

# 2nd ANNUAL SUMMER PRE-K INSTITUTE

On **August 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, and 23<sup>rd</sup>**, the Chautauqua Connections Children's Coalition, Jamestown Public Schools, the Chautauqua County Association for the Education of Young Children and the Chautauqua County Education Coalition will come together for a collaborative event to benefit young children in Chautauqua County for the **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Pre-K Summer Institute**. The 3 day training opportunity will include educators from public and private schools and centers with the goal of improving the quality of care and education for Chautauqua County's 3 to 6 year old children.

The **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Pre-K Summer Institute** will have 2 tracks this year:

- **Track 1** is for individuals who are attending for the first time.
- **Track 2** is for individuals who attended the 2016 Pre-K Summer Institute, and will continue to build upon innovative and evidence based perspectives and approaches to early childhood education.

## Keynote Speakers

- Monday, August 21<sup>st</sup>- **Sherry Cleary**, *Executive Director of New York Early Childhood Professional Development Institute*
- Tuesday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>- **Kyle Reyes, Ph.D.**, *Special Assistant to the President for Inclusion/Chief Diversity Officer, Utah Valley University*

## Panel Discussion

- Wednesday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> - a panel discussion will be moderated by Sherry Cleary.
  - Panel participants will include Chautauqua County classroom teachers and leaders, inspired by the 2016 Pre-K Summer Institute.



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## TRACK 1

### FIRST TIME ATTENDEES

#### Day 1: Foundations of Early Childhood

Using the New York State publications (*Early Learning Guidelines, Core Body of Knowledge, Pre-K Foundation for the Common Core*), we will emphasize the importance of understanding CHILD DEVELOPMENT when working in early childhood programs. The 5 domains of development addressed in these publications will be explored, highlighting the importance of APPROACHES TO LEARNING and PLAY for young children. We will define, explore and emphasize Developmentally Appropriate Practice (DAP), with a focus on the WHOLE CHILD, families, and culture.

#### Day 2: Early Childhood Environment, Routines and Relationships

We will address the critical role of a well-prepared environment in early childhood programs, with a focus on a common understanding of CENTERS, CHOICE, ROUTINES and RELATIONSHIPS in early childhood programs. We will work with participants to recognize the many learning opportunities (in all the domains of development) young children have through making choices in play in a well-designed environment with well-established daily routines.

#### Day 3: Using Data to Inform Instruction: Planning Your Teaching Based on What You Learn About Children

We will emphasize the importance of individualizing planning and instruction in early childhood programs, i.e. differentiating instruction. In order for programs to be most effective, we will emphasize the importance of building relationships with the families of the children, to learn and incorporate the cultures of the children and community and to practice anti-bias education. We will explore how we can best plan for learning in an early childhood program, with a focus on making learning through active engagement and play visible to others with documentation.

## TRACK 2

### FOR ATTENDEES WHO ATTENDED IN 2016

#### Day 1: Embracing play to ensure positive outcomes

In this session we will focus on why and how teachers can incorporate play seamlessly into the daily routine while simultaneously accommodating a standards-based curriculum and reducing challenging behaviors.

#### Day 2: Respectfully Engaging Families

All families have rich histories and stories that need to be heard, validated and celebrated. Engaging families with respectful, responsive and supportive approaches is KEY to building relationships with them; these relationships aid teachers in understanding children and supporting their learning. We will focus on ways of working in partnership with families to understand and nurture children's development.

- A special presentation by members of Jamestown Community Learning Council will explain how *'The way a child learns cannot be separated from how a child lives'*.

#### Day 3: Valuing Children's Ideas: Implementing Interest-Driven Curriculum

Participants will have the opportunity to choose 2 sessions that focus on specific aspects of curriculum implementation. Taking children's interests into consideration will help make the learning more meaningful and joyful for everyone. Sessions will include Reggio-Inspired Environments, STEAM, and Social-Emotional Development (possible additions). Sign-up will take place on August 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> during initial registration. Please see the descriptions on the website so that you can decide which two (2) workshops you want to attend.

*Additional presenters include Marilyn Ballard, Dr. Jennifer Berke, Dr. Mira Berkley, Susan Marker, Elizabeth Starks*

