Annual Early Childhood Conference

July 26-28, 2012
The Millennium Centre & The Carnegie Hotel
Johnson City, Tennessee

Early Bird Registration Due April 23rd

Sponsored by:
ETSU Center of Excellence in Early Childhood Learning and Development
ETSU School of Continuing Studies and Academic Outreach
Tennessee Department of Human Services
Arianna Ross is an international storyteller, dancer, visual artist and musician. Based on her work as a storyteller and teacher for organizations in India, Brazil, Indonesia and Vietnam, Arianna founded Story Tapestries. She has performed and taught workshops across the United States, Canada and Brazil in schools, community centers, and hospitals. Blending the power of acrobatics, storytelling and music, her professional development programs weave a lively fabric of tales.

Harness the Power of Arts Integration: How to use the Performing Arts to Increase Children’s Skills while Empowering your Creativity

Integrate the arts into teaching reading, writing, social-emotional development, and collaboration. Discover new ways to tell stories. Turn off the words and discover how sounds can carry the images. Turn the words back on and reveal how much more powerful your story can become with the combination of music, dance and spoken word. Storytelling, drama, dance and creative writing can both enhance and motivate children’s vocabulary, increase their ability to use phonics, build self-confidence, strengthen literacy skills, develop self-respect and create positive group dynamics. Howard Gardner’s Theory of Multiple Intelligences explains clearly that if you teach a group of children using a multitude of techniques designed to reach a variety of intelligences they will have a higher likelihood of succeeding. Participants will leave this presentation feeling more prepared to integrate the arts into their teaching and interactions with children. You will have stories to tell, and ideas and techniques to share with fellow teachers and staff.

We can do it. We can create extraordinary places for young children to discover themselves and the world around them. We can create places for children that tickle the imagination and surprise the senses. We can make places for children of all abilities to interact with nature as they play on the planet. We can craft these spaces with love, collaboration, and care. (Rusty Keeler, Natural Playscapes)

Rusty Keeler is an artist / designer with a unique sensitivity to the sights, sounds and experiences of childhood. He has a deep belief in the beauty and importance of play in the development of children and his designs reflect his sincere desire to create a more beautiful world in which to grow and explore. Rusty works throughout the world creating play environments for children and lectures at colleges and conferences internationally. He is the author of the book Natural Playscapes (2008: Exchange Press). Rusty lives among the woods and gorges of the Finger Lakes region of upstate New York. When not designing or building playscapes you may find him barefoot in his garden.

Dreaming and Building Natural Playscapes

During this preconference session, Rusty will introduce the concept of natural playscapes with a colorful slideshow and then facilitate a brainstorming and design process. At the end of the day attendees will be well on their way towards creating their own natural play area. We will walk through the dreaming and drawing process that we use on all our projects. Participants leave the workshop with their own hand-drawn Master Plan, lists of local people and materials resources they brainstormed and the beginnings of a plan to start building their dream playscape.
Matt Glover is a full-time educational consultant and author. He is the coauthor (with Katie Wood Ray) of *Already Ready* (2008) and author of *Engaging Young Writers, Preschool–Grade 1* (2009). Matt is a frequent presenter at conferences and in school districts on topics related to nurturing young writers and supporting children’s intellectual growth and development. Matt has been an educator for over 20 years, including 12 years as the principal and instructional leader of Creekside Early Childhood School, a school of 900 preschool, kindergarten, and first grade students. Before becoming a principal, Matt taught first grade.

**Nurturing Young Writers (Thursday)**

Young children are capable of incredible thinking, which can be seen in their writing when they see themselves as writers and when adults honor children's approximations of writing. Using video clips and writing samples, participants will examine key beliefs about young writers. This session will provide participants with practical, developmentally appropriate strategies that support young children as writers. In addition, participants will learn how these beliefs about young writers translate into instructional practices in early childhood classrooms, both in terms of a daily writing workshop and planning units of study across a year.

Debbie Diller has been an educator for over 35 years! How time flies, and how teaching has changed! Debbie has taught PreK through 10th grade in public schools. Her experience ranges from being a classroom teacher to a Title I reading specialist to a migrant education teacher to a literacy coach, as well as a national consultant and author. She has been published in *The Reading Teacher* and *The State of Reading*. She is the author of many books for Stenhouse Publishers, including *Spaces & Places, Making the Most of Small Groups, Literacy Work Stations, Practice with Purpose*, and *Math Work Stations*.

