

Kentucky Council for Exceptional Children

Dear KYCEC Members,

As I reflect on the 2018 Exceptional Children's Conference, I want to commend those who worked so hard to once again provide speakers, sessions, and workshops that will assist individuals in the field of special education to meet the needs of children with exceptionalities. It was also great to see professionals networking and sharing ideas with colleagues. One of the highlights of the conference is always the YES I CAN program where students "SHINE" as they are recognized for their accomplishments.

I would like to once again remind you that CEC works very hard to advocate for special education policy. Throughout 2018, CEC worked to implement policies and advocacy initiatives that will impact areas of special education, gifted and talented, and general education.

As a CEC member you have access to benefits such as mini-grants that provide money for innovative ideas for the classroom. You can also nominate educators for awards that recognize outstanding service to the field of special education. Please check out our website for additional information on upcoming deadlines and award descriptions.

It is a true pleasure to serve with very dedicated professionals on the KYCEC Executive Board. There are several openings on the Executive Board. If you are interested in becoming more involved in CEC on the state level please feel free to contact me. I encourage you to "Let your voice be heard"!

Debbie Samples
KYCEC President

CEC's Mission Statement

The Council for Exceptional Children is a professional association of educators dedicated to advancing the success of children with exceptionalities. We accomplish our mission through advocacy, standards, and professional development.



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What and Why are they?

For 36 years, the CEC has recognized children and youth with exceptionalities who have demonstrated their determination and achievements in multiple ways. The Yes I Can Program has continued to grow and change since its inception in 1982—and since 1982, more than 40,000 children and young adults have been recognized, many from programs at the state and provincial level in conjunction with awards programs operated by affiliates of the CEC.

Where are they?

Our 2019 Yes I Can awards will be given out at our Kentucky annual conference in November.

To apply, please use this link: bit.ly/YesICan2019

Please ensure that you have parent consent before applying.

LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES!

We are currently seeking to fill 2 (two) positions within our Executive Board.

1. Vice President

This position serves as communications chair in charge of the newsletter and emailing members. This is a Presidential track position and a 4 year commitment.

2. Membership Chair

This is a 3 year term that seeks to maintain and grow the number of CEC-KY members in our organization.

Please be on the look out for an email specific to the process. You may start drafting letters to share with the board when nominations begin.



KENTUCKY

Mini Grants!

1. Kentucky CEC has budgeted \$650 for each mini-grant award. There will be a total of **eight** mini-grants available.
2. The following priority areas have been designated: 1) teacher training; 2) membership; and 3) development and implementation of model programs.
3. The proposal must address an identified need, a rationale, a description of the proposed project and a budget.
4. A copy of the mini-grant proposal can be found [on the KYCEC website](#). Information will be sent out to members periodically through emails and newsletters. The deadline for mini-grant proposals is January 31. Written notice of approval or disapproval will be sent by the Mini-Grant Chair to the contact person upon review of the proposals.
5. Grants proposals will be competitive. Therefore, close adherence to the format, written communication skills and the specifics of the proposal's content will all be factors considered by the review committee.
6. Award recipients agree to submit a summary and an evaluation of the mini-grant activity.
7. All proposals should be submitted electronically through the KYCEC website.

LINK: bit.ly/MiniGrantsKY DUE DATE: JANUARY 31

CAN / Social Media

CAN is the arm of our CEC that advocates and updates about issues. Past President Jenny Miller-Horn has been appointed our CAN Coordinator. Please check our Facebook and Twitter pages for more information!

FACEBOOK: Kentucky Council for Exceptional Children

TWITTER: @KYCecMembership

If you, as a member, are doing something cool-please share with us or tag us in a post so that we can promote your awesomeness and the difference you're making in the lives of children!



MEMBER SPOTLIGHTS

THANK YOU TO:

Tracy Creech of Wolfe County Schools



Stephen Flatt of Marshall County Schools



Jennifer Smith of Scott County Schools



Beth Rous of University of Kentucky



Thank you for being members!



KENTUCKY

Board Member Spotlight!



Please meet Dr. Merissa Wadley, your next Kentucky CEC President!

I have served on the Executive Board of KYCEC for seven years, and I am thrilled to be moving into the President's role this summer. I am currently a professor of special education for Indiana Wesleyan University, and I served as a special education teacher for 15 years before entering higher education. My family lives in Florence, Kentucky, and we have a daughter graduating from Dixie Heights High School this spring and a younger daughter finishing up at Gray Middle School.

My passion and life's calling has always been to serve our children and youth with exceptional needs, so I look forward to fulfilling the mission of KYCEC as President. I became a member of CEC to stay in tune with the latest and greatest in special education research and to "sharpen my saw," so to speak. I then joined the Executive Board of KYCEC to have a greater voice and play a more active role in advocacy efforts for our students and families.

As Kentucky's chapter of the Council for Exceptional Children, we have big plans for 2019 and 2020. As President, I will carry the torch to continue our advocacy work at both the state and national level, including being Kentucky's voice at the Legislative Summit in Washington, D.C. in July 2019. We will continue to provide resources and information to our Kentucky special educators and families through our website, social media, newsletters, and, of course, the amazing Kentucky Exceptional Children's Conference in November 2019. I look forward to continuing to serve in this amazing organization!

Annual KY CEC Awards!

The Awards Committee of the Kentucky Council for Exceptional Children extends an invitation to members of Kentucky CEC, KYCEC Subdivisions and our colleagues to submit nominations for the award listed below. Each nominee should be recognized as an individual who has provided meritorious service to individuals with exceptionalities in the state of Kentucky. Current members of the Executive or General Boards of KYCEC are ineligible for awards. Nominations are due and will not be accepted after May 1, 2019. Award recipients will be announced May 15, 2019; and honored at the Kentucky Exceptional Children's Conference in Louisville, KY, on November , 2019. Please direct any questions to debbie.samples@gmail.com.



NOMINATE

Mary May Wyman Outstanding KYCEC Member of the Year

The purpose of this award is to allow the Kentucky Council to honor the member who has shown consistently unselfish service in promoting the education and welfare of children with exceptionalities in Kentucky. This member has provided leadership to our organization over an extensive period of time. The nominee must be a Kentucky CEC member in good standing with a minimum tenure of continued membership for the previous three years.

[Mary May Wyman Nomination](#)



NOMINATE

Outstanding Special Education Administrator of the Year

This award is to be given to a school administrator whose primary responsibility is special education. The award is for distinguished leadership and support for special education and/or gifted and talented programs in Kentucky. The nominee must be a special education administrator in Kentucky and a current CEC member.

[Outstanding Special Education Admin Nomination](#)



NOMINATE

Carl Perkins Contributor to Special Education

This award is to be given to individuals for their distinguished leadership and service in the interest of children with exceptionalities. The nominee needs not be working in the field of special education nor be a member of the Kentucky CEC.

[Carl Perkins Nomination](#)