (repeat of previous workshop) Peggy Ashbrook	Paint! Exploration & Expression (repeat of previous workshop) Linda Torgerson & Beth Rivest	Creating Coding Stories and Games Veronica Plumb	Incorporating Culture into STEAM (repeat of previous workshop) Tess Olympia & Rebecca Hsieh
6:00-7:00 pm	Film: Molly of Denali				

Saturday March 14th

8:00-8:30 am	Registration & Coffee Time				
	<i>Ballroom 2/3</i>	<i>Ballroom 1</i>	<i>Egan</i>	<i>Hickel</i>	<i>Hammond</i>
8:30-10:00 am Session 1	Artful Thinking Mk McNaughton	Alive or Not? Building Science Inquiry Peggy Ashbrook	Math Without Numbers? Brenda Taylor	Alaska's Core Knowledge & Competencies Lisa Arehart & Lisa Oberle	Cultural Ways of Knowing-Math Victoria Johnson
10:00-10:15	Break				
10:15-11:45 am Session 2	Artful Thinking (repeat of previous workshop) MK McNaughton	Yoga & Meditation Janice Hurley	Nature Connection and STEAM Megan Bishop	Alaska Early Learning Guidelines Lisa Arehart	Cultural Ways of Knowing-Science Victoria Johnson
11:45 am-1:00 pm	Lunch: A. Kindergarten Readiness gathering B. Learn and Grow Level 1 C. Hands-on exploration stations				
1:00-2:30 pm Session 3	Gettings STEAMed Up @ Your Library MJ Grande	Light + Shadows Part I Peggy Ashbrook	Full STEAM Ahead with Family Kits Esther Pepin & Margaret Lee	Math is More Than Just Numbers Raineka Ackley	Science & Culture at the Beach Michelle Martin
2:30-2:45 pm	Break				
2:45-4:15 pm Session 4	Creating Magical Musical Moments Mike Maas	Light + Shadows Part II Peggy Ashbrook	The Science of Promoting Discovery Cherry Eckland	CDA & UAF Reflections Lisa Arehart, Lisa Oberle	Keep it Loose! Loose Parts for all Ages and Imaginations Nikki Love
4:15-5:00 pm	Closing Session: Reconvene for the wrap up, reflection activity, door prizes, and vote for the 2021 symposium theme!				

Welcome to

STEAM: Curiosity Unleashed!
science, technology, engineering, art, and math in early education

On behalf of the Southeast Alaska AEYC Board of Directors, we hope you gather new energy and inspiration, increase your knowledge, and get STEAMED up for your work with children! What STEAM activities filled you with wonder as a child? We shared at a recent board meeting about our memories building forts, watching beetles and pollywogs transform, animal births and a snake digesting an egg, exploring plants, and building dams. We hope this symposium help you reconnect with your own delight in learning about the world and how things work, through exploring hands-on activities. And that you deepen an understanding of how to help stimulate curiosity and encourage children to wonder and ask questions. What do you see? What do you think? What do you wonder? These are questions to help children learn observation and critical thinking skills and make new connections.

Thanks to each of you for the extraordinary care and dedication you offer to so many young children and families every day. We hope you enjoy your time at the symposium.

- AEYC Southeast Board of Directors

The mission of AEYC Southeast Alaska is to promote high quality early learning for all children birth through age eight by supporting all who educate, care for and work on behalf of young children.

AEYC Board of Directors

Coleen Brody - Chair
Cherry Eckland - Past Chair
Dan Robinson - Treasurer
Jamie Shanley - Secretary
Nicki Shelton - Member
Joshua Jackson - Member
Cheryl Glen - Member
Lori Hoover - Member
Laine Rinehart - Member
Kirk Elmore - Member

AEYC Staff

Joy Lyon, Executive Director
Lori Brotherton, Finance Director
Nikki Love, Child Nutrition and Community Engagement Coordinator
Lisa Arehart, Professional Development Coordinator
Lisa Oberle Professional Development TA Coordinator
Hannah Weed, Professional Development Specialist
Kassandra Moore, Professional Development Associate
Emily Thompson, Parents As Teachers Coordinator
Melinda Messmer, Parents As Teachers Educator
Raineka Ackley, Parents As Teachers Educator
Mary Adelmeyer, Parents As Teachers Educator
Lauren Heide, Parents As Teachers Educator
Bereniz Blackwell, Parents As Teachers Educator
Miranda Liebsack, AmeriCorps Volunteer
Krissy Smith, Wrangell Early Childhood Liaison
Robin Anderson, Ketchikan Early Childhood Liaison

Symposium Coordinator

Loren Edwards-Thompson

Professional Development (UAF, CDA)

If you are interested in earning college, or CDA credit please attend a short orientation Friday morning in Ballroom 1. The cost of the college credit is \$75* and the CDA credit is free. There is a professional development table in the lobby for questions about UAF, CDA. *Make checks or cashiers checks out to the University of Alaska Fairbanks or pay through your UA Online account.

