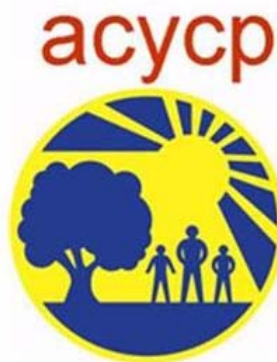




Your Quarterly News & Updates  
From The Association of Child and Youth Care Practice



The Association for  
Child & Youth  
Care Practice, Inc.

## Life Achievement Nominations Now Open

The ACYCP Board of Directors is pleased to announce the opening of nominations for the ACYCP Life Achievement Award. This award was created by long-time ACYCP board members Sister Madeleine Rybicki and Professor Karen Vander Ven, to recognize persons who had made significant contributions, in any area of the child and youth care (CYC) profession, to the betterment of children and youth. As many pioneers and major contributors retire and even pass away, it has become increasing urgent that they be appreciated and recognized for making the way easier for those who are following in their footsteps.



ACYCP President Andy Schneider-Munoz (L) presents Life Achievement Award to Michael Mitchell (R) in Milwaukee, 2013

Child and youth care pioneer and ACYCP co-founder, Mark Kruger, Ph.D., was in charge of giving the Life Achievement Award since the early 1970s. It is not given every year and is considered to be very special to the field. It was designed to call special attention to CYC leaders, who have been exceptional among their peers, in the development of the field of child and youth care work. This award is a salute and standing ovation for

individuals who have always been there for the CYC profession. In the earliest days, the award was given to three pioneers who founded the field: Albert Trieschman, Ph.D.; Henry Maier, Ph.D.; and Karen Vander Ven, Ph.D.

More recently the award was given to Andrew Schneider-Munoz, Ph.D., Sister Madeline Rybicki and Michael Mitchell, MAT, as leading professional practitioners with a lifelong commitment to child and youth care. Schneider-Munoz helped to found ACYCP Certification, Sr. Rybicki is one of the nation's leading CYC trainers and served as the President of the Academy of Child and Youth Care, and Michael Mitchell is past president of the Wisconsin Association of Child and Youth Care Professionals (WACYCP), a regional, national and global force for youth worker professional development.

To obtain a copy of the ACYCP Life Achievement Award nomination form, go to: <http://www.acycp.org/how-we-help/acycp-member-bios/Page-5> then download the nomination form and follow the submission rules and criteria. The **submission deadline is April 1, 2016. The winner will be notified by May 15 and formally announced at the June 1 ACYCP Annual Board Meeting in Milwaukee.**

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## Thank a Youth Worker Day

Friends of the Youth Worker field,

I am currently national chairperson for [Thank a Youth Worker Day \(TAYWD\)](#) for the United States. Please check out our web page! I am inviting you to join the TAYWD committee. The committee focuses on creating activities and events that bring attention to the vital role of CYCs in our communities and creating opportunities to thank practitioners for their many contributions.

This committee is part of the [Association for Child and Youth Care Practice \(ACYCP\)](#). This is the premiere youth worker professional association in the country and has an international presence as well. Very simply stated, our goal is to promote and grow TAYWD across the United States and abroad. If this sounds like something you would like to be a part of, please contact me at... [kreebj@aol.com](mailto:kreebj@aol.com) We are looking for partners who will help expand the events and activities that celebrate the contributions of Child and Youth Care Workers.

### How Can YOU Help?

Peace,  
Jeff Kreeb, CYC-P  
Chair, TAYWD & Outreach Committee

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**May 5, 2016**

## Grantees Meet on Runaway/Homeless Youth Needs

By TC Cassidy, MPA, M.Div., CYC-P  
Director of Technical Assistance/HTR3 Project Director,  
RHYTTAC National Safe Place Network

National Safe Place Network (NSPN), the operator of the Family and Youth Services Bureau's (FYSB) Runaway and Homeless Youth Training and Technical Assistance Center (RHYTTAC), recently hosted the 2015 National Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY) Grantees Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana. The conference was held on November 9 - 12, 2015, and included over 46 training workshops, three keynote sessions, an expert youth panel, three site visits, and a reception featuring poster board presentations. The keynote addresses were delivered by Larry Brendtro, an author and youth advocate, and Roy Juarez, Jr., an entrepreneur, public speaker, and former homeless youth.

