



Arizona Center for **Afterschool** Excellence



Working together to increase the availability
and quality of afterschool opportunities statewide

@afterschool advisor

August 17, 2009

A Message from the Executive Director

Lights On Afterschool 2009: It's Time to Get Involved

This year's annual **Lights on Afterschool** celebration planned for Thursday, October 22 is still 10 weeks away which gives us all plenty of time to use **Lights On Afterschool** to highlight the need for and benefit of Arizona afterschool programs. Whether you've sponsored a local event before or not, it's easy to get started by signing on to www.afterschoolalliance.org and clicking on the **Lights On Afterschool** button on the left hand side of the page which will lead you to planning tips and tools and 10 free posters you can use to promote this year's celebration.



If you already know what you want to do, please register your event with the Afterschool Alliance. If you don't yet know what you want to do, you can confer with your staff, children and parents and decide and go back to register once you've decided. **Lights On Afterschool** events can successfully be used to:

- Get parents, community leaders and elected officials, kids, members of the press, potential funders, volunteers and others informed and excited about afterschool
- Showcase the achievements of your program and your students. Highlight your local partners and invite them to participate.
- Convey your message about afterschool – celebrate your afterschool accomplishments, and call for support to ensure that afterschool programs in your community and across the country thrive. Every child should have access to quality afterschool programs!

Because the Arizona Center for Afterschool Excellence is sponsoring a Statewide Mayoral Summit on Afterschool Thursday, March 4, 2010, we encourage you all to think about involving mayors across the state in your celebration this year. Some ideas to consider include:

- Asking your mayor to issue a formal proclamation supporting afterschool --- we'll be glad to provide you with a sample proclamation
- Inviting your mayor and city council to tour your program and see firsthand both the **need and benefit** of your program
- Using the "light bulb art" project described on the Afterschool Alliance web site as a visible symbol of the power of children and the power of afterschool. Think of the impact of making an endless chain of "light bulb art" which is then delivered personally to your mayor and city council by the children responsible for the art. What a powerful demonstration of the power of the afterschool movement.
- Finally, please don't forget to ask your mayor to plan to attend the Statewide Mayoral Summit hosted by Tucson Mayor Bob Walkup, Flagstaff Mayor Sara Presler and the Arizona Center for Afterschool Excellence planned for Thursday, March 4, 2010 in Tucson.

We want to know what you're planning and we're here to help. Let me know what we can do!

News & Events

Please Update Each of Your Sites for the AzAfterschool Directory

The AzAfterschool Directory is a searchable map representing out-of-school time programs across Arizona. Parents looking for afterschool programs for their children will be able to log onto the site, enter their home address and search for all programs operating within three, five or fifteen miles from the address entered. All programs within the geographic radius selected will then pop up and parents can then click on individual program names to see the full details regarding the programs in their area.

Find your program in the directory to add start and end times and place a check mark beside the types of programming you offer. Each program site profile creates a map point. If your program is not listed, it's easy to create a site profile.

Make sure your program information is complete and accurate on the [test site](#) before we go live.

Please call 602.279.7100 with questions.

September 14 Deadline to Nominate an Afterschool Professional, Afterschool Leader or Afterschool Program

You know who is having a lasting impact on our children's lives. The Arizona Center for Afterschool Excellence want to celebrate their success and recognize them at the October 14 Spotlight on Afterschool Awards of Excellence Luncheon at the Tempe Center for the Arts. You can find

In addition to the Individual, Program and Leadership award winners, Eddie and Nadine Basha will be honored with the Afterschool Champion Award for their lifetimes of advocacy for Arizona's children and quality education programs at all levels.

Help us celebrate! [Click here](#) to purchase luncheon tickets.

Afterschool Programs Invited to Decorate Christmas Tree at the Nation's Capitol Deadline October 15, 2009



Involve your students in creating ornaments for the 2009 Capitol Christmas Tree! This year's Capitol Christmas tree will be a 75 foot conifer tree from the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest. Approximately 5,000 handcrafted ornaments are needed to decorate the tree.

