



**@fterschool advisor - January 15, 2013**

## **Announcements from the Center**

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**TIME IS RUNNING OUT!  
Limited Space Remaining for Diana Brown's High-Energy  
Conscious Discipline Training!**



**Space is limited and there are only a few days left to register for AzCASE's new conscious discipline workshop!** Let Diana Brown, a standout from the 2012 AZ Afterschool Conference, empower your staff to handle behavior issues like pros. Her decades of experience working with children mean a treasure trove of practical advice and tips for your program. Conference attendees loved her humor, energy, and easy to implement idea, and so will you!

**Limited spots available, so [register now](#) for one of four January dates across the state!**

Attendees will leave knowing how to:

- Keep their cool when addressing behavior issues
- Handle tattle-tale behavior
- Calmly administer effective consequences
- Recognize brain states and use conflict as a tool for teaching

**ACT QUICKLY** - this is a engaging, participatory training that no program will want to miss, and spots are filling up quickly! Register now for Diana's amazing, energizing Conscious Discipline workshop to get ready for a great spring with your kids!

## **DATES & LOCATIONS**

### **PHOENIX**

#### **West Valley: January 24**

9 AM - Noon

Deer Valley Governing Board Room

20402 N. 15th Ave., Phoenix

**\$30 a person**

#### **East Valley: January 30**

9 AM - Noon

Kyrene Governing Board Room

Ben Furlong Education Center

8700 S. Kyrene Road, Tempe

**\$30 a person**

### **TUCSON**

#### **January 29**

9 AM - Noon

Donna Liggins Rec Center

2160 N 6th Ave., Tucson

**\$30 a person**

### **FLAGSTAFF - NEW LARGER LOCATION**

#### **January 31**

9 AM - Noon

St Pius X Center

2257 East Cedar Ave., Flagstaff

**\$30 a person**

**REGISTER NOW BEFORE**  
**SPACE IS GONE!**

**Questions?** Contact 602.496.3308 or [info@azafterschool.org](mailto:info@azafterschool.org)

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**Sign Up Now to Raise Self-Esteem  
Through Creative Fitness Activities  
with Sandy Slade!**



Research shows that children and youth who are active and healthy reap numerous benefits, ranging from better performance in school to more positive self-image. **Make those benefits a reality for your program's participants by attending AzCASE's February workshop, "Raising Self-Esteem Through Creative Fitness Activities" with Sandy Slade!**

Sandy's workshop is guaranteed to give you unique and creative ideas for making afterschool a force for health in kids' lives. Sandy's activities are non-competitive, appropriate for all ages and abilities, can be taught in a limited amount of space, and are guaranteed to be a whole lot of fun!

You will learn...

- how easy it is for anyone - including fitness novices! - to implement physical activities in their program
- inventive activities that will improve the health and fitness of all kids, regardless of age or ability
- ways to provide a safe learning environment that also provides opportunity for students to develop leadership, communication, and teambuilding skills.

Space is limited, so [register now](#) for this can't-miss opportunity!

## DATES & LOCATIONS

### **TUCSON**

**February 26**

9 AM - Noon

Donna Liggins Rec Center

2106 N 6th Ave, Tucson

**\$30 a person**

### **PHOENIX**

**February 27**

9 AM - Noon

Arizona Bridge to Independent Living

Conference Center

5025 E. Washington St, Phoenix

**\$30 a person**

### **FLAGSTAFF**

**February 28**

9 AM - Noon

Flagstaff Family Resource Center  
4000 N Cummings St, Flagstaff  
**\$30 a person**

## **REGISTER NOW!**

**Questions?** Contact 602.496.3308 or [info@azafterschool.org](mailto:info@azafterschool.org)

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### **Add or Update Your Program Info on the AZ Afterschool Directory for a Chance to Win Prizes!**



It may still be cold outside, but parents and families will soon turn their thoughts to finding spring and summer activities for their children. AzCASE has launched an aggressive outreach effort to raise awareness of the new [Arizona Afterschool Program Directory](#), so now is perfect the time to either update or add your program's information to database for families to find!

The [Directory](#) is the state's only bilingual, centralized database of organized afterschool and out of school time programs. Its powerful search features allow parents and families to look for both summer and school year programs based on geographic location, age, and programming criteria among other options. Join the Directory and make your program accessible to families across the state as they begin looking for spring and summer options for their kids!

