



Arizona Center for **Afterschool** Excellence



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

@afterschool advisor

November 6, 2009

A Message from the Executive Director

You Can Make the Difference!

You can be the “tipping point” on the afterschool licensing increase!

The Arizona Center for Afterschool Excellence met with Department of Health Service officials yesterday to plead the case in opposition to 8000% increases in child care/afterschool licensing fees. While they are sympathetic, there is little that they can do since they have a mandate from the Governor and the state legislature to make the Office of Licensure a self-funded entity.....meaning that fees collected must equal the expense of running the office.

AzCASE and DHS continue to look for a temporary solution giving the afterschool and child care communities time to work out a satisfactory resolution for all. One such temporary solution is to appeal to the Governor to use federal stimulus funding to cover the expenses of the Licensure Office for the next six months.....approximately \$2 million. If Governor Brewer can allocate some \$1.7 million to repair the roof on the Veterans Coliseum so as to protect the future of the State Fair, she can allocate \$2 million to protect the future of Arizona’s children and families who rely on licensed afterschool and child care programs.

Please call AND email the Governor TODAY! It’s urgent that she hear from taxpaying Arizona citizens that care about the needs of Arizona’s children. Your call and your email might just be the “tipping point” that persuades her to use federal dollars under her discretion to protect Arizona’s children and families.

The Governor’s phone numbers are:

Telephone (602) 542-4331 or **Toll Free** 1(800) 253-0883
Or email azgov@az.gov

Thank you for your continuing support for afterschool programming.

News & Events

Read to Me, Arizona! Early Literacy Project Rolls Out at Story Town

More than books will come alive at the sixth annual Story Town on November 14. This year MAKE WAY FOR BOOKS and a coalition of local organizations will launch its Read to Me, Arizona! Campaign, announcing a number of early literacy services for families with young children in low-resource areas of Tucson and southern Arizona.

The Read to Me, Arizona! campaign stresses the importance of reading aloud to children early and often in life. The programs provide free books, training, and other resources in Spanish and English for parents of children birth to age 5.

Story Town, set for November 14 from 10:30 a.m. until 3 p.m. in Jácome Plaza, (in front of the Joel D. Valdez Main Library, 101 N. Stone Ave.) is Tucson's free children's book festival. Curious George, acting as honorary mayor, will lead the parade as he and his bigger-than-life pals usher in storybook theater presentations of some of children's favorite books. In addition to the storybook theater, the family literacy festival will feature live music, dancing, and art activities. Plus, children will receive free books to take home!

Free Summer Learning Webinar

November 4, 2009

Over summer, many kids forget some of what they learned during the school year. But "summer slide" is particularly steep for low-income youth and a leading cause of the achievement gap between them and more affluent students. Fortunately, some high-quality programs have been shown to reduce that loss. And some cities and states are taking steps to start to help.

This Wednesday, at 11:30 a.m., The Wallace Foundation and the Institute for Youth, Education, and Families of the National League of Cities are presenting a free webinar on summer learning loss and how to run a successful program. Learn from National Summer Learning Association CEO Ron Fairchild and Child Trends Research Scientist Mary Terzian, as well as two officials working with their mayors to solve the problem in their cities: Sabrina Sutton (Baltimore, MD) and Maxine Quintana (Denver, CO).

[Register now.](#)

Good News for Parents and Children: Half of DES childcare turn-away list is turning around!

Thanks to unified advocacy efforts, the Department of Economic Security announced this week that beginning November 16, families with incomes below 100% of the Federal Poverty Level (\$22,050 annually for a family of 4.) will be eligible for a childcare assistance! This is wonderful news for parents of 4,800 children who had previously been turned away but will now be able to receive DES subsidies to help pay for the cost of childcare. AND, newly applying families with qualifying incomes will also be served instead of turned away. Working families will finally be receiving the help they need to send their children to safe, affordable, childcare.

Providing childcare subsidies for these families will cut the turn-away list in half from its current high of 9,025 children, but kids from families whose incomes fall between 100% and 165% of the poverty level will continue to be turned-away. As new families applying, list will continue to grow.

Thank you for joining CAA in continuing to speak out to our elected leaders that Arizona cannot afford to have children in unsafe, unreliable, and unstable child care while parents are at work. (Source: Children's Action Alliance)

PCM Fall II Session Starts This Week

Fall Session II Begins this week at the Phoenix Conservatory of Music. An Online Registration link is attached to this e-mail for your convenience. Classes are available for children and adults. If you would like to register for a class that has already scheduled to start, remember that new students can join in up to week two. If a class has been canceled that you wanted to register for, please put yourself on a waiting list by calling 602.353.9900, and as soon as three have signed up, a class will start the next week!

Classes are offered all over the valley from Surprise to Chandler, so for a class or camp closer to you, please [click here!](#)

Expect More Arizona

The New Education and Career Action Plan helps students plan their way toward college and career success

Margaret Dugan, Deputy Superintendent, Arizona Department of Education, discusses the new

Education and Career Action Plan (ECAP) which is helping all Arizona students map their individual plan for the future. [Click here](#) to view the interview and read the accompanying article.

