

Welcome! Let us share our unique voices with others to create harmony!

Welcome to the 2010 Celebrating Cultural Harmony Institute! We strive to locate the best presenters to share their voices on cultural and diversity topics that you may not find at other conferences. When selecting topics, our definition of "culture" is in the broadest sense, including country of origin, ethnicity, gender, ability, size, sexual orientation, age, and family/personal experiences (see more complete definition below). Alvin Toffler said "The illiterate of the 21st century will not be those who cannot read and write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn and relearn." We cannot learn by simply sharing our own voices and not listening to others. We learn by truly attending to other voices and opening our minds to different ideas. As with a choir, it is the differences among us that make us a stronger group, creating harmony from diversity. We encourage you to share your unique voice and listen to the voices of others. Together, we can start creating true cultural harmony - not just during these three days - but for a lifetime.



Brenda Reynolds

Welcome the Children Project Director
Partners for Inclusive Communities - UAMS reynoldsbrendak@uams.edu
501-922-1880 (V/Fax); 800-342-2923 (msg. V/TTY)

Culture: A Definition

Welcome the Children views culture as it is described by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). NAEYC believes that "[f]or optimal development and learning of all children, educators must **accept** the legitimacy of children's home language, **respect** (hold in high regard) the home culture, and **promote** and **encourage** the active involvement and support of all families, including extended and nontraditional family units" (NAEYC 1995, 2). Since all children are rooted in their families we see a child's family structure and all that it entails as the core of their family's culture. This structure can include family socioeconomic status, family composition, parent's level of educational attainment, abilities of children and family members, family's immigration status, family's religion, family's home and preferred languages, parent's sexual orientation, and the way that a family classifies its race and ethnicity.

Acknowledgments

A Special Thank You to...

Our Funding Sponsors:

- **Partners for Inclusive Communities - UAMS**
- **Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education - Arkansas Department of Human Services (DHS)**
- **Arkansas Head Start State Collaboration Office**
- **BOST**

Our 2010 Institute Planning Committee

**Ann Patterson
Rocio Hlass
Kelly Alexander
Barbara Whitehead**

**Kathy Stegall
Judy Young
Tanya Miller
Sabrina Zarco (also designed conference logo)**

**Darlene Kurtz
Brenda Reynolds**



To Vanessa Smith for taking photos during the Institute. These will be on display in the Exhibit Area (Jackson Room). Visit the Exhibit Area on breaks to see if we have your smiling face!



Special Institute Event Thursday Evening

A REALLY BIG THANK YOU to the **Mosaic Templars Cultural Center** for opening their doors Thursday evening for a special free tour for Institute participants and to **Little Rock Tours** for providing free round trip transportation! Hop on the bus with us at 5:00 pm on Thursday! The Cultural Center offers educational programs, exhibits, genealogy research files, an oral history studio, and a collection of artifacts. The Arkansas Black Hall of Fame exhibit is featured here. The gift shop will also be open!

Join our Exhibitors in the Jackson Room

2010 Exhibitors

A Different Stroke of Art

Arkansas Can Do, Inc.

Arkansas Governor's Commission on People with Disabilities

Arkansas Governor's Developmental Disabilities Council

Arkansas HIPPY

B and C Sterling Silver Jewelry

Better Beginnings

Children's Services - Title V; Children with Special Health Care Needs - DDS

ConnectCare

Disability Rights Center

Division of Child Care & Early Childhood Education

Division of Children and Family Services

Family-2-Family Health Information Center of Arkansas

Kaplan Early Learning Company

Mosaic Templars Cultural Center

Partners for Inclusive Communities

Pyramid Art, Books & Custom Framing

SunshineKnits

TAPP - Traveling Arkansas Professional Pathways

Wild River Country

Conference Host and Exhibitor: Welcome the Children Project

Please see Exhibitors' contact information in the back of the program.



Wednesday, December 1, 2010
Institute Schedule 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

8:00 am – 9:00 am	Registration and Refreshments, Crowne Foyer Exhibits Open - Jackson
9:00 am – 10:30 am	Opening Session
10:30 am – 10:50 am	Break and Exhibits
10:50 am – 12:20 pm	Concurrent Workshops Session A
12:20 pm – 12:30 pm	Break
12:30 pm – 2:00 pm	Luncheon with Keynote Speaker
2:00 pm – 2:30 pm	Exhibitor Networking Session in Jackson Hall
2:30 pm – 4:00 pm	Concurrent Workshops Session B

Wednesday Opening Session 9:00 am – 10:30 am
Welcome and Opening Address
Crowne Ballroom



The Difference that Differences Can Make

Our own lives are enriched and our experiences deepened when we engage others at a cultural level that is new to us, or that calls upon aspects of our own cultural background that have gone unexplored. The great cultural diversity now found in our state challenges us as service providers to meet and welcome others at the crossroad of mutual respect and celebration.

Andre Guerrero, Ph.D., has worked with migrant Mexican-American children in the lower Rio Grande Valley, designed curriculum for language minority students, served as a foundation officer, and directed a graduate program in education. More recently, he has been a supervisor in the civil rights office of the Arkansas Department of Education. At the present time he is the Director of Programs for Language Minority Students for the state, where he has had a strong impact on the Welcome the Children project as an original member of the Advisory Committee.

No culture can live, if it attempts to be exclusive. – Mahatma Gandhi



Concurrent Workshops Session A

Wednesday, December 1, 2010
10:50 am – 12:20 pm

Location

- | | | |
|------------|---|------------------|
| A-1 | Educational Strategies for Children who are English Language Learners (ELL)
This presentation will explore legal and educational aspects of working with ELL children. In addition, classroom strategies including curriculum integration to increase academic achievement of ELL students will be addressed.
<i>Presented by Anarella Cellitti, Ph.D., M.A.</i> | Thomas |
| A-2 | "What about the children?" – Navigating the Social Systems to Reach Success
This workshop will focus on the effects of poverty, diversity, and homelessness on children and families in the pursuit of quality education.
<i>Presented by Jacqueline Richardson and Patricia Anderson</i> | Roosevelt |
| A-3 | What Identity Crisis?
Join this session as Spirit shares stories from her bi-racial experience and Minnijean speaks about her experiences as a facilitator of a group for white mothers of biracial children.
<i>Presented by Spirit Tricky and Minnijean Tricky</i> | Stitt |
| A-4 | Getting to Know Asian American Arkansans
This session will give attendees a broader view and information about Asian Arkansans and their success stories.
<i>Presented by Wilma Houston and Teresa Harrell</i> | Blair |

