

EPCC Newsletter

How can I get involved?

We are honored that you have opened and perused our quarterly newsletter.

We value your input and support for our peace education work that is so close to our hearts and minds. There are many ways that you can support our work with educators, families and communities across the country.

Here are a few ways you can get involved:

- Share your training or workshop experiences with others.
- Think about what you see on our website (educatorsforpeacefulclassroomsandcommunities.org) that you might be interested in organizing for your community or sponsoring/funding or participating in yourself
- Tell others about the training opportunities we offer
- Refer others to our website
- Grant writing support, or leads
- Offer leads for training or speaking opportunities
- Offer leads for funding sources
- Offer leads for marketing our project

Please share this newsletter and refer others to our website, educatorsforpeacefulclassroomsandcommunities.org. If you have any questions email us at bonzvo@verizon.net.

An EPCC Internship Reflection

BY LOLA CORNISH

An excerpt from Lola Cornish's Intern Reflection.

This work that I have done with EPCC has been a catalyst in my life. I am seeing now how I deal with my life in a healthy way, and where I also have areas to grow. I have become connected to an amazing family of educators whom I admire and adore, which is of huge benefit to me.

This work that I have done with EPCC has been a catalyst in my life.

When I started on this journey, I knew very little about peace education. I thought that this work would complement the work that I do as a Strengthening Families trainer and in the policy realm as a social activist. I had much to learn!

I was a little concerned about how the group would welcome this fifty year old intern with purple hair. At the retreat last June, I was overwhelmed by the kindness and graciousness of the group. Every detail at the retreat was so moving to me.

I moved to Sacramento two years ago, one year at the time that my internship began. As a result, I am only beginning to become familiar with all of the resources and allies in my community. This has been challenging because my "day job" is statewide. So I deal a lot with statewide organizations based in

Sacramento, but am not connected to local resources. One of the first things I did when I moved here was get involved with the local AEYC and by the time that my internship began I had been voted in as Vice President/ President Elect.

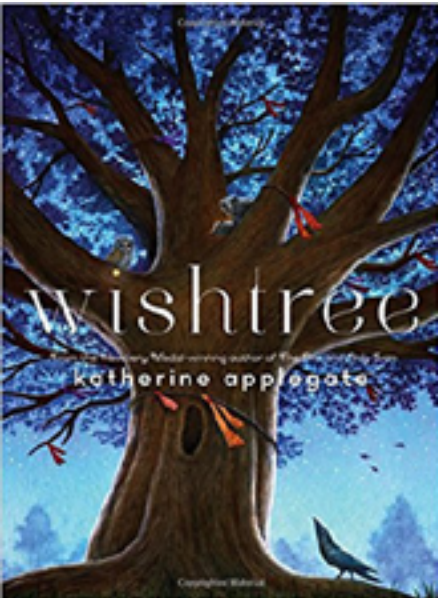
I attended the Level 1 and 2 trainings alongside the other interns. My impression of the training was that it was well laid out and very accessible. I remember thinking that there might be a few places where some information could be updated, but I really enjoyed the content. Most importantly, the participants become such a community in such a short time - it was wonderful!

A couple of things happened during the summer and fall that would make some pretty big changes in my life. The first is that I took on a role at work that would open up for me a whole new world, which aligns perfectly with EPCC and Strengthening Families: Trauma Informed Care. This approach has opened my mind to think about my own parenting style and practice. The second is that I personally lived through my own traumatic experience which caused me to be much more contemplative. We lost our ancestral home to the flames of the Atlas Peak Fire and my brother very narrowly escaped with his life. Finally, we welcomed baby Gwyn into the world. It is such a joy to have a baby in the (continued, page 4)

More about the 2018 Interns inside!

