

# 2026 Summer Conference

## One Goal: Building The Future Together

### “Putting Families And Children First”



Hilton Tampa Downtown • Tampa, Florida  
 July 30/31; .4246

# 2026 SUMMER CONFERENCE

## Wednesday, July 19, 2026

<b>9:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M.</b>	<b>EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS &amp; SERVICES EXHIBITS</b>	<b>Bayshore I</b>
<b>12:00 NOON-12:45 P.M.</b>	<b>FIRST TIMERS' ORIENTATION SESSION</b>	<b>Palma Ceia II</b>
<b>1:00 P.M.-3:00 P.M.</b>	<b>OPENING GENERAL SESSION</b> Keynote Speaker: LaVonna Roth	<b>Bayshore II</b>
<b>3:15 P.M.-4:45 P.M.</b>	<b>CONCURRENT PRESENTATIONS</b>	
1. Maximizing Executive Presence To Lead	Management & Leadership	Bayshore V
2. Experiencing Nature: Making True Connections For Young Children	Mental Health/Behaviors	Bayshore VI
3. STEAM: How To Tie It In To What You Are Already Doing	Dev Appropriate Curriculum	Bayshore VII
4. The Federal Landscape: Assessing The Opportunities For Early Care & Education	Public Policy and Advocacy	Palma Ceia II
5. Florida's Early Steps Prog: Strengthening Collaboration To Support Children/Families	Special Needs & Inclusion	Palma Ceia III
6. The Language Of CLASS®	Screenings/Assessments/Eval	Palma Ceia IV
7. Teacher, Teacher, What Do I See? Help Infants & Toddlers Use Cues And Visuals	Child Growth/Infant & Toddler	Esplanade I
8. Blooming Empathetic Leadership In Early Childhood	Management & Leadership	Esplanade II
9. What's Your Learning Style? Multisensory Literacy Activities For Emergent Readers	Dev Appropriate Curriculum	Esplanade III
10. It's Okay To Feel That Way: Supporting Children's Social Emotional Development	Child Growth & Development	Garrison
<b>5:00 P.M.-6:00 P.M.</b>	<b>“REDISCOVERING YOUR CHILD”</b>	<b>Bayshore II</b>

# 2026 SUMMER CONFERENCE

Thursday, July 3: , 2026

**8:00 A.M.-10:15 A.M. COFFEE BREAK Bayshore I**

**8:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M. COMMERCIAL EXHIBITS Bayshore I**

**8:30 A.M.-10:00 A.M. CONCURRENT PRESENTATIONS**

11. Don't Ask A Fish To Climb A Tree: Ask Instead: How Can We Define Genius	Child Growth & Development	Bayshore V
12. Advancing Early Childhood Advocacy At The State Level	Public Policy & Advocacy	Bayshore VI
13. Squishing And Splashing: Sensory Experiences And Fluid Play	Child Growth & Development	Bayshore VII
14. Teaching Children "Third Party Entry" - The Key To Positive Social Interactions	Mental Health/Behaviors	Palma Ceia II
15. Mindfully Planning	Child Growth/Special Needs	Palma Ceia III
16. Maestro, ¿qué veo allí? Ayude a los bebés y niños pequeños a usar señales visual	Child Growth/Infant & Toddler	Palma Ceia IV
17. The Process Is EVERYTHING!	Dev Appropriate Curriculum	Esplanade I
18. Let's Have A Little CLASS®	Screenings/Infant & Toddler	Esplanade II
19. How To Elevate Your Digital Footprint For Early Childcare Providers	Family Engagement	Esplanade III
20. Multisensory Strategies For Building Language And Literacy In Infants & Toddlers	Dev Appropriate/Infant & Toddler	Garrison

**10:15 A.M.-11:45 A.M. CONCURRENT PRESENTATIONS**

21. Stop In The Name Of Love: Kick Negativity, Gossip & Whining To The Curb	Management & Leadership	Bayshore V
22. Sensory Processing: How It All Works!	Child Growth/Special Needs	Bayshore VI
23. Shifting Gears To Establish A Positive Work Culture	Management & Leadership	Bayshore VII
24. 2024 State And Federal Legislative Review	Public Policy & Advocacy	Palma Ceia II
25. A CLASS® Act: Maximizing CLASS® Success Through Whole Group Experiences	Dev Appropriate Curriculum	Palma Ceia III
26. Opening The Pathway To Professional Development/Higher Compensation	Collaboration	Palma Ceia IV
27. Leveraging Local Context: Innovative Equity-Based Approach Teacher Prof Learning	Dev Appropriate Curriculum	Esplanade I
28. Ages And Stages Best Practices	Screenings/Assessments/Eval	Esplanade II
29. PBS Comes Alive: Real Teachers, Real Classroom Experiences	Mental Health/Behaviors	Esplanade III
30. Intentional Interactions: Intentionally Planning Take Advantage Teachable Moments	Child Growth & Development	Garrison