**Join by March 1st and be automatically entered to win one of two \$250 Amazon.com gift certificates!**

#### ***Updating or entering data into the directory is easy!***

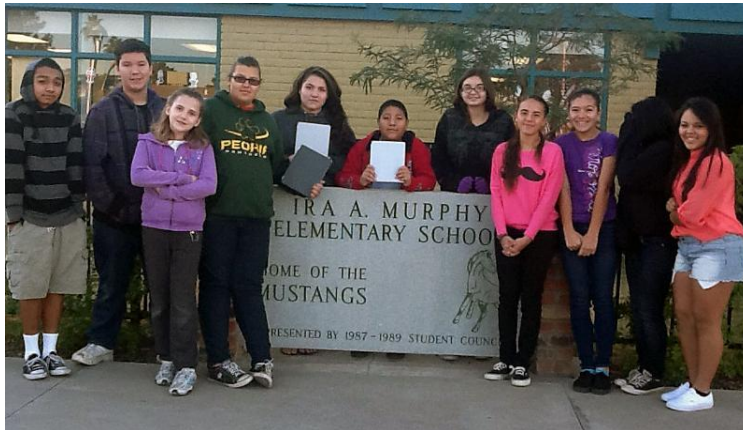
- **If your program already has a login**, enter the directory to review your data and update your information so families can better find you.
- **If you do not yet have a login**, create one and enter the requested data to make your site readily accessible to Arizona families looking for quality afterschool programming!

### **Click here to go to the Arizona Afterschool Directory!**

Questions? Watch the [video tutorial](#) or contact AzCASE at [info@azafterschool.org](mailto:info@azafterschool.org) or 602.496.3308.

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## iPads to the Rescue! Afterschool Program Closing the Technology Opportunity Gap



All children and youth benefit from participating in afterschool programming, but the impact can be particularly profound in low income communities. The Ira A. Murphy School in the Peoria School District serves the highest proportion of free or reduced lunch students in the district, but is ensuring that they get an excellent education during the school day and beyond thanks to the support of their afterschool program. With the help of an AzCASE STEM mini-grant the afterschool program was able to expand its iPad-based, student-driven video announcement program, giving students the 21st Century technological and communications skills so vital to college and career readiness as well as helping level the technological playing field.

Lisa Kluge, the school's Title I Coordinator, oversees the All Star Afterschool Program, which serves an amazing two thirds of the school's 500 K-8 students. When the school surveyed students about what they felt they needed, technology was not high on the list. Kids responded that iPads were for rich kids, and that they just wanted sweatshirts for their sports teams, Kluge recalled. However, she and her colleagues understood that while there might be less access to technology in low income communities, it is vital for their student to gain exposure to technology to even the playing field when they entered high school, college, and the workforce. Students had been lobbying to bring back video announcement created by student reporters to replace the school's standard, administration run morning audio announcements, and with the help of the AzCASE STEM grant the project has taken off this year.

A group of junior high students work together with a faculty advisor afterschool to report on stories ranging from sport team highlights to daily school news. Using the iPads, the budding journalists are able to learn communications and technological skills as well as teamwork. Their hard work pays off as the video announcements are aired throughout the school each morning.

The Ira A. Murphy All Star Program is proof that technology can successfully be incorporated into virtually any afterschool program. Children's intuitive grasp of technology like the iPad and other devices provides a great opportunity for them to discovery learn the process of using them and the chance to teach others - including the adults they work with - the tricks of the trade, as the All Star staff has seen. Here's to other programs following in their footsteps and integrating technology into afterschool!

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## Make the Case for Afterschool on the Expect More Excellence Tour!



Families and children in Arizona should be able to expect more from their education system, and afterschool helps them get just that. From the arts and sports to STEM and literacy, afterschool programs across the state are a key component of getting a world class education. Afterschool programs teach crucial social and emotional skills. They fight the dropout crisis by helping keep kids in school and on track to graduate. Most importantly, they help inspire a love of learning while instilling the 21st century skills so necessary for the increasingly complex college and career world.