Meals

A light breakfast is **Sponsored by Best Beginnings** at 7:30 am on Friday and 8:00 am on Saturday

Friday: A buffet lunch will be served, with the Professional Development recognition.

Saturday: Lunch will be served buffet style in the main lobby of Centennial Hall.

Marketplace and Hands-on exploration stations


Check out our partner tables located in the Main Lobby of Centennial Hall to learn about resources for families and young children in Alaska. Check off your BINGO card as you explore the hands-on STEAM stations!

Cell Phones

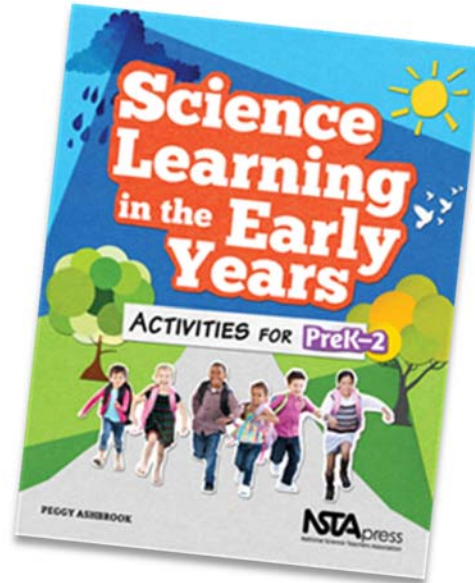
Is yours turned off? If it rings during a session, you may be asked to sing the chorus of your cell phone tune!

Table Care

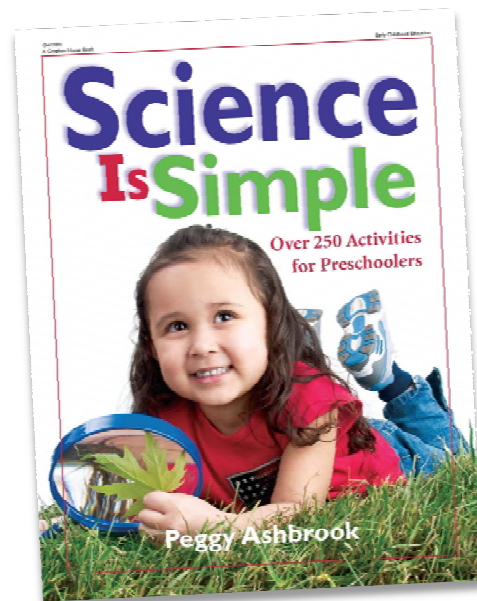
Keep it clean! Please bus your own tables after each session by taking all dirty dishes to the collection trays .



Guest Speaker



Peggy Ashbrook is an early childhood science teacher, mentor and writer—the National Science Teachers Association’s (NSTA) Early Years column in *Science & Children* and companion [blog](#), and author of *Science Learning in the Early Years* (2016 NSTA Press) and *Science Is Simple* (2003 Gryphon House). She began teaching science to young children in her home as a child care provider in 1988. Peggy is active in professional associations—NSTA, NAEYC, and NoVA Outside, presenting at local, area, and national conferences. She is a co-facilitator for the NAEYC Early Childhood Science Interest Forum (ECSIF). Currently, Peggy teaches children ages 2-8, mentors teachers in PreK programs, and provides professional development on early childhood science inquiry and engineering design. Her favorite place is where the worlds of early childhood and science learning overlap.



Peggy Ashbrook’s website : <http://nstacommunities.org>



Keynote: Peggy Ashbrook, Bringing the S-T-E-M Together in Early Childhood Using Science and Engineering

Science explorations and engineering design work by young children are fun and can engage children in “finding out” while solving problems of interest to them. Without adult support, experiences can be “one-off” activities that don’t lead children to think progressively deeper about the concepts to continue an investigation. This session provides examples of how teachers can strengthen their grasp of science concepts and engineering design while supporting children’s interests. Through examples of strategies for learning science content and first hand exploration of a natural phenomenon, we’ll gain new appreciation for the science in common activities and learn new activities as we look at photographs of children exploring, investigating, and joyfully engaged during science inquiry. Expand your science teaching toolbox so you can provide meaningful activities that together build into science inquiry. Skills children learn while participating in science inquiry help them become life-long learners.

