



MPAEA NEWS

FALL 2016



Letter from the President

Dear MPAEA Members,

Hello and welcome to Mountain Plains Adult Education Association (MPAEA). We have had a great 2016. The Boise Conference was a huge success as well as many of the state association conferences. We are just thrilled to be working in our communities to further adult education. It is due to the amount of time and energy that each one of you passionately dedicate to lifelong learning. You are all fine examples of dedicated teachers and leaders and it has been my pleasure to work with each one of you.

We are preparing to meet for our annual conference in beautiful Salt Lake City, April 11-13, 2017 at the Radisson Hotel. The Utah Association for Adult Community and Continuing Education is diligently working on providing a wonderful and very informational conference. The Theme is "Everyone Counts: Keys to Education, Motivation and Success." You can apply online at: <http://mpaea-uaacce-slc.eventbrite.com>. I would like to invite you to come learn, explore and enjoy the success of our students and leaders.

As the holidays approach I would like to wish you all a wonderful season. Please remember to take time to share your joy and passion with family, friends, co-workers and students. Remember to engage the minds and foster curiosity in all things. Learning begins here.

Sincerely,

Dianne E. Jolovich, MTD,
MPAEA President

MOUNTAIN PLAINS ADULT EDUCATION ASSOCIATION 2017 CONFERENCE
HOSTED BY THE UTAH ASSOCIATION OF ADULT, COMMUNITY, AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

EVERYONE COUNTS

KEYS TO
EDUCATION, MOTIVATION
AND SUCCESS

Register Now
<http://mpaea-uaacce-slc.eventbrite.com>

**RADISSON HOTEL,
DOWNTOWN SLC, UT**

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION
* FEE: \$250 EARLY BIRD
\$300 AFTER MARCH 1ST

- * \$10 DISCOUNT PER PERSON FOR GROUPS OF 5 OR MORE
- * VISIT WWW.MPAEA.ORG OR WWW.UAACCE.ORG TO REGISTER.
- * REGISTRATION OPENS NOVEMBER 10, 2016

PRE CONFERENCE APRIL 11, 2017
APRIL 11-13 2017

MPAEA
Utah Association for Adult, Community, and Continuing Education

Arizona Association for Lifelong Learning 50 Years of Professional Development!

By Philip Suriano, President AALL

A milestone in adult education and literacy just occurred in the state of Arizona! The Arizona Association for Lifelong Learning has turned 50 this year as it continues to provide the state with professional development, scholarship opportunities, and advocacy and awareness efforts. The event was marked at the association's recent Fall Awards Conference at the Rio Salado Conference Center in Tempe, Arizona, on November 4th. The awards conference centered on a theme of "Transformative Learning" and featured sessions from the Arizona Department of Education, Arizona State University and several adult education programs from across the state. Several awards are also given during this annual conference with the recipients chosen through nominations from their peers. This year's awards went to:

Award of Excellence in Honor of Gary P. Tang Pima ABECC Instructional Coach Team

Barbara Carey
Mary Jo Chmielewski
Janice Gallagher
Hazel Robin



Lifelong Learning Advocate Award in Honor of Francis E. Blake Dr. Cynthia Blodgett, Northland Pioneer College Adult Education

Lifetime Achievement Award
in Honor of Gary A. Eyre
Blair Liddicoat, Rio Salado College
College Bridge Pathways





AALL Rookie of the Year Award
Elizabeth Martin, Rio Salado College
College Bridge Pathways



AALL Educator of the Year Award
Janice Cortina
Northland Pioneer College Adult Education



AALL Student of the Year Award
Maybelin Rodriguez
Queen Creek Unified School District
Adult Education

Support Staff of the Year
Evelyn Saenz, Friendly House Adult Education



Arizona Association for Lifelong Learning 50 Years of Professional Development! (Cont.)

AALL also holds a Spring Conference each year in May and this year's will be in Prescott, Arizona. The conference theme is "The Education-Vocation Connection" and will focus on the student's transition from education to career.