Institute Luncheon

Wednesday, 12:30 pm – 2:00 pm

Crowne Ballroom

Author, Poet, Activist, Spoken Word Artist, polio survivor, inspirational speaker **Maria R. Palacios** brings the voice of her personal activism and love affair with life to inspire others to find their own voice of empowerment and strength. Ms. Palacios is the founder of Atahualpa Press and author of two books, *The Female King* (a collection of feminist poetry) and *Karate on Wheels, A Journey of Self Discovery*. In addition to her passion for writing, she dedicates her life to serving her community by facilitating monthly empowerment workshops for women with disabilities, weekly creative writing workshops to low income women in her neighborhood, as well as her participation in the many yearly events that have made Ms. Palacios a permanent fixture in Houston's spoken word scene. Maria R. Palacios uses her relationship with words as a tool of inspiration and firmly believes in the collective power of unity as voices come together in song of hope, in chant of peace, in the sound of positive transformation.



The collective energy of those who believe in change is the force able to make it happen.
- Maria R. Palacios

Please joins us as Ms. Palacios unites our voices in the sound of collective empowerment.



Exhibitor Networking Session, Book-Signing, and Door Prizes

2:00 pm - 2:30 pm

Jackson Room

Continue your luncheon networking discussions in the Exhibit Hall, where you can pick up materials and learn more about the variety of programs and services available in our state.

Network!!

Book-Signing!!

Door Prizes!!

Concurrent Workshops Session B

Wednesday, December 1, 2010

2:30 pm - 4:00 pm

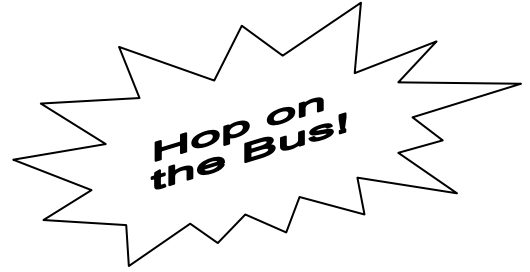
- B-1** **A Visual Journey of Latinos in Arkansas from 1990-2010** **Thomas**
Come explore the history and growth of the Hispanic population in Arkansas from 1990-2010. We will review Latino culture with a special emphasis on Mexican culture, cultural factors affecting second-language acquisition, issues concerning immigration, and the acculturation of this population into the very fabric of Arkansas.
Presented by Maria G. Touchstone, M.S. and Celia Pequeno-Goff
- B-2** **Time Management for Busy People in the Real World** **Roosevelt**
Attendees will learn about the process of time management and its effects on stress levels and productivity. Further, attendees will learn a variety of strategies to improve time management and work with efficiency. Attendees will be encouraged to apply these strategies to their own lives and have opportunities to ask specific questions.
Presented by Wendy I. Ward-Begnoche, Ph.D.
- B-3** **Methods and Ideas About Language Interpretation** **Stitt**
This session will focus on the education of children and oral language interpretation, establishing support and training for interpreters, and other issues and concerns around dual language.
Presented by Minnijean Trickey
- B-4** **Acknowledging, Owning And Sharing Our Personal Power** **Blair**
A workshop designed to help participants get in touch with their own personal power, the responsibility to own it and the blessing of sharing it. Please join Maria R. Palacios as she uses a series of exercises that will enlighten and inspire you to take a closer look at the beautiful, strong, independent, capable and loving person that lives in each of you. This is a very interactive workshop where participants take part in this short but empowering journey of their own self-discovery.
Presented by Maria R. Palacios

Culture is the widening of the mind and the spirit. - Jawaharial Nehru



Thursday, December 2, 2010
Institute Schedule 7:30 am – 4:40 pm
Trip to Mosaic Templars Museum 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

7:30 am – 8:30 am	Registration and Refreshments	
8:30 am – 10:00 am	Concurrent Workshops Session C	
10:00 am – 10:20 am	Break and Exhibits	
10:20 am – 11:50 am	Concurrent Workshops Session D	
11:50 am – 1:20 pm	Lunch (on your own)	
1:20 pm – 2:50 pm	Concurrent Workshops Session E	
2:50 pm – 3:10 pm	Break and Exhibits	
3:10 pm – 4:40 pm	Concurrent Workshops Session F	
5:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Free Trip to Mosaic Templars Museum:	Bus leaves at 5 pm and returns at 7 pm Thursday –round trip from Hotel Parking Lot!



Concurrent Workshops Session C
Thursday, December 2, 2010
8:30 am – 10:00 am

- | | | |
|------------|--|------------------|
| C-1 | <p>287(g) & Secure Communities: Barriers to the Health and Safety of Women & Children</p> <p>Three counties in Arkansas participate in these controversial programs that claim to target criminal immigrants like drug traffickers. But a March 2010 report by the Department of Homeland Security found that 94% of those detained committed no serious crime. What does it mean for our immigrant neighbors and our community as a whole?</p> <p>Presented by Stephen Cogger</p> | Thomas |
| C-2 | <p>Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD)</p> <p>FASD is a permanent and preventable brain disorder which is the greatest cause of intellectual deficit in the U.S. Often unrecognized, many children with FASD do not receive appropriate interventions resulting in frustrations by many and secondary disabilities in affected children. This workshop will provide a foundation for effective prevention, identification, and intervention strategies.</p> <p>Presented by Cynthia C. Crone, APN, CPNP</p> | Roosevelt |
| C-3 | <p>Faces of Homelessness</p> <p>What comes to mind when you think about people who are homeless? Many people are surprised to learn how many people who are homeless are employed on a daily basis, or to learn the number of families who are homeless. Each day, there are hundreds of pre-school and school-aged children in Arkansas who wake up without a home. The Faces of Homelessness panel will be moderated by David Deere, Director of Partners for Inclusive Communities and Co-Chair of the Arkansas Homeless Coalition. Panel members will be persons who have experienced homelessness. Participants may expect to learn more about the range of people who are homeless and how that culture may impact the person who experiences it, as well as others in the surrounding community.</p> <p>Facilitated by David Deere, M.S.W., M.Th.</p> | Stitt |
| C-4 | <p>Anatomy of Prejudice and Discrimination: American Minority Groups</p> <p>The experiences of minority groups throughout history demonstrate striking parallels in their struggles for equal status with dominant groups not just in the USA but globally. This workshop will explain the similarities and differences which have occurred in the struggle of American minority groups to achieve equality in the USA. The key components that initiate prejudice as well as the changes which occurred historically to reduce prejudice will be addressed. Groups discussed include Irish-Americans, Italian-Americans, African Americans, Latinos and some Asian American groups.</p> <p>Presented by Terry Richard, Ph.D.</p> | Blair |



Join us on a trip to Mosaic Templars Cultural Center for a FREE Tour!

