Spring Conference
Early Childhood & Elementary
Afterschool & Summer Educators

Mind the Gap
Bridge the Opportunity

April 17 & 18
$100 per day

In Partnership with Family Connection CCR&R serving Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties and
Linn-Benton Community College
Keynote

Dr. Johnny Lake
Lighting a Spark for Every Child

Do you remember those wonderful learning activities that captured your interest and sparked your learning? They were not always expensive, complicated or intricate. They were often simple and fun activities shared with others. Now is our turn to create a safe place that accepts and supports all of our children, creating a welcoming place that embraces and encourages the creativity, imagination and diversity of our beautiful children. We can create a place where every child can come, feel at home and light a spark for learning that they will never forget!

Dr. Johnny Lake is a scholar and presenter focused on teaching and learning around issues of leadership, diversity, race and culture, personal and organizational growth, cultural competency, and communication. Dr. Lake assists individuals and institutions gain critical knowledge and skills, as well as develop effective methods and strategies to bring about growth and progress, and to build and support productive relationships in organizations and the community. He facilitates the development of skills and resources to help individuals and organizations better meet the demands of a changing society. Dr. Lake holds a bachelor’s degree in history from Willamette University. He has a Masters and Ph.D. in Educational Leadership, Policy, Management and Organization. Dr. Lake was an Assistant Professor of Education at Northwest Christian University and leads teacher preparation, counselor and administrator classes.
Agenda

Friday, April 17, 2020

8:00  Registration

8:30-11:30  Morning Sessions
Locations TBD

11:30-12:30  Lunch

12:30-3:30  Afternoon Sessions
Locations TBD

3:30  Networking and Resource Tables

Saturday, April 18, 2020

8:00  Registration

8:30-9:30  Keynote with Dr. Johnny Lake
  *Lighting a Spark for Every Child*

9:30-9:45  Break

9:45-11:45  Morning Sessions
Locations TBD

11:45-12:45  Lunch

12:45-3:45  Afternoon Sessions
Locations TBD
Grand Articulation Summit

Join us for the 29th Grand Articulation Summit (GAS)! The day will include updates, presentations, and rich discussions related to our continued work to grow the early childhood educator workforce. We will examine the Student Success Act and explore innovative practices for recruiting and supporting students along their professional development pathways.

Set 1 | PPLD | 6 Hours (all day) | Age: N/A
Facilitated by Pam Deardorff

Rethinking Challenging Behavior: Children Do Better When They Feel Better

Children’s behaviors can be confusing and challenging to address. How might we reconsider children’s motivations to better foster caring, loving, and respectful learning environments while establishing cultures of problem solving and respect? Utilizing multiple frameworks and concepts based on research, we will help you plan your routines and environments towards warm and loving classroom relationships.

Set 2 | UGB | 6 Hours (all day) | Age: Preschool
Facilitated by Soobin Oh

Babies: How to Use Theories & Research to Support Infant & Toddler Development

Exploring the theories and current research provides a framework for thinking about human growth and learning. If you have ever wondered about what motivates children’s thoughts and behavior, understanding these theories and current research can provide useful insight. We will address several topics including an in-depth exploration of the exciting new brain research on the return and serve strategy for language and social emotional development.

Set 1 | HGD | 6 Hours (all day) | Age: Infant/Toddler
Facilitated by Debbie Buta

Cultivando Palabras, Nutriendo la Lecto-Escritura y Haciendo Crecer el Cerebro

Examinaremos algunas investigaciones sobre cómo aprenden los niños palabras y lo que significan las palabras. Exploraremos cómo las partes del cerebro están relacionadas y cómo las interacciones con los niños hacen cambiar esas conexiones. Practicaremos algunas estrategias que apoyan el desarrollo del lenguaje.

Set 2 | HGD | 3 Hours | Age: Preschool
Facilitated by Ada Echevarria
Friday Morning Sessions, cont’d.  
8:30-11:30 AM

How Playful Adults Benefit Children in Afterschool Programs
Having time to play as an adult has more benefits than most realize. Adults, especially in afterschool programs, are the role models for kids and communicate with them on a regular basis. Therefore it’s important to be able to understand their language - play! Participants will explore how kids learn critical lifelong skills through play and examine their own sense of play.
Set 2 | HGD | 3 Hours | Age: Preschool/School Age  
Facilitated by Kassy Rousselle

