



Winning the Challenge for Excellence

21st Annual GSA Child Care Training Conference

July 13 - 15, 2010 Las Vegas, Nevada





Winning the Challenge for Excellence

The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) invites you to Las Vegas, Nevada for our Twenty-first Annual Child Care Training Conference. Our theme this year, GSA Child Care: Winning the Challenge for Excellence, signifies our collaborative ongoing commitment to providing high quality care to the federal families and communities we serve.

The conference is designed to maximize training opportunities, share new and successful practices, build on past conference training, and address questions and issues of importance to our participants. This year's conference offers a unique opportunity to strengthen our alliances with providers, families and boards and network with colleagues from across the country. We will learn and share together in sessions led by industry experts, government professionals and child care advocates. Together we can gain new perspectives, direction and insight to draw on our strengths and further enhance the quality of our programs.

We welcome back all who have attended past GSA conferences and encourage everyone interested in employer sponsored quality child care to register for the conference. We are pleased to again offer Continuing Education Units, as well as Graduate and Undergraduate Credit, to registered participants.

Highlights of the conference agenda are included in this brochure. We hope you will participate in this exciting event in the Entertainment Capital of the World.



Conference Agenda

The following pages provide a general overview of this year's training conference. Detailed descriptions start on page 5.

Tuesday, July 13

- 8:00 – 12:30 **Social Security Administration National Meeting**
- 8:30 – 5:00 **Federal Aviation Administration National Meeting**
- 8:30 – 12:00 **GSA Child Care Division and Regional Child Care Coordinators Meeting**
- 9:00 – 11:00 **Veterans Administration National Meeting**
- 12:00 – 5:00 **Conference Registration**
- 2:00 – 3:45 **Networking Session for Directors**
- 4:00 – 5:00 **Meetings with GSA Regional Child Care Coordinators**
- 5:30 – 7:30 **Welcome Reception & Awards Ceremony**

Wednesday, July 14

- 6:30 – 7:15 **Group Exercise**
- 7:30 – 8:15 **Continental Breakfast**
- 8:00 – 5:00 **Conference Registration and Exhibits**
- 8:30 – 10:15 **General Session: Overcoming Challenges and Obstacles**
- 10:30 – 12:00 **Breakout Sessions**
 - Working with Difficult People **Director**
 - Helping Children Thrive and Teachers Survive **Teacher**
 - Revitalizing Your Board **Board**
 - Senior Leadership Session **Facility**
 - New Director's Session **Bonus**
- 12:15 – 2:15 **Opening Luncheon: Raising Charitable Children**
- 2:30 – 4:30 **Breakout Sessions**
 - Child Abuse: Identification and Reporting **Director**
 - Incorporating Physical Activity Throughout the Preschool Day **Teacher**
 - Transforming Ordinary People into Fundraising Superheroes **Board**
 - Creating Developmentally Appropriate Playgrounds **Facility**
 - Eco-Healthy Child Care: Creating Green & Healthy Environments **Bonus**
- 5:00 – 7:30 **Optional Tours**

Thursday, July 15

6:30 – 7:15

Group Exercise

7:30 – 8:15

Continental Breakfast

8:00 – 5:00

Conference Registration and Exhibits

8:30 – 10:00

Breakout Sessions

Planning an Effective Staff Development Program **Director**

Music and Movement Activities for Young Children **Teacher**

Recruiting and Orienting Your Nonprofit Dream Team **Board**

What's New? Update on Property Managers Child Care Desk Guide **Facility**

Maintaining Quality through the Term of Accreditation **Bonus**

10:15 – 11:45

Breakout Sessions

Nutrition Education as a Tool to Prevent Childhood Obesity **Director**

Creating Successful Learning Environments for Infants and Toddlers **Teacher**

Visions of Success **Board**

Open Forum on Child Care Facility Issues **Facility**

Classroom Portfolios as a Strategy for Professional Development **Bonus**

12:00 – 2:00

NAEYC Accreditation Awards Luncheon

2:15 – 3:45

Breakout Sessions

Using the Early Language and Literacy Classroom Observation (ELLCO) Tool for Program Improvement **Director**

Supporting Children with Disabilities in Inclusive Classrooms **Teacher**

Marketing **Board**

Don't Gamble with Your LEED Project **Facility**

Lessons Learned and What is Next from NAEYC Accreditation **Bonus**

4:00 – 5:00

Closing Session: The Power of Laughter

In Las Vegas, the weather in the summer can be very hot, in July the average high is 102° and the average low is 68°. Although the heat is dry, you must stay hydrated and understand that heatstroke is possible with prolonged outside exposure.

