



Nevada Association for the Education of Young Children

## 2021 You Matter Conference Schedule

### Monday, April 26

#### 1:30 PM to 2:30 PM

- **White Teacher & White Kids: Thoughts on How to Introduce Racial Diversity in Your Program (Tiffany Olivas)**  
*Join a (ex) white teacher who only taught white kids in a discussion on how to introduce racial diversity to young white children in your classroom or FCC. Training is an opportunity to consider and discuss our responsibility to the children in our care, and those that are not.*
- **Play is Learning (Kelly Techo)**  
*This training is for all audiences to help participants to get children engaged in playing and learning through play; therefore, creating a more interactive environment in the classroom.*
- **Once Upon a Time: How Storytelling Helps Students Love Writing (Antonio Sacre)**  
*Designed for educators in K-3 grade levels, including teachers, administrators, counselors and substitute teachers, this course demonstrates how the power of the oral tradition can unlock the writer in every student. It includes an in-depth live-stream and Q&A session with award-winning children's author and internationally-renowned storyteller, Antonio Sacre.*

#### 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM

- **Using Positive, Descriptive Praise to Prevent Challenging Behavior (Emily Bailey)**  
*Participants will learn how to use positive, descriptive praise to help them in classroom management. They will learn the benefits of this tool and how it can help prevent challenging behavior, as well as create a warm and nurturing environment to all children and teachers.*
- **Orientation to QRIS for Center Teachers (Tiffany Olivas)**  
*Are you an early childhood educator employed at a Quality Rating & Improvement System (QRIS) Center? This training is for you! Learn all about the process from the perspective of the teacher with an emphasis on the observation and assessment. Being prepared is the best way to ROCK the observation!*
- **Curriculum Guided Through Children's Interest (Samantha Russell and Bridget Perez)**  
*Participants will learn strategies to incorporate their children's ideas into their curriculum while meeting standards, targets, and assessment measures. These strategies include observations, mapping or webbing, documentation, implementing, assessing, investigating children's theories, and finally relaunching.*

### Tuesday, April 27

#### 1:30 PM to 2:30 PM

- **7 Essential Ingredients of Effective Professional Learning: Lose the Lecture and Engage Learners! (Teresa Byington and Kelly May)**  
*Learn how to lose the lecture, engage adult learners and meet the needs of diverse learners by implementing 7 essential ingredients of effective professional learning. Participate in a variety of engagement strategies for guiding adult learners to make both cognitive connections with the content and social-emotional connections with each other.*
- **Introduction to Diversity and Cultural Competence (Mary Regan, Mirna Mejia, and Sandra Gates)**  
*This is an introduction to cultural awareness and competence which will explore the topics of linguistic and cultural diversity and give providers knowledge, awareness, and skills to develop culturally-sensitive care in their center.*
- **STEM – How, Why, and the Importance of It. (Rebecca Tate)**  
*How to help your child/children develop a better understanding of math, science, technology, and engineering or STEM. Why STEM? What makes it so important? What STEM looks like? How to do STEM?*

#### 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM

- **Using NAEYC's Equity Position Statement to Create Learning Opportunities for All Children (Mary Regan, Mirna Mejia, Sandra Gates)**
- **A Child's Place on the Planet: Environmental Education for Young Learners (Laura Short)**  
*In this interactive session, discover games, role-playing and cooperative group activities that build academic skills (in literacy, numeracy, geography and science) while broadening ecological awareness and global citizenship. Receive lesson plans matched to state standards.*
- **Make Story Time the Best Part of the Day (Amy Vandament)** Description coming.

## **Wednesday, April 28**

### **1:30 PM to 2:30 PM**

- **I've Screened: Now What? (Lauren Armour)**  
*You've finished screening with BRIGANCE and now you're wondering what to do with the information. This session will help you with next steps! We'll discuss data and resources provided in the Online Management System (OMS).*
- **Mindful Techniques for Child Care Staff and for Children (Howard Giles and Ruby Sydnor)**  
*Participants will learn a working definition of mindfulness as defined by mental health practitioners. They will learn some practical techniques for practicing mindfulness in order to gain composure, to teach mindfulness in the classroom and to bring mindfulness into classroom management and nurturing caregiving.*
- **Active Facilitation with Infants and Toddlers (Erin Skaggs and Janelle Jamero)**  
*This training will focus on developmentally appropriate strategies to enhance every day learning experiences for young children to expand cognition and increase active engagement. We will explore educator's role as facilitators in the classroom. We will discuss engaging ways for teacher to meet children's unique needs.*