Sign up at the Registration Table

Come and explore Arkansas's Black History Thursday evening, December 2nd as part of the Institute experience. Little Rock Tours will provide round trip transportation from Crowne Plaza Hotel at no charge. Admission to the Mosaic Templars is free but the museum gift shop will be open for a *personal* shopping experience!
5 pm to 7 pm Thursday –round trip from Hotel Parking Lot!

Concurrent Workshops Session D

Thursday, December 2, 2010

10:20 am – 11:50 am

- D-1 Creating Successful Environments for Children Living with Sickle Cell Disease** **Thomas**
This session will focus on ways to increase the knowledge of educators, counselors, and social workers about the needs of students with Sickle Cell Disease and how to communicate and problem solve effectively for these needs.
Presented by LaKisha M. Johnson, M.A.
- D-2 Interpreters – This 2010 session is for YOU!** **Roosevelt**
Bilingual persons who currently serve as interpreters and translators in programs or those who are interested in doing so will come together in this single session to revisit the 3 basic steps to effective dialogue in 3-way conversations. Participants can exchange experiences about challenging moments and determine best solutions. Bilingual resources will be shared. Participants must be fluent in 2 or more languages; presentation and discussions will be done in English.
Presented by Darlene Kurtz, M.A.
- D-3 Practical Strategies for Supporting Positive Behavior** **Stitt**
Challenging behaviors often serve as communication, and are most likely to persist when the individual's communication of unmet needs are not fulfilled by the environment. When difficult behaviors occur, it is important to understand them and their function (i.e., purpose or communication), determine environmental factors that can reduce or prevent them, and replace them with behaviors that are as good if not better at obtaining the needs / wants of that individual. This session will address the overarching premises of Positive Behavior Support (e.g., quality of life) as well as discussing some practical strategies for behavior support in school and home settings.
Presented by Beth Bryant-Claxton, Ph.D.
- D-4 American Indians: What we were told (what we should have been told)** **Blair**
America's indigenous peoples have been presented to us in a variety of misleading, misinformed, and distorted images and conceptions ever since Europeans first landed on this continent. Almost every story told about America's indigenous people was told by non-Indians, many of whom never had any real contact with Native Americans. But, what is true about the "Indian" and his place in American history? What are their stories about themselves, their land, and their views of America? These are the things we should be teaching our children in order to combat misleading and derogatory stereotypes and images of genuine human beings who were the first to settle the land we call America. We must teach our children what we were not taught ourselves; an inconvenient truth about American Indians.
Presented by Robert E. Sanderson, Ph.D.

Lunch – On Your Own

11:50 am – 1:20 pm (Exhibits will be open)



Concurrent Workshops Session E

Thursday, December 2, 2010

1:20 pm – 2:50 pm

- E-1 Providing Outreach and Support to Immigrant Families of Children with Disabilities in One Northwest Arkansas Community - Part 1** **Thomas**
This session will focus on ways to help families and service providers - including teachers, related services providers, paraeducators, and others from different cultural orientations - to develop cross-cultural competence as a guide for working with young children with disabilities and their families. We will cover three different cultures: General information about Latino, Marshallese and Caucasian. How we as professionals and agencies can use this information to successfully approach and connect with these families in our communities and help them effectively advocate and access services for their children.
Presented by Irene Clark, Cecilia Franco M.A., and Ruthlyna Harris
- E-2 Unbiased support? Helping families with children who are deaf/hard of hearing navigate choices in Early Intervention.** **Roosevelt**
Working with children who are deaf/hard of hearing and their families presents a unique challenge, a challenge born out of the effects diminished hearing has on communication and socialization. When a child is first diagnosed, how does the family get information about hearing loss and the importance of intervention? How does a family navigate through the diverse continuum of communication options and decide what is best for them? Where does a family go for unbiased information? This presentation will offer an opportunity for participants to explore communication options, and how to provide unbiased support that honors a family's choice. A brief history of intervention for children who are deaf/hard of hearing and the communication options will help participants understand these dynamics.
Presented by Karen Howard
- E-3 Autism Spectrum Disorders in Arkansas – Part 1** **Stitt**
Data from multiple prevalence studies on Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) will be shared. Materials from the Center for Disease Control's "Learning the Signs: Act Early" campaign, a national awareness campaign targeting health care practitioners and child care providers, will be available for viewing. Practical strategies for intervention with children with ASD at home and in classrooms will be discussed. Examples of adaptations, visual strategies and sensory materials will be available for viewing. Insight into understanding the behaviors of children with ASD will be shared.
Presented by Karan Burnette, M.A., CCC-SLP
- E-4 Why Can't You Just Do It My Way? - Exploring your personal culture by identifying your personality type using the Myers Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI) - Part 1** **Blair**
This highly informative session will provide participants with the opportunity to explore why they behave the way they do and why it seems impossible to get others to behave the same way. Why is it you can't seem to get what you want? Each participant will have a fun, enlightening and self-affirming experience as they complete the MBTI personality inventory and learn why they were born to behave exactly as they do. And that is why some people look with their eyes and others look with their mouths!
Presented by Randi Randles