**12:00 NOON-1:15 P.M. RESEARCH PRESENTATION Bayshore II**

Keynote Speakers: Dr. Michelle Schladant &  
Dr. Austin Garilli

# 2026 SUMMER CONFERENCE

Thursday, July 3, 2026

**1:30 P.M.-2:30 P.M.**

## CONCURRENT PRESENTATIONS

31. Making Math Fun!	Dev Appropriate Curriculum	Bayshore V
32. Creating A Conducive Learning Environment: The Power Of Purposeful Color	Child Growth & Development	Bayshore VI
33. So You Think You Know Emergent Literacy? Taking Your Practice To Next Level	Dev Appropriate Curriculum	Bayshore VII
34. How Does This Work? Early Childhood Governance Federal To The State Level	Public Policy & Advocacy	Palma Ceia I
35. 7 Strategies To Combat The Hiring Crisis	Management & Leadership	Palma Ceia II
36. Supporting Communication And Language Development In Early Childhood	Special Needs & Inclusion	Palma Ceia III
37. Supporting Family Engagement With Early Literacy Resources And Training	Family Engagement	Palma Ceia IV
38. Learning Not Linear: Using Adaptive Learning Technology To Increase Math/Literacy	Child Growth & Development	Esplanade I
39. Toddlers And Autism: The Importance Of Early Social Communication	Child Growth/Special Needs/Infant	Esplanade II
40. All Together Me	Mental Health/Behaviors	Esplanade III
41. Books And Music: A Perfect Harmony For Learning	Dev Appropriate Curriculum	Garrison

**2:45 P.M.-3:45 P.M.**

## CONCURRENT PRESENTATIONS

42. Laughing Matters: Harnessing The Power Of Laughter Yoga	Mental Health/Behaviors	Bayshore II
43. Fostering The Love Of Literacy: Exploring The Magic Of Reading Aloud To Children	Cultural Diversity/Multicultural Ed	Bayshore V
44. VPK Accountability: What's New And What's Next?	Public Policy & Advocacy	Bayshore VI
45. Concept Development In Early Childhood	Dev Appropriate Curriculum	Bayshore VII
46. Maximizing Professional Development For ECE With Micro-Credentials	Dev Appropriate Curriculum	Palma Ceia I
47. Learning To Read Starts At Birth	Child Growth/Infant & Toddler	Palma Ceia II
48. Engagement And Responsiveness	Special Needs & Inclusion	Palma Ceia III
49. FCCH And PBS: A Recipe For Behavior Success!	Mental Health/Behaviors	Palma Ceia IV
50. Director Toolkit-Supporting Executive Functioning Skills/Intentional Use Technology	Dev Appropriate Curriculum	Esplanade I
51. NDBIs And Autism: Empowering Parents, Impacting Families	Child Growth/Special Needs/Infant	Esplanade II
52. Medical Foster Care: Be A Hero! Come Create A Better Future For Foster Children	Special Needs & Inclusion	Esplanade III
53. Child Care And Development Fund Plan Overview	Collaboration	Garrison

**4:00 P.M.-5:00 P.M.**

## CONCURRENT PRESENTATIONS

54. Communication That Shows Mutual Respect	Management & Leadership	Bayshore II
55. What's New In School Readiness Health And Safety	Health, Safety & Nutrition	Bayshore V
56. Trauma-Informed Care Practices In Childcare	Mental Health/Behaviors	Bayshore VI
57. Growing Florida Strong:Addressing Florida Early Learning/Developmental Standards	Dev Appropriate Curriculum	Bayshore VII
58. Reframing Educator Support Through Life Skills Coaching	Mental Health/Behaviors	Palma Ceia I
59. Back To The Basics: Engaging Math Activities For Children	Dev Appropriate Curriculum	Palma Ceia II
60. Planning Supports For Each And Every Child	Special Needs & Inclusion	Palma Ceia III
61. We Are Family: Supporting Early Literacy At Home	Family Engagement	Palma Ceia IV
62. Unlocking Children's Potential In VPK: Improving Instructional Practice/Readiness	Child Growth & Development	Esplanade I
63. What's In It For Me? Building On Your Strengths	Dev Appropriate Curriculum	Esplanade II
64. Babies' Brains Love Music	Child Growth/Infant & Toddler	Garrison