10:15-11:45 am: Session One

Sesame Street in Communities, Lisa Arehart
Ballroom 2/3

Come access and navigate the Sesame Street In Communities online platform through a guided exploration of the many topics and resources available for children and families in your program. Newly launched in 2019 this tool is full of creative and transferable STEAM items, as well as resources to help children and families who are dealing with trauma related events.

Lisa has been working in the field of Early Childhood Education for most of her professional life. She has worked in child care, preschool, worked at Head Start, and taught in the Juneau School District. She is currently working at AEYC-SEA as a Professional Development Specialist and Manager of Professional Development for thread throughout SE Alaska.

Exploring Ways to Engage Families in the Digital Age, Amie Collins

Ballroom 1

Ever feel like parent engagement is a one-way street? Come unpack the ways that family engagement is changing in the digital age. You’ll learn innovative methods to start or strengthen your outreach through digital media to parents to help them better support the strategies you can take surrounding newsletter, email, text messaging, and social media, as informed by Alaska-based research on the needs of parents and their communication preferences.

Developing Integrated STEAM Lessons Using Children’s Literature, Heidi Johnson & Tara Kulbeth

Hickel

In this session Heidi will share how STEAM based concepts, language and play can be discovered and developed through beloved children’s literature. This will be an interactive workshop where you will develop integrated learning and play activities with specific developmentally appropriate STEAM concepts. Heidi will also share adaptation ideas for supporting children who experience developmental delays.

Heidi is a speech-language pathologist, early childhood educator and infant mental health specialist with the Juneau School District. She enjoys providing professional development consultation and training around the state.

Supporting Childhood Creativity with Technology
Amanda Duvall

Egan

Children are naturally curious and playful. The use of technology can help capture this learning, ease creativity, and allow practice with everyday tools i.e. camera, tablet, Alexa, etc. Join Amanda as she shares ways the device is **not** screen time, but a tool to document and create at a higher level than possible with pen and paper. You will learn tangible ideas to share with families and other teachers on using technology as a tool for learning and documenting learning.

Amanda is a technology coach for Anchorage SD and past president for the Alaska Society for Technology in Education, and a National Board Certified Teacher in technology. As a 19 year educator mostly in K/1, and mom to a kindergartener and a preschooler, she knows the need for play.

What Fills Your Cup?, Kathleen Hansen, Julie Peters, and Emily Arkus

Hammond

The Art of Being With: How to be tuned into kids and their needs during their “fill my cup” moments. This presentation will explore the importance of attachment in relationships.

Kathleen Hansen is The Director of the REACH Infant Learning Program and has a Clinical Doctorate in Occupational Therapy with an infant mental health endorsement. Julie Peters is a pediatric speech-language pathologist with an infant mental health endorsement. Emily Arkus is a developmental specialists at the REACH ILP having a Masters in Child Development and Infancy. 32 years combined experience in early intervention.



11:45 am - 1:15 pm: Lunch Professional Recognition Celebration

This is the time to shine a light on all the growth and accomplishments of early educators, and enjoy some professional networking. Dish up your lunch, and let's celebrate!



1:15 - 2:45 pm: Session Two

Bear Blitz!, Abby McAllister

Ballroom 2&3

Explore this fast-paced set of learning stations, geared toward K-2 students, to develop lesson plans to build their learning about the natural history of bears in Alaska. Each sequence of learning station builds on the other and is a great accompaniment to the ADF&G Bears of Alaska Kit, or any bear safety presentation.

Abby McAllister coordinates outdoor skills workshops like Becoming an Outdoors-Woman and Alaskans Afield. She's also an educator and journalist. In play, she can be found most often on the trails or on a mountain top somewhere.

Water Flow: Exploring Water as a Liquid and as a Solid, Peggy Ashbrook

Ballroom 1

Water activities can be more than "just play." Through hands-on experimental play, children can learn about the properties and movement of both solid and liquid water, such as how water interacts with different surfaces and what happens when ice melts. This training helps participants develop a practice of science inquiry and the physical science concepts that can be explored through water play. Participants will experiment with water materials and will learn how to inspire children's investigation into the characteristics of water.

Paint! Exploration & Expression, Linda Torgerson, Beth Rivest

Egan

Using easels, feathers, sponges, plants, marbles, toy vehicles and brushes children experience, explore, expand and express their worlds and themselves. Join us for a teacher's testimonial for adding paint to children's lives on a regular basis, and experience first-hand the joy of painting in various ways.

Linda Torgerson has been enjoying the company of young children and the adults in their lives for a half century.

Beth Rivest works with children daily and devotes energy, love and commitment to their school experiences.

