

# 2022 ASK

A day for  
child  
development  
professionals

## ADVANCING SKILLS & KNOWLEDGE

Our 49<sup>th</sup> Annual A.S.K. Conference will be virtual.

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2022 – TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2022**



*Early Bird Registration*  
October 18, 2021 - January 5, 2022

*Regular Registration*  
January 6 - February 7, 2022



**More than 20 Workshops**

**Featured Presentations**





## Child Care Services Association welcomes you to the 49th Annual

**A.S.K. (Advancing Skills & Knowledge) Virtual Conference!**  
**We are glad you have joined us for this exciting day of learning!**



Dear Early Care and School Age Education Professionals,

On behalf of the planning committee and Child Care Services Association (CCSA), we welcome you, along with hundreds of early childhood professionals from across North Carolina to the 49th annual Advancing Skills and Knowledge (A.S.K.) Conference. We are excited to share the program this year! The A.S.K. Conference has always served classroom teachers as our primary audience. Although there is something for every early childhood professional, the majority of workshops support instructional strategies. It is the planning committee's priority to bring you a full range of professional development opportunities.

Best,

Marsha Basloe, President of CCSA

*"The information was presented clearly and organized and the training provided a learning environment that was open cooperative and respectful."*

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### A.S.K. CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Dinah Arthur	Karissa Livingston
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### Our Mission

Child Care Services Association is dedicated to leading efforts to strengthen accessible and affordable quality early care and education.

CCSA's Triangle Area Child Care Resource and Referral Division supports early care and school age educators by conducting professional development, training and technical assistance activities all year. [View our monthly training calendar](#) on the website for additional learning opportunities.

## KEYNOTE



### Ronda Taylor Bullock

## Moving Beyond Inclusion to Creating Anti-Racist Pre-School Settings

Diversity, equity, and inclusion are important for creating welcoming educational spaces. And yet, they are not enough. For this talk we'll spend time learning about what to consider in order to increase inclusivity, and we will also move

toward an understanding of why and how to lead with an anti-racism framework in pre-school settings.

Ronda Taylor Bullock is originally from Goldston, NC. In 2018, she earned her doctorate at UNC Chapel Hill in the Policy, Leadership, and School Improvement Program. Her research interests are critical race theory, whiteness studies, white children's racial identity construction, and anti-racism. Some of her publications include *Racial Identity Construction: A Critical Analysis of White Children Recognizing, Reifying, and Resisting Whiteness*, *Raising Conscious Kids: A Community-based Approach*, and *Challenging White-washed Curriculum: A Critical Race Theory Approach*. Dr. Taylor Bullock is the co-founder and Lead Curator of **we are**, which stands for **working to extend anti-racist education**. Prior to starting **we are**, Dr. Taylor Bullock taught English for almost ten years at Hillside High School in Durham, NC, where she now resides. She is the wife of Dr. Daniel Kelvin Bullock and mother of son Zion and daughter Zaire.

"I was able to attend more classes easily and without the hassle of travel and parking. I was comfortable and had fewer distractions."

## FEATURED SESSIONS



### Erica Berry

Erica has served as a music and movement professional in preschools and to families all over the Triangle. She created the Theatre Arts Department at Woods Charter School and the voice program at Renner Dance Studios. She has worked with all ages of kids and adults in her capacity as a certified Group Fitness Instructor. Her passion is leading children and adults to greater happiness and health through movement and music. Erica studied Political Science and Music at Howard University and went on to pursue her Juris Doctorate degree at Hastings College of the Law. She practiced Corporate Law for 6 years before having her first child in 2002. She started an early childhood music education program, Jammin Baby, LLC, in 2006.

**Teach to the Beat—Saturday, February 19: Workshop #1/8:30am – 10:00am**



### Rhodus Riggins, Educator, Consultant

Rhodus is co-founder and co-owner of Bailey, Pullis, & Riggins, LLC, a racial equity organization that facilitates and develops racial equity professional development experiences. He is currently an adjunct faculty member of Alamance Community College, Early Childhood Department. He served as local technical assistance specialist in Wake County as part of North Carolina's Race-to the Top Early Learning Challenge Grant initiative. He served as a regional consultant and technical assistance specialist in three public school's Local Education Agencies (LEAs) to support implementation of the *Pyramid Model for Supporting Social Emotional Competence in Infants and Young Children* (Pyramid Model) from the Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for

Early Learning (CSEFEL).

