

# OAKLAND UNIVERSITY™

## School of Education and Human Services



### **AUFD UPDATE**

---

#### **I Funded My Passion — Julie Chapie**

One benefit to working in the ERL environment is that we are immersed in our students. Helping them, listening to them, laughing with them, calming them and eventually cheering them on at graduation. Including a donation to the SEHS scholarship fund in my AUFD gift for the third year in a row allows me to help them in one more way. As a parent of a college student, I know how much scholarships mean to students and this makes me smile.

I am Julie and helping students is my passion!



### **ACCOLADES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

---

#### **Mary Lose Presents Paper at International Literacy Association's Annual Conference**

Mary Lose, professor of Reading and Language Arts and director of the Reading Recovery Center of Michigan at OU, presented a peer-reviewed paper with Elizabeth Kaye titled "The ABCs of Letter Teaching and Learning in Early Literacy" at the International Literacy Association's Annual Conference, which took place from October 10–13 in New Orleans.



**Congratulations, Mary!**

## **IN THE NEWS**

---

### **Weekly ERL Update: Author with Honorary Degree from SEHS Releases New Book**

Award-winning artist, author, educator and storyteller Ashley Bryan is best known for his vibrant, colorful children's books and illustrations, particularly his retellings of African and West Indian folk tales, poetry and spirituals. Bryan holds an honorary doctor of humanities from the School of Education and Human Services. We are honored to have his artwork displayed near the ERL entrance, and he has visited Oakland University numerous times to share his work and expertise.



*Infinite Hope: A Black Artist's Journey from World War II to Peace* (Simon and Schuster, 2019) is a new picture book memoir about his military service and in the segregated army of the 1940s. Bryan's art was his salvation, and only now has he revealed his diary entries, sketches and experiences as a black soldier, bringing them to light and color for all to share. You can find this book in the ERL in the Trade Book Examination area with other books published by Simon and Schuster.

You can learn more about Ashley Bryan and his new book on the [publisher's page](#).

---

### **Then and Now: Lowry Center's Rich History**

Many of the Lowry Center for Early Childhood Education teachers have been at the Lowry Center for many years! Some are beginning to see the children who were once in their classrooms as toddlers, preschoolers and pre-kindergartners return to the Lowry Center as OU undergraduate and graduate students, staff and even parents of the next generation!



In this photo, Raegen Zinser and Josh Yax recreated a birthday photo that Josh found in his archives from when Raegen was in Josh's class in 2002, the first year the Lowry Center was in Pawley Hall. Raegen remembers that two of her three siblings attended Lowry when it was located in the Chicken Coops, and Raegen would cry to her mom to stay when they dropped off her brother and sister. Raegen started Lowry as a toddler at the Chicken Coops in 2000.

Raegen is now an OU student in elementary education, and is a student staff assistant teacher who has been working at the Lowry Center since 2017 while she completes her program.

Lowry celebrates the longevity of its teachers — unusual in the early education field where high turnover rates are typical. These teachers have many great stories to tell about Lowry's history! Some of the teachers started at Lowry as student staff, just like Raegen, and have continued to earn advanced degrees at OU while working as teachers in the Lowry Center. Many of them are also parents of children who currently or previously attended Lowry.

- Theresa Lee — 29 years
- Margaret Mudge — 20 years
- Dawn Rewalt — 18 years
- Jenny Harp — 18 years
- Josh Yax — 17 years
- Debbie Brenner — at Lowry 10 years, and still subbing in her retirement
- Amie Eddy — 8 years
- Ashleigh Schenden — 6 years (not counting the several years she taught at the “coops”)
- Kendra Barnett — 4 years
- Jessica Westness — 3 years
- Karina Noble — 3 years
- Emily Kramer — 3 years
- Autumn Prince — 2 years
- Chantay Strother — 1 year

---

### **EdCampOU: Global Education Conference**

Over 80 teachers attended the eighth annual EdCampOU on Saturday, October 19, sponsored by the Department of Organizational Leadership in partnership with Rochester Community Schools. The conference was underwritten by a grant awarded to SEHS graduate Matt Cottone, a teacher at VanHoosen Middle School.



Illinois State Teacher of the Year Seth Brady gave the keynote address on Engaging, Inspiring and Empowering Global Education Programs in K–12 Schools. Other session presenters described international programs for educators and students as well as teacher exchange opportunities. Dr. Anne Donato also presented a session on Effective Strategies and Models for Global Educational Leadership Programs.

