

## Contact Us

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**Welcome to the newest edition of The Northern Lights Atlas! Please pass it on! (hint: cut-and-paste works too)**

WINTER | JANUARY 2015 NEWSLETTER

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**Press CTRL + click to follow any web or email sites in the newsletter**



**Don't forget:** save the Northern Lights Career Development Center website to your Favorites and LIKE US on FACEBOOK...

**Always hit REFRESH  when looking at the Northern Lights website to see the latest version.**

**Focus on the Northern Lights Website: <http://northernlightscdc.org>**

**NEW! Approved sponsor of online training: Centers for Disease Control: Watch Me! Celebrating Milestones and Sharing Concerns,** is a one hour module, free of charge. Complete this training and send the certificate to Northern Lights with your BFIS Credential number, for us to enter into your Credential account as training hours. Find all of the approved online sponsors on our website page under TRAINING and COURSEWORK – ONLINE TRAINING: <http://northernlightscdc.org/training/online-training-and-coursework/approved-sponsors-of-online-classes/>

**Updated! Tools for supporting and supported instructors in the Instructor Registry.** They work together when an Affiliate I, II or Specialist I instructor in the Instructor Registry is gaining experience teaching adults. Look under INSTRUCTORS – INSTRUCTOR SUPPORT to find guidance and tools: <http://northernlightscdc.org/your-role/adult-instructors/instructor-support/>

**Updated! Contact the new Northern Lights Coordinator, John Everest.** Look under ABOUT US - CONTACT US: <http://northernlightscdc.org/about-vnl/contact-us/>

**Updated! Verification Cover sheet** Are you sending documents to Northern Lights to verify and enter into your BFIS Credential account? Find an updated version of the form on many pages of the Northern Lights website and see what your document needs to include for us to verify it. The Cover sheet looks like this: <http://northernlightscdc.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Cover-sheet.pdf>



*Northern Lights team members Nancy Sugarman, Sylvia Kennedy-Godin, Jeanie Gilman, Sherry Carlson and our newest member, John Everest. Can you find him?*

**Updated! College Courses available to help you get your Program Director Credential.** Details about when and where and how to pay for the 7 courses required to meet this Credential are on this page: <http://northernlightscdc.org/career-pathways/credentials-and-certificates/program-director-credential/> DON'T FORGET – there is no deadline for when you have taken these courses.

**NEW! Links to help you use Bright Futures Information System (BFIS).** The Child Development Division created tutorials, movies and fact sheets to guide you in using your BFIS Credential account. Find them on the Child Development Division page: <http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/bfis> and also find links to them on the Northern Lights webpages under CAREER PATHWAYS- <http://northernlightscdc.org/career-pathways/bfis-tracking-professional-development/> and under TRAINING AND COURSEWORK: <http://northernlightscdc.org/training/bright-futures-information-system-bfis/>

## Frequently Asked Questions

**QUESTION:** *I just submitted my level application to Northern Lights. But in my BFIS Credential account under CREDENTIALS it says: no bonus. Why?*

**ANSWER:** The BFIS Credential account automatically says “no” in the bonus column, when Northern Lights enters information into your credentials. When the Child Development Division reviews and determines if you get a Recognition Bonus, they will change it to “yes” if you are eligible. (Remember: CDD determines and issues the bonus, not Northern Lights). The bonus is often processed AFTER you get your Level certificate in the mail.

**QUESTION:** *My program is renewing its program license with the Child Development Division. I just submitted all my professional documents as the program director. Now I have to send it all to Northern Lights? What happened?*

**ANSWER:** The Child Development Division is requiring all directors of programs (including registered family child care homes and licensed centers), which are being re-licensed or seeking a new program license to now submit their professional development documentation and résumé to Northern Lights. We verify and enter the documents into your BFIS credential account.