Kids Included Together (KIT): Helping Children and Youth Develop Coping Skills
There are a lot of demands placed on children in a school-age, middle school, or teen program. We see many youths having trouble managing stress in group settings. This training examines different types of coping difficulties and how they apply to program settings. Participants will practice strategies on how to teach coping skills to youth in planned and everyday activities.
Set 2 | UGB | 3 Hours | Age: School Age  
Facilitated by Melissa A. Beck

Using the FCCERS-3 as a Continuous Quality Improvement Tool
Explore the Family Child Care Environment Rating Scale-3 (FCCERS-3) and how it is being used in Oregon. This training provides a step by step review of the scale and practice using it. Family child care providers will examine a process for using the scale as a self-assessment tool while quality improvement professionals will focus on strategies to support family child care programs with their Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) process. Attending Introduction to the Environment Rating Scales before this session is recommended.
Set 2 | OA/PPLD | 6 Hours (all day) | Age: all  
Facilitated by Ami Russell & Candice Scott
Friday Afternoon Sessions
12:30-3:30 PM

Grand Articulation Summit
Continued from morning session.

Rethinking Challenging Behavior: Children Do Better When They Feel Better
Continued from morning session.

Babies: How to Use Theories & Research to Support Infant & Toddler Development
Continued from morning session.

Using the FCCERS-3 as a Continuous Quality Improvement Tool
Continued from morning session.

Great Art in Afterschool: Creative Art Projects & Activities for School-Age Youth
This hands-on workshop will explore engaging and fun art activities for school age youth that go beyond crafts and explore learning about and creating amazing artwork!
Set 2 | LEC | 3 Hours | Age: School Age
Facilitated by Rachel Kessler

Kids Included Together (KIT)- Making Connections: Fostering Friendships for Children and Youth
The best thing that a child can gain from your program is a quality friendship. Many times, children with disabilities struggle with initiating and maintaining friendships. In this workshop, participants will learn and practice how to help all children develop their friendship skills. Participants will develop an implementation plan for their programs.
Set 2 | UGB | 3 Hours | Age: Preschool/School Age
Facilitated by Melissa A. Beck

Señales de Angustia en Niños Pequeños y la Mejor Manera de Abordar la Reducción de la Crisis
La conexión entre el Auto-Cuidado y el Cuidado Comunitario afecta nuestras respuestas al comportamiento. Explorar la diferencia entre las respuestas reactivas contra las proactivas al comportamiento desafiante. Examinar dos tipos de respuestas al estrés: la continuidad de la hiper-activación y el de la des-asociación. Reconocer e identificar estrategias de intervención de acuerdo a las 7 fases de la intensificación del comportamiento. Considerar planes individuales de seguridad que aborden el patrón de intensificación de un niño.
Set 2 | UGB | 3 Hours | Age: Preschool
Facilitated by Carmen Amador
Saturday Morning Sessions
9:45-11:45 AM

Keynote with Dr. Johnny Lake: Lighting a Spark for Every Child
Do you remember those wonderful learning activities that captured your interest and sparked your learning? They were not always expensive, complicated or intricate. They were often simple and fun activities shared with others. Now is our turn to create a safe place that accepts and supports all of our children, creating a welcoming place that embraces and encourages the creativity, imagination and diversity of our beautiful children. We can create a place where every child can come, feel at home and light a spark for learning that they will never forget!
Set 1 | LEC | 1 Hour | Age: N/A
Facilitated by Dr. Johnny Lake

Bridging Divides: Strategies for Authentic Community Engagement
Participants will learn about key findings from OregonASK’s *State of Access & Equity of Afterschool* in Oregon report, especially as it relates to family and community engagement. Building off of these findings, participants will explore strategies for building authentic relationships with youth and families by examining their own attitudes and beliefs when engaging with people from other cultures.
Set 1 | DIV | 2 Hours | Age: School Age
Facilitated by Katie Lakey, Juan Soto, and Dr. Johnny Lake

Literacy: Power UP!
In this session participants will explore the “Power Up!” curriculum, a four week literacy and STEAM curriculum, through small group and hands on activities. Participants will practice literacy strategies and develop implementation plans for their afterschool program.
Set 2 | LEC | 2 Hours | Age: School Age
Facilitated by Cyra Sadowl & Leilani Larsen
Kids Included Together (KIT): Planning Supports for Children and Youth with Autism Spectrum Disorder
In this training participants will examine the impact of social communication, interaction and sensory processing when planning supports for children and youth with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Participants will be able to develop accommodation plans that match up with each child’s strengths and talents.
Set 2 | UGB | 2 Hours | Age: School Age
Facilitated by Melissa A. Beck