This year's conference attracted the highest number of participants to date with 711 individuals representing every state and territory in the U.S., a 10 percent increase in attendance from the previous year. These grantees work in varied settings, including basic centers for shelter youth, outreach programs serving youth on the streets, drop-in centers, transitional living programs, and maternity group homes. They represent the more than 300 agencies that received federal funding for runaway youth services.

[Read More . . .](#)

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Wisconsin Association of  
Child and Youth Care  
Professionals

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**Wisconsin State CYC**  
**Conference**  
**Milwaukee, WI**  
**June 1, 2016**

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**Association of Child and Youth Care Practice**  
Annual Board Meeting  
June 1, 2016  
University of WI-Milwaukee,  
School of Continuing Education  
Milwaukee, WI

<http://www.acycp.org/>

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## Agency Spotlight

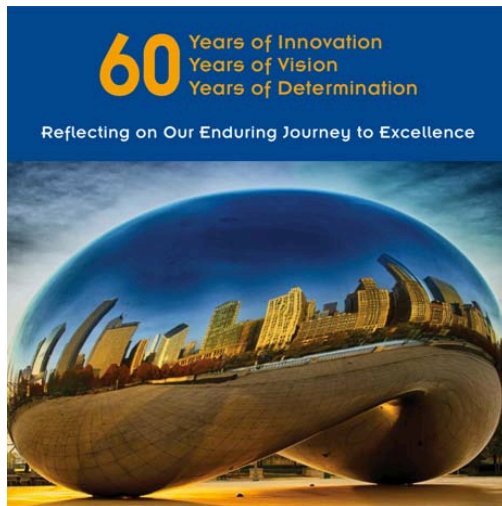
### The Association of Children's Residential Centers: 60 Years of Innovation, Vision, and Determination

When we talk about child and youth care, one of the longest standing CYC settings lies in residential care. For the past 60 years, the [Association of Children's Residential Centers](#) (ACRC-formerly AACRC) has been uniting professionals who work with children and youth with behavioral health disorders in residential settings. ACRC is truly a leader in advocating for best practices in residential treatment and has a proven track record of providing invaluable resources to both CYC professionals in the field plus the youth and families served by the residential community.

This year, [ACRC's 2016 conference and preconference](#) takes place **between March 28 and April 1 in Chicago**, where leaders in the child and youth care field will be presenting cutting-edge information on the newest research on best practices for residential care, including Thom Garfat, Kenneth Hardy, Mark Courtney, and Paul Baker. The conference is unique in the sense it is not only attended by a wide range of clinicians, administrator, and researchers, but it also has representation from direct care workers, as well as youth and parents plus former residents who have life experiences with residential treatment.

Not only is the conference intellectually stimulating, but this group plays as hard as they work, with social gatherings ranging from lunches and dinners to boat rides and sightseeing! If there is a must-attend conference for the child and youth worker, ACRC's conference is a top-notch professional gathering where there is no shortage of information and engaging conversations with those working in and affected by residential care.

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## They're Coming To *Your* Town, Chicago!

American Association of  
Children's Residential Centers  
60th Annual Conference  
Chicago, IL | March 28-April 1,  
2016

Mark your calendars and save the date!

For more information, visit the [Conference Website](#).

[AACRC](#)

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## Welcome Aboard...And Many Thanks!

By Michael Mitchell, Ed.

As ACYCP enters another new year in its 38 year history of championing the professionalization of the child and youth care field, every aspect of the organization is consolidating past gains and gearing up to achieve new objectives. Nowhere is this more true than with the Board of Directors. Therefore, we would like to introduce new directors to the membership, while asking the rank-and-file to join together in thanking those who have served so faithfully over the years.