Debbie has a Master's degree from Temple University. She uses her strong understandings of child development and literacy development to address the differentiated needs of all students in her work with teachers and administrators. Debbie builds upon current research and theory to provide practical, realistic applications in today’s classrooms.

Seating will be limited in these sessions due to the interactive nature of the presentation.

**Math Work Stations for PreK–3rd (Friday)**

Get practical suggestions for how to establish, manage, and use math work stations in primary grades to meet the differentiated needs of your students. This workshop answers the question of how to provide meaningful independent practice for your class so you can work with students in a small guided math group or observe your students at work during stations. You’ll also learn how to organize your math manipulatives and encourage the use of “math talk” to build academic vocabulary and increase students' conceptual understanding of mathematical ideas.

**Literacy Work Stations: Making Centers Work (Saturday)**

Help! I need more space and more ideas on how to keep my PreK-3rd students actively engaged while I’m working with a small group. This session will help you work “smarter, not harder” as you set up and manage successful centers in your primary classroom.
Jack Hartmann is a nationally recognized children’s singer, songwriter, author, keynote presenter and workshop leader and was the highlight of our 2011 conference for many participants. He started his work with children’s music working with autistic children at University of Florida Shands Teaching Hospital in Gainesville, Florida. As a counselor, social worker and trainer, Jack worked twenty-five years with children, families and human service professionals.

Jack has written and recorded over 500 songs for children on 25 albums. His highly regarded educational songs are used by teachers and sung by children in schools all across the United States and around the world. During the 2012 conference, Jack will be performing songs from his newest CD, *Essential Math Skills for All Children*.

Ginny Luther is a dynamic and captivating speaker in high demand for parent and education professionals’ workshops. Specializing in Dr. Becky Bailey’s Conscious Discipline® and Brain Smart Strategies™, Ginny’s overflowing positive energy is contagious. Her workshop sessions are full of practical strategies and solutions to any difficult issue.

Ginny holds a M.A. in Speech Language Pathology. Her educational roles include therapist, PreK teacher, assistant administrator, and early childhood program consultant and coordinator. During the conference Ginny will provide workshop sessions on empowering children who are bullied and early childhood brain development related to self control and problem solving.

Nancy Wisker provides fast-paced, hands-on workshops based upon the Dinah Zike Foldables®. Cut, fold and more as you utilize basic classroom materials to construct 3-D graphic organizers that will help you form a firm foundation with your students. Participants will depart with practical, immediately usable strategies to help further students’ skill and concept development. See how Foldables® provide versatile and practical instructional strategies to integrate vocabulary building, thinking, reading and writing, organization of thought, mathematical reasoning, and varied communication skills into an interdisciplinary curriculum.

Formerly an elementary and middle school teacher and 2008 recipient of the Tennessee Education Association’s Distinguished Classroom Educator Award, Nancy Wisker currently serves as the Math and Science Director of the Dinah Zike Academy. With over five years experience using Foldables® in the classroom; she has the action research results that support student achievement gains.
Lester L. Laminack is Professor Emeritus from department of Birth-Kindergarten, Elementary and Middle Grades Education, at Western Carolina University where he received two awards for excellence in teaching. Lester is now a full-time writer and consultant working with schools throughout the United States. He is an active member of the National Council of Teachers of English and served three years as co-editor of the NCTE journal Primary Voices and as editor of the Children’s Book Review Department of the NCTE journal Language Arts (2003-2006). His academic publications include Working Through the Hard Parts (NCTE), Learning Under the Influence of Language and Literature (Heinemann) Reading Aloud Across the Curriculum (Heinemann) and two books from Scholastic Cracking Open the Author’s Craft (2007) and Unwrapping the Read Aloud (2009). Lester is also the author of six children’s books: The Sunsets of Miss Olivia Wiggins, Trevor’s Wiggly-Wobbly Tooth, Saturdays and Tea Cakes, Jake’s 100th Day of School, Snow Day! and most recently, Three Hens and a Peacock all from Peachtree Publishers. Lester will join the conference on Saturday providing two workshop sessions.

Mary Jo Huff is a multi-award winning author, recording artist, storyteller, and early childhood educator with 38 years of experience. Her CDs have won the NAPPA GOLD (National Parenting Publications Award), iParenting, Dove, Parent’s Choice, and Teachers’ Choice Awards. She has also won the Kid’s First video, Creative Child Magazine CD of the year, and the Pegasus award from the National Storytelling Network. She is the author of Storytelling with Puppets, Props and Playful Tales; Creative Storytelling by Frog Street Press, 2010; and Story Play: Building Language and Literacy One Story at a Time! by Gryphon House Publishers, 2011. She also has award winning CDs and DVDs along with many other storytelling resources. Snap, clap, wiggle and giggle with a high energy-interactive presentation featuring stories, props, puppets and amazing resources. Mary Jo will provide two conference sessions on Friday sponsored by Kaplan and Gryphon House.

