

Northern Lights E-Newsletter

Fall 2015



10th anniversary

Welcome to the FIRST fully online Northern Lights e-newsletter.

We hope you like the new format. The Newsletter still includes what's new, answers to your frequently asked questions, the latest updates on our website, congratulations to the latest certificate and credential holders and more.

Sign up any time by clicking on the **RED MAILBOX** on our website. The the latest news about professional development for early childhood and afterschool professionals will come to your inbox.

What's New?

On the Northern Lights website

- **Program Director Credential** updates click [HERE](#)
- **Medication Administration** modules AND Refresher module click [HERE](#)
- **NEW approved sponsor of online training:** Naptime Academy click [HERE](#)
- **NEW poll on our website page (on the bottom)** - tell us the top ways *you* get information about professional development? click [HERE](#)

New Northern Lights Coordinator

Welcome Amelia Struthers

It is a pleasure to join Northern Lights Career Development Center! I will be working out of the Springfield CCV Academic Center. I look forward to assisting early education and afterschool

professionals as they pursue their career goals. It feels exciting to be part of this important element of creating high quality programs in Vermont.

What I bring to this job is experience in both early education and afterschool. I have been a preschool, elementary and homeschool teacher, I have designed, taught and directed summer and afterschool programs, led creative drama, storytelling and music enrichment programs, testified to state legislative committees as an advocate for afterschool, and most recently acted as Executive Director of Child Care Programming for Springfield Medical Care Systems - at the Squeaky Sneakers Child Care centers in Springfield and Bellows Falls.



Now I am very pleased to be part of Northern Lights and to support the many dedicated Vermont professionals working in afterschool and early childhood care education.

PS. Have you seen Amelia disguised as the Dairy Godmother leading the Strolling of the Heifers parade in Brattleboro?

Coming soon

The 2016 *early childhood* Peer Review Project



Do you have a Bachelor Degree? Are you interested in earning your educator license with an early childhood endorsement? Northern Lights offers a 10 month Peer Review Project course. Instructors and mentors guide you to create your Peer Review portfolio and meet other requirements that prepare you to apply for a teacher license through the Peer Review process at the VT Agency of Education.

Find information and the application [HERE](#).

Deadline to submit applications is Dec. 16, 2015 and the course starts in February 2016.

Were you at the fall conferences?

We began our 10 year anniversary celebration!

Northern Lights staff were happy to meet so many of you at the VAEYC and Afterschool conferences this October. On Thursday at the VAEYC conference Northern Lights launched its **10th anniversary** celebration with birthday cake for all.



Early Childhood Educator of the Year

Permanent Fund announces first awards

At the VAEYC conference in Killington on October 16, 2015, the Permanent Fund for Vermont's Children awarded its first Early Educator of the Year Award to GERALYN BARROWS, a 30-year veteran child care provider from New Haven, VT. Elsa Bosma was recognized as the finalist. Congratulations, Gerri and Elsa!

Both professionals run a 5 STAR Family Child Care program. This year's award was focused on home-based providers and next year's will zero in on center-based programs. The Permanent Fund plans to recognize excellence in the field of early education teaching on a yearly basis in order to highlight what high quality child care looks like.



from left: Aly Richards, CEO of the Permanent Fund for Vermont's Children, with the Early Educator of the Year Award winner GERALYN BARROWS, finalist Elsa Bosma and Rick Davis, founder of the Permanent fund

Afterschool conference in Stowe

Over 250 people attended

Were you at the Afterschool Conference? The **Afterschool Knowledge and Competencies booklet** and more information about Afterschool Career Pathways can be found [HERE](#).

Pictured: afterschool professionals have fun making floating objects and seeing them work in the air tunnel



VCCICC Board and staff

NEW President of the VCCICC board and completed Apprentices graduate

Vermont Child Care Industry and Careers Council (VCCICC) annual meeting Oct. 24, 2015

Another impressive group of early childhood professionals were celebrated for completing the Child Care Apprenticeship program. Also, Carolyn Riley stepped down as President of the Board and Cindy Daniels stepped up.

Learn more about the Child Care Apprenticeship and the work of VCCICC [HERE](#)

Two NEW documents guide professionals working with young children in Vermont

- **Vermont Early Learning Standards** for children ages birth to grade three

- **Agency of Education endorsement standards** for early childhood teachers

The long awaited Vermont Early Learning Standards (VELS) are now available on the Agency of Education website here. They are [HERE](#)

The recently updated Agency of Education endorsement standards for early childhood teachers, have fewer competencies than the earlier standards and are aligned with the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) professional standards. They will be on the [Agency of Education website](#) soon!

