

# LAECA 2015 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference

## Louisiana Early Childhood Association

### Keynote Speaker



#### **Kim Hughes, Conscious Discipline**

Kim Hughes is a 30+ year veteran of education with Master's degrees in both Elementary Education and School Leadership/Administration. She excels in providing engaging, informative events for educators and administrators of children infant through elementary age.

Kim has worked as both an administrator and a teacher of children birth through fifth grade. She discovered the power of Conscious Discipline while serving as an early childhood educator in an inclusive mental health setting.

It soon became her passion to share its transformative and empowering message with as many children, parents and educators as possible.

Kim's inviting, playful style creates memorable trainings, while her experience with Conscious Discipline is top-notch. "The hours flew by" is a common sentiment at her trainings as attendees are amazed by their own level of engagement and focus on the material. Kim has supported school- wide implementation in both early childcare and elementary settings, mentored administrators, conducted both large and small group trainings and worked directly with teachers of children infant through elementary age.

### Featured Speaker



#### **Johnette Downing, Musician and Author**

The "Musical Ambassador to Children" and the "Pied Piper of Louisiana Music Traditions," Johnette Downing is a multi-award winning singer, songwriter, musician and author for children, their families and their educators who is dedicated to cultural exchanges, celebrating childhood and fostering music and literacy through her music, books and programs.

Johnette has received twenty-two awards and has given children's concert and author visits, and educator workshops and keynotes in the Middle East, Africa, Asia, Central America, North America and the Caribbean. Johnette's presentations speak to a child's interests in an engaging, interactive, thought-provoking and culturally respectful way.

In addition to her work as a performer, Downing is an author and poet. Based on one of her songs, Johnette's book [Today Is Monday In Louisiana](#) takes young readers through a culinary calendar describing a delicious Louisiana meal for each day of the week. The other counting books and songs she has written are; [Down in Louisiana](#), [My Aunt Came Back from Louisiane](#), [Chef Creole](#), and [Why the Crawfish Lives in the Mud](#).