In addition to their Preconference sessions: Arianna Ross will provide workshop sessions on Friday and Saturday

Rusty Keeler will provide workshop sessions on Friday
Michele Valerie has been a Wolf Trap Institute Teaching Artist since the program began in 1981. She authored or co-authored early Institute curriculum materials for the Wolf Trap Institute programs. She has conducted training workshops and artist residencies since the beginning of the program. Michele is a graduate of Catholic University with a Master's degree in Theatre Arts from Penn State University. Along with 3 other Wolf Trap Master Teaching Artists, Michele created Junkyard Pirates, commissioned by the Wolf Trap Institute with additional funding from a coveted Henson grant. Junkyard Pirates is all about recycling, reusing, and respecting the earth. Her latest CD, Little Ditties for Itty Bitties, contains 15 original songs for infants and toddlers and won the Oppenheim Toy Portfolio Gold award. Michele is a nationally known singer, songwriter and recording artist for children. Her albums, Mi Casa Es Su Casa, Dinosaur Rock, and Dreamosaurus won Parent’s Choice magazine awards for the Best Children’s Albums; The Great Dinosaur Mystery garnered two Wammies; and Dreamosaurus was additionally honored with a Grammy nomination in February, 2000.

Michele will be doing a workshop session on Saturday as well as the closing session with fellow Wolf Trap Master Teaching Artist Jeanne Wall.

Jeanne Wall, Wolf Trap Master Teaching Artist, collaborated with her husband, Joe Pipik, as well as Michele Valerie and Ingrid Crepeau to create the Wolf Trap Institute’s Field Trip performance “Junkyard Pirates.” She received her B.A. from the University of Maryland in Drama Therapy. As a variety artist, she has toured the United States from coast to coast as well as appearing in Canada, Asia, and the Caribbean with her unusual blend of humor and circus skills, including juggling, unicycle, puppetry and music. Jeanne taught drama for the Mount Vernon Community Children’s Theater for several seasons. In addition to her work as a Wolf Trap Master Teaching Artist, she designs puppets and performs in Goodlife Theatre productions, Tanka Tales & Granny’s Appalachian Tales. In 2005 Jeanne and husband premiered a new music show, Crooning with the Critters, combining live music & puppets. Jeanne has also been performing her newest show, “Going Buggy,” throughout the DC metro area. “Going Buggy” has Jeanne telling insect tales from around the world incorporating hand puppets, masks, and shadow puppets.

Jeanne has been working on the new Childhood STEM Learning Through the Arts initiative and will provide workshops on Friday and Saturday with a focus on teaching science using the arts. She will also partner with Michele Valerie for a closing session you will not want to miss.
Conference Details

Academic Credit
To earn one (1) hour of academic credit, you must pre-register for the course and pay appropriate university fees. Those wanting academic credit should not register for the conference. Currently enrolled ETSU students should register for the course through Goldlink. New and returning students should contact Dr. Jane Broderick. Dr. Jane Broderick will teach the Special Topics course ECED—4957 for undergraduate credit and ECED–5957 for graduate credit. In addition to attending the entire two-day conference there will be a class meeting session on Thursday evening (July 26) from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and Saturday afternoon (July 28) from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Direct questions about academic credit to:

Dr. Jane Broderick
Phone: 423-439-7695
E-mail: broderic@etsu.edu

Special Dietary Needs
Conference registration includes lunch daily. Registrants with special dietary needs, such as requests for gluten free or vegetarian, MUST notify the Center of Excellence by July 13th at ecconference@etsu.edu or by phone 423-439-7614. Requests for special lunches can only be accommodated with advance notification.

Special Accommodations
Persons with disabilities who require special assistance including interpreters should call 423-439-7614. Notification of at least 7 days is requested. East Tennessee State University is a Tennessee Board of Regents institution and is fully in accord with the belief that educational and employment opportunities should be available to all eligible persons without regard to age, gender, color, race, religion, national origin, disability, veteran status, or sexual orientation.

Training Documentation
A document of attendance and training documentation form will be provided in the program booklet.

Important: Conference participants are eligible for Continuing Education Units (CEUs). There is an additional pre-registration fee of $20 to purchase the optional CEU certificate; the on-site cost of a CEU certificate is $25.