Meeting space in large hotels can be cold, and we have no control over the thermostat settings. For your comfort, please dress in layers.

Remember to sign up for food events on your registration form. That allows us to ensure the proper number of meals for each event.

Key Speakers



Amy Roloff may be little, but is living life LARGE! Amy is a working mom, invested in balancing the various aspects of her life—including filming the TLC television show, *Little People, Big World*. She has been married for 21 years to Matt

Roloff and together they have four energetic children. With grace and skill, Amy navigates her hectic life alongside the busy schedules of her children, her project-orientated husband, the family farm in Helvetia, life on television, speaking engagements and volunteer service. Amy has served her Oregon community in many ways, including as a preschool teacher, soccer coach, school board member and parade Grand Marshall.

Amy's physical challenges in being a little person have not stopped her from overcoming obstacles and difficulties. She lives an adventurous life with true purpose. Amy looks at challenges as opportunities to continually learn, grow and reach greater heights. She lives by example, encouraging and supporting others through their own challenges, while emphasizing the benefits of community and team success.



Carol Weisman, MSW, CSP is the President of Board Builders. She is an internationally known speaker, author, trainer and consultant whose specialty is in volunteerism, fundraising and governance. She has served on 32 boards and has

been president of seven. She has a Masters Degree in Education and a Masters in social work. She began her professional career working with street gangs, a marvelous background for working with boards. She found the gangs better organized, with clearer expectations and a solid leadership training

program. She is the author of nine books. "Raising Charitable Children" is in its 3rd printing and was featured in December in The New York Times, Parade Magazine, and Scholastic Parent and Child magazines. Her latest book is, "Transforming Ordinary People into Fundraising Superheroes: Even for those who hate to ask."



Hap Palmer, MA is an innovator in the use of music and movement to teach skills and encourage the use of imagination. An accomplished musician, singer/songwriter and educator, his multiple skilled talents on guitar, bass, percussion, saxophone, flute

and clarinet can be heard on his various recordings. His recordings and videos have received numerous honors including the Parents' Choice Award, the American Library Association Notable Designation, the National Association of Parent Publications Award, The Early Childhood News Directors Choice Award and the American Video Award.



Carol Moore, MS, RNC has worked in a variety of health care settings during her 25+ years of nursing experience. She has been a military nurse, worked in public health, in physician offices and in several hospitals. Currently she is an Education

Specialist at Peninsula Regional Medical Center in Salisbury, MD.

Carol has presented numerous workshops locally and nationally on various educational topics, but her favorite presentations are on humor, laughter and learning to cope successfully with the many stressors in our lives.

Tuesday, July 13

2:00 – 3:45 Networking Session for Directors

In response to your many requests, we are kicking off the conference with this networking opportunity for Directors. Join us for an open forum to meet your fellow Directors from across the country and discuss strategies for handling some of the biggest challenges in the world of child care.

4:00 – 5:00 Meetings with GSA Regional Child Care Coordinators

Meet with your GSA Coordinator and network with regional attendees.

5:30 – 7:30 Welcome Reception & Awards Ceremony

Presentation of Awards: Bob Peck, Commissioner, Public Buildings Service, GSA

Liz Themelis, Director, Child Care Division, PBS, GSA

Take time to celebrate key individuals whose work has improved the quality of our child care centers and network with others who share in our commitment to children.



Entertainment provided by Philip and Henry Productions. Come enjoy a professional magician that will leave even the biggest of skeptics in awe!

Wednesday, July 14

8:30 – 10:15 General Session

Overcoming Challenges and Obstacles - Amy Roloff

Join Amy Roloff, former preschool teacher and The Learning Channel personality on "Little People, Big World" as she tells her story of parenting with a disability and having a child with a disability. Amy explores family dynamics, individuality, social encounters and school trials that her son must face. Amy's story is of parents, child and siblings who learn to live their lives to be the best they can be with purpose.

10:30 – 12:00 Breakout Sessions

Working with Difficult People – Bob Siegel, MEd

Directors are constantly working with a variety of people and relationships in the course of their job. Join us for this session as we view the various personality types in the center and discuss concrete strategies for turning your challenging people into positive partners.

Helping Children Thrive and Teachers Survive - Judi Hetzel and Verda Sherrod, MEd

Participants in this session will learn how to anticipate, minimize, and prevent socially unacceptable behaviors using ten "Challenging Behavior" concepts. Strategies for understanding, identifying, and responding to challenging behaviors will be discussed. Teachers will learn about the unique role that they play in preventing or accelerating undesirable behaviors.