We are delighted to welcome the following **newly appointed directors**: Christina Schaloni who just received her Ph.D. at the University of Pittsburg and is in transition; Rose Ann Renteria, Ph.D.-PHILLIPS Programs for Children and Families; and Michael Mitchell, MAT (1st V.P.)-retired past president of the Wisconsin Association of Child and Youth Care Professionals (WACYCP). Appointed Board members will stand for **general election** at the 2016 ACYCP Annual Board Meeting on June 1, in Milwaukee, WI. As of this issue, all Board positions are now filled, with the **office of 3rd Vice President** yet to be filled by an existing director.

Also coming up for **re-election or replacement** in the **general election**, will be **current Board members**: Hector Sapien (Treasurer); Matt Fasano; and Jean Carpenter-Williams (ACYCP President Emerita).

ACYCP wishes to acknowledge and praise the contributions of **retiring directors**: John Korsmo; Don Harris; and Natalie Brunner (Landry) who will serve on as an advisor. Many of these and other past directors have graciously agreed to continue to serve as liaisons and representatives between ACYCP and other CYC organizations, as well as offering their services as professional resource contacts.

It will soon be possible to read the professional bios of new and current directors at [acycp.org](http://acycp.org) . President Andy Schneider-Munoz urges any and all interested ACYCP members seeking candidacy for directorships or representative positions to contact [Jody Rhodes](#).

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## Oh Canada! What is the Council of Canadian Child and Youth Care Associations?



FreelImages.com/Alistair Williamson

The Council of Canadian Child and Youth Care Associations is a national body established to serve as a coordinating and networking organization for provincial and territorial Child and Youth Care Associations. The mission statement and the goals of the [CCCYCA](#) can be found on their website.

Since 1986, the Council of Canadian Child and Youth Care Associations has been the national networking organization representing child and youth care professionals in Canada through their provincial associations. The Council strives to promote the association movement throughout Canada and through them promote and encourage professional development, advocacy, recognition and networking for child and youth care.

While representatives from each provincial association make up the board of the Council, all members of members associations are considered members of the Council, currently just over 3000 professionals. The Council hosts the National Child and Youth Care Conference, and promotes professional development sponsoring initiatives such as the Poster Project. The Council also sponsors the National Child and Youth Care Award.



Jeff Reid  
CCCYCA representative to ACYCP

[CCCYCA](#)

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**19th Canadian National  
Child & Youth Care Conference  
Nourishing Strength Nurturing  
Beyond -  
Connecting our passions**

**May 4 - 6, 2016  
Halifax, Nova Scotia**

<http://www.cycconference2016.com/>

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**Reflections Along The Way**

By Tom W. Woll

If you woke me up at 3:00 in the morning and asked me who I am, I might say I am a father or a husband. If you asked me what I do, I might say I am a family therapist or a youth care worker. It would depend upon what I was thinking before I went to sleep. But on many early mornings, I would answer that I am a youth care worker.

I started as a youth care worker forty-four years ago. I have held many positions since then. But through the many years I always tried to find a way to work an eight-hour shift each week in one of our residential treatment units. I did that to stay in touch and to show support for our youth care staff. But I also did that because I loved to work with the kids on the units.

I sincerely believe that there is no more demanding or more important position in the human services field than the position of youth care worker. I am proud to consider myself a youth care worker. Let me tell you why. I once asked the Deputy Director of the National Institute of Mental Health what he had found, through his research, that had the most positive impact on the severely emotionally disturbed youths he had studied.

He said, "If they were fortunate enough to get into a good treatment program where they formed a trusting relationship with a good youth care worker. That's what I believe probably had the most positive impact." I know that's true. That's why I'm so proud to consider myself a youth care worker.

[For More on Tom Woll](#)

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## Resolving To Be Competent

By Lorraine E. Fox, Ph.D.

Here we are with a "new" year upon us once again, and for some reason it seems a good time for many of us to "resolve" to be better than we were last year by making some kind of "resolution". I would like to propose that being "better" in our work, which usually means striving toward a level of competence that satisfies us and the workplace, can be a matter of resolve. As we move into next year, let's all make a resolve - or earnest decision and expression of intention - to be the CYC worker we want to be and that our kids deserve.



