

Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children 2022 Children's Champion - Linda May Fitzgerald



Dr. Linda May Fitzgerald contributed greatly during her tenure at the University of Northern Iowa and continues to contribute to the field of early childhood teacher education. She is an author in STEM for Our Youngest Learners Series, she serves on the Advisory Board at the Iowa Regents' Center, holds office in the local chapter of Iowa AEYC, and is an active advocate as well as a fierce writer of editorials demanding that our Iowa legislators put children first in our state. Dr. Fitzgerald demonstrates unwavering passion to advocate for young children and their families.

Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children 2022 Children's Champion - Pam Mahoney



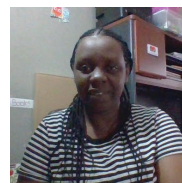
Pam Mahoney is not only a champion for children, but also for the early care and education field as a whole. Her passion is seen in her dedication, and most of all her kindness, in reaching out to others in the early childhood field. As a teacher, administrator, counselor, or political advocate, Pam's life is full of outstanding service to Iowa's youngest children. In addition to her accomplishments for children, Pam serves as a supporter, encourager, and mentor for young professionals. Pam has a positive personality, quick wit and laughs easily – and is an absolute delight of a human being.

Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children 2022 Educator of the Year - Anita Schuckert



Anita represents the finest of what a Home Care educator can be. She has been a care provider in her home for 25 years (now caring for children of children she cared for when she first started). Anita involves her kids in extensive gardening activities. Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math (STEAM) is woven through her entire day. Anita uses both planned activities and discovery learning to build children's academic skills, as well as social and emotional skills, like relationship building, self-management, and perseverance. Anita is an outstanding early childhood educator who weaves learning into every activity.

Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children 2022 Emerging Leader - Beatrice Nema



Beatrice Nema was a professional educator before she emigrated from her native country of Botswana. She found that American and Botswanan educational expectations differed for the teaching profession. Beatrice decided to apply her love of teaching in a home child care setting. She quickly completed her CDA, and realized her passion for early childhood education. She jumped at the opportunity to participate in a collaboration between 4Cs and Lionheart Early Learning piloting solutions to the child care staffing crisis by employing and supporting qualified providers from immigrant communities. Beatrice Nema accepts the challenges and advances the field by using her skills and her heart.