



Arizona Center for **Afterschool** Excellence

## @fterschool advisor - August 16, 2012

### Announcements from the Center

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#### September 7 Deadline to Apply for AzCASE STEM Grants!

The Arizona Center for Afterschool Excellence and Cox Communications invite afterschool programs statewide to apply for one of **nine \$1,500 grants** being awarded to **create new or expanded ways for incorporating STEM based learning** in afterschool or summer programming. Preference will be given to projects that incorporate technology.

Afterschool programs being the experiential, learning environments that they are have more latitude to be creative in introducing youth to STEM than many classrooms. The opportunities are endless! Make sure your application is in by the **September 7th deadline** to give youth in your program a chance to be part of innovative STEM projects afterschool!

The goal is for staff **AND** youth to brainstorm what might be done with STEM in your program that's not happening now. Is there a personal, local, state, national problem the children want to know more about and attempt to solve using technology? Do they want to:

- write, produce, and shoot a Public Service Announcement or mini documentary
- write, produce and film a one act play
- publish a photo story book with photos taken on digital cameras
- record their own oral histories or the history of a family member or
- travel the world, paint artistic masterpieces or learn astronomy on an iPad?

Find additional STEM resources on our website: <http://azafterschool.org/Resources/Activities-Curriculum/STEM.aspx>

#### Eligibility

Afterschool and out-of-school programs serving 6 to 18 year olds are eligible to apply and must submit a **grant application with a full description and budget of their planned use for the funds prior to Friday, September 7**. Funding can be used to purchase technology such as digital cameras, video cameras, notebook computers, iPads, or software for existing computers or equipment and materials that foster inquiry based learning in science or technology. **Your grant proposal MUST describe how the STEM project funding will be used and the educational benefits derived.** Grants will be awarded statewide to programs based on their creative and innovative use of age appropriate technology or proposed STEM-based projects for the intended afterschool audience.

[More information>>](#)

#### Application

[View & print grant application here.](#)

Grant applications must be submitted by **September 7** to Melanie McClintock, Executive Director, Arizona Center for Afterschool Excellence, 112 North Central Avenue, Suite 700, Phoenix, AZ 85004.

#### For more information

Contact Melanie McClintock at 602.496.3307 or [mmcclintock@azafterschool.org](mailto:mmcclintock@azafterschool.org).



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## **"Changing Lives, Saving Lives" 2012 Afterschool Conference Focus**

Hear Normandie Nigh, an award-winning advocate for and leader in afterschool health, on why afterschool is a key to fighting childhood obesity, and how to prepare youth in your program for a healthy, successful future! Learn best practices from workshops that you can put to use immediately! See your friends and colleagues honored for their contributions for Arizona youth and the afterschool field! It's all possible when you register for the November 3rd Afterschool Conference!

**Register Now for the 2012 AZ Afterschool Conference!**

**Healthy Minds.  
Healthy Bodies.  
Healthy Youth **Afterschool.****

**The 20<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Arizona Statewide  
Afterschool Conference &  
Awards of Excellence Luncheon**

**Saturday, November 3, 2012  
8 am - 3:30 pm  
Phoenix Convention Center, West Building**

**Conference Registration**  
Registration is \$90/person  
OR \$85/person for groups of 10 or more

**Register now!>>**

Additional conference details can be found  
on the main [conference page here>>](#)

**Questions?**

602.496.3308 or [info@azafterschool.org](mailto:info@azafterschool.org)

**Deadline is Monday, October 1st!**

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## **NEW AZ Afterschool Directory Popular with Parents and Programs**

The BIGGER, BETTER, and MORE comprehensive NEW AZ Afterschool Directory has been in the news, reaching parents across Arizona! Developed in partnership between the [Arizona Center for Afterschool Excellence](#) and the [Valley of the Sun United Way](#), the AZ Afterschool Directory is the only statewide, bilingual centralized database of organized afterschool and summer programs, and now is your chance to make sure your program is included as parents use it to find options for the new year!

**SURVEY RESPONDENTS:** If you or someone from your program responded to the survey, we ask that you create a login and review and edit existing information to ensure that the directory reflects the **MOST** current details of your program at **EACH** of its sites.