**7:00 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.**

**"COME ALIVE WITH MUSIC AND  
KARAOKE/LIP SYNC PARTY"**

**Bayshore II**

# 2026 SUMMER CONFERENCE

Friday, July 3, 2026

**8:00 A.M.-10:15 A.M.**

**COFFEE BREAK**

**Bayshore I**

**8:00 A.M.-11:45 A.M.**

**COMMERCIAL EXHIBITS**

**Bayshore I**

**8:30 A.M.-10:00 A.M.**

**CONCURRENT PRESENTATIONS**

65. Music Soothes The Soul And Helps Heal Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES)	Mental Health/Behaviors	Bayshore II
66. Sharing Science Magic With Young Children	Dev Appropriate/Special Needs	Bayshore V
67. Top 10 Violations	Health, Safety & Nutrition	Bayshore VI
68. Transforming Challenging Behaviors Into Mindful Opportunities	Mental Health/Behaviors	Bayshore VII
69. Liderazgo Empático Floreciente en la Primera Infancia	Management & Leadership	Palma Ceia I
70. Building Future Leaders	Management & Leadership	Palma Ceia II
71. Person Centered Planning	Special Needs & Inclusion	Palma Ceia III
72. Building Connections, Building Brains	Child Growth & Development	Esplanade I
73. VPK Program Updates	Public Policy and Advocacy	Esplanade II
74. How To G.R.O.W. Successful Learners	Child Growth & Development	Esplanade III
75. Character Development Begins In Infants And Toddlers	Dev Appropriate/Infant & Toddler	Garrison

**10:15 A.M.-11:45 A.M.**

**CONCURRENT PRESENTATIONS**

76. Playful Pathways To Early STEM Success: Ramping Up Learning Materials/Ramps	Dev Appropriate Curriculum	Bayshore V
77. The Importance Of Sensory Play And YOU!	Child Growth/Special Needs	Bayshore VI
78. Anxiety, Stress, And Emotional Dysregulation: How Do We Support Our Children?	Mental Health/Behaviors	Bayshore VII
79. Abriendo Camino al Desarrollo Profesional y Mejor Compensación	Collaboration	Palma Ceia I
80. Goal Setting: Essential When Envisioning Future Steps	Management & Leadership	Palma Ceia II
81. Multifaceted Approach To Professional Learning In The School Readiness Program	Child Growth & Development	Palma Ceia IV
82. Early Learning Advocacy Best Practices	Public Policy & Advocacy	Esplanade I
83. VPK FAST- Data Driven Decision Making Using Star Early Literacy	Screenings/Assessments/Eval	Esplanade II
84. Positive Behavior Intervention In The Classroom	Mental Health/Behaviors	Esplanade III
85. CLASSy Storytime With Infants And Toddlers	Child Growth/Infant & Toddler	Garrison

**12:00 NOON-1:30 P.M.**

**CLOSING GENERAL SESSION**

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Pamela Phelps

**Bayshore II**

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 17, 2024**

**1:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.**

**OPENING GENERAL SESSION**

Bayshore II

**Presiding:**

Phyllis Kalifeh, Ed.D.  
One Goal Summer Conference  
Tallahassee, Florida

**Keynote Speaker:**

LaVonna Roth  
Creator and Founder  
Ignite Your S.H.I.N.E.  
St. Peterburg, FL



Thousands of educators are exiting the field of education every year, exhausted and burnt out. Frustrated by this crisis that hurts our children, **LaVonna Roth's** life passion is to empower educators like YOU to find the greatness within your children and the greatness within yourself so we can radically change the traditional approach to how to educate to best serve our children. Roth has three degrees, is the author of eight books, and has worked with organizations in the U.S., Canada, Europe, South America, and the Middle East. She is the creator and founder of the Ignite Your S.H.I.N.E. Framework and Prime to S.H.I.N.E. As an elementary and secondary educator, keynote speaker, author, consultant, and mom, she is here to serve you so you can

effectively serve your children through the lens of brain research, social-emotional needs, and the whole child!

