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.
'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.

Source: Education Commission of the States, 2018
http://www.ecs.org/
Source: The National Institute for Early Education Research, State of Preschool Summary, 2018
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

Eastwood Elementary School, LPA Design Studios
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
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
Thank you

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