**The Quest for Anti-Bias Education & Spaces—Saturday, February 19: Workshop # 6/10:30am – 12:00pm**



### Stuart Stotts, Musician, Educator, Author

Stuart Stotts' highly interactive session provides early education professionals with activities and strategies that they can immediately implement in their classrooms. His work includes accessible and relevant brain research that reveals why his activities are important and successful with children. Stuart is a songwriter, author, and educator from DeForest, IW. Stuart has performed for children and families throughout the United States since 1986, giving over 200 performances a year. Come prepared to sing, reflect, move, and celebrate our work with young children. Check out Stuart's work at [www.stuartstotts.com](http://www.stuartstotts.com).

**Singing in the Circle—Monday, February 22: 1:00 – 2:00pm, 6:30 – 8:00pm**

### REGGIO EMILIA

The NC Reggio Emilia Collaborative was formed by a group of North Carolina educators after hosting The Wonder of Learning, the traveling exhibit from Reggio Emilia, in 2017. The title and focus of our Wonder of Learning initiative in North Carolina was Cultivating the Strong Potential of All Children: Growing a Community Vision for Education. Through this work, many valuable connections and partnerships formed that laid the groundwork for future collaborations. For this reason, the NC Reggio Emilia Collaborative was established to create energy, conversation, and action around how we as a community wish to cultivate the strong potential of all children. **BEGINNER—The Reggio Emilia Approach to Education: What is It? How Do I Begin?**

**Saturday, February 19: Workshop #5/ 8:30–10:00 am**





# DURHAM PREK THREAD

**Maggie Chotas**, Senior Program Manager for NC Ready for Success



**Maggie Ellis Chotas** is a facilitator and leadership coach for the Mulberry Partners. She started her career as a middle-school teacher and has served as director and consultant for public and independent schools in Philadelphia, New York City, Charlotte, and Durham, NC. In addition to her work with Mulberry, Maggie serves as Senior Program Manager for NC Ready for Success, a project working to align K–12 and higher education. She is an active community member in Durham, where she lives with her husband and two children. She attained a Bachelor of Arts degree from Swarthmore College, a Master of Arts degree from St. John’s College in Annapolis, and a Master of Arts in School Administration from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

## Enhancing Strategies for Building Collaborative Teaching Teams Saturday, February 19: 8:30am – 12:00pm

This session will provide key strategies for developing and maintaining collaborative work between teaching teams in order to support equitable and inclusive classrooms. Participants will begin with a presentation on the importance of trust, communication, and relationship building within a collaborative partnership. The instructor will present strategies to strengthen these qualities within teaching teams, including scenarios teachers submit ahead of time for discussion within small groups. The session will conclude with a period of reflection and identification of the participants' next steps.



## CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

### Saturday, February 19

**Session 1: 8:30am – 10:00am**

**Break: 10:00am – 10:30am**

**Session 2: 10:30am – 12:00pm**

**Keynote: 12:30pm – 1:30pm**

### Monday, February 21

**1:00pm – 2:00pm**

**6:30pm – 8:00pm**

### Tuesday, February 22

**1:00pm – 2:00pm**

We have designated all workshops as relating to one of the nine subject areas required by NC licensing standards, shown below. All workshops impacting teacher classroom practice are aligned with the North Carolina Foundations for Early Learning Development (NC FELD) planning a safe, healthy learning environment.

#### WORKSHOP SUBJECT CATEGORIES

1. Planning a safe, healthy learning environment
2. Children’s physical & intellectual development
3. Children’s social & emotional development
4. Productive relationships with families
5. Program management
6. Professionalism
7. Observing & recording children’s behavior
8. Child growth and development
9. Inclusion of children with special needs



*“Being able to advance my knowledge and education especially through Covid-19 from the convenience of my home. I love learning new things and using them through experience and especially from different presenters.”*