**Expect More Arizona launches its new Expect More Excellence Tour next week, and it is crucial that afterschool programs participate to raise awareness of the vital work you do and SUCCESS you are having with children and youth in communities across our state.**

Beginning January 21, Expect More Arizona will be accepting submissions from programs, schools, and organizations that exemplify excellence and are examples of making world-class education a reality in this state. Submissions must have a written piece, and are strongly encouraged to include a video or photo element. In the Spring, Expect More will begin its tour with stops in communities across the state to celebrate "Excellence Spotlights" chosen through the submission process. Submissions must be made online no later than Friday, March 1 to be considered.

The tour will be bringing attention to excellence in education, and programs across Arizona are absolutely playing a powerful role in the lives of our state's students. **Submit your program for a chance at becoming an Excellence Spotlight stop and to increase recognition of the important impact afterschool has on education for our children and youth!**

[Learn more about the Expect More Excellence Tour>>](#)  
[See the categories and criteria for selection>>](#)



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## Take the Afterschool For All Challenge!



In this time of fiscal uncertainty, it's more important than ever to let Congress know about the need for more afterschool resources for our kids, families and communities. You are the local experts on afterschool, so the Afterschool Alliance is asking you to call, meet and email Congress on Afterschool for All Challenge day on Thursday, February 7. With the [Take Action Tool Kit](#), it couldn't be easier to make a difference!

### Three great options to make your voice heard for afterschool:

1. Meet with your Congressional district offices or [set up a site visit at your program](#).
2. [Call or email Congress](#) and ask them to support funding for the afterschool programs working families rely on.
3. [Encourage your contacts to take action](#).

While you're advocating for kids in Arizona, AzCASE and the Afterschool Alliance will be at work in Washington backing up your outreach at home through face-to-face meetings with Congress during the meeting of the National Network of Statewide Afterschool Networks. Don't miss this day of action, a perfect opportunity to speak up for afterschool!

[Pledge to take action and learn more about the Challenge! >>](#)

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## Piper Trust Appoints Afterschool Champion Marilee Dal Pra Vice President of Programs

The Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust appointed Marilee Dal Pra Vice President of Programs this month. Dal Pra has been a champion for afterschool during the more than a decade she has been a program director at the Piper Trust. She has worked to design innovative solutions for to raise the quality of afterschool programing for Arizona children and youth. She is also the architect of key Piper Trust youth initiatives such as the Arizona Parent Kit for families with young children, the creation of the Maricopa Family Support Alliance, and the expansion of early childhood literacy work.

AzCASE congratulates Marilee on the new role, and thanks her for her continuing commitment to afterschool in Arizona!

# 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>>](#)*

## Flu Activity "Intense" in Arizona



This year's flu season started earlier and hit harder than most. The combination of new more aggressive strains and the worst outbreak of whooping cough in six decades has led to many more falling ill than in a normal year. [Google's Flu Map](#) shows that it's not just Arizona that's been affected - almost all of the country has intense flu activity, and there are even [shortages of children's Tamiflu](#) in many communities.

The Centers for Disease Control continues to recommend three steps to stop the flu:

- 1. Get a flu vaccine.** It isn't too late, and [they're widely available](#).
- 2. Take normal preventative measures.** Make sure staff, kids, and families are covering their cough and staying home if their symptoms are accompanied by a fever.
- 3. Take antivirals such as Tamiflu if prescribed by a doctor.**

Follow these rules - and maybe stock up on the hand sanitizer! - to keep the flu from getting you and your program down this winter!

[Read more about the flu epidemic>>](#)

[Get advice from the CDC on fighting the flu>>](#)



## Health Funding Opportunities

### Mantis Gardening Equipment Grants

**Deadline: March 7**

The National Gardening Association and Mantis will give 25 charitable and educational garden programs a Mantis Tiller/Cultivator with border/edger and kickstand and the choice of a gas-powered 2-cycle engine or electric motor. All nonprofits that enhance their local communities are eligible. Past winners include community gardens, schools, ministries, colleges, master gardening groups, and hospices.

[More information>>](#)

### ING Run for Something Better School Awards

**Deadline: May 15**

Working in partnership with the National Association for Sports and Physical Education, ING will provide grants to establish a school-based running program or expand an existing one (before, during or after school hours). Awards are available to programs that target grades Kindergarten through 8th grade in elementary or middle schools. The awards program will provide a minimum of fifty (50) grants up to \$2,500 for each school that desires to establish a school based running program or expand an existing one. Through activity plans created by NASPE and based on the National Standards for Physical Education, the awards program will offer children a healthy start to life and foster their desire to exercise before obesity ever begins.

