

End of the Year Newsletter

November/December 2022

Vol. 3 Issue 4

From the President's Desk...

Warm Holiday Greetings!

The Winter Holiday Season draws near, and we warmly welcome time to reflect, celebrate, and rest.

Together in 2022 we celebrated the 100th Anniversary of CEC and the rich history of ICEC. We learned so much during our monthly Zoom sessions about the life and work of Elizabeth Farrell. We reflected on best practices in special education going forward into the next 100 years. And so much more...

The ICEC 73rd Annual Fall Convention, November 3-5 was surely the highlight of 2022. This was the first in-person Convention since 2019 and more than 300 attendees participated during the three-day period. Let us reflect, with much gratitude, on the memorable moments of these special three days. We extend our ever thanks to all those who made this memorable event possible – ICEC Board members, Convention Committee members, Chicago Marriott Naperville hotel staff, presenters, attendees, as well as support staff who picked up the pieces in our absence, substitute teachers, administrators, and so many more. Thank you all so much!



A sampling of feedback from our attendees include:

“... I just wanted to reach out to thank you for the opportunity to present SHALE at the ICEC Fall Convention. I'm very grateful that I had the opportunity to connect with so many members with similar passions. The Convention was a wealth of information and memorable experiences! I truly enjoyed the keynote speakers along with all of the breakout sessions that I was able to attend. It was a wonderful opportunity to attend your reception and meet you personally along with the other Executive Board members and so many attendees. In addition, The Ray Graham Luncheon was such a special way to honor so many accomplishments...” Kim Novak

“All sessions were wonderful but really appreciated, *Training Paraprofessionals Can Be As Easy As ABC.*”

The 74th Annual ICEC Fall Convention will take place on **November 2-4, 2023**. Make a note on your calendars now and be sure to make plans to attend. We will begin our focused planning for this event in the New Year. We welcome your presentation proposal, your help with any part of our Convention preparations, or any questions or comments you wish to make. Your attendance and participation makes it all possible. Thank you.

I close wishing you health and happiness and a holiday season of love, joy, and peace.

Sincerely,

Paula

E. Paula Crowley, Ph.D., Illinois Council for Exceptional Children, President, January 2021-December 2022



Give the gift of a membership in CEC to your student teacher, mentee, that very special professional colleague and friend, parent advocate, paraprofessional, preservice teacher, or other. *There has never been a better time!*

Holiday Gift Idea: *Give the gift of a CEC Membership.* We have sixteen more days to enjoy a special gift from CEC. In more detail...

The staff at CEC generously offer ICEC members and nonmembers 50% off any category and level of CEC membership and membership renewal until December 31, 2022.

Click on the CEC website <www.exceptionalchildren.org/membership> and select a membership type and the accompanying application form. Enter the discount code **ICEC73** at the end of the form before the payment section.

Restrictions: Can only be used once per contact, once per shopping cart, and cannot be combined with other promotion codes. Cannot be used for Special Interest Division membership, merchandise, bookstore items, webinars, group membership(s), and/or other promotional products, services, or items.

Or ... invite your Colleagues to join CEC today!

Remind your colleagues of the great benefits in joining their Professional Organization. Benefits include the development of collegial relationships with professional peers; access to a host of resources including those on best professional practices; be part of an international community of special educators; insurance coverage; invitations to an assortment of professional events; easy access to professional development credit; fee cost reductions for members to professional events and CEC resources, and so much more. Welcome aboard!

ICEC Needs You!

Thank you to the following members of ICEC who express interest in serving ICEC. There are many ways to serve. I look forward to serving our professional organization side-by-side with you.

ICEC warmly welcomes ...

1. Karen E. Austin	10. Kim Novak
2. Kimberly Brown	11. Heather Rogers
3. Mina Chun	12. Jamie Ruberg
4. David Coker	13. Rachel Schless
5. Abby Hill	14. Vanessa Schmitt
6. Elizabeth Kainer	15. Kristina Tull
7. Gabrielle Lagger	16. Brad Walkenhorst
8. Georgette Lee	17. Alaina Wiggin
9. Rachel Merke	



ICEC Professional Awards

Elizabeth Robbins, Meritorious Service Award, 2022

Elizabeth Robbins is a dedicated special education teacher for more than 20 years. Elizabeth is an Autism Specialist at Barrington High School and specializes in autism and students' social learning. She is a leader in her community, district, school, and departments.

Elizabeth Robbins creates programs and supervises outings for over 200 students throughout the school year. She is dedicated to educating staff members on how to support students with unique academic and social needs. She is a consultant for FUTURE SLTP on social learning skills. Elizabeth teaches her students to become more self-aware and confident as they navigate their plans after graduation from high school.

Congratulations Elizabeth, ICEC Meritorious Service Award Winner, 2022.

Terra Costa Howard, ICEC Legislator of the Year Award 2022

State Representative, Terra Costa Howard sponsored and co-sponsored bills in support of students with special needs and their families. Representative Howard was chief co-sponsor of HB3807, which amended the disabilities article of Illinois School Code allowing students with disabilities to remain eligible for special education services through the end of the school year in which they turn 22 years old. Representative Howard is a member of the Appropriations Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education and continues to advocate for students with disabilities.

Congratulations Terra, ICEC Legislator of the Year, 2022.

Michael J. Daly, Robert E. Abbott Outstanding Contributor Award, 2022

Michael J. "Mike" Daly is a long-standing member of CEC and ICEC who has generously taken on many leadership roles in this professional organization. Mike served as ICEC President, Treasurer, Region 2 Director, Chapter President, among other roles. Mike is always ready to lend a hand whenever and wherever it is needed. Mike's leadership skills were clearly evident in his work as Regional Director and in supporting local ICEC Chapters. Mike continues to serve as a mentor and an advisor to the members of the ICEC Executive Board. Mike Daly's knowledge and expertise have contributed greatly to ICEC.

Congratulations Mike, ICEC Robert E. Abbott Outstanding Contributor Award, 2022.



Mark all that apply:	✓
1. I have registered for the CEC Convention 2023.	
2. I reserved my accommodations.	
3. I have transportation.	



CEC LOUISVILLE 2023 CONVENTION & EXPO

March 1-4

Convention 2023 <https://ceconvention.org/>

CEC is our Professional Home and supports us every day. Check out the following resources:

- Learning Library <https://exceptionalchildren.org/learninglibrary>
- Exceptional Teacher Resource Repository <https://exceptionalchildren.org/teacher-resources>
- CEC Communities <https://exceptionalchildren.org/engage/cecommunity-all-member-forum>
- Partner Solutions Directory <https://exceptionalchildren.org/solutions>
- **Browse the CEC website and see so much more.**

The staff at CEC wish you a very happy and healthy holiday season. They invite us to feel free to reach out with questions or even just to say hi – ceconlinelearning@exceptionalchildren.org

Upcoming Events



ILCCBD Conference, February 2-5, 2023 www.ilccbd.org

Call for Proposals, coming soon, ICEC Fall Convention 2023

Yes, I Can! Award nominations, due May 15, 2023

Exceptional Children's Week, May 1-7, 2023

Professional Awards, September 15, 2023

See the ICEC website for more information www.illinoiscec.net

Please let me know if you have questions about anything in this ICEC Newsletter.

Wishing you and all those dear to you a peaceful and joyful Holiday Season!

Sincerely,

Paula

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Collegiality and Best Practice in the Spirit of Elizabeth Farrell