## SESSIONS

**Saturday, February 19**

**Session 1: 8:30 – 10:00 AM**

	Subject Area	Audience
 <p><b>ERICA BERRY--FEATURED PRESENTATION</b></p> <p><b>1 Teach to the Beat</b> Using Rhythm and Music to engage children in learning and daily functional activities, we will provide song examples, dances and chants to use in your classroom and to tie into your themed lesson plans throughout the school year. Music makes all learning more accessible to children. For the last 13 years, Erica has served as a music and movement professional in preschools and to families all over the Triangle. She created the Theatre Arts Department at Woods Charter School and the voice program at Renner Dance Studios. She has worked with all ages of kids and adults in her capacity as a certified Group Fitness Instructor. Her passion is leading children and adults to greater happiness and health through movement and music. Erica studied Political Science and Music at Howard University and went on to pursue her Juris Doctorate degree at Hastings College of the Law. She practiced Corporate Law for 6 years before having her first child in 2002. She started an early childhood music education program, Jammin Baby, LLC, in 2006. Check Erica out at <a href="http://www.jamminbaby.com">www.jamminbaby.com</a>.</p>	2,3,8	E
<p><b>2 Implicit Bias: Pathway to Personal &amp; Professional Development</b> Sue shares stories and perspectives about social justice and the role and origins of implicit bias in her personal and professional life. In addition, she will introduce and guide you in the practice of an evidence-based, five-step-process, Belief System Framework. This framework is the results of a decade of applied research focusing on self-examination of personal and professional bias – origins, identification, and elimination. This process will support you as you become more aware of your belief system – about self and others – and its impact your daily life and relationships. <i>Sue Joyce</i></p>	2,3,8	AD
<p><b>3 Making Early Math Meaningful</b> The purpose of this activity is to make math fun, exciting, and more concrete which will allow children to make connections with their everyday lives as they explore math concepts in a way that address all learning modalities. This particular type of instruction is research based and is appropriate for children at this age and stage of development. Activities are structured and tiered in order to meet the individual learning styles of children to assist them in learning at their full potential and understanding concepts at their readiness level. <i>Angela M. Clayton</i></p>	2,8	P, SA
<p><b>4 Strategies for Promoting Early Communication Skills</b> In this workshop, attendees will learn evidence-based strategies for promoting the communication of young children. To support the use of these strategies, attendees will also learn which contexts support communication development and how to use knowledge about communication milestones to guide their interactions with children. <i>Dr. Jessica Kinard</i></p>	3,8	IT, P
<p><b>5 The Reggio Emilia Approach to Education: What is It? How Do I Begin?--BEGINNER</b> This presentation is ideal for those who are new to the Reggio Emilia approach, just beginning to implement key principles of the infant-toddler, preschool and primary schools of Reggio Emilia in their own classrooms, or participants who would like to hear more about the fundamental principles and how they can be translated into the American context. <i>Sharon Palsha</i></p>	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9	I/T, P

**Saturday, February 19**

**Session 2: 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM**

	Subject Area	Audience
 <p><b>RHODUS RIGGINS-FEATURED SESSION</b></p> <p><b>6 The Quest for Anti-Bias Education &amp; Spaces</b> Imagine spaces where exploration of biases, equity, and social justice is valued. Envision spaces where children's, families', and adults' social identities and cultural ways of being are affirmed and embodied. We may open and create these spaces with an Anti-Bias approach to education. This interactive session will: (1) Explore the goals of Anti-Bias education, (2) Examine strategies and examples of Anti-Bias education, (3) Discuss key factors &amp; considerations to implement Anti-Bias education, and (4) Discover resources to support Anti-Bias education</p>	1,2,3,5,6	E
<p><b>7 Preventing Compassion Fatigue</b> Participants will learn about compassion fatigue (caused by absorbing the trauma and stress of the families that we work with), the symptoms to watch out for, how to do a self-assessment, and prevention strategies. These strategies will include awareness, balance, connection, mindfulness, and self-care. The issue of additional pandemic stress will be addressed. <i>Jan Williams, Cheri Coleman and Agatha Schutte</i></p>	3,4	E
<p><b>8 Toxic Stress &amp; Early Brain Development</b> The emotional tone of the environment and the presence of supportive relationships are essential factors in how stress shapes the brain. Stress can benefit or hurt young children depending on the level of stress and the availability of supportive relationships with adult caregivers. This training will explore the concept of stress, what it is and how it affects the brain and body, with a particular focus on infants, toddlers, and young children. <i>Karen Mintz and Natasha Brown</i></p>	2,3	I/T, P

*"I really enjoy having presenters that use evidence based techniques and strategies."*

E = Everyone; AD = Administration; I/T = Infant/Toddler; P = Preschool; SA = School-age; H/S = Health & Safety