**IF YOUR PROGRAM IS NOT YET IN THE DIRECTORY:** We ask that you create a login, enter the relevant data for each of your program sites, and respond to all questions so we can have data critical for our work with policymakers.

Once your data has been entered or updated, AzCASE will be notified and we will give the approval needed for your data to be "live" on the site.

It is important that you **act quickly** to either review or enter your program data because we are aggressively campaign marketing the directory to families so they have the benefit of the directory as the school year gets started. This is a brand new application, so if you encounter any difficulty inputting your data, please email us at [info@azafterschool.org](mailto:info@azafterschool.org) or call us at 602.496.3308. You can also access a video tutorial on the provider login page.

### **VISIT THE DIRECTORY HERE**

Select 'Provider Login' to create your new account!

Contact AzCASE with questions at 602.496.3308 or [info@azafterschool.org](mailto:info@azafterschool.org).



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**Reach the Afterschool Audience with an Exhibit or Workshop at the 2012 Afterschool Conference!**

**Saturday, November 3rd, 2012**  
Phoenix Convention Center

### **EXHIBITS & ADS**

Showcase your programs, field trips & services for over 600 afterschool staff that serve youth ages 5-17!

[Review Exhibit & Advertisement Opportunities>>](#)

**Deadline is Friday, September 21, 2012**

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## Start Planning for Lights on Afterschool Now!

October 18th is National Lights on Afterschool Day! Join over 7,500 communities and 1 million people across the country in rallying to support the important work happening in afterschool. It's a time to showcase the role of afterschool programs in Arizona, and to underscore the importance of quality afterschool options for all children. Last year was a success, and we look forward to seeing what great ideas Arizona programs come up with to celebrate 2012 Lights on Afterschool!

### Get started today!

1. Check out the Afterschool Alliance's [Event Planning Kit](#) for event resource, media tips, and more.
2. [Register your event](#) to show your support and make sure other can find it.



For more information about Lights on Afterschool, see [Afterschool Alliance's information here>>](#)

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## Integrating the Common Core into Afterschool Programming

The expansion of the Common Core State Standards in education opens new doors for out-of-school time (OST) providers to align their work with schools.

The standards are front and center on the national stage as states, districts, schools and teachers prepare for their rollout over the next several years. Many OST programs are trying to figure out what exactly the standards cover, and how to support schools and districts in implementing them.

The timing is right: The Common Core is emerging amid growing calls for expanded learning opportunities and collective action among schools and community partners. This gives the OST field a window to assert itself as a necessary part of children's development and education. The goal need not be to replicate the core work of schools, but rather to complement, support and expand it.

A new brief from the Forum for Youth Investment describes the Common Core, shares examples of OST programs and systems responding, and recommends how the OST field might think about alignment opportunities.

[Read the brief here>>](#)

For more information about the Common Core and how it's being implemented across the country, see [Edutopia's list of resources here>>](#)

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## Making Afterschool an Election Issue in 2012

### Be an informed voter!

Children's Action Alliance has compiled an analysis of [Who's for Kids and Who's Just Kidding](#). View this legislative report card so you can see how your legislators voted regarding issues affecting children and families.

Redistricting changed the boundaries and makeup of each of Arizona's 30 legislative districts. Find information on student achievement and conditions for children and families in your redrawn district in Children's Action Alliance's [2012 Legislative District Factsheets](#).

### **Be an advocate for afterschool!**

The Afterschool Alliance has released updated versions of its [Campaign Toolkit](#) and its Candidate's Guide to Afterschool. Particularly during presidential election cycles, voters' concerns are brought to the forefront of the public debate and widely discussed in the media. But what concerns will be raised? Whose voices will be heard? What will candidates and pundits focus on? It is the voices of people in local communities that drive candidates' campaigns.

[Download the Campaign Toolkit here>>](#)

### **Register to Vote in Arizona**

[Voter Registration - AZ Secretary of State>>](#)

Many Arizona legislative races are decided by votes cast in the primary election. Plan to vote in the **Arizona primary election on August 28.**

### **Important Dates & Deadlines**

[General Election>>](#)

August 28, 2012 Primary Election

October 8, 2012 General Election Voter Registration Deadline

November 6, 2012 General Election

### **Scottsdale Residents: Read City Council and Mayoral Candidate's Views on Afterschool!**

AzCASE contacted all candidates running for mayor or city council seats in Scottsdale. Check the left hand news section of our [home page](#) for the responses, to see where the responding candidates fall on important afterschool issues.