What YOU are saying...

About professional development

"I had dabbled in the professional development sections of BFIS (Bright Futures information System) - but it was so helpful to walk through it with someone. One click and the light bulb is on!

- *Jim Flint, program director*



"Understanding the knowledge and competencies is making what I do more purposeful."

- *teacher in a workshop on early childhood knowledge and competencies*



Over 150 professionals earned Vermont Certificates and Credentials between July and Oct. 28, 2015

Congratulations to you and your colleagues all over Vermont

- Find those who earned a **Program Director Credential** Step 1 or 2 [HERE](#)
- Find those who earned **Afterschool Certificates and Credentials** [HERE](#)
- Find those who joined the **Instructor Registry** - or renewed [HERE](#)
- Find those who earned early childhood **Career Ladder Certificates** [HERE](#)

Look for these opportunities-

3 Courses and workshops especially for Instructors and Directors start in Jan. 2016

For program directors seeking Step 2 of the Program Director Credential:

- Legal and Financial Issues in early childhood and afterschool programs- online college course
- Human Resources Management - online through CCV

Partial scholarships available from Northern Lights: Learn more [HERE](#)

For Instructors joining the Instructor Registry:

- Voices of Learning: adult learning and instructional design (10 hour, fully online workshop) Learn more and get on the list for the course [HERE](#)

You ask...We answer

Question: What is the process after I send my Career Ladder certificate application to Northern Lights?



Answer: Northern Lights staff review your application within 5-10 business days. If it is incomplete we email you and finish processing it when we get the missing information. Once the review is complete, we award the certificate, enter it into your BFIS Credential account and send it to the Child Development Division. They mail the certificate to you AND determine if you meet the additional criteria, to be eligible for a Recognition Bonus. Learn more about these criteria on the SIDE BAR of the Northern Lights website page [HERE](#).

The newest BFIS (Bright Futures Information System) Sponsors

They joined over 130 other organizations and programs

Organizations that regularly offer professional development, may decide to streamline the documentation process for participants. These organizations work with Northern Lights staff to ensure their trainings can quickly be verified and entered into individuals' BFIS Quality and Credential accounts. The following organizations become "BFIS Sponsors" between July 1 & Oct. 26, 2015.

Robin's Nest Childrens Center	Burlington
Vermont Child Care Providers Association	Swanton
Morristown Afterschool Program	Morrisville

These professionals earned their Program Director Credential for early childhood and afterschool professionals

Step 1

Rebecca Chaplin	St. Albans
Marcy Cram	Leicester
Brittany Hatin	St. Albans

Dawn	Hiscock	Essex Junction
Linda	January	Cornwall
Heather	LaPlante	Chester
Sara	Lovell-Allbee	Westminster
Katie	McGee	Colchester
Amy	Murray	Grand Isle
Sarah	Rougier	Monkton
Ariel	Rose	Londonderry

Step 2

Rhoda J. Barnett	Greensboro	Bend
Amy	Murray	Grand Isle
Samara	Mays	Montpelier
Lisa	Pike	Bradford
Rebecca	Chaplin	St. Albans
Sarah	King	Milton

Learn more about the Program Director Credential [HERE](#)

These professionals earned their early childhood Career Ladder Certificates

Learn more about early childhood Career Level Certificates [HERE](#)

Level I

Raven	Pfaff	Hyde Park	
Cail	Cassery	Montpelier	
Ryan	Tallman	Hyde Park	
Alexis	Spaulding	Eden	
Kelli	Powers	Benson	
Jennifer	Mazza	Milton	
Katie	Crandall	East Ryegate	
Julie	Gould	Jamaica	
Kristie	Clough	Eagle Bridge	NY
Shirley	Rogers	Braintree	
Hannah	Fernald	Hyde Park	
Abby	Trivento	St. Albans	
Allison	Lague	Fairfax	
Jamie	Greenslit	Northfield Falls	
Lucy	Dobler	North Troy	
Sierra	Davis	Milton	
Frances	Collins	Newport Center	
Ashlyn	Coull	Newport	

