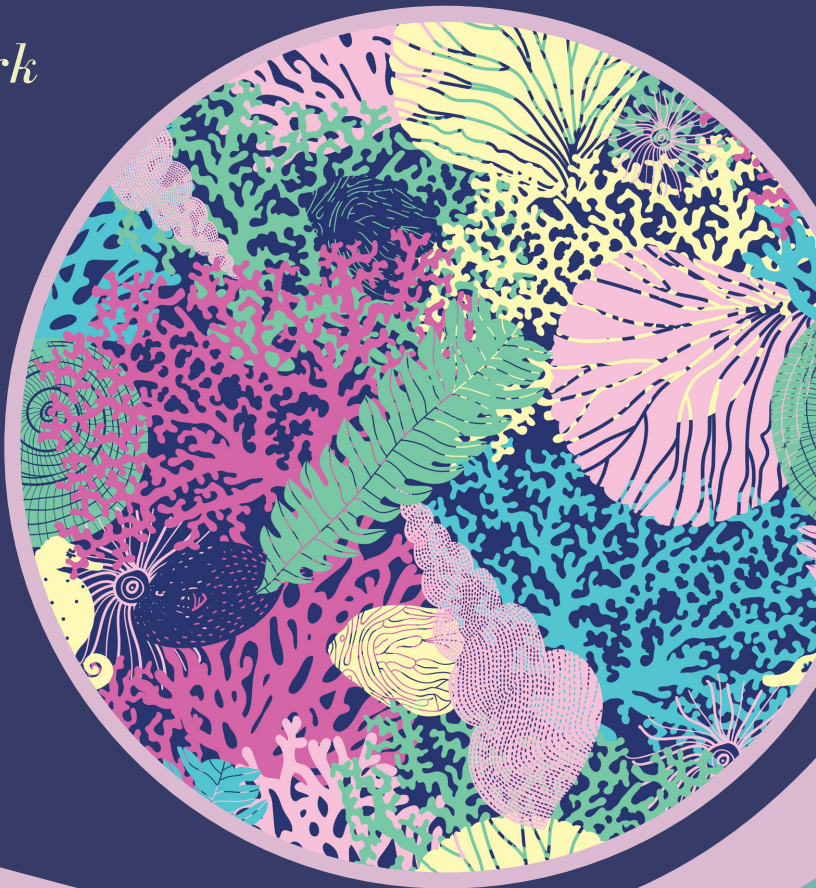


Gulf Coast Early Childhood Summer Symposium

June 12 - 14, 2024

*The Lodge @ Gulf State Park
Gulf Shores, AL*

Call for Proposals



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Join Us & Make an Impact



The annual Gulf Coast Early Childhood Summer Symposium brings together a network of 200+ early childhood professionals, policymakers and program leaders dedicated to advancing the field of early childhood education and improving the lives of young children and families. Our attendees come seeking professional development, as well as new opportunities to extend and strengthen the reach of early care networks.

With three days of training sessions, panels and networking opportunities, attendees are constantly gaining knowledge and skills, sharing best practices and making connections with early childhood professionals. The Gulf Coast Early Childhood Summer Symposium provides a unique opportunity for conference sponsors to enhance their brand recognition and engage with attendees about their services. This unique event is an ecosystem built for attendees, speakers and sponsors alike to impact change, grow professionally and establish meaningful relationships.



Why Be a Presenter?



PROFESSIONAL GROWTH

Presenting allows you to share their expertise, knowledge, and best practices with peers, contributing to their professional growth. You'll receive valuable feedback from the audience, helping them refine their ideas and teaching methods. Sharing practical strategies and resources supports the professional development of colleagues, positively impacting the quality of early childhood education.



CONTRIBUTE TO THE FIELD

Presenting provides an opportunity to contribute to the advancement of early childhood education by sharing innovative ideas, research findings, and effective teaching strategies. Being a presenter also gives you an opportunity to inspire and motivate others in the field, fostering a sense of community and collaboration.



NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

Presenting at a conference facilitates networking with fellow educators, researchers, and professionals in the early childhood education community. Engaging with the audience allows presenters to exchange ideas, perspectives, and experiences, leading to new insights and collaborations.

"I've been coming to this conference for over 20 years. The relationships I have made are invaluable to my work in this industry."

~ Judy Davidson

"I am walking away with wonderful strategies for prioritizing my time and helping my staff choose learning materials more carefully."

~ Molly Richardson

Faith-Based Program Administrator

"I'm discovering that it's important to always remember that everyone is different and everyone will understand things differently. But also make sure everyone is on the same page with expectations. These trainings are making me a better boss for my teachers."

~ Jeanette Jackson

Multi-site Center Owner/Director

2023

Testimonials

"After attending this session, I will make sure I engage my babies with a warm smile, talk to them when they cry, and try new games to show them that I love them everyday."

~ Stephanie Kane

Infant/Toddler Teacher

"The things I've learned and connections I've made have inspired me to be more diligent on advocating for my center and our families."

~ Holly Hayes

Center Director

"I love coming to this conference and attending the training workshops year after year. The presenters are so REAL!"

~Megan Sorrell

Conference Attendee



The Lodge at Gulf State Park

Connect with your soul, loved ones, or colleagues in the natural beauty of The Lodge. Shed the stresses of daily life and focus on relationships as you immerse yourself in the seashore and natural habitat of Gulf State Park. Every detail has been thoughtfully designed to connect you with nature, and with those you've brought along for the journey.

When it comes to "elevated comfort and Southern hospitality," there's nothing else like The Lodge anywhere on the Southern Alabama Coast. We pride ourselves on providing every guest with an unparalleled experience — refined, yet warm and welcoming. The 350 room Lodge at Gulf State Park is a full-service resort with access to an array of amenities, activities and facilities.



2024 Call for Proposals

**Submit a proposal to present at the 2024
Gulf Coast Early Childhood Summer
Symposium on June 12 - 14, 2024!**

This annual summer event is one of Alabama's longest running gatherings of early childhood professionals offering engaging and informative training sessions. We invite you to share your content expertise and experience at the 2024 Gulf Coast Early Childhood Summer Symposium in Gulf Shores, Alabama.

We are seeking proposals that address timely topics and current challenges faced by early childhood professionals. Proposals should be grounded in best practices and informed by research. All proposals should reflect current research and/or practical experience that is well-grounded and consistent with the principles of effective adult learning in a conference setting.

Most sessions are 1.5 hours in duration. Training sessions are given Continuing Education Units (CEUs) and additional paperwork will be required if your proposal is chosen.

**Submission Deadline -
February 9, 2024**



Suggested Topic List

Arts - Sessions on this topic address art, drama, dance, puppetry and other creative art experiences in the early childhood curriculum.

Assessment of Young Children - Sessions on this topic address observing and assessing children's growth and learning.

Children with Disabilities/Early Intervention - Sessions on this topic address including and supporting children with disabilities in early childhood settings.

Cognitive Development - Sessions on this topic address brain development and how children think and reason.

Community Partnerships - Sessions on this topic address building partnerships among early childhood community stakeholders.

Diversity and Equity - Sessions on this topic address issues of diversity and equity in all sectors of the early childhood field.

Environmental Education - Sessions on this topic address nature and outdoor learning in the early childhood curriculum.

Family Engagement and Support - Sessions on this topic address building meaningful partnerships with families.

Guidance/Discipline/Challenging Behaviors - Sessions on this topic address appropriate strategies for preventing or responding to challenging behaviors.

Health and Safety - Sessions on this topic address health and safety issues in early childhood settings.

Language and Literacy - Sessions on this topic address language development and early literacy experiences for young children.

Learning Environment - Sessions on this topic address the indoor and outdoor spaces in which children learn.

Mathematics - Sessions on this topic address math experiences in the early childhood curriculum.

Music - Sessions on this topic address music experiences in the early childhood curriculum.

Physical Development - Sessions on this topic address children's physical growth including fine and gross motor skills.

Play - Sessions on this topic address investigating the world and building meaningful knowledge through open-ended, firsthand experiences.

Professionalism and Leadership - Sessions on this topic address the skill set needed to be an effective early childhood professional.

Science - Sessions on this topic address science experiences in the early childhood curriculum.

Social/Emotional Development - Sessions on this topic address how children learn to understand and manage emotions and develop relationships with others.

State Systems - Sessions on this topic address state systems and other large initiatives for improving and expanding quality in early childhood settings.

Teaching and Instructional Practices - Sessions on this topic address the use of effective teaching approaches that enhance children's learning and development.

Technology and Digital Media - Sessions on this topic address using technology and digital media as part of children's learning experiences.

Training Proposal Form

Training Title: _____

Training Topic (correlated to the list of suggested topics in this packet):

Instructor Information:

Name: _____

Organization / Company: _____

Work Title: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Session Information:

Please provide a brief and accurate description of your training session. This information may be used to list your course in our marketing materials and as a basis for attendees to determine which sessions they will attend.

*Please note that Continuing Education Units (CEUs) will be offered to participants for this training session. This will require additional paperwork and session details. Sessions may have a large number of attendees. When planning your session, please keep in mind that you may be asked to make accommodations for this factor.

Signature: _____

Return completed form to
aalece@gmail.com.