

# MAEO News



## President's Message

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Welcome back! I am excited to represent you for another year as president of the Michigan Alternative Education Organization. When the board met this summer to do some reflecting and planning for the coming year, we were united in our charge to find more ways to connect with alternative educators and their students. At the annual conference this spring, several administrators attended a roundtable discussion where they had the opportunity to dialogue about common issues and challenges. There was a very favorable response to this session. With the help of technology, this year we hope to support more ways to connect you with your peers in alternative ed. Toward that goal, look for us to send you a short survey to gather your thoughts and opinions. We want to know how we can best serve you and promote alternative education in Michigan.

**SAVE THE DATE!** The MAEO Annual Conference will be held **April 26 – 28** at

**Crystal Mountain Resort** in Thompsonville Michigan. We need your help in finding presenters and identifying topics of interest. Please contact Denise Cadwell, [denise.cadwell@farmington.k12.mi.us](mailto:denise.cadwell@farmington.k12.mi.us) with information if you have heard an outstanding speaker and/or your school is interested in highlighting one of your classes, projects and/or programs. The Annual Conference provides an excellent opportunity to network and learn from other professionals in the field.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!** The **MAEO Service Award and Student Scholarship Application deadline** has been moved up to **Feb. 3!** Submitting a nomination and letters of support for one of your peers, your administrator or your school is a tremendous way to honor someone or your entire program for the work that you do. Giving one of your graduating seniors the opportunity for a \$1000 scholarship is rewarding to both the graduate and yourself.

**MAEO STARS!** The three MAEO STARS events during November, March and May are

great ways to connect your students with their peers around the state. Students get a chance to demonstrate their leadership skills and share the many things they have in common. The spring competition, in particular, provides your students with practice in employment and college skills, as well as showcasing their many artistic talents.

**Membership** We are working hard to keep our membership list current and updated. If you did not attend the spring conference, please visit [www.maeo.org](http://www.maeo.org) to renew your membership. Membership in MAEO continues to be free of charge. If you are aware of a program, or school, in your area that has not participated in our organization's activities in the past, please reach out and encourage them to join.

Thanks again for all your tireless work on behalf of students around our state who need **Another Chance, Another Choice!**

### **MAEO STARS!!**

**The MAEO STARS Fall Kick-Off is November 10!**

**Please see our website for more information.**

[Maeo.org](http://Maeo.org)

*Deb*



## MAEO STARS Fall Kickoff!

Greetings Advisors,

We hope you have had a nice start to your school year! We are excited to announce that our annual Fall Kickoff/ Leadership Conference will be coming up on Thursday November 10, 2016. We are attaching the registration forms, if you can get those back to us sooner rather than later, we would appreciate it greatly! If you have any questions/concerns, please feel

free to contact either one of us ☺ As usual, we will be having a raffle, so if you could each bring a prize to contribute to the raffle, we would greatly appreciate that as well! Hope to see you and your students on November 10<sup>th</sup>!

Cheers,

*Mallory and Deb*

### The MAEO STARS Fall Kick-Off Details

Thursday, November 10, 2016

2/42 Community Church

2556 Bennett Road

Okemos, Michigan 48864

9:00am – 2:00pm

## Featured School: Michigan Youth Challenge Academy – Battle Creek, MI



Michigan Youth Challenge Academy (MYCA) educates, trains, and mentors at-risk youth in a quasi-military environment free to participants. MYCA provides non-traditional learners, ages 16-18, a chance to take control of their future. It is a 17 month program which includes a 5 month residential portion and a 12 month guided mentorship in the graduate's home town. Attendance at the academy is voluntary and they must be committed to improving their lives through hard work,

dedication, and perseverance. The funding provides house, uniforms, and meals for the cadets. Cadets attend high school classes daily as well as vocational classes three evenings each week. The cadets can earn seven or more high school credits and articulated college credits from Kellogg Community College. Service to community opportunities are incorporated throughout the cycle. The program is funded by the National Guard.