Melissa Tripp Pittsford

Level II

Michelle	Merryfield	Williamstown
Jennifer	Mazza	Milton
Dawn	Czachor	Castleton
Savannah	Ovitt	Stowe
Rosanna	Luchka	Essex Jcton
Laurie	Adams	Windsor
Joy	Solomon	Winooski
Melissa	Baraw	Barre
Rebecca	Tirrell	Brookline
Lisa	Tabor	Wolcott
Isamarie	Sanville	Norwich
Catherine	Siciliano	Windsor
Shelby	Miller	Hyde Park
Melissa	Sides	S.Burlington
Rachel	Tidwell	Bennington
Ashley	Hebert	Pownal
Megan	Dubois	Milton
Brittany	Muise	Bennington
Melissa	Neilson	Rutland

Level IIIA

Heather	Newell	Williamsville
Tina	Bills	Brookline
Amanda	Beattie	Randolph
Karen	Mugford	Randolph
Andrea	Goodrich-Abraham	Fairlee
Jacqueline	Kissell	Bellows Falls
Cathleen	Francis	Essex Junction
Erica	Smith	West Dummerston
Amber	Bollman	West Burke

Level IIIB

Winnie	Adelt	Milton
Michelle Lynn	Ennis	East Arlington
Angelia Lynn	Mason	Thetford Ctr
Marie-Pierre	Roccati-Seiz	East Dover
Heather	LaPlante	Chester

Kristine	Williams	Bellows Falls
Rita	Orzech	Bennington

Level IV-A and IV-B

Lindsay	McSweeney	Fairfield
Brittany	Nolan	Addison
Haley	Divis	Woodford
Meredith	Jez	Manchester Center
Larissa	Liddle	Colchester
Martha	DeMers	Marshfield
Jessica	Giroux	Derby
Melissa	Smith	Fairfax
Louise	Masterson	Middlebury
Donna	Leicht	Burlington
Sheila	Quenneville	S.Burlington
Stephanie	Ellison	Rutland
Emily	Lambert	Middlebury
Racheal	Boyce	New Haven
Kaitlin	Call	Waterford
Krysta	Griffith	New Haven

Level V-A and V-B

Elo-Mai	Noormets	Westminister
Beth	McKinney	East Dover

These professionals earned their Afterschool Certificates

Afterschool Foundation Certificate

Tammy	Griffith	Wolcott
Stephanie	Earle	Wolcott
Lilo	Braade	Bellows Falls

Afterschool Essentials Certificate

Tammy	Griffith	Wolcott
Stephanie	Earle	Wolcott
Lindsey	Comar	Arlington
Joy	Solomon	Winooski
Lilo	Braade	Bellows Falls

Learn more about the Afterschool Certificates and Credentials [HERE](#)

These professionals earned or renewed their Instructor Registry Certificates Learn more about the Instructor Registry [HERE](#)

NEW

RENEWED

Affiliate I

Jennifer	Wedge	Waterbury
Natessa	Romano	Burlington
Pamela	Fontaine	St. Albans
Jessica	Titcomb	Richmond
Joy	Solomon	Winooski

Affiliate II

Erica	Marcelino-Howard	Fairfax
Audrey	Perry	White River Junction

Certified

Ingrid	Reade	Danville	Robin	Castle	Barre
			Cheryl	Wells	Alburgh
			Ellen	Drolette	Burlington
			Lynne	Teker	Bennington
			Sonja	Raymond	Stowe
			Donna	Pomroy	Barnet

Master

Cynthia	Kuhns	North Ferrisburg	Linda	Wellings	Shelburne
			Amanda	Terreri	Burlington
			Jennifer	Keenan-Wolf	Hanover NH
			Dee (Diane)	Smith	Burlington
			Johanna	Vaczy	Middlebury
			Lorraine	Harris	Plainfield NH

Specialist II

Rebecca	Mack	Burlington	Anore	Horton	South Burlington
Kelly	Ault	Middlesex	Kary	Towne	Milton
Ginger	Farineau	Colchester	Marilyn	Neagley	Shelburne

Contact

Northern Lights Career Development Center
PO Box 489, Montpelier VT 05601
<http://northernlightscdc.org>

PHONE

802-828-2876 (Montpelier) 802-885-8374 (Springfield)

"It can be so isolating.
Professional development
makes me feel good. It gives
me some juice."

Professional development
puts power in my batteries."

send professional development documents to be entered into your BFIS credential account to: prof.dev@ccv.edu
send other instructor, program director and career ladder applications to: vtnlight@ccv.edu

- Theresa Stevens, VT child care provider

more CONTACT information [click HERE](#)

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[coconstantH987](#) | PO Box 489 | Montpelier VT | VT | 05601