School Age Summer Programs: The Happiest Place on Earth - Part One
In this session participants will review best practices for summer camp planning for school-aged children and discuss potential pitfalls before they happen. From the logistics of daily scheduling, to the big picture “wow” moments, we will work together so that you feel confident and ready to plan for three months of summer fun for your kids and staff.
Set 1 | LEC | 2 Hours | Age: School Age
Facilitated by Aiko Sato

STEM Network in Afterschool
This session will prepare any afterschool program to deliver effective and engaging STEM. Participants will explore what true STEM is and what it can do for youth, receive research resources and tools about the best practices for STEM activity facilitation, practice three fun hands-on activities and gather standards-based and guaranteed engaging, free STEM curriculum. Finally we will look at STEM evaluation and planning tools, and create implementation plans for your program.
Set 2 | LEC | 5 Hours (all day) | Age: School Age
Facilitated by Rachel Kessler

Program Management: What Does This Mean for a Classroom Teacher?
In this course, we will explore what program management means for an Early Childhood professional working in the classroom. We will examine the roles and responsibilities that contribute to the overall quality of your classroom and program.
Set 1 | PM | 5 Hours (all day) | Age: Early Childhood
Facilitated by Debbie Buta

An Introduction to STEAM
What is STEAM for young children? This training will introduce, describe, and provide strategies to support the development of children’s STEAM skills and inquiry process.
Set 1 | LEC | 3 Hours | Age: Early Childhood
Facilitated by Rachel Elliott
**Introduction to the ERS**
What are the Environment Rating Scales (ERS), and how are they being used in Oregon’s Spark? This introductory training will include discussion of the three basic needs of children addressed in the ERS, an opportunity to explore the scales, and an overview of how the assessments will be used to support continuous quality improvement.
*Set 1 | OA | 2 Hours | Age: Early Childhood*
*Facilitated by Ami Russell & Candice Scott*

**Introducción a las Escalas de Calificación Ambiental (ERS)**
¿Cuáles son las Escalas de calificación ambiental (ERS) y cómo se están utilizando en Spark de Oregon? Esta capacitación introductoria incluirá una discusión de las tres necesidades básicas de los niños abordadas en las ERS, una oportunidad para explorar las escalas y una visión general de cómo se utilizarán las evaluaciones para apoyar la mejora continua de la calidad.
*Set 1 | OA | 2 Hours | Age: Early Childhood*
*Facilitated by Bertha Camacho*

**Once Upon A Time: Centering Storytelling at the Heart of Early Literacy Development**
Explore an inclusive approach to early literacy development that nurtures and builds upon children’s love of stories. Elements include: integrating a puppet show-style story circle time into your daily rhythm, keeping a classroom journal to transcribe students’ stories, and story dramatization workshops where students support each other through collaborative performance and revision.
*Set 2 | LEC | 2 Hours | Age: Preschool*
*Facilitated by Stephen Karmol*

**Fostering Collaboration: How the Early School Success Facilitates Program Improvement**
How can we make innovation and improvement routine in our programs rather than catching lightning in a bottle? How do we take research that is done far away from our programs and adapt research to fit our own contexts? How can we better include diverse perspectives to design program changes alongside us? These are the questions that Children’s Institute tries to answer as they facilitate change with school districts. The Early School Success initiative is a five-year initiative focused on creating better connections between preschool and elementary school. Schools must be ready for our young learners, and the path towards that is in fostering collaboration and partnership. In this session you will hear more about the Early School Success initiative and learn some practices that can help foster collaboration in your own programs.
*Set 1 | PPLD | 2 Hours | Age: N/A*
*Facilitated by Soobin Oh*
Saturday Afternoon Sessions
12:45-3:45 PM

STEM Network in Afterschool
Continued from morning session.

Program Management: What Does This Mean for a Classroom Teacher?
Continued from morning session.

LEAP into Science: Light and Shadow
A Leap into Science training prepares educators to host Leap into Science: Light and Shadow workshops for a variety of audiences including preschoolers, elementary-age youth, and families. This training introduces educators to the two workshops designed to share with children, as well as strategies for facilitating science and literacy learning for the workshop designed to share with families. Educators will experience Leap into Science workshops as a learner, reflect upon and practice facilitation techniques as an educator, and understand expectations and available resources to confidently lead programs for children and families.