Baby Steps to STEAM, Nicki Shelton

Hickel

Join us for an interactive workshop to explore fun, play-based activities for infants and toddlers that develop a basic foundation in STEAM learning.

Nicki Shelton is a National Trainer for Parents as Teachers. She has been active in PAT in Alaska for 24 years as a parent educator, program director, trainer, and advocate, and serves on the AEYC Board of Directors.

Incorporating Culture into STEAM, Tess Olympia & Rebecca Hsieh

Hammond

Participants will visit a variety of stations that focus on Science, Engineering, Math, Art and Technology that incorporate an Indigenous perspective. Each station will provide hands on learning opportunities from building fish traps to in-depth knowledge of the halibut hook. Special guests may be invited to lead a station. Discover activities that could be used in your classroom.



3:00 pm - 4:30 pm: Session Three

Using our Outside Voices, Margaret Bauer & Joy Lyon *Ballroom 2/3*

Sometimes speaking up for children can put us outside our comfort zone. Other times, we are so emotional we can't speak at all. Come learn to harness the power of your personal stories to make a difference at the individual, local, state, and national level. This session will show clips from the award winning film "No Small Matter." Discuss how and when to share your story through an interactive game, and connect with promising new developments for young children in Alaska.

Margaret Bauer and Joy Lyon both serve on the Alaska Early Childhood Advocacy Group, a coalition of seven statewide early childhood groups including AEYC affiliates, Alaska Head Start Association, Infant Learning Association, Alaska Pediatric Partnership, Best Beginnings, Parents as Teachers, and thread, working to increase the number of children ready to succeed in school and beyond.

Water Flow: Exploring Water as a Liquid and as a Solid, Peggy Ashbrook (Repeated session)

Ballroom 1

Water activities can be more than "just play." Through hands-on experimental play, children can learn about the properties and movement of both solid and liquid water, such as how water interacts with different surfaces and what happens when ice melts. This 3-hour training helps participants develop a practice of science inquiry and the physical science concepts that can be explored through water play. Participants will experiment with water materials and will learn how to inspire children's investigation into the characteristics of water.

Paint! Exploration & Expression, Linda Torgerson, Beth Rivest (Repeated Session)

Egan

Using easels, feathers, sponges, plants, marbles, toy vehicles and brushes children experience, explore, expand and express their worlds and themselves. Join

us for a teacher's testimonial for adding paint to children's lives on a regular basis, and experience first-hand the joy of painting in various ways.

Linda Torgerson has been enjoying the company of young children and the adults in their lives for a half century.

Beth Rivest works with children daily and devotes energy, love and commitment to their school experiences.

Creating Coding Stories and Games, Veronica Plumb *Hickel*

This workshop will explore playful, hands-on early coding activities that integrate math, literacy, communication, collaborative learning, and problem solving. Coding involves creating step by step instructions that a computer can understand for programs to work. These skills are valuable for future success in our digital world, and can be fun and exciting for young children, as well as early educator *Veronica Plumb is the Program Coordinator and faculty at the UAF Child Development and Family Studies program. She uses coding skills in quilting, communicating with her sewing machine, and mapping out her garden.*

Incorporating Culture into STEAM, Tess Olympia & Rebecca Hsieh (Repeated Session)

Hammond

Participants will visit a variety of stations that focus on Science, Engineering, Math, Art and Technology that incorporate Indigenous perspective. Each station will provide hands on learning opportunities from building fish traps to in-depth knowledge of the halibut hook. Special guests may be invited to lead a station. Discover activities you can use in your classroom.

FREE! 6:00-7:00 pm: Film: Molly of Denali

Friday, March 13 at Centennial Hall

Molly of Denali is a PBS series created with support from Alaskan writers, and featuring Alaska Native culture and solving problems through science. Two episodes will be shown, with an activity in between, and a chance to meet and hear from some of the Alaskan writers and musicians. This event is free and open to all educators and families.

The series is the first ever nationally distributed children's show to feature an Alaska Native as the main character and protagonist. **Training credit is provided.** Co-sponsored by:



8:30 am - 10:00 am: Session One

Artful Thinking, MK McNaughton

Ballroom 2&3

The key to teaching art is having fun yourself! MK will lead participants through several drawing and painting exercises, exploring charcoal, watercolor pencil, and repurposed materials. Learn about simple, often overlooked supplies and discuss the limitless possibilities of artful thinking. Inspire a lifelong exploration of the arts in children (and yourself).