### **5:00 PM to 6:00 PM**

- **State QRIS Update (Emily Champlin)** Description coming.
- **Separation Anxiety (Howard Giles)** Description coming.
- **Integrating PBS KIDS Media into Your Practice (Mayte Heredia)**  
*Participants will engage in activities to explore and consider how digital content provides learners with multiple pathways to spark questions, explore concepts, and document learning.*

## **Thursday, April 29**

### **8 AM to Noon DEC (Separate Ticket Required to Attend) Description coming.**

- **The Impact of Trauma on Young Children and How Relationships are the Key to Resilience (Tricia Woodliff)**

### **1:30 PM to 2:30 PM**

- **Mental Health and the Early Childhood Educator (Kelly May)**  
*Educators provide children with nurturing, high quality experiences that promote the developmental needs of children. While the focus is on child outcomes, very little attention is on the mental health of educators. One cannot continue to pour out of an empty cup. Attend and get your cup filled up.*
- **I Like You Just the Way You Are: Building Self-Esteem in Our Children (Sandra Gates and Mirna Mejia)**  
*Through this training participants will gain knowledge on importance of supporting the emotional well-being of our young children.*
- **Puppets and Props (Rebecca Tate)**  
*This session will give ways to integrate puppets and storytelling props.*

### **6:00 PM to 7:30 PM**

- **MOVIE: Starting at Zero**  
*Starting at Zero explores the power of investing in high-quality early childhood education so that all children and families have the opportunity to attain the American Dream. The film brings together the voices of policymakers, educators, academics, business leaders, pediatricians, parents, and children.*

## **Friday, April 30**

### **12:15 PM to 12:30 PM**

- Welcome and Introduction of Keynote Speaker

*Dr. Joelle Hood brings over 25 years of educational and leadership experience to Thriving YOUniversity clients. As a former "Teacher of the Year" and "Principal of the Year", Joelle brings passion, energy, and expertise to helping all humans thrive. As co-founder and Chief Empowerment Officer at Thriving YOUniversity, she uses her knowledge and expertise in organizational change and leadership along with her experience as a mindfulness instructor and life coach to provide researched-based keynotes, coaching, and experiential learning workshops to individuals, groups, and organizations throughout the nation. Her areas of passion and expertise include: Social, Emotional & Academic Learning, Leadership, Positive Psychology, Human Thriving and Flourishing, Well-being, Emotional Intelligence, Mindfulness, The Science of Belonging & Human Connection, Mindset, School Culture Transformation, Restorative Practices, Employee Engagement, Workplace Wellness, Trust, Team-Building, Trauma-Informed Practices, and Resilience.*

### **12:30 PM to 2:00 PM**

- KEYNOTE: Taking Time to BREATHE Part 1 (**Joelle Hood**)

*When students and staff experience chronic stress, it negatively impacts their motivation, performance, and wellbeing. Participants in this engaging session will walk away with simple research-based practices from the fields of mindfulness and positive psychology, that they can utilize with themselves, their teams, and students to reduce stress and anxiety, improve attention and performance, and strengthen overall physical and psychological well-being.*

### **2 HOUR BREAK OUT 2:30 PM to 4:45 PM**

- Mind in the Making: Introduction (**Linda Granger**)

*This introductory module is the start of a very different kind of learning journey designed to be both useful and inspiring. Ultimately the Modules engage you in learning from research on brain development, child development, and adult learning and from each other.*

- Attachment Matters: How Teacher-Child Relationships Form the Foundation for Children's Success (**Melissa Burnham and Jennifer Mortensen**)

*The quality of teachers's™ relationships with children matters. This presentation will focus on the science of attachment and its links to brain development, the importance of a strong teacher-child relationship, ways to foster quality relationships, and common mistakes made by early childhood programs that hinder the development of attachment.*

- Transform your Classroom Environment to Create Relationships and Promote Positive Behaviors (**Megan Grimes and Samantha Russell**)

*Utilize the space and supplies you may already have to facilitate positive interactions between children in your classroom as well as with their families. Join us as we walk through our experience of transforming a classroom. We will give you tips and tools to take back to your classroom!*

- Responsive Feeding: Breast, Bottle, and Beyond (**Meredith Pollaro**)

*This session will cover responsive feeding for the breast-fed, bottle-fed and infant beginning solids. Tools and strategies will be provided that learners can take back to their respective settings and implement to better support each individual children's needs. Rationale and evidence will be provided to support the information shared throughout.*

- Increasing Physical Activity and Reducing Screen Time and Sedentary Behavior (**Suzanne Hoyt**)

*Training participants will gain the knowledge to help families reduce screen time and offer physical activities to do at home. The attendees will gain ideas that teach children how to pause the screen, move, and engage in physical activities.*

