



**Early Childhood
Australia**

New South Wales Branch

OCTOBER 2022

Newsletter

EARLY CHILDHOOD AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2022

PASSION TO POWER our future profession

5 - 8 October 2022 – Canberra

ECA NSW SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

IN PERSON ATTENDANCE

Alan Davies – Alira Gathering Assoc Inc Dubbo
Moira McAspurn – Snowy Mountains ELC
Debra Swanson – Dalagur Preschool, Kempsey
Suzanne Carey – Coraki CWA Preschool
Bushra Sadia – Kids Early Learning, Blacktown City
Natascha Gilroy – Goodstart Corrimal
Brooke Parker – Jumbunna Community Preschool
and Early Intervention Centre, Casino

VIRTUAL ATTENDANCE

Donna Marfleet – Mollymook
Louise Grigg – Riverina
Stephanie Martens – Kempsey
Nina Isho – Glebe
Kamilla Mahfouz – Seven Hills
Kathryn Wetenhall – Marrickville

ECA NSW

is looking forward
to seeing many of
our members at the
conference and hopes
all members will find it
informative and fun.
It's a great chance to
catch up with your
colleagues across
Australia and to make
many new connections
while learning from the
best in our industry!

Enjoy



Early Childhood Australia
A voice for young children



2022

EARLY LEARNING MATTERS WEEK



SAVE
THE
DATE

17-21 October 2022

Save the date

Early Learning Matters Week is back for its fifth year from 17-21 October 2022. This year's theme is 'Learning through play'.

Organised by Early Childhood Australia, the Early Learning Matters Week brings together early childhood educators, parents, carers and community leaders around Australia to raise awareness and understanding of the importance of early learning and the difference the profession makes.

Early Learning Matters Week aims to recognise and raise the profile of early childhood education and care in children's development and wellbeing in Australia.

It is a great opportunity to tell our communities how high-quality early education and care supports children to be confident, enthusiastic learners, building a foundation for wellbeing and achievement throughout their lives, and all of this through play-based learning.

High-quality, play-based education and care supports young children to learn and thrive, with support from parents, carers and the wider community.

Register your event today to get the Early Learning Matters kit at:

www.earlylearningmatters.org.au/register/

PLAN: Start planning and look at contacting your local Member of Parliament (MP) or other community leaders, or invite your local newspaper or TV station to visit and hear about the importance of early learning from educators and families. Visit the Early Learning Matters website to access resources to help you plan.

SHARE: Share photos and videos of high-quality early learning experiences on social media. We prefer if you show the learning set-up, rather than children's identifying features. When you share your content to Instagram, Facebook or Twitter, tag ECA and your local MP along with the hashtag **#EarlyLearningMatters**.

RECOGNISE: Recognise the efforts of your team of educators and teachers with a morning tea, thank-you card or an appreciation wall. Take team photos to post on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter, tagged with your local MP's page and the hashtag **#EarlyLearningMatters**.

CREATE: Involve the children in your service in creating Early Learning Matters Week artwork such as signs or posters. Take a photo (only including children's hands or feet, or just the artwork) and post it to social media; don't forget to tag ECA and your local MP and include the hashtag **#EarlyLearningMatters**.

SPRouts
Award

ECA NSW is very excited to announce the SPRouts awards are on!

ECEEN has merged with ECA to spread the importance of the SPRouts award.

Thanks to Julie Gaul and Deb Watson for their continued push for sustainability in Early Childhood Education.

Start looking at sustainability in your centre. A prize of \$1000 will be given. Entries will close 30th November. Entry form released shortly.



Early Childhood Australia

New South Wales Branch

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Far North Coast: Lauren Maguire

Hunter: Lyn Connors

Illawarra/South Coast:

