



*Young Thinkers, Creators,
Communicators
and Collaborators*

The 41st Annual

Early Childhood Conference

Friday, August 4, 2017 8 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

Co-sponsored by: CUC College of Education and
the College of Innovation and Professional Programs



Welome!

An In-Service Experience for Early Childhood Educators Birth to Grade 3

- Workshops for primary, kindergarten and preschool teachers
- Workshops for childcare center staff and directors
- Commercial displays

Cost

The cost of the full conference is \$110 per person, \$135 if you register after July 17 (\$25 for full-time CUC students, \$35 after July 17), and includes all workshops and conference exhibits.

There are no refunds available.

PDHs

Professional Development Hours (5) will be available for certified teachers for Teacher Licensing renewal.

Professional Marketplace

Commercial vendors and nonprofit organizations will be available with the latest in Early Childhood Resources.

Gateways to Opportunity

This conference is a Gateways to Opportunity Registry Verified Conference (5 hours). Individuals who are on the Gateways registry will be receiving documentation that can be downloaded on your Professional Development Record. For more information, please visit the Gateways to Opportunity table located in the Professional Marketplace.

Registration

Advance registration is strongly encouraged, and will aid the on-site registration process. Persons registering BEFORE July 17 will receive a discount on the registration fee. On-site registration will be in the lower level of Koehneke Community Center. Get your nametag and final materials there.

Getting Around

A campus map is available at CUChicago.edu/map

Conference Schedule

Friday, August 4, 2017
8 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

7:30–9 a.m.

Conference Registration

Koehneke Community Center

8–9 a.m.

Workshop Sectional I

8 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

Commercial Exhibits

Professional Marketplace

Koehneke Community Center

9:15–10:15 a.m.

Workshop Sectional II

10:30–10:45 a.m.

Conference Welcome

10:45–11:45 a.m.

Rebecca Isbell, Ph.D.

*Designing an Environment that
Inspires Young Creative Thinkers:
For Today and the 21st Century*
Werner Auditorium

11:45 a.m.–1 p.m.

Lunch and Marketplace (on your own)

1:15–2:15 p.m.

Workshop Sectional III

2:30–3:30 p.m.

Workshop Sectional IV



Special Guest

Rebecca Isbell, Ph.D.

10:45–11:45 a.m.

Werner Auditorium



Isbell's energetic presentations are filled with current research, practical ideas, "real" visuals of classrooms, humorous stories and many opportunities to celebrate the joys of working with creative young children.

Dr. Rebecca Isbell is a motivational speaker, prolific writer and consultant in early childhood education. She served as the Director of the Center of Excellence in Early Childhood Learning and Development and Professor of Early Childhood Education at East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, TN, where she was honored as an "Outstanding Teacher." She is the author of 13 books and numerous articles related to creativity, learning environments, play, literacy, the arts and child development. She is the author of *Creativity and the Arts with Young Children, 3rd edition*, a textbook that is widely used in early childhood classes. Other bestselling books include: *The Complete Book of Learning Centers, revised* and *Real Classroom Makeovers*. Her most recent book, released in the fall of 2016, is *Nurturing Creativity: An Essential Mindset for Young Children's Learning*, published by NAEYC.

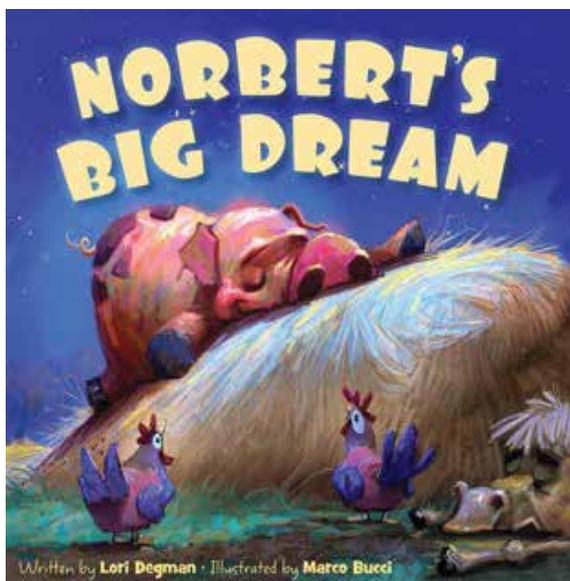
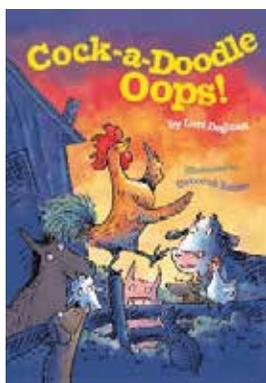
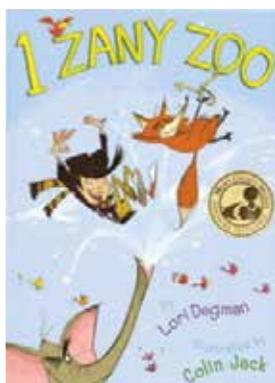
Isbell has presented keynotes and featured sessions throughout the United States and internationally including Denmark, Singapore, China and Canada. She is an editorial consultant for NAEYC and on the governing board for ACEI.

