



Arizona Center for **Afterschool** Excellence



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

@fterschool advisor

December 3, 2009

A Message from the Executive Director

2009 Afterschool Conference Offered Quality Learning Experience to Nearly 600

It's hard to take care of children each and every day and stay motivated and confident that you are doing all you can to foster their development while they discover their true interests and talents and figure out just who they are and why they should feel good about themselves. This year's Afterschool Conference, **The Whole World, The Whole Child** provided the knowledge and renewed the confidence of nearly 600 afterschool professionals in 36 engaging workshops covering everything from art to science, literacy, technology, service learning, citizen advocacy and much more. Administrators had the benefit of thought provoking workshops on building a strong staff, supporting and developing their workforce and advocating for their profession.

Keynote speakers, Bill Michaelis and Ezra Holland, began the morning exploring the developmental and health benefits of play and then stayed throughout the day to present popular workshops on "playful teaching practices", "FUNdamentals of play leadership" and "communication essentials for working with staff."

The feedback from conference registrants has been rewarding as has their suggestions for next year's conference. We know that your expectations for new, relevant and timely programming ideas is constant and we are already analyzing how we can improve next year's conference planned for November 20, 2010 at the Phoenix Convention Center. **Please contact Melanie McClintock at mmcclintock@azafterschool.org if you would like to serve on next year's conference planning committee, share your training needs or offer your suggestions for both workshop topics and presenters.**

AzCASE extends its heartfelt thanks to both the Arizona Department of Education and the Governor's Office for Children, Youth and Families for their support of this year's conference.

News & Events

Waiting list for state child care aid hits 10,000

Arizona's child-care system will hit a grim milestone today when the 10,000th child is turned away from a program that provides assistance to working parents. [Read the article](#) from *The Arizona Republic*.

Breakfast with Chris Herstram

Friday, Dec. 4th from 7:30-9am

United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona

United Way will host a breakfast with Chris Herstram, United Way's lobbyist with the state legislature. The entire community is invited and the event is FREE! If you would like to hear what the policy issues are at the state level, please attend this event. It will be held in the Sentinel Building at the Community Resource Campus (320 Commerce Park Loop).

Phoenix Conservatory of Music's Teaching Artist Concert Series

Sunday, Dec. 6 at 2 p.m.

The Chef's Loft, 7114 E. Stetson Dr., Scottsdale

Join PCM in celebrating the amazing artistry of fantastic professional musicians who dedicate their time and talent to teaching our kids! Hector "Flavio" Martinez will perform the melodic sounds of "Enchanted Flutes" from his new CD, The Sea and I" "El Mar y Yo"!!

Hear these unique instruments come to life in songs that we know and love! This concert is in celebration of the amazing work that Hector "Flavio" Martinez has done with PCM for the last 5 years! His dedication to teaching the underserved and at risk should be honored.

Afterwards, learn more about PCM and meet Flavio! CDs available for sale and can be signed at the event! This is a sure way to stuff a great stocking and a wonderful way to start off the Holiday Season!

The event is free, but you must register by clicking on the link below or calling 602.353.9900. Only 120 seats available, so act now!! [Register Now!](#)

Council on Accreditation Receives Recognition in Arizona

The Council on Accreditation (COA) is the sole national accreditor of after school programs. As such, COA is working closely with a number of states to ensure recognition of COA After School Accreditation in their quality rating and improvement systems (QRS/QRIS), tiered reimbursement systems and grant programs.

COA recently announced that it has achieved recognition in the state of Arizona and wants to make afterschool programs aware of the potential benefits to your program.

COA's After School standards provide a solid foundation to ensuring programs are of consistently high quality. The accreditation process is an independent review and a national validation that a program is providing the highest level of quality services to its children and youth.

The Arizona Department of Economic Security's recognition of COA After School Accreditation provides after school programs in the state the opportunity to obtain up to \$5,000 in program improvement funds. For additional information regarding this recognition, please feel free to visit the [DES child care website](#).

Recognition is one of the many ways that COA supports, advocates and promotes quality in out-of-school-time settings. If you have any questions regarding COA's After School accreditation process and standards, please visit them at www.COAAfterschool.org or contact James Murphy, either by email or telephone at JMurphy@coanet.org and 585.377.1461. If you have any questions related to COA's recognition efforts please contact James Duffy either by email or telephone at JDuffy@coanet.org and 212.797.3000, extension 226.

