



# You're invited to Early Childhood Summer Summit : "A Hero's Journey"



The conference will be held on **May 8 – 10, 2019** at the [Desert Willow Conference Center](#). The conference will be open to all early childhood education practitioners, administrators, and community partners. Put on your cape and join us! Click here to register

<https://ems.azed.gov/Home/Calendar?sd=6387>

KEYNOTE  
SPEAKERS

## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS JUST ANNOUNCED!!!!

**ADOLPH BROWN**- Born in the heart of the inner city, while spending summers in rural Virginia with his grandfather, Adolph was reared to be very hard-working and reflective. Having had a single parent mother in the housing projects, having been a Head Start student, having been the first of his family of five to graduate high school, and having had his oldest sibling and only brother murdered when he was only 11, Adolph's life and work have been a voyage of discovery beyond anything he could imagine. Adolph is a recovering middle school special education teacher, university professor and dean, and corporate project manager. He is an educational and clinical psychologist, master teacher, humorist, author, and philanthropist. Adolph has a strong appreciation for the virtues of teaching, research and leadership. Also, quite often gives talks to today's youth on yesterday's life lessons. He has a "head" for adults and a "heart" for kids as he facilitates over 100 youth focus groups a year. Feel free to chat with him that day during his book signing following this presentation.



**BRAD SHUR**- Puppeteer, puppet builder and arts educator Brad Shur is the founder and lead artist of Paper Heart Puppets. Brad began performing as a student at the Rhode Island School of Design. While earning a degree in film, he was a regular performer at late night puppet slams and with Big Nazo Puppets. From there, Brad went on to tour nationally with Wood and String Puppet Theatre and Vermont Puppetries. As a freelance puppet builder he created puppets for American Idol, Dolly Parton's Dollywood amusement park and many theaters and other performers. In 2009, he became the Resident Artist at Puppet Showplace Theater in Brookline, Massachusetts where he served as the lead teaching artist and touring puppeteer for eight years. During that time, Brad developed six original shows and revived several classic shows created by Paul Vincent Davis. In 2017, Brad left Puppet Showplace for Poughkeepsie, NY and founded Paper Heart Puppets.

To Register  
[click here](#)



# Early Childhood “A Hero’s Journey”



Dear Friends of Early Childhood Education,

The Arizona Department of Education [Early Childhood](#) Education Unit would like to invite you to the **Early Childhood A Hero’s Journey** summer conference. The work of caring for and teaching our youngest citizens is rewarding, but difficult.

Everyday teachers, assistant teachers, administrators, support staff, and early childhood professionals of many specialties put on their capes and give their best efforts to give students high-quality early learning experiences. The *Hero’s Journey* conference will focus on providing information, strategies, and techniques to support practitioners as they conduct their work. It will be appropriate for anyone who works with young children in various sectors—education, health, intervention, etc.

The conference will be held on **May 8 – 10, 2019 at the [Desert Willow Conference Center](#)**. The conference will be open to all early childhood education practitioners, administrators, and community partners. The overarching topics will include:

