

Mismiki T. Montgomery

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Subject

Committed Inclusive Early Childhood Educator with 30 years of teaching and coaching experience in the field, and multiple positions in an instructional and administrative leader role. Proficient in meeting the needs of special education, trauma-impacted and BIPOC students, as well as being able to identify with and mentor providers, educators, community partners and families of diverse backgrounds and challenges. Training and experience in implementing and teaching NE Early Learning Guidelines as well as Desired Results Developmental Profiles (DRDPs) for preschool age children, ASQs and multiple other Early Childhood Assessment tools. Particularly fluid in writing place-based curriculum on current events and needs in ECE when helping pre-service teachers, parents and children process and gain a deep understanding of current event content.

Education

University of Nebraska - Lincoln 08/2006 - 12/2009
Bachelor of Science Degree Graduation Date: 12/2009
Inclusive Education GPA: 3.87

- Graduated with Distinction and UNL Honors as a mom of 3
- Dean's List 4 semesters @ UNL
- Choctaw Tribal Scholarship Recipient

Southeast Community College - Lincoln 09/1999 - 09/2002
Associate Degree in Early Childhood Graduation Date: 09/2002
Early Childhood Development/Education GPA: 3.97

Certification

Standard Teaching Certificate
Early Childhood Inclusive Birth-3rd grade
Expires 08/31/2028

CPR/First Aid
Nature Explorer Trainer (Dimensions)

Safe Kids Nebraska Childcare Transportation
Standard Response Protocol: Emergency Response Training
I Love You Guys Foundation
Safe with you
Health and Safety
Food Handlers Permit

Professional Work Experience

Faculty Child Youth and Family Studies University of Nebraska-Lincoln

*Early Childhood Education Coach at
Ruth Staples Child Development Lab School* 04/2022-Present

- Administration Responsibilities include
 - Representation as a BIPOC EC Ruth Staples CDL Educator at all campus and college retreats
 - Coaching and Assisting classroom lead teachers
 - Coaching and assisting pre-service student teachers with classroom application and 497A coursework
 - Food Service Management, facilitator and communications with UNL Dining Services
 - Manage dietary restrictions to meet needs of children in care
 - Communicate approval/disapproval of menu items that meet CACFP standards and nutritional must-haves for healthy EC development that promote long-term healthy eating habits
 - Mentor families on the development of long-term healthy eating habits for picky eaters
 - Mentor families for long-term healthy eating habits for children with special dietary restrictions
 - Prep and serve meals
 - Train new kitchen employees on RSCDL food prep and service
 - Co-Course Instructor, assisting assigned course instructor with organizing, writing and adjusting course materials to meet present needs of ECE instruction
 - Update DEI status in coursework
 - Plan and facilitate seminars for 497A student teaching
 - Classroom teacher coverage (follow and assist lead teacher expectations while coaching and mentoring pre-service STs)
 - SRP (Standard Response Protocol) Building Liaison
 - Oversee emergency situations and follow-through
 - Inform and train RS faculty on procedures
 - Write building safety plans and instructions for each room on site
 - Make calls accordingly during emergency situations
 - Inform families of drills

- Farm to School ECE Institute Team Member

12/2024-Present

- Farm to Early Care and Education program Selected Site
- Partnered with East Campus Dining Services and Dietician
- Work with a FTS appointed coach
- Created action plan to elevate Farm to ECE program at RSCDL
- Provocations for hands-on learning for children based on Harvest of the Month
- Extension in school gardening
- Promoting local procurement on RSCDL Menu
- Education on nutritional aspects of food for the human body

Lecturer/Teacher Hourly

01/2022-04/2022

Ruth Staples Child Development Laboratory-UNL

- Assisted classroom coverage needs
- Assisted administration needs
- Building organization
- Meal preparation

Clyde Malone Community Center: Lincoln, NE

Director of Youth Programs for the Early Achievers Academy Preschool and Out-of-School programs

