



Florida Association for the Education of Young Children



An Affiliate of **naeyc**

2018 FLAEYC Executive Board Elections

The 2018 FLAEYC Executive Board Election is scheduled to be held between April 2 and May 2, 2018. Accordingly, the FLAEYC Nominating Committee is recommending a 2018 Slate of Officers for the FLAEYC Executive Board and is providing our membership with the following documents in this Election Package:

- ❖ **Election Overview**
- ❖ **Candidate Profiles**
- ❖ **2018 Election Ballot (PDF)**

The same information and candidate resumes may be accessed on the FLAEYC website: <https://flaeyc.org>.

Members can vote either: 1) online at <https://flaeyc.org> (accessed by clicking on link provided within the ballot); 2) by downloading the PDF ballot from the website and mailing it to the FLAEYC office; or 3) by requesting a paper ballot by calling the office at (754) 999-0544.

Thank you for your time and involvement in FLAEYC.

**Ballots must be received by May 2, 2018 to be included within this election.
Go to www.flaeyc.org for complete election information, including Ballot, Board Job Descriptions and Candidate Resumes.**



FLAEYC 2018 Conference
Best Practices in Early Learning for Florida's Children

September 6-9
Rosen Shingle Creek
Orlando, FL

SAVE THE DATE!



An Affiliate of **naeyc**



Hotel reservation and conference registration information coming soon!

2807 Remington Green Circle
Tallahassee, FL 32308
info@flaeyc.org
(754) 999-0544

EXECUTIVE BOARD ELECTIONS OVERVIEW

I. SLATE OF OFFICERS OFFERED BY THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

FLAEYC Member Voters are asked to vote for one (1) person for each of the following positions:

- ❖ President-Elect - Heather Siskind
- ❖ Secretary - Bill Ganza
- ❖ SECA Representative-At-Large Position - Barbara Backus

FLAEYC Member Voters are asked to vote for two (2) people for the At-Large positions:

- ❖ Emilu Alvarez
- ❖ Darlene DeMarie
- ❖ Jayne Hafer
- ❖ Rebecca McKellar

Information on each candidate can be found in this Election Package, including the candidate's profile, candidate's statement and photo. Additionally, candidate resumes may be found on the FLAEYC website at <https://flaeyc.org>.

II. EXECUTIVE BOARD DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The following list is inclusive of all executive board positions. However, for this election, the positions that are to be voted on include: 1) President-Elect; 2) Secretary; 3) SECA Representative-At-Large; 4) At-Large Representative (two (2) positions available).

❖ ***President***

Presides over the board and Executive Committee and works with the executive director, board and community to further the organization's mission. The president influences how the board uses its time, the selection of board members and its future leadership. Serves as an ex-officio member on committees. The president is in charge of performance evaluations, succession planning, and plays a crucial role in new board member orientation.

❖ ***President-Elect or Past President***

Assumes the duties of the president when the president is not available. Serves as a member on the Finance Committee and the Personnel/Contracted Services Committee. When appropriate, plans the board agenda with approval of the Executive Board.

❖ ***Treasurer/ Finance Officer***

Appointed by the board and must have a financial/business background. Serves as the chair of the Finance Committee and, as such, manages the board's review of recommended action(s) and approval(s) related to

the board's financial responsibilities. Works with the FLAEYC accountant and executive director to ensure that appropriate financial reports are made available to the board on a timely basis.

❖ **Secretary**

Ensures the safety and accuracy of all board records, meeting calendar and board related communications. Assumes responsibility of board chair in absence of president or past president/president-elect as well as ensures timely notice of meetings of the board and/or a committee.

❖ **Chapter Advisory Council Chair**

Presides over the Chapter Advisory Council and serves as a member the FLAEYC Executive Board and board Executive Committee. The chair is elected by the council and serves on the Executive Board to represent the concerns, issues and will of the Chapter Advisory Council.

❖ **Member-At-Large Representative**

These members represent the demographic and geographic composition of the FLAEYC membership. These positions serve to ensure that FLAEYC is a high performance, inclusive organization that reflects the concerns, issues and will of the membership. At this time, there are six (6) At-large positions, with one (1) position specifically dedicated to the SECA representative (*see description below*).

❖ **Member-At-Large - SECA Representative (Southeastern Early Childhood Association)**

The SECA representative is a specifically elected and held office. The SECA representative will attend all SECA board meetings as the Florida representative. The SECA representative will act as the liaison between the FLAEYC board and the SECA board, and will serve both entities.