As part of AALL's adult education and advocacy efforts earlier this year, AALL's Awareness Committee Chair, Laura Porfirio, and Arizona Adult Education Ambassador, Linda Langston, participated in COABE's Capitol Hill Days by visiting and speaking to various legislators in Washington, D.C., to promote the importance of adult literacy and education. The trip to the Capitol was one in which adult education leaders from each state were invited to participate. We thank Laura and Linda for representing the state of Arizona and AALL!

AALL also supports Arizona Adult Literacy Week each February with trips to the State Capitol from Arizona Adult Education Ambassadors, a literacy week contest and an awards event for adult education students.

This summary of some of the things AALL has been involved with this year just goes to show that the association is very active and involved in the adult education and literacy field more than ever, even after 50 years. As our association continues to grow, we see exciting new opportunities for the next 50!



2016 Arizona Association for Lifelong Learning Board

From left to right: Gail Campbell, Katy Brown, Kelly Stewart, Lily Beth Brazones, Philip Suriano, Diane Jackson, Blair Liddicoat, Laura Porfirio, Christine Niven

C3 Initiative: College and Career Readiness Standards (CCRS), Career Pathways (CP), and Collaboration

By Judy Hofer

New Mexico Adult Education Division is excited to kick off a new and innovative professional development initiative to support programs to successfully adopt College and Career Readiness Standards (CCRS), implement Career Pathways programming, and foster strong WIOA Collaboration. The initiative is dubbed "C3" for short.

The Taos Education and Career Center at UNM-Taos Branch Campus, under the direction of director Judy Hofer, is spearheading this effort. Hofer is building from her prior experience as a researcher for the "How Teachers Change" study with the National Center for the Study of Adult Learning and Literacy (NCSALL) in the creation of a new professional development approach, the Mentor Program model. "We learned in the NCSALL study that one of the most promising models for teacher change was the Mentor Teacher model where lead teachers worked with small cohorts of other teachers in a sustained effort of reflecting on their own practice, reading research and discussing its implications, and actually visiting teachers' classrooms for observation and feedback that supported the mentee teachers' try something new," said Hofer. "Yet the drawback of this approach to program improvement was that it included only teachers, even though teachers often don't have a voice in programmatic decisions that directly affect their practice."

To remedy this situation, the C3 project is piloting a Mentor Program model with four selected mentor programs, each made up of a director and at least two teachers, facilitating a cohort or "pod" of three mentee programs each, also comprised of administrators and instructors. It's a holistic program-on-program model, with programs supporting each other to succeed. The approach retains elements similar to the NCSALL Mentor Teacher model including a type of study circle with readings from the field, reflection on practice, direct observations and feedback (this time augmented by the use of technology), and with learning occurring among participants in each cohort and not solely between the mentor and mentee. Hofer believes the strengths of the design lie in the guiding principles of: we learn best by teaching, we build from what we already know and do, we learn in small communities that provide sustained and ongoing support, and we have the decision makers (the directors) and the doers (the teachers) working together to improve. And, not to go unmentioned, rather than pay for outside consultants, that money is diverted to pay programs for their active engagement. Hofer hopes this model will support the seismic shifts in practice required by the new Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA) that now governs our field.

Year I of this three-year effort is divided into two phases. The first phase is designed for the mentor programs to build their own expertise in standards, career pathways, and the development of WIOA partners. Phase II begins the actual mentoring of other programs. During the life of the project, participants will be creating a resource collection of research and tools, including videos of teachers teaching to the key advances in practice. "It's powerful to actually see quality practice in action as it's from modeling that many of us best learn," explains Hofer.

Outcomes from the C3 Initiative also include the development of methods and rubrics to assess teacher and program competencies in the areas of standards adoption, career pathways implementation, and the development of meaningful WIOA partnerships. The vision is for programs and teachers to become micro-credentialed in C3 competence.

Perhaps most importantly, the C3 Mentor Program team hopes that C3 will build the leadership and capacity of adult education in the state of New Mexico to move us from being at the low performing end of the spectrum to taking a seat among the best of the best in service to our students. Ultimately, we see this initiative as a way to work together over the long haul to uplift our field and have a greater impact on the lives of our students and the well-being of our communities.

