



# Spotlight Speakers

Friday, April 10  
8:30-10:00 am



“What If Today Was Their Only Day?”

**Lisa Murphy, M.Ed., Early Childhood Specialist, Founder and CEO of Ooey Gooley, Inc, Rochester, NY**

In this motivational keynote address, Lisa shares the powerful story of her first day of school. Through active and engaging storytelling, Lisa brings you back to her first day, taking you on a grand tour of Miss Mary’s Nursery School. And, in the style she has become famous for, she shares many observations, lessons, and anecdotes about how early childhood has changed along the way. Lisa will share the sights, sounds, and smells of the place where, at the young age of three, she decided to become a teacher and identifies the how, and why, that one day solidified her decision to become an educator. This inspiring keynote gets participants back in touch with their personal how and why. It gets them excited and gets them thinking: If it WAS their only day, what will they remember?

Lisa Murphy has been involved with early childhood education for over 20 years; teaching and working with children in various environments including Head Start, kindergarten, private preschools, family childcare, park and rec centers, group homes, and many child care centers. Lisa is the founder and CEO of Ooey Gooley, Inc. where her mission is to assist in the transformation of the industry of early childhood education.

“Don’t Get So Upset!”

**Tamar Jacobson, Ph.D., Author and Early Childhood Education and Development Consultant, Philadelphia, PA**

Teachers were children once and how their parents responded to their emotional expressions affects how they respond to emotional expressions by children in their classroom. “*Don’t Get So Upset!*” examines the uncomfortable emotions early childhood educators feel, and the inappropriate ways they may respond, when children exhibit strong feelings. This presentation challenges teachers to reflect on their own emotional health and development. Let’s challenge ourselves to reflect on our own emotional histories and find strategies for responding to children in ways that support their emotional health and development.

Currently, Tamar Jacobson presents at International, national, state, and regional levels. She is author of: *Confronting Our Discomfort: Clearing the Way for Anti-Bias* (Heinemann, 2003), *Don’t Get So Upset! Help Young Children Manage Their Feelings by Understanding Your Own* (Redleaf Press, 2008), *Everyone Needs Attention: Helping Young Children Thrive* (Redleaf Press, 2018), and edited: *Perspectives on Gender in Early Childhood* (Redleaf Press, 2010), a collection of academic essays from a diverse group of scholars from around the United States and Europe.