“Wishtree” by Katherine Applegate. Feiwel & Friends, 2017

BY SUSAN HOPKINS



Inside the front cover, it reads, “Trees can’t tell jokes, but they can certainly tell stories.” Indeed, the Wishtree does tell the stories: the stories of the neighborhood folks that over the many decades have entrusted their wishes on the branches of the big, old red

maple tree. The wishes tell the stories of families coming and going; of newcomers - some welcome, some not; of cherishing the wonderful old tree when it is threatened; and of taking action to make things fair. Woven throughout this beautifully illustrated book, are the stories of the animals and birds who make their homes in the branches and hollows of Red’s body. They create a community of activists that comes together in a time of crisis!

It is said that this story is for 8 - 12 year olds... and I’m here to say that I am a 70 year old who just treasured this story... for the community building, for the big issues it addresses, for the empowerment of the young people who made things right! I also believe it could be read aloud to younger children, first grade and up, by a parent or teacher who is willing to help the children process the issues around justice and fairness. One review I read stated that this book stands to become a classic... in the way that Charlotte’s Web has been for all of us for generations. I would agree!



In this issue
Internships,
New Training
Opportunities, and
Great Books

- 1** BOOK REVIEWS
[Wishtree](#) by Katherine Applegate and [What Would You Do With...](#) by Kobi Yamada
- 2** INTERNSHIP REFLECTION
Lola Cornish explains how EPCC and her internship have transformed her life.
- 3** CONGRATULATIONS, INTERNS!
Three interns - three comprehensive projects.
- 4** TRAINING AND WORKSHOPS
See the Level I and Level II training summaries and new events coming up near you.
- 5** TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES
Do you have questions for your classroom, home, or community?

Trainings and Workshops

Sacramento

Level I September 15-16

16 hrs of professional development hosted by American River College? *Contact Joyce Daniels at joycean@sbcglobal.net.*

Level II November 2 - 4

Dinner and orientation Friday evening & 16 hrs of professional development hosted by American River College? *Contact Joyce Daniels at joycean@sbcglobal.net.*

San Jose

Level I November 10-11

16 hrs of professional development Hosted by 4Cs. Contact Wilma at wilmagold@gmail.com.

Level II March 29-31

Dinner and orientation Friday evening & 16 hrs of professional development hosted by 4Cs Contact Wilma at wilmagold@gmail.com.

Saba Islamic Center San Jose

Level I - August

For preschool and elementary school staff (*Contract for this organization only - contact wilmagold@gmail.com to schedule for your organization*)

Workshops/Conferences

Nonviolent Communication - Speaking and Hearing from the Heart

October 17 - 19, 2018 at the 2018 Joint Network/CAPPA Conference at the Double Tree Hotel in Sacramento.



OUR ORGANIZATION

EDUCATORS FOR PEACEFUL CLASSROOMS AND COMMUNITIES

MAILING ADDRESS
520 Calabasas Rd.
Watsonville, Ca 95076
EMAIL: bonzvo@verizon.net

FIND US ONLINE

[educatorsforpeacefulclassrooms
andcommunities.org](http://educatorsforpeacefulclassroomsandcommunities.org)

Three amazing women completed their 2017-18 internship with EPCC!

BY WILMA GOLD



2018 Interns: Allison Clabaugh, Lola Cornish, and Cheryl Horney

Three interns and three comprehensive projects this year. Lola Cornish chose a presenting and training internship. Her project included successful scheduling and publicizing Level I and II trainings in Sacramento in collaboration with Pacific

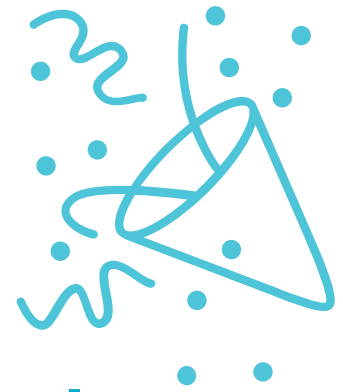
Oaks College and American River College. Additionally, she connected us to San Diego AEYC, 2018 CAPPA/Network Joint Conference and Teachers for Social Change Conference. She presented her first EPCC training in Fullerton earlier this year. Lola will join our core committee as well as our presenting and training committees.

