



Florida Association for the Education of Young Children affiliate of NAEYC and SECA

Professional Membership Organization for the Early Childhood Field

Over 3000 members from the vast field of early care and education throughout the state of Florida.

The association empowers its members by providing leadership, advocacy, professional development and networking opportunities

We proudly ensure that the early childhood profession exemplifies excellence and is recognized as performing a vital role in society.

Florida Early Childhood Educator of the Year Award

Presented by FLAEYC and the Children's Movement

Established in 2021 in partnership with the Children's Movement as a way to celebrate excellence in teaching throughout the state.

Highlighting the dedication and work our early childhood educators provide everyday.

Elevating the importance of their work in ensuring all children have access to high quality education experiences.

Florida's Early Learning Roadmap

Developed by
the Children's Movement

Our Destination

The pages that follow offer a roadmap to our shared destination – our collective vision for Florida's early learning system and what it provides children, families, and the community of professionals required to ensure our children's success. This vision consists of four key components:



1. Thriving Parents

All parents – including mothers, fathers, and other caregivers – and families can access the resources and support they need to help their children thrive, including mental health resources, caregiver support systems, and affordable year-round early learning that meets the unique developmental needs of their children.



2. Impactful Learning Experiences

Every teacher has the tools to provide every child with engaging, hands-on, high-quality, developmentally appropriate, differentiated, and purposefully playful early learning experiences that foster the magic of exploration and learning as the foundation for healthy early childhood development and school readiness.



3. A Respected Workforce

The teachers and directors who are the backbone of the early learning system are recognized, respected, and supported with ample training, competitive compensation, and benefits that support them in making a living as a career early learning professional.



4. A Well-Coordinated, Resourced, & Data-Driven System

All parents, educators, and other family service providers work together, communicate regularly, and coordinate effectively in an aligned, well-funded, data-driven, accessible, and effective early learning system that supports the growth, development, and overall success of all young children in Florida.

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2021 - Jenny Gallego
Kinderoo Academy Ocala



2022 - Caridad De La Torriente
Creative Learning Center Miami



2023 - Crystal Sherwood
Play and Learn Pre K Miami

Criteria for Selection:

- Educator for at least 3 years
- Currently an educator either center based or as a family childcare home provider
- Creates and supports an inclusive environment
- Ongoing commitment to professional development and growth
- Serves as a resource for families they serve
- Does not have to be a FLAEYC member

How do I nominate?

- Gather the following documentation:
 - 2 letters of support, including one from a FLAEYC member
 - Evidence or demonstration of nominee's teaching abilities (video demonstration, photos, classroom flyer, etc)
 - Headshot photo of nominee (.jpg or .png)
- Complete Nomination Application Form

For more information visit our website:

<https://www.flaecy.org/resources/award-nominations>



The Early Childhood Educator of the Year will receive:

Beautiful Glass Award - presented Friday October 17th at the FLAEYC Conference at the Omni Orlando Resort at Championsgate

Free conference registration
Free hotel night
\$500 check
FLAEYC membership