[More information>>](#)

### 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 amounts vary.

[More information>>](#)

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



# Afterschool in the News

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## Youth Advocates Address Violence Against Children After Sandy Hook Tragedy

In the wake of the tragic Newtown school shooting last month, the White House convened a meeting of youth advocacy organizations in early January to brainstorm ideas to address gun violence and its effects on children and youth. During the meeting Secretary of Education Arne Duncan expressed his concern that not enough is being done to address the issue of violence against children, dangers made even more stark by the shooting at Sandy Hook. In addition to being a voice at the meeting, the Afterschool Alliance contributed policy recommendations underscoring the ability of afterschool programs to provide social and emotional support for all children. These recommendations include targeted funding for programs that prevent youth violence, increased funding for 21st Century programming, universal training for those working with youth in schools and communities, and stronger efforts by schools, families, and community organizations to make sure that all children have meaningful connections to their community as they grow.

[Read more>>](#)

## Quality Counts Data Shows Mixed Progress for Education in Arizona

Education Week just released Quality Counts, its annual assessment of states' progress on improving public education. Arizona got a C- but was highlighted as one of five states that are posting large gains in K-12 education. The K-12 Achievement area is the only sector where Arizona improved, jumping from 43rd to 31st in the nation, although still receiving a D+. The state went down in three of the five categories graded - school finance, teaching profession, and standards, assessment and accountability. Arizona's chance for success results remained the same from 2011, ranked 48th out of 50 with a C-. Negative factors include low preschool and kindergarten enrollment, drops in family income and both parental and youth employment figures, and low graduation rates.

The takeaway from afterschool - there is still work to be done in improving K-12 education outcomes, and afterschool programs are a key to that progress.

Click to [read the entire Quality Counts report for Arizona](#), or to see the [Arizona Ready Council's overview](#).

***Is your program an example of excellence in education? Submit your story for the Expect More Excellence Tour! See the Announcements from the Center section of the newsletter for more info!***

# Job Opportunities

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

[Post it here>>](#)

## Department of Economic Security

Human Services Program Development Specialist (Phoenix)

[Read more>>](#)

## 21st Century Community Learning Center Unit

Education Program Specialist (Tucson)

[Read more>>](#)

**Arizona Community Foundation** Education and Scholarship Administrator (Phoenix)

[Read more>>](#)

**Native Americans for Community Action**

Reach UR Life Program Assistant (Flagstaff)

[Read more>>](#)

**AZ Ball Charter Schools**

Grant Writer (Phoenix)

[Read more>>](#)

**University of Arizona**

Admissions Counselor (Phoenix)

[Read more>>](#)

**Science Foundation Arizona**

Multimedia Specialist (Phoenix)

[Read more>>](#)

**Valley of the Sun YMCA**

Childcare Counselor (Phoenix)

[Read more>>](#)

**West Side Head Start**

Head Start Education Team - multiple positions (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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**AZ Commission on the Arts Fast-Track Grants**

**Deadline: January 25, 2013**

Arizona Commission on the Arts Fast-Track Professional Development Grants for Individuals provide aid to artists, arts administrators, and arts educators for funding professional development and skills-building endeavors with an award of up to \$750. The deadline upcoming deadline is for activities taking place between January 1, 2013 and June 30, 2013.

[More information>>](#)

**The Big Read Grants**

**Deadline: February 5, 2013**

Encourage literacy in your community! Approximately 75 organizations in communities of varying sizes across the country will be selected to participate in The Big Read from September 2013 through June 2014. Community organizations participating in The Big Read develop and produce community-wide reading programs which encourage reading and participation by diverse audiences. Applicant organizations for The Big Read must be a 501(c)(3) nonprofit; a division of state, local, or tribal government; or a tax-exempt public library.

[More information>>](#)

## Children, Youth and Families at Risk Sustainable Community Projects Grants

### **Deadline: February 20, 2013**

The mission of the CYFAR Program is to marshal resources of the Land-Grant and Cooperative Extension Systems so that, in collaboration with other organizations, they can develop and deliver educational programs that equip youth who are at-risk for not meeting basic human needs with the skills they need to lead positive, productive, and contributing lives. The CYFAR SCP supports community educational programs for at-risk children, youth, and families which are based on locally identified needs, soundly grounded in research, and which lead to the accomplishment of one of four CYFAR National Outcomes: Early Education, School Age, Teen, and Parent and Family.