08/2020-11/2021

- Responsibilities included, but most definitely were not limited to:
 - Building relationships with trauma impacted youth and families experiencing generational cycles
 - Overseer/manager of youth clubs and partnerships with all staff
 - Staff hiring/managing/termination
 - Developing and implementing multiple new program policies for staff, youth and guardians
 - Trauma informed care therapy program management for both preschool and school age youth
 - Scheduling, organizing and implementing multiple staff trainings
 - Overseeing staff and building employees followed cleaning/building/COVID expectations; completing COVID protocols/quarantine procedures in and out of house when a positive case arose
 - Managing all phone calls and email inquiries for the youth program, Malone website inquiries, inquiries given to me to follow through with by other Malone Leaders, etc
 - Speaking engagements in the name of the Youth Program on behalf of social justice, suspension rate and anti-bias education
 - Online presentations in the name of Racial Equity and the Youth Program
 - CACFP completion
 - Title XX Prep/Submission to Operations Manager
 - Directing/supervising/overseeing Early Achievers Academy staff, curriculum, parent engagement/complaints/partnerships

- Creating/distributing enrollment packets
- Processing/documenting enrollment for pre-K and school-age
- Staying updated on authorizations and needed paperwork to be in compliance with the state
- Supporting staff during and after program hours
- Overseer of trauma-informed discipline/behavior policy expectations
- HiMama online daily check-in/out, parent communications and updates
- Shopping for materials needed for programs in office needs; keeping track of and submitting receipts to Malone Grant Manager and Financial Services

- Additional Responsibilities:
 - Beyond School Bells contact (in the name of the Malone): Regular meetings not only between BSB, but all who they want us to partner with, set up programming, present to, etc.
 - Million Girl Moonshot (MGM) representative and board member (in the name of the Malone): Regular meetings and participation to increase STEM opportunities for our brown and black girls in the state of NE
 - Preschool Development Grant (PDG) Board member: Regular meetings and participation to build and implement the grant for the betterment of our underserved Early Childhood Programs and Family Engagement in the state of NE
 - LNKSE Board Member (STEM programming for our underserved youth)
 - Black is Beautiful Board Member: Female Empowerment for our underserved black/brown teen and tween female youth
 - Supervisor/Contact for NWU Student volunteers: Scheduling volunteer days/hours, overseeing their work at the Malone, evaluating for their class assignments in the Malone after-school program
 - Supervisor/Contact for HALO volunteer partnership between BSB and UNL: Approving developmentally appropriate material for clubs, one-on-one contact for each volunteer and their Liaison
 - Kiwanis member (in the name of the Malone): Regular meetings and participation to support the financial contributions from the Kiwanis for our Money Management and Business Club Program
 - Malone Liaison for Lincoln Littles/Health Dept meetings and communication
 - Temporary Supervisor of After-School program in addition to Director role/responsibilities until position was filled
 - Supervising/supporting UNL GA Students and their research/GA duties

- Lead teacher for the Bluestem (ages 18 mos- 3yrs) classroom. Lead teacher for the Goldenrod (3-5 yrs) classroom. Taught pre-service teachers to use interest and place-based curriculum and development of the young child in a nature-based setting using the cycle of inquiry, Nebraska Early Learning Guidelines/DRDPs. I was the model teacher for CYAF 897A, CYAF 497A/D, CYAF 374 and CYAF 210 students.
- Responsibilities included, but were not limited to:
 - Guiding young children to gain/retain optimal development during ages 3-5 developmental years
 - Directing instruction and planning of curriculum
 - Modeling classroom set-up and structure as the 3rd teacher
 - Planning/Reflection Meetings with 497A Students, Master Teacher and Supervisor
 - Building home to school connections with families of the lab school
 - Observation, assessment and documentation
 - Supporting assessment on Learning Genie
 - Managing PR schedule and weekly communications
 - Managing GAs and delegating classroom responsibilities
 - Primary contact for families
 - Organizing P/T conferences and PACT (family engagement) nights

