



Congratulations to Jennifer Haggart for receiving the NAEYC Distinguished Service to Children Award for 2013!

Jennifer has been a tireless advocate for children throughout her career. For the past six years she has been the Coordinator for the Early Learning Consortium of the Omaha Area (ECCOA) programs in Cass, Douglas, Sarpy and Washington counties.

In this role she has worked to increase the diversity and availability of professional development opportunities for early childhood professionals in the four county metro Omaha area. Her networking with organizations, businesses and providers, both for-profit and not-for-profit, has resulted in an ever-increasing amount of needed training, offered in a variety of locations and at times that make attendance accessible for all. In the Omaha area, Jennifer's name is synonymous with quality early childhood professional development! Jennifer works to build community partnerships that bring many players to the table to support E.C. She has worked to connect the partners for expansion of resources and a better delivery on intentional trainings in the Omaha area.

Congratulations to Dr. Marjorie Kostelnik for receiving the NeAEYC Distinguished Service to Children Award for 2013!

Marjorie Kostelnik is dean of the College of Education and Human Services at UNL. A former child care, Head Start and preschool teacher, as well as elementary school specialist, Dr. Kostelnik has been actively involved in helping educators in early childhood programs explore the implications of developmentally appropriate practices. Her work has taken her to many settings throughout the U.S. and abroad where she has worked with in-service and pre-service teachers. Marjorie teaches classes in early childhood inclusive education and is currently on the Coordinating Commission for High Quality Early Childhood Education for the state of Ne. She is the author of several books regarding early childhood education and continues to contribute up-to-date information to the field. She has been active in NAEYC and is past vice president.

In addition to her busy work schedule, Jennifer has been an active member of the Omaha AEYC. She has served as President and Past President. She worked to increase membership on the board, and raised the level of awareness of Omaha AEYC and its mission.

Jennifer's dedication to the professional development needs of early childhood providers have made her a leader in the field and worthy of this award!