### **More information**

Access additional election resources, afterschool talking points, and find your legislators on our website at:

<http://azafterschool.org/Resources/Advocacy.aspx>

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## **A World Class Education for Every Arizona Student**

Arizona's long-term economic prosperity and our individual quality of life depend on our ability to deliver a world-class education for all students.

Join Expect More Arizona's Vote 4 Education campaign to help every Arizona student succeed in college, career and in life. Statewide and nonpartisan, Expect More Arizona is bringing Arizonans together to support a world-class education for all students. Join us as we make education the most important issue this election and beyond.

Here are 4 easy ways that you can get involved:

[Sign Up](#) - Join the Expect More Arizona movement.

[Study Up](#) - Learn more about education issues in this year's election so you can make an informed vote.

[Speak Up](#) - Raise your voice about your support of Vote 4 Education.

[Show Up](#) - Show up at the polls on November 6<sup>th</sup> or mail in your ballot.

Visit [ExpectMoreArizona.org](http://ExpectMoreArizona.org) to learn more about Vote 4 Education and how you can get involved!

*Vote 4 Education is paid for by Expect More Arizona PAC - Yes on 118 and 204. Major funding provided by Expect More Arizona. This political committee has not accepted any public funds*

# Focus on Health

*Afterschool programs play a key role in the health and well-being of youth through activities that encourage healthy behaviors, an environment that includes a healthy snack or meal, and opportunities for physical activity. This section features new topics, resources, curriculum ideas and activities to help you ensure youth are fit, healthy, and ready to learn. [See a complete list of our afterschool health resources here>>](#)*



Healthy snacks make a big difference in the long run! A new study found that youth who lived in states with laws restricting the sale of snacks and sugary drinks in schools gained less weight than those in states with no such restrictions. Those same benefits, it would seem logical, could be gotten through intentional planning of afterschool snacks. Help fight childhood obesity at your program by encouraging kids to eat healthy!

[Read more about the study>>](#)

## Beat the Heat! Extreme Heat Safety in Afterschool

Youth and afterschool providers should be educated about heat illness prevention in order to lower the number of heat-related illnesses and to promote a healthy environment. Watch this [Heat Illness Prevention School video>>](#)

## Resources for Health

### Indoor Activity and Play Booklet for Youth

Don't let the summer heat prevent the youth in your program from being active! This booklet provides several fun and interactive games to play indoors or in limited space.

[Promoting Lifetime Activity for Youth Game Book>>](#)

### Stay Cool. Stay Hydrated. Stay Informed.

Summer is in full swing! Dehydration, left untreated, can lead to heat cramps, heat exhaustion and very serious heat stroke. Watch kids closely for signs of dehydration, including fatigue, dry lips and tongue, low energy, grayish skin, and lack of tears. Children's body temperature rises faster than adults, so it is essential that they get plenty of fluids to keep them cool-especially when it's hot and humid!

[What you can do to keep youth hydrated>>](#)

### Would you recognize heat illness?

Learn what heat illness is, warning signs and symptoms, treatment options, return to play considerations and prevention strategies in order to keep your program safe from the effects of extreme heat.

[Tips for preventing Heat Illness>>](#)

Take the [Heat Related Illness Prevention Training Course](#)

## Health Funding Opportunities

### APS Foundation Grants

#### Deadline: Rolling

Through Corporate Giving, APS supports nonprofit organizations with a 501(c)(3) Internal Revenue Service tax exempt status through cash and/or in kind services. APS supports local communities in five strategic areas: health and human services, community development, education, arts and culture, and environment. Grants have been awarded to schools, recreation centers, sports programs, and many other community groups. Award Amount: Award amounts vary

[More information>>](#)

### The Wal-Mart Foundation

#### Deadline: Rolling

The Wal-Mart Foundation supports programs and initiatives addressing education, workforce development, economic sustainability, and health and wellness. For health and wellness in particular, the Foundation looks to promote healthy lifestyles and behaviors. Organizations that meet the eligibility requirements for this program can request an application at their local Wal-Mart or Sam's Club. Award Amount: \$250 - \$5,000

[More information>>](#)

### SPARK Grants

[Grant Finder Tool](#) allows you to search for Grants by location and program of interest. Grants updated daily.

