



The Palmetto - SCCEC - September 2023

**WELCOME
BACK!**

*Back to
School...
Back to
CEC!*

From the President's desk...

As we begin a new year in our educational settings, I am thrilled to continue to serve as president of SC CEC this year. Our team would love to visit your chapter or subdivision events this year to support the local work you are doing in your areas. We have a wonderful team with the ability to assist with membership drives, establishing or reviving a chapter, professional development activities, and much more. Please reach out to our office if you need support in any of these areas. Emails can be sent to correspondingsecretarysccec@gmail.com. I wish each of you success, peace, and joy as you work with and advocate for individuals with disabilities throughout the year.

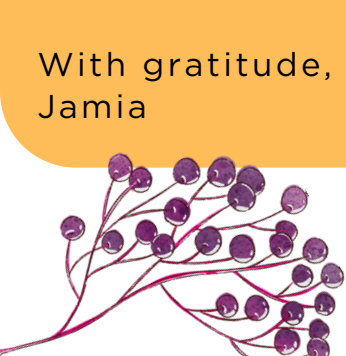
SC CEC hosted our annual Leadership Training Institute (LTI) in August. During this session, chapter and subdivision leadership heard from and shared time with the Executive Committee learning about their roles and responsibilities as chapter/subdivision leaders. We encourage you to attend these sessions as they are useful for the leadership of your chapters or subdivisions. Although our state has increased its membership significantly, we are experiencing low participation from our units. We hope to remedy this and are exploring alternative formats and dates for LTI. Look out for an additional session later this year for those who were unable to attend or have recently joined SC CEC.

SC CEC is already busy preparing for our annual conference which will be hosted in Myrtle Beach. Please make plans to join us this year and bring a friend with you! More information regarding the theme, call for proposals, and hotel information can be found in this edition of the newsletter and on our social media pages. We hope that you plan to join us in Myrtle Beach for this amazing conference.

We love hearing from you and would like to continue to share your positive stories and experiences with everyone. So please continue to send us updates from your schools, unit chapters, and unit subdivisions. You can send pictures, positive stories, issues of concerns, recaps of successful events, and information on upcoming events to Dr. Amanda Walkup at anwalkup@gmail.com.

Let's stay connected and committed to our profession and to those we serve!

With gratitude,
Jamia



Membership Matters!

As a CEC member you know that your membership matters! Whether you are a student, an early career teacher, an administrator, a paraeducator, a pioneer, a professor, or a parent, the Council for Exceptional Children (and SCCEC) has so much to offer. The benefits are probably more than you know. Take just a minute and look at the website (<https://exceptionalchildren.org/>) to be reminded of why you joined and to learn about new, added benefits.

My father always told me that, “you get out of things what you are willing to put in.” This rings true with membership in CEC/SCCEC as well. So are you looking to connect with like-minded colleagues or challenge your thinking on ideas and concepts? Attend meetings to learn more about what is happening in our field? Learn ideas that you can use in your setting the next day? Think about current issues and how we can best support our students? CEC IS YOUR PLACE! Please take a few minutes to complete a short (really!) form if you are interested in any of these things!
<https://forms.gle/Mdr2EW7GQGeXoutR9>

If you have any questions about membership, please feel free to reach out to me!
Jennifer Watson, SCCEC Membership Chair
jhwatson98@yahoo.com

ALSO— If you are working with student interns in any capacity, please share this FABULOUS OPPORTUNITY FOR FREE MEMBERSHIP!



Click here!

For Student Teachers

Support your student teachers with tools and resources from CEC during their semester of student teaching!

Share Today

STUDENT TEACHER SUCCESS NETWORK



Complimentary 6-Month
Membership for Student
Teachers



Includes

- Complimentary CEC Pre-Service Student Membership thru 12/31/2023
- \$1 Million Student Educator Professional Liability Insurance Policy*
- Access to bi-weekly resources to support you in student teaching
- An online community where you can share questions and gain feedback from your peers
- Opportunity for your cooperating teacher and university faculty member to be provided the same resources, as well as talking points to discuss the resource with the student teacher

LEARN
MORE



<https://bit.ly/3h1xCit>

Back to School...Back to CEC!

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**YOU CAN RENEW OR JOIN CEC FOR 20% OFF  
BEFORE HALLOWEEN!  
USE THE INFORMATION BELOW AT THIS LINK:  
[HTTPS://EXCEPTIONALCHILDREN.ORG/MEMB  
ERSHIP/INDIVIDUAL-MEMBERSHIP](https://exceptionalchildren.org/membership/individual-membership)**

Start date: 09/07/2023

End date: 10/31/2023

Code: FALL4CECSC

Promotion: 20% off any category and level of  
CEC membership.

Restrictions: Can only be used for CEC membership products and is only valid once per contact and/or once per shopping cart. Cannot be combined with other offers, used for Special Interest Division membership, event registration, merchandise, CEC Store items, webinars, registrations, group membership(s), and/or other promotional products, services, or items.



# 2024 SCCEC Awards

It's time to nominate your colleagues for awards! Please nominate your colleagues who work hard every day with students with disabilities. Please see <https://southcarolina.exceptionalchildren.org/sccec-awards> to review the nominating criteria. We have awards for teachers, paraprofessionals, principals, students, and undergraduates. We also have a training grant for students and instructional mini-grants for teachers.



**Nominations are due November 1, 2023.**

Nomination form link -

<https://forms.gle/4WXzfNmQ9hbMgo6PA>

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## Upcoming Election Information

SCCEC will be seeking nominations for **Vice-President** and **Recording Secretary** at our Annual Conference in February. What a perfect opportunity to contribute to our organization by serving on the Executive Committee and Board. We need your leadership and expertise to make an impact on education in South Carolina. We are looking for candidates that depict the character of one with tireless efforts and outstanding leadership in addressing and raising awareness about Special Education and the many resources available to our teachers, staff, parents, and students. We are also looking for one who has great listening skills and the ability to accurately record information from all meetings. I encourage you to consider someone who embodies the spirit of serving as a deserving candidate.

More information will be shared in the October Palmetto Newsletter; however, here are some dates to keep in mind:

**October 14, 2023 - call for nominations**

**December 1, 2023 - deadline for nominations**

**February 28, 2024 - election held at Representative Assembly  
(at Annual Conference)**

If you have any questions, please email  
Constance Mays at [maysconstance@gmail.com](mailto:maysconstance@gmail.com)

# VIP Award Information

## (Are you a ‘Very Important President’?)

### Chapter/Subdivision VIP Award Criteria 2023-2024 Fiscal Term

This VIP Award(s) will be awarded at the 2025 SCCEC Conference. This award is given to Presidents who meet the following criteria:

1. Assist in the development of the chapter/subdivision planning document for the year. Due September 25, 2023. These may be brought to the SCCEC Board Meeting or may be emailed to President, Jamia Richmond  
jrichmon@coastal.edu
2. Call a minimum of four executive meetings per year. Due June 30, 2024. Meeting agendas and minutes may be emailed to Jamia Richmond  
jrichmon@coastal.edu
3. Arrange for your Chapter/Subdivision to be represented at all SCCEC Executive Board Meetings. Rosters maintained by Corresponding Secretary, Nicole Uphold, correspondingsecretarysccec@gmail.com
4. Submit at least two articles to The Palmetto (online newsletter). Articles due Aug. 27th, Oct. 15th, Dec. 23rd, Feb. 23rd, and April 1st. Articles may be emailed to Publication Chair, Amanda Walkup, anwalkup@gmail.com.
5. Have delegate(s) registered for the SCCEC Representative Assembly. Due February 18, 2024. Delegates register with Vice President, Michael Snipes, msnipes@richland2.org
6. Submit officers' names and email addresses for the following year (2024-2025) by July 1, 2024. Officer names may be emailed to Jamia Richmond, jrichmon@coastal.edu
7. Submit a completed annual report by July 1, 2024. Annual reports may be emailed to President-Elect, Tiffany Hollis, thollis@coastal.edu
8. Submit at least one nominee for a SCCEC Award. Award nominations are due by November 1, 2023. Nicole Uphold, correspondingsecretarysccec@gmail.com, will keep a listing of all nominees and nominators.

Note: All criteria must be met to be eligible for the award.





# 2024 Silent Auction Donations

SCCEC is seeking donations for the Silent Auction to be held at the Annual Conference in Myrtle Beach, SC, on February 29-March 2, 2024.

Proceeds from the Silent Auction are used to support the Betty Brown Training Grant.

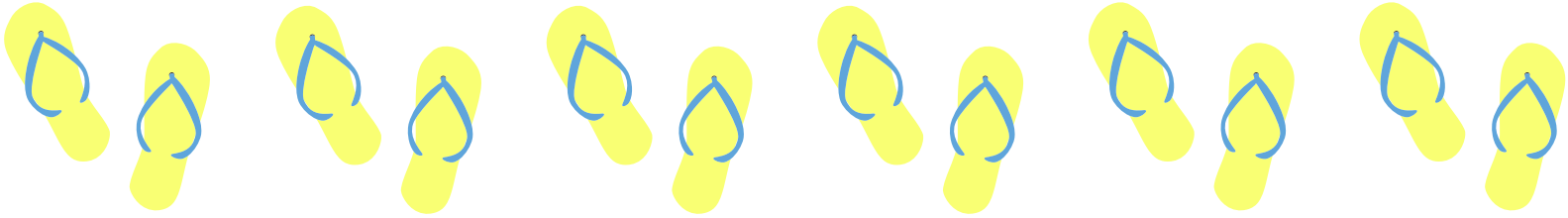
We would like all chapters and subdivisions to donate at least one item to the Silent Auction if you can please. Additionally, this year we are asking that some of our Special Education Directors consider donating an item for the Silent Auction as well. Also, if you know someone with a business that would like to donate an item for the auction, we will graciously accept it!

Please bring your items to the registration table before or on Friday(morning), February 29, 2024, at the conference.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Constance Mays at [maysconstance@gmail.com](mailto:maysconstance@gmail.com). We thank you in advance for your generous donations!

And finally.....

ARE YOU READY FOR THE BEACH?



**Save the Date:**

**2024 SCCEC Conference**

**Exploring a SEA of Possibilities: Reimagining  
Special Education**

*“Special Education Advocacy”*



**February 29 - March 2  
Embassy Suites by Hilton Myrtle Beach -  
Oceanfront Resort**

Get those presentations in early!

**Call for Proposals:**

<https://forms.gle/dHMNcNYoSL3zHcd46>