Everyone who wills can hear the inner voice. It is within everyone. - Gandhi



Concurrent Workshops Session F

Thursday, December 2, 2010

3:10 pm – 4:40 pm

- F-1** **Providing Outreach and Support to Immigrant Families of Children with Disabilities in One Northwest Arkansas Community - Part 2** **Thomas**
This session will focus on ways to help families and service providers - including teachers, related services providers, paraeducators, and others from different cultural orientations - to develop cross-cultural competence as a guide for working with young children with disabilities and their families. We will cover three different cultures: General information about Latino, Marshallese and Caucasian. How we as professionals and agencies can use this information to successfully approach and connect with these families in our communities and help them effectively advocate and access services for their children.
Presented by Irene Clark, Cecilia Franco M.A, and Ruthlyna Harris
- F-2** **Two Languages, Three Cultures - the Deaf, the Hard of Hearing, and the Hearing** **Roosevelt**
A bilingual/tri-cultural viewpoint on Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and Hearing Worlds. A delightful, yet poignant personal life experiences from a Deaf presenter's perspectives on the Deaf World (Deaf family), being hard of hearing herself, and working with hearing parents of children with hearing loss and other disabilities.
Presented by Karen Howard and Billie Jordan
- F-3** **Autism Spectrum Disorders in Arkansas – Part 2** **Stitt**
Data from multiple prevalence studies on Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) will be shared. Materials from the Center for Disease Control's "Learning the Signs: Act Early" campaign, a national awareness campaign targeting health care practitioners and child care providers will be available for viewing. Practical strategies for intervention with children with ASD at home and in classrooms will be discussed. Examples of adaptations, visual strategies and sensory materials will be available for viewing. Insight into understanding the behaviors of children with ASD will be shared.
Presented by Karan Burnette, M.A., CCC-SLP
- F-4** **Why Can't You Just Do It My Way? - Exploring your personal culture by identifying your personality using the Myers Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI) - Part 2** **Blair**
This highly informative session will provide participants with the opportunity to explore why they behave the way they do and why it seems impossible to get others to behave the same way. Why is it you can't seem to get what you want? Each participant will have a fun, enlightening and self-affirming experience as they complete the MBTI personality inventory and learn why they were born to behave exactly as they do. And that is why some people look with their eyes and others look with their mouths!
Presented by Randi Randles

If you have an opportunity to use your voice you should use it. - Samuel L. Jackson



Friday, December 3, 2010
Institute Schedule 8:30 am – 12:30 pm

8:30 am – 10:00 am	Concurrent Workshops Session G
10:00 am – 10:10 am	Break
10:10 am – 12:30 pm	Brunch and Closing Session

Concurrent Workshops Session G
Friday, December 3, 2010
8:30 am – 10:00 am

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|------------|---|------------------|
| G-1 | <p>Why Culture Counts - Teaching Children of Poverty
 If children are to be successful learners, educators must have a better awareness and understanding of the similarities as well as the differences in students. We must recognize the negative judgments of children of poverty and of that culture. This session will apply practical and research-based strategies that work for children of poverty.
 <i>Presented by Dee Cox, Ed.D.</i></p> | Thomas |
| G-2 | <p>Why are the African American Students Being Enrolled in Special Education?
 Across the U.S., African American students are enrolled in special education at rates that are well beyond their proportion in the overall population. This presentation will present the data but will also include an active dialogue with the participants regarding why this is the case, what are the implications for society as a whole, and what can be done about it.
 <i>Presented by Gregory C. Robinson, Ph.D., CCC-SLP and Andi Toliver-Smith, M.S., CCC-SLP</i></p> | Roosevelt |
| G-3 | <p>From Tragedy to Transformation
 Mary Lou Wallner tells her story of being a fundamentalist Christian whose daughter Anna came out to her as a lesbian in 1988 when she was a freshman in college. In 1997, Anna took her own life. In this session, the presenter will tell the story of how her daughter's death impacted their family and of her personal journey toward a different way of viewing sexual orientation.
 <i>Presented by Mary Lou Wallner</i></p> | Stitt |
| G-4 | <p>Partnering with Families of Children with Disabilities and Special Needs
 Children with disabilities and special needs can have tremendous impact on family dynamics. Families may experience considerable financial and emotional stress due to the care-giving needs of a child with special needs. Workshop participants will understand the developmental stages of parenting a child with special needs, recognize the family challenges of raising a child with a disability or special needs, and learn ways to effectively partner with families in their areas of work. The workshop leaders are parents and professionals who have many years of working with families of children with disabilities and special needs. Come join us!
 <i>Presented by Dennis Z. Kuo, M.D., MHS; Rodney Farley and Natilie Wooldridge</i></p> | Blair |

A culture is made—or destroyed—by its articulate voices - Ayn Rand



Brunch and Closing Session

Friday, December 3, 2010

10:10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Crowne Ballroom

Share our Similarities, Celebrate our Differences and Speak Up!

Join our closing brunch as we celebrate our experiences at the conference. Let's share our similarities with one another, celebrate our differences, and learn how we can use our voice to stand in the gap for one another in the face of bigotry.

Attending the conference is the first step. The next step is to *Speak Up!* What can I do when I see or hear something inappropriate at school, among friends and neighbors, among family, at work, and or in public? We will introduce you to the *Speak Up!* program, a project of the Southern Poverty Law Center. If you are uncertain how or what to do, *Speak Up!* provides us with six steps to standing up against bigotry.

It's not an easy task but with each one of us taking a stand and speaking up for one another we can make a difference. We can bring dignity and respect to those we encounter every day. Just one person taking a stand creates ripple effects of change that can create positive outcomes for the children and families of Arkansas.

Facilitated by Maria Palacios and Sabrina Zarco

Our greatest strength as a human race is our ability to acknowledge our differences; our greatest weakness is our failure to embrace them. -- Judith Henderson

***I know there is strength in the differences between us.
I know there is comfort where we overlap. – Ani Difranco***

Really listening and suspending one's own judgment is necessary in order to understand other people on their own terms... This is a process that requires trust and builds trust. - Mary Field Belenky

Have a Safe Trip Home!



Presenter Information

Patricia (Trish) Anderson has served as the Arkansas State HIPYP Family Involvement Coordinator for the past five years. Trish holds a BSE in Elementary Education from the UALR. Trish's professional background includes extensive work with young adults and their families while holding a key staff position with the Little Rock Job Corps. During her work with young adults it became clear that much earlier intervention was needed for the best possible results. Trish serves as a trainer for AR HIPYP, Project Score Pre-K Ella, INDEX workshops at local state and national conferences.

Beth Bryant-Claxton, Ph.D., received her Doctorate in Clinical Psychology from the University of Florida, completing her psychology internship and postdoctoral fellowship at the A.I. duPont Hospital for Children (DE). She subsequently worked as a clinician and researcher at the Westchester Institute for Human Development (WIHD) in Valhalla, NY, a University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD). She was also faculty for WIHD's Leadership in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (LEND) Program, and an assistant professor of Disability and Human Development in the New York Medical College School of Public Health. Dr. Bryant-Claxton relocated to Arkansas in 2008. She is currently a licensed psychologist at Partners for Inclusive Communities, Arkansas' UCEDD and a Department of UAMS. At Partners, she serves as the Director for the Positive Behavior Supports Training Project, and serves as psychology faculty for UAMS' LEND Program.