Maximum Award Amount: \$80,000

[More information>>](#)

## Sundt Grants Program

### **Deadline: March 15, 2013**

The Sundt Foundation funds activities and programs undertaken by nonprofit organizations that improve the quality of life for disadvantaged children in the communities where Sundt has an established office (Phoenix, Tucson).

Award Amount: \$1,000 - \$10,000

[More information>>](#)

## Freeport McMoRan K-12 STEM Grants

### **Deadline: March 15, 2013**

The Freeport-McMoRan Foundation supports K-12 public and private schools with their STEM Innovation Grants. These grants are designed to support K-12 teachers and schools in their efforts to develop, improve or expand innovative instructional programs in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). Applicants may be teachers, school administrators or parent volunteers/PTA officials at public and private schools located in or near communities where Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold has a presence. K-12 schools are the only organizations eligible for this support.. Grants up to \$5,000 will be awarded to support projects in the eligible project categories.

[More information>>](#)

## Arts Learning Project Grants for Schools and Organizations

### **Deadline: March 21, 2013**

The Arizona Commission on the Arts offers two sets of grants to pay for artist fees, travel, and per diem expenses for guest artists. School and districts as well as social service and community organizations are eligible to apply. Matching is required, and the funding period runs from July 1 2013-June 30, 2014.

[More information>>](#)

## Batters Up USA Equipment Grants

### **Deadline: Rolling**

Batters Up USA provides free baseball and softball equipment (including bats, balls, tee ball sets, helmets, catcher's gear, and bases) to local organizations. The company serves boys and girls recreational programs up to age 13. Priority will be given to programs serving a high percentage of youth in need, such as inner-city and after-school programs. Equipment will be provided on a first come, first served basis.

[More information>>](#)

## Do Something Project Grants

### **Deadline: Rolling**

Do Something is offering \$500 grants to youth under 25 who have recently created a sustainable community action project, program, or organization. The grants facilitate the growth and success of student programs and are awarded weekly. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis and stay

active for consideration 3 months after submission.

[More information>>](#)

## **Share Our Strength Grants**

### **Deadline: Rolling**

Share Our Strength's No Kid Hungry grants utilize funds raised through our Great American Bake Sale, Dine Out For No Kid Hungry, and other sources to support innovative programs that help improve children's access to programs that help address hunger. Share Our Strength awards grants of \$5,000 - 10,000 to non-profit organizations, schools, and other eligible organizations involved in the following activities:

- \* Increasing access to after-school snack and meal programs or childcare programs supported through CACFP
- \* Increasing access to summer meals programs supported through the Summer Food Service Program or the National School Lunch "Seamless Summer" Program
- \* Educating and enrolling more eligible families in SNAP/WIC
- \* Increasing the availability of Universal School Breakfast through alternative models such as in-classroom breakfast and grab-n-go
- \* Advocacy around any of the above anti-hunger issues

[More information>>](#)

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

# **Awards, Contests & Fellowships**

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## **Civic Engagement Video Contest**

### **Deadline: January 31**

Project Civil Discourse and the Arizona Humanities Council have launched a student voices video contest, inviting Arizona students in high school or college to create a video answering the question, "What does civic engagement mean to you?" First and second place will receive a cash prize.

[More information>>](#)

## **Center for Native American Youth Champions for Change Program**

### **Deadline: January 31**

The Champions for Change (CFC) program recognizes and encourages inspirational Native youth (ages 14 to 24) working in their tribal or urban Indian communities to promote hope and make a positive impact. Champions can include individuals who initiate programs, events, or other efforts to improve the lives of fellow Native youth and Indian Country. In addition to an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, DC, where finalists will be honored, they will also have an opportunity to participate in a mentorship pairing; serve a two-year term on a newly created Youth Advisory Board at the Center; and be eligible for consideration for a future visit from a member of the Center's board of advisors to their home community to share more about their initiative for change.

[More information>>](#)

## **National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award**

### **Deadline: February 4**

The National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award is given to twelve excellent out-of-school arts and humanities programs, particularly those from underserved communities. Winners receive \$10,000 and an invitation to accept their award from the President's Committee's Honorary Chairman, First Lady Michelle Obama, at a ceremony at the White House. In addition, winners will receive an award plaque, the opportunity to attend the Annual Awardee Conference in Washington, DC in the summer of 2013, and will be featured on the National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award website.