Make decorations and one of your students could go to Washington to be part of the festivities! The tree will be lit during a ceremony by the Speaker of the House, along with an Arizona school child who has made an ornament for the tree. The selected student's teacher or group leader will also win a free trip!

[Click here](#) for ornament guidelines and information on where to send your completed ornaments. Lesson plans are available for different age groups at

www.capitolchristmastree2009.org.

(Note: The headline for the August 3 *@fterschool advisor* inadvertently said "White House." It is actually the Capitol Christmas Tree located on the Capitol ellipse.)

Sonoran Alliance for Youth

Get involved in the activities of the Pima County regional coalition. The Sonoran Alliance for Youth, a regional coalition of the Center for Afterschool Excellence, will hold a coalition networking meeting September 14, 9:30-11:30 a.m. at Discover U, 2211 N. Indian Ruins Road (behind Kentucky Fried Chicken).

Meetings are held the first Monday of each month throughout the school year. Locations will vary; however, meeting sites will be posted on the Center's website as they are determined. Topics to be

discussed at the September meeting are planning for a January 30 regional conference to be held at Empire High School in Vail and a discussion to consider scholarships for coalition members to attend local trainings.

Afterschool in the News

Helping Hand for Working Parents, Coolidge Afterschool Programs for Education and Recreation (CASPER)

http://www.zwire.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=20358140&BRD=1817&PAG=461&dept_id=222071&rfi=6
(Source: Casa Grande Valley Newspapers)

Participants Sought for After-School Program in Phoenix

<http://www.azcentral.com/community/phoenix/articles/2009/08/10/20090810phx-pac0810.html>
(Source: Arizona Republic)

Phoenix After School Programs Face Cuts and Fee Increases

<http://www.abc15.com/content/news/phoenixmetro/south/story/Phoenix-after-school-programs-face-cuts-and-fee/5j9k0i5Xpki7QW6NGTs9tw.csp> (Source: abc15.com)

Need for Day Care Ebbs, Flows with Parents' Jobs

<http://www.azcentral.com/arizonarepublic/local/articles/2009/08/16/20090816edafterschool0816.html>
(Source: Arizona Republic)

Professional Development Opportunities

Discover & Learn What Makes the Brain Tick

Saturday, August 29, 2009, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Mohave County Administration Building, Kingman

The Mohave County Alliance for Youth is offering a seminar on early brain development, brain development in school-aged children, and discovering age-appropriate brain-based activities. The seminar will be presented by Patti Merk, Ph.D., University of Arizona. CEU's are available. [Register](#) by August 25.

Registration is Now Open for 2009 Afterschool Conference

The Whole Child, The Whole World

November 14, 2009

Mesa Convention Center

Online registration is now open for the 2009 Afterschool Conference! We have something for everyone—whether you are front line staff or a program administrator—there are sessions to expand your professional skills. Workshop sessions will focus on purposeful play, science, math technology, engaging children, coaching and teaching techniques to encourage positive behavior, creating a vision to attract philanthropic support, and much more!! [Register now!](#)

Coming from outside the Valley? Reserve a room at the Phoenix Marriott Mesa today for just \$99! Call Marriott Reservations toll-free at (888) 236-2427 and ask for "AZ Center/After School" or go to <http://www.marriott.com/phsmm> and enter **acaaca** as the group code to make reservations.

Save the Date SAY Conference-January 30, 2010

The Sonoran Alliance for Youth (SAY) will hold its annual regional conference on January 30, 2010 at Empire High School in Vail. Get involved in planning the conference. Contact Marie Benson at 520.749.0147 to volunteer.

Funding Opportunities

UnitedHealth HEROES Grants

Youth Service America (YSA) and UnitedHealth Group are excited to team up for the second year to offer UnitedHealth HEROES grants to youth-led service-learning projects addressing childhood obesity. Educators, service-learning coordinators, students in the health professions, public health professionals, and community partners are eligible to apply for the UnitedHealth HEROES service-learning project grants.