2010 Legislative Breakfast

Friday, January 15, 2010, 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

Child & Family Resources, 2800 E. Broadway Blvd., Tucson

The Legislative Breakfast, sponsored by Children's Action Alliance, Child & Family Resources and United Way, will offer great conversation with our Southern Arizona legislators and human service advocates to learn what's on the horizon for children and families in the 2010 Arizona Legislative session. Please come and learn about what issues are on the horizon for children, youth and families. It is a great opportunity to speak directly to our state legislators about issues facing youth. **If you have youth who are able to attend this event, BRING THEM!!!!** Please RSVP to Penelope Jacks at 520.795.4199 or penelopejacks@alumni.grinnell.edu as seating is limited.

Afterschool in the News

Phoenix braces for more cuts

<http://www.azcentral.com/arizonarepublic/news/articles/2009/11/27/20091127coping1127.html> (Source: Arizona Republic)

Learn about region's efforts for youth

http://www.wmicentral.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=20391395&BRD=2264&PAG=461&dept_id=506172&rfi=6 (Source: White Mountain Independent Online Edition)

Professional Development Opportunities

Boosting Program Quality Webinar

Thursday, Dec. 10th at 1:00 p.m. EST

Quality. Kids feel it. Parents value it first. And it's your goal now and into the future. Boosting Program Quality will help you identify quality components that fit your program, set targets, and engage all stakeholders in ongoing program excellence. [Click here](#) to register.

New Year Know How -- SAY it with Science

January 30, 2010 - 8 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Empire High School, Vail

The Sonoran Alliance for Youth (SAY) will hold its annual regional conference on January 30, 2010 at Empire High School in Vail. Workshops will include *Terrific Strategies for managing classroom Behavior, After School Science, Sports for ALL, Problem Solving with LEGOS, Knowing Right from Wrong: The Development of Moral Reasoning, and The Linda and Penny Show: A Science Experience You Won't Want to Miss*. The registration fee is \$20. [Click here](#) to download the registration brochure.

Funding Opportunities

Introducing the i3 funds

What are the Investing in Innovation (i3) funds? And why should you, as a non-profit organization, care? The Investing in Innovation (i3) funds are the only *Race to the Top* funds for which non-profit organizations can apply.

i3 is an opportunity for non-profit organizations to collaborate with school districts in an effort to offer arts-focused programming. If you are interested in learning more about how you, your organization or your school district can access the Investing in Innovation funding, then we encourage you to review and share the listed resources below. It is our hope that you find this information helpful and timely in your pursuit of federal stimulus dollars to support arts based learning.

Please note: Investing in Innovation (i3) applications for funding will not be released until late winter.

Please review the provided resources and information to learn more about how you can prepare for this opportunity. *For questions regarding this and other funding resources, contact the Arts Commission Arts Learning Director, Mandy Buscas, at mbuscas@azarts.gov.*

2010 Do Something Awards

Deadline: December 15, 2009

Since 1996, Do Something has honored the nation's best young world-changers. Do Something Award Winners represent the pivotal "do-ers" in their field, cause, or issue and are rewarded with a huge project

grant, participation in a special award ceremony, media coverage, and continued support from Do Something. In 2010, four winners will receive \$10,000 and one Grand Prize winner will receive \$100,000 towards their organization or cause. The awards ceremony will take place in spring 2010. Learn more at: <http://www.dosomething.org/programs/awards>

Home Depot Building Healthy Communities Grants

Deadline: December 15, 2009

Grants, up to \$2,500, are now available to registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations, public schools or tax-exempt public service agencies in the U.S. who are using the power of volunteers to improve the physical health of their community. Grants are made in the form of The Home Depot gift cards for the purchase of tools or materials. [Click here](#) for more details.

The Big Green Help

Deadline: December 31, 2009

This grant funded by Nickelodeon connects kids to environmentally-friendly activities in their everyday lives. Applicants must host an Earth Day event in April or a Worldwide Day of Play event in September. Elementary and middle schools and after-school community based organizations with non-profit status serving kids ages 5-15 are eligible. Grants are from \$2500-\$5000. [Click here](#) for more details.