Volunteerism helps create strong schools and improve student success

Laura Magruder, President and CEO, Communities in Schools, discusses the importance of volunteerism and community support in strengthening education in Arizona. [Click here](#) to view the interview and read the accompanying article.

Breakthrough for Community Schools

Tony Blair and Secretary Duncan join forces to promote community schools.

In a packed room at the Center for American Progress (CAP), former Prime Minister Tony Blair called for community schools. Schools should be “the center for the support and nurture for the future generation – not simply education in the narrow sense...and they [schools] need to be a resource and a source of strength not just for the children in the school, but for the whole of the community.” Access the [video](#) and [transcript](#).

The Center for American Progress is regarded as the nation’s foremost progressive think tank. In their report [A Look at Community Schools](#) they note “...a growing number of community schools have bridged the gap between the provision of antipoverty services and an excellent academic program.” The report provides an overview of community schools across the United States as well as in England. The [Coalition for Community Schools](#) is mentioned prominently in this report. Visit www.communityschools.org for further news, policy, and research on community schools.

Afterschool in the News

ICAN Wins Award for Afterschool Excellence with Data-Driven Community Solutions from nFocus Software

<http://www.istockanalyst.com/article/viewiStockNews/articleid/3576985> (Source: iStockAnalyst)

Rally to protest planned increases to child-care-center licensing fees

<http://www.azcentral.com/arizonarepublic/local/articles/2009/10/27/20091027childcare1027.html> (Source: Arizona Republic)

Perfect storm threatens child care

<http://www.azstarnet.com/allheadlines/314855> (Source: Arizona Daily Star)

Prop. 200 backers, opponents sharply split at raucous forum

<http://www.azstarnet.com/allheadlines/314941> (Source: Arizona Daily Star)

Prop 200 forum: fear mongering and guilt vs fiscal responsibility

<http://www.examiner.com/x-27364-Tucson-Progressive-Examiner~y2009m10d27-Prop-200-forum-fear-mongering-and-guilt-vs-fiscal-responsibility> (Source: Tucson Progressive Examiner)

Ariz. Dept. of Health Services May Raise Day Care Fees 8,800%

http://www.myfoxphoenix.com/dpp/news/politics/state_politics/daycare_fee_increase_102709 (Source: myFoxPhoenix.com)

300 protest child-care fee hike

<http://www.azcentral.com/arizonarepublic/local/articles/2009/10/28/20091028childcare1028.html> (Source: Arizona Republic)

Prop 400 would override state spending limits

<http://wildcat.arizona.edu/news/prop-400-would-override-state-spending-limits-1.832859#4> (Source: Arizona Daily Star)

Promising program offers challenge

<http://www.azcentral.com/arizonarepublic/opinions/articles/2009/10/30/20091030fri2-30.html> (Source: Arizona Republic)

Professional Development Opportunities

Designing Effective Homework Time

Thursday, Nov. 12th at 1:00-2:00 PM EST

Corral your resources, set up your space, and organize the time to build study skills, positive work habits, teamwork, creativity, independent learning—and get things moving! [Click here](#) to register.

The Whole Child, The Whole World

**Saturday, November 14, 2009, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. (registration opens at 8:00)
Mesa Convention Center**

Time is running out to register for this outstanding conference! Register by Friday, November 6. Online registration is available at <http://www.azafterschool.org/News---Events/Conferences.aspx>.

We are looking forward to offering you a dynamic day of professional development. There are 12 workshops to choose from during each of the three breakout sessions...36 great learning experiences! You won't want to miss workshops like these:

Making Literacy Come Alive in today's After School Program

Participants learn effective pre-reading strategies to stimulate their students' curiosity; easy group discussion techniques; how to reinforce learning through the use of fun after-reading projects and activities; and why literacy is critical to success in school, as well as life. This workshop also helps staff renew their commitment to kids as we discuss your role as mentor, and the impact that you can have in the life of a child.

Arizona After 3 PM

Where are our children every day after 3 PM and what do Arizona parents think of afterschool programs? The 2009 America After 3 PM survey compares Arizona to the nation regarding the supply of, demand for, barriers to and parental satisfaction with afterschool programs. What this data reveals about the state of afterschool in Arizona and how this data can be used to benefit the afterschool movement will be debated.

Midwest Afterschool Science Academy Engineering Youth Success in School, Work, and Life

December 2-4, 2009 Kansas City, MO

You are invited to join informal science and youth development experts from around the nation for a unique event of professional development, community engagement, and system-building.

The Kansas and Missouri Statewide Afterschool Networks are hosting the Midwest Afterschool Science Academy December 2-4, 2009 in Kansas City, MO.

The event will be held at the amazing facilities of the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation located in the heart of Kansas City's Country Club Plaza <http://www.countryclubplaza.com/> which will be illuminated in its full holiday splendor.