Karan Burnette, M.A., CCC-SLP, has a bachelor's degree in elementary education and a master's degree in Speech-Language Pathology. She has 26 years experience working with children with disabilities in educational and residential settings, specializing in Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) and behavioral intervention. Ms. Burnette has extensive experience as a consultant and Institute speaker. She served as a Clinical Reviewer for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on the Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring Projects funded to collect national data on the prevalence of ASD. She is currently the Associate Director of Partners for Inclusive Communities, Arkansas' University Center of Excellence on Developmental Disabilities, a Department of UAMS.

Anarella Cellitti, Ph.D., M.A., is an Associate Professor of Education at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock (UALR), Department of Teacher Education. Dr. Cellitti has worked extensively with the Latino population regarding issues with language barriers. At the University of Arkansas at Little Rock she currently educates prospective teachers on the importance of culturally appropriate communication strategies and how to recognize potential communication interferences. She teaches methods which address these situations in order to achieve a proper partnership with students and parents. Dr. Cellitti received her Ph.D. from the University of South Carolina.

Irene Clark has been involved with disability issues for 17 years; focusing on issues surrounding Autism Spectrum Disorder, Special Education law/IDEA, Early Intervention, and Transition from School. She has worked within the state to raise awareness and understanding for those who live with disabilities. For the last several years Ms. Clark has worked for Arkansas Support Network as an Educational Advocate and Family Services Specialist. Ms. Clark is a lifetime resident of Northwest Arkansas. She and her husband live in Springdale with their children and Pomeranians.

Stephen Cogger, community organizer, works as an outreach coordinator for a local low-income taxpayer clinic and as the general community liaison for a local non-profit civil legal services provider. He graduated with honors from the University of AR in 2008 and immediately began working with Tibetan refugees and exiles in India. The next year he received a Fulbright Scholarship to teach English at a university in the northeast part of Argentina. He was recently nominated for the Heroes de Corazon (Heart Heroes) Award by Wal-Mart. Stephen is a member of the Tibetan Cultural Institute of Arkansas, the OMNI Center for Peace, Justice & Ecology, the Arkansas Friendship Coalition, the League of Latin American Citizens, and St. James United Methodist Church in Fayetteville where he plays the trumpet.

Dee Cox has over thirty years in the public school system in the areas of special education, early childhood education, elementary education, federal programs and educational administration. Her career has allowed her to work in the private and public school systems, with the State Department of Education, and now as a professor in Educational Leadership for Henderson State University. She attended Henderson State University and the University of Arkansas at Little Rock where she completed her BSE, MSE, M.Ed., Ed.S., and received her Ed.D. from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. Dee is a dedicated educational advocate for all children, families and communities and describes herself as an "educational junkie."

Cynthia (Cindy) Crone, MNsc, APN, CPNP, is certified as a pediatric nurse practitioner. She has a long tenure advocating effective solutions to public health issues affecting vulnerable populations. She is director of family treatment consultation at UAMS Partners for Inclusive Communities and serves as director for Arkansas' Closing the Addiction Treatment Gap project which seeks to increase resources for quality addiction treatment. In October, 2010, she became project director for Arkansas' SAMHSA-funded Access to Recovery project designed to increase treatment and recovery support services through enhanced system capacity and client choice. Prior to joining Partners, Cindy served as founding and 15 year executive director of UAMS Arkansas CARES, an innovative and nationally recognized family treatment program for addicted pregnant women, mothers and their children. Cindy is active in civic and professional organizations and her church. She and her husband of 35 years are proud parents to one adult son.



G. David Deere, M.S.W., M.Th., is the Executive Director of Partners for Inclusive Communities, Arkansas' University Center on Disabilities, through UAMS. David is a Licensed Certified Social Worker and an Ordained Elder with the United Methodist Church. He is the co-chair of the Arkansas Homeless Coalition and a member of the Mayor's Commission on Homelessness.

Rodney Farley is the Parent Consultant with Children Services, the Maternal Child Health Title V children with special health care needs program in Arkansas. He currently is co-chair of the Family and Youth Leadership Committee for the Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs in Washington D.C. He was a charter member of the Children's Medical Services Parent Advisory Council and has been a member for 20 years. He is married to Robbie and the father of two children, a son, Jeremy age 29, born with Spina Bifida and a daughter, Kacy age 20. His involvement with his son has taught him to become an advocate for families of children with special health care needs.

Cecilia Franco M.A., has a bachelor's degree in elementary education and a master's degree in Speech-Language Pathology. She is the current Immigrant Family Outreach Coordinator for Arkansas Support Network and a parent trainer for the NWA Community Parent Resource Center. She has held this position for the past year. Cecilia is a member of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese, and a Teacher Member of the Arkansas National Board of Certified teachers. Cecilia is also a Spanish Instructor at the North West Arkansas Community College.

Teresa Harrell was born and raised in Arkansas. Her background is in sales, marketing and flower and interior design. She is currently the Operations Manager for the Asian American Reporter, Arkansas' first and only Asian Magazine in the English language.

Ruthlyna (Nina) Harris was born in the Marshall Islands and currently works for Arkansas Support Network and the Community Clinic in Springdale. She has worked for Seattle Public Health in a temporary outreach position to work with the Marshallese Community. In the same year she was elected by the Marshallese community as a board member for the Marshallese Organization in Seattle. In 2007 she was elected Secretary/Treasurer for the organization and she held this position until she relocated to Springdale Arkansas in 2009.

Wilma Houston is from the Philippines of Chinese-Filipino descent. She was a Licensed Practical Nurse in California and Illinois and holds a Degree in Business Administration from Jones College in Florida. She completed two years at the American Culinary Institute Arkansas Chapter, has some background in fashion design and completed an Arkansas Real Estate Course. She is currently the Executive Director of the Asian-Pacific Resource and Cultural Center located in Little Rock, and is the publisher of the Asian American Reporter, the first and only magazine in Arkansas that promotes Asian cultures and traditions and serves as a liaison between communities.

Karen Howard is an early intervention and outreach specialist for the Arkansas School for the Deaf (ASD), serving children who are deaf or hard of hearing and their families. She had 10 years experience in the early childhood special education field prior to her work at ASD. She is pursuing new and exciting opportunities for improvement in early intervention options for families. Through a collaborative relationship with other providers in the state Karen is seeking to expand the options for support and increase connections that families have.

LaKisha M. Johnson, M.A., is the co-founder of Sickle Cell Support Services. She is a trainer, lay educator and community advocate for individuals with Sickle Cell Disease. She and her husband co-founded Sickle Cell Support Services 8 years ago. Sickle Cell Support Services is a comprehensive sickle cell program focused on enhancing the well-being of Sickle Cell patients and their families in the state of Arkansas.