Temporary Master/Lead Teacher of Curriculum and EC Practice

08/2017 - 05/2018

Ruth Staples Child Development Lab @ UNL

- 1st semester: Master Teacher for Children, Youth and Family Studies 374A student teachers (8 week temporary to cover a maternity leave)
 - Encouraged and coached pre-service teachers to follow the project-based learning strategies as a tool to meet curriculum standards according to the NE Dept. of Education Early Learning Guidelines
 - Oversaw and graded project work, teaching abilities, relationships with children and their families, and overall classroom management during their weeks of head teaching.
- 2nd semester: Lead Teacher for both classrooms (7 week temporary to assist with program needs)
 - Provided pre-service teachers with strategies for teaching in an inclusive early childhood setting with emphasis on project-based learning according to the NE Dept. of Education Early Learning Guidelines

Certified Substitute Teacher

08/2014 - 05/2016

Lincoln Public Schools

- Both long and short-term subbing jobs for ExCITE, special education and elementary classrooms.

Kindergarten and 3rd grade teacher

07/2010 - 07/2014

Clinton Elementary

- PLC meetings
- Staff development
- Team lesson planning
- Parent/Teacher conferences and communication
- Report cards
- Team leader for the Backpack Program

Long-term Substitute in ExCITE classroom

02/2010 - 05/2010

Kooser Elementary

- Lesson Planning
- Home Visits
- High Scope curriculum
- Parent-Teacher conferences
- Classroom Management

Para IV grades 4-5 (SPED)

01/2004 - 05/2005

Meadowlane Elementary

- 1 on 1 with young girl with Asperger's Autism
- Assisted SPED teacher with duties, testing and redirection strategies
- Attended and observed IEP meetings

Program Advisor-Assistant to Director; Lead School Age teacher _____ 09/2000 - 09/2002

Kids Planet Child Development Center (No longer in service)

828 N Street

Lincoln, NE 68508-1733

- Trained staff on curriculum expectations and follow through
- Supervised staff and assisted in proper classroom management

University Service

03/2025 LEAF Coach

07/2024 Sensi-Tray Research (Dipti Dev)

2024 Peer Review Committee

03/2024 CYAF 210 Teaching Resilience in Young Children

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| 02/2024 | <u>Getting Comfortable with the Uncomfortable</u> : Interviewee on The Good Life in Early Life Podcast (Nebraska Extension Early Childhood Program Area) <i>Two part series of insights on the impact of race on daily experiences and the importance of discussing race and racism with young children. Spoke about the need for self-reflection and bias among caregivers and educators to promote a more inclusive learning experience.</i> |
| 11/2023 | Guest Speaker CYAF <i>Working with Families in Communities and Schools</i> |
| 08/2023 | EC panelist at the Teachers of Color Summit on |
| 05/2023 | Member of the African and African American Leadership Caucus (AAALC) |
| 2018-2019 | CYAF Search Committee Member - CYAF Chair |

Outreach

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| 2025 | Community Board Member LEAF Initiative <i>Learning Environment for All to Flourish research</i> |
| 2025 | Coaching For Equity <i>Connecting with other coaches in education and creating a safe space for learning about equitable practices in our roles as coaches and in our communities. Unfortunately, they had to change their name to Coaching for Community and Belonging due to the current administration's demand to delete DEI verbiage and programs</i> |
| 2024 | Leadership Institute Presenter: Building a Grand Community <i>Presented on "Always thinking about the 'unseen'. It's difficult to make connections and bridge gaps between the privileged world and those who have to go through a consistent cycle of generational trauma. Example: Young black and brown girls face socio-economic problems from birth to age 5, and then carry it to their elementary experience." How nature education could positively affect underserved youth.</i> |
| 2024 | Radical Retreat Planning Committee <i>The Radical Refuge is a free full-day retreat designed with and for 100 Latina and Black women in early childhood education. It is a space for joining together in affinity for healing and identity exploration. Latina and Black women in Early Childhood gather alongside fellow educators, mental health professionals, and researchers devoted to their wellbeing to consider how sexist and racist systems have shaped our lived experiences -- but need not define our futures. We were unable to complete meeting needs for this event, but plan on trying again.</i> |
| 2024 | World Forum Foundation Conference Presenter and Plenary Speaker <i>Presented with other Global WFF members on Anti-bias/Anti-racist Early Childhood concerns and practice in the US and Brazil. Was one of 4 plenary Speakers in conference opening, received a standing ovation.</i> |
| 2023-Present | Anti-Bias/Anti-Racist EC Environment/Classroom Trainer |