Revitalizing Your Board – Aaron Lindstrom

This session will focus on how to make your board fun and functional again. Aaron Lindstrom will share his personal experience as the President of a GSA board and help you identify strategies for dealing with board business, creating accountability on the board, and how to make your board a fun and rewarding experience. Participants will leave this session with a positive attitude and concrete steps that can be implemented at your next board meeting.

Senior Leadership Session – Liz Themelis, Moderator

GSA senior leadership will speak to the importance of providing quality child care facilities and programs for working families, how that contributes to the agency goals of a family friendly work environment, and other relevant issues. Q & A to follow.

Session Descriptions

New Director's Session – Emily Friddle, Linda Auriemma, and Ashley Nigro

This session is intended for directors who have been in a GSA Child Care Center two years or less. Participants will explore the director's guide and learn more about the partnership between GSA, Federal Agencies and the child care provider. Specific topics regarding the background check clearance process, cleaning and maintenance, roles and responsibilities and reporting requirements will be discussed. The session will focus on issues new directors face and explore solutions unique to GSA Child Care Centers.

12:15 – 2:15 Opening Luncheon

Raising Charitable Children – Carol Weisman, MSW, CSP

Anyone who has ever worked with children rejoices in the sharing moments that naturally occur. This presentation will focus on how to enhance, expand and create an atmosphere to support charitable behavior. We will also cover why it is so important for children to develop these skills so that they will thrive in even the most challenging circumstances.

2:30 – 4:30 Breakout Sessions

Child Abuse: Identification and Reporting – Leo Bonner, PhD

Participants will be provided information on the reasons for providing training on the identification and reporting of child abuse; the definition of child abuse; the four major categories of abuse; and characteristics of caregivers/parents who abuse.

Incorporating Physical Activity Throughout the Preschool Day – Teresa Byington, MS, Anne Lindsay, MS, and Tara Spann

Preschool children love to move and be active. Physical activity should be incorporated into the daily routine of your preschool day. Join us for this session to learn about fun ways to increase movement through both structured and unstructured play. Participants will have the opportunity to move with rainbow ribbons, dance with the Latin song "Ven Conmigo" and play the Count My Moves game.

Transforming Ordinary People into Fundraising Superheroes – Carol Weisman, MSW, CSP

No one joins a nonprofit board because they are looking for a great opportunity to fundraise. To paraphrase Shakespeare, some are born to fundraise, some achieve fundraising and some have fundraising thrust upon them. This session is for all three groups. You will leave understanding how you can get involved in fundraising actively, joyfully and productively even if you are the most ask-averse person on the planet. We will talk about the PROCESS of fundraising and how EVERYONE on your board can get involved.

Creating Developmentally Appropriate Playgrounds – Joe Frost, EdD, LHD

This session will provide an overview of major developmentally relevant playground issues, beginning with a discussion of the developmental values of play and continuing with design, maintenance, supervision, and integration of indoor and outdoor play and learning environments. There will be a question and answer period.

Eco-Healthy Child Care: Creating Green & Healthy Environments – Carol Stroebel

The first few years of a child's life are critical to shaping his or her future health. Research links common chemicals to health concerns, ranging from asthma to learning disabilities. Small steps to reduce toxins can make a big difference in improving a child's health. Come learn simple and effective techniques to make your child care facility as environmentally healthy, safe and green as possible.

5:00 – 7:30 Optional Tours

Tour the MGM Grand and the University of Nevada Las Vegas child care facilities.

Thursday, July 15

8:30 – 10:00 Breakout Sessions

Planning an Effective Staff Development Program – Rachel Robertson

Because of research proving its importance, training for early childhood staff is now on the national radar, and Directors must ensure that their staff members receive adequate training. In this session, we will discuss how to develop a sustainable and effective professional development training program in your center. In a few easy and engaging steps, participants will leave with a plan to move from staff meetings and occasional workshops to a progressive and inclusive approach to professional development.

Music and Movement Activities for Young Children - Hap Palmer, MA

Come join Hap Palmer who pioneered the integration of music and movement in the field of early childhood in this fun and educational session. The audience will be expected to participate while learning how to use music to enhance the development of motor skills, language acquisition, basic math skills, and basic science concepts. This method of teaching also introduces fundamental music concepts to young children, while encouraging imagination and creativity.

Recruiting and Orienting Your Nonprofit Dream Team - Carol Weisman, MSW, CSP

Is there a long line of qualified board members who want to make your child care center all that it can be? Do your board members feel truly valued? Do their pictures belong on a plaque or a milk carton? Are you aware of all of the ways to reinforce the behavior you value? Plan to leave with a solid plan of how to recruit and orient your board.

