



Arizona Center for **Afterschool Excellence**
"School's Out, Make it Count!"

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The **@fterschool** advisor

November 18, 2014

Largest Out-of-School Time Conference for Arizona!

Thanks to all of you supporters, this past Saturday the **2014 Arizona Statewide Out-of-School Time Conference, School's Out, Make It Count - Engaging Youth in Life and Learning** was the largest Out-of-School Time Conference that Arizona has seen.

We started off this history-making day with Jamie Casap's engaging keynote, **Iteration and Innovation in Education**, where he inspired the morning crowd with passion and purpose in our field for our youth.

In our three sessions throughout the day, **around 700 attendees from 100 programs across the state** engaged in our 36 workshops, expanding their repertoire of skills, leadership, knowledge, and activities that they bring to their programs.

At the Award of Excellence Luncheon, we recognized **Dr. Kent Scribner** as the **2014 Out-of-School Time Champion** for his state-of-the-art work with high school

[twitter](#), [instagram](#) and wherever you share to see what happened from your eyes and to see photos and information that we share about the winners, attendees, exhibitors, and more!

Hope Christian Academy Visit

AzCASE and COX visited Hope Christian Academy's FIRST Lego League Eaglebots Robotics team to see what the group was able to achieve with the STEM grant that they were awarded by Cox and AzCASE. The boys and girls, both high school mentors and younger children, were all deep into their preparation for a competition, making visual aids, programming robots, and doing research for their project. It was wonderful to meet such a great team of young achievers!



Thank YOU, Eaglebots, for your hard work and good luck in your competition!

Girl Scouts of Arizona Cactus-Pine New Website

Arizona Cactus-Pine is

out-of-school time programs as superintendent of Phoenix Union High School District. Read more about Dr. Scribner [here on our site](#).

Outstanding Out-of-School Time Professional Melissa Jimro, Outstanding Out-of-School Time Program NACA Pathways, and Jane Romatzke Leadership Award Winner Dr. Lupita Hightower

were also recognized for their devotion to Out-of-School Time Programming and their achievements. Congratulations to you all and it was moving to listen to your stories and hear your commitment to the youth in your programs and schools!

We will see you all at next year's conference! **Thank you to our sponsors, exhibitors, and presenters** for bringing such high quality to the Conference. And, of course, **thank you, attendees**, for your dedicated engagement in the workshops. Let's all continue to make history and be one of the top states for Out-of-School Time programs and development!

Pilot Test Site Deadline Approaching

Congratulations to

- **the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Scottsdale, Thunderbird Branch**
- **Camp Swift Residential Program, and**
- **The Wesley Community Center**

for being the first to complete and turn in their AzQSAT Self Assessment.

These are just three of 150 sites around the state that generously volunteered to serve as pilot test sites for the new Quality Assessment Tool. We are so grateful for

launching a **Member Engagement Initiative** this year. This exciting initiative is aimed at improving the volunteer experience and bringing Girl Scouting to more girls.

Be sure to stop by and [visit the new and improved website](#) on **Wednesday, November 17, 2014!**

Youth Today Launches New Out-of-school-time Hub



Youth Today has launched a new hub dedicated to exploring research and practice in out-of-school-time programs.

First up is a focus on language and literacy, utilizing articles and research, resources for curricula and lesson plans, program examples, professional development opportunities and voices from the field using blogs, vlogs and photo essays.

See the hub here:

<http://youthtoday.org/hub/>

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the continuing support and enthusiasm for our statewide continuous quality improvement process.

The **deadline** for the remaining sites to complete and submit their self-assessment is **Tuesday, November 25**. Assessments can be mailed to Melanie McClintock, AzCASE, 3205 South Rural Road, Tempe, AZ 85282 or emailed to mmclintock@azafterschool.org.

If your program is not one of the test sites, we are hopeful that we will be able to begin distributing the new AzQSAT tool for statewide use early in 2015.

Congratulations Kaci Heins!

AzCASE congratulates **Kaci Heins** on winning the **STEM Teacher of the Year** Award for 2014 at the 3rd Annual STEM Awards Night in Flagstaff, AZ. Kaci, a 6th grade science educator, has a long list of professional accomplishments, including being the national winner of the Air Force Association Aerospace **Educator of the Year** in 2014, and a 2014 finalist in the State of Arizona Teacher of the Year.

AzCASE is honored to have Kaci as part of our

AzCASE STEM Initiative. She regularly conducts STEM trainings us including a workshop at the recent AzCASE Engaging Youth in Life and Learning Conference.

Congratulations, CocoNUTS!

Coconino High School's FIRST Robotics team, **The CocoNUTS**, won the **STEM Superhero Award** on November 12, 2014 in the **Most Innovative STEM Club -- Rural** category.

Send to a Colleague

They were recognized for their extensive outreach and efforts to spread FIRST



Robotics throughout Arizona.

Learn more about them here at their site:
[The CocoNUTS.](#)

Thank you for your support of AzCASE happenings and all you do for Arizona's youth!

Sincerely,

Melanie, Franny, Genevieve, Caitlin & Tyandrah
The AzCASE Team

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