



# Early Childhood Education Conference



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ENC Preschool, LPA Design Studios

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## EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION CONFERENCE

*Austin, Texas • February 25-26, 2020*

The developmental experience of early childhood is one of active engagement and assertiveness as children explore their world and their ability to impact it. Join us as leading industry experts gather to discuss the unique challenges of developing young learners. This workshop will examine early childhood learning through the lens of the built environment, as participants consider the ways in which school design can support both developmental and academic goals.

Speakers will offer insights from the fields of youth development, mind-brain education and play-based learning. Practitioner and industry leaders will connect theory to on-the-ground practice, with activities designed to leverage the collective knowledge of participants to consider design solutions. The event will conclude with a tour of an Early Childhood campus with innovative early childhood learning environments to offer inspiration and design ideas for future schools.



Facilitated by:

Kate Mraw, RID, ALEP  
Associate Principal, LPA Design Studios



Understand the essential needs of early childhood from a youth development and **brain-based perspective**.

Explore connections between the needs of early childhood and the design features of a **child-centered learning environment**.

Examine the implications for the design process, including **stakeholder outreach** involving young children, families, and the community.

Learn about design applications to create spaces for future projects that **promote the goals of early childhood development**





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‘I’m pretty sure I was born to  
play outside... what about you?’

- Josie, age 5



Of the **2.5 million** students who dropped out of high school last year, about 1.6 million were firmly set on that trajectory when they were 8 years old

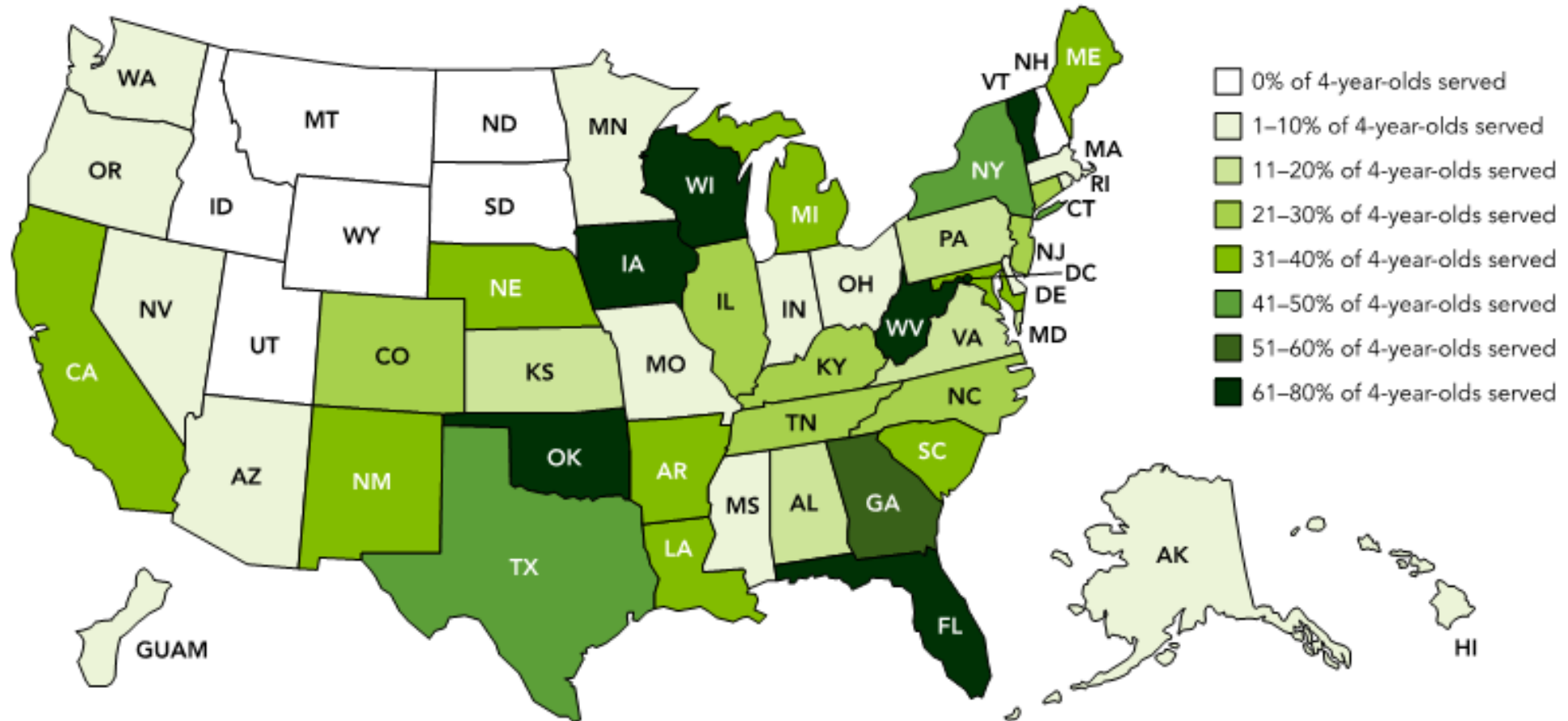




19,810,275

*Learners in the United States, Age 0-4 (2019)*

Percent of Students Served in State Preschool (4 yr olds)





In the last 3 years, 30 states have increased funding for pre-K, demonstrating overall support for expanding access.

Additionally, Daycare as an amenity is increasing in corporate America.

Source: Education Commission of the States, 2018  
<http://www.ecs.org/>





Creating Places And Spaces For  
Building Better Minds



# schedule

Tuesday 2/25

8:30am

Opening / Welcome

9:00am-10:15am

Children's Enactment of Civic Agency through Space

Katherina A. Payne, PhD

10:45am

BREAK

11:00am – 12:15pm

Through A Child's Eyes: How Classroom Design Inspires Learning & Wonder

Sandra Duncan, EdD

12:15pm – 1:00pm

LUNCH

1:15pm – 2:30pm

The Impact of Outdoor Learning Environments on Student Success

Amanda McMickle: Director of Will Smith Zoo School

2:45pm – 4:00pm

PANEL DISCUSSION:

Breaking the Aesthetic Code: Essential Understandings for Early Childhood Design

Sandra Duncan, EdD, Lauren Magee & Linda Watts

4:30pm – 5:00pm

TRAVEL

5:00pm – 7:00pm

Magnolia Montessori For All School tour and Networking Social





# schedule

Wednesday 2/26

8:30am

Opening / Welcome

9:00am-10:10am

Social Emotional and Physical Requirements of the Early Learner thru Observational Research

David A. Stubbs II CEO/President/Founder, Cultural-Shift

10:15am

BREAK

10:45am – 12:00pm

Deep Dive Discussion on ECE Design

Kate Mraw ALEP, LPA

12:15pm – 1:30pm

The Story of Menchaca Elementary School

Eliza Loyola, Principal & Mary Tijerina, Teacher – Austin ISD

1:45pm – 3:00pm

Rooted in Place: The Power of Learning Spaces that Welcome the Local Context

Julie Z Cramer, Wayfinding Education



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