Resolutions are often accompanied by some level of anxiety, as we wonder how long we can make good on our resolve before falling into familiar patterns. Some level of anxiety is actually okay, as it serves as a motivator. Motivation - being both willing and able to do something - is something we need in our work every day of every year. I would like to suggest that both willingness and ability are a product of decision making. Being a "good", that is competent, worker is not a talent, or a gift, or a matter of luck or fortune but rather a decision we can make. Anyone can be "good" for our kids; we only have to decide to be.

[Read More](#)

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## Researcher Seeks Survey Support

Long-time ACYCP Board member, Professor John Korsmo, of Western Washington State University, is seeking research support for his study of first-generation college attendees. He invites all such students, in any major, to participate in his [online survey](#).

Professor Korsmo has been a long-time asset to the child and youth care (CYC) field, at both Western Washington State University and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Support of this research will help him continue to improve the field of (CYC) work for every professional practitioner. The ACYCP membership committee urges you to announce, post and forward this request to your personal student contacts at your first opportunity.

Are you looking for research support? As an ACYCP member, your membership benefits include support in finding and accessing research resources for class papers, a thesis, field research and published manuscripts. ACYCP is creating a sizeable database of CYC post-secondary academic instructors, plus a database of CYC agencies and programs. Both are available, with the help of ACYCP, to any member seeking research support in any academic area of interest. Please contact membership co-chair, [Michael Mitchell](#) or call (608)846-2860 for further information.

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## Honor The Memory --- Create The Legacy

*[The article is derived from copy on the ACYCP website, created by Prof. Karen Vander Ven, Professor Emerita, Department of Psychology in Education, University of Pittsburgh]*



Mark Krueger, Ph.D., was a life-long friend to youth, plus a colleague to child and youth (CYC) workers around the world. He believed in the power of the "rhythm and presence" of relationships. To honor and continue the care he shared with the thousands he came in contact with, the Mark Krueger Scholarship Fund was established to provide small mini-grants to workers and youth as they spend time building relationships. Whether playing basketball, enjoying the outdoors, writing poetry, or traveling to other countries, these were the activities that Mark loved the most!

The Mark Krueger Scholarship Fund is guided by volunteer ACYCP board members and advisors, who are dedicated to carrying on Mark's passionate life's work as a legacy for years to come. Donations are tax deductible in the United States and may be tax exempt in other

countries, as well. Payments by on-line donation may be submitted in a variety of currencies including Canadian dollars and Euros by using the secure PayPal link. Donations are welcome in any amount. Donor information is strictly confidential and is never sold, rented or loaned. Just go to: <http://www.acycp.org/mark-krueger-fund> and follow the links to the secure PayPal site. Tax-exempt donations may also be mailed to Jody Rhodes, ACYCP, Inc., P.O. Box 510423, Milwaukee, WI 53203. Jody may also be reached at (414) 519-3130. Letters acknowledging your tax exempt donation will be issued. You may also designate the Mark Krueger Scholarship Fund in your estate plan.

[Read More](#)

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## Carol's Corner of the World

By Carol Kelly, Ph.D.

*Niki Webb shares her personal growth and the connection with her career's fulfillment and significant contributions. Her strong foundation in growth and development, high quality and excellent wide spectrum of experiences establishes an outstanding ability to apply theory to practice. Continuous inquiry and openness to growth, and pursuing her passions are core to a fulfilling career which makes critical contributions to the lives of children, adolescents on the autism spectrum as well as family and other professionals working in this realm. It is hoped that Niki's documentation will support entering professionals and provide one example of successful exploring and mentoring for those who teach, train, and mentor.*

## Exploration and Mentoring While Enhancing Experiences Working for Children

By: Niki Webb, MS

Over sixteen years ago, when I first began my career working with children and adolescents I had no idea that I could indeed turn such an amazing job into a career. My initial experience as a camp counselor at a local YMCA gave me the confidence and building blocks to be able to eventually become a Program Director for one of the largest non-profit organizations for children with special needs in the country. Through exceptional guidance and support from my mentor, Professor Carol Kelly, I was not only able to continue my education, but also become a champion for children in various ways. Professor Kelly as a champion for children herself, was the one instructor who helped and encouraged me to apply to the University of Southern California for graduate school and to present at two FICE international conferences; in Helsinki, Finland and Stellenbosch, South Africa on my experiences working with children and adolescents using music as a powerful therapeutic tool. All of these experiences did not seem attainable, but Professor Kelly had taught me that anything is possible. In addition to the FICE conferences, I have been asked to present on a symposium panel at California State University Northridge about Autism Spectrum Disorder, further highlights the treatment modalities used for children with autism.