---

### **Oakland University Well-Represented at Recent Michigan Association for the Education of Young Children (MiAIEYC) Legislative Luncheon**

On Wednesday, October 16, the MiAIEYC Advocacy Committee hosted a Legislative Luncheon at the House Anderson Building in Lansing. This event provided early childhood professionals with an opportunity to learn about initiatives in the field and to meet with their state representatives to discuss important issues affecting early childhood education, such as workforce development, funding and policies.

OU was represented well at this event by faculty, students and alumni, listed below:

- **Kristin Charneski** — OU Master’s in Early Childhood Education (2011); Director of Somerset Early Childhood Center, Troy, MI; Chair of the MiAIEYC Advocacy Committee

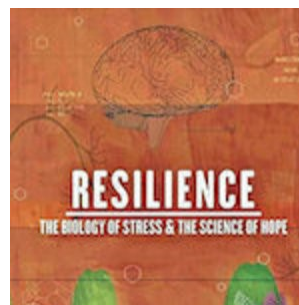
- **Tammy Arakelian** — OU Ph.D. Candidate in Early Childhood Education; Early Childhood Consultant, Oakland Schools; MiAEYC Advocacy Committee member
- **Tomoko Wakabayashi** — OU Faculty in Early Childhood Education; MiAEYC Advocacy Committee member
- **Katie Sloan** — OU Master's in Early Childhood Education (2016); Ph.D. student at Central Michigan University; Field Instructor, Lansing Community College; MiAEYC Advocacy Committee member
- **Adam LeRoy** — OU Ph.D. Student in Early Childhood Education; OU Office of Public School Academies; attendee
- **Julie Ricks-Doneen** — OU Faculty in Early Childhood Education; attendee
- **Sheryl Kennedy** — OU Ph.D. in Educational Leadership (2011); State Representative, 48th District; Legislative attendee

## UPCOMING EVENTS

---

### **OU Pontiac Initiative Film Screening — Saturday, October 26**

OUIECE (Oakland University Pontiac Initiative Early Childhood Group) is partnering with the Pontiac community for a free screening of the award-winning film *Resilience: The Biology of Stress and the Science of Hope*, which chronicles the birth of a new movement among pediatricians, therapists, educators and communities using cutting-edge brain science to disrupt cycles of violence, addiction and disease.



On Saturday, October 26, *Resilience* will be screened at Whitmer Human Resource Center (60 Parkhurst St., Pontiac, MI) from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. in partnership with the Pontiac School District/Parent University. Light snacks and refreshments will follow. Please RSVP to Paola Nkwuzor at (248) 346-0952 or [paola.nkwuzor@pontiacschools.org](mailto:paola.nkwuzor@pontiacschools.org). You can also [register online](#).

---

### **Dismantling the School-to-Prison Pipeline: A Virtual Conversation with Dr. Crystal Laura — Monday, November 4**

As part of the “Myth of Living in a Post-Racial Society” series, the SEHS Committee for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion will present **Dismantling the School-to-Prison Pipeline: A Virtual Conversation with [Dr. Crystal Laura](#)** on Monday, November 4 from 5:30–7:30 p.m. in Founders Ballrooms C and D, located in the Oakland Center.

Dr. Laura is an associate professor of educational leadership at Chicago State University. She specializes in training educators and administrators who work in urban settings, where issues of race, class, gender, language, sexuality and culture are encountered daily. She is the author of *Being Bad: My Baby Brother and the School-to-Prison Pipeline*, a book that examines her little brother Chris’ long and convulsive journey from school to state prison.

All are welcome to join the conversation and share light refreshments.

## ABOUT THE SEHS BULLETIN

---

The SEHS Bulletin is a place where faculty and staff can share news and celebrate the wonderful things happening in SEHS. The bulletin is the perfect place to share information about your publications and awards, special projects and committee news, as well as announce events.

All are welcome to send items for inclusion. If you choose to do so, please ensure that your items are print ready, that you include all related links, and that you have permission to publish any photos being submitted. Please put “SEHS Bulletin” in the subject line and email your information to: [ttyle@oakland.edu](mailto:ttyle@oakland.edu).

**If you have questions about the bulletin, email Trevor Tyle at [ttyle@oakland.edu](mailto:ttyle@oakland.edu).**

---

### Oakland University School of Education and Human Services

Pawley Hall  
456 Pioneer Drive, Rochester, MI 48309-4482

(248) 370-3050  
[sehs@oakland.edu](mailto:sehs@oakland.edu)  
[oakland.edu/sehs](http://oakland.edu/sehs)



[Manage your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe](#).  
Not subscribed? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.  
[View this email in a browser](#).