III. VOTING PROCESS

- ❖ The voting period begins April 2 and will conclude May 2. All ballots, electronic or paper, must be received in the FLAEYC office during that time.
- ❖ The online ballot is provided on the FLAEYC website and may be accessed by clicking on the following link: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FLAEYC_2018_Election.
- ❖ You may use the ballot provided as a PDF within this Election Package or download the ballot from the website and send it to the FLAEYC office. Please remember that all ballots must be received in the office no later than May 2.
- ❖ The FLAEYC mailing address is:
2807 Remington Green Circle
Tallahassee, FL 32308
- ❖ If you choose to provide a write-in candidate, space is provided on the ballot for this purpose. Please remember that write-in candidates must meet all qualifications, be a member and be willing to serve.
- ❖ If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Chris Duggan, Executive Director, at cduggan@flaeyc.org or by phone, (754) 999-0544.

CANDIDATE PROFILES



- ❖ **Executive Board President-Elect: Heather Siskind, MSW**
- ❖ **City of Residence:** Plantation, FL
- ❖ **Professional Position:** Executive Director, Jack & Jill Children's Center
- ❖ **FLAEYC & SECA Member:** 18 Years
- ❖ **Affiliate Positions:** 1) FLAEYC Professional Development Chair, 09/2014; 2) South FLAEYC President, 2014

❖ **Candidate Statement:**

I have years of experience working in many organizations in leadership roles. I enjoy coming in to a new role and listen, learn and implement best practices. I am a passionate leader who works well with others in a collaborative way working with the team's strengths. I understand strategic planning and how to set goals and achieve them as a team.

❖ **What is your vision to help move FLAEYC forward in the next few years?**

I think advocacy and public policy is the top of the list, but I am a collaborative leader. I want to listen and learn about the needs, so we can move forward with a well-developed plan with constituents. The organization needs to create excitement to maintain and bring in new members. It would serve FLAEYC well to survey needs and how to meet the needs of our members and our State.



- ❖ **Executive Board Secretary: Bill J. Ganza, Ed.D.**
- ❖ **City of Residence:** Jacksonville, FL
- ❖ **Professional Position:** Faculty Development Manager, University of St. Augustine
- ❖ **FLAEYC & SECA Member:** 20 years
- ❖ **Affiliate Positions:** 1) FLAEYC President, 2014-2017; 2) NAEYC, Affiliate Advisory Council, 2013-2016; 3) FLAEYC North FL Chapter, Co-Leader, Current

❖ **Candidate Statement:**

I am seeking the position of secretary. As I see it, this position must be detailed oriented and be able to find information quickly. I have those attributes. Since this position is part of the executive group, it is also important for this position to be someone with prior FLAEYC board experience, so they know some history and experience. I have been on the board for many years and want to see the association flourish.

❖ **What is your vision to help move FLAEYC forward in the next few years?**

First and foremost is to stabilize the affiliate. We need to turn around the financial situation and stabilize the leadership of the affiliate. New revenue streams will have to be discovered so that outreach to members can contribute. The vision I see is to reemerge as a stronger statewide association.



- ❖ **SECA Representative, Executive Board At-Large Position: Barbara Backus, M.S.**
- ❖ **City of Residence:** Palm Harbor, FL
- ❖ **Professional Position:** Retired from Pinellas Technical College, Instructor
- ❖ **FLAEYC & SECA Member:** 20 Years
- ❖ **Affiliate Positions:** 1) FLAEYC President, 2012-2014; 2) SECA, Florida Representative, 2015-2017; 3) SECA, Florida Representative, 2015-17

❖ **Candidate Statement:**

One of the requirements is to have served on the FLAEYC board - I have done this for over 10 years. I have served the last 2 years as the SECA representative from Florida and feel that I know the issues that face both organizations during these transition years facing both organizations.

❖ **What is your vision to help move FLAEYC forward in the next few years?**

My vision for FLAEYC is to help remain diligent with increasing membership in both organizations. To help FLAEYC determine the best way to make it as a viable organization through the next fiscally trying years.



- ❖ **Executive Board At-Large Representative: Emilu T. Alvarez, B.S.**
- ❖ **City of Residence:** Miami, FL
- ❖ **Professional Position:** Early Childhood Director, Creative Learning Center of Kendall
- ❖ **FLAEYC & SECA Member:** 20 Years
- ❖ **Affiliate Positions:** 1) FLAEYC, Southeast Regional Representative; 2) President and VP, Organizational Development for Miami/Dade AEYC and 3) Chapter Leader, South Florida Collaborative Chapter

❖ **Candidate Statement:**

I understand the needs of a nonprofit organization and feel there is much to do with the new restructure to help FLAEYC survive this change. My first and foremost goal is advocacy for teachers and their professional growth. I am also a voice for the director that worked her way through a profession that had no respect and understand what our future leaders are struggling to enforce in our field.