### Arizona's Coordinated School Health Program

Provides current funding opportunities from their partnering organizations.

[View here>>](#)

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## Conferences, Trainings & Seminars

### 20th Annual AZ Afterschool Conference

Healthy Minds.

Healthy Bodies.

Healthy Youth Afterschool.

**Saturday, November 3, 2012**

8 am - 3:30 pm

Phoenix Convention Center,  
West Building

[More information>>](#)

Questions?

602.496.3308, [info@azafterschool.org](mailto:info@azafterschool.org)

### 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Children's Obesity Conference

Thursday, December 6, 2012

@ Desert Willow Conference Center in Phoenix

This years' conference will address topics related to *"Mental Health and Childhood Obesity: An Exploration of the Role of Bullying, Self Esteem and Health Among Children and Families."* [More information>>](#)



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For regular updates on what's happening  
in the afterschool community,  
join our network on Facebook!



## Afterschool in the News

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### **Prop 204 Survives Legal Challenge, Will Be On Ballot in November Elections**

After two court challenges, Proposition 204, or the Quality Education and Jobs initiative, will officially appear on November ballots in Arizona. The initiative, which seeks to permanently extend the previously temporary sales tax hike, would dedicate the funds collected to education and infrastructure projects, as well as children's health care. Secretary of State Ken Bennett rejected the signatures gathered in support of the measure, on the grounds that the paper copies circulated did not exactly match the copy filed with his office. However, both a lower court and a three-judge panel of the Arizona Supreme Court ruled that the campaign had substantially complied with requirements and Prop 204 will be put before Arizona voters in November.

[Read more about the proposition and the legal challenge>>](#)

### **Expanded Learning Tested in Denver and Los Angeles Schools**

Some schools in Denver and Los Angeles will be taking the expanded learning time plunge this fall. The push in Denver began as a proposed hour addition to middle school schedules, but was scaled back to seven trial schools, elementary through high school, after angry parents and logistical snafus proved a challenge. The schools will have the freedom to determine how to use the extra time. Los Angeles Unified School District is using \$1.7 million from the Ford Foundation and the California Community Foundation to provide extra time for high schools to provide real-world learning opportunities for students. These changes come a few weeks after Chicago Public Schools [released data](#) on their foray into extended learning time showing mixed results, and as states with recently-approved NCLB waivers weigh what to do with newly-flexible funding for 21st Century programs.

[Read more about the ELT movement coming west>>](#)

## Job Opportunities

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**HAVE AN AFTERSCHOOL JOB OPENING  
TO POST IN OUR NEWSLETTER?**

[Post it here>>](#)

**Cave Creek Unified School District**  
Community Education Coordinator, Enrichment (Phoenix)  
[Read more>>](#)

**Phoenix Day's Central Park Program**  
Youth Development Facilitator (Phoenix)  
[Read more>>](#)

**Montessori School**  
Afterschool Program Assistant (Phoenix)  
[Read more>>](#)



**Bonanza Educational**  
Afterschool LEGO Instructors (Phoenix)  
[Read more>>](#)

**Sun Valley Charter School**  
Afterschool Program Facilitator (Phoenix)  
[Read more>>](#)

[View the full list of available positions and descriptions on our website>>](#)

## Funding Opportunities

**\*New opportunities in red**

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### **GTECH Afterschool Advantage Computer Lab Grants**

**Deadline: Rolling**

The GTECH *After School Advantage* Program is a national community investment program, which provides non-profit community agencies and public schools with state-of-the-art computer labs. These computer centers are designed to provide inner-city children aged five to 15 with a meaningful, yet fun, learning experience during the critical after-school hours, in a safe environment. GTECH hopes to increase children's interest in careers in computers and provide them with the necessary tools to help them become more competitive in school and in today's job market. GTECH will donate up to \$15,000 in state-of-the-art computers, on-line technology, computer software and volunteer hours to each afterschool program selected.