Melissa Weeks

New England: Tracey Dooner

Riverina: Tracey Snow

Sydney Metro: Laura Sportelli

Western Region: Katherine Wilson

ECA NSW BRANCH

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ACROSS THE REGIONS

Far North Coast Be You workshop

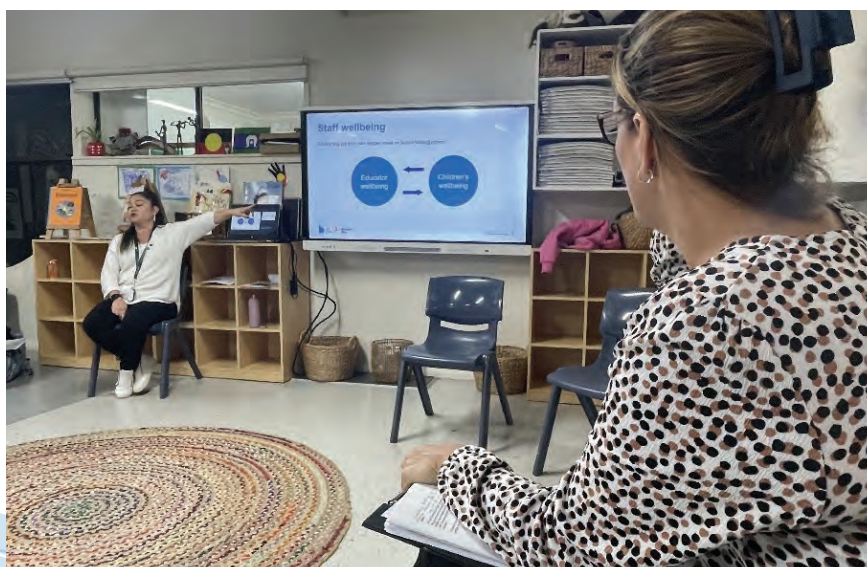
Thank you to “Be You” for providing the two sessions on Educator wellbeing last week for ECA Far North Coast.

The presenters were really supportive and engaging, with an important presentation on helping Educators through challenging times.

There were 5 Educators at St. Anne’s Long Day Care Centre and 16 Educators at Cooloon Children’s Centre.

Thank you to Judy and Narelle for providing their Centres for these sessions and the catering.

We received positive feedback from both evenings, which was great!



Hunter

ECA Hunter have held 4 events this year in the Newcastle area.

Based on a 'back to basics' format, we have aimed to bring joy and delight back into our work with children by inviting participants to engage in different experiences each month. We have explored music, art, story-telling and tinkering. The workshops were hands-on, interactive and well-supported.

★ **SAVE THE DATE** ★ ★ **Thursday 27 October** ★ **Hunter ECA will hold its inaugural Recognition & Appreciation Dinner**

as an opportunity to come together and celebrate the amazing work of educators in the Hunter region.

There will be drinks and canapes on arrival at the Hunter Academy, followed by dinner, the awards and dancing.

★ There will be a special gift for all participants with nominations closing soon. ★

Riverina

Nominations are now open for

★ **ECA NSW RIVERINA** ★ ★ **ANNUAL AWARDS** ★

This year the format is a bit different with the application process online.

Click [HERE](#) to nominate someone for one of the 3 awards listed. Please email any photos you would like to share at the award ceremony to me or ECA NSW at office@nsw.earlychildhood.org.au

Finalists will be notified prior to the award ceremony on Thursday 3rd November from 6pm, however all nominees are encouraged to attend the award evening to receive their certificate.

Book your tickets today for both the day and evening event before you miss out. Go to:

<https://events.humanitix.com/eca-riverina-pd-nqf-the-musical-award-night>

Central Coast

Central Coast had Erin Mathieson present 'Bring back the Music'. This reaffirmed the value of embedding music into our everyday practises – for joy, connection and learning!



Western Region

EARLY CHILDHOOD AUSTRALIA
WESTERN REGION PRESENTS

A DAY WITH ANTHONY SEMANN

PASSION AND PURPOSE

22 October 2022

Blayney Community Centre

Blayney NSW 2799

9.30am-3.30pm

Anthony Semann will support you to explore what it means to fly, to care for yourself and to attend to your needs

It's hard to attend to the needs of others when the noise running through our minds is that which distracts us. It is important that you learn to prioritise yourself in order to deliver the best quality of care and education to children. It is always timely to remember that self-care is never selfish. In this full day professional learning day, Anthony Semann will support you to explore what it means to fly, to care for yourself and to attend to your needs.

About Anthony Semann

Anthony Semann is an agent of change. After qualifying as an early childhood teacher, Anthony spent his early career working in long day care. Eager to learn as much as he could about practice and people, he built his pedagogical knowledge and developed his skills in fostering relationships. Early on, Anthony also discovered the importance of equity and social justice as a driving force in social change. His desire for learning remains apparent, so too does his commitment to naming inequity, shifting practice towards justice and living a life that embodies all that he preaches.