What's New? Update on Property Managers Child Care Desk Guide – Jennifer Fee and Robyn Major

The Property Managers Child Care Desk Guide contains information to assist facility personnel with the management of child care centers within their space. This desk guide provides insight into: cleaning, design and remodeling, equipment, maintenance, environmental health, security, and more. Both new and experienced property managers are encouraged to attend and bring your expertise, challenges, and questions.

Maintaining Quality through the Term of Accreditation – Stephanie Olmore and Abena Ocran

NAEYC staff will discuss the steps needed to maintain accreditation, including reporting on Required Criteria and related procedures, submitting Annual Reports, Random Unannounced Visits and Verification Visits, and responding to complaints.

10:15 – 11:45 Breakout Sessions

Nutrition Education as a Tool to Prevent Childhood Obesity – Melissa Walker, MBA, RD, LD

Nutrition education is a valuable tool for preventing childhood obesity, and child care staff play a very important role in the development of healthy eating habits in young children. This session will discuss the latest nutrition recommendations and techniques for influencing young children to choose a healthful diet, including setting a good example, offering a variety of foods, coping with a picky eater, and making food fun. We will also explore the USDA Team Nutrition website, which provides a multitude of free recipes, curriculum materials and other tools for preschool nutrition education.

Session Descriptions

Creating Successful Learning Environments for Infants and Toddlers – Eileen Quinn, MEd and Mardene Wright

Creating a successful learning environment for infants and toddlers calls for multiple approaches. The development of the whole child leads us to take our cues from the children while observing and participating in their play. Our assessment of all children's individual needs drives the creation of developmentally appropriate care and educational strategies. The stimulating materials and activities we provide allow the children to explore, discover and learn in an accepting, fun, and nurturing atmosphere.

Visions of Success – Aaron Lindstrom

This session will focus on creating and executing goals for your board. Aaron, a former GSA Board President, will work with participants on determining a vision for their organizations. Building on your personal vision, he will facilitate a discussion on strategic planning. Participants will come away from this session having identified what will make their board successful, metrics for evaluating their success, their three biggest goals, and action plans for achieving those goals.

Open Forum on Child Care Facility Issues – Liz Themelis, Moderator

An opportunity for all disciplines that are involved in child care center projects, and the operation and maintenance of child care facilities, to have a frank discussion of the challenges involved in creating and maintaining the inventory. Examples of projects using the new IDIQ contract for child care design services will be presented, with feedback on how it is working.

Classroom Portfolios as a Strategy for Professional Development – Stephanie Olmore and Abena Ocran

When we construct a classroom portfolio to illustrate how we intentionally strive for developmentally appropriate practices, the portfolio itself becomes a reflective exercise that reinforces and strengthens our knowledge and use of best practices. This session will identify strategies for identifying the best practices already in place in your classrooms and how to map those practices to the NAEYC Accreditation Criteria.

12:00 – 2:00 NAEYC Accreditation Awards Luncheon

Liz Themelis, Director, Child Care Division, PBS, GSA
Linda Hassan Anderson, MA, Senior Director, Academy for Early Childhood Program Accreditation, NAEYC
Hap Palmer, MA, Songwriter, Publisher, Early Childhood Specialist

Join Liz Themelis and Linda Hassan Anderson at this awards luncheon as we applaud the level of excellence that our centers have accomplished by achieving accreditation or re-accreditation since our last conference.

2:15 – 3:45 Breakout Sessions

Using the Early Language and Literacy Classroom Observation (ELLCO) Tool for Program Improvement – Jennifer Kalas, MEd

Participants will explore the research foundations of the ELLCO Preschool Tool, learn the structure of the tool and practice taking effective evidence. The ELLCO is useful in collecting data on effective literacy instruction and environments that support literacy. Participants will learn to assess classroom teachers and provide professional development. Session will include video observations, assessment experience, and a copy of the tool.

Supporting Children with Disabilities in Inclusive Classrooms – Claire Tredwell, PhD

This presentation provides an overview of the Transdisciplinary Team Approach to quality inclusive education that promotes successful child transition, participation, and outcome. Participants will become familiar with planning and the process of implementing strategies, accommodations, and positive behavior supports in early childhood classrooms that include all children. Additionally, participants will have the opportunity to participate in adapting their curriculum for inclusion.

Marketing – Bob Siegel, MEd

This session will cover methods and strategies that board members and center managers can engage in collaboratively to increase enrollment. Special attention will be given to attracting federal families. All aspects of enrollment building, including marketing, sourcing, conversion, and point of sale will be described and discussed.

Don't Gamble with your LEED Project - Lance Davis, AIA, LEED and Ania Shapiro, AIA, ASID, LEED AP

Many buildings in the GSA inventory have earned the LEED certification and several of those buildings house child care centers. Learn about the strategies used in sustainable building techniques and the “greening” of GSA child care facilities. Examples of “building green” and why certain techniques and products are used will be explored.

