

**Stony Brook Child Care is proud to announce that two of our teachers are recipients of the 2017 Suffolk Association for the Education of Young Children Early Childhood Mini-Grants.**



**Natasha McKenzie's project is *More Space, More Fun!***

The project will expand the Infant / Toddler sandbox experience by the expansion of our sandbox space. The vision is to increase the space which will allow a more comfortable community area. The sandbox experience will be further enriched by adding literature, scientific and mathematical treasure hunt activities, texture mud pit explorations and social gross motor games. We will create a new and exciting outdoor classroom area that invites all children to play. Our sand box area is a communal learning space where adequate room for children to move about, explore and discover is vital. Our focus will always continue to be acquiring the best learning experience for the children in our care.

**Jenn Piscitelli's project is *All About You and Me!***

The project designed for preschool aged children, is an extension of "all about me" activities, incorporating multicultural facets and tolerance building. The children will be engaged in a variety of activities to build upon self-esteem and social tolerance. With the use of open-ended questions, discussions, multicultural paints, books, and lotto games children will explore diversity. It is important for children to develop in a compassionate environment and gain understanding of their personal identity as well as acceptance for others.