- The ABCs of S.E.A.L. (**Joelle Hood**)

*Strengthening Achievement, Behavior, and Culture with Social, Emotional, and Academic Learning and... Strengthening Social, Emotional, and Academic Learning through: Academic Integration; Building Belonging for Staff and Students; Capacity Building for All Adults.*

### **5:30 PM to 7:30 PM**

- QRIS Reception

## Saturday, May 1

### 8:00 AM to 9:00 AM

- Don't Think Manage, Think Develop: Building Coaching Relationships (**Nicholle Goldstein and Cathy Peshlakai**)  
*This training is designed to strengthen the skills of an internal coach. The training will cover the key practices for building nurturing and responsive relationships between internal coaches and early childhood teachers.*
- Moving to Unity Through Both/and Thinking: Leadership from an Indigenous Worldview (**Monica Brinkerhoff**)  
*In this session, we will dive into the indigenous ways of knowing that provide us with wisdom and promotes connection to community rather than domination. We will explore the indigenous and dominant worldviews, and how looking at both of these can inform our adoption of peaceful practices in our work.*
- Mindfulness: A Pause in Your Day (**Barbara Gordon**)  
*Everyone is talking about mindfulness. What is it and why is it important. Join us as we explore the concept of mindfulness, why it is an important practice and come away with some simple practices you can use daily for yourself and the children you work with.*
- Boys Matter: Strategies for Teaching Boys in Early Childhood (**Rebecca Vizina and Geraldine Wynn**)  
*Young boys struggle in ECE programs, more often due to a mismatch in understanding how young boys grow and develop, and program expectations, than simply bad behavior. The training will offer teaching approaches that best meet the diverse needs of young boys and support a more boy-friendly learning environment.*
- Growing Readers: Planting the Seed to Read through Songs, Fingerplays, and Stories (**Jocelyn Manzanarez**)  
*Can you imagine a circle time where all children were engaged? Make that dream a reality in this hands-on, fast-paced training. From transition tips to lesson planning and pacing, learn brain-based strategies, songs, stories, movement games and more that will have your little learners asking, is it circle time yet?*

### 2 HOUR BREAK OUT 9:30 AM to 11:45 AM

- Focus and Self Control (**Glenda Billingsley**)  
*Mind in the Making, an award-winning book written by Ellen Galinsky, expounds upon executive functions of the brain and their importance for success in school and life. In his class, participants will learn about executive function, and chapter 1, the components of and strategies for building, self-control.*
- Child and Adult Care Food Program Introduction (**Suzanne Hoyt**)  
*This training will cover valuable information about the Child and Adult Care Food Program and the application process, it is based on the US Dept. of Agriculture factsheets, and CACFP National organization tools. It will include knowledge-based activities that can be used within childcare centers.*
- Let's Go to Space: Setting Up Your Space for Kids to Learn (**Dione Gantt**)  
*Participants will understand how to set up their space with appropriate materials for maximum engagement and learning. We will discuss the consideration that should be given to ensuring materials are developmentally appropriate and connect to children's interests and the role teacher engagement plays in achieving the maximum educational benefit.*
- More Good Days (**Joelle Hood**)  
*In this engaging session, participants will walk away with key ideas about the neuroscience of belonging and behavior, and research-based strategies to help themselves and students learn how to identify and calm their emotions, focus their attention and strengthen their self-management skills.*

### ONE HOUR BREAK OUT 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM

- You are a Professional (**Robin Marx-Mackerley and Sarah Wright**)  
*This training will focus on your role as a professional within the field of early childhood education. We will discuss and explore the stages of teacher development, classify what you should know and do, and outline the benefits of a creating a professional development plan.*

### ONE HOUR BREAK OUT 11:00 AM to Noon

- Motivating Teachers: Reigniting the Spark (**Emily Kirshenbaum**)  
*Teachers experience burn-out on the job. We need to reconnect to the reasons why we chose to teach. Teachers are our classroom leaders. Through motivation, identifying the stressors, and simplifying our teaching goals- We can renew our commitment to our profession and better inspire children to learn and grow.*

### 12:30 PM to 2:00 PM

- KEYNOTE: Taking Time to BREATHE Part 2 (**Joelle Hood**)  
*When students and staff experience chronic stress, it negatively impacts their motivation, performance, and wellbeing. Participants in this engaging workshop will walk away with simple research-based practices from the fields of mindfulness and positive psychology, that they can utilize with themselves, their teams, and students to reduce stress and anxiety, improve attention and performance, and strengthen overall physical and psychological well-being.*