Billie Jordan, Communication Specialist, is a graduate of Arkansas School for the Deaf. She earned a B.A. in Drama from Gallaudet University. Billie has been employed at IRS as a trainer/assistant Manager for Deaf/Hard of Hearing data entry clerks, Supervisor and Deaf Culture lecturer for Sprint Relay Texas (telecommunications services for the Deaf/Hard of Hearing); Outreach Library manager for Captioned Media Program, Distance-Learning adjunct professor in American Sign Language (ASL), and an ASL Lecturer for Clemson University.

Dennis Z. Kuo, M.D., M.H.S., is Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences and an attending physician in the Medical Home Clinic for Special Needs Children at Arkansas Children's Hospital. He is a consultant to the Arkansas Family-2-Family Health Information Center and has a special interest in family-centered care and promoting healthy growth and development for the child with special needs.

Darlene Kurtz, M.A., is a training specialist with the Welcome the Children Project, UAMS Partners for Inclusive Communities. She began her teaching career at a bilingual school in Peru. She has taught Spanish and English as Second Language to children and adults alike. She earned an MA from UALR in Second Language Instruction. In Darlene's current role with Welcome the Children, she provides workshops and technical assistance for educators of children who are not fluent in English. On weekends Darlene volunteers as a bilingual interpreter at an area healthcare clinic that treats adults without health insurance.



Celia Pequeno-Goff is a native of Texas and has worked with students in Vilonia, Arkansas, for many years. As a native Spanish speaker of Mexican descent, Celia is knowledgeable about the cultural factors affecting our English Language Learners and their families. She works with the families, the students and the teachers in her school district to make sure that these students find success.

Randi Randles, President and Principal Learning Strategist of Contigo Learning Experience. As an Organization Development Consultant, she has been using traditional and non-traditional learning strategies to develop individuals, teams, and organizations internationally for twenty-five years. She is passionate about helping people unleash their potential and achieve the extraordinary.

Terry L Richard, Ph.D., received his doctorate from North Texas University in Sociology and Anthropology in 1978. He earned his Master of Arts in Latin American Studies from the University of Texas at Austin in 1973 and his undergraduate work was completed at Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas in 1971. Dr. Richard's areas of specialization are in race and ethnic relations, sociology of developing nations and environmental sociology. He has numerous publications in the fields of ethnic relations, gerontology, thanatology and third world development. For the past ten years he has been a full professor at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock where he has taught for twenty-five years. During the past four years Dr. Richard has worked on various assessment projects involving the Welcome the Children Project and various UALR program evaluation modules.

Jacqueline (Jacque) Richardson, Arkansas State HIPYP Outreach and Staff Development Coordinator, is a native Arkansan, educated in public schools of Pulaski County. Jacque completed her undergraduate studies at UALR where she received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology. Jacque's professional background includes several years with a community action agency, administrative assistant in the department of social work at U of A with a focus on Mid-South Summer School for Drug Abuse and Alcoholism; service with HIPYP in several capacities, ranging from paraprofessional to coordinator with one of the local sites.

Gregory C. Robinson, Ph.D., CCC-SLP, is an assistant professor in the Audiology and Speech Pathology Department at UALR and UAMS. He has been a speech-language pathologist for 13 years and has published several articles and is primary investigator for numerous ongoing studies regarding multicultural and multilingual issues in the field of communication sciences and disorders.

Robert E. Sanderson, Ph.D., is Professor of Sociology and Associate Director of the Sequoyah Research Center at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. Dr. Sanderson teaches several courses in American Indian studies, is associated with Wordcraft Circle of Native Writer and Storytellers and the Native American Journalists Association, and participates in annual American Indian events, including the Sequoyah Research Center Symposium and American Indian Symposium at Northeastern Oklahoma State University.

Andi Toliver-Smith, M.S., CCC-SLP, is a Ph.D. student in the Arkansas Consortium for the Ph.D. in Communication Sciences and Disorders through UAMS, UALR, and UCA. She graduated with her Masters Degree in Speech-Language Pathology from Howard University. Her Ph.D. program emphasizes cultural and linguistic diversity in speech-language pathology.

Maria Touchstone, M.S., is a veteran classroom teacher with over 20 years experience as an educator. She also has a Master's degree in Administration and has served as an administrator in the North Little Rock School District for the past 5 years. Maria is also a Mexican immigrant who learned English in public school. She is an education advocate for all children from poverty and a proponent of cultural competency/proficiency. Maria serves the community on several boards and committees.

Minnijean Trickey is a social worker with experience with women's groups. She was the executive director of the Immigrant Women's Center in Ottawa, Canada. This organization served women with 45 languages of interpretation. She was also a board member of Ottawa Carleton Interpretation services. She developed interpreter training programs and she served on a curriculum committee to develop a community college diploma program in interpretation.

Spirit Trickey is acting chief of interpretation at the Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site. She has a master's degree from the Clinton School of Public Service. She is a frequent speaker to children in grades K - 12.

Mary Lou Wallner, featured in an article in *People* magazine (November 19, 2007), as well as the award-winning documentary film, *For The Bible Tells Me So*, is the co-founder and chief spokesperson for TEACH-ministries. TEACH is the acronym for: To Educate About the Consequences of Homophobia.

Wendy Ward-Begnoche, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor, Pediatric Psychology, Department of Pediatrics, UAMS, and is affiliated with Arkansas Children's Hospital and Dennis Developmental Center. She has a Doctor of Philosophy in the area of clinical psychology. Presently she is active in a variety of time management, strategic career planning, and stress management programs.



Natlie Wooldridge is the Southwest Regional Coordinator for Family- 2-Family Health Information Center. She also serves on the Title V Parent Advisory Council of AR and aligns herself with groups that support families with special needs. She is primarily a homemaker and a home educator. Natlie parents a daughter with Spina Bifida alongside three other daughters with unique needs. She frequently writes and blogs about her families' experiences.

Presenter Contact Information

Patricia Anderson

Family Involvement Coordinator
Arkansas HIPPIY
1 Children's Way – Slot 651
Little Rock, AR 72202
501-364-3671 (V); 501-364-2225 (Fax)
andersonpa@archildrens.org

Beth Bryant-Claxton, Ph.D.