MK McNaughton is a teaching and exhibiting artist, working out of her studio Sketch in downtown Juneau. Her experiences include parent volunteer at the Juneau Cooperative Preschool; providing lessons to 350 K-5 students weekly; as the "Art on the Cart lady" at Harborview Elementary, and helping to create the Canvas Community Art Studio.

Supporting other artists of all ages and abilities is the ongoing inspiration for MK's own art practice. Mark your calendars for the First Friday April Artwalk featuring local teens at Sketch Studio!



Alive or Not? Building Science Inquiry, Peggy Ashbrook

Ballroom 1

Building Science Inquiry in Early Childhood Programs: Using documentation to support a claim—Identify how to integrate inquiry into common early childhood science activities using an Engage-Explore-Reflect Cycle. Using images of children doing science, we explore how to get the most out of each activity, and where to learn more. In early childhood science inquiries, children use their art work to document their observations and understanding of phenomena. Learn how documenting observations, collecting data, discussing concepts and revising ideas are central to children's science investigations about "What is alive and what is not?" as you engage in explorations with small animals and seeds and use artwork to explain your understanding.

Math Without Numbers? Brenda Taylor

Egan

We will be looking at how to encourage ways of thinking that are vital to math (and life!) and, yet, that many children do not pick up naturally. We'll be playing and discussing adaptable games and activities that encourage math thinking in young children, preK to 3rd grade – but rarely focus on numbers! We'll focus on how and why to help children recognize and apply patterns and categories, use their observations to generalize and simplify, justify their ideas with evidence, figure out how to articulate what their intuition tells them, and, we hope, not worry about whether they have "the one" right answer, *Brenda has experience working with children of all ages (or many years in a variety of capacities). A founding member of the Juneau STEM Coalition, Brenda leads Computational Thinking Community Workshops for teachers, helps organize the annual Curiosity Unleashed: STEAM event for families, and works to encourage curiosity and deep thinking for all ages.*

Welcome to Alaska's Core Knowledge and Competencies, Lisa Arehart & Lisa Oberle

Hickel

Participants will learn about what early childhood professionals who work with young children need to know, understand and demonstrate to best facilitate children's learning and development. Participants will get an overview of SEED: Alaska's Early Childhood Professional Development System. All participants will receive the Core Knowledge and Competency Book. *Lisa Arehart has been working in the field of Early Childhood Education in settings including child care, preschool, Head Start, as a teacher in the Juneau School District. She is the AEYC Professional Development Coordinator for thread throughout Southeast Alaska. Lisa Oberle has over twenty years experience teaching integrated preschool at the Juneau School District, and is now sharing her knowledge as AEYC Technical Assistance Coordinator for thread in SE Alaska.*

Cultural Ways of Knowing-Math, Victoria Johnson

Hammond

Math - Making Beaded Key Chains - Patterns & Counting *Victoria Johnson, Tleikw Xoo (Among the Berries) from the T'akdeintaan, Gaat Hit (Sea pigeon, Freshwater Marked Sockeye House), Hoonah, Alaska. Victoria is the Cultural Specialist for Goldbelt Heritage Foundation. She works with Pre-K children to adults to learn and share the Tlingit Language and Culture through song and dance, harvesting and preserving traditional foods, arts and craft.*

Artful Thinking, MK McNaughton (Repeated Session)

Ballroom 2&3

The key to teaching art is having fun yourself! MK will lead participants through several drawing and painting exercises, exploring charcoal, watercolor pencil, and repurposed materials. Learn about simple, often overlooked supplies and discuss the limitless possibilities of artful thinking. Inspire a lifelong exploration of the arts in children (and yourself).

MK McNaughton is a teaching and exhibiting artist, working out of her studio Sketch in downtown Juneau.

Her experiences include parent volunteer at the Juneau Cooperative Preschool; providing lessons to 350 K-5 students weekly; as the “Art on the Cart lady” at Harborview Elementary, and helping to create the Canvas Community Art Studio .

Supporting other artists of all ages and abilities is the ongoing inspiration for MK’s own art practice. Mark your calendars for the First Friday April Artwalk featuring local teens at Sketch Studio!

Yoga & Meditation, Janice Hurley

Ballroom 1

Yoga is a word taken from ancient Sanskrit which means “Union.” It refers to the union of the mind, the body, and the spirit. The practice of Yoga is a discipline that uses breathing techniques, physical movements and exercises, and meditation to help achieve this union. Self-care for those who work with young children is so important. Perhaps Yoga could be one part of that self-care. This Yoga class will consist of floor work, standing poses, and restoration poses. The pace will be slow to moderate and will include various levels of stretching. Modifications for the exercises and poses will be offered. Several different restorative postures will be taught, and the session will close with a guided meditation.

