



Arizona Association for the Education of Young Children

AzAEYC Annual Meeting 2020
Saturday, October 3, 2020 | 8 - 11 a.m.

Agenda

- 8 a.m. **Welcome from the [Governing Board](#)**, *Camille Lachar-Lofaro, President, AzAEYC*
- 8:15 a.m. **State of [AzAEYC](#) Address**, *Eric Bucher, Executive Director, AzAEYC*
- 8:30 a.m. **[AzAEYC Chapter](#) Reports: Local Member Engagement**, *Mary Ann Biermeier, Chair of Valley of the Sun Chapter; Beth Frost & Jini Maxwell, Co-Chairs of Northern Chapter; Patricia Miranda & Lizbett Rodriguez, Co-Chairs, Yuma Chapter*
- 8:45 a.m. Brain Break
- 8:50 a.m. **Advancing Equity in Early Childhood: A Panel Discussion**
Facilitated by Camille Lachar-Lofaro, AzAEYC Board President and Ann Marie Marino, AzAEYC Vice President of Professional Development
Panelists: Ysidro Holmes, Gwynne Fullmer, Ashley Nelson, Luisa Kidwell & Betty Rushing
- 9:50 a.m. Brain Break
- 10 a.m. **Virtual Breakout Group Discussions**
- Whose story resonated with you? Why?
 - Do you feel any connection to any of the panelists? In what way?
 - How do these stories from everyday people working on the frontlines (directly with children) serve as a tool for advocacy?
- 10:30 a.m. **Wrap-Up/Next Steps**
- 10:50 a.m. **The [2020 Rhian Evans Allvin & Joshua J. Allen Scholarship \\$1,000 Award](#)**:
Jennifer Sullivan, Student, Bachelor in Early Childhood, Northern Arizona University; presented by Mona Qafisheh, President-Elect, AzAEYC & Ann Marie Marino, Vice President of Professional Development, AzAEYC
- 11 a.m. Annual Meeting Adjourns

Our Panelists

Gwynne Fullmer
Pre-K Special Education Teacher, Gilbert Public Schools

Gwynne holds a B.S. and M.Ed. from Brigham Young University in Elementary Education and Special Education with Music specialization. This is her sixteenth year teaching Special Education in an integrated preschool classroom in Gilbert Public Schools where she is currently teaching preschoolers in a virtual format. She is past president of Arizona Division for Early Childhood, a subdivision of the Council for Exceptional Children.



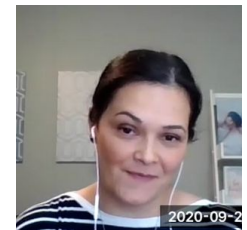
Ysidro Holmes
Student & President of Somos Enlace, University of Arizona

Ysidro has been an early childhood educator for 8 years and is currently pursuing a Bachelor degree in Early Childhood Education with a minor in Government and Public Service. He serves on the SAZAEYC Board of Directors and is president of Somos Enlace at University of Arizona.



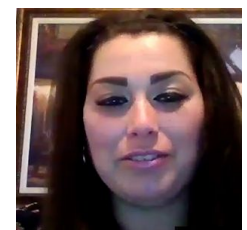
Luisa Kidwell
Associate Director for Early Childhood Education, Easterseals Blake Foundation

Luisa has worked in multiple programs over the past 17 years, advocating for children in every possible capacity. She is the Associate Director for the Early Childhood Education programs with Easterseals Blake Foundation, supporting over 250 children a year and 85 staff.



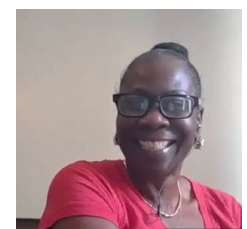
Ashley Nelson
Lead Teacher, ABC & 123 Small Blessings (Casa Grande)

Ashley is lead teacher at ABC & 123 Small Blessings in Casa Grande and a member of the Professional Career Pathway Program at Central Arizona College.



Betty Rushing, Director, ABC & 123 Small Blessings (Coolidge)

Betty is the director/preschool teacher at ABC & 123 Small Blessings in Coolidge. She is also a student at Central Arizona College pursuing an Associate Degree in Early Childhood Education. She has been working with young children for over 20 years.



Our Scholarship Award Recipient

Jennifer Sullivan

Northern Arizona University

2020 Rhian Evans Allvin & Joshua J. Allen \$1,000 Awardee



Jennifer Sullivan is currently completing her student teaching practicum at Northern Arizona University. She plans to graduate in December 2020.

In her scholarship application essay, she writes:

Children need caring and responsive adults in their lives. I want all children to know the feeling of being heard and feeling important. I have spent my life's work ensuring the children I encounter have the opportunity to feel this way. I have had the privilege of meeting thousands of children and making lasting relationships with many of the families.

I have been a member of NAEYC since I received my first CDA over 10 years ago and have been a member of AzAEYC since moving to Arizona. I have relied on both of these resources when writing papers for school, quoting standards and policy, and creating lesson plans. I often refer to NAEYC and AzAEYC to ensure I am offering a developmentally appropriate curriculum to my students. When I finish school, my goal is to find a job that I can use my experience, knowledge, and degree to advocate for the early childhood field. I don't just want to make a difference today, I want to make a difference that can be felt for generations.

Congratulations, Jennifer! AzAEYC wishes you the best of luck for the future. We look forward to all you will accomplish in your work for young children, families, and the early childhood profession!

About the Scholarship

The 2020 Rhian Evans Allvin & Joshua J. Allen \$1,000 Award was created to acknowledge the outstanding service of early childhood professionals by recognizing leadership qualities and commitment to early childhood education and public policies that support the well-being of young children.

The award can be used to further college education, participate in ECE professional development, attain ECE career goals including the purchase of NAEYC resources/books for professional growth and developmentally appropriate classroom materials, or for any resources an early childhood educator needs during the pandemic.

We're pleased to announce that this year, all students who submitted a complete application will be receiving a complimentary one-year entry level membership to NAEYC/AzAEYC.

Learn more at www.azaeyc.org/scholarships.

Handouts & Resources

Access this session's resources and handouts at www.azaeyc.org/azaeyc-annual-meeting-2020.

Before the session, we encourage you to review the following resources:

- [NAEYC Advancing Equity in Early Childhood Education | NAEYC Promover la Equidad en la Educación Infantil | 推动儿童早期教育中的平等](#)
- [Be an advocate: 5 ways to elevate your voice for Early Ed](#) (AzAEYC)
- [Your Vote = Children's Futures. Make a Voting Plan for ECE](#) (AzAEYC)

Survey

At the end of the webinar, please take a few moments to complete the survey/reflection: bit.ly/AzAEYCAnnual. Participants must complete the survey and include their Registry ID number to be marked as Attended in the Registry. Once the survey is submitted, participants will be marked within 10 business days.

Professional Development

3 hours of professional development are available through the [Arizona Early Childhood Workforce Registry](#) after completing the brief survey. For a printable certificate, please email Dr. Eric Bucher, Executive Director of AzAEYC, ebucher@azaeyc.org.