Set 2 (pending) | LEC | 3 Hours | Age: Preschool/School Age
Facilitated by Greta Bergquist

Kids Included Together (KIT): Behavior Support Techniques & Bag of Tricks
In this session, participants will examine and learn strategies for addressing challenging behavior. Guidelines for responding to behavior will be examined. Participants will discuss how to identify influences on behavior, define behavior problems, and develop plans to teach skills. Planning a “Bag of Tricks” that supports a wide variety of children’s needs and programming situations will be discussed.

Set 2 | UGB | 3 Hours | Age: School Age
Facilitated by Melissa A. Beck

School Age Summer Programs: The Happiest Place on Earth - Part Two
In this session participants will go beyond the basics of summer program logistics to plan an unforgettable summer learning experience. We will explore the details of content, scheduling, and engagement that make going to the summer program as fun and memorable as a trip to an amusement park.

Set 2 | LEC | 3 Hours | Age: School Age
Facilitated by Aiko Sato
BE Physically Active 2Day! BEPA 2.0
BEPA 2.0 is a classroom-based physical activity program aligned to K-6 state and national health and physical education standards. BEPA 2.0 can be used in and outside of the classroom and before, during or after school to increase children’s physical activity time at school. BEPA 2.0 meets requirements associated with Oregon’s revised physical education statutes (under ORS 329).
Set 1 | LEC | 3 Hours | Age: School Age
Facilitated by Tina Dodge-Vera

A Deeper Dive: STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Mathematics) for Infant and Toddlers
This training is an opportunity to dive deeper into our existing STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Mathematics) knowledge and practices with Infants and Toddlers. Participants will re-examine STEAM concepts and how they are naturally woven into our everyday experiences with young children.
Set 2 (pending) | LEC | 3 Hours | Age: 0-3
Facilitated by Rachel Elliott

I Okay: Promoting Resiliency in Toddlers
Toddlers are at a critical stage in their maturation. We must intentionally encourage skills that develop resiliency within our caregiving practices and curricular planning. Caregivers must ensure many opportunities for success as toddlers explore their world. Let’s discuss our impact on toddler resiliency, develop skills to support individuals and groups, and discover the strengths toddlers bring to our communities!
Set 2 | UGB | 3 Hours | Age: Infant/Toddlers
Facilitated by DyLynn Robertson & Roberta Recken

Everybody Eats
Explore cooking and food-related children’s activities which nourish body and soul, build concepts and skills, and connect with our diverse families and neighbors. We will share multicultural food, resources and activities, explore the concept of cultural appropriation, and even nosh a little, as you develop your program’s approach to diversity.
Set 2 | DIV | 3 Hours | Age: Preschool
Facilitated by Kim Yasutake
Trauma y Salud mental Infantil: señales, síntomas y consecuencias
Es curso introducirá a los participantes al tema de experiencias traumáticas de la niñez, con un foco especial en la infancia temprana. A través de una presentación teórica y discusiones prácticas vamos a mirar a la relación que existe entre el estrés, el trauma y la neurobiología. Esto nos ayudará a entender los elementos que se pueden considerar cuando queremos apoyar la salud mental de los niños a través de técnicas pedagógicas.
Set 1 | HSN | 3 Hours | Age: Early Childhood
Facilitated by Dalia Avello

Build Your Advocacy Skills
You support children and families. You are an expert and storyteller! Effective advocacy means being an informed advocate. This is your place to examine the art of advocacy, explore the laws and policies that impact children, families and educators daily. Apply NAEYC’s vast resources to gain knowledge and skills to elevate your voice and advocacy efforts to new levels.
Set 1 | PPLD | 3 Hours | Age: N/A
Facilitated by Sara Stearns & Laura Pilkington
Mind the Gap 2020:
Featuring Sessions Facilitated by Kids Included Together (KIT)

Melissa A. Beck

Inclusive Communities Education and Training Specialist, KIT

Melissa Beck has over 20 years of experience working with individuals with disabilities. She has worked in nonprofit, government, for-profit and higher education. Melissa previously served as the Executive Director with Colorado Afterschool Partnership, facilitating statewide collaboration for equity in out of school time programs. She also served as the Experiential Education Manager and Training Specialist at Tennyson Center for Children, where she provided before school, afterschool and summer programming for children and youth through a variety of recreational experiences, accommodations, and behavioral supports... including empowering them to climb the highest mountain in Colorado.

Melissa is a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist, has her MS Ed in Therapeutic Recreation and her Bachelor’s in Psychology.
Mind the Gap 2020:
Featuring Sessions Facilitated by Kids Included Together (KIT)

Kids Included Together (KIT): Helping Children and Youth Develop Coping Skills
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