

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

April 4, 2017

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MONTH OF THE YOUNG CHILD EVENTS ANNOUNCED

PITTSBURGH--The Pittsburgh Association for The Education of Young Children ([PAEYC](#)) is celebrating its annual, [Month of the Young Child](#) this April with several events.

"During this month, PAEYC takes time to reflect on how we – as citizens of this community, state, and nation – will better meet the needs of all young children and their families," said Cara Ciminillo, PAEYC Executive Director. "In doing so, we also celebrate those who work daily to do what's best for children."

First established by the National Association for the Education of Young Children ([NAEYC](#)) in April 1971 as a, *Week of the Young Child*, PAEYC and its partners from across Pennsylvania decided to designate the entire month of April as the, [Month of the Young Child](#) several years ago.

One such collaboration for the [Month of The Young Child](#) will include Pittsburgh Mayor William Peduto's Office of Early Childhood Education, the City of Pittsburgh Department of Public Safety, PAEYC, and the Southwest Regional Key. Together they will co-host, "Emergency Planning Professional Development Day" on April 6 to train early care and education professionals on CPR, first-aid, fire safety, and emergency planning. This event was coordinated in response to findings from the [Child Care Needs Assessment](#) conducted by the Women's Caucus of City Council for the City of Pittsburgh.

While registration is now closed for this date, several other sessions will be scheduled throughout the year.

"It's an honor to partner with PAEYC to celebrate early childhood professionals and educators and focus on the importance of high-quality care and education for young Pittsburghers during the Month of the Young Child," said Mayor William Peduto. "High-quality childcare and early education resources are essential for helping children and families grow, learn, explore and thrive."

From FREE programs for children and families, to a Celebration Dinner for professionals, the [Month of the Young Child](#) provides an opportunity for everyone to be involved. For more information visit: www.paeyc.org. For details on NAEYC's *Week of the Young Child* April 24 - 28, visit: www.naeyc.org/woyc.

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2017 MONTH OF THE YOUNG CHILD EVENTS

- ***Raising Readers***

5:45 - 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, April 5, Willie T's Barbershop, 7205 Frankstown Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA, 15208

5:45 - 7:30 p.m., Thursdays, April 6 and 13, Homewood Early Learning Hub, 7219 Kelly Street, Pittsburgh, PA, 15208



Parents and children are invited to join the Homewood Early Learning Hub team for *Raising Readers*, a FREE family-program that includes: storytime, discussion, dinner, activities, and more weekly through April 13 (except for Wednesday, April 12).

For questions, contact Cynthia or Will at 412-421-3889.

- ***Story Hike: In A Nutshell***

10 - 11: 30 a.m., Sunday, April 9

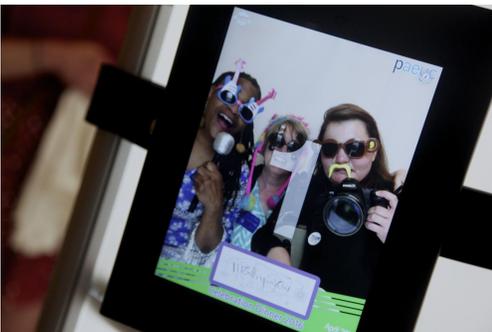
Frick Environmental Center, 2005 Beechwood Boulevard, Pittsburgh, PA, 15217

Come explore the life cycle of a tree during this [story hike for young learners](#). We will find a quiet spot in the woods to read *In a Nutshell* by Joseph Anthony, before going for a short hike and playing an interactive scavenger hunt game. Registration is required for this event.

- ***Annual PAEYC Celebration Dinner***

4:30 - 8 p.m., Wednesday, April 12

Carnegie Museum of Art, 4400 Forbes Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15213



PAEYC honors child care providers and the important work they do daily. Great fun, dinner (kosher meals available), drinks, and dessert provided. For details, please contact Sharon at: sseitam@paeyc.org. This year's keynote speaker will be [Candi Castleberry Singleton](#), Founder & Chair of the *Power of &*.

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To register, please visit celebrationdinner2017.eventbrite.com through Friday, April 7.

- ***Buzzword: Talk & Play***
6 - 7 p.m., Thursday, April 20 & 27
Kingsley Association, 6435 Frankstown Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA, 15206

[Buzzword Pittsburgh](#) was created to excite children and families as they discover the words that are all around them. Play and talk with educators from the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy and Pittsburgh Festival Opera (formerly Opera Theater of Pittsburgh) at these events which are free for learners ages five and under, with their caregivers. Dinner will be provided. Registration is not required for this event.

- ***Earth Day***
6 - 9 p.m., Friday, April 21
Falls Ravine Shelter, Frick Parking Lot, Pittsburgh, PA, 15217

[Community Campfire](#) for all ages.

9 a.m. - 7 p.m., April 22
Frick Park and Frick Environmental Center

[Volunteer clean-up](#), nature walks and hikes, concerts, and more!

- ***Homewood Early Learning HUB Block Party***
11 a.m. - 2 p.m., Saturday, April 22
7219 Kelly Street, Pittsburgh, PA, 15208



The *Homewood Early Learning HUB Block Party* will take place 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 22 in the block at 7219 Kelly Street, Pittsburgh, PA, 15208. Children's activities, food trucks, and resources plus a special performance by [Anqwenique Wingfield](#) will be offered at this annual family favorite.

Also joining PAEYC will be [Jeremiah's Place](#), celebrating its **Third Birthday** as Pittsburgh's only crisis nursery.

The event is FREE and open to the public, no registration is required. A FREE bus will provide transportation at 4 p.m. to Frick Earth Day events as well.

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- ***5th Annual Ultimate Play Day***
1 - 4 p.m., Sunday, April 30
Allegheny Commons East Park, Pittsburgh, PA 15212



The [*Ultimate Play Day*](#) is a celebration of playfulness for people of all ages. Hosted by the [Playful Pittsburgh Collaborative](#), the event is an opportunity for people from throughout the Pittsburgh region to play together and raise awareness of the benefits of play for everyone, from birth to 199 yrs. This year, the *5th Annual Ultimate Play Day* will be held at Allegheny Commons East Park on Sunday, April 30, 2017 from 1-4 PM.

Member organizations of the Playful Pittsburgh Collaborative and community partners will come together to provide a holistic model of innovative and creative play. Playful activities will spark conversations about topics including play and learning, risk in play, the benefits of play, and how we can incorporate play into our lives and the lives of our children every day. Featured activities are carefully selected as ones that can be replicated at home, in classrooms, and at neighborhood parks. The event is FREE and open to the public, no registration is required.

ABOUT PAEYC

The Pittsburgh Association for the Education of Young Children (PAEYC) works to support high-quality care and education for young children from birth until age nine across 10 counties in southwestern Pennsylvania. PAEYC provides professional development, community resources and advocacy for the needs and rights of children, their families and the individuals who interact with them.

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