

ACENA Summer Newsletter: Issue 28

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Dear ACENA Members,

As the end of the school year draws near for conductive education programs throughout North America, and Summer Programs start swinging into action, I am reminded of the cyclical nature of our work. One session leads to another, and one school year leads to the next. With an ending always comes a new beginning - a fresh chance to start again. With the busyness of the season, it seems an important time to stop and reflect on how far we've come - not only as individual programs, but as an organization as a whole. It is also an opportunity to look forward. To create goals for the future and set in motion the plans that lead to each achievement and accomplishment.

This season, we also celebrate the opportunity to participate in our tenth ACENA conference which will be held in the historic Sauder Village of Archbold, Ohio. We are eagerly anticipating the event, which will be co-hosted by ACENA and Sara's Garden. From August 27th - 29th, conductors, administrators, as well as other professionals working in the field of conductive education will gather together with parents and program participants to share and gain knowledge on various CE-related topics. This time together will give us the valuable opportunity to meet face to face - time to celebrate our accomplishments, seek input from our membership and discuss ways to strengthen our organization. Registration is still open, and more information can be found [here](#). We hope you'll join us.

As we look to the future, it comes without surprise that the trajectory of conductive education in North America depends on our joint leadership. This leadership must be rooted in strong collaboration and strengthened by the resolve to move CE forward. One such example can be seen in our Research Committee's work throughout this year. Led by Patti Herbst, this subcommittee has been able to pull together the work from several centers in order to create a universal Parent Satisfaction survey that can be used in a Research Study on Conductive Education. Please be on the lookout for more information coming soon! We are excited to see how this project can directly impact centers at the programmatic level.

How will you get involved in ACENA during this new season? What is your plan for this fresh start? We have several other subcommittees that are currently active or forming. If you have yet to get involved in one of these opportunities, I would like to challenge you to find one that interests you and step forward. Be a voice for

your program in the greater CE community of North America. We will all benefit from your participation, as our strength comes from our numbers. If you are looking for a way to get involved or have any questions about the opportunities that are currently available, please do not hesitate to ask. Together we can be a strong voice for conductive education. Together we can make a difference.

Andrea Benyovszky
ACENA President

2018 ACENA Conference

Deadline extended until July 31st!

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

Registration has been extended for the 2018 ACENA Conference being held in Ohio hosted by Sara's Garden. There is still time to [register!](#) There is a discounted rate for ACENA members, if you haven't yet renewed your membership, [join today!](#)

The final conference schedule will be up online soon for viewing. [Click here](#) to view the schedule and learn more about our exciting line up of presenters and topics. 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](#).

Membership Subcommittee!

A Call for Members

Looking for an easy way to get involved with ACENA? Consider joining our new Membership Subcommittee! This emerging group will discuss ways to further engage members in order to strengthen our organization, as well as the work of CE programs operating throughout North America. In addition to this important discussion, members that participate in a subcommittee also give the opportunity for their 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 can be a great way to get started.

Please do not hesitate to let me know if you have any questions or if you'd like more information about this opportunity.

All the best,
Liz Filkins, CET
ACENA Director of Membership
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CE Center Feature: March of Dimes Canada

In 1949, in an effort to find a cure for the polio virus, mothers across Canada joined a North America-wide fundraising effort. These dedicated volunteers, known as the Marching Mothers®, went door-to-door collecting donations of 'just a dime'. With the threat of polio greatly diminished in the 1950s, March of Dimes Canada began funding assistive devices for people who had contracted the polio virus, as

well as providing programs focused primarily on rehabilitation and job training for polio survivors. By the early 1960s, the organization shifted its mandate to serve the broader needs of all adults with physical disabilities, regardless of whether the disability was a result of a disability at birth, the polio virus, an accident, or even due to aging.

Today we have a number of different programs and services for people with disabilities including; Recreation programs, Home and Vehicle Modification, Employment Support, Supportive Housing and of course Conductive Education.

Conductive Education began at MODC with a trip from CEO Andria Spindel to the Peto Institute back in the 80s. After seeing CE firsthand, she decided that MODC should offer Conductive Education programs here in Canada. Our services began in Toronto, then expanded to Halifax and are also now offered in Alberta (Calgary and Edmonton).



MODC offers children and adult services for participants with cerebral palsy, spina bifida, stroke, brain injury, multiple sclerosis and Parkinson's. Most of our participants attend programs once or twice a week. However we do run a number of day camps in the summer and over spring break as well as some overnight camps. One of our strengths as a larger organization is we can offer a wide range of services to our participants. By working with other programs within our organization we have been able to offer a wide range of services to our participants such as recreation, transition services and support to caregivers, parents and spouses. Conductive Education is the ideal place for participants to develop and improve their mobility, problem solving and independence. Then they are challenged to apply these in real world situations such as with our overnight march break camp where we work on self-care, cooking, and enjoy leisure activities such as kick sledding, art and other sports and games.



This summer, our Halifax program offered a CE Recreation day camp for six young adults. We started each day with a two hour CE class and then the afternoons were spent doing yoga, participating in music therapy, wheelchair soccer, a trip down to the waterfront and adaptive water skiing! We had a blast! To find out more about March of Dimes Canada, visit our [website](#).



Mark your Calendars!

July 11: ACENA Board Meeting
July 31: Conference Registration Deadline
August 27-29: 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

