



2017 Sharing A Vision Conference **Creative Expressions Art Gallery**

Parents/Guardians of Young Children,

Through the collaborative efforts of early childhood supporters from across the state, the fifteenth Illinois Early Childhood Conference, ***Sharing A Vision*** will be held at the Crowne Plaza, located in East Peoria, IL on October 26th, 27th & 28th. This conference provides agencies, programs and families the opportunity to come together, share their knowledge and learn new information about working with young children and families.

The ***Sharing A Vision*** conference will feature a **Creative Expressions Art Gallery** where children's artwork from across the state will be displayed. Children attending early childhood programs in Illinois are eligible to participate in this exciting art experience. **Creative Expression Art Gallery** committee members will be looking for pieces of artwork that are representative of *developmentally appropriate practices (DAP)*. Developmentally appropriate art experiences provide young children with many opportunities to learn how to express themselves using a variety of media such as paint, crayons, markers, clay, paper, wood, metal, plastic, collage materials, etc. Through open exploration of these materials young children learn about the many aspects of art including but not limited to color, shape, design, and drawing. Simply put, developmentally appropriate art experiences for young children focus on the ***process*** instead of the end product.

Artwork meeting the above criteria will be displayed in the **Creative Expressions Art Gallery**. Participants at the conference will be able to view the artwork as well as learn about the processes used to create the pieces. The programs that have submitted these pieces will have the chance to receive supplies to continue to provide **DAP** art experiences for the children!

In order for your child's artwork to be displayed, please sign the attached Consent and Release Form and return it to your child's teacher. Please understand that:

- Items submitted to the conference will not be returned.
- Professionals/Parents attending the conference will have the opportunity to participate in a raffle for the children's artwork.
- Last names, addresses, and/or phone numbers will not appear with the item(s).

If you have any questions or concerns about this event, please contact one of the following committee members:

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