	Subject Area	Audience
<b>9 The Outdoors: A Fertile Classroom</b> How is it that the outdoors can be used as a classroom where an integrated approach to early learning and literacy development can come to life? How can the seasons of the year assure children's learning is interactive and meaningful, while at the same time address and support early learning goals and standards? Join this 1 ½ hour workshop to experience and practice a three-step process of lesson-planning and implementation incorporating Nature, music, movement, and children's books to guide learning in all areas of learning and domains. (Addresses: NC Foundations, NAEYC, and CLASS.) <b>Sue Joyce</b>	2,3,5	P
<b>10 Sensory Integration and the Out of Sync Child</b> A review of the sensory systems and the alert mechanism will provide a background for understanding and recognizing sensory processing issues in the "out of sync" child. <b>Lelie Uy and Ashleigh Lathram</b>	3,8	I/T, P, SA

**KEYNOTE: 12:30 – 1:30 PM**

	Subject Area	Audience
 <b>RONDA TAYLOR BULLOCK-</b> <b>11 Moving Beyond Inclusion to Creating Anti-Racist Pre-School Settings</b> Diversity, equity, and inclusion are important for creating welcoming educational spaces. And yet, they are not enough. For this talk we'll spend time learning about what to consider in order to increase inclusivity, and we will also move toward an understanding of why and how to lead with an anti-racism framework in pre-school settings. <b>Saturday, February 19: Workshop 11, 12:30 – 1:30</b>	1,2,3,5,6	E

*"I love workshops that give me lots of practical ideas and new plans and activities to try in my classroom — the more, the better! Night classes were a plus this year!"*

**Vendor Room: 12:00 – 1:00 PM**

<b>MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21</b>		<b>1:00 – 2:00 PM</b>
	Subject Area	Audience
<b>12 A Question of Learning</b> You have to have open-ended questions in your classroom, but are you using them to enhance children's learning? In this workshop, we'll explore how questions based on Bloom's Taxonomy can open up children's thinking and teach them 21st-century skills. <b>Amy Latta</b>	2,8	P
<b>13 Singing in the Circle</b> Singing is an essential tool for any early childhood teacher. Zipper songs, participatory songs, and songs that lend themselves to learning content or behavior are staples. In this workshop, we'll look a little at why these songs matter, and then we'll share a variety of songs that you can use the next day with your children. <b>Stuart Stotts</b>	2	I/T, P, SA

<b>MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21</b>		<b>6:30 – 8:00 PM</b>
	Subject Area	Audience
<b>14 Early Brain Development and Self Regulation</b> During the first five years, a child's brain develops at an astounding rate, more than at any other time in life! This workshop explores how the brain develops from birth to five, with particular attention the development of connections between the emotional and thinking centers of the brain; and the role early interactions and experiences. Join us to explore how early life experiences affect the development of self-regulation skills for young children. <b>Sandra Arasim</b>	2,3,8	I/T
<b>15 Read Aloud BASICS</b> In this session participants will be equipped with some basic tips for reading aloud. We will have fun using the acronym BASICS - Boosting brain development and bringing books to life by asking questions, singing, imitating characters, creating crafts, and summarizing. <b>Karlene Fyffe</b>	2,8	I/T
 <b>Stuart Stotts- FEATURED SESSION</b> <b>16 Singing in the Circle</b> Singing is an essential tool for any early childhood teacher. Zipper songs, participatory songs, and songs that lend themselves to learning content or behavior are staples. In this workshop, we'll look a little at why these songs matter, and then we'll share a variety of songs that you can use the next day with your children. <b>Stuart Stotts</b>	2	I/T, P, SA

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21**

**1:00 – 2:00 PM**

	Subject Area	Audience
<b>17 Cultivating Mindfulness During Difficult Times</b> This workshop will provide interactive strategies to support your own introductory mindfulness practice. <i>Gina Soneau</i>	3,6	E
<b>18 Having Fun in the Kitchen: Teaching Young Children Cooking Skills</b> Come have fun with us as we demonstrate how to teach cooking skills to young children. We will be providing cooking demos about easy recipes and cooking tools you can use with young children. <i>Lynn Policastro</i>	2,8	P
<b>18 Successful Family Engagement: Our Work Begins When the Family is Engaged</b> During this interactive presentation, Dr. Clare will define family engagement and provide information about best practices and strategies educational professionals can use to engage families impacted by addiction, incarceration, domestic violence and homelessness. She will also outline potential barriers to family engagement and ways educational professionals may help overcome them. <i>Dr. Glenda Clare</i>	4	E

## Win Free Registration to the 2022 A.S.K. Conference!

Help our community by spreading messages about quality child care.