Register through this link <http://moasn.org/MASA/index.html>

Save the Date: SAY Conference-January 30, 2010

The Sonoran Alliance for Youth (SAY) will hold its annual regional conference on January 30, 2010 beginning at 8:30 a.m. at Empire High School in Vail. Registration opens at 8 a.m. and will include a continental breakfast. This year's conference will emphasize science. Contact Marie Benson at (520) 749-0147 for additional information.

Funding Opportunities

State Farm Good Neighbor Service-Learning Grants

Deadline: November 9, 2009

Youth Service America is currently accepting applications for State Farm® Good Neighbor Service-Learning Grants to support service-learning projects that culminate on Global Youth Service Day, April 23-25, 2010. School and community educators across the United States and Canada (select provinces) can apply for up to \$1,000 in funding for youth-led projects. Service-learning is a teaching and learning strategy integrating meaningful community service with academic study and reflective practice to enrich learning, build civic engagement, and strengthen communities. State Farm Good Neighbor Service-Learning grant applicants are encouraged to develop projects that launch on Martin Luther King Day of Service, January 18, 2010, and culminate on the weekend of GYSD, April 23-25, 2010. For the State Farm Good Neighbor Service-Learning Grant application, please visit, www.YSA.org/awards

USADA True Sport Awards

Deadline: November 15, 2009

Be part of a community of people concerned about the attitudes and behaviors of today's middle and high school students. Be a part of this important initiative and you may be among the top 10 winners to receive a cash award up to \$2,500 plus an invitation to join USADA's Education Summit in Colorado Springs. [Click here](#) for more information.

Makers of Clorox Clean-Up to Award \$50,000 to Kids' Programs Through New Power A Bright Future Grant Program

Deadline: November 29, 2009

The Clorox Clean-Up team invites individuals to nominate non-profit kids' programs for a Power A Bright Future grant by submitting a photo and short essay about the project for consideration. Each winner will receive a \$10,000 grant to help the project grow and flourish. Winners will also be featured within an advertisement in an issue of People magazine. [Click here](#) for more information.

U.S. DOJ Weed & Seed Grants

Deadline: December 1, 2009

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Community Capacity Development Office (CCDO) is pleased to announce that it is seeking applications from interested communities to participate in the Weed and Seed Communities Competitive Program. This program furthers the Department's mission to prevent, control, and reduce violent crime, drug abuse, and gang activity. The Weed and Seed initiative comprises a community-based, comprehensive multi-agency approach to law enforcement, crime prevention, and neighborhood restoration. It is designed for communities with persistent high levels of serious violent crime and corresponding social problems. Organizations eligible include: state, local or tribal governments or nonprofit organizations in communities with persistent high levels of serious violent crime and that have not previously been an approved Weed and Seed site. http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ccdo/funding/appl_kit.html

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. <http://corporate.homedepot.com/wps/portal/Grants>

The Big Green Help

Deadline: December 31, 2009

This grant funded by Nickelodean 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.

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.

http://www.americorps.gov/for_organizations/funding/nofa_detail.asp?tbl_nofa_id=73

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...](#)

Job Openings

Kyrene Kids Club- Program Coordinator-Kyrene de los Cerritos

Duties include: Facilitating activity planning meetings, inventorying and ordering materials and supplies, developing and scheduling daily children's activities, communicating information to parents through memos and newsletters, mentoring and providing orientations to Club Leaders, and assigning and monitoring the work of Club Leaders. The Coordinator must have availability from 6:30am-6:30pm. This program has the capacity of 150 school age children.

Qualifications: Applicant must have completion of course work in a childcare program in addition to a high school diploma or G.E.D. and one-year experience working in a licensed childcare setting, or any combination of education and experience sufficient to successfully perform the essential duties of the job. Incumbents must be 21 years of age or older.

Salary: \$15.95-16.35/hr (with benefits). Apply online today at www.kyrene.org/hr!

Afterschool Resources/Research/Reports

How to Assess Bullying and Peer Conflict and Promote Positive Conflict Resolution

Twenty-four percent of parents report that their child bullies or is cruel to other children at least some of the time, and 35 percent of parents report that they are concerned about their child being bullied at school, according to the National Survey of Children's Health. Two new Child Trends briefs help youth program providers identify peer conflict and bullying and promote positive peer conflict resolution techniques.

[Assessing Bullying: A Guide for Out-of-School Time Program Practitioners](#)

This brief provides information on who is most likely to be a bully or victim, how to know when conflict has turned into bullying, and ways to reduce bullying. It includes specific questions to assess students' tendencies to bully others, to be victimized by bullying, and to be pro-social and help others.

[Assessing Peer Conflict and Aggressive Behaviors: A Guide for Out-of-School Time Program Practitioners](#)

This brief defines peer conflict, how it differs by age and gender, what factors are associated with youth who engage in aggressive behaviors, and ways to reduce peer conflict. It includes specific questions to assess the prevalence of aggressive behaviors and peer conflict among students. (Source: Child Trends)