

APRIL 2022

# Ready. Set. Grow!

THE BIRTH TO 3RD GRADE PARTNERSHIP  
NEWSLETTER



## OUR MISSION:

The mission of the Birth to 3rd Grade Partnership is to **connect** the Cambridge early childhood ecosystem, **align** early childhood services and information, and **advocate** for and **advance** the needs of all young children, their families, and the early childhood workforce.

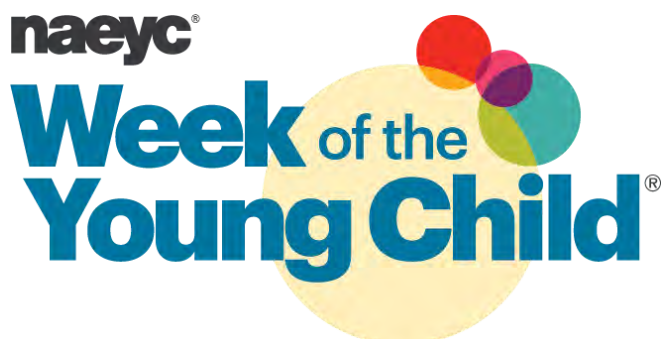
## A letter from our Executive Director



**Dear Cambridge Early Childhood Community,**

I cannot believe it's already April! With this month comes the promise of warmer weather (hopefully) and the National Association for the Education of Young Children - Week of the Young Child! In celebration of this national event, The Birth to 3rd Grade Partnership will be hosting its 2nd Annual Week of the Young Child event. We will kick the week off this Saturday, April 2nd from 9am - 11am at the Cambridge Public Library in the STEAM Learning Lab, where we will host a networking event. I encourage you all to join us for a light breakfast and opportunity to mingle with the Birth to 3rd Grade team, city and school leadership, and our early childhood colleagues! We will then be facilitating our first two in-person workshops in over two years. There will be a variety of virtual workshops held throughout the week. For more information and for the link to register, see the schedule shared later in this newsletter. I want to share a huge THANK YOU to our community partners and friends of B3 who will be facilitating workshops this week. I also want to thank the B3 team...many of whom are hosting sessions, facilitating workshops, or working diligently behind the scenes to bring things all together.

NAEYC has some amazing resources for those of you who want to continue the celebration in your own programs. I encourage you to check them out [HERE!](#)



In partnership,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Lisa Grant".

Dr. Lisa Grant  
Executive Director  
Birth to 3rd Grade Partnership

# The Birth to 3rd Grade Partnership Team

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The Birth to 3rd Grade Partnership is a collaboration supported by the City of Cambridge and Cambridge Public Schools

# Updates for the Field

## COVID-19 Updates

View the latest resources and information from **EEC** regarding COVID-19 [here](#).

View the latest resources and information from the **City of Cambridge** regarding COVID-19 [here](#).

## Department of Early Education & Care News

On March 8th the Board of Early Education & Care named Amy Kershaw as its new Acting Commissioner. Read more [here](#)!

Missed the last EEC Board Meeting from March 8, 2022? Catch a recording of it [here](#)!

**The Department of Early Care & Education's April board meeting has been cancelled. The following board meeting will be held on:**

**May 10, 2022 from 1 - 4pm**  
**You can watch the meeting live on the Department's YouTube Channel [here](#).**

# More Updates!

**Just in case you missed it last month...**

**The Birth to 3rd Grade Partnership has moved!**

**Our new offices are located at  
1972 Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02140**

**All of our email and telephone contacts will remain the same.**



## **Continuous Quality Improvement Program**

Are you a center director or family child care educator looking for increased support, coaching, & funding to help increase the quality of your program? Or maybe you'd like to start a program of your own but don't know where to begin?

B3 is looking for programs and educators who are interested in joining us on a journey towards continuous quality improvement! To find out more about how to join this exciting initiative, contact us at [b3info@cpsd.us](mailto:b3info@cpsd.us)

## **The Center for Families April Newsletter is now available!**

Inside you'll find information about a wide variety of resources and programs...from Cambridge Dads to Mindfulness Mondays to free resource bags for families and more.

To read the April newsletter click: [HERE](#)

# Intentional & Inclusive Spaces in Early Education

Please join B3 Director Mentor Nicole Johnson for a thoughtful series of virtual workshops on intentional practices in Anti-racist, Anti-bias, inclusive education. While acknowledging the current barriers and stress levels within our communities, we will help support program leaders and teachers in cultivating conversation around culturally relevant and sustaining pedagogical practices, reflective application, and safe learning spaces.