Lessons Learned and What is Next from NAEYC Accreditation – Stephanie Olmore and Abena Ocran

NAEYC staff will provide an update on hot topics and an overview of the NAEYC Early Childhood Program Standards and Accreditation Criteria review. This will be an opportunity for open discussion about NAEYC Accreditation. What is working? What could be improved? Your feedback will help to inform the NAEYC Early Childhood Program Accreditation review process.

4:00 – 5:00 Closing Session

The Power of Laughter – Carol Moore, MS, RNC

Laughter is a great way to reduce stress in our lives and it has the power to enhance our quality of living. During this session we will discuss the important role laughter plays in maintaining good health and explore ways to create and bring more laughter into our world.



Additional Information

Optional Tours

Wednesday, July 14, 5:00 – 7:30

Visit both of these child care facilities and learn about their unique qualities. Tour is \$10 per person and is limited to the first 140 participants. Please sign up on the registration page.

Children's Choice Learning Center @MGM is an innovative, high-quality, state of the art, 24,000 square foot, early care and education facility. The center has operated 7/24/365 since its opening in 2001 often with more than 300 children per day. This accredited center offers the families that work for MGM Mirage the best of care and education for their little ones, regardless of the time of day or night that the care is needed. The school offers infant, toddler, pre-school, after-school, Private Kindergarten and First Grade (fully licensed by the Nevada Board of Education) programs. The elementary programs follow a school calendar, while the other programs operate year-round, around the clock. The center is further bolstered by Sniffles and Snuggles, the Children's Choice mildly ill program that is operated within the childcare center. A huge benefit for MGM Mirage, Sniffles and Snuggles has a separate entrance, separate air-flow and an on-site nurse.

The UNLV, Lynn Bennett Early Childhood Education Center is an energy efficient, high-quality, NAEYC accredited, 21,000 square foot early childhood education center serving 250 families. The design maximizes natural light and temperature control. This center opened in 2004 and boasts a 30,000 square foot playground. The landscaping of the playground contributes to the learning experience by being incorporated into the classroom curriculum. Preschool classrooms have large roll-up doors that open onto individual courtyards and gardens. A large multipurpose room is utilized for children, special events, professional development and university instruction programs. The center recognizes the diverse needs, abilities, interests, and cultures of each child in a setting

where they are valued and respected as a unique individual developing at his/her own rate. Through promotion of a curriculum that provides age-appropriate and individually appropriate activities, equipment and materials, children have many opportunities to be actively engaged in the learning process. This learning is conducted in a fully inclusive environment where ALL children learn and grow together. The importance of working closely with families and acknowledging family involvement as an essential and vital component of the total learning process is key.

Continuing Education Credits

Register by July 2, 2010, on-line in 3 easy steps at www.ceed.pdx.edu/gsa. University Credit and Continuing Education Units (CEUs) are available to conference attendees from Portland State University (PSU).

Pre-Register Online for University Credit and CEUs:

Credit: 1 Graduate credit - \$85 (CI 810)

1 Undergraduate credit - \$65 (CI 810)

Students must document attendance at each session, and write a short paper integrating those principles learned into the workplace. See PSU website for details.

CEUs: Noncredit CEU 1.3 (13 hours) \$20 online or \$35 onsite at the conference

Look for the Portland State University table to register at the conference. University CEU transcripts will be available for pickup on July 15, 2010 if you registered in advance or will be mailed directly to each participant.

For questions, please visit the Portland State University website at www.ceed.pdx.edu/gsa or contact Cailin O'Connor at caoconno@pdx.edu or by phone at 1-800-547-8887 x 8234.