*"I like the opportunities for the staff in my early childhood program (in the public school) to climb the career ladder. The more we can speak the same language, have the same perspective and competencies, the better."*

– public school early childhood program administrator

## Did You Know?

**Afterschool Childcare Program Licensing Regulations APPROVED!** The Vermont Legislature Committee on Administrative Rules approved these regulations to go into effect January 1, 2016. Now the Child Development Division will be training licensors and creating a guide book. Read them on the Child Development Division website: [http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/child\\_care\\_licensing](http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/child_care_licensing)

### Where to find college courses in your BFIS

**Credential account:** FIRST request a transcript from your college Registrar. Send that transcript to Northern Lights and we will scan it into your Credential account. Transcripts showing completed degrees are scanned and seen in the EDUCATION tab. Transcripts listing college courses without earning a degree are scanned and seen under DOCUMENTS in the SUMMARY tab of your Credential account (bottom left of the page). The exception: if the transcript includes college courses that are also listed in the BFIS Course Calendar, then we will scan it AND list those courses in the PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT tab of your Credential Account.



### *Professional Preparation and Development Committee members at work.*

*"I was fiddling around for a couple hours on the Northern Lights website and found the Professional Preparation and Development Committee meeting. There was a contact, so I emailed the facilitator and found out the meeting was going to be held next week, and so I went. I was excited to be sitting in the room with people I had heard about – but didn't know I could sit in the room and talk with them."*  
– program director in Manchester

To learn more about this statewide meeting – and to attend or get the notes, go to: <http://northernlightscdc.org/about-vnl/related-committees/>



In the  
Spotlight

## John Everest, New Northern Lights Coordinator

My first six weeks as coordinator for Northern Lights has been full to say the least, leaving me winded but also mightily impressed with both the incredible web of support for early education and afterschool programs in Vermont and the things remaining to be done. I have had the privilege of already meeting scores of powerful women (and two other men!) who I have already learned much from. Hats off and more to Nancy Sugarman and the Northern Lights team who has devoted significant time and energy to organize, facilitate and manage my orientation.

In the spirit of meeting multiple learning styles, for those who learn better through alternative means, like song, I have summarized my experience to-date in the following slightly altered final verse of The 12 Days of Christmas: On the 45th day of Northern Lights Nancy Sugarman sent to me: twelve regional development specialists, eleven spring course updates, ten transcripts to review, nine scholarship options, eight ways to screw up BFIS, seven-ty links in the instructor registry, six hours of a PPD meeting, five-hundred reminders, four great staff, three hour drives, two Facebook updates, and a list of acronyms a mile long.

John Everest,  
Northern Lights Coordinator

## Did You Know?

**You can receive a visit from a Child Care Wellness Consultant!** These registered nurses have specialized knowledge of health and safety standards and best practices for child care programs. They work collaboratively with providers to provide on-site visits and will be available through June 30, 2015. All visits made to STARS participating homes and centers will be free of charge to the program, and other programs will be charged a fee. Contact the Vermont Child Care Industry and Careers Council via email [vccicc@comcast.net](mailto:vccicc@comcast.net) or phone 802-985-2700 to arrange a visit to your program.



**Apprenticeship graduates celebrated their achievement** at VCCICC's Annual Meeting on November 8. Twenty apprentices from across the state completed the Vermont Child Care Apprenticeship Program this year. Pictured left to right: Jessica Lahue, Tina Guile, Rita Orzech, Star Porter, Betty Ann Durand, Melisa Beaulieu, and Daniel Zaffarano. Not pictured: Lisa Baker, Melissa Berry, Laura Blair, Jessica Bordeaux, Amy Bull, Danielle Farnsworth, Tammy Gosley, April Goss, Mellisa King, Lizsa Moulton, Jamie Murphy, Meri Christi Pixley, and Sarah Stone.

### **Scholarships available for Human Resources college course!**

Northern Lights offers scholarships to program directors working on their Program Director Credential. This is one of three college courses required to meet the Step 2 of the Credential. Contact John Everest, Northern Lights Coordinator, to learn more.

[John.everest@ccv.edu](mailto:John.everest@ccv.edu)

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*"It is important for me to earn as many certificates as I can and to work my way up the career ladder so that I can best serve the children and families in my daycare."*

*~ Laura Rounds, early childhood teacher with Level I and Level IV Career Ladder certificates*



## NEW SPONSORS of TRAINING!

These organizations signed an agreement to work with Northern Lights and the BFIS system. Participants benefit because attendance is entered in their personal BFIS Account.