This series will take place virtually from 1:00-2:00  
on:  
February 23, 2022  
March 23, 2022  
April 20, 2022  
May 18, 2022

We encourage attendance for all 4 sessions. If you are unable to attend, recordings will be available to those who register.

Registration is required:

<https://www.cb3p.org/sessions/80/>

# Community Announcement

Applications are open for **Cambridge in Motion** mini-grants for healthy eating and physical activity in Cambridge! This year, projects will be funded at \$1000 each. Apply online, or visit our CiM page to download an application and find guidelines. The deadline is April 4, 2022.

# Upcoming Professional Development Opportunities

## **Building Equity Early: The Importance of the Anti-racist Classroom in Facilitating and Measuring the Development of Racial Awareness**

Saturday, May 7, 2022 from 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM EDT

The purpose of this presentation is to describe why it is important to build children's sense of racial awareness and racial equity in the early years and to describe how early childhood classrooms and programs can help facilitate this.

Speaker - Stephanie M. Curenton, PhD - tenured Associate Professor at BU Wheelock College of Education & Human Development and the director of the Center for the Ecology of Early Childhood Development (CEED). Click [HERE](#) to register.

## **MASSAIMH**

### **Building Our Capacity to Advance Racial Equity for Young Children**

#### **SESSION 2: IMPLICIT BIAS IN EARLY CHILDHOOD SPACES**

**April 27th 11:00AM - 1:00PM**

Presenters: Dr. Rosemarie Allen, Founder and President, Center for Equity & Excellence  
Dr. Elmer Harris, Jasmine Crane, and Dr. Rikeshia Fry Brown

This session will explore social justice issues that impact how we serve and interact with others. Topics include: implicit bias and how it impacts early childhood spaces; color-blind and culture-blind ideology as barriers to addressing racial equity, and; cultural humility as a strategy to prevent bias. Click [HERE](#) to register.

## **Cultivating Happier Environments for Children, Caregivers, and Early Childhood Providers**

Pyramid Model Consortium is offering this 3-part online series focused on Cultivating Happier Environments for Children, Caregivers, and Early Childhood Providers. Join Pam Garramone, M.Ed., in a series focused on a culture of care. Pam is an award-winning speaker who presents on positive psychology-the science of happiness.

Session 1: Feel Happier (even in tough times) April 12th at 12:30 pm to 2:00 pm

Session 2: Resilience, Relationships and Relief – Using Positive Psychology to Thrive in Tough Times May 3rd at 12:30 pm to 2:00 pm

Session 3: Act as If: A Science-based Approach to a Happier, More Confident You! May 24th at 12:30 pm to 2:00 pm

\$30 per person for the 3-part series. Attendees will be expected to participate in all three events. Click [HERE](#) to Register!

## Reflective Supervision in Early Education and Care

8 consecutive Wednesdays

April 6- May 25

4:00pm-6:00pm ET

Online via Zoom

For more information about the course and to register, please visit [JFCS Boston](#)

**MERGE** is excited to continue offering its **Developing Healthy Boys** training online for Early Childhood Educators. With goals to engage more effectively with children about healthy relationships and gender equality, we develop the concepts of healthy and unhealthy male socialization. We encourage a full appreciation of the whole boy to maximize their capacity to be their authentic selves. JOIN US for an Introductory Webinar where we will review our training approach and answer your questions.

1 pm-2:30pm ET, Tuesday, April 19th. Click [HERE](#) to register.

**In addition to the offerings above, please check StrongStart's online PD calendar for more training opportunities: <https://eecstrongstart.org/training-schedule>**

Does your team want to eat healthier? Become a breastfeeding-friendly site? Offer more diverse recipes or try some new wellness ideas? The **Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL)** unit at the Cambridge Public Health Department (CPHD) can help you achieve your wellness goals!

We offer a range of technical supports to assist with such things as:

- menu upgrades and training for cooks;
- taste tests with new foods;
- teacher trainings (talking about food, lunch-time dynamics, etc.);
- family night nutrition talks;
- onsite breastfeeding improvements;
- gardening and growing ideas;
- and much more - tell us what you need!

Check out this new **HEAL Corner** each month for fresh tips on healthy living for you, your staff and your center!

Reach out and let's start a conversation about how we can support you! **Rachael Cross** is the public health nutritionist and technical assistant. To start exploring your wellness potential, email Rachael at [rcross@challiance.org](mailto:rcross@challiance.org)!





# Registration is now open!



## Cambridge Week of the Young Child

### April 2-8, 2022

Networking!



Please join the Birth to 3rd Grade Partnership for the 2nd Annual Cambridge Week of the Young Child event. This is a special time to celebrate the hard work of early childhood educators (including administrators, teachers, family childcare providers, home visitors, and families supporting their children's learning at home) by coming together for creative and thoughtful professional development workshops.

