

# Schott Fellowship News

## Architects of Change

Volume 3 Issue 8 August 2007



### Keeping the Promise

On Thursday September 20, 2007, the Bessie Tarrt Wilson Children's Foundation will be holding a provider forum entitled "Keeping the Promise". The forum will begin with an overview of the Massachusetts Child Care Voucher System study and the challenges and opportunities in Massachusetts.

The forum will feature a keynote speech by Helen Blank, Director of Leadership and Public Policy at the National Woman's Law Center. The audience will then be divided into four breakout groups discussing the following topics: translation, wait lists, transportation and voucher administration. The forum will be held at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum from 9:30 to 4:00. To RSVP for this event, call Kelly Chun at 617-427-0997.

### The Puerto Rican Experience: Understanding Children/ Families of the Commonwealth

As part of the upcoming Immigration Project and Educational Study Tour, the Schott Fellowship will be holding a roundtable discussion entitled "The Puerto Rican Experience: Understanding Children/ Families of the Commonwealth" on Monday October 1, 2007, from 11:45 to 3:00. The roundtable will begin with a speaker and a panel, and end with breakout groups, who will discuss the quality of Puerto Rican life and what we can do about it. To RSVP for this event, call the Schott Fellowship office at 617-873-0678.

### Assessment Roundtable

On October 2, 2007 from 12:00 to 4:00, the Schott Fellowship will be holding an Assessment Roundtable. A group of Schott Fellows researched the topic of implementing a statewide assessment system for early childhood education. They will present the findings from their research and the subsequent policy paper prepared from that research.

The keynote speaker will be Dr. Samuel Meisels, president of Erikson Institute, a graduate school in child development. He is also considered one of the nation's leading authorities on the assessment of young children. Following Dr. Meisels' speech, a distinguished panel of early childhood education professionals will present information on the "Next Steps for Massachusetts in Implementing a Statewide Assessment System". Confirmed panelists include Amy Kershaw of the Department of Early Education and Care and Monty Neill of Fair Test. To RSVP for this event, call the Schott Fellowship office at 617-873-0678.

## Recognizing Douglas Baird

Douglas Baird completed twenty-seven years of service as President and CEO of Associated Early Care and Education at the end of July 2007. Associated's Board of Directors states that " Doug arrived at an agency that was relatively small and built it into six standard setting centers and a network of 140 Family Child Care providers that serve more than 1100 inner city children. "

Doug has served on the Advisory board of the Schott Fellowship in Early Care and Education since its inception. In recognition of his ongoing wise and focused counsel, we acknowledge and thank Doug for his service!

## Alumni News

Mei Hua Fu will be leaving Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center for the Chinese Church Head Start. She will continue to teach at both Cambridge College and Urban College.

Two Schott Fellow Alumni have been named to the 51 member Massachusetts EEC Workforce Development Task Force; Marcia Farris and Kate Roper.

Five Schott Fellow Alumni form a Support Team to Massachusetts ECC Workforce Development Task Force; Kitt Cox, Joan Matsalia, Adrienne Welch, Carol Nolan and Joanne Szamreta.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**September 4, 2007 - Fellowship Meeting 10:00 to 4:00**

**September 20,2007 - Keeping the Promise 9:30 to 4:00**

**October 1, 2007 - Alumni Meeting 9:45 to 11:45**

**October 1, 2007 - Immigration Roundtable 11:45 to 3:00**

**October 2, 2007 - Assessment Roundtable 12:00 to 4:00**

**November 6, 2007 - Health Roundtable 10:00 to 4:00**

The Schott Fellowship in Early  
Care and Education  
Be an Architect of Change

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# **The Schott Fellowship** in Early Care and Education

## **What is the Schott Fellowship?**

We are now accepting applications for a one-year fellowship for early care and education professionals in Massachusetts. The fellowship offers twelve professionals the opportunity to engage in public policy, build their leadership skills and focus on social justice for children and their families. The fellowship in 2008 will focus on these topic areas:

- 1) Transportation: Transporting young children to early care and education programs as well as on field trips has been a constant challenge. What policies do you think should be created to deal with transportation issues?**
- 2) Quality Rating Systems: Many states are enacting quality rating systems. How should Massachusetts respond to this?**
- 3) Young Children in Public Schools: Increasing numbers of young children are in public schools. What additional solutions would be effective policies for these children?**
- 4) Men in Our Profession: What are the policy issues and solutions?**
- 5) Family Child Care: What policies would better support the needs of family childcare in Massachusetts?**
- 6) Preschool Boys: Are early care and education programs structured to maximize the success of boys? How can our policies better serve young boys, especially young boys of color who have higher suspension rates from preschool programs?**

## **Who should apply?**

Candidates:

- Should be mid-career professionals with at least five years of experience working with or on behalf of children and families. Senior school administrators, early childhood program leaders, child or family advocates are encouraged to apply.
- Should demonstrate both commitment and experience working within communities of color and/or in economically underserved communities.
- Should have experience doing public policy projects and recognize the role and potential of public policy to promote educational equity and opportunity for all.
- At the time of applying, must be employed by an agency that works with or on behalf of children and families, and that agrees to provide the Fellow with two days each month to participate in fellowship.

## **Why a Fellowship in Early Care and Education?**

The aims of the Schott Fellowship in Early Care and Education are to engage, support and sustain a diverse group of senior leaders in early care and education; to strengthen public policy and policy advocacy; and to help leaders develop skills to be change agents both within their organizations and in society.

## **About The Schott Fellowship**

Schott's goal is to develop and strengthen a broad-based and representative movement for young children in Massachusetts. We seek to build public will and improve public policy for young children.

**How do I apply?** Download an application at [www.schottfellowship.org](http://www.schottfellowship.org)

For a printed application contact Valora Washington, Ph.D., Fellowship Director

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**Application deadline is September 15, 2007**