[More information>>](#)

### **Toy Industry Foundation Call for Proposals Deadline: Rolling**

The Toy Industry Foundation (TIF) welcomes grant proposals from nonprofit organizations seeking full or partial funding for special projects or ongoing programs to improve the lives of children in need. Proposals must demonstrate how grant funds will help fulfill the Toy Industry Foundation's mission to bring joy, comfort, and learning to children in need through play. Amounts ranging from \$5,000 to \$50,000 may be requested. Proposals will be accepted on a rolling basis until grant funds are no longer available.

[More information>>](#)

### **AZ Commission on the Arts Professional Development Grants**

**Deadline: August 24, 2012 or January 25, 2013**

Professional Development Grants provide funding to individual artists, arts administrators and arts educators for participation in artistic development and skills building activities or opportunities that contribute to professional growth and career development. Applicants may request grant support up to \$750. Professional Development Grants must be matched by a minimum contribution of 25% of the grant amount.

[More information>>](#)

### **Kaboom Joint Playground Use Grants**

**Deadline: August 31, 2012**

Joint Use Grants of \$15,000 and \$30,000 are available to communities within the United States for the creation of joint use agreements for playground facilities. The \$15,000 Joint Use Grants will support the opening of at least four playgrounds and are available to cities with populations of less than 100,000 people. The \$30,000 Joint Use Grants will support the opening of at least eight playgrounds and are available to cities with populations of 100,000 people or more. Grant recipients must commit to opening the playgrounds within one year of the grant decision.

[More information>>](#)

### **Build-a-Bear Literacy & Health Grants**

**Deadline: Rolling until August 31, 2012**

The Build-A-Bear Workshop foundations will be accepting and reviewing grant applications on a rolling basis until August 31 for the following funding categories:

**Children's Health and Wellness** - Grants for nonprofit organizations such as childhood disease research foundations, child safety organizations, and organizations that serve children with special needs.

**Literacy and Education** - Grants to support children's literacy and education, including summer reading programs, early childhood education programs, and literacy programs for children with special needs.

The foundations also will consider miscellaneous grant requests from organizations working to support children, families, animals, and the environment through programs that are not easily categorized. Grants are made as one-time contributions and will range from \$1,000 to \$5,000, with an average grant amount of \$1,500.

[More information>>](#)

## **Youth Environmental Education Opportunities**

**Deadline: September 14, 2012**

This funding opportunity is meant to provide youth the opportunity to connect with the natural world by participating in hands-on environmental educational experiences through outdoor programs and field classrooms to youth and families, working in conjunction with a variety of schools and other youth-focused nonprofit organizations. These experiences will provide academic, experiential, and environmental education opportunities in order for youth and families to gain a better understanding and appreciation of natural resource management objectives and stewardship of the land.

[More information>>](#)

## **Mr. Holland's Opus Special Projects Program**

**Deadline: September 14, 2012**

The Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation's Special Projects Program targets K-12 after-school music programs that are at least 3 years old or have a music-related umbrella organization that is at least 3 years old. Grants typically range from \$500-8,000 worth of instruments. Eligible applicants include music programs that serve low-income communities and that have little or no budget for musical instruments. Applicants must first submit an online Pre-Qualification form to be considered for an invitation to apply for a grant.

[More information>>](#)

## **IMWFN Small Grants Program**

**Deadline: September 14, 2012**

Grants of \$2,500 - \$15,000 will be made to support projects engaged in innovative problem solving in their communities. Proposals that are in alignment with the guidelines are due by September 14, 2012. The IMWFN hopes these grants will support authentic community engagement that leads to environmentally sustainable, socially equitable, and economically prosperous regions and communities.

[More information>>](#)

## **America's Great Outdoors: Connecting Youth to the Outdoors Grant Program**

**Deadline: September 19, 2012**

Grants of up to \$20,000 are available to Forest Service or Bureau of Land Management units and nonprofit organizations, academic institutions, or tribal groups that partner with these agencies for youth programs on public lands.

[More information>>](#)

## **Navy & Marine Corps STEM Program Grants**

**Deadline: September 30, 2012**

The Office of Naval Research's STEM education mission is to: foster an interest in, knowledge of, and study in science, technology, engineering and mathematics nationwide to ensure an educated and well-prepared naval and national STEM workforce. Proposals are being accepted for opportunities that would establish successful, sustainable, and affordable long-term, national Navy-sponsored programs targeted at elementary and secondary schools; establish and maintain a pipeline of students, particularly women and under-represented minorities, who will apply for and participate in Naval education and outreach programs; increase the number of domestic students (particularly students from under-represented groups) completing STEM degrees through enhancing student interest and attitudes toward science, technology, engineering, and mathematics; and Strengthen peer, family, and school support for STEM programs, among other goals.