Here’s wishing you relaxation and peace of mind!
Janice Hurley is a certified teacher, with a BA in Theatre Arts and an MA in Early Childhood Development in the Performing Arts . She has taught , performed, choreographed, and directed in a variety of dance art styles. Her contributions include Northern Lights Junior Theatre, Theater at Latitude 58, Juneau Lyric Opera, Orpheus Project and Perseverance Theatre, past Assistant Director of Gold Creek Child Development Center , past Artistic Director of Juneau Dance Theater. She continues to teach The Alaska Club, the young dancers’, Juneau Dance Theater and various educational and performing groups in Juneau. She teaches at The Alaska Club, Juneau Family Birth Center, and Pilates Bodies Juneau and enjoys sharing her practices with all age groups and abilities.

Nature Connection and STEAM, Megan Bishop

Egan

Do you want to learn how to incorporate STEAM into the outdoor setting? Do you want to encourage your students to develop a strong Nature Connection in their own environment both inside and outside? In this workshop you will gain knowledge about Nature-based Education and how you can implement it into your own program. You will also create your very own tool to bring back with you to incorporate STEAM and Nature Connection into your program!

Megan Bishop is from Gustavus—the doorstep of Glacier Bay National Park. As a Level 2 Certified Forest Teacher she is incredibly passionate about Outdoor Education and Nature Connection in Early Childhood and providing safe learning space in the wilderness. Megan is the Preschool Program Lead at The Rookery at Gustavus.

Alaska Early Learning Guidelines, Lisa Arehart

Hickel

Participants will learn about how the Alaska Early Guidelines can help early childhood professionals who work with young children to best facilitate children's learning and development. All participants will receive the new Alaska Early Learning Guidelines book.

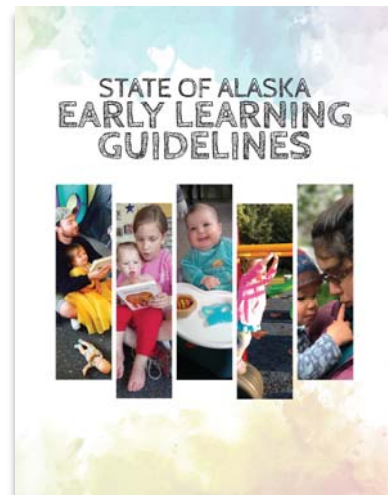
Lisa has been working in the field of Early Childhood Education for most of her professional life. She has worked in child care, preschool, worked at Head Start, and taught in the Juneau School District. She is currently the AEYC Professional Development Coordinator for thread throughout Southeast Alaska.

Cultural Ways of Knowing-Science, Victoria Johnson

Hammond

Science of Plants - Devils Club: Harvesting and Making salve.

Victoria Johnson, Tleikw Xoo (Among the Berries) from the T’akdeintaan, Gaat Hit (Sea pigeon, Freshwater Marked Sockeye House), Hoonah, Alaska. Cultural Specialist for Goldbelt Heritage Foundation. Works with Pre-K children to Adults. Has been learning and sharing the Tlingit Language and Culture through song and dance, harvesting and preserving traditional foods, arts and craft.



11:45 am - 1:00 pm: Lunch Options

Option A. Hickel Room. Kindergarten Readiness gathering: Grab your lunch and head on over to a special focus group on a definition of Kindergarten Readiness. Did you know the State of Alaska and most local communities do not have an agreed on definition? Come participate in a focus group led by Emily Ferry, the early childhood STEPS project coordinator of the Association of Alaska School Boards. Together we will discuss a common vision of kindergarten readiness in Southeast Alaska.

Option B. Learn and Grow, Alaska's Quality Recognition Improvement System. Curious about Learn and Grow? Come hear how it can help your program, parents, the early childhood field, and most of all—children of Alaska. Earn a Level 1 Training Certificate. All early childhood settings will be included in Learn and Grow—Head Start, School district Pre-K, Child Care, and After School programs.

Option C. Enjoy your lunch anywhere, and then explore the hands-on STEAM stations throughout Centennial Hall. Fill out your reflection bingo card, and turn it in for a bonus training hour credit. Take photos, take notes, and share them with children starting Monday morning!

Option D. Chat with colleagues, follow the Sea-Walk down to the Whale park, or tour the Alaska State Museum.

1:00 - 2:30 pm: Session Three

Gettings STEAMed Up @ your Library, MJ Grande Ballroom 2/3

Libraries are the perfect place to unleash your curiosity! Through books and electronic resources, so much of the world can be explored. Join MJ in exploring materials to support you in sharing the vast and varied world, with the small people in your care, as well as in your personal life. Come and get all STEAMed up!

