Creating Stronger Families, Stronger Communities

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National Center for Families Learning
The National Center for Families Learning

Mission:
To eradicate poverty through education solutions for families.

- Supporting family literacy/family learning programs since 1989
- Sharon Darling, President and Founder
- Original four-component, two-generation family literacy program
- Located in Louisville, Kentucky
Toyota Family Teacher of the Year

- First award was in 1997
- Continuously funded by Toyota
- Monetary award, with funds going back into the winning teacher’s program
- One runner-up each year
- Both the award winner and runner-up are featured at the annual conference
- Teachers come from programs and schools across the nation
- Teachers are nominated through a process.
Toyota Family Teacher of the Year

- 5 early childhood/preschool teachers
- 11 adult education teachers (5 with focus on ESL instruction)
- 1 elementary school teacher
- 1 high school history teacher
- 1 library program manager
- 1 hospital parent/teacher educator
What were the common denominators of practices and habits shared by the Toyota Family Teacher of the Year award recipients?

**Focus on Families**
- Create Passion and Energy
- Build Trust
- Build Community
- Make Personal Connections and Develop Relationships

**Value Teamwork**
- Be a Learner
- Be a Reader
- Start the Day
- End the Day
FOCUS ON FAMILIES

Put families in the forefront of all you do.
BE PASSIONATE AND ENERGETIC

Love what you do. Get out of your comfort zone and enjoy the experience.
BUILD TRUST

Building trust grows out of knowing that teachers are sincere.
BUILD COMMUNITY

We are stronger together than separate.
MAKE PERSONAL CONNECTIONS AND DEVELOP RELATIONSHIPS

Nothing is more important than the human connection.
TEAMWORK

It’s not a one person show. It takes a village.
BE A LEARNER

Learn in order to teach. Learn from your experiences and from your students.
BE A READER

Read and share the love of books.
BEGIN EVERY DAY

Be prepared. Students deserve your best every day.
END EVERY DAY

Reflect. What will you do differently tomorrow?
Creating Stronger Families, Stronger Communities
Premier Family Literacy Event

FAMILIES LEARNING CONFERENCE 2017

CONNECT ENGAGE EMPOWER

JW MARRIOTT TUCSON
STARR PASS RESORT & SPA

OCT. 9-11 • TUCSON, AZ

familieslearning.org/conference
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