[More information>>](#)

## **Captain Planet Foundation Grant**

**Deadline: September 30, 2012**

The foundation makes grants to U.S. based schools and organizations with an annual operating budget of less than \$3 million. Preferential consideration is given to requests seeking \$500 or less. Grants are made to organizations that embark on activities that match the mission of the foundation, which seeks to promote and support high-quality educational programs that enable children and youth to understand and appreciate our world through learning experiences that engage them in active, hands-on projects to improve the environment in their schools and communities and to inspire participation in community service through environmental stewardship.

[More information>>](#)

## **Green Thumb Challenge Grant**

**Deadline: September 30, 2012**

GEF and Gardener's Supply Company have teamed up on an exciting funding opportunity for established youth garden projects nationwide! The organizations are calling on schools and youth groups to submit chronicles of their garden projects in a race to win a \$5,000 prize. The award is designed to support the continued sustainability of an exceptional youth garden program that has demonstrated success, and has impacted the lives of kids and their community.

[More information>>](#)

## **CVS Community Grants**

**Deadline: October 31, 2012**

The CVS Community Grants Program will focus on inclusive programs and programs for children with disabilities under age 21; academic and enrichment programs at public schools; and programs that provide access to quality health care services and health education for at risk and underserved populations of all ages. Grant awards will be up to \$5,000.

[More information>>](#)

## **GTECH After School Advantage Program**

**Deadline: December 31, 2012**

The GTECH After School Advantage Program is a national community investment program, which provides non-profit community agencies and public schools with state-of-the-art computer labs. These computer centers are designed to provide inner-city children aged five to 15 with a meaningful, yet fun, learning experience during the critical after-school hours, in a safe environment. This initiative is meant to provide an otherwise unavailable educational experience and bridge the digital divide among at-risk children. By applying our knowledge and expertise to this type of program GTECH hopes to increase children's interest in careers in computers and provide them with the necessary tools to help them become more competitive in school and in today's job market. Grants are for up to \$15,000.

[More information>>](#)

## **American Legion Grants**

**Deadline: December 31, 2012**

The American Legion accept proposals from nonprofit organizations for projects which meet one of the Foundation's two basic purposes. To contribute to the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual welfare of children through the dissemination of knowledge about new and innovative organizations and/or their programs designed to benefit youth; and to contribute to the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual welfare of children through the dissemination of knowledge already possessed by well-established organizations, to the end that such information can be more adequately used by society.

[More information>>](#)

## **Rising Star Awards**

**Deadline: March 1, 2013**

The Sun Life Rising Star program focuses on low high-school graduation rates in large urban school districts by providing financial resources and education to students and nonprofit organizations committed to increasing success for students, as well as to promote financial literacy. Sun Life Financial will award grants and scholarships to students and nonprofit organizations in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Houston, Phoenix, Philadelphia, and South Florida. Each winning organization will receive a \$50,000 grant, and as part of the application process each organization will nominate an exemplary student for a \$5,000 scholarship toward

financing a college education. The program will provide winning organizations with educational curricula and other resources to increase financial literacy among students. Who may apply: organizations classified as tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code that promote skills that directly translate to educational success in high school to students under the age of 21, and be aligned with a secondary or postsecondary educational institution.

[More information>>](#)

[Find more resources and funding opportunities on our website>>](#)

## Awards, Contests & Fellowships

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### Constitution Day Poster Contest

**Deadline: Must be postmarked by Oct. 1** Entries are being accepted for the Constitution Day Poster Design Contest, created to celebrate Constitution Day, Sept. 17. Sponsored by Constitutionfacts.com, the contest is open to students in kindergarten through 12th grade. Poster designs must show how entrants benefit from the freedoms embodied in the U.S. Constitution. Posters must be submitted on 8½-by-11-inch paper and can feature any aspect of the Constitution. Entries will be judged on content relevant to the Constitution (one third) and artistic design (two thirds).

