

# Early Childhood Education News

## Dates to Note:

**April 4—Summer/Fall course registration begins**

**April 27-28 — Triad EC Council Conference**

**May 12—Graduation**

**June 1— RRCC Foundation Scholarship applications due.**

**June 4 -Summer semester begins**



Children Dancing—Yann, 2009

**The Red Rocks Community Foundation** offers a wide variety of scholarships based upon both need and merit. Scholarship applications for the 2012-2013 term are available on the RRCC Foundation webpage for students:

<http://www.rrcc.edu/foundation/scholarship/index.htm>

Awards range from \$300—\$2500 per semester. Scholarship applications are **due by June 1st!**

For questions, email the foundation office at:

[scholarships@rrcc.edu](mailto:scholarships@rrcc.edu)

## RRCC Early Childhood Education AA degree Program receives NAEYC Accreditation!

It's happy dance time! After much hard work by Kathleen, Janiece and the entire ECE faculty, we have heard about the status of our accreditation application with the National Association for Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Commission on Early Childhood Associates Degree Accreditation (WOW! That's a mouthful!! Say that ten times without stopping...)

We are officially **Accredited!** Notification of the accreditation decision arrived March 13th.

*The NAEYC Early Childhood Associates Degree Accreditation Commission concurs with the evidence provided in the (RRCC) program self-study and verified in the peer review report that the program pro-*

*vides for its students many and varied experience through learning opportunities and key assessments to meet all NAEYC standards and supportive skills.. The Commission commends this program for the many areas of strength revealed through this accreditation process. It is expected that this strong, rich program will continue to engage in the kind of ongoing reflection that was clearly evident in the self-study report and affirmed through the peer review report.*

News is starting to arrive to all 10 state community colleges that participated in this accreditation process. We are unique in that the colleges submitted to the process as a state, rather than as individual colleges. That level of

attention is being noted around the country that Colorado is making serious strides forward to promote Early Childhood Education.

**Congratulations RRCC Early Childhood Education Program on your achievement of this Accreditation award!**



Having fun at the International Students Expo in the Great Hall on March 13th. Love the Russian hat or is that a basket?!

## Dear Colleagues

Hip, Hip Hooray! Our accreditation decision came in early! But I am feeling challenged around the "Now What?!" I don't know quite where to begin, my thoughts are spinning! So this seems an appropriate time to express some gratitude.

Kathleen and I continue to press forward with a coaching/mentoring integrated model for our ECE188 practicum and are very grateful for the outstanding support that Jan Leversee is providing for our practicum students!

Dr. Wardle, Maura Saracusa, Sherry

Peterson and I have really stepped up to meet the demand for ECE111 and 260 course work for ECE directors this spring! Thank you for your willingness to offer multiple classes or off-site instruction!

Carol Goss continues to be our week-end instructor for ECE101. What a valuable benefit that is for our students who need flexible scheduling for coursework! And MaryLou Reihmann shares her passion for teaching guidance strategies in spite of several bouts with illness this past fall and spring.

Last, but not least is our fearless leader, who's humble attitude will say I don't want to be in the limelight, I just want what's best for young children in our community. Kathleen, I feel blessed to be working along side of you and each of the instructors in our department!

My sincerest thank you to each and every one of you for all that you are and all that you do!

Janiece and Kathleen

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month, a time to recognize that we each can play a part in promoting the social and emotional well-being of children and families in communities.



Did you know that April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month?

Visit the Child Welfare Information Gateway website to find a wealth of information, downloadable resources and more to share with friends, staff and families!

<http://www.childwelfare.gov/preventing/>

[preventionmonth/index.cfm](http://preventionmonth/index.cfm)

For local resource information including some statistics on child abuse and child abuse prevention, visit the Kempe Foundation website at:

<http://www.kempe.org/childabusefacts>



Week of the Young Child is right around the corner in April and the Red Rocks Community College ECE department will once again be hosting a children's documentation show on campus.

This documentation show is a favorite of the community in which area ECE programs are invited to share artifacts of children's learning to display on campus for the community to view!

Dates for the documentation show are April 23 through May 5. If you would like to have your program be included in show, please contact Kathleen via email:

[kathleen.devries@rrcc.edu](mailto:kathleen.devries@rrcc.edu)



### 2012 Triad Early Childhood Council Conference

The Triad Early Childhood Council is hosting a major 2 day professional development conference event on April 27 & 28 at the Mile Hi Church.

Featured keynote speaker will be Dr. Susan Neuman. Her keynote topic, "Educating the Other America" will address how we can break the cycle of poverty and disadvantage for children at risk.

Triad council will also be an-

nouncing it's 2012 Children's Champions awards during a special luncheon presentation on Friday, April 27th.

The Triad EC Council is offering an exceptionally low cost for registration to this event. Call 303-914-6503 for more information or to register!

### Call to participate in a research project...

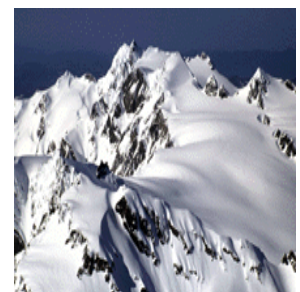
The Colorado School of Public Health and the City and County of Denver are partnering in an effort to curb obesity and create a [culture of wellness in preschoolers](#) through proper diet and exercise. The program will provide schools with nutrition education classes, structured physical activity opportunities, improvements in school policies and environments and health

promotion training for parents and school staff. For program information, contact [Jini Puma](#) (303-724-4390) or [Gloria Richardson](#) (303-570-0166).

The percentage of overweight preschool-aged children (2 to 5 years) in the U.S. is now nearly 14 percent and has more than doubled over the course of the last 30 years. Almost one in four preschoolers is either overweight or at risk of overweight

<http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dnpa/obesity/childhood/prevalence.htm>

Hedley AA, Ogden CL, Johnson CL, Carroll MD, Curtin LR, Flegal KM. Prevalence of overweight and obesity among US children, adolescents, and adults, 1999–2002. JAMA. 2004;291(23):2847–2850. [PubMed]



**Another scholarship opportunity:** NACCTEP is proud to offer two \$1,000 scholarships for the 2012–2013 academic year. The NACCTEP National Scholarship Program was founded to help students at member colleges realize their dreams of becoming teachers. Please encourage your teacher education and early childhood students to apply. Information on the scholarship program may be found at [www.nacctep.org](http://www.nacctep.org). All scholarship documentation is **due by April 20, 2012.**