

ACENA Spring Newsletter: Issue 27

In this Issue:

- [ACENA Conference](#)
 - [*NEW* Membership Subcommittee](#)
 - [Research Subcommittee](#)
 - [National CE Day](#)
 - [Center Feature: Con Nosotros](#)
 - [Important spring dates](#)
-

REGISTER TODAY! 2018 ACENA Conference

**August 26th - 29th 2018
Hosted by Sara's Garden, Ohio**

Registration is now open for the 2018 ACENA Conference being held in Ohio hosted by Sara's Garden. [Register](#) before **May 31st** to receive the early bird discount. There is also a discounted rate for ACENA members! You must be a member prior to registering, if you haven't yet renewed, [join today!](#)

We are excited to announce the conference schedule has been confirmed. [Click here](#) to view the schedule and learn more about our exciting line up of presenters and topics. Thank you to everyone who submitted proposals, we are pleased to announce that all proposals were accepted and we have a wide range of topics that cover streams relevant to conductors, related professionals, program administrators and of course our participants and their families.

Our keynote speaker is Lynne Gauthier, PhD, Assistant Professor of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. Dr. Gauthier will be presenting on "Neuroplasticity, Rehabilitation & Gaming." She will also be arranging a lab rehabilitation demonstration at the conference after her keynote presentation. The demonstration will be facilitated by her graduate researchers. For more information on Dr. Gauthier's work, [click here](#).

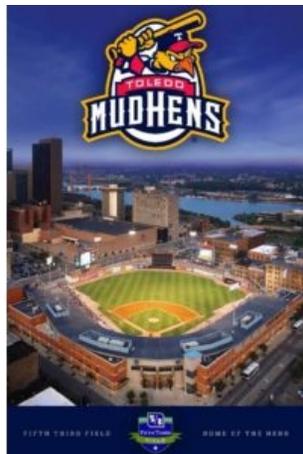
The conference will be held at Sauder Village Inn. Lodging is now reserved for ACENA Conference delegates and the conference will take place on site. Please use booking ID #7749 when making reservations. For more information on how to book rooms as well as directions and info on travel, [click here](#).



As part of the conference package, your registration will include:

- Tour of Sara's Garden & New Horizons Academy (Includes transportation and boxed lunch)
- Tour of historic Sauder Village
- Toledo Mud Hens baseball game (Includes transportation, ticket and food at the ballpark)
- Dinner gala at Founder's Hall on Tuesday evening

For more information on these events, [click here](#). Lunch will be provided both days.



All information regarding registration, conference schedule and events can be found on the 2018 [ACENA Conference website](#).

***NEW* Membership Subcommittee!**

The benefits of ACENA membership are designed to meet the needs of you - the members. On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to invite you to join a conversation about member engagement. We would like to hear from you about what you love about membership and what you think we could do to improve your ACENA experience. Also, if you haven't renewed your membership this year or last, we'd love to hear why and what we can do to help.

We strongly feel that it is important to have as many ideas and experiences represented as possible, so please let me know if you would be interested in getting involved. As a reminder, members that participate in a subcommittee will give the opportunity to his/her program to be eligible for free center membership - a \$100 value! If you haven't been a part of a subcommittee in the past, this will be an easy way to get involved, and you can know that you're making a difference for

our organization as a whole.

Please do not hesitate to let me know if you have any questions or if you'd like more information about this opportunity. I'm looking forward to hearing from you soon!

All the best,
Liz Filkins, CET
ACENA Director of Membership
liz.filkins@gmail.com.

Research Subcommittee

The ACENA Research Committee meets monthly and welcomes members to join in the important conversation! The committee will be meeting on Monday, April 16th at 12pmEST. The Research Committee is currently working on creating a universal Parent Satisfaction Survey, which will be made available to all ACENA members. If you would like to participate please contact Patti Herbst at pherbst@cfice.org

National Conductive Education Day February 15th, 2018

We are so pleased with how many members and CE centers celebrated National Conductive Education day this year to help make it a success. This year ACENA members were encouraged to post photos of participants on social media with signs saying I CAN or WE CAN. All week, Facebook lit up with posts and pictures with the hashtags; #ICan #WeCan #CEDay2018. Over 10 centers participated to help spread the positive energy and message of National Conductive Education day. Everyone was encouraged to share posts and there were several shout-outs among CE centers to keep the celebration going! Thanks to everyone who got involved.