[Open Contest Entry Form>>](#)

### World Food Day Poster Contest

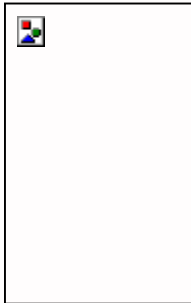
**Deadline: September 30, 2012**

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations is accepting entries for their first-ever World Food Day Poster Contest from youth aged 5 to 17 from across the globe. This year's theme is "Agricultural Cooperatives - Feeding the World," described further on their [website](#). One submission per child will be accepted.

[More information on entering the contest>>](#)

### The Green Thumb Challenge

**Deadline: September 30, 2012 (for grant)**



The Green Thumb Challenge seeks to encourage children to pursue gardening and the foundation offers free activities and standards-based lessons. All resources are free to registered members. Three campaigns within the challenge are Adopt a Plant, Plant with A Purpose and Volunteer.

[Register and learn more>>](#)

[View curriculum and activities>>](#)

The foundation also is offering a Green Thumb Challenge Grant, which will recognize a school or youth group's garden project with a \$5,000 prize.

[More information on the grant>>](#)

## Trainings & Conferences

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### Professional Grant Development Workshop

**August 15-17, 2012, 8:30 am- 4:30 pm**

**Arizona State University - MERCADO**

This intensive three-day grant proposal workshop is geared for: 1) those who wish to strengthen their grant writing skills and 2) beginners who wish to acquire and master the techniques of preparing, writing and winning proposals from various funding agencies. The center of attention will be on how to effectively write proposals in times of keen competition and limited resources. Much has happened in new regulations and in approaches to grant writing, be it for the researcher in the sciences and social sciences, education and non-profit professionals. Workshop Fee: \$595.00 (including tuition, materials, certificate of completion, and continental breakfast). Rebate of \$50.00 per person is given for two or more registrants from the same organization.

[More information>>](#)

## **Quality Counts Methods Miniconference**

**August 18, 2012, 8:00 am- 1:00 pm**

**Pima Community College, Desert Vista Campus**

Join us for the first ever Quality Counts Miniconference. Choose from 6 different workshops that will help improve the quality of your youth program. UW Community Impact partners may send one staff for FREE to the conference. Additional staff and staff from non Community Impact partners will be \$20 each. Organizations will be invoiced in November for the total number of staff attending the conference. Registration closes August 16th, only 25 seats available per session!

[More information>>](#)

## **First Things First Early Childhood Summit**

**Learn. Share. Grow. 2012 - Keys to School Readiness**

**August 19-21, 2012 @ Sheraton Phoenix Downtown Hotel**

For champions of young kids, the [AZ FTF Early Childhood Summit](#) is the hottest ticket of the summer. This statewide conference offers an excellent combination of inspiration, education and collaboration for those who want to get kids birth to 5 ready for school and set for life!

- Want to hear from national experts on the latest research and trends?
- Want to brush up on best practices in education and health for young kids?
- Want to network with others in your area working on behalf of kids 5 and younger?

[Register for the AZ Early Childhood Conference>>](#)

## **2012 Joint Arts Education Conference - Save the Date!**

**October 15, 2012**

The Arizona Commission on the Arts and the Arizona Department of Education are pleased to announce the 2012 Joint Arts Education Conference! Taking place at the Mesa Arts Center on October 15, 2012, the conference will bring together Arizona's arts learning community for a full day of professional development. Keynote speakers, [Peter Boonshaft](#), Professor of Music at Hofstra University, and [David Dik](#), National Executive Director of Young Audiences, will inspire participants to lead the way in the rapidly changing world of arts education. Additional details and registration information coming soon!

[More information>>](#)

## **WestEd Parent Liaison Training Institute**

**October 22-24, 2012, 9 am - 2 pm**

**@ Central Park Square, 2020 N Central Ave, Suite L-150, Phoenix**

Parent liaisons often work without any formal training. This institute will provide the skills to be a highly effective liaison to families. The three sessions cover The APPT model to connect home and school curriculums, aligning family support services to student academic goals, and building parents' capacity to support student learning at home. Participation cost \$450. For more information on how to register, contact 480-823-9425.