❖ **What is your vision to help move FLAEYC forward in the next few years?**

Commitment, tenacity and passion to recruit and retain members and to make sure that all of us understand that FLAEYC is offering a comprehensive organization for all Early Childhood Professionals. There should not be a difference between SECA and NAEYC members since we are bringing Quality and Equality to all.



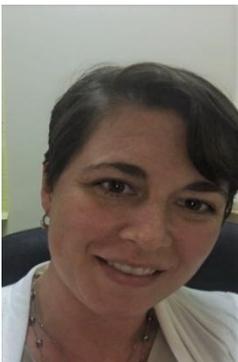
- ❖ **Executive Board At-Large Position: Darlene DeMarie, Ph.D.**
- ❖ **City of Residence:** Temple Terrace, FL
- ❖ **Professional Position:** Associate Professor & Fulbright Faculty Advisor, USF
- ❖ **FLAEYC: 28 Years & SECA Member: 20 Years**
- ❖ **Professional Associations:** 1) President-Elect, Ohio AEYC; 2) President, Fulbright Association (Mid-Florida); 3) President, Zane Trace AEYC

❖ **Candidate Statement:**

I think I have demonstrated leadership over the years in varied organizations. I would love the opportunity to work with FLAEYC at this critical time in history. We must be very visible and vocal about the rights of children and the importance of teachers in our State. I would love working collectively with others, and I know the research that supports best practices.

❖ **What is your vision to help move FLAEYC forward in the next few years?**

I hope that we can help legislators to see young children and to value their teachers. We need to make our profession more visible and better understood. Yes, anyone can be a parent...but that does not mean our society can afford to have poor parenting or poor teaching of young child and to survive in the future. It takes unique skills and a lot of training to be a quality early childhood professional. It is important that we help people to see that type of high quality early childhood education in action.



- ❖ **Executive Board At Large Representative: Rebecca McKellar, B.S.**
- ❖ **City of Residence:** Naples, FL
- ❖ **Professional Position:** Early Childhood Specialist II, ELC of SW Florida
- ❖ **FLAEYC & SECA Member: 3 Years**
- ❖ **Professional Associations:** 1) Treasurer, Support Alton Schools Parent Group

❖ **Candidate Statement:**

I am constantly seeking new information in the field of Early Childhood Education to assist in my work and in my role as an advocate for children, families, and the educators who support them. Joining the FLAEYC board is a next step in continuing my work as an advocate and immersing myself in the Early Childhood work in Florida.

❖ **What is your vision to help move FLAEYC forward in the next few years?**

Expanding enrollment is a constant goal for education associations. The area that I currently serve is not very active in FLAEYC. Through my position in the community, I can promote membership and conference attendance. Once providers see that I, as an Early Childhood Specialist, value this organization, which can often lead to curiosity about what FLAEYC has to offer members.

In the coming years I would like to help FLAEYC take on issues of quality and equity within our field. The two issues certainly go hand in hand. To improve these issues funding must also be part of the discussion. Ensuring children have access to quality child care has far reaching consequences for our society and should be treated as such. Adding our voice to the current advocacy will help ensure the country listens to our concerns.



❖ **Executive Board At-Large Representative: Jayne Hafer**

❖ **City of Residence:** Deerfield Beach, FL

❖ **Professional Position:** Director/Teacher, N.E. Focal Point Preschool

❖ **FLAEYC & SECA Member:** 12 Years

❖ **Professional Associations:** 1) Broward AEYC, President; 2) Kappa Delta Pi Rho Omega Chapter, President; 3) Toastmasters, Vice President

❖ **Candidate Statement:**

I have had the comprehensive membership with NAEYC and SECA for over 12 years and the focus of professionalism of the organization. I believe in the mission and vision of FLAEYC. I live on the Treasure Coast and am available to meet by phone or in person as needed. I can be available for any conferences. I attend Toastmaster's every Monday and it has helped me be a better speaker and more confident in public speaking.

❖ **What is your vision to help move FLAEYC forward in the next few years?**

We work together to benefit ALL children and teachers. Provide professional development, leadership, advocacy at all levels and educate everyone about the importance of birth to 8 years old. During the Week of the Young Child, a proclamation is give to every city in Florida and every county for the recognition of support of all children.