Preconference participants can receive .60 CEUs; one day conference participants can receive .55 CEUs; those attending both conference days can receive 1.1 CEUs; and participants attending three days are eligible to receive 1.7 CEUs. Participants wishing to purchase an optional CEU certificate must add the required fee to their registration cost.

Note: CEU certificates must be picked up by individual participants at either the end of the day or the end of the conference. CEU certificates will not be mailed and will not be issued after August 30, 2012.

Area Hotels
The official conference hotel is the Carnegie Hotel. Please identify yourself as a conference participant when making your reservation at any of the hotels listed. The rates shown are in effect until June 26 and do not include tax.

Carnegie Hotel  ($99) 866-757-8277
Hampton Inn  ($109) 423-929-8000
Comfort Suites  ($74) 423-610-0010
Comfort Inn  ($60) 423-928-9600
Americinn  ($69) 423-753-3100
Group registration rates are available for groups over 10 from the same program who register and pay together. If using a purchase order or credit card, the group must register with one Purchase Order or one credit card.

### Options for Group Registration

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<tr>
<th>Options for Group Registration</th>
<th>Early Bird April 23rd</th>
<th>Final July 13th</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 Day/ Preconference and Two Day Conference</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 to 10 people</td>
<td>$157 each</td>
<td>$200 each</td>
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<tr>
<td>Each Additional Person</td>
<td>$100 each</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Day/ Friday&amp; Saturday Conference (Does not include PreK Institute)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 to 10 People</td>
<td>$92</td>
<td>$115</td>
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<tr>
<td>Each Additional Person</td>
<td>$72</td>
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Call 423-439-8084 or 800-222-3878 for more information and to register a group.

### Registration

3 Ways to Register:

1. Register on-line and pay with a credit card.
   - Click here to go to the on-line Pre conference and Conference registration site.
   - Click here to go to the on-line PreK - 3rd Institute registration site
2. Register using registration form, one for each participant, and fax, mail, or scan and e-mail form to address on form with enclosed check or credit card information
3. Register using registration form, one for each participant and fax or mail form/s to address on form with Purchase Order

To qualify for the “early bird” registration rate, payment and registration must be postmarked by April 23rd. Registration will be accepted only until July 13th.

Pre-registration is required, there is no on-site registration.
- Participant substitutions may be accepted in advance
- Multi-day registrations may not be split by two people
- Full payment must accompany the registration
- There are no refunds
- Registration Confirmation will be sent electronically. Provide the best e-mail to use for this confirmation on the Registration Form. Confirmations will be sent within 3 weeks of receipt of registration and payment.
Conference Registration Form
July 26-28, 2012

Last Name ___________________________________ First ______________________ Middle ________

Social Security (Required for CEU) or Student Number (Required for Student Discount)__________________

Address __________________________________________ City _________________________________

State ______________________ Zip _____________ Daytime Phone ______________________________

E-mail ___________________________________ Employer/School _______________________________

Send Confirmation E-mail to this address, if different from above _________________________________

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<th>Registration fees include lunch each day *</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>April 23rd</td>
<td>July 13th</td>
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<td>Thursday Pre-conference (Select One) *</td>
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<td>Arianna Ross, Story Tapestries</td>
<td>$65</td>
<td>$85</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rusty Keeler, Natural Playscapes</td>
<td>$65</td>
<td>$85</td>
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<tr>
<td>PreK - 3rd Grade Institute (Thursday, Friday, Saturday)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Full 3 Day Institute</td>
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<td>Matt Glover, Nurturing Young Writers, Thursday</td>
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<td>$85</td>
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<tr>
<td>Debbie Diller, Friday and Saturday</td>
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<td>Debbie Diller, Math Work Stations, Friday</td>
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<td>Debbie Diller, Literacy Work Stations, Saturday</td>
<td>$100</td>
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<td>Friday and Saturday Two-Day Conference *</td>
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* NEW Group Registration Rates Available (see details on page 8)

Important Note: Paid registration must be postmarked by April 23rd to receive the Early Bird rate.

Credit Card Type: VISA__________ Master Card_____________ Discover _______________

Card # ____________________________________________________________ Exp Date _______/_____

Signature _________________________________________________________ Security Code# (on Back) ___________

Make Check or Purchase Order Payable to ETSU: mail, fax, or e-mail form to:
ETSU Office of Professional Development Phone: 423-439-8084 or 800-222-3878
Box 70559 Fax: 423-439-8267
Johnson City, TN 37614-1707 E-mail: goicl@etsu.edu