Champions for Healthy Kids

Deadline: January 15, 2010

The General Mills Foundation awards 50 grants of \$10,000 each to community-based groups that develop creative ways to help youth adopt a balanced diet and physically active lifestyle. **Eligibility:** organizations with 501(c)(3) or 509(a) status. [Click here](#) for more details.

AmeriCorps State, National, and Indian Tribes Planning Grants

Deadline: January 26, 2009

The purpose of planning grants is to support the development of AmeriCorps programs so applicants are better prepared to compete for an AmeriCorps program grant in the following grant cycle. Planning grants may not be used to support AmeriCorps members. AmeriCorps State and National Planning Grant applicants must not have previously received an AmeriCorps State or National grant. Indian Tribes Planning Grant applicants must not have received an AmeriCorps grant in the past and must be an Indian Tribe (See definition in Section III). Funding for 2010 is contingent upon appropriations, and is estimated to be \$500,000 for AmeriCorps State and National and \$250,000 for Indian Tribes. Applicants may apply for up to a maximum of \$50,000. [Click here](#) for more details.

Miley Cyrus & Youth Service America Launch Global 'Get Ur Good On' Grants for Young Volunteers

Deadline: February 22, 2010

Miley Cyrus recently partnered with Youth Service America to create [Get Ur Good On](#), a social network that brings together youth to support each other in their mission to do "good" in their communities. On Wednesday, November 18, YSA launched **Get Ur Good On Grants** that fund youth-led service initiatives on Global Youth Service Day, April 23-25, 2010. Available to children and youth around the world, YSA's Get Ur Good On Grants will award 100 \$500 grants to support projects addressing critical community needs such as poverty, education, and environmental sustainability.

Youth interested in sharing their stories about volunteering and community service, learning about important issues, and making civic-minded friends can visit www.GetUrGoodOn.org. They can upload videos that show how they have made a difference in their local, national, and global communities.

Grant applications are due February 22, 2010. To learn more about Get Ur Good On Grants and to take the eligibility quiz, visit www.YSA.org/grants

Siemens We Can Change the World Challenge

Deadline: January 31, 2010 (elementary), March 15, 2010 (middle school)

For youth-led environmental projects, the Siemens Foundation, Discovery Education and the National Science Teachers Association invite you to join the only challenge of its kind that empowers students in grades K-8 to create solutions to environmental problems in their own back yard. This is an opportunity to make a difference and compete for more than \$100,000 in cash and prizes. [Read more...](#)

Afterschool Resources/Research/Reports

New York Statewide Afterschool Network

NYSAN has released a new Policy Brief that outlines the need to build a system of support for the "whole child" in which all children and youth have full and equitable opportunities to be healthy, safe, engaged, and prepared from "cradle to career." The pillars of a system include not only an excellent public education system, but robust early care and education (ECE) programs and high-quality afterschool learning and development opportunities. NYSAN and our ECE partners have developed a written blueprint for how the early care and afterschool communities can work together to advance such a system. The brief, *From Birth through Young Adulthood: A Blueprint for Collaboration between the Early Care and Education and Afterschool Systems in New York State*:

- (a) Articulates the common benefits of ECE and afterschool programs
- (b) Provides a rationale for collaboration
- (c) Outlines strategies for advancing a joint and/or coordinated agenda, and
- (d) Suggests broad principles for policy and program recommendations.

[Click here](#) to download the policy brief.

Encouraging Good Food Choices and Physical Activity

Two California groups have created resources that after-school professionals can use in encouraging children and youth to eat right and be active.

One resource is a four-page PDF from the MO Project, part of CANFIT and funded by the California Endowment and Kaiser Permanente, Southern California Region.

The PDF, available at [CANFIT](#), details how to talk about food and physical activity, the connection between the two, the importance of physical activity and play, and how to change systems that affect food and physical activity to improve children's health.

In addition, the California Department of Education has released California After School Physical Activity Guidelines that were developed by the department's After School Programs Office.

This [PDF](#) features detailed guidelines for encouraging and incorporating physical activity in after-school programs. (Source: School-Age NOTES)