



2009 Ohio AEYC Awards

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED
ELECTRONICALLY NO LATER THAN
JANUARY 10, 2009

Professional development and the recognition of excellence are of critical importance to Ohio AEYC. The Ohio AEYC Awards celebrate those dedicated to the field of early childhood education and acknowledge dedicated professionals whose work impacts the quality of care for young children in all settings. The Awards honor not only individual award recipients, but the entire early childhood profession. In order to identify professionals dedicated to the needs and well being of children and their families, Ohio AEYC depends upon our membership to nominate qualified individuals.

The Ohio Association for the Education of Young Children (Ohio AEYC) will honor all Award winners at the 2009 Ohio Early Care and Education Conference held in Columbus, May 28-30, 2009. Award winners are invited to attend and be recognized during the Celebration of Excellence Luncheon, on Saturday, May 30th.



Ohio AEYC is seeking nominations for the following awards:

Outstanding Early Childhood Advocate Award:

Ohio AEYC membership not required.

Recognizes an Ohioan in the field of early childhood education who has made significant career contributions to the field which have had an impact on the needs, rights and well being of children throughout the state.

Outstanding Teacher Award:

Ohio AEYC membership required.

Recognizes early childhood educators who work directly with children. Evidence of developmentally appropriate practice should be presented in the description of outstanding service and in letters of support from staff and parents. In an effort to recognize the diversity within the field of early childhood, Ohio AEYC encourages applications from full day child care centers, half day preschool programs, school age child care, kindergarten and primary education, infant and toddler classrooms, and classrooms serving children with special needs.

Outstanding Family Child Care Professional Award:

Ohio AEYC membership required.

Recognizes early childhood educators who work directly with children in a family child care setting. Evidence of developmentally appropriate practice should be presented in the description of outstanding service and in letters of

support from parents and peers.

Outstanding Mentor Award:

Ohio AEYC membership required.

Recognizes a person in colleges, community colleges, vocational educational programs, and other agencies providing training to early childhood students. Persons nominated should embrace a philosophy of developmentally appropriate practice and pass this philosophy on to students through mentoring and other professional activities. Evidence of philosophy and activities should be presented in the description of outstanding service and in letters of support from students and peers.

Outstanding Program Administrator Award:

Ohio AEYC membership required.

Recognizes outstanding directors, principals and other administrators of early childhood programs. Nominees should be advocates for quality programming which meets the needs of staff and families while also providing administrative leadership and support to ensure developmentally appropriate practice. Evidence of the criteria should be presented in the description of outstanding service and letters of support from staff and families. In an effort to recognize the diversity within the field of early childhood, Ohio AEYC encourages applications from full day child care centers, half day preschool programs, school age child care, kindergarten and primary education, centers serving children with special needs, and multi-site organizations.

Outstanding Citizen Award:

Ohio AEYC membership not required.

Recognizes outstanding contributions to the community making a difference in the lives of children and families.

Nominees in this category may include:

- a. members of the Ohio News Media for increasing public awareness of children's rights and needs during the past year.
- b. public officials on the local, state or national levels representing Ohio who have been sensitive to children's issues during the past year.
- c. community leaders who consistently act as child advocates.
- d. authors from Ohio who have excited the minds of young children or early childhood professionals.
- e. Ohio artists who have creatively expressed issues of children or who have helped children discover a fresh way to learn.
- f. Ohio inventors who have created toys or equipment to support exceptionally safe, creative learning opportunities.



Nomination Criteria

1. Ohio AEYC members are eligible to nominate individuals to be considered for an award. Not a member? To become a member go to: www.oaeyc.org to the membership section.
2. Nominations must be submitted electronically, no later than January 10, 2009.
3. Members may submit nominations for more than one award category.
4. Additional letters of support and endorsement for a nominee may be submitted. Simply encourage colleagues to complete the on-line nomination registration. Membership is not required when endorsing a nominee.
5. Members will be asked to assist with collecting letters of congratulations and support, in the event their nominee is selected for an award. Letters will be shared with the award recipient.

Special Instructions: You will be asked why you believe the individual you nominated should receive an Ohio AEYC Award. There is a 2,500 character maximum (approx. 1 page - 12 pt. font) for this response. It is recommended that you type your response in another program and use the cut and paste function. **Before** composing your nomination letter, please review Ohio's Core Knowledge & Competencies Document (pg. 4, slide 6 Dispositions) which defines dispositions displayed by a model early childhood professional. We encourage you to refer to the Disposition Statement as you describe what sets your candidate apart. To view this document and learn more go here http://www.occrra.org/core_knowledge/CoreKnowledge.pdf.

Questions?

Contact Lisa Mandelert at: lisa@oaeyc.org or 513-829-5002

Go to <http://tinyurl.com/7gc724> to submit your 2009 Ohio AEYC award nomination.