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| | <p><i>Creating an anti-bias/anti-racist early childhood childcare facility that meets NAEYC best practice and accreditation requirements in diversity, equity and inclusion education for young children in the state of Nebraska.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Southeast Community College; Lincoln Littles CSFO(Childcare Staff Foundations Orientation Team Member/Presenter 2024 • How to address personal bias and predisposition, and its effects on creating a sense of belonging for children in care • How to become comfortable with the uncomfortable in order to provide equitable treatment and equitable developmentally appropriate curriculum for children in care • Addressing the lack of understanding and discomfort when serving children with neurodiverse needs and differences • Defining DEI and how it applies to individual EC Educators |
| 2023 | <p>Raikes, H., von Kampen, M., Montgomery, M., Decker, M. (2023) Play and School Aged Learning. ELO Innovation Invitational, Lincoln, NE.</p> |
| 2022-23 | <p>Faculty of Color Symposium Attendee</p> <p><i>Designed to recognize the perspectives and unique experiences of faculty of color, observe scholarly contributions and successes and determine paths forward in fostering a UNL community that celebrates diversity, inclusion and equity in teaching, research, and service/extension/outreach.</i></p> |
| 2021 | <p>Activist and Advocate for the BIPOC Community</p> <p>Lincoln, NE-KLKN News: <i>A Leader Shares Navigating Tough Talks with Children</i> (link)</p> |
| 2020 | <p>Presenter for “It’s A Beautiful Day for Family Fun at Home” Webinar</p> <p><i>Presented to UNL Alumni with other CYAF colleagues on a virtual early childhood space designed to connect with children and families in Nebraska and across the world during the onset of the pandemic</i></p> |
| 2020 | <p>Presenter and facilitator for World Forum Foundation: Bonnie’s Global Cafe</p> <p><i>Presented for “Let’s Talk! Early Childhood Programs as Change Agents for Equity” on how to create a more equitable early childhood classroom</i></p> |
| 2020 | <p>Presenter for the World Forum Foundation</p> <p><i>Videoed and interviewed for the series, “From Surviving to Thriving: How to Address Inequities in Early Childhood Education</i></p> |
| 2019 | <p>Mindfulness Recording for Holly Hatton-Bowers Research</p> <p><i>Videoed and interviewed about what Mindfulness Education means in the EC Classroom. Recordings being used for Extension presentation.</i></p> |

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| 2019 | CEHS Meet Nebraska: Winnebago <i>Participated in a visit to the new Winnebago Educare facility Little Priest Tribal College (LPTC). I was able to witness a high quality and culturally sensitive Early Childhood program that partners with the local school systems to ensure success for the Winnebago people from an early age all the way through college.</i> |
| 2019 | Backyard Farmer: Digging Deeper <i>Participated in an on-camera interview with Nebraska Extension Landscape Horticulture Specialist Kim Todd and Jennifer Leeper Miller to talk about children's hands-on experience with aeroponic and traditional gardening.</i> |
| 2019 | PACT Nights: Mindfulness <i>Presented to families during parent engagement gatherings on what Mindfulness means in the Early Childhood Classroom.</i> |
| 2019 | Campus Rec Cooking Class <i>Collaborated with Campus Rec and Nutrition Faculty to provide hands-on learning experience about proper use of cooking utensils, meal prep and nutritional eating.</i> |

Professional Affiliations and Services

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| 2024-Present | World Forum Foundation RRED Mission Committee |
| 2024 | Teachers of Color Summit <i>The purpose of the Educators of Color Summit is to reinforce that our representation matters in fostering educational relevance, empowerment, encouragement, and leadership development among student scholars and educators of Color. To ensure the landscape, culture, climate and collective efforts toward social justice reflect the ever-changing demographics of Nebraska we seek to convene educational stakeholders from across pre-K to post-secondary levels dedicated to the same cause.</i> |
| 2022- Present | World Forum Foundation RRED (Race Racism Equity and Inclusion) Workforce member: Global extension fighting racism and prejudice in EC |
| 2021- Present | NAEYC Member |
| 2018-2021 | NAEYC Member |
| 2018-2020 | LAEYC Member |
| 2016-Present | Family Medicine of Lincoln Patient Board Member <i>A voice on the patient board at our Family Practitioner. Sit in on discussions concerning their practice, how they can be of better service to their patients, advances in their communications, personal experiences with physicians, etc.</i> |