This year we are thrilled to offer the opportunity to join together IN-PERSON on Saturday, April 2 from 9:00-11:00am for a Networking Session with a light breakfast and fun giveaways! Please register for our Networking Session here:

<https://www.cb3p.org/sessions/102/>

In addition to networking, we will be offering two workshops on Saturday April 2nd. Please register here for those events:

<https://www.cb3p.org/sessions/104/>

<https://www.cb3p.org/sessions/109/>

Our fun, VIRTUAL workshops will take place all week long in the evenings, Monday through Friday, from 6:30-7:30 pm. To register and for more information please click here:

<https://www.cb3p.org/>

Learning  
New Skills!



naeyc  
Week of the  
Young Child™

Connecting  
with  
Colleagues!

Join us for a special **Networking Session** and breakfast on **Saturday, April 2nd from 9:00am-11:00am**, followed by two **Professional Development Workshops IN-PERSON!** Saturday's events will be held at the **STEAM Learning Lab** at the **Cambridge Public Library - Main Branch**. **Please be sure to register for this event at the link above.**

# Schedule

All **Weekday** Evening Sessions are **6:30-7:30 PM**  
unless otherwise noted.

## **SATURDAY**

9:00-11:00 Networking  
Session/Breakfast

&

11:15-12:15 Introduction to  
Beautiful Stuff

&

12:30-1:30 Essential Wellness for the  
EEC Environment

## **MONDAY**

Moving away from the 'Kitchen  
Corner': Authentically and  
Meaningfully Expanding Classroom  
Sociodramatic play

&

Early Childhood Music and  
Preparatory Audiation

## **TUESDAY**

Enseñanza habilidades para  
resolver problemas  
utilizando las historias sociales  
(ends at 8:00PM)

&

Childhood: What's  
the Rush?

## **WEDNESDAY**

Teaching Problem-Solving Skills  
with Scripted Stories  
(ends at 8:00PM)

&

Beautiful Stuff:  
Found Object  
Mandalas

## **THURSDAY**

Using Visual Communication  
Aids to Support  
Positive Behavior

&

Beautiful Stuff: Make Your  
Own Treasure Boxes

## **FRIDAY**

Mindfulness in Action

&

School Readiness:  
Taking Research to Practice



# Curiosity through Creation!



## STEAM *in the early years*

Please join us for a four part workshop series happening in May.

**Who:**

Educators working with children age 3-5 years old in school settings, after school programs, family child care, or child care centers.

**When:**

May 4, 11, 18, & 25 from 6:30-8:00pm.

All sessions will be in-person. Dinner will be provided.

Educators will receive a materials kit and a stipend for attending all four sessions.

Please reach out to

Barb MacEachern | [bmaceachern@cambridgema.gov](mailto:bmaceachern@cambridgema.gov)  
or Liz Barlock | [ebarlock@cpsd.us](mailto:ebarlock@cpsd.us) for more information.



**STEAM Initiative**  
CAMBRIDGE



## Look who's hiring!

### **Jami Rock and Roll Day Care**

#### **Child Care Center Director**

- \*Sign-On Bonus and Great Benefits!
- \*EEC DI & DII Certified
- \*Follow and Implement EEC Licensing Procedures & Regulations
- \*Maintain a professional environment
- \*Enjoy engaging children in fun and positive experiences.
- \*Music Based Montessori Inspired
- \*Daily Communication with staff, families, and admin team
- \*Full Time Position
- \*Teamwork makes the dream work!

#### **Program Specialist**

- \*Sign-On Bonus and Great Benefits!
- \*EEC DI Certified
- \*Follow and Implement EEC Licensing Procedures & Regulations
- \*Assist Child Care Center Program Director
- \*Curriculum Development
- \*Maintain a professional environment
- \*Enjoy engaging children in fun and positive experiences.
- \*Music Based Montessori Inspired
- \*Daily Communication with staff, families, and admin team
- \*Full Time Position
- \*Teamwork makes the dream work!

Please contact: Melinda Wellington (HR & QA Director) [hr@csq.rockandrolldaycare.com](mailto:hr@csq.rockandrolldaycare.com) or 617-363-6435 (Jami Rock and Roll Day Care locations in Cambridge: Inman Square, Central Square, Broadway, Porter Square, East Cambridge, and Northpoint)

**The Birth to 3rd Grade Partnership** Is hiring a **UPK Project Manager**! The Universal Pre-K Project Manager will support the design and implementation of the city's universal pre-k system by convening constituent groups, synthesizing data and information, managing timelines, and communicating progress and information out to stakeholders and the broader community. To view the job description or to apply please click [HERE!](#)