Earlier in the week, some centers got into the celebrating mood by having a spirit week. Some of the activities and fun dress up days included:

- Crazy Socks Day
- PJ Day
- Crazy Hair Day
- Character Day
- Show your Style Day
- Show your Love Day



Next year's National Conductive Education Day: February 14, 2019

If you're looking for ways to get involved next year, consider:

- Participating in our #ICAN #WECAN social media campaign
- Running your own spirit week to join in on the fun
- Developing partnerships with other CE centers
- Sharing information on Conductive Education with other organizations, local politicians and news organizations
- Looking for opportunities to present about Conductive Education in your area

If you have other great ideas to spread awareness about Conductive Education, we'd love to hear from you!



Con Nosotros Conductive Education Center is a nonprofit organization serving children, young adults, and adults with cerebral palsy. The Center opened its doors in 2001 in the state of Morelos. The Center is directed by Margara Milan, PhD. The Center's vision in seven powerful words is:

- Inclusion
- Independence
- Humility
- Courage
- Empathy
- Love
- Patience

The Center has been expanding throughout the years. However, as many conductive education programs, it experienced financial challenges. This is a barrier employing a fulltime conductive education teacher. Their dedicated special education teachers and classroom assistants have been trained by part- time conductors and at workshops at Peto Institute workshops. They have participated at World Conferences and give various presentations.

The Center also is able to periodically contract conductive education teachers to maintain their professional development. I feel blessed to have the opportunity to visit and volunteer here several times in the past three years. My latest visit led me to arrive during a time of significant change and a new beginning for Con Nosotros.

What an exciting time!

After many years of lobbying, DIF Morelos (Department of Children and Family Services of Morelos) is providing the Center with a new home that is connected to the Center of Rehabilitation in Emiliano Zapata, Morelos. It is an incredible achievement to be connected to the rehabilitation center where doctors, physical therapists, and occupational therapists are learning about conductive education.

After all this change, Con Nosotros felt the need to offer a training program for 30 professionals, introducing the basics of conductive education. DIF Morelos sponsored a 5 week (3 days /week) certificate program for PT, OT, speech therapists, psychologists, and rehabilitation doctors from seven different states in Mexico.



The five modules included academic lessons, observation, and practice in conductive education classrooms. If anyone is interested of the full schedule, please email me and I can send it to you. The objective of the training is to promote conductive education in a broad area of the country and to emphasize the importance of working together for the benefit of the children and families.

At the end of the fifth week the participants gave their testimonials about their experience. Most of them were able to give a short presentation about how they would include the elements of conductive education in their own setting. Moreover they were able to explain how children and young adults, adults from their program would progress if they enrolled in the conductive education groups.

Personally, I am extremely pleased with how these highly respected professionals from various fields were open to something new. I, as a conductive education

teacher of 22 years, who routinely works with a diverse professional team, I highly recommend such training in the community of the centers. We can all learn from one another so as to better serve the children and families.

The future vision of Con Nosotros is to start a Conductive Education Training Program under the University of Morelos. Since the State of Morelos can support it financially. The plan is to cooperate with the Andrés Bello Faculty, formerly known as Andrés Bello College to start as soon as possible, since the State of Morelos can support them financially.
We wish them good luck!



Thank you for the Center for Independence through Conductive Education to support me on my journey and thank you for Con Nosotros for letting me be a part of this experience!

Anita Keresztury

Mark your Calendars!

April 1: Registration Opens for 2018 ACENA Conference

April 11: ACENA Board Meeting

April 16: Research Subcommittee Meeting

May 2: Conference Subcommittee Meeting

May 9: ACENA Board Meeting

May 31: Early Bird Deadline for ACENA Conference

*Check out [ACENA's calendar](#) to stay up to date ! If you would like to participate in a subcommittee meeting, please get in touch with us to find out more!

www.acena.org

Check out our facebook page

