

# SIMPLE INTERACTIONS

**Wednesday  
 December 11, 2019**

**Turf Valley  
 Conference Center  
 2700 Turf Valley Road  
 Ellicott City, MD 21042**



## Featuring Keynote Speakers

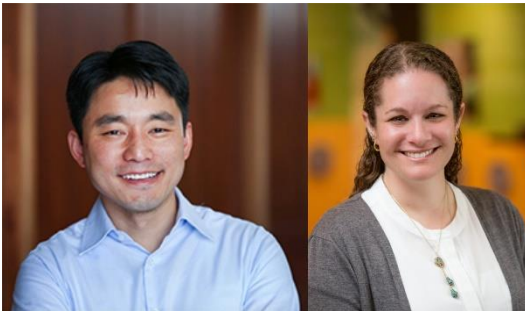
### Dr. Junlei Li, Ph.D.

Saul Zaentz Senior Lecturer in Early Childhood Education  
 Harvard Graduate School of Education

&

### Dr. Dana Winters, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, Child & Family Studies  
 Director of Simple Interactions & Academic Programs  
 Fred Rogers Center for Early Learning and Children's Media at  
 Saint Vincent College



You can register online at <http://www.readyatfive.org/>

## SYMPOSIUM PROGRAM

- |                     |   |                                      |
|---------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| 8:30 am             | • | Registration & Continental Breakfast |
| 9:00 – 9:20 am      | • | Welcome & Introductions              |
| 9:20 – 11:30 am     | • | Keynote & Keynote Q&A                |
| 11:30 am – 12:30 pm | • | Lunch                                |
| 12:30 – 1:00 pm     | • | Lunchtime Presentation               |
| 1:15 – 3:15 pm      | • | Breakout Sessions                    |
| 3:15 pm             | • | Evaluation & Assessment              |
| 3:30 pm             | • | Adjournment                          |

## Presenting Sponsor



Division of Early Childhood

## Sponsored by



## Afternoon Workshops

### **A. The Power of Simple Interactions: Appreciating and Strengthening Everyday Human Interactions with Young Children**

Dr. Junlei Li, Ph.D., Harvard Graduate School of Education and Dr. Dana Winters, Ph.D., Fred Rogers Center for Early Learning at Saint Vincent College

This is an interactive, video-based, and practice-focused workshop using the “Simple Interactions” approach to closely examine adult-child interactions in a variety of early learning and developmental contexts. We will practice appreciative “noticing” and reflective “wondering” to understand the dynamics within even the simplest human interactions. We will discuss how these interactions weave together four basic building blocks of the human relationship – connection, reciprocity, inclusion, and opportunity to grow – to make positive and cumulative developmental impacts. We will also extend these principles to reflect on the “parallel processes” of adult-adult interactions that support professionals and families.

### **B. Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)**

Naketta Lowery, CEO of Sustainable Life Solutions LLC

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) are traumatic events that occur in a child's life such as physical or sexual abuse, neglect, household dysfunction or witnessing violence. Research has shown that these types of experiences have a direct impact on children's developing brains and the immune system, increasing the risk for negative health and well-being outcomes as an adult. Adverse childhood experiences are common and cut across demographics such as income level, race, and culture. This presentation will provide participants with an in-depth look at the impact of ACEs on health and well-being, as well as explore factors that increase resiliency. Participants will leave with a deeper understanding of ACEs & what it means to help build & support resilient self-healing communities.

### **C. What is Meaningful Parent Engagement in Early Learning for Schools Serving Low-income Families?**

Dr. Deborah Gross, DNSc, RN, FAAN, Johns Hopkins School of Nursing; Dr. Amie Bettencourt, Ph.D., Johns Hopkins School of Medicine; and Demetria Singleton, MA, Baltimore City Public Schools

Although there is strong consensus that parent engagement in early learning is an important predictor of children's academic success, most school districts do not have a valid or systematic way to assess parent engagement. This interactive workshop will describe a 2-year journey to develop a measure of parent engagement in early learning for Baltimore City Public Schools that would be relevant for students' academic success, meaningful to families with limited resources and (sometimes) negative experiences with schools, and useful for guiding the development of effective parent engagement strategies.

### **D. Awe and Wonder: Nurturing Sensory Learning for Babies and Toddlers**

Monica Wiedel-Lubinski, Director of Eastern Region Association of Forest and Nature Schools (ERAFANS)

Infants and toddlers are ready to explore nature! How can you engage our most tender little ones in meaningful nature connection? How do you ensure safe exploration outdoors? Discover sensory approaches, ideas, and materials that nurture healthy growth and development during this interactive professional development session. Presentation also includes facilitated discussion about program goals, children's needs, and access to outdoor spaces.

### **E. No Small Matter**

Christina Lopez, President, Maryland Association for the Education of Young Children (MDAEYC)

No Small Matter is the first feature documentary to explore the most overlooked, underestimated, and powerful force for good in America today: early childhood education. Through poignant stories and surprising humor, the film lays out the overwhelming evidence for the importance of the first five years and reveals how our failure to act on that evidence has resulted in an everyday crisis for American families, and a slow-motion catastrophe for the country.

Join MDAEYC for an exciting session of entertainment, networking and conversation. Participate in a discussion around the importance of elevating the early childhood profession. Gain information and resources to get involved and make an immediate impact in the lives of young children.

Wednesday, December 11, 2019

Registration Form

**Name/Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Organization:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City/State/Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_ **County:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fax:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**How many years have you been teaching in early childhood?** \_\_\_\_\_

**What's your highest education level? (circle one)**

- |                                  |              |                                  |
|----------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|
| High school graduate             | Some College | College graduate (2-year degree) |
| College graduate (4-year degree) |              | Master's degree or beyond        |

**Registration Fee** (nonrefundable): **\$150** (includes continental breakfast, lunch, and Symposium materials).

**Please let us know if you have any special dietary requests or restrictions so we can accommodate your needs at the Symposium.**

**Payment Information:** Please make check payable to MBRT/Ready At Five. Payment **MUST** accompany registration form. If paying by Purchase Order, please forward a copy of the Purchase Order with the registration form. Registrations will not be accepted by phone or fax. Please indicate your method of payment:

- Check                       Money Order                       Purchase Order

**Mail Registration & Payment by December 2<sup>nd</sup> to:**  
**Ready At Five**  
**5520 Research Park Drive, Suite 150**  
**Baltimore, MD 21228**

You can register online at [www.readyatfive.org](http://www.readyatfive.org)  
 Email [monique@readyatfive.org](mailto:monique@readyatfive.org) or call 410/788-5725 with questions.  
 Federal ID# 52-1851611

**Photography & Videography**

By registering for and attending this event, you agree that your image and voice recording may be used at any time, without further notification, for printed materials, websites, social media, and other marketing and educational purposes.

**Please select and circle your 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, & 3<sup>rd</sup> choices for Workshops**

- 1 2 3 A. The Power of Simple Interactions: Appreciating and Strengthening Everyday Human Interactions with Young Children**
- 1 2 3 B. Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)**
- 1 2 3 C. What is Meaningful Parent Engagement in Early Learning for Schools Serving Low-income Families?**
- 1 2 3 D. Awe and Wonder: Nurturing Sensory Learning for Babies and Toddlers**
- 1 2 3 E. No Small Matter**