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# NEWS RELEASE

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## The Sandbox Party Announces Video Contest Judges

LANSING, Mich. – A nonpartisan, nonpolitical party representing the interests of Michigan’s youngest residents, today announced the judges for the ‘Sandbox Rocks’ video contest. The Sandbox Party aims to find meaningful stories about how early childhood efforts –including preschool, quality childcare, prenatal care, parenting supports and others–have impacted children and their families.

Suzie Merchant, the head coach of Michigan State University’s women’s basketball team, Paula Cunningham, president and CEO of Capitol National Bank and Jan Lockwood, former director of the Michigan Film Office will determine the winner the contest and of a new Flip Video Camera.

“The contest gives us an opportunity to hear some really amazing stories from real families,” said Judy Y. Samelson, CEO of the Early Childhood Investment Corp. (ECIC), a nonprofit public corporation that is implementing a comprehensive early childhood system in Michigan.

The contest is open to all ages. Contestants are asked to submit their homemade 30- to 90-second video by Aug. 13 at 5 p.m. To enter, contestants must send their video to [info@sterlingcorporation.com](mailto:info@sterlingcorporation.com). The winner will be announced at the Sandbox Party Convention at Michigan State University's Breslin Student Events Center from 1-4 p.m. on Aug. 26.

The convention is free and open to all – kids are especially encouraged to attend with their families – and thousands of supporters from across the state are expected. There will be family entertainment, exhibitors and special appearances by popular Michigan sports, music and news personalities.

For more information about the contest and the Sandbox Party Convention visit [www.MichiganSandboxParty.com](http://www.MichiganSandboxParty.com).

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