Allison Clabaugh was selected as a marketing and outreach intern. She completed a comprehensive marketing manual for the organization that as implemented, will elevate our profile online and in print throughout the country. Allison will now continue as an alumni consultant with EPCC.

Cheryl Horney completed her internship in marketing and outreach. However, in addition to working to develop improvements in our website and researching potential funding

opportunities she has presented a workshop for EPCC at the CaAEYC conference and plans to continue as a trainer and workshop presenter. Cheryl brought EPCC workshops to Wu Yee Children's Services staff and will continue as a member of our core committee.

Congratulations!



Congratulations to Allison, Lola, and Cheryl!



Training Opportunities

Do you have questions for your classroom? What about challenges with you own children at home? Do you provide programs for children and families in your community? We are offering variety of learning opportunities for teacher, administrators, families and community organizations.

In addition to our 16 hour professional development trainings we can offer you and your organization workshops from 90 minutes to full day experiences. We will

customize the experience to your needs and your population. Some of the many topics that we cover are; bullying, healthy social-emotional development, children and the environment, the importance of play, STEM for early learners, building effective teaching teams, and conflict resolution and communication skills.

Visit our website to contact us for further information.



"What Do You Do With..." by Kobi Yamada.

BY WILMA GOLD

Kobi Yamada is the creator of many inspiring books and ideas as well as the president of Compendium, a company of amazing people doing amazing things. He happily lives with the love of his life and their two super fun kids in the land of flying salmon where he gets to believe in his ideas all day long. He thinks he just might be the luckiest person on the planet.



What Do You Do With A Problem ?

Kobi Yamada, Compendium Inc., 2016

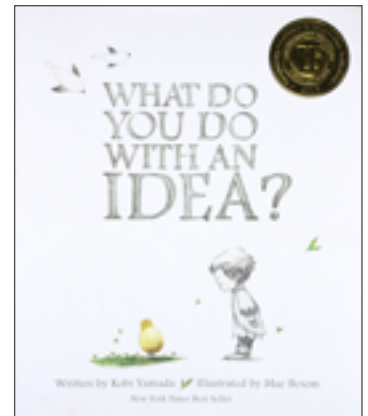
This is the story of a persistent problem and the child who isn't so sure what to make of it. The longer the problem is avoided, the bigger it seems to get. But when the child finally musters up the courage to face it, the problem turns out to be something quite different than it appeared.



What Do You Do With A Chance?

Kobi Yamada, Compendium Inc., 2018

This is a captivating story about a child who isn't sure what to make of a chance encounter and then discovers that when you have courage, take chances, and say yes to new experiences, amazing things can happen.



What Do You Do With An Idea?

Kobi Yamada, Compendium Inc., 2014

This is the story of one brilliant idea and the child who helps to bring it into the world. As the child's confidence grows, so does the idea itself. And then, one day, something amazing happens. This is a story for anyone, at any age, who's ever had an idea that seemed a little too big, too odd, too difficult.

Internship Reflection, continued from page 1

house! All of these things have swirled together to herald in a season of personal growth in 2018.

Finally, the planning for the Center for Social Change and the Civility workshop really drove home a lot of concepts for me. I have enjoyed the fellowship that I have experienced being part of EPCC and value this connection as I grow. Recently, I collaborated on a presentation on "Creating

Peaceful ECE Learning Environments", which enabled me to tie together much of this knowledge with peace education. I got to serve on a panel about democracy with such luminaries as Louise Derman-Sparks and pat Dorman. Best of all, I was nominated by EPCC for the Honor an Educator Award at CAAEYC. It truly was an honor.

What's next for me is to stay involved! I will be presenting on a level 1 and a level 2

in the coming months and will continue to familiarize myself with the curriculum and look for opportunities to share our message with my community. I hope to present on peace education at some conferences this fall. My journey has just begun and it has been more than I ever hoped for!