Addison Central Supervisory Union -  
Early Education Program

Lake Champlain Waldorf School

Rutland Public School Tapestry Program

VT Non-Recurring Child Care Conference



The following Program Director  
Credential certificates have been  
awarded since  
October 2014

### Step 1

Jessica Lavee - Milton

### Step 3 Program Director Credential

Katherine von Behren-Herman -  
Westford



**WHAT ELSE IS NEW?** Look on the bottom of the Northern Lights home page, or the side bar of all the other pages to find the latest *WHAT'S NEW*. Updated weekly!



### **Do you Face Book?**

Every week we post new information on our face book page. LIKE US and you can always get the latest update: <https://www.facebook.com/NorthernLightsCDC>



### **Get the NEWEST...Always refresh your webpage,**

and get applications, forms and fact sheets fresh off of the website – these are the most current versions: <http://northernlightscdc.org/resources/applications/>

## Coming Up

### **2015 Peer Review Project course: DEADLINE**

**January 12, 2015.** You may be able to get your VT teacher license without leaving your job! If you have a Bachelor degree and 3 or more years of experience in the field, you may apply to be in the 2015 Peer Review course for early educators. This course was created to help early childhood professionals use the alternative route to licensure through the Agency of Education, to earn a teaching license with an early childhood endorsement Get the application and learn more at: <http://northernlightscdc.org/career-pathways/college-and-university-pathways/early-educator-license-through-peer-review/>

### **2015 Legal and Financial Issues for early childhood and afterschool programs college course. DEADLINE**

**January 16, 2015** to enroll with Northern Lights (contact John Everest: john.everest@ccv.edu). This course will be fully online, February 1 - May 3, 2015, for 3 credits through Union Institute & University. Course cost will be approximately \$325.00. Plus the cost of books. This course meets one of the Requirements for Step 2 of the Program Director Credential and those directors with a Step 1 Program Director Certificate will have first priority.

### **January 2015: Voices of Learning: An interactive approach to adult learning and instructional design DEADLINE January 14 or until filled.**

This 4 week, fully online class runs January 19 – Feb. 15, 2015. Completion will result in 8 hours of verified professional development training, and meet the formal training in adult learning requirement for approval into Vermont's Instructor Registry. NOTE: if you teach in higher education or have taken a course covering these learning objectives, you do not need to take this course. Sign up by completing this short survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/interestvofl1-2015>. There is a \$50 charge for this 8 hour workshop and there are a limited number of slots. Scholarships are available. For more information contact nancy.sugarman@ccv.edu 802-828-2876 OR John.everest@ccv.edu 802-885-8374

### **Update your BFIS Account and win an iPad!**

The Child Development Division announced from January 1st, 2015 through December 31st, 2015 if you have had all your professional development training hours required by licensing, verified and entered into your BFIS Credential account at the time of your program's reregistration or relicense your program's name will automatically be entered into that month's drawing for a chance to win an iPad. Two iPads given away each month!





## **Career Level CERTIFICATES AWARDED**

Certificates issued October 1, 2014– December 31, 2014

### **LEVEL I**

Natasha Alix - Ranoldph  
Amity Burnham - Derby  
Peggy Chase - Morrisville  
Nicole Ezzo-Babcock - Poultney  
Amanda Hill - Randolph  
Alicia Horwedel - Springfield  
Tammy Jewett - Vergennes  
Heather Kirk - Bennington  
Theresa Ladieu - Swanton  
Ashley Langlois - Cambridge  
Erin McKechnie - Swanton  
Allison Meyer - North Bennington  
Lauren Pollard - Danville  
Lauren Pollard - Danville  
Valerie Potter - Sharon  
Laura Rounds - Chester  
Toni Schlenter - South Burlington  
Lori Stratton - Plainfield

### **LEVEL II**

Mary Babcock - Bennington  
Ashley Bickford - Lyndonville  
Katherine Boivin - Newport  
Tammi Chaffee - Post Mills  
Kayla Farace - Townshend  
Mandy Gordon - Orford  
Courtney Hier - Rutland  
Alicia Horwedel - Springfield  
Danute Karuza - St. Johnsbury  
Shannon Kirkpatrick - Barre  
Jacquelyn Kissell - Bellows Falls  
Debra Knapp - Windsor  
Danille LaPlante - Braintree  
Allie McFalls - Williamsville  
Jasmine Messier - South Royalton  
Joyce Mitchell - Claremont, NH  
Michellyn Perras - Milton