Register on-line at www.cmpinc.net/childcare

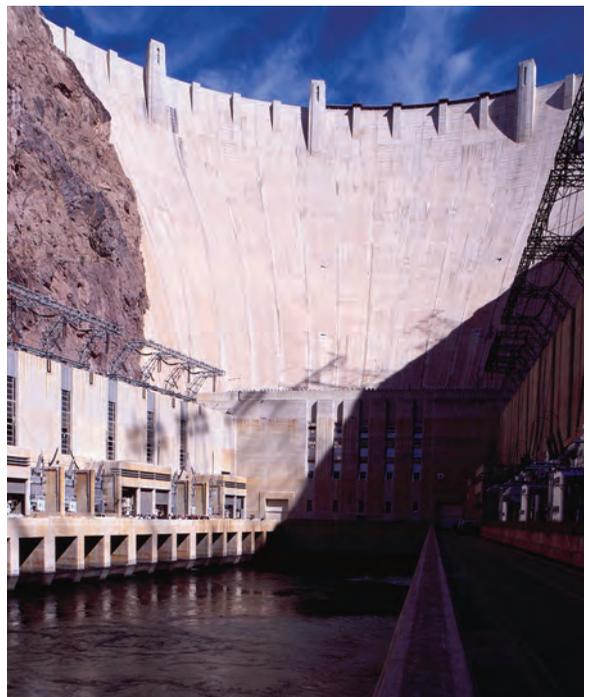
Las Vegas, Nevada



Las Vegas is the most exciting and entertaining city in the world. Nowhere else can you find a city that has all the travel amenities that only a complete resort destination can offer: luxurious casino hotels, fine dining, wonderful live entertainment and state-of-the-art convention and trade show facilities. Las Vegas is a spectacular city, incomparable to any other. Everything that you would expect from a world-class metropolis, and more, is right here for your travel pleasure.

Las Vegas is a city that has something for everyone. While you are here, make sure to see all the great attractions the city of Las Vegas has to offer. Recognized all over the world, our famous Las Vegas Strip is where tourists can enjoy a walk in the warm desert evening, or take a stroll downtown and view a dazzling light show that spans an entire street, the Fremont Street Experience. Visitors can also get a glimpse of amazing world famous re-creations like erupting volcanoes, the Eiffel Tower and the Sphinx of Egypt in front of the various hotels and casinos.

Las Vegas tourism offers top quality entertainment, including headliner shows and concerts, attractions, shopping and world-renowned resorts. Las Vegas nightlife will keep you up until dawn and art displays, music and museums take you on a journey from the classic to the contemporary. Downtown Las Vegas offers an energetic display of color with a bit of nostalgia and a glimpse of the future.



If you are looking to enjoy the Wild West and the great outdoor recreation, beyond the glamour and glitter of the neon lights, there is plenty to see. There are enchanting panoramas in the Red Rock National Conservation area, Lake Mead National Recreation area and at Mount Charleston. All are only minutes from Las Vegas Strip hotels and casinos. There are Las Vegas helicopter tours, Grand Canyon tours, Hoover Dam, and Las Vegas Strip tours departing every few minutes.

Las Vegas, Nevada

Las Vegas continuously reinvents itself, so even if you have been to this great city before you will never run out of fun things to do.

Las Vegas is located in the south-eastern corner of the state of Nevada. It averages 300 days of sunshine annually with an average annual rainfall of 4 inches. It is located in the Pacific time zone. The weather in the summer can be very hot, in July the average high is 102° and the average low is 68°. Although the heat is dry, you must stay hydrated and understand that heatstroke is possible with prolonged outside exposure.



Photo: Las Vegas News Bureau

There is always something to do in Vegas.

The free **Fountain Show** in front of the Bellagio shoots off every 30 minutes from 3 pm to 7 pm and then every 15 minutes until midnight. (The routines often vary from one show to the next.) Wait until after dark to go see this attraction. The shows are more frequent and the fountain lights, which are not very visible before sunset, add to effect of the routines.

The free **Volcano Fountain** in front of the Mirage erupts every 15 minutes after dark until midnight.

Wind your way through the **Grand Canal Shoppes** to St. Mark's Square at the Venetian and see the "street performers" and "living statue". Open 10 am to 11 pm (until midnight Friday and Saturday).

Also at the Venetian are the **gondola rides**. There are actually two different rides, both featuring serenading gondoliers. One outside in front of the resort and one inside through the Grand Canal Shoppes. Inside rides are given from 10 am to 10:30 pm (until 11:30 Friday and Saturday) and outside rides are from 11 am to 7 pm. \$12.50 a person and same-day reservations are required.

The **Eiffel Tower** observation deck at the Paris offers a great view of the Strip and a unique way to see the Bellagio fountain shows after dark. Operates from 10 am to midnight with a \$9 fee. Tickets are available at booths both inside the casino and outside the Strip entrance to the casino.

If you're a shopper, check out the **Forum Shops** attached to Caesars Palace. There is an animated statue show every hour on the hour from 10 am to 11 pm in the first rotunda and one in the fourth rotunda near the large aquarium. The attractions and most of the shops are on the second level. They have circular escalators that take you up from the Strip-level entrance.

If you're an art lover, check out the **Gallery of Fine Art** at the Bellagio which routinely features works by van Gogh, Monet, Renoir, Cezanne, Matisse, and Gauguin. There's a \$15 fee.

Enjoy the **painted ceilings** in the Venetian. The painted ceilings are actually in three areas; the main casino entrance, the hotel lobby, and the Galleria hall that connects the two. Once you go in the main casino entrance and view that ceiling, the Galleria will be off to your right.