Like @ChildCareServices on Facebook or follow @CCSAchildcare on Twitter for your chance to win! One Facebook fan and one Twitter fan will be chosen at random to receive FREE Registration to the A.S.K. Conference. Follow CCSA on both Facebook and Twitter to increase your chances of winning! Winners will be drawn and notified by December 13, 2021.

Like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ChildCareServices/>

Follow us on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/CCSAchildcare>

**OFFICIAL RULES:** No purchase is necessary to enter. Entrants must "Like" Child Care Services Association and/or follow @CCSAchildcare on Twitter by noon on December 10, 2021 to be entered in the drawing. The winner will be notified via e-mail, Facebook message, or Twitter message within 24 hours. The winner must respond within 72 hours of contact or he/she forfeits the prize. If the prize is not claimed within the time limit, an alternate prizewinner will be selected at random. No cash equivalent or prize substitution is permitted. Employees of CCSA and respective affiliates, subsidiaries, advertising and promotional agencies, and immediate family members of each are not eligible. This promotion is in no way sponsored, endorsed or administered by, or associated with Facebook or Twitter. You understand that you are providing your information to the owner of this Facebook & Twitter page and not to Facebook or Twitter.

*"The presenters and hosts were so affirming of teachers and staff and what they're currently going through. At each presentation someone said how much they appreciate people in this field. It was wonderful and heartfelt and so needed to be heard by teachers at this time!"*

## WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Those in attendance include teachers, directors and administrators from early education and school age programs across North Carolina representing: child care; public schools; Early Head Start, Head Start; NC Pre-K; Smart Start, half day preschools; special education, health and human service agency providers and child advocates.

## REGISTRATION

An **early bird registration** is available for \$27 until January 5, 2022. Registrations (\$35) must be received on or before February 7, 2022. [Register Online here.](#)

## REGISTRATION CONFIRMATION

All registrations that are accepted will receive a confirmation e-mail, if an email address is provided. Links for each workshop will be sent to each registrant after February 7, 2022.

## PROGRAM CHANGES AND REFUNDS

Refunds of registration fees will not be made. CCSA reserves the right to make changes in workshops and speakers or to cancel workshops if enrollment criteria are not met or when conditions beyond our control prevail.

## CONFERENCE CHECK-IN

Check in will begin at 8:00am. You will be welcomed and given an opportunity to win door prizes. There will be a brief overview of the agenda for the day.

## BREAKS AND LUNCH

There will be a break from 10:00am – 10:30am. During the keynote from 12:00-1:00, you may join and eat your lunch.

## SCHEDULE OF THE DAY

We encourage all participants to log in at least 10 minutes prior to the start of your workshop. Late entrances are disruptive to the presenters and other participants. All workshops are 1.5 hour sessions except for keynote and lunch and learn sessions on Monday and Tuesday from 1:00-2:00pm.

## VENDOR ROOM

We will again have a Vendor Room for you to visit. Everyone who attends the conference will have a chance to win prizes donated by the vendors and other businesses. All registrant's attending the vendor rooms will be entered in a drawing. The winners will be announced at the end of the session.

## ENDORSEMENT of PRESENTERS AND VENDORS

We are proud of the diversity that will be exhibited by the presenters and vendors at this conference. However, we do not assume responsibility for the information, opinions, products or services shared by the presenters and vendors. Please share your concerns directly with the presenter or vendor or take the time to complete the evaluation form provided. We also encourage participants to offer presenters and vendors compliments!

*"The information was really good along with the price with the early bird special."*

## ZOOM HELP

All workshops will be on ZOOM. If you are in need of assistance or would like to learn more about how to log into your workshop, please join us for a ZOOM 101. You will receive an invitation with a link one-week prior to the conference to join us, ask questions and get better acquainted with the virtual experience.

**You can register and pay online**  
[on our website](#)

**For additional registration help or for questions email:**  
[professionaldevelopment@childcareservices.org](mailto:professionaldevelopment@childcareservices.org)

**Call 919-403-6950**