[More information>>](#)

## **Christopher Columbus Awards**

**Deadline: February 4**

The Christopher Columbus Awards is a national, community-based science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) program for middle school students. The program challenges the students to work in teams of three to four, with an adult coach, to identify a problem in their community and apply the scientific method to create an innovative solution to that problem. Eight finalist teams and their coaches will receive an all-expense-paid trip to Walt Disney World® to attend National Championship Week and compete for cash prizes and the \$25,000 Columbus Foundation Community Grant, plus a \$200 development grant to further refine their idea.

[More information>>](#)

## **2013 Excellence in Summer Learning Award**

**Deadline: February 8**

The National Summer Learning Association's Excellence in Summer Learning Award recognizes outstanding summer programs that demonstrate excellence in accelerating academic achievement and promoting healthy development for young people between kindergarten and twelfth grade. In addition to recognizing the Excellence Award-winning programs, NSLA will also recognize summer learning innovations in high-interest categories such as, but not limited to: Family Engagement, Digital Learning, Health and Nutrition, Early Literacy, and New Vision for Summer School. All programs also receive detailed written feedback--highlighting both strengths and recommendations for improvement based on NSLA's quality standards.

[More information>>](#)

## **Coconino County Caring for Children Awards**

**Deadline: February 8**

CCC&Y is now accepting nominations for the Annual Caring for Children Awards. Selected winners will be recognized at the Annual Child Abuse Prevention Kick-Off Luncheon scheduled for Thursday, March 28th from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Acceptable nominations can be for any Coconino County resident or provider giving direct service, care and support to children and youth. Take the time to honor and support that person in your agency or your life who is committed to the health and success of children and youth!

[More information>>](#)

# **Trainings & Conferences**

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## **College Depot at Burton Barr Library**

**January 15, 6-7:00 p.m. - How to Pay for College (presented in Spanish)**

**January 16, 5:30-6:45 p.m. - Searching for Scholarships + Hands-on Lab**

**January 24, 5:30-6:45 p.m. - Understanding Financial Aid + FAFSA Lab**

**January 31, 5:30-6:45 p.m. - Searching for Scholarships + Hands-on Lab**

Phoenix Public Library's College Depot is offering a series of college financial aid workshops this January, including a Spanish-speaking session. Students who are planning to attend college and their parents will gain a better understanding of the financial resources available to them and will have the opportunity to participate in FAFSA and scholarship search labs and receive hands-on assistance. Space is limited so register soon!

[More information>>](#)



## **Conscious Discipline with Diana Brown**

**January 24, 9-Noon, Phoenix - West Valley (Deer Valley Board Room)**

**January 29, 9-Noon, Tucson (Donna Liggins Rec Center)**

**January 30, 9-Noon, Phoenix - East Valley (Kyrene Board Room)**

**January 31, 9-Noon, Flagstaff (St Pius X Center)**

Diana Brown, a star of the 2012 Arizona Afterschool Conference, will be delivering her high-energy, engaging Conscious Discipline workshop on four dates across the state. She got rave reviews of her session at the November conference - attendees loved how fun, funny, and useful her session was. Behavior management can be a challenge, let Diana show you how to effectively handle conflict so staff and kids can spend less time addressing behavior and more time learning! \$30 a person, register now!

[More information>>](#)

## **Mapping to the Core**

**January 24, 2013, Grand Canyon University, Phoenix**

Hosted by Grand Canyon University and the Arizona Department of Education, this dynamic professional development opportunity helps schools take a deeper approach to using the Common Core Standards to map their curriculum. Dr. Heidi Hayes Jacobs will lead the training, showing how the switch to Common Core offers the opportunity to upgrade teaching and learning for 21st century learners.

[More information>>](#)

## **Arts Integration for STEM Trainings**

**January 26, 2013 - Oro Valley (Pusch Ridge Christian Academy)**

**February 2, 2013 - Tempe (Sperling Center for Educational Innovation)**

Learn the Arts Integration Solutions (AiS) approach to engaging students in STEM learning through the alignment of arts and academic standards in this free training. Experience a lesson demonstration that explores a process shared by the visual and performing arts, scientific inquiry, and design engineering to increase critical thinking and problem solving. You can immediately apply theories, strategies, lessons, and resources gained in this intensive in your classroom to transform your teaching practice and student learning.