## **Summer Changes Everything™ National Conference**

**Oct. 22-24, 2012, Pittsburgh, Pa**

Join the National Summer Learning Association (NSLA) for its 2012 *Summer Changes Everything™* national conference. You'll attend sessions designed to inform on a variety of current topics, from program planning to health and nutrition to STEM (Science, Technology, Mathematics, and Engineering) to policy trends. *Summer Changes Everything™* is an excellent opportunity for summer learning practitioners and stakeholders across the country to take advantage of meaningful professional development, resources and networking opportunities to further enhance program quality and expand opportunities for the youth they serve.

[More information here>>](#)

## **6<sup>th</sup> Annual Children's Obesity Conference**

**Thursday, December 6, 2012**

**@ Desert Willow Conference Center in Phoenix**

This year's conference will address topics related to *"Mental Health and Childhood Obesity: An Exploration of the Role of Bullying, Self Esteem and Health Among Children and Families."* Objectives include:

- Promote community health partnerships and best practices through identifying a variety of funding mechanisms and strategies for new and existing programs.

- Offer resources to increasing access to information and services around children's health and nutrition.
- Define how increasing social issues such as bullying and mental health issues impact childhood obesity for young children and families.
- Identify public health strategies that target obesity through each generation and that involves family and community at all levels.
- Increase strategies and promoting policies that make healthy choices and healthy behaviors simple and accessible for children and families.

[More information>>](#)

## Community Events

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### **NAICL Community Meeting with Flagstaff Chief of Police Kevin Treadway**

*Thursday August 16th, 6:30 pm*

*Killip Elementary School*

Since the Supreme Court's recent decision on SB1070 parts of the law that remain have not yet gone into effect, but community members may have questions about the law and its impact on Flagstaff. The meeting is an opportunity to learn more and speak with the new Flagstaff chief of police about these issues.

### **Free Back-to-School Haircuts for Kids at JCPenney Salons**

*August 1-31* JCPenney, a big supporter of afterschool programs, is offering free haircuts for kids from kindergarten through 6th grade so all kids have a chance to start the school year off right! Call a local store for more details.

[Find your local store with a salon>>](#)

### **Reach Out And Read Literacy Awareness Day at Chase Field**

*September 30, 1:10 pm*

Come enjoy the D-backs vs Chicago Cubs game with family and friends to promote and support Reach Out and Read Arizona (RORAZ), a program of the Arizona Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics. RORAZ promotes early literacy and school readiness in pediatric exam rooms by giving new books to children and advice to parents about the importance of reading aloud. RORAZ will receive a portion of each ticket purchased, as well as promotional space at the D-backs Community Clubhouse. Every child in attendance will have the opportunity to run the bases of Chase Field at the conclusion of the game!

[Click for more information and to buy tickets>>](#)

## Resources, Research & Reports

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### **Check out ReadWorks for Free AZ and Common Core-Aligned Literacy Resources**

Looking for extra practice resources to help youth in your program build reading comprehension skills?

[ReadWorks.org](#) has added hundreds of non-fiction reading passages and text dependent question sets, along with read aloud lesson units for K-6. Lessons are designed to target different aspects of reading comprehension and elements of literature, making them perfect for readers who need extra practice.

### **Make Academic Enrichment Fun with Flocabulary**

Flocabulary offers a unique combination of academic content, catchy music and research-based activities, topped off by youth cementing their learning and using their creativity by writing their own academic raps on topics ranging from math and science to language arts, and can be adapted to all grade levels. There are resources available to make implementation for front-line staff easy, and the program has been proven successful in afterschool settings. Check out "The Week In Rap," as well, an fun way to get kids to think outside the zip code and raise awareness of current events.

[More information>>](#)



## Ignite creativity through media creation with Adobe Youth Voices

When you register at the Adobe Youth Voices Essentials website, you'll get access to free, high-quality digital media lesson plans. These curricula are designed to help young people creatively engage with issues that are important to them, as well as make them fluent in 21st-century skills. By registering, you'll also get to share resources and learn from a community of creative educators who inspire youth around the world. You can download and learn from an assortment of free creative curricula that you can incorporate into your program, connect with a global community of educators engaging students with media, and have a platform to share youth projects with other members.

[More information>>](#)

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