[Read More...](#)

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## **33rd FICE CONGRESS & 2nd CYC WORLD CONFERENCE Vienna, Austria August 22-25, 2016**

What a better way to connect with Youth and Child Care Workers from all over the world, while you learn about the world by attending this professional development opportunity in historic Vienna, Austria.

Check out this opportunity here:

<http://www.betterworld2016.org/index.php/en/program>



TOGETHER TOWARDS A BETTER WORLD FOR  
CHILDREN, ADOLESCENTS AND FAMILIES -  
VIENNA, AUSTRIA  
AUGUST 22<sup>nd</sup> TO 25<sup>th</sup> 2016

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## From the Soapbox Far from the Tree...and Close By On Your Bookshelf

Karen VanderVen, Ph.D., Professor Emerita,  
University of Pittsburgh

Children who are different... who fall "far from the tree" in their difference from their families and others; we all know who they are. That's our work.

We may have been 'different' ourselves, a background factor I have found to be quite common in child and youth workers and which actually has led them to choosing the field. Our sensitivity to our own experience motivates us to want to serve others, who are different now and who are at risk for many kinds of rejection. So what could be more helpful and supportive to us than insights that help us better understand ourselves and our own struggles, and those of our youthful clients



Certainly you may already have read *Far from the Tree: Parents, Children and the Search for Identity* by Andrew Solomon. However, it is a work outside of the literature more formally associated with child and youth work that moved me so much I want to share the experience with you. If you have it, revisit it; if not, get it! Few books will do a better job in helping you understand yourselves, the role you play in the lives of the children and families that are served by child and youth workers, and the profound mission that we have. The work is based on years of interviewing families and children and Solomon's honestly stated lifelong personal experience of difference. Among the many areas of diversity - difference --- that Solomon discusses are "deaf, dwarfs, Down syndrome, autism, schizophrenia, disability, prodigies, crime, [and] transgender ( Solomon p. ix ). To me, perhaps the two most powerful chapters are the first, entitled "Son" and the last, entitled "Father".

[Read More...](#)

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## Profiles in Professionalism

### " ....That's Dale"

#### On The Child & Youth Work Career of Dale H. Curry, Ph.D.

By Karen VanderVen, Ph.D., with additional contribution by  
Frank Eckles, Past President, Child and Youth Care Certification Board (CYCCB)

It's always warming to be invited to take a trip down Memory Lane to recall someone whose career one has followed over the years and who moved from student to professional colleague. Dr. Dale Curry is currently Professor of Human Development and Family Studies, in the School of Lifespan Development and Educational Sciences, and Director of the International Institute for Human Service Workforce Research and Development, at Kent State University in Ohio.



So pan back to 1975. I was reviewing a master's program application for the Department of Child Development and Child Care at the University of Pittsburgh. A reference writer described how the candidate (a Penn State Child and Family Studies undergraduate major and child care worker at psychiatric in-patient programs) had kept on working to the end of his shift despite having a broken arm! "That's Dale" the recommender said, describing Dale's integrity and commitment, among other positive attributes. So Dale was admitted.

[Read More...](#)

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## President's Perspective Sexting or What?

Dr. Andy Schneider-Munoz, CYC-P

Narrowly escaping impeachment, Bill Clinton got nailed for things that history shows President Kennedy did in the White House.

Morality has changed...or has it?

Over 400 high school teens in Southern Colorado got busted recently for sexting (electronically transmitting sexually explicit materials). One interviewed youth dismissed the furor by saying "It's just naked bodies!"

This is a community I know well and like. I started my career there as a youth worker. It's a tight knit, small town neighborhood. However, they always needed a skateboard park and a youth job center. That's the question: What else are the youth up to besides sexting?