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| 2015-Present | Their Health Their Future Founder/Mismiki's Nutrition Kitchen: <i>Early Childhood Nutrition speaking, consulting and classes educating young children and their families about long-term nutritional health practices and disease prevention by research of a all/mostly plant-based diet.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Implemented at the Lincoln Children's Museum</i> • <i>Implemented for JP+ professionals in towns/communities across Nebraska</i> |
| 2014-Present | Diversity Education Speaker for LPS, District OR-1 and local businesses <i>I speak and teach acceptance and tolerance to elementary school students of all grades as well as presenting yearly to patients at Turning Pointe Chiropractic on building better relationships through personal peace.</i> |
| 2013-Present | Nutrition Coach, Family Health & Sales Coordinator Consultant for the Juice Plus+ Company |

Professional Trainings

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| 2024 | FAN: Facilitating Attuned Interactions (Erikson Institute) <i>Goal is to strengthen the provider-parent relationship, resulting in parents who are attuned to their infants and ready to try new ways of relating to them.</i> |
| 2024 | CHIME: Cultivating Healthy Intentional Mindful Educators + Families (CHIME+), with families with young children <i>Transformative program at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln designed to equip educators with the tools to cultivate mindfulness and reflection in their daily work; provides education and guidance on how to incorporate mindfulness and reflective practice into your daily routine, teaching, and caregiving.</i> |
| 2024 | Train the Trainer: Nature Explorer Trainer/Consultant <i>Outdoor Classroom Consultant; a program of the Dimensions Educational Research Foundation</i> |
| 2022 | Oasis Training: Digging Deeper Together/Presenter Megan Cardwell Office of Diversity and Inclusion <i>Session identified skills and strategies designed to increase awareness</i> |

and/or improve use of best practices. RSCDL faculty identified and practiced conversations around topics of diversity, racism, gender stereotypes

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| 2021 | Standard Response Protocol Training <i>Tactics for response to weather events, fires, accidents, intruders and other threats to student safety.</i> |
| 2020 | Safe Kids NE Child Care Transportation Training <i>Training on how to properly install and use child passenger safety seats in a child care centers vehicle</i> |
| 2019 | Child Care Health and Safety Training <i>Attended training to stay up to date on policies and procedures that prevent illness and injury in the early care setting</i> |
| 2019 | Safe Kids NE Child Care Transportation Training <i>Training on how to properly install and use child passenger safety seats in a child care centers vehicle</i> |
| 2019 | Food Handler/Food Safety <i>Purpose to learn and follow through with an overview of food safety issues, regulations and techniques to maintain a food safe environment</i> |
| 2019 | Early Childhood Technology: <i>Implementing Developmentally Appropriate practices to create and obtain DAP technology goals in the EC classroom</i> |
| 2019 | No Small Matter Film Screening and Discussion <i>Attended workshop to gather first hand the perspectives of EC practitioners and educators regarding the current state and needs of the EC workforce in NE.</i> |
| 2018 | Institute of Child Nutrition (ICN) Exploratory Task Force: <i>I was one of 13 nutrition and early childhood professionals nationwide chosen to collaborate with USDA and ICN staff to take part in reviewing CACFP information, discussing and developing up-to-date resources regarding the goal of educating young children and families on healthy cooking techniques and meal patterns that will help bridge the gap in cooking knowledge around the country.</i> |
| 2018 | IANR Search Committee Training |

Publications

Montgomery, Mismiki T. (2021). *Brown Girl, Black Girl, What Do You See?* Exchange Press Magazine: Dear Reader, pg 6

Montgomery, Mismiki T. (2020). *Malone Center Welcomes Mismiki Montgomery to Lead New Youth Program.* Strictly Business Magazine [\(link\)](#)