

## AUSTIN CHAPTER



Texas Association for the  
Education of Young Children

In 1959, the Austin Preschool Association was founded by Austin leaders and, in 1966, became Austin AEYC. The Austin Chapter of TXAEYC, TXAEYC and NAEYC provide research-based information, resources and services to Early Childhood professionals, families, and advocates on behalf of children and families

We recognize our Presidents, listed below, who have served our chapter through the years. Many still serve in leadership roles with City, County, State, Federal, or Corporate Early Childhood, or as Teachers, Trainers, Mentors, Consultants, Professors or Editors! Volunteers all, our presidents and board members formed AAEYC to address the need for professional staff development, training, and education, to meet licensing requirements, quality benchmarks or NAEYC Accreditation standards, and provide information and networking opportunities for early childhood educators and advocates to increase affordable, high quality early childhood education and care, and resources for children and families.

### History Highlights

- ❖ AAEYC Founded by Frances Webb Trahan and Jeannette Watson in 1959
- ❖ First Dues: \$6.50 – 37 members in 1961
- ❖ Texas AEYC - state affiliate established in 1964
- ❖ TAEYC and AAEYC receive affiliate charters from NAEYC in 1964
- ❖ Austin AEYC published THE IDEA BOX through NAEYC in 1972
- ❖ The Sally Beth Moore Award for teaching excellence first given in 1973
- ❖ The Mabel Pitts Award for Service to Children first awarded in 1985
- ❖ Jeannette Watson Award for Advocacy for Children first awarded in 1988
- ❖ The Madeline Sutherland Award co-created with Austin Infant Parent Association honors those who serve children with special needs - initiated in 1991
- ❖ NAEYC requires re-affiliation to strengthen organization in 2003
- ❖ Administrator and Trainer of the Year Awards established in 2010
- ❖ Amanda Hernandez Teacher Educator Award established in 2013
- ❖ Austin hosts Texas AEYC Conferences in 2005, 2010 and 2014
- ❖ New NAEYC Affiliate Structure debuts in 2017-2018

### Austin Chapter Presidents:

Frances Webb Trahan, Jeannette Watson, Mabel Pitts Moore, Jean Isaac, Betty Bennie, Mary Larson, Julia Willhaite, Janet Howard, D. Bohank, Frances Symank, Martha Loeffler, Jean English, Ouida Wright, Sandra Johnson, Gayle Brown, Joyce Wilson Lynch, Marion Coffee, Dee Gibson, Ethel Kutak, Barbara Anderson, Ron Hubbard, Jane Jamison, Mary Burson-Polston, Sara Madera, Pam Wilder, Louise Parks, Bibi Somyak, Bill Carver, Gale Spear, Beverly Duffee, Jennifer Saltman, Jerry Townsend, Pat Hillman, Beth Morgan Russell, Rozlyn Foster, Lynda MacLeod, Linda Welsh, Mary Jamsek, Amanda Hernandez, Kathleen Bradley, Susan Gartner, Selma Andrewartha, Cindy Gamez, Kim Kofron, Karlene Bennett, Melissa Ply, Raye Sansom, Elwin West, Cody Summerville, and Jerri Thompson

To celebrate the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our founding, all AAEYC / Austin Chapter history archives are hereby presented to the Austin History Center,

For information about local, state or national organizations,  
go to [www.austinchapter-txaeyc.org](http://www.austinchapter-txaeyc.org); [www.texasaeyc.org](http://www.texasaeyc.org),  
or [www.naeyc.org](http://www.naeyc.org).