[Read more....](#)

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## **Cruising to Success . . .** **Cruising to Renewal, Connecting and Learning** **2015 International Youth Worker Symposium on the Sea**



What happens when over 96 youth workers from Indiana, the US and the globe, including Canada, Australia and Belize; and some 50 family and friends say "Yes!" to the first ever International Youth Worker Symposium on the Sea (SOS)?

***"It's magical, it's fun, it's learning and it's renewing." (Symposium participant)***

The Symposium allowed participants to focus on developing themselves as leaders. This meant tending to their own growth and professional edge; engaging in conversations and planning with colleagues and peers about issues facing the profession and the world of youth work, plus renewing their own ambitions to make the world better for young people.

The SOS highlights included:

- Three symposium days focused on grounding, connecting and the importance of self-care
- A Youth Worker study tour to Belize meeting with the Prime Minister's wife at the Inspiration Center, visiting the YWCA and Belize government youth programs
- Small group gatherings around topics of interest lead by Symposium participants, i.e. Advocacy, Trauma Informed Care, Transition to Retirement, International Youth Worker Professional Development Best Practices
- Groups of Youth Workers having focused discussions in the Smart Talk part of the Symposium
- Evenings dinners together with table captains leading get acquainted activities and great conversations that resulted from just being together informally
- Cross generational groups of youth workers, family members and friends together participating in cruise excursions, activities and events, including the best ever Halloween party.

[More highlights and photos...](#)

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## **Top Ten Reasons Why YOU Should Be Certified!**

*[This list was developed by Michael Mitchell for the Wisconsin Association of Child and Youth Care Professionals, Inc. ([WACYCP](#)) and is reprinted here, in modified form, with their permission.]*

- #10. Certification may meet many training requirements for workers in direct care.
- #9. A competency goal, without a plan (Certification), is just a wish.
- #8. Certification promotes collaboration with your professional peers.
- #7. Your Certification serves as an example to other child and youth care "wannabes."
- #6. Certification helps define what it means to be a child and youth care "professional."
- #5. Certification helps expand the direct care focus to include self-care.
- #4. Certification consolidates formal and informal learning experiences.
- #3. Certification is derived from professional and research-based, direct care competencies.
- #2. Certification shows the world your dedication to life-long learning.
- #1. Competency, through Certification, reduces workplace stress!

*The Child & Youth Care Certification Board [CYCCB] provides an assessment process and certification to individuals who demonstrate their commitment to high standards of care and commitment to ongoing professional development. Certification is awarded to candidates who successfully demonstrate their professional practice through:*

- *Minimum requirements of education, experience & training*
- *Passing score on a situational judgement exam*
- *Provision of colleague references & supervisor assessment*
- *Membership in a professional association*
- *Agreement to abide by ethical practice*
- *Completion of a written portfolio*

[More on Professional Certification](#)

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**Words of Inspiration. . .**

## **Our Deepest Fear**

**by Marianne Williamson**

**from *A Return To Love: Reflections on the Principles of A Course in Miracles***

*Our deepest fear is not that we're inadequate...*

*It's that we're powerful beyond measure.*

*It's our Light,*

*Not our darkness that most threatens us.*

*We ask ourselves: 'Who am I to be this talented, gorgeous, and fabulous?'*

*Actually, who are you not to be?*

*You are a child of the Goddess/God.*

*Your playing small doesn't save the world.*

*There is nothing enlightened about shrinking*

*So that others won't feel insecure around you.*

*We were born to make manifest the Glory of God/The Goddess*

*That is within us.*

*It's not just in some of us---*

*It's in everyone.*

*And as we let our own Light shine,*

*We unconsciously give others permission to do the same.  
As we are liberated from our own fear,  
Our presence automatically liberates others.*

---

### **ACYCP Board of Directors**

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Frank Eckles- 2nd V.P.  
Vacant - 3rd V.P.  
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Opkara Rice - ACRC Liaison  
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Natalie Brunner - Advisor  
Quinn Wilder - Advisor

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Michael Mitchell-Editor  
Frank Eckles  
Suzie Henderson  
Mary Krause

### **Copy Deadlines 2016:**

Winter Issue: Jan. 4, 2016  
Spring Issue: April 4, 2016  
Summer Issue: July 5, 2016  
Fall Issue: Oct. 3, 2016

### **Disclaimer**

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