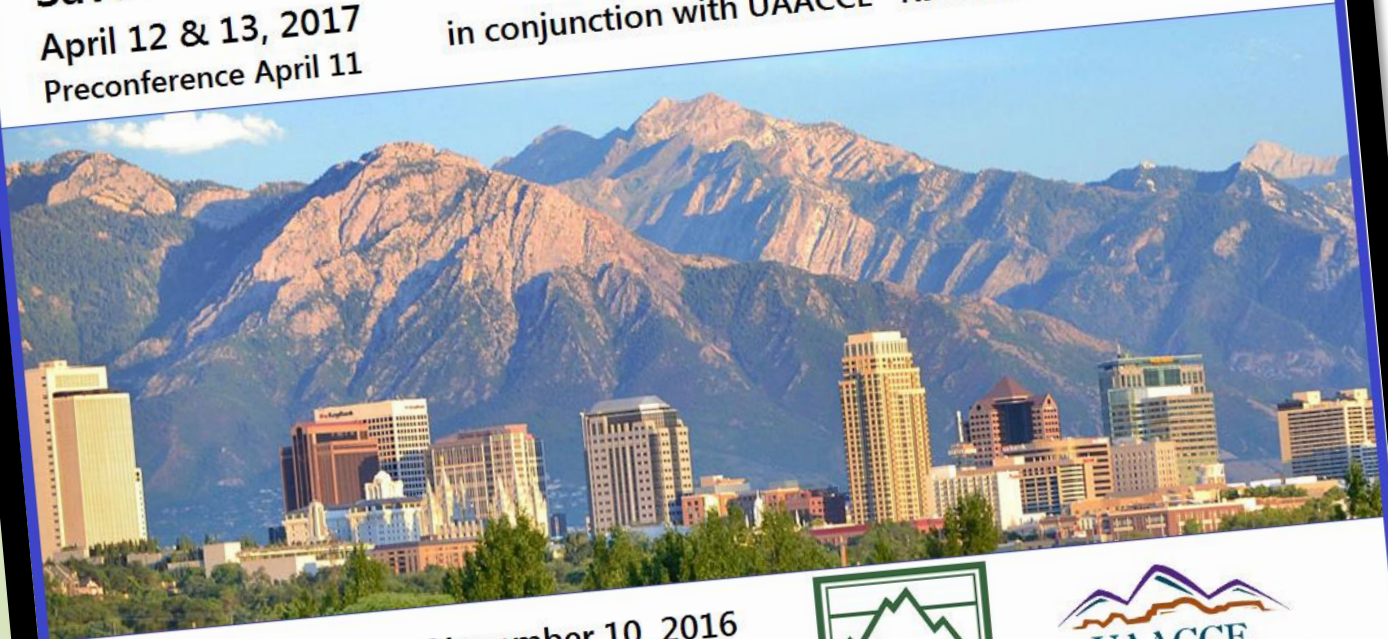
MPAEA Awards 2017 Make YOUR NOMINATION TODAY!

The MPAEA conference gives us the opportunity to pause and recognize our colleagues for their hard work and innovation. Each member state will bestow the **Award of Excellence** to an individual who has made significant contributions to the advancement of adult education at the local level. MPAEA also recognizes a single individual in a profession outside education who has proven to be an ally of adult education and lifelong learning with the **Lay Leader of the Year** award. Because we know not all of the work of adult education happens in the classroom, we honor the **Legislator of the Year** – someone who has proven to be a strong supporter of adult education and has influenced respective legislatures to promote and enhance lifelong learning opportunities for the citizens of their state. Finally, MPAEA honors an individual who has made an outstanding contribution towards furthering the concept of adult education as a process continuing throughout life with the **Award of Merit**. You can learn more about awards, review past recipients and make your nominations at our website, www.mpaea.org. Recipients will be honored at a luncheon on April 13, 2017 at the MPAEA/UAACCE conference in Salt Lake City.

Save the Date!
April 12 & 13, 2017
Preconference April 11


MPAEA Annual Conference

in conjunction with UAACCE * Radisson Hotel, SLC, Utah



Registration opens November 10, 2016
uaacce.org or mpaea.org
Email uaacce.info@gmail.com




UAACCE
Utah Association for Adult,
Community and Continuing Education