

# Keynote Presentation

Thursday, April 6, 2017  
8:30-10:00 am  
South Hall

“Putting the Pieces Back Together:  
Reconnecting the Whole Child”

**Presented by Dr. Rebecca Isbell  
Ed.D., Early Childhood Consultant,  
Professor at East Tennessee State  
University, Author**



This session will investigate the different domains including: cognition, language, social, emotional, and physical development that has been segmented into separate parts. The emphasis will be on putting all these areas together to support young children developing holistically. The discussion will build understanding of the interconnectedness, interactions, and reciprocal relationship of these domains. In addition, we will explore the positive benefits for young children when they are integrated in meaningful ways. It will include information about the powerful contribution of the adults in the lives of young children and their impact on the development and learning of young children. The target age range of this session will be on the growth and development of infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and primary age children.

Dr. Rebecca Isbell is an Early Childhood Consultant, speaker, and author in early childhood education. She is a Professor Emerita who served as Director of the Center of Excellence in Early Childhood Learning

at East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, TN, where she was honored with a “Distinguished Teaching” award. Isbell has been a director of a lab school, teacher of young children (2-8 years of age), supervisor of early childhood students, and early childhood program coordinator. In addition, she has worked with preschool, Pre-K, and primary teachers in improving their learning environments so young children will have many opportunities to develop their creativity in all domains. She is the author of thirteen books and numerous articles related to: creative development, environments, play, language, literacy, music, and child development. She is the author of [Creativity and the Arts in Young Children](#) 3rd Edition, which is used in college classes throughout the country. Her latest book [Nurturing Creativity: An Essential Mindset for Young Children’s Learning](#) was published by NAEYC. Isbell has presented keynote and professional development sessions across the United States and in Denmark, Singapore, Beijing, and Canada.