If you're a gear-head, check out the **auto collection** at the Imperial Palace featuring antiques and vehicles owned by celebrities and presidents. Admission is \$6.95.



If you like **roller-coasters**, New York New York, Sahara, and Circus Circus (indoor) have them. If you're a hard core thrill-seeker, there's a roller-coaster (called the "High Roller") and a tower launcher (called the "Big Shot") on the roof of the Stratosphere Tower, and bungee jumping at Circus Circus.



Photo: Las Vegas News Bureau

Go "downtown" at night so you can check out the **Fremont Street Experience**. The canopy over the Fremont Street pedestrian mall is the giant "screen" several blocks long for a great, free light and sound show with 2 million individual bulbs. Shows start at dusk and are repeated until 11 pm Sunday thru Thursday and midnight Friday and Saturday.

Another neat lighting display is at the south end of the Strip at night. While not a "show", the intersection bounded by the MGM Grand, New York New York, Excalibur, and Tropicana is a sight to behold at night with all the buildings illuminated in a rainbow of colors. This intersection has pedestrian bridges between all four corners so it's easy to stroll over all four of them to take in the sights.

Las Vegas is also known for its spectacular shows – whether you marvel at the acrobatic agility of the Cirque de Soleil performers or sit back and reminiscence listening to the songs of Barry Manilow – there is something for everyone. Here is a sampling of top shows that will be available in July 2010.

- Disney's Lion King** Mandalay Bay Resort
- Blue Man Group** Venetian Resort Hotel
- Jersey Boys** Palazzo Resort
- Barry Manilow** Paris Hotel
- Phantom (The Las Vegas Spectacular)** Venetian Resort Hotel
- "O"** Cirque de Soleil Ballegio
- "KA"** Cirque du Soleil MGM Grand
- "Zumanity"** Cirque du Soleil New York, New York

Please visit the concierge desk at the Paris Hotel for more info on these shows and much more.

Accommodations and Travel



Hotel

Two of the world's most exciting cities combine to create the **Paris Las Vegas Hotel and Casino**, a vacation destination that's full of romance, adventure and extraordinary dining.

In this version of the City of Light, you can hit the highlights in no time. As part of its architecture, the resort has detailed replicas of the Arc de Triomphe, Louvre façade, Paris Opera House and Hotel de Ville. And you certainly can't miss the 50-story, half-scale replica of the Eiffel Tower, now one of Las Vegas' most famous landmarks.

Hotel reservations can be made directly at 1-888-266-5687. The conference rate is \$99.00 plus tax, single/double occupancy (each additional adult is \$20), and children 18 and under are free. The hotel reservation cutoff date is June 18, 2010 (please reserve your room early to ensure availability). The conference rate will be honored three days pre and post based on availability at the time of reservation. Remember to ask for the "GSA Child Care Training Conference" room block. On-site parking is free.

Visit www.parislasvegas.com for more information.

Group Exercise 6:30 - 7:15

Zumba® with Melissa Walker, MBS, RD, LD

Zumba® fitness fuses hypnotic Latin rhythms and easy-to-follow moves to create a one-of-a-kind fitness program that will blow you away. Zumba® is for everyone and no prior dance experience is necessary. The routines feature interval training sessions where fast and slow rhythms are combined to tone and sculpt your body while burning fat. Add some Latin flavor and international zest into the mix and you've got a Zumba® class! Wear comfortable clothing and tennis shoes. No other equipment is needed.

Transportation

Transportation from McCarran International Airport

Several **shuttle companies** operate from McCarran International Airport to the Las Vegas strip, downtown Las Vegas, Boulder Highway and the outlying hotels. Travel arrangements can be made outside of the baggage claim area for one-way or round trip transport. Approximate round trip fares per person is \$8-\$10. Return reservations are recommended to ensure timely return to the airport.

A few of these shuttle companies include:

Ambassador/Ritz – 702-362-6200

Bell Trans – 702-739-7990

CLS Transportation – 702-740-4545

Executive Las Vegas – 702-646-4661

Showtime Shuttle – 702-261-6101

Prices for **limousine service** in Las Vegas range between \$35/hr for a basic limo up to \$80/hr for a super-stretch limo. Limousines also offer shuttle service between McCarran Airport and Strip hotels from about \$4.00 per person and downtown hotels from about \$5.00 per person, be aware that for this price it is more likely that you will be placed in a shuttle bus or van operated by the limo company.

A **taxi** from McCarran International Airport to the hotel is approximately \$2-\$15.