Psychologist
Director, Positive Behavior Supports Training Project
Partners for Inclusive Communities, UAMS
2001 Pershing Circle, Suite 300
North Little Rock, AR 72114
501-682-9922 (voice), 501-682-9901 (fax)

Karan Burnette, MA, CCC-SLP

Partners for Inclusive Communities, UAMS
2001 Pershing Circle, Suite 300
North Little Rock, AR 72114
burnettekaranb@uams.edu

Anarella Cellitti, Ph.D., MA

Associate Professor of Education
University of Arkansas at Little Rock
Dept. of Teacher Education
2801 So. University Avenue
Little Rock, AR 72204
macellitti@ualr.edu

Irene Clark

AR Support Network/Community Parent Resource Center
614 E. Emma, Suite 219
Springdale, AR 72764
ldonald@supports.org

Stephen Cogger

smcogger@gmail.com

Dee Cox, Ed.D.

dee.cox53@yahoo.com OR coxd@hsu.edu

Cynthia C. Crone, APN, CPNP

Director of Family Treatment Consultation UAMS
Partners for Inclusive Communities
2001 Pershing Circle, Suite 300
North Little Rock, AR 72114
Phone 501-682-9911
Fax 501-682-9901
Cell 501-772-4548
cronecynthiac@uams.edu

G. David Deere

Partners for Inclusive Communities, UAMS
2001 Pershing Circle, Suite 300
North Little Rock, AR 72114
501-682-9900
deereglend@uams.edu

Rodney Farley

Parent Consultant, Children's Services, Title V CSHCN
700 Main Street, Slot # S380, PO Box 1437
501-682-1461
Rodney.Farley@arkansas.gov

Cecelia Franco

AR Support Network/Community Parent Resource Center
614 E. Emma, Suite 219
Springdale, AR 72764

Andre Guerrero, Ph.D.

Arkansas Department of Education
English Language Learners
Four Capitol Mall, Room 203-A
Little Rock, AR 72201
Phone: 501-682-5014

Teresa Harrell

Asian Pacific Resource and Cultural Center
1603 South Arch Street
Little Rock, AR 72206
Phone (501) 244-2490
Fax (501) 244-0574

Ruthlyna Harris

AR Support Network
Community Parent Resource Center
614 E. Emma, Suite 219
Springdale, AR 72764
nharris@supports.org

Wilma Houston

Asian Pacific Resource and Cultural Center
1603 South Arch Street
Little Rock, AR 72206
Phone (501) 244-2490
Fax (501) 244-0574

Karen Howard, Outreach Specialist

Arkansas School for the Deaf, Little Rock, Arkansas
E-mail: karenh@asd.k12.ar.us
870-613-1067



LaKisha M. Johnson, MA

Co Founder & President
Sickle Cell Support Services
800 Scott St LR, AR 72201
www.sicklecellsupportservices.com

Billie Jordan, Communication Specialist

Arkansas School for the Deaf, Little Rock, Arkansas
E-mail: Billiej@asd.k12.ar.us
Videophone: 501-246-8465

Dennis Z. Kuo, MD, MHS

Assistant Professor Pediatrics, UAMS
Pediatrics/CARE Slot 512-26
1 Children's Way
Little Rock, AR 72202
501-364-3380
dzkuo@uams.edu

Darlene Kurtz, M.A.

Partners for Inclusive Communities, UAMS
2001 Pershing Circle, Suite 300
North Little Rock, AR 72114
kurtzdarlenej@uams.edu
501-682-9904

Maria Palacios

palaciosmaria66@yahoo.com
facebook/goddessonwheels
832-419-8548

Celia Pequeno-Goff

ESL Instructional Assistant
Vilonia School District
501-472-1623

Randi Randles

President and Principal Learning Strategist
Contigo Learning Experience, Inc.
Contigolearning@gmail.com

Terry Richard, Ph. D.

Professor of Sociology
UALR, Dept. of Sociology and Anthropology
2801 S. University Ave.
Little Rock, AR 72204
501-569-8485
ttrichard@ualr.edu

Jacqueline Richardson

Staff Development Coordinator
Arkansas HIPPY
1 Children's Way – Slot 651
Little Rock, AR 72202
501-364-3671 (V); 501-364-2225 (Fax)
richardsonjm@archildrens.org

Gregory C. Robinson, PhD, CCC-SLP

Audiology and Speech Pathology Dept., UALR
2801 South University Ave.
Little Rock, AR 72204
501-683-7307
grobenson@ualr.edu

Robert E. Sanderson, Ph.D.

Associate Director
Sequoyah National Research Center, UALR
2801 South University Avenue
Little Rock, Arkansas 72204
501-569-8336
resanderson@ualr.edu

Andi Toliver-Smith

240-988-1283
toliversmith@aol.com

Maria G. Touchstone, M.S.

ESOL Program Coordinator
North Little Rock School District
501-771-8046
501-779-6427 (cell)
501-773-6406
touchstonem@nlrsd.k12.ar.us

Minnijean Tricky

minnijean@aol.com

Spirit Tricky

spirit_trickey@yahoo.com

Mary Lou Wallner

T.E.A.C.H. Ministries
8 Apple Tree Circle
North Little Rock
AR 72118
Phone: 501-743-1337
teach-ministries@charter.net

Wendy I. Ward-Begnoche, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Director of
Psychology Training, Section of Pediatric Psychology
Department of Pediatrics
UAMS College of Medicine
501-364-1021
wardbegnochewendyl@uams.edu

Natilie Wooldridge

SW Regional Coordinator
F2F Health Information Center of Arkansas
1123 S University Ave, Suite 223
Little Rock, AR 72204
501-614-7020
Natilie.wooldridge@adcpti.org



Exhibitor Contact Information

A Different Stroke of Art

Lorria Grant-Eubanks
210 W. Scenic Drive
North Little Rock, AR 72118
501-744-3684

Arkansas Can Do, Inc.

