



Scholarship Program Manager Mandy Aaberg and WA Scholar Lola Kling celebrate at the Champions for Children event in King County

Statewide Early Learning and Afterschool Fall Conferences!

WAEYC's 35th annual conference
Oct 27-29th, 2011
Hilton Hotel and Meydenbauer Center
Bellevue, WA

School's Out Washington's 9th annual Bridge Conference
Oct 17-18th, 2011
Sheraton Hotel
Seattle, WA

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Scholarly Views and News

Volume V, Issue III

Summer Newsletter July 2011

Washington Scholarships News and Highlights

WA Scholarships is busy preparing for fall quarter. As you'll see in the newsletter, we have had some staffing changes within the program. We are embracing the growth within our program and hope to have an opportunity for you to meet and interact with our new scholarship coordinator, Lora Brewsaugh, very soon!

Since we have recently received additional funding, we have had a steady flow of applications from around the state. Please continue to spread the word about the WA Scholarships program, as word-of-mouth is our best advertising, and therefore the best method to increase availability of the program in communities around the state.

Each year around this time, we are always excited to hear from those graduating with degrees and certificates. Congratulations to those who are seeing your educational goals become a reality! We are so proud of you and the work you do for the children in your care.

We hope you and the children in your care get a chance to get outdoors and practice some of Richard Louv's tips to unplug this summer. We really live in such a beautiful place!

Looking Ahead to 2011-2012

WA Scholarships is excited about the 2011-2012 program year!

In the coming year, we plan to:

- Host a **WA Scholars Recognition Event**, in conjunction with the Department of Early Learning and our funders, to honor the contributions that you have made to professionalizing the field. If you are interested in serving on a committee to coordinate this event, please contact Mandy Aaberg at mandy@childcarenet.org or toll-free at 1-866-308-3224.
- For the first time, have a stable source of funding to offer 3-4 **BA Scholarships** annually across the state. More information about our recruitment efforts is available in this the newsletter and on our website: <http://www.childcarenet.org/providers/scholarships/ba-scholarship-information-1>.
- To integrate participants of the **Washington's Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS)** into our program from the field test sites in Clark, Spokane, and Kitsap Counties and East Yakima and White Center in King County. For more information about QRIS, please visit <http://www.del.wa.gov/care/qrisc/Default.aspx>.
- Work closely with the community colleges and local child care resource & referral programs to transition interested Building Bridges participants onto WA Scholarships.

We look forward to working with you on our new efforts and reaching further to provide opportunities for WA Scholars!

Congratulations to our graduates this quarter:



BA Degree
Courtney Nolen

AA Degree
Christine Beroukas
Deborah Hayford
Michelle Ihlen
Nancy McTaggart

CDA Credential
Kristi Crumpton
Liliana Tenorio Lavin
Vida Maghsoudi-Ghajalou
Leeanna Morose
Annette Nunez
Tarna Oxman
Elizabeth Roberts
Linda Sullivan
Dolores Weyen
Cheryl Cunningham

If your name is missing from our list of recent graduates, please send us documentation so we can include you in our annual report.

“You can teach a student a lesson for a day; but if you can teach him to learn by creating curiosity, he will continue the learning process as long as he lives.”

-- Clay P. Beford

Featured WA Scholar - Simone Lara-Durant

Simone started her career in Early Learning by volunteering at her son’s school in a paraeducator position in Tacoma. She enjoyed this experience so much she decided to make it a career. Beginning with taking Early Childhood Education (ECE) classes through Tacoma Community College (TCC), Simone soon gained experience in family child care through a work study position and quickly realized this was the field for her.



**Simone Lara-Durant
FCC
University Place, WA**

Simone really enjoyed the education she received at TCC, specifically from Mary Skinner, ECE instructor and department chair. She plans on continuing in the fall with Leslie University to pursue her BA in ECE, something she did not anticipate just a short time ago.

Simone has been a WA Scholar since 2008 and is very grateful to the WA Scholarships program for providing her the financial support to pursue her educational goals. This education has given her the skills and knowledge to grow her business into a career for her and her family.

BA Scholarships

WA Scholarships is proud to announce we will once again be accepting applications for BA scholarships starting fall 2011! We apologize for the short notice, but hope to find candidates who can begin this fall. We plan on awarding 3-4 scholarships to those who meet the specified requirements. Priority will be given to QRIS sites. Please go to our website (<http://www.childcarenet.org/providers/scholarships/ba-scholarship-information-1>) or contact the scholarship program for more information on requirements for the scholarship and benefits offered. **Application deadline will be September 15th.** Please call us for more information or with any questions.

