This issue is a celebration of our yearly regional conference that took place at Camp Greenville in SC last February. We had 116 attendees (up from 94 last year) and 27 presenters. It was all possible because of our members, volunteers, the regional council, sponsors, and presenters – and because of the fine folks at Camp Greenville. The Spring 2019 YAESE Newsletter will take a look back at what made this conference a huge success and what makes the southeast region so amazing.

YAESE!!!
BRAD DANIEL: WORLDVIEWS AND EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION

Participants were scrambling for chairs or a space on the floor of the packed room as Brad Daniel began his workshop on Worldviews and Experiential Education. Brad helped participants to understand how their worldviews, and those of the participants, help determine how they filter and interpret their realities. This is an important concept to consider when choosing the words we use, how we react to the words and actions of others, and in how we plan our programs. Our understanding of the world and how we experience it often resides below the surface, beyond our immediate awareness. Brad presented this information from the perspectives of the fields of sociology, psychology, and neuroscience.

OFRI HIRSCH: UNLEASH YOUR CREATIVITY WITH COOKING

Ofri Hirsch from Asheville Mountain Kitchen had colorful array of food for her participants to play with for her workshop Unleash Your Creativity with Cooking. Participants connected and shared memories of cooking before learning about design thinking and food. Ofri then teamed people up and had them design a dish with a specific person in mind.

Participants learned about the power of empathy, prototyping, and teamwork that are involved in design thinking. The workshop concluded with groups sharing their masterpieces and reflecting on the experience of design and food.
Workshops!
Alabama

Tennessee

Sandy Newes Keynote Speech

Paul Wolfe receiving the Rebecca Carver ABC's Award
Daniel Cape and Laura Baird kicked off the conference on Friday night with the opening Playnote. With the theme of the conference being "What’s the story? Adding the next chapter.", Daniel and Laura used EPIC Cards as a creative and experiential method of having participants share stories. There were 10 stations with different prompts or questions to facilitate storytelling in some unique fashion. We shared stories about failure and routines. We shared our life stories in 3 words and created our own stories about random objects.

There was never a dull moment, not even with transitions between stations. People walked to the next station as if they were bubbles (whatever that means) or acted like their favorite animals (the snakes were the most entertaining). Overall, everyone got to meet everyone else and share in AEE tradition of the fun and engaging opening Playnote.

Live music and fort building kept us entertained and amused on Friday and Saturday nights.

Alma Russ, an outdoor leadership student at Southwestern Community College and American Idol contestant shared her remarkable talents with us. Her mix of traditional and original old time, country, and bluegrass music got folks up and dancing on through the night.

There’s never a dull moment when Laura Baird is involved. Equipped with fort-building materials, Laura facilitated the construction of a formidable palace within the conference hall.
Thank you for a great conference, from your AEE SE Regional Council. We’ll see you next year at Kanuga in Hendersonville, NC!

**FEBRUARY 21-23 2020**

**Council Chair:** Eric Starkweather  
**2019 Conference Convener:** Renee Roark  
**Treasurer & Student Engagement Committee Chair:** Laura Baird  
**Marketing & Graphics:** Christie Miga  
**Workshops:** Josh Orphanidys, Daniel Cape, & Devin Kearns  
**Service Crew Coordinator:** Michael Misenheimer  
**Member at Large:** Brad Daniel, Paul Wolfe, Ed Maggart  
**Newsletter Editor-in-Chief:** Daniel Cape
The Neuroscience of Creativity: A Q&A with Anna Abraham

Kids learning how to grow their own food could become a reality in Italy with "Farming Preschool"

Horseback therapy provided in St. C

Regional Spotlight

Southwestern Community College Outdoor Leadership and Wilderness Therapy

Our program combines theory and practical skills so that you’ll be ready to work in the outdoor field upon completion of our courses. You’ll get experience organizing backpacking expeditions, guiding boats on several mountain rivers, facilitating low and high ropes course initiatives, assessing emergency medical situations and teaching Leave No Trace ethics all in our beautiful backyard.....the Great Smoky Mountains.