Preschool Information Registry & Service Inc. Presents

The 29th Annual

PIRS Conference

February 6 & 7, 2015
Saskatoon Travelodge
106 Circle Drive West, Saskatoon, SK

PREPARING THE NEXT GENERATION FOR OUR PLANET

KEYNOTE FRIDAY – CHRISTINA JOHNSON-QUAN B.PAS,B.Ed,M.Ed.

EMPOWERING OTHERS THROUGH INNOVATIVE STRATEGIES THAT FOSTER ACADEMIC SUCCESS

KEYNOTE SATURDAY – ELAINE ZAKRESKI B.Ed.


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MINI SESSIONS SATURDAY FEBRUARY 7

SESSION A  9:45 AM - 11:15 AM

A1 Cyberbullying: Be the Change (DELTA)
A brief reminder of what bullying is, how it effects someone, and the signs of bullying, rolling into cyber-bullying outlining the how, and the 5 W's associated with it. Publication Bully4U will be available for $20.00.
Presenter: Brian Trainor, (ret.) Saskatoon City Police, Community Education Consultant

A2 Discussion and Reflection on Computer Use (HERCULES)
Positive and negative consequences of computers in our lives and how to cope in the age of information overload
Presenter: Elaine Zakreski, B.Ed.

A3 Connecting Art and Literature (VANGUARD)
Children love story time and they love art. Put them together and it’s magic. Discover great storybooks and how to blend them into art activities.
Presenter: Vera Trembach, ECEC Life Member, Art Instructor for Children

A4 When They Don't All Speak English (CONCORDE)
Promoting Children’s English Language development across a wide range of activities.
Presenter: Dr. Linda Wassan-Ellam, Professor of Reading English as an Additional Language and Children’s Literature

A5 Why Museums are Important for Young Children (LANCASTER)
How to prepare your group for a visit to a museum. Learn about the programming available at the Museum of Antiquities.
Presenter: Courtney Tuck, Community Outreach and Engagement Coordinator for the Museum of Antiquities, University of Saskatchewan.

11:30 AM - 12:20 PM

ENTERTAINMENT AND LUNCH
Brenda Baker, Children's Entertainer
PIRS is pleased to welcome Brenda Baker, performer and writer who has been singing for children for nearly 30 years. Brenda directs Kids of Note, an integrated choir for those with and without disabilities.

SESSION B  12:30 PM – 1:55 PM

B1 Engaging Young Children With Music (LANCASTER)
Tips on using songs and “musical taking” to engage children, build listening skills, and learn rudimentary elements of music
Presenter: Brenda Baker, Children's Entertainer and Director of Kids of Note.

B2 Outdoor Education for Preschoolers (CONCORDE)
Discuss the benefits and joy of taking children out of the classroom and into nature, a hands-on experience where you will discover some of the possibilities and the endless learning opportunities nature provides. Both presenters attended Forest Nature School this summer and will share their experiences.
Presenters: Karen Robinson, Elementary Teacher, KinderCare program and Shannon Scheer, Early Childhood Educator.

B3 Artmaking Experiences for Preschool Children (VANGUARD)
Discussion and hands-on artmaking, and handouts with dozens of ideas beyond the demonstrated activities which include variations of printmaking, sculpture, and mark-making.
Presenter: Carol Wylie, Art Educator, Mendel Art Gallery

B4 Draw-Tell Stories for Children with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) (HERCULES)
Multimodal activities provide learning opportunities for children with FASD through drawing, photography, and media games.
Presenter: Dr. Linda Wassan-Ellam, Professor of Reading English as an Additional Language and Children’s Literature

B5 Supporting Children in Preschool with Low Verbal Skills and English as an Additional Language (EAL) (DELTA)
Building receptive language skills is the key to supporting children in their future speech production. Strategies to assist children with low verbal skills and learning the English language will be explored.
Presenter: Orlene Martens, B.Sc.(SPA) MSLP(C), Speech-Language Pathologist

SESSION C  2:05 PM - 3:30 PM

C1 Bricks 4 Kidz® Little Builders (LANCASTER)
Participants will learn interesting facts about real world objects and animals in this interactive session which reinforces counting, special awareness, and fine motor skills. Come learn, build, and play the Bricks 4 Kidz® way.
Presenter: Candice Weber

C2 Outdoor Education for Preschoolers REPEAT (CONCORDE)
Discuss the benefits and joy of taking children out of the classroom and into nature, a hands-on experience where you will discover some of the possibilities and the endless learning opportunities nature provides. Both presenters attended Forest Nature School this summer and will share their experiences.
Presenters: Karen Robinson, Elementary Teacher, KinderCare program and Shannon Scheer, Early Childhood Educator.

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Presenter: Carol Wylie, Art Educator, Mendel Art Gallery

C4 Literacy and Learning for our Earliest Learners (HERCULES)
This workshop will highlight how to encourage literacy skills in our youngest learners while having fun! Examples of activities and books for children, as well as tips on how to involve families will be included.
Presenter: Phaedra Hitchings, Regional Coordinator for Saskatchewan for Frontier College

C5 Supporting Children in Preschool with Low Verbal Skills and English as an Additional Language (EAL) REPEAT (DELTA)
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Presenter: Orlene Martens, B.Sc.(SPA) MSLP(C), Speech-Language Pathologist

With your cooperation, PIRS would like a display of projects and documentation. Each person is asked to mount and label two project samples. Submit them to the Conference Committee in advance or bring them to the conference.
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2015
8:30 AM - 9:00 AM  Registration Table Open
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM  Christina Johnson-Quan

