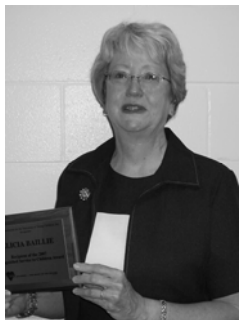


2007 DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO CHILDREN AWARD

Alicia Baille and Michelle Rupiper



Alicia Baille has worked tirelessly to promote high quality early childhood services in Nebraska, shown great leadership in developing her students as professional early childhood teachers, has positively influenced hundreds of early childhood teachers in Nebraska over the

course of her career, actively pursued establishing articulation agreements with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and worked diligently with other community colleges to improve transfer of credits from one institution to another, provided great support to the efforts to create online Early Childhood Education courses, has hired and mentored an incredible group of women to help prepare Early Childhood Teachers. Congratulations, Alicia!



Dr. Michelle Rupiper is currently teaching early childhood education courses at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and directs the Ruth Staples Laboratory School on campus. She began her career over 20 years ago as a preschool teacher. Since that time she has taught all ages of young children as well as directed early childhood

programs. Dr. Rupiper has served as the president of Omaha AEYC, Nebraska AEYC, Midwest AEYC and is serving as the Nebraska's NAEYC affiliate representative. She is one of the state's most popular and qualified trainers, led the Nebraska AEYC through the restructuring process and the most recent 2006 Midwest AEYC Conference. Congratulations, Michelle!