MJ Grande has been curious her whole life, exploring the world using her body and mind. Libraries have always been a place to explore and investigate further. MJ has her Masters in Library and Information Science from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, and loves serving as Juneau Public Libraries' Youth Service Librarian.



Light + Shadows: Taking play into science inquiry and engineering design with hands-on activities and conversation, Peggy Ashbrook

Ballroom 1 **PART 1**

Learn about the science of light, how we experience it and how we use it, and plan ways to explore and engineer with light with young children, including documenting experiences and understandings. In this session participants will learn about the science of light—how we experience it and how we use it—and plan ways to explore light with their young children. The session focuses on 3- and 4-year-olds but has applications through 2nd grade. Direct and reflected light are part of the natural world and children's experiences. These experiences will be shared in photographs.

Full STEAM Ahead with Family Kits, Esther Pepin & Margaret Lee

Egan

Join us as we dive into how to use STEAM with parents to introduce them to standards and school readiness.

Weaving a rope of three strands: social emotional learning, culturally responsive/Alaska connections, and an introduction to CTE, these literacy focused STEAM kits are sure to keep families engaged and informed on child development/learning and parent involvement.

Esther Pepin has been a preschool and kindergarten teacher and is now the Preschool Director and ECE instructional coach at Bristol Bay School District. With an M.Ed. in Curriculum Development & Instruction, designing culturally relevant and responsive projects for young children is a passion and joy.

Margaret Lee is a kindergarten Teacher in Bristol Bay School District.

Math is More Than Numbers, Raineka Ackley

Hickel

As educators or parents, it's easier than you think to incorporate math concepts into everyday activities for infants and toddlers. -And you're probably already doing it more than you realize!

Raineka has an AA in Early Childhood Education and BA in Human Development. She grew up in Juneau, worked as an Infant Toddler teacher for Nike, and moved back about a year and half ago. She is a Parent Educator for Parents As Teachers.

Science & Culture at the Beach, Michelle Martin and the Tlingit Culture Language and Literacy Program

Hammond

The beach is ready and waiting for children to explore any time of year, but with spring on the way, come fill your basket with many ways to support children's curiosity and wonder in learning about culture and science concepts on the tidelands. You will also view clips and learn about "Mystery Science" resources and ideas.

Michelle Martin is one of the teaching team at the Tlingit Culture Language and Literacy (TCLL) program located at Harborview Elementary. She has many years of experience teaching preschool at Head Start and school district PreK programs.

2:45 - 4:15 pm: Session Four

Creating Magical Musical Moments, Mike Maas *Ballroom 2/3*

This workshop is an encore, back by popular demand from rave reviews of participants at last year's symposium. If you missed this session last year, beat your feet to come explore activities to introduce rhythm and song to young children. Walk away with a playlist, resource, and ideas to integrate music as part of your everyday curriculum. Experience first-hand how music can enhance the atmosphere in your classroom! By being more comfortable in sharing music, you can help gift your children with a lifelong love of music.

Mike is a former music teacher at Mendenhall River Elementary School for 10 years and now teaches piano, guitar, and kids rock band lessons privately in Juneau.

Light + Shadows: Taking play into science inquiry and engineering design with hands-on activities and conversation, Peggy Ashbrook *Ballroom 1 PART 2*

After discussing our own and children's beginning understandings of light educators will identify and implement additional experiences with flashlights and other available light sources and designed systems for moving light that can support children's developing understanding of the properties of light and how to use it. Our own first hand experiences manipulating light, and using common materials such as tape and recyclable containers to design structures/tools to use light will inform our teaching practice, and release our creative selves.

The Science of Promoting Discovery, Cherry Eckland *Egan*

The goal of this session is to strengthen teachers' abilities to assist students in making their own discoveries. While "fooling around" with bubbles and chain reactions participants will see just how simple it is to facilitate deep learning experiences by giving challenges, asking questions and allowing students follow their own investigations. The focus will be on teacher language that fosters curiosity and a growth mindset. Participants will walk away with activities they can use tomorrow and strategies that can be applied over and over with future activities
Cherry Eckland is Nationally Board Certified in Early Childhood Education and was named a BP Teacher of Excellence in 2016. She has thirty years of experience in teaching and a passion for science and math, and serves on the AEYC Board as Past Chair.

CDA & UAF Reflections, Lisa Arehart, Lisa Oberle, UAF Faculty *Hickel*

As you are finishing up your conference journal and reflections for CDA or UAF credit, this is your chance to answer any questions you have, in order to complete your credit. CDA Advisors Lisa Oberly, Lisa Arehart, and UAF Faculty also invite anyone interested to come and talk informally about the options and process for the Child Development Associate credential, or early childhood classes and degrees available through the University of Alaska.