**THURSDAY, JULY 19, 2024**

**12:00 NOON – 1:30 P.M.**

**RESEARCH PRESENTATION**

Bayshore II

**Presiding:**

Pam Phelps, Ph.D.  
Chair, One Goal Summer Conference  
Tallahassee, Florida

**Research:**

How assistive technology can be a benefit to all children with and without disabilities, characteristics of a classroom that benefit all children, and best practices.

**Keynote Speakers:**

Michelle Schladant, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics  
University of Miami Mailman Center  
Miami, FL

Austin Garilli, Ph.D.  
Program Manager  
University of Miami Mailman Center's Step Up AT  
Miami, FL



The Principal Investigator, **Michelle Schladant**, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Miami's Mailman Center for Child Development and the Project Director for the South Florida Regional Demonstration Center for the Florida Alliance for Assistive Services and Technology. Dr. Schladant has more than 25 years of experience in special education and is a certified Assistive Technology Professional with specific training and expertise in AT service delivery. She has in-depth knowledge and expertise in the philosophy, methods, and implementation of AT supports for communication and learning. In addition to directing the project, Dr. Schladant spearheads the Step Up AT curriculum development.



**Austin Garilli**, Ph.D., program manager for curriculum and training, is a state-certified teacher of the gifted with credentials for school administration. She has almost 20 years of experience in the classroom working with gifted students, some of whom also had special needs. Additionally, Dr. Garilli served as her school site's professional development liaison with the district for 10 years, streamlining the delivery of continuing education for her faculty. At the University of Miami, she helped lead a program evaluation team in the School of Education and Human Development specializing in school-based educational initiatives. Dr. Garilli received her Ph.D. in educational leadership.

**FRIDAY, JULY 19, 2024**

**12:00 NOON – 1:30 P.M.**

**CLOSING GENERAL SESSION**

Bayshore II

**Presiding:**

Ted Granger  
One Goal Summer Conference  
Tallahassee, Florida

**Topic:**

**You Are Essential**

Those of us who have worked with children and their families for years have always known deep down that while, our work is often hard and unrecognized by others, it is important. I hope that I will kindle a new awareness of your strength and value to society and all whose lives you touch. I hope to leave you with a renewed sense of self-worth.

**Keynote Speaker:**

Pamela C. Phelps, Ph.D.  
Owner/Director of The Creative Pre-School  
Vice Chair, The Creative Center for Childhood Research &  
Training, Inc.  
Tallahassee, Florida



**Pamela C. Phelps, Ph.D.**, has over 50 years' experience working with young children and their families. For nine years she taught kindergarten and first grade in the public schools of Wakulla and Leon Counties in the state of Florida. For the past forty-nine years, she has been the Owner/Director of the Creative Pre-School, providing care for children, ages two months through Kindergarten. Creative has been chosen as a national and state model for the inclusion of young children with disabilities; continuously nationally accredited since 1989; and "A Gold Seal" program in the state of Florida. It is also the home of The Creative Pre-School Model Program Curriculum: Beyond Centers and Circle Time©. Dr. Phelps is the Vice-President of The

Creative Center for Childhood Research and Training, a non-profit corporation, providing training and program consultation for adults working with young children. CCCRT conducts and supports research, makes presentations to professional and non-professional groups on a variety of subjects concerning young children and their families, and is a major sponsor of the One Goal: Building The Future Together "Putting Families and Children First" Conference. She is an international consultant on early childhood education to the Republic of Indonesia and has conducted multiple national symposiums and workshops in that country and the Caribbean. Dr. Phelps is active in local, state, and national professional organizations. She works as an advocate for young children and their families on both the state and national levels. Dr. Phelps is a past chair of the State of Florida's Coordinating Council for Early Childhood Services appointed by the Commissioner of Education for the State of Florida and a past member of The Florida Interagency Council for Infants and Toddlers. She has published articles in professional early childhood and special education journals; directed research in early childhood settings; and regularly conducts workshops for educators and parents on play and play environments, behavior management, and numerous other topics related to young children. Dr. Phelps has received numerous awards and recognitions.