### **New Approved Instructors**

#### **Affiliate I**

Cheryl Cummings - Addison  
Michelle Scott - White River Jct  
Justine Viets-McLean - St. George

#### **Affiliate II**

Judy Bergeron - St. Albans

#### **Specialist II**

Rosemeryl Harple - Burlington  
Sarah Roy - Rutland  
Lauren Smith - Burlington

#### **Certified**

Joy Kitchell - Bennington

#### **Master**

Morgan Irons - Calais  
Danielle Kent - Montpelier

### **LEVEL II (continued)**

Denise Perry - White River Jct  
Lissa Porter - Bradford  
Kaitlyn Poulin - Concord, NH  
Erin Thompson - Burlington  
Denise Thresher - South Royalton  
Shelley Wilcox - Windsor

### **LEVEL IIIA**

Naomi Bartlett - Colchester  
Katie Jackson - Springfield  
Nicole LaBelle - Colchester  
Donna Payette - St. Johnsbury  
Pamela Tassie - Williamstown

### **LEVEL IIIA Apprenticeships**

Tammy Gosley - N Bennington  
Jennifer Lamoureux - West  
Charleston  
Daniel Zaffarano - Hoosick Falls,  
NY

### **LEVEL IIIA Highly Qualified Paraprofessional**

Leonia Pike - Cabot  
Jennifer Redmond - Jericho

### **LEVEL IIIB**

Lyndsay Allard - Bennington  
Sally Avery - Wilder  
Corinna Brown - Hartland  
Amanda Bubier - Bennington  
Amy Coolbeth - Wolcott  
Wendy Domina - Alburgh  
Kayla Eccher - White River Jct  
Angela Hayes - North Bennington  
Cheri Hughes - Morrisville  
Samantha Kelley - Milton

### **LEVEL IIIB (continued)**

Hailey Livingstone - Stowe  
Shelby Mongeon - Milton  
Allison Paquette - Brattleboro  
Vicki Treadwell - East Haven  
Lisa Wheeler - Wilmington

### **LEVEL IVA**

Kari Bard - Morrisville  
Rebecca Brinkerhoff - Williston  
Rhonda Cole - Irasburg  
Maria Cornwell - Arlington  
Marcy Cram - Leicester  
Ashley Gonier - White River  
Junction  
Laurie Greenleaf - Newfane  
Judith Jewell - Corinth  
Kimberly Lawrence - North  
Adams, MA  
Jessica Monfette - Barton  
Meg Raccine - Essex Junction  
Tara Stanton - Fairfax  
Nicole White-Fogarty - Vershire

### **LEVEL IVB**

Ashley Bessette - New Haven  
Jennifer Fullam - Rutland  
Tonya Havens - Troy, NY  
Jacquelyn Reno - Burlington  
Laura Rounds - Chester  
Erin Tarantino - Manchester Ctr  
Myle Truong - Burlington

### **LEVEL VB**

Christine Birong-Smith - Lincoln

### **AFTERSCHOOL FOUNDATIONS**

Katie Brown - Jericho

### **Renewed Instructors**

#### **Specialist II**

Linda MacFarlane - Rutland  
Peggy Rainville - Isle LaMotte

#### **Certified**

Carrie Askren - Danville  
Patricia Pawlik - Colchester  
Jill Pearl - Montpelier  
Brandy Pickering - Newfane

#### **Master**

Daniela Caserta - Burlington  
Gladys Collins - Springfield  
Heather Duhamel - St. Albans  
Jeanine Fitzgerald - Hubbardston,  
MA  
Debra Gass - Brattleboro  
Catherine Hagadorn - Hoosick  
Falls, NY

#### **Master (continued)**

Kathy Johnson - Worcester  
Cheryl Mitchell - Vergennes  
Kathy Reynolds - Cornwall  
Lawrence G. Shelton - South  
Burlington  
Jackie Sprague - East Ryegate  
Nancy Sugarman - Burlington  
Susan Titterton - Morrisville

#### **Affiliate II**

Rosemary Moser - Middletown  
Springs

