

November 3, 2011
REGISTRATION CLOSES, OVER 600 EARLY LEARNING EDUCATORS
WILL ATTEND 4TH ANNUAL EARLY LEARNING CONFERENCE
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2011

The Conference, hosted by the Early Learning Coalition of Pasco and Hernando Counties, Inc., will unite childcare professionals across the state with local and regional presenters and exhibitors, as well as internationally known keynote speaker Sue Baldwin.

The Early Learning Coalition of Pasco and Hernando Counties, Inc. will host its premier event—the 4th Annual Early Learning Conference—on Saturday, November 12 at Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School at 13651 Hays Road, Spring Hill, 34610.

More than 600 Early Educators will gather together at the Conference, a 64 percent increase in registration between 2010 and 2011. The farthest registrant will travel from Georgia.

The theme of this year's conference is "Come grow with us!"

Starting at 7:30 AM, participants will view a presentation by internationally known keynote speaker Sue Baldwin, titled "Moving from Tired to INSPIRED." They will then participate in three (3) breakout sessions, focusing on different teaching and business strategies to help them grow as educators and business professionals.

The Battersby Duo, a GRAMMY nominated musical comedy team based in Brooksville, FL, will teach a session titled "IMAGINE: Learning through Music," and will perform at 12:30 PM for participants.

Participants will be entered into a drawing for over 100 door prizes, donated by organizations from the local community, such as Mallie Kyla's Café, Skip's Florist and Paperporch, and then regional and distant organizations, such as Walt Disney World, LEGOLAND, Keurig, the Glazer Children's Museum and more.

Participants will meet with over 35 exhibitors, both locally and regionally based, who offer early education, business and personal materials. Some exhibitors include: Teaching Strategies; Home Depot; and Mary Kay.

The Conference will end, following a final presentation by Keynote Speaker Sue Baldwin titled "Lighten Up and Live Longer." Participants who choose will receive 0.6 Continuing Education Units (CEUs) and 6 In-Service Hours, both of which are requirements for childcare licensing renewal.

To schedule an interview with Sue Baldwin or Coalition Executive Director Jim Farrelly, please contact the Coalition Communications Specialist Katie Nelson at k.nelson@phelc.org.

To request a media badge for the event, please contact Coalition Communications Specialist Katie Nelson at k.nelson@phelc.org.

For more information about this conference or Coalition services, visit www.phelc.org.

The Early Learning Coalition of Pasco and Hernando Counties, Inc. is one of 31 Early Learning Coalitions in Florida. It works to ensure that programs and services are available to assist families with young children during their formative years. Florida's Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) program is for all children who are four-years old on or before September 1st. School Readiness provides assistance for low-to-moderate income working families by paying a portion of the childcare costs on a sliding fee schedule. Starting as separate organizations in 2000, Pasco and Hernando counties joined forces to form the Early Learning Coalition of Pasco and Hernando Counties in 2005. The non-profit serves over nine thousand children between infancy and five years old, working with over 300 providers in the counties.

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