[More information>>](#)

## **Beyond School Hours XVI**

**February 20-23, 2013, Jacksonville, FL**

Beyond School Hours XVI will be held February 20-23 at the Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront in Florida. Conference participants will learn how to successfully engage older youth, see best practices in action and connect with education leaders. Ron Clark, the 2000 Disney American Teacher of the Year and two-time New York Times bestselling author, will be the keynote speaker.

[More information>>](#)

## **Creative Fitness Activities with Sandy Slade**

**February 26, 9-Noon, Tucson (Donna Liggins Rec Center)**

**February 27, 9-Noon, Phoenix (ABIL Conference Center)**

**February 28, 9-Noon, Flagstaff (FUSD Family Resource Center)**

Looking for great activities and strategies to keep you kids happy and healthy? Register now for AzCASE's February Training, "Raising Self-Esteem Through Creative Fitness Activities!" with Sandy Slade, a hit at the 2012 Conference. Getting active keeps kids healthy, sets them on the path for a better future, and raises their self-esteem. Sandy's activities are fun, easy to implement, and guaranteed to be a hit! Learn how anyone can make fitness part of afterschool at this lively active

training!

[More information>>](#)

### **2013 Forum on Nonprofit Effectiveness**

***March 1, 2013, Doubletree Hotel - Reid Park, Tucson***

Join nonprofit leaders and business professionals as they discuss ways to increase organizational capacity, sustainability and expansion - and how to put this into practice at your organization. Today's three traditional sources of funding (earned income, government, and philanthropy) are important, fundamental sources for nonprofit operations. However, there may be more for your organization...capital financing. This emerging fourth resource stream is part of the innovative movement occurring within the social sector. Explore with others how your organization's impact on the communities you serve can be punctuated with capital investment.

[More information>>](#)

### **22nd Annual Celebrate the Young Child Conference**

***March 9, 2013, Glendale Civic Center***

One of the largest Early Childhood Conferences in Arizona, the Celebrate the Young Child Conference provides a full day of training for over 600 early childhood professionals. It is sponsored by Association for Supportive Child Care and the Arizona Child Care Association, and offers professional development and networking opportunities.

[More information>>](#)

### **Best of Out of School Time Conference**

***May 1-4, 2013, Palm Springs, CA***

BOOST invites you to join the nation's largest, most recognized and comprehensive conference for after school and out-of-school time professionals. Set in a retreat-like atmosphere, this conference promises to rejuvenate your passion and boost your direction for quality programming.

[More information>>](#)

## **Community Events**

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### **Arizona FIRST Robotics Competition**

***January 19, 10 AM***

***Coconino High School Gym, 2801 N. Izabel St., Flagstaff***

This Saturday the CocoNuts FIRST Robotics Team of Coconino High School will host the the largest ever Arizona FIRST Tech Challenge robotics competition. 32 teams from Arizona, Nevada, New Mexico, and California will be there with the robots they have built to play this year's course, "Ring It Up!" Opening ceremonies begin at 10 AM, attend to support this amazing STEM activity in our state!

[More information>>](#)

### **Arizona Grandparent Ambassadors Community Outreach & Advocacy Summit**

***January 26, 9 AM - 3 PM***

***Holiday Inn, 777 N Pinal Ave, Casa Grande***

Please join us for this free day-long forum that explores the challenges facing grandparents who are raising their grandchildren and learn about some solutions and supports. Childcare and lunch will be provided at no cost and transportation assistance is available on request.

[RSVP online](#) by January 22, 2013. Questions about the Summit? Contact Laura Jasso at 520-722-5945 or [gpambassador@gmail.com](mailto:gpambassador@gmail.com).

## **Arizona SciTech Festival**

**February 9 - March 17, events across the state**

Looking for an awesome event to attend to learn more about science, technology and innovation in the great state of Arizona? The time has come for the Arizona SciTech Festival once again!