Richard Louv

According to surveys by the Kaiser Family Foundation and the Centers for Disease Control, a child is six times more likely to play a video game on a typical day than to ride a bike. Here is a list of ten helpful hints for kids to get outside and/or unplug this summer. Here’s a quick take on our top 10 favorites:

- 10. **Be a cloudspotter.** Go “clouding” – no equipment required.
- 9. **Revive old traditions.** Collect lightning bugs, leaves and stones.
- 8. **Engage grandparents.** Who has better memories of playing outside?
- 7. **Adopt the “sunny day rule.”** When the sun’s out, unplug.
- 6. **Go birding** – urban or suburban, rural or wilderness. Who are your feathered neighbors?
- 5. **Got dirt?** Let little kids dig with plastic shovels and pails.
- 4. **Adopt a tree.** Take pictures of your favorite tree in different seasons and around different family events. How does it change?
- 3. **Go harvesting.** Take kids to pick apples, blueberries or corn.
- 2. **Camp in the backyard.**
- 1. **Keep a “wonder bowl.”** Kids fill their pockets with acorns, rocks and leaves. Empty those pockets into a bowl, so kids can linger over their treasures.

America’s land and water legacy is a treasure we all share. Celebrate this treasure by taking a child outside to introduce them to the wonders of the unplugged world.

This list comes from bestselling author Richard Louv. He offers a field guide full of tips for getting kids outside in his new edition of “***Last Child in the Woods.***”

Resources and Information

Early Childhood Education Websites and Resources:
Afterschool Focus

School's Out Washington

This link provides quick access to School's Out Resources and Research page. Here you can find information on **professional development, news and events, funding options, current research, relevant websites, blogs and conference information** specific to afterschool child care providers. This is really a great resource for those of you providing care to the before and afterschool population. Check it out!

<http://www.schoolsoutwashington.org/198/ResourcesResearch.htm>

This School's Out page will link you to their Washington Regional Afterschool Project (WRAP) pages, providing information on trainings and upcoming events by region.

<http://www.schoolsoutwashington.org/204/WashingtonRegionalAfterschoolProjectWRAP.htm>

Please contact us if you have any great Early Childhood Education resources you would like us to share!



Former scholar Mai-Than Dovich, with Child Care Resources staff, recognized at Champions for Children for receiving her BA Degree in ECE

WA Scholarships Program Updates and Reminders

Staffing Announcement

We are pleased to announce that we have hired **Lora Brewsaugh** as our new Scholarship Coordinator. Lora comes to us with a background in higher education program management and human services work. Lora recently moved to Seattle from Cincinnati, Ohio where she was the Associate Director of the International Programs at the University of Cincinnati. Lora has a BA in International Studies and a certificate in Spanish Language from the Universidad de Madrid. We are excited about her joining our team!

Colette Adams has been promoted to the position of Finance and Contracts Specialist. She will still work in the WA Scholarships program on financial management oversight.

Scholarship Fundraiser Update

Many thanks to those that participated in our first scholarship fundraiser this spring! So far, we have received a total of \$400.00 in donations from three scholars and four centers. There is still time to contribute if you are willing and able!

Special thanks to :

Arcadia Learning Center
Creative Kids Learning Center
Kids World Childcare
Squaxin Island Child Care
Twyla Barnes...and our anonymous scholar donors!

With your help, we hope to raise even more next year towards our goal of funding a complete scholarship!

New CDA Assessment application deadlines!

We have recently changed our CDA Assessment application deadlines to better serve both scholars and instructors. We will still send out CDA applications four times a year. The deadlines have all been pushed forward one month.

WA Scholarships application due:	CDA Materials due:
December 1st	January 1st
March 1st	April 1st
June 1st	July 1st
September 1st	October 1st

If you have any questions regarding the scholarship process or paperwork, please call us at **(866) 308-3224**, or email us at scholarships@childcarenet.org.

"My school experience has helped me to grow as a person. I feel more confidence in myself and my abilities. I find learning about Early Childhood Education to be very interesting and rewarding."

**Michelle Ihlen
FCC provider and
recent graduate
Port Orchard, WA**

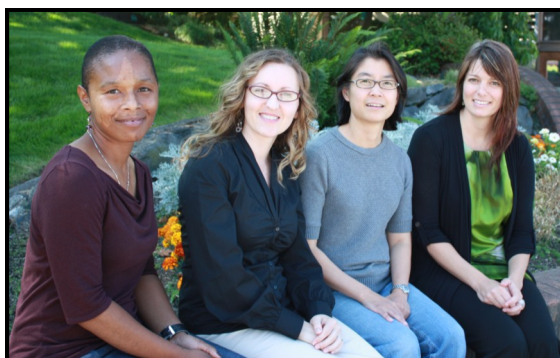


Amber Havens , recognized at the Champions for Children event as an outstanding instructor that has made a difference.

***The Washington
Scholarships Program
is generously
supported by:***

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
First 5 FUNdamentals
The Bamford Family Foundation
Washington State
Department of Early Learning

Washington Scholarships for Child Care Professionals



**WA Scholarships Staff (left to right):
Nannette Ward, Program Support Assistant
Lora Brewagh, Scholarship Coordinator
Susan Yang Affolter, Professional Development Director
Mandy Aaberg, Professional Development Program Manager**

**Feel free to contact us for
more information about
Washington Scholarships by
phone, email or through our
website:**

**1-866-308-3224
scholarships@childcarenet.org
www.childcarenet.org**

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