



September 5, 2008

The Early Childhood Lab is one of the first early childhood programs to strive for accreditation under new criteria and standards from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) – the nation’s leading organization of early childhood professionals.

We are proud to have been accredited for the past several years, and look forward to the opportunity to continue to earn the mark of quality from NAEYC, and to be recognized for our commitment to reaching the highest professional standards. NAEYC Accreditation lets families in our community know that children in our program are getting the best care and early learning experiences possible.

To earn NAEYC Accreditation under the new system, the Early Childhood Lab has gone through an extensive self-study process, measuring the program and its services against the ten new NAEYC Early Childhood Program Standards and more than 400 related Accreditation Criteria. Between September 15, 2008, and October 3, 2008, we will be evaluated during an on-site visit by NAEYC Assessors to ensure that the program meets each of the ten NAEYC program standards. At the conclusion of this visit, all documentation will be submitted to NAEYC and we will receive our results within 3 months. NAEYC-accredited programs are also subject to unannounced visits during their accreditation, which lasts for five years.

Our teachers and staff have spent countless hours preparing for this visit. I am proud of what we have accomplished and look forward to sharing our program with NAEYC. On behalf of the Early Childhood Lab, I appreciate your continued encouragement and support.

Sincerely,

Lori M. Harkness
Director