*A sampling of events across the state:*

### **Teen Leaders In Conservation Events**

**01/16/2013 - 7:00pm - 8:00pm**

**02/20/2013 - 7:00pm - 8:00pm**

**03/20/2013 - 7:00pm - 8:00pm**

**Nina Mason Pulliam Rio Salado Audubon Center**

Interested in environmental science careers? Join us for Teen Leaders in Conservation where environmental and sustainability professionals will provide insight into their careers. This is a great chance to make new contacts, receive free career guidance, and be introduced to some of the countless career opportunities in environmental science and sustainability!

- Jan 16 - Wildlife Disease Research/Management
- Feb 20 - Park Management/Law Enforcement
- Mar 20 - Herpetology

[More information>>](#)

### **2nd Annual Great Paper Airplane Flyoff**

**January 26, 11 AM - 5 PM**

**Pima Air and Space Museum, Tucson**

Contestants each will have an opportunity to throw a plane they designed and folded themselves from one 8.5" x 11" sheet of paper. Competitors will be competing against others in the same age group. Age groups are 6-8, 9-11, and 12-14. Farthest throw wins. The winner of each age group will get their name on a perpetual trophy and a \$500 savings bond. Register for this competition [online](#). Entering your child gets them and up to four family members into the museum for free on the day of the competition! On event day registration will start at 9:00am and the first heats of competition will start at 11:00am.

[More information>>](#)

[Learn more about the festival and find other events here>>](#)

## **Resources, Research & Reports**

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### **Tool Kit for Expanded Learning Grows**

The Tool Kit for Expanded Learning, a project of the [Expanding Learning and Afterschool Project](#) and the [Collaborative for Building After-School Systems \(CBASS\)](#), offers a rich and diverse set of tools for building systems for expanded learning and afterschool. This month they have added even more great content, with publications and videos on topics ranging from data sharing to expanding learning for older youth.

Check out their [new video](#) highlighting ten innovative and effective ways for schools and community organizations to build strong partnerships that support high-quality expanded learning. This can be used within an organization, at a meeting with prospective partners, as a level-setting tool with afterschool champions, or in a number of other ways.

[See the rest of the tool kit here>>](#)

## The Link Between Family Income & Youth Development

Raising a family can be difficult work, but for low-wage earning parents and families, parenting can be especially hard. This is because low-income work often makes providing for a family difficult and rarely provides benefits to make balancing work and parenting easier, such as paid time off, flexible scheduling, and job stability. Unfortunately, according to a study by the Center for Social Policy, it is the children of low-wage earning parents who are often most affected by their parents' work. An estimated 3.6 million children, many of them minorities, run a higher risk of dropping out of school, becoming pregnant, and growing up too soon to fill the roles of absent adult members of the household as a result of their parents' work.

Though the correlation between family income and youth outcome is both alarming and disheartening, the report suggests that afterschool programs can play an important role in the development of low-income youth by providing children and teens with a safe and supervised environment, reinforcing their academic development, encouraging healthy activities, and by giving their working parents peace of mind.

[Read the full report here>>](#)

## Curriculum Spotlight: Exploring Water Science in Afterschool

Don't let a lack of curriculum options keep you from integrating STEM into your program! There are a ton of resources - including free ones! - out there that make it easy for staff and fun for kids! This month, check out Exploring Water Science, a unit specifically created for the afterschool setting. The lessons, originally developed for New Jersey afterschool providers, are easily portable and offer dozens of hands-on activities for students in grades four to eight. Its greatest asset is the Facilitator's Guide, which provides the research-based rationale, clear how-to, and plenty of encouragement to engage children in genuine inquiry.

[Access the Afterschool Water Science Curriculum here>>](#)

## Featured Activity

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### Beat the Winter Blues With a Travel Project!



Don't let the cold weather get you or your kids down! Use afterschool as a time to hone literacy skills and take a mental vacation with this Travel Brochure project, great for any age!

Materials:

- [Things to Include in a Travel Brochure Handout](#)
- Paper and Art Supplies
- Assortment of travel brochures or [example brochure](#) as a model
- Various reference materials, print and online, if available

Steps:

1. Ask kids to share their travel stories:

- Where did they go?
- How did they decide to go to these places?
- What were their favorite moments in their travels?
- What was the best place to eat? The best place to stay? The activity that was the most fun?

2. If the kids haven't traveled recently, ask them if there are places they would like to go. Ask:

- Why would they want to go to that place?
- What do they know about it already?
- What would they want to know before they go?
- Where would they look for that information?

3. Using the example brochures, learn about what makes a successful travel brochure. Ