

## [Week of the Young Child Contest!](#)

As part of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Week of the Young Child™ (WOYC) celebrated across the country, [Texas Association for the Education of Young Children](#) is honoring young children and all those who make a difference in children's lives. We're showcasing meaningful awareness activities that Texans are doing to celebrate childhood while bringing attention to the importance of early care and education! Week of the Young Child™ is a time for Texas to recognize the importance of early childhood.

TXAEYC wants to recognize all that you do in promoting the importance of quality early childhood. So, we're hosting a contest! We want you to share what educators all across Texas are doing in recognition of WOYC and the impact that you make.

### **Who can participate? Practically everyone!**

You do *not* need to be a member of TXAEYC to participate.

TXAEYC is a bridge of collaboration and communication between early care and education and the communities we serve. As such, we want build collaboration by highlighting all the wonderful efforts, activities, and individuals who work with and on behalf of young children in our state. You are eligible if you-

- Work in an early childhood center (Teachers, Directors, Trainers, Educators)
- Work to improve early childhood education (Leaders, Trainers, and Organizations)
- Are learning about Early Childhood (College Students or Early Childhood Student Organizations<sup>1</sup>)

### **What do the winners get? Awesome perks!**

Though everyone who positively works with and on behalf of young children is deserving of praise, TXAEYC will officially recognize 1 student leader/student organization and 1 individual educator (childcare or public school) and 1 chapter or community group. The individuals and/or groups recognized will be publicly announced on TXAEYC's Facebook page and in

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<sup>1</sup> Faculty are encouraged to support awareness and impact efforts.

our monthly e-newsletter. Additionally,

- Each winner will be given to showcase his or her WOYC efforts at the TXAEYC annual conference in Galveston, Oct 14<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>, 2021 in our Project Galleria.
- The three individual winners (1 student/student organization, 1 individual educator, 1 chapter/community group) will receive free registration to the 2021 of the conference or a classroom book and supply gift box.

### How do you enter?

1. Follow the TXAEYC Facebook Page and/or TXAEYC on Instagram @txaeyc
2. Celebrate WOYC by doing something that brings meaningful
3. Post information, photos, or videos about a WOYC celebration/activity on your Facebook page or Instagram feed with the hashtag #WOYCTEXAS
4. Share on the TXAEYC Facebook page OR tag us in your Instagram post (your account must be public in order for this to work)
5. Make sure that all photos/videos/images of children have the parents' consent *before* being shared on social media!

Criteria: the committee will be looking for creative activities that clearly demonstrate a meaningful impact in heightening awareness of early childhood education at the organization, community, school, or regional level.

Participants who effectively describe, share evidence of their WOYC activity and sufficiently justify the impact will be considered. The committee, by majority vote, will determine three winners. If an organization or school submits, the individual representing that entity will be announced as the winner on behalf of the school, childcare, or organization. TXAEYC affiliates can submit and are strongly encouraged to do so.

### What are some things you could do?

Create an activity or event that is important to you and showcases the way that you or your school/organization promotes the wellbeing of early childhood. Here are some sample ideas:

- Reach out to policy makers, members of the media, local businesses, and community leaders about WOYC and share their responses on social media. Use #WOYCTEXAS in your tweets so people can find your content
- Record a video of your WOYC awareness activities or create your own

- public service announcement and upload to YouTube. Use keywords WOYC and Texas AEYC when describing the video to help people find it. Share your video to raise awareness.
- Create a WOYC board on Pinterest and use it to showcase your activities, pictures from your event, and/or articles in your local newspaper about your celebration. Use WOYC and Texas AEYC when describing so people can find your content.
  - Encourage your local newspaper to publish an article about the importance of early childhood in your community.

### **When is this happening?**

Week of the Young Child official dates are April 10-16, 2021. Posts are encouraged April 10th until April 30th. There are two ways to submit during these weeks. Post your activity or event on the [TXAEYC Facebook](#) page. Make sure to include a link, image and/or video. Post your activity or event on Instagram and tag @txaeyc. Include a short description justifying how your activity impacted your community, organization, school, or our state. You are also encouraged to post your event on the [NAEYC Event Map](#)

### **When will winners be announced?**

Following April 30th, the TXAEYC Outreach and WOYC committees will choose three winners by May 7th.

## **TXAEYC LOOKS FORWARD TO SHOWCASING ALL THE WONDERFUL THINGS HAPPENING IN TEXAS!**

Specific questions about the contest can be emailed to Chrysta Naron, WOYC Committee Chair at [Chrysta.naron26@gmail.com](mailto:Chrysta.naron26@gmail.com). TXAEYC is an Affiliate of NAEYC, the largest organization of early childhood educators and others dedicated to improving the quality of early education programs for children birth through age 8. Founded in 1926, NAEYC has nearly 80,000 members and a national network of more than 300 local, state, and regional Affiliates. If you are interested in joining NAEYC and getting involved with TAEYC please explore the [membership options](#).