Grant recipients will receive up to \$1,000 in support for service-learning projects that focus on childhood obesity, engage youth ages 5-25 in the planning and implementation process, and take place during Semester of Service 2010 (MLK Day, January 18, to Global Youth Service Day, April 23-25).

Please begin by completing our Eligibility Quiz at <http://tinyurl.com/heroesquiz>. If you are eligible, you will be given access the application materials.

Service-Learning Grants Now Available

Deadline: Friday, October 2, 2009

The State Farm Youth Advisory board is a group of 30 diverse youth who administer a unique grant program that empowers you to take an active role in their education through service-learning. By administering service-learning grants ranging from \$25,000-\$100,000, the board empowers you to create sustainable change in local communities across the United States and Canada. [Apply for a grant](#).

The Big Green Help Grants Program

April 1 – December 31, 2009

The Big Green Help is an initiative that connects kids to environmentally-friendly activities in their everyday lives. Nickelodeon is offering The Big Green Help Grants Program, which is a funding opportunity that gives \$2,500-\$5,000 grants to support environmentally friendly projects that inspire kids to take care of the environment, be active, live healthy and engage in community service.

Who is Eligible?

- Elementary and middle schools including grades K-9 (public and private not-for-profit) and after-school community based organizations with 501(c)(3) status serving kids age 5-15. Applicants must host an Earth Day event in April or a Worldwide Day of Play event in September. These events must be registered and include a project description, a recaps and photos from event
- Within the parameters of guidelines, projects of all non-profit organizations are considered for funding without regard to race, gender, disability, religion, ethnicity, age, or sexual orientation
- In addition to the criteria above, please note grant applications will not be considered unless the applicant hosts a Big Green Help environmental project or participates in Worldwide Day of Play in 2009 and provides tangible documentation of the activities. Documentation must come in the form of video, photographs or drawings. Supporting documentation, such as press clippings, letters/proclamation from mayors, administrators or other elected officials are welcome!

For more information about the Grants Program applications can be found at: <http://www.bghevent.com/>. For any questions you may have, please direct to tiffany.curtis@mtvnmix.com.

Pay It Forward Mini-Grants

Deadline: September 15

Pay It Forward Mini-Grants are designed to fund one-time-only service-oriented projects identified by youth as activities they would like to perform to benefit their school, neighborhood, or greater community.

Projects must contain a "pay it forward" focus - that is, they must be based on the concept of one person doing a favor for others, who in turn do favors for others, with the results growing exponentially - to be considered in the grant making process. Mini-Grants of up to \$500 are available for projects on a one-time-only basis. Because funding is limited, projects requesting smaller amounts will be given priority. <http://www.payitforwardfoundation.org>

McCarthy Heart Hats

Deadline: September 1

McCarthy Heart Hats, the community involvement arm of McCarthy Building Companies Inc., is seeking non-profit applicants to receive the proceeds from its annual golf tournament, which is hosted every December.

This year, in light of the economy, the McCarthy Heart Hats Golf Tournament proceeds will be dedicated to those non-profits that support children and families experiencing dramatic economic need, and more than one organization may be selected as a recipient. Maricopa County 501(c)3 non-profit organizations are invited to apply for the funds now until Sept. 1 using the Heart Hats [Grant Application](#). For questions regarding the process, contact Candy Schwarz at (480) 449-4700 or email clschwarz@mccarthy.com.

Afterschool Resources/Research/Reports

Stop Bullying Now DVD

You can help parents and students Stop Bullying Now! The Stop Bullying Now campaign is a Federal program which includes resources for adults on bullying awareness, prevention, and intervention. They have also created webisodes, games, and MyPlace for the youth to learn about bullying and how to help. Check their website at <http://stopbullyingnow.hrsa.gov/kids/>. To order a copy of a DVD which contains anti-bullying webisodes, games etc., e-mail kmorgan@azafterschool.org.