EMPOWERING OTHERS THROUGH INNOVATIVE STRATEGIES THAT FOSTER ACADEMIC SUCCESS

Christina Johnson Quan
B.PAS,B.Ed,M.Ed.
ADHD Coach, Learning Disabilities Association of Saskatchewan

Christina Johnson-Quan has worked with people with disabilities in all natures of their lives. She began work as a recreational therapist and then branched into education. Christina has worked in Physical Education and Special Education Departments in a variety of schools in British Columbia, and later explored teaching opportunities in English as a Second Language in Korea and volunteer work in a transitional school in Sydney, Australia. She took courses at the University of Saskatchewan towards Master’s in Educational Psychology and completed her last course in December, 2013. Her specialty and research background is with children, youth, and adults with Learning Disabilities and Attention Deficit Disorder. Christina is also working on a proposal for a research project in order to gain some valuable insight into educational services and supports for students with ADHD.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2015
7:30 AM - 8:15 AM  Registration Table Open

PLEASE ATTEND THE WELCOME AND KEYNOTE PRESENTATION!
8:15 AM - 8:30 AM  Welcome  (Delta)
8:30 AM - 9:30 AM  Keynote, Elaine Zakreski

Elaine Zakreski

Elaine Leier-Zakreski’s career was spent in early childhood education as a teacher, mentor, and consultant. In 1995 Elaine established the first of numerous family support centres for the Greater Saskatoon Catholic School Division. Her passionate and desire to encourage and support children and parents led to the establishment of the Zakreski Trust Fund administered by the Saskatoon Community Foundation. In 2004, Elaine authored a book Hope for the Journey, with all proceeds directed to the Trust Fund, supporting family centres and scholarships for parents who struggle to provide a better future for their families. Elaine and her husband also founded an organization called “hope for Malawi Foundation Inc. and are aggressively fulfilling a mission to transform independent villages in Malawi, Africa into a self-sustaining community. Elaine is a certified yoga instructor with over 400 hours of training. She leads a women’s wellness/yoga retreat and is a sought after speaker on topics such as meditation, parental support, and experiences in Africa. Elaine and her husband Peter have two sons, two daughters, five granddaughters and two grandsons.

9:30 AM - 9:45 AM  REFRESHMENTS
9:45 AM - 11:15 AM  Session A
11:30 AM - 12:20 PM  LUNCH
12:30 PM – 1:55 PM  Session B
2:05 PM - 3:30 PM  Session C

PIRS MEMBERSHIP FORM
Membership $30.00 (if you want a reduced conference fee, membership must be purchased by December 31, 2014)

Educator’s name_________________________________________ email____________________________
Address ____________________________ Postal Code ______ Phone No. ______________
Organization________________________________________ email____________________________
Address ____________________________ Postal Code ______
Telephone __________________ Fax __________________________

Please make cheques payable to PIRS
Mail to PIRS, c/o Marlene Campbell, Box 225, Hague, SK, S0K 1X0  Phone: 306.225.4378
Email: d.m.campbell@sasktel.net NOTE PLEASE ATTACH PAYMENT: post-dated cheques will not be accepted, Receipts will be issued at the conference.

Please do not mail conference registrations postmarked after January 23, 2015 as they will be considered on-site registration.

REGISTRATIONS MAY BE FAXED BUT WILL NOT BE PROCESSED UNTIL PAYMENT IS RECEIVED. $25.00 NSF charges apply.
No refunds will be issued after January 23, 2015
Contact Christine Sutton at 306.382.7124 email: preschool.info.sutton@gmail.com
Fax: Joan Stock @ 306.374.3435

Refund Policy: Full refunds with notice before January 23, 2015
Conference Rates apply if you have your PIRS Membership. Two reduced rates per membership if from the same centre. Regular membership is $30.00 you must pay your membership by December 31, 2014 for a reduced rate at the conference. Memberships are renewed after the first newsletter in the fall.
Hotel rooms are available at the Saskatoon Travelodge. A block of rooms will be held until January 1, 2015 Rates: single or double room $149.00 Thursday until Sunday 2 people ($10.00 for additional people) Reservation: 1.888.278.4209, 306.242.8881 or reservations@travelodgesaskatoon.com

WELCOME TO THE 29TH ANNUAL PIRS CONFERENCE: REGISTRATION FORM
PLEASE REGISTER EARLY (DEADLINE January 25, 2015) please print clearly.

Name___________________________________________________  email_______________________________
Address_____________________________________________________________  Postal Code______________
Phone ______________________________________    fax _________________________________________
Organization __________________________________  email __________________________________________
Address ___________________________________________________________Postal Code _____________
Phone ______________________________________    fax____________________________________________
PIRS Member ___________ Yes__________  No

_____ YES, I will be attending the Friday Workshop.

SATURDAY MINI SESSIONS BEGIN AFTER WELCOME AND KEYNOTE SPEAKER. PLEASE JOIN US IN THE DELTA ROOM.

PLEASE WRITE 1 FOR FIRST CHOICE, 2 FOR SECOND CHOICE.

Morning sessions
A1 _____ A 2 _____ A3 _____ A4 _____ A5 _____
Afternoon sessions
B1 _____ B2 _____ B3 _____ B4 _____ B5 _____
C1 _____ C2 _____ C3 _____ C4 _____ C5 _____

Thank you! We look forward to seeing you there!

COST OF CONFERENCE
PIRS Member 1 day $110 ______
2 days $155 ______
2 participants from the same centre may attend on one membership.
NON-member 1 day $155 ______
2 days $180 ______
Student 1 day $55 2 days $80 ______
TOTAL ______
Early Bird Muffin on both days. Lunch included.