Partners for Inclusive Communities-UAMS
Judy Young
2001 Pershing Circle, Suite 300
North Little Rock, AR 72114
V/TDD 800-342-2923
(V) 501-682-9908
www.arkansascando.org

Arkansas Governor's Commission on People with Disabilities

Leonard Boyle, Sr., Director
26 Corporate Hill Drive
Little Rock, AR 72205
501-296-1637
www.arsinfo.org under Special Programs

Arkansas Governor's Developmental Disabilities Council

Brenda Mercer, Parent Coordinator
5800 W. 10th Street, Suite 805
Little Rock, AR 72204
501-661-2509
www.ddcouncil.org

Arkansas HIPPY

Jacque Richardson, Staff Development Coordinator
1 Children's Way – Slot 651
Little Rock, AR 72202
501-364-3869
www.archildren.org/community_outreach/hippy.asp

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Brinda Burr
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Little Rock, AR 72203
1-800-445-3316
www.arbetterbeginnings.com

ConnectCare

Arkansas Department of Health
Misty Smith, Health Education Supervisor
4815 W. Markham, Slot 1
Little Rock, AR 72205
501-280-4179
www.seeyourdoc.org

Disability Rights Center

SeRonna Rodgers, Outreach & Education Coordinator
1100 N. University Ave., Suite 201
Little Rock, AR 72207
501-296-1775 V/TTY
800-482-1174 V/TTY
www.arkdisabilityrights.org

Division of Child Care & Early Childhood Education

Department of Human Services
Brinda Burr, Resource Center Manager
700 Main Street
P. O. Box 1437 – Slot 160
Little Rock, AR 72203
501-682-9699
800-445-3316
www.arkansas.gov/childcare

Division of Children and Family Services

Carol Rangel, FASD Project Director
P. O. Box 1437
S-565 Foster Care Unit
Little Rock, AR 72203
501-682-1573
www.arkansas.gov/dhs/chilnfam/index.htm

Family-2-Family Health Information Center of Arkansas

Affiliated with Arkansas Disability Coalition
Bryan Cozart, Family-2-Family Director
1123 S. University Ave., Suite 225
Little Rock, AR 72204
501-614-7020
www.adcpti.org

Kaplan Early Learning Company

Sharon Beaver, Educational Consultant
1310 Lewisville Clemmons Road
Lewisville, NC 27023
336-712-3203
www.kaplanco.com

Mosaic Templars Cultural Center

Department of Arkansas Heritage
Quantia "Key" Fletcher, Director of Education
501 W. 9th Street
Little Rock, AR 72201
501-683-3593
www.mosaictemplarscenter.com

Partners for Inclusive Communities

UAMS-Arkansas' University Center on Disabilities
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North Little Rock, AR 72114
V/TDD 800-342-2923
V 501-682-9900
www.uams/partners



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Heather Worsham, Marketing / Group Sales
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Conference Host and Exhibitor:

Welcome the Children Project

Partners for Inclusive Communities-UAMS
Darlene J. Kurtz, Workshop Specialist
2001 Pershing Circle, Suite 300
North Little Rock, AR 72114
501-682-9900
V/TDD 800-342-2923
www.uams.edu/welcomethechildren

My New Contacts



Welcome the Children Project

Presenting Training for Early Childhood Professionals

Serving Latin American Families

Core Module 1: Cultural Diversity and Working with Latin American Families: This interactive training session covers recognition and acceptance of cultural diversity, with an emphasis on Latin American culture. Explore cultural similarities and differences pertaining to family, communication, holidays and child care. Full Module 7 hours; Condensed Module 3 hours - Sabrina Zarco

Colors of the Earth: Integrating anti-bias lessons into everyday curriculum: Children have a natural curiosity about defining themselves and the world around them especially when it comes to skin color. Supporting positive images and intervening when stereotypes surface can make a difference in self esteem and social development. This session discusses challenges, solutions, and activity ideas to integrate anti-bias lessons into everyday curriculum. Length: 1 1/2 to 3 hours - Sabrina Zarco

Making the Cultural Connection: Using Real Objects in the Classroom: Culture and family are at the core of every child's social and emotional development. By creating an inclusive environment that reflects each child and family we can avoid stereotypes and promote positive development. This interactive session explores ways to make the connection and incorporate ideas into everyday curriculum. Length: 3 hours - Sabrina Zarco

Core Module 2: Second Language Development and Working with Families: This session covers the second language acquisition process for young children, observing children for language difference vs. language delay, strategies for working with families to reinforce classroom activities, and how to effectively use interpreters to communicate with Spanish-speaking families. Full Module 7 hours; Condensed Module 3 hours - Darlene Kurtz

Developing Professionalism for Bilingual Interpreters: This workshop is for those who are already interpreting in two languages as well as those who want to serve as bilingual interpreters in school settings. Acquire effective strategies and address difficult situations. Participants must be able to speak fluent English and another language. Length: 3 hours - Darlene Kurtz

Enhancing Second Language Development for Preschoolers: Current curriculum can be inclusive when paired with effective teaching strategies for preschool children learning English. Suggestions for learning materials are offered. Length: 2 hours - Darlene Kurtz

"I said, You said, then the Interpreter says ..." Information that directors, principals, and educators need to know to locate and effectively work with bilingual interpreters at parent conferences. Length: 90 minutes - Darlene Kurtz

Welcome the Children workshops listed are free to Arkansas early childhood professionals. To schedule a training session, please call 501-682-9900; toll free 800-342-2923; 501-682-9902 (TDD), or email the individual presenter: Darlene Kurtz kurtzdarlenej@uams.edu; Sabrina Zarco zarcosabrinae@uams.edu. Individuals in professions other than early childhood may contact Brenda Reynolds for fees and details at 501-922-1880; reynoldsbrendak@uams.edu

Welcome the Children Project is funded by Arkansas DHS, Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education and administered by UAMS - Partners for Inclusive Communities, www.uams.edu/partners; www.uams.edu/welcomethechildren





Partners

for Inclusive Communities

Arkansas' University Center for Developmental Disabilities

The mission of Partners for Inclusive Communities is to support individuals with disabilities and families of children with disabilities to fully and meaningfully participate in community life, effect systems change, prevent disabilities and promote healthy lifestyles.

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***Put your whole self into it, and you will find your true voice.
Hold back and you won't. It's that simple. - Hugh Macleod***



The human voice is the organ of the soul. - Henry Wadsworth Longfellow



A loud voice cannot compete with a clear voice, even if it's a whisper.
- Barry Neil Kaufman



***Words mean more than what is set down on paper.
It takes the human voice to infuse them with deeper meaning. -Maya Angelou***



Your time is limited, so don't waste it living someone else's life. Don't be trapped by dogma - which is living with the results of other people's thinking. Don't let the noise of other's opinions drown out your own inner voice. And most important, have the courage to follow your heart and intuition. They somehow already know what you truly want to become. Everything else is secondary. - Steve Jobs



Life is plurality, death is uniformity. - Octavio Paz



***Risk! Risk anything! Care no more for the opinions of others, for those voices. Do the hardest thing on earth for you. Act for yourself.
Face the truth. - Katherine Mansfield***

