

# *New President's Message*

*From Michelle Joubert*

## **Greetings LAECA Members!**

It is with great pleasure and honor that I begin my term as your LAECA President. What a wonderful organization we have with outstanding members and productive people to represent them. Our LAECA board members are always working hard for you and Louisiana's children. As a board we all strive together for the betterment of our organization.

Our 2014 Conference "Open the Door to Possibilities" held in October was simply splendid for all involved. The conference committee should be congratulated on a job well done! Don Monopoli and Lois Wachtel had wonderful reviews, your vendor were very happy with all the visits to their booths and the staff of the Sai Convention Center tried their best to accommodate all of our needs. Congratulations also to all the award winners this year: Friends of Children - Jenna Conway, Mildred Souther – Patricia Reder, Alice Teddlie Scholarship – Sarah Weir Cox, Jeanne Gilley Scholarship – Michelle Joubert and the Jane Herrin Mini-Grants – Chris LeJeune, Martha Garner, and Lorrie Watson. We continue to encourage all our members to apply for all available scholarships and grants. Please keep in mind that your new conference committee has already begun working towards next year's conference. We have taken your evaluations to heart and will strive to make improvements as per your recommendations.

The Southern Early Childhood Association (SECA) Conference is coming up January 15-17 in New Orleans. SECA is our parent organization and always plans a great time for professional development and networking with our affiliate state groups. Please join us for an exciting time!

Finally, with no doubt we need to recognize LAECA's magnificent past president, Chris LeJeune. As you are aware she is a two term president, and is already guiding me through many aspects of this office. Not only has she shown dedication to LAECA, but to the teachers she supervises and her family. My wish is that I can be as productive as she has and continue to help our organization grow for Louisiana's teachers, child care providers and its children.