Keep it Loose! Loose parts for all ages and imaginations, Nikki love *Hammond*

Come play with loose parts and learn how valuable they are in inspiring STEAM. You'll learn how to find, store, and use loose parts with the children in your care.

Nikki is the Child Nutrition and Community Engagement Coordinator at AEYC. She loves finding and sharing loose parts -and spots them everywhere!



4:30 pm - 5:00 pm: Closing Session

Reconvene for the wrap up, "show and tell," reflection activity, DOOR PRIZES, and to vote for the 2021 conference theme!

See you March 12 & 13, 2021!

Special Thanks

A big "Thanks!" to the following organizations that helped make this year's conference a success!

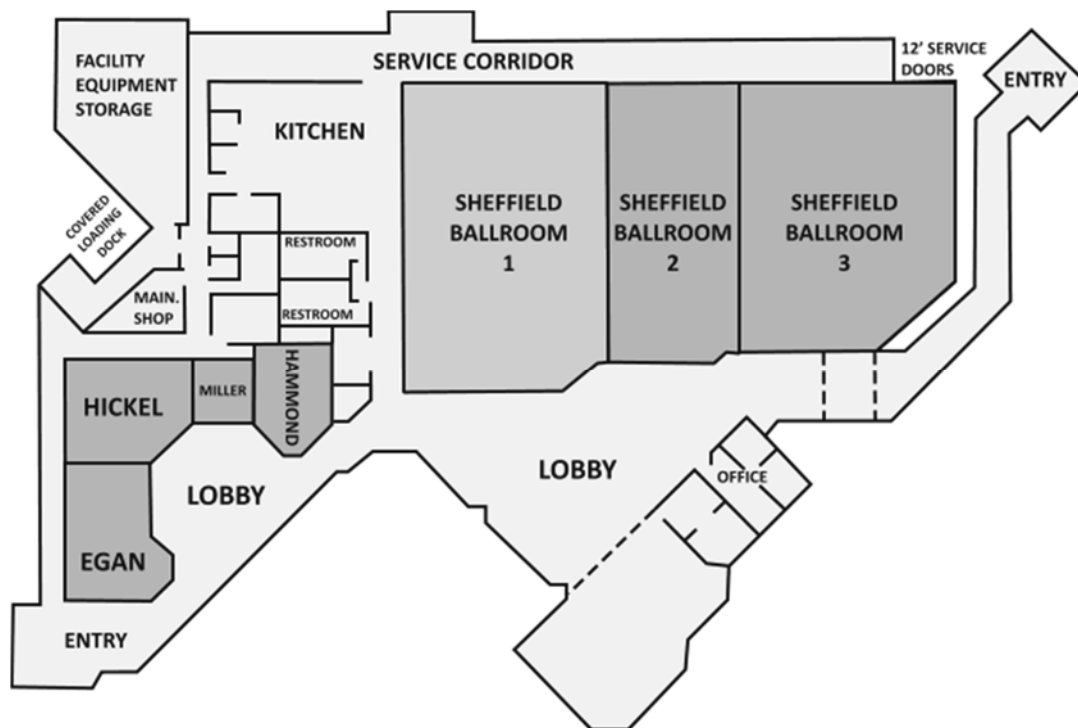
- * Best Beginnings: breakfast sponsor
- * Breeze In Catering
- * Central Council for Tlingit Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska
- * Elgee Rehfeld
- * Haight and Associates
- * Imagination Library Volunteers
- * JEDC
- * Juneau Radio
- * Juneau STEM Coalition
- * KTOO
- * Samantha Adams—exploration station guide
- * thread -Alaska's Child Care Resource & Referral Network
- * United Way Southeast Alaska
- * University of Alaska Fairbanks
- * Wilson Engineering

Marketplace

Check out the featured booths and hands-on exploration stations in the Main Lobby throughout the Conference:

- * AEYC Membership
- * Alaska Department of Education
- * Alaska SEED, Alaska Learn and Grow
- * Baby Raven Reads
- * Imagination Library / Best Beginnings
- * ROCK Juneau
- * thread Child Care Resource and Referral
- * University of Alaska Fairbanks
- * US Census

Centennial Hall Convention Center



Are You Parked in the Right Place?



Note: To avoid a parking fine be sure to Park in the Designated Centennial Hall Parking Areas (marked in yellow) and sign your car in at the office kiosk. After 5 pm and on Saturday you can park anywhere.