About You

Name _____ Org. _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Email _____
 Phone _____ Fax _____

In case of emergency at the conference, please contact:

Name _____ Relationship to Attendee _____
 Day Phone _____ Evening Phone _____

Caregiver

- Teaching Staff
- Family Day Care Provider
- Support Staff

Special Requirements

- Vegetarian
- Other _____

Director/Assistant Director

- Director
- Assistant Director

All Others

- Board Member
- Property/Building Manager
- Center Operator
- Asset Manager
- Federal Agency Representative
- Project Manager
- Architect
- Other _____

Payment Information

	Early Bird (by 6/18/10)	Regular Rate (after 6/18/10)
Caregivers	\$250	\$265
Directors & Assistant Directors	\$310	\$325
All Other Attendees	\$375	\$390
Optional Tour	\$10	\$10

Method of Payment (Federal Tax ID# 54-1950092)

Money order or credit card is preferred. The charge will appear as "Capital Meeting Planning." No checks accepted.

Charge my: Visa MC AMEX Bank Draft/Money Order
 (Payable to Capital Meeting Planning, Inc.)

Credit Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____ CVV Code (3 digit code on the back of credit card) _____

Name on Card _____

Signature of Cardholder _____

Billing Address _____

Your Sessions

Tuesday, July 13

2:00 – 3:45

- Networking Session for Directors

5:30 – 7:30

- Welcome Reception & Awards Ceremony

Wednesday, July 14

6:30 – 7:15

- Group Exercise

7:30 – 8:15

- Continental Breakfast

8:30 – 10:15

- General Session: Overcoming Challenges and Obstacles

10:30 – 12:00 Breakout Sessions (Choose One)

- Working with Difficult People **Director**
- Helping Children Thrive and Teachers Survive **Teacher**
- Revitalizing Your Board **Board**
- Senior Leadership Session **Facility**
- New Director's Session **Bonus**

12:15 – 2:15

- Opening Luncheon: Raising Charitable Children

2:30 – 4:30 Breakout Sessions (Choose One)

- Child Abuse: Identification and Reporting **Director**
- Incorporating Physical Activity Throughout the Preschool Day **Teacher**
- Transforming Ordinary People into Fundraising Superheroes **Board**
- Creating Developmentally Appropriate Playgrounds **Facility**
- Eco-Healthy Child Care: Creating Green & Healthy Environments **Bonus**

5:00 – 7:30

- Optional Tours

Thursday, July 15

6:30 – 7:15

- Group Exercise

7:30 – 8:15

- Continental Breakfast

8:30 – 10:00 Breakout Sessions (Choose One)

- Planning an Effective Staff Development Program **Director**
- Music and Movement Activities for Young Children **Teacher**
- Recruiting and Orienting Your Nonprofit Dream Team **Board**
- What's New? Update on Property Managers Child Care Desk Guide **Facility**
- Maintaining Quality through the Term of Accreditation **Bonus**

10:15 – 11:45 Breakout Sessions (Choose One)

- Nutrition Education as a Tool to Prevent Childhood Obesity **Director**
- Creating Successful Learning Environments for Infants and Toddlers **Teacher**
- Visions of Success **Board**
- Open Forum on Child Care Facility Issues **Facility**
- Classroom Portfolios as a Strategy for Professional Development **Bonus**

12:00 – 2:00

- NAEYC Accreditation Awards Luncheon

2:15 – 3:45 Breakout Sessions (Choose One)

- Using the Early Language and Literacy Classroom Observation (ELLCO) Tool for Program Improvement **Director**
- Supporting Children with Disabilities in Inclusive Classrooms **Teacher**
- Marketing **Board**
- Don't Gamble with your LEED Project **Facility**
- Lessons Learned and What is Next from NAEYC Accreditation **Bonus**

4:00 – 5:00

- Closing Session: The Power of Laughter

Registering is easy, whether on-line, mail or fax.

On-line:

Register on-line at www.cmpinc.net/childcare.

To register by fax or mail:

Simply fill out the form at the end of the brochure and fax to 703-536-4991 or send to Capital Meeting Planning, Inc., Attn: Mindy Stewart, 6521 Arlington Blvd., Suite 505, Falls Church, Virginia, 22042.

Need to cancel?

Written cancellation must be received by Capital Meeting Planning, Inc, prior to June 18, 2010 in order to receive a registration fee refund. Substitution of another individual is acceptable under certain circumstances. For more information, please contact CMP at 703-536-4992.

We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children.

- Unknown





GSA Office of Facilities Management
and Services Programs
Child Care Division
1800 F Street, NW
Room 4240
Washington, DC 20405



21st Annual GSA Child Care Training Conference

July 13-15, 2010 Las Vegas, Nevada

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