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Lori Degman
12 - 12:45 p.m.
Koehneke Community Center
Oak Park/River Forest Room

Author

Lori Degman writes in rhyme, most of the time—but not always! She is the award-winning author of *1 Zany Zoo* (Simon & Schuster, 2010), *Cock-a-Doodle Oops!* (Creston Books, 2014), *Norbert's Big Dream* (Sleeping Bear Press, 2016) and the forthcoming *Just Read* (Sterling Press, 2018). Lori is a teacher of Deaf & Hard-of-Hearing students and has a master's degree in Early Childhood Education. She enjoys presenting to children at schools and libraries and to aspiring authors at writing conferences. You can learn more about her at Loridegman.com.



About

"1 Zany Zoo":

By sneaking into the zoo before it opens, a young boy witnesses "1 fearless fox" stealing the zookeeper's keys.

Whimsical mayhem ensues as animals are freed from their cages. Hippos play musical chairs, beavers cook up chili for lunch, and leopards trade in their round spots for squares and triangles.

- School Library Journal

Workshop Sectional I

All sessions held from 8–9 a.m.

10 Strategies That Work to Support Young Children's Language Development

Dr. Sarah Dennis / Christopher Center 286

This hands-on session introduces 10 specific techniques recommended by research to support young children's language development, that build vocabulary, listening comprehension and language skills, the precursors to reading and writing.

Preschool/Kindergarten/Administrators

Emergent Literacy Through Play

Jessica Gade / Christopher Center 287

Learning through play is one of the most natural ways children absorb and retain information. Come and join in as we discover creative ways to teach emerging literacy skills through play.

Preschool/Kindergarten

Rhymes, Folk Songs and Pedagogy

Dr. Christian Hauser / Kretzmann Band Room

Music and songs are a vital part of any early childhood program. We use music as a means to transition from one activity to another, to learn our ABCs, to play games and learn about our culture. However, rarely do we consider the pedagogy of how to teach a fold song, poem or nursery rhyme. In this session we will explore and navigate several ways to teach songs and rhymes that are engaging, fun and pedagogically sound. Come prepared to sing, move and lead!

Preschool/Kindergarten

EQ, CQ, and IQ: The Quest for Great Teaching in Preschool and Kindergarten

Dr. Janis Johnston / Christopher Center 268

Emotional intelligence (EQ) is "the other kind of smart." Some educators believe creativity (CQ) is a more effective gauge of learning than IQ. Both EQ and CQ improve practice.

Preschool/Kindergarten

Unwrapping Amazing Gifts: Ways of Identifying and Serving Young Gifted Learners

Dr. Jennifer Lynn / Christopher Center 250

Young gifted students are among the most under-identified, underserved learners in your schools. Attend this session to learn ways to identify and engage young gifted students in your classroom.

Preschool/Kindergarten/Primary

Growing Up Wild/Project Learning Tree Early Childhood Curricula: An Introduction

Mary Rice / Krentz 120

These activity guides build on a child's sense of wonder about nature, support developmentally appropriate practice, and are correlated to NAEYC standards and the Head Start Domains. Explore several activities using art, math, science and literacy to bring nature into your classroom.

Preschool/Kindergarten

Storytelling Without Books

Sherry Ann Wolfer / Christopher Center 260

This workshop contains flannel board stories, cut & tell stories, draw stories, tangram stories, acting stories and sign language stories.

