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## VTAIEYC Seeks Nominations for 2024 Early Childhood Educator of the Year Award

*Burlington, Vt:* The Vermont Association for the Education of Young Children (VTAIEYC) enthusiastically invites nominations for Vermont's 2024 Early Childhood Educator of the Year. The nomination form is available at [vtaieyc.org/eceoy](https://vtaieyc.org/eceoy).

The prestigious professional annual award honors exceptional early childhood educators and spotlights the importance of high-quality early childhood education for Vermont's children, families, and communities. Presented by VTAIEYC and sponsored by Let's Grow Kids, the 2024 award comes with a \$2,500 cash prize and all expenses paid to NAEYC's Annual Conference.

Nominations are encouraged from anyone who recognizes an early childhood educator's excellence and impact. Nominators may include family members of children enrolled in child care programs, colleagues, friends, and other community members.

"Vermont's outstanding early childhood educators help our youngest children discover the gift of joyful learning," said **VTAIEYC Executive Director Sharron Harrington**. "This award is a way to honor their most important work, the kind that ripples across lives, families and communities."

To be eligible for the award, nominees must:

- Work in a regulated Vermont early childhood education program based in a home, a center, or a school
- Educate children ages 0-8
- Have at least three years of experience as an early childhood educator

VTAIEYC and Let's Grow Kids employees, as well as previous winners, are ineligible to win.

The Early Childhood Educator of the Year award will be presented in Killington on October 29 at VTAEYC's annual conference.

VTAEYC presents five additional annual awards to early childhood educators and advocates: Early Childhood Education Student of the Year, Children's Champion, Distinguished Service, Emerging Leader and Outstanding Member. More information is at [vtaeyc.org/annual-awards](http://vtaeyc.org/annual-awards).

### **About VTAEYC**

The Vermont Association for the Education of Young Children advances excellence and equity in early childhood education as the state's largest membership organization for early childhood educators and is the state affiliate of NAEYC, the National Association for the Education of Young Children. As a nonprofit organization formed by a grassroots effort 50 years ago and now with 600+ members, VTAEYC offers advocacy, workforce development, professional development and other resources to its membership and others in the early childhood education field. VTAEYC aims to meet the needs of today's early childhood education workforce and create a stronger, more equitable early childhood education system for the future. Learn more: [vtaeyc.org](http://vtaeyc.org)

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