



Mary Y. Bridgers Early Childhood Educator Award

2024 Nomination Packet

Help us recognize outstanding early childhood teachers. Nominate them by **January 19, 2024!**

WWW.CHILDCARESERVICES.ORG/AWARDS-BREAKFAST



Leading efforts to strengthen accessible and affordable quality early care and education.

Dear Friends,

In March 2024, Child Care Services Association (CCSA) will gather community leaders and child care providers and advocates to celebrate the dedicated individuals working to ensure that the Triangle's children are receiving the highest-quality early care and education.

At our Triangle Child Care Awards Breakfast in March, CCSA will present the Mary Y. Bridgers Early Childhood Educator Award to an early childhood teacher and recognize up to three finalists for their professional commitment to young children and outstanding teaching practices.

The deadline for nominations is **January 19, 2024**. Completed nomination packets must be received at CCSA by 5:00 p.m. For additional information or questions about the award, contact Carolyn Reynolds at (919) 967-3272 or carolynr@childcareservices.org.

In addition, the Dorothy B. Graham and Public Service awards will also be presented at the event. The Dorothy B. Graham Early Childhood Leadership Award is given to an individual who has been a leader in improving early education in the Triangle. The Public Service Award honors an individual whose work in the community has demonstrated a commitment to improving the quality of early education in the Triangle. Private citizens who volunteer their service to the community and elected public officials are eligible for this award. If you would like to request a nominations packet for these awards, contact Carolyn Reynolds at (919) 967-3272 or carolynr@childcareservices.org.

Please complete the attached nomination packet and help us recognize the work of outstanding early childhood teachers and the positive impact they have on our children.

CCSA's Triangle Child Care Awards Breakfast offers a rare opportunity to recognize an underappreciated group of dedicated professionals who work each day to guarantee that our children have the best possible start in life. Please help us give them the recognition and encouragement they deserve by submitting your nomination today.

Visit <https://www.childcareservices.org/awards-breakfast/> for more information about these awards and the 2024 Triangle Child Care Awards Breakfast.

Sincerely,

Aleksandra Holod
Chair, Board of Directors

Dr. Kristi Snuggs
President

Outstanding early childhood teachers in a center or family child care home could win:

\$500 - Mary Y. Bridgers Early Childhood Educator Award Winner

\$300 - Mary Y. Bridgers Early Childhood Educator Award Finalist

Mary Y. Bridgers

Early Childhood Educator Award

Presented to one child care teacher or family child care provider or outstanding direct service to children.

The Mary Y. Bridgers Early Childhood Educator Award is named for Mary Y. Bridgers in recognition of her more than 30 years of service in Orange County as a early childhood teacher and advocate for children. The award may be given to child care providers in Durham, Orange and Wake counties. The environment of the classroom or family child care home of each semi-finalist is assessed and those assessments, in combination with the criteria listed below, are used to select the award recipient from the group of four semi-finalists.

The criteria for selection of up to four semi-finalists include:

- Nomination by a parent, co-worker, director or other community member. Self-nominations will not be accepted, but those who have been nominated in the past may be nominated again. Previous semi-finalists, but not winners, may also be renominated.
- Works directly with children ages 0-5 years as a child care teacher or family child care provider.
- Works in a 4-star, 5-star or accredited child care program in Durham, Orange or Wake County.
- Works in a program that is in good standing with the state (no current administrative actions).
- Works in a program with no unresolved or substantiated investigations directly involving nominee.
- Has a minimum of three years teaching experience with at least one year of service at current site.
- Has earned either an associate degree in early childhood education, an associate degree with at least 24 semester hours in early childhood education or child development, or a bachelor's degree in any field. This educational requirement is equivalent to an "8" on the Early Educator Certification Scale or Child Care WAGE\$® Program salary supplement scale. Find that scale on our website at <https://www.childcareservices.org/wp-content/uploads/Supplement-Levels-All-Tiers-12.3.20.pdf>.
- Has participated in leadership, mentoring and/or advocacy activities for child care issues, either within the nominee's own child care program or within her/his community.
- Has a minimum of three parent reference forms submitted on her/his behalf.
- Has one reference letter from the Program Director submitted on her/his behalf (not required for family child care providers).
- Has one reference letter from another teacher in the program submitted in her/his behalf (not required for family child care providers).
- Parent reference and nomination forms are included on the next three pages.

Before returning your packet, be sure to check above to see if your nominee has met all of the requirements!

Nomination Form



Mary Y. Bridgers Early Childhood Educator Award

I nominate _____ for the Mary Y. Bridgers Early Childhood Educator Award.

My Name (please print): _____

My Signature: _____ Date: _____

My Street Address or PO Box: _____

My City/State/Zip: _____

My Telephone: (home) _____ (work) _____

The person I am nominating is a (circle one): Teacher Family Child Care Provider

She/He works at (program name): _____

Program Street Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Mailing Address (if different): _____

Program Director (if nominee is a teacher): _____

Program Telephone: _____

Age(s) of children currently served by nominee: _____

I have filled in all of the blanks above and have attached the following required documents:

- College transcripts and/or EEC Certificate – Get these early; they must be turned in with the nomination form. Copies are OK.
- Nominee's acceptance form
- A minimum of three parent reference forms
- One reference letter from the program director (not required for family child care providers)
- One reference letter from another teacher in the program (not required for family child care homes)

Completed nomination forms and all attachments for the Mary Y. Bridgers Early Childhood Educator Award must be submitted to Child Care Services Association no later than Friday, January 19, 2024, at 5 p.m. Please see last page for our contact information.

Nominee's Acceptance Form



Mary Y. Bridgers Early Childhood Educator Award

Congratulations, you are being nominated for the Mary Y. Bridgers Early Childhood Educator Award, presented annually by Child Care Services Association. Please complete all items below to be considered for the award.

Home address: _____ Phone number: _____

EXPERIENCE

Have you taught children at your current child care program since January 2021? Yes No

If no, list program names, phone numbers and dates served from January 2021 through December 2023:

Program Name	Phone Number	Dates Served
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

EDUCATION

Please enclose a college transcript or proof of EEC Certification.

LEADERSHIP

In what leadership, mentoring and/or advocacy activities for child care issues have you participated? These activities could have taken place within your child care program or within the community. Please give as much detail as possible (dates, location, collaborators, etc.) and explain your role in the activity. If you need more space, use another sheet of paper.

NOMINEE'S ACCEPTANCE STATEMENT

As a nominee for the Mary Y. Bridgers Early Childhood Educator Award, I certify all of the information listed above is true and correct. If selected as a semi-finalist, I agree to an unannounced assessment of my classroom or family child care home. I understand that the assessment will occur in February or March 2024 during normal business hours, without a scheduled appointment. If selected, I agree to attend Child Care Services Association's 2024 Triangle Child Care Awards Breakfast at the Friday Conference Center at UNC- Chapel Hill on March 8, 2024.

Nominee's Signature: _____ Date: _____



Mary Y. Bridgers

Early Childhood Educator Award

The nomination form for the Mary Y. Bridgers Early Childhood Educator Award must be accompanied by a minimum of three Parent Reference Forms. Please make copies of this reference form, which must be used.

Your Name (please print): _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

What is the name of your child's teacher or family child care provider? _____

How old is your child? _____

What kinds of activities does your child participate in and enjoy at her/his child care program?

Describe some important interactions you have noticed between your child's teacher/provider and your child.

How do you think your child's teacher/provider has helped further his/her language skills? Give some examples.

Describe how you and your child's teacher/provider share information and communicate.

Why do you think this teacher/provider should receive the Mary Y. Bridgers Early Childhood Educator Award?

Thank you for completing this form.



Premio de Mary Y. Bridgers Para Proveedor de Cuidado Infantil

La forma de nominación para el premio de Mary Y. Bridgers para Proveedor de Cuidado Infantil debe de estar acompañada con tres formas de padre referencias. Por favor hagas tres copias de esta forma de referencia para que los padres llenen con la propia información.

Imprime su nombre aquí _____

Firma _____ Fecha _____

¿Qué es el nombre de la maestra de su niño o proveedora de Cuidado Infantil? _____

¿Cuántos años tiene su niño? _____

¿Qué tipo de actividades ha participado su niño y disfrutado en la guardería?

¿Qué son algunas modas que la maestra/proveedor interactúa con su niño?

¿Cómo la maestra/proveedor anima a su niño a desarrollar las capacidades de lenguaje?

¿Qué información de su niño o el día de su niño comparte la maestra con tigo y como lo comparte?

¿Por qué tu crees que esta maestra/proveedor debe recibir el premio de Mary Y. Bridgers para Proveedor de Cuidado Infantil?

¡Muchas Gracias por completando esta forma!



Mary Y. Bridgers

Early Childhood Educator Award

2024 Nomination Packet

**NOMINATIONS
ARE DUE**
Friday January 19, 2024
at 5:00 p.m.

Submit all nominations to:

Child Care Services Association
Attn: Carolyn Reynolds
1829 E. Franklin St., Building 1000
PO Box 901
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Email: carolynr@childcareservices.org

OR

Fax: (919) 967-7683