Preschool/Kindergarten

The Letter Method: Teaching the Alphabet through Science, Math and Tactile Methods

Barbara Baker / Krentz 200

Immersing children with letter-themed activities is an engaging way to teach the alphabet. Using science and math will engage children's learning. It's more than just singing the ABC song.

Preschool/Kindergarten

Helping Children Succeed

Susan Gittings / Krentz 201

Using current research shared from Paul Tough's book of this title, plus years of experience working with children, this workshop will explore components to help children succeed in school and in life.

All

Workshop Sectional II

All sessions held from 9:15–10:15 a.m.

Anti-Racist Pedagogy and Our OWN Racial-Identity Development

Dr. Sarah Dennis / Christopher Center 286

Understanding young children's and our own racial identity development is critical to building anti-racist whole classrooms. Let's end the "colormuteness" to ask the hard questions and discuss race in community.

Preschool/Kindergarten/Administrators

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Preschool/Kindergarten

WELCOME: Music and Movement for the Happy Classroom

“Miss Carole” Stephens / KCC River Forest Room

Squirrels, twirls and hopping boys and girls—that’s what you’ll take back to use in your class THIS WEEK! Need a new song for sticks or bells? Miss Carole’s developmentally appropriate musical ideas are just the ticket! Many selections from her newest recordings! Twinkly Toes and Stumble Bunnies welcome!

All

Building Resilient Brains is as Easy as A-B-C, 1-2-3!

Nirja Shah / Christopher Center 251

Participants will have the opportunity to explore ways that they can incorporate foundational literacy and math skills for both academic and resiliency brain building.

All

Putting the A in your STEM Program

Jennifer Soukup & Kelly Gill / Christopher Center 341

Helping teachers put process art into their classroom, boosting students’ creativity.

Preschool

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Preschool/Kindergarten

Yoga Stories

Victoria Piller / Krentz 202

Yoga is a great tool for teaching Bible stories, storytelling and ABC skills. It can even help with classroom management. Join us and learn how you can incorporate yoga poses in your classroom. Your kinesthetic learners will love being able to use their whole bodies and everyone will be strengthening their core muscles.

Preschool

Helping Children Succeed

Susan Gittings / Krentz 201

Using current research shared from Paul Tough’s book of this title plus years of experience working with children, this workshop will explore components to help children succeed in school and in life.

All

Special Guest

Dr. Rebecca Isbell
10:45–11:45 a.m.

Lunch & Marketplace

11:45 a.m. – 1 p.m.



Special session for directors:

What is the Problem? Creative Ways to Solve Directors' Challenging Issues

Dr. Rebecca Isbell / Werner Auditorium

Discover how creative problem solving can help you with issues that are important for your program. Gain insights into implementing a plan that will help you develop an approach to deal with issues and gain new appreciation for your important role and collect ways you can positively influence your program. (Administration)

Empathy Development in Young Children: Fostering Authentic Relationships in Preschoolers

Jesse Ilhardt / Krentz 120

Empathy is essential for healthy relationships and strong communities, and its development starts early. Come learn how you can foster empathetic relationships in your classroom and set children up for a lifetime of success.

Preschool/Ed. Coordinators Administration

Math is More than Counting and Naming Shapes

Marie Kielty / Christopher Center 260

The workshop will include the math BIG ideas for the concepts of number, geometry and patterns, along with some activities for preschool and kindergarten.

Preschool/Kindergarten/Administration

One-Two-Three- Eyes on Me!

"Miss Carole" Stephens / KCC River Forest Room

- in order to learn, children must be engaged
- in order to be engaged, you must get their attention
- in order to get their attention, you have to present curricula in many styles for the many types of learners in your care

Songs and dances, flannel boards and books to sing, using manipulatives and visuals. Miss Carole will give you a taste of the many ways to enhance engagement and create memorable learning opportunities.

Preschool/Kindergarten/Administration

Incorporating Nature into your Curriculum

Karen Ritter / Krentz 256

Research states that learning outside helps children develop skills which will aid in their development both academically and socially. This workshop will give you many activities and ideas for exploring nature both inside and outside the classroom. Several examples for working with children outdoors will be discussed.

All

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Nirja Shah / Christopher Center 251

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All

Mini Musical Minds: Neurologic Development through Music and Movement

Alyssa Wilkins / Christopher Center 341

Music is a powerful tool for a child's developing brain. Learn how to use music and movement to work on functional skills in the areas of communication, cognition, sensory regulation and more.

All

Exploring the Value of Playful Learning: Children's Museums, School and Home

Alex Tonsgard / Christopher Center 287

While recognized as a right of childhood, play is also a topic that is under tension and debate. This presentation will explore play through the lens of children's museums and promote a wider discussion about the value of play.

All

The Power of Documentation

Hannah Douglas / Christopher Center 349

This presentation will explore how early childhood teachers can document children's development in the classroom, what can be done with that documentation, and the challenges faced in these efforts.

Preschool/Administration

Family Involvement Activities for Early Childhood Educators

Darren Raichart / Krentz 200

This presentation is designed for administrators and educators who work with families. I will demonstrate and train participants on using simple but entertaining and educational activities with entire families.

All

Workshop Sectional III (cont.)

All sessions held from 1:15–2:15 p.m.

Games to Introduce Morphology into Early Childhood Programs

Julia Nelson / Christopher Center 268

Recent studies show that word study is an important part of reading development. This workshop will focus on how to incorporate activities that will introduce Latin and Greek cases to young learning. Participants will learn that English is not crazy and is a lot of fun to introduce to young enthusiastic learners.

All

Bringing Stories to Life: Using Dramatic Arts to Increase Literacy in the ECE Classroom

Amy Cardin / Christopher Center 286

During this workshop, we will learn techniques and methods to increase literacy in the classroom by acting out favorite children's literature. Participants will learn the benefits of dramatic arts and how they can be incorporated to meet standards. Finally, participants will have time to explore materials and make props to bring this activity back to their own classrooms.

Preschool

Infant Crying and Fussing: Why Do They Cry So Much and What Should I Do?

Dr. Leslie Katch / Krentz 201

This workshop will help providers understand why some babies cry more than others. Participants will learn how to support families and how they can create the best caregiving environment for difficult-to-soothe babies.

Infant/Toddler Teachers/Administrators



Workshop Sectional IV

All sessions held from 2:30–3:30 p.m.



Reaching All Children with the Arts: Sound Learning, Visual Communication and Kinetics Expression

Dr. Rebecca Isbell / Werner Auditorium

It is difficult to find ways to capture the interest and involvement of young children with a range of experiences and capabilities. But the arts can provide many amazing opportunities to engage children as they improvise, create masterpieces and follow their ideas. (All)

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All

Workshop Sectional IV (cont.)

All sessions held from 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

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Preschool/Administration

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Infant/Toddler Teachers/Administrators

Check
Online

for up-to-date Conference
information:

CUChicago.edu/ecc



Registration Form

(You may duplicate this form for additional names. Please print **one** name per form.)

Name	Badge Nickname	
Address		
Is this address a school or business?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
If yes , name of school or business		
City		
State	ZIP	
Email		
(We MUST HAVE your email, and please be sure it is a different email address for each person, in order to send you an evaluation after the conference, and for you to receive your evidence of completion and confirmation letter.)		
Telephone–Day	Evening	
Workplace		
Title		
Concordia Alum?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Graduation Year
Age of children you serve	Grade level of children you serve	

Pre-registration deadline: July 17, 2017

Full Conference	\$110 per person (\$135 after 7/17/17)	\$
Full-time CUC undergraduate students	\$25 per person (\$35 after 7/17/17)	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> Box Lunch <i>(Please check if you want a box lunch)</i>	Additional \$10	\$
Total Amount Enclosed		\$
Credit Card	<input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard <input type="checkbox"/> Discover <input type="checkbox"/> American Express	
Name on Card		
Card Number		
Expiration Date	CVV#	<i>(3 or 4 secure digits on back of card)</i>
Address		
Signature		
Cardholder Phone Number		

If you have questions, call **708-209-3024**
Please complete this form, and mail it with your check
(payable to Concordia University Chicago) to:

Concordia University Chicago
Attention: Carol Smid
7400 Augusta Street
River Forest, Illinois 60305-1499

Concordia-Chicago admits students without regard to age, sex, creed, race, color, national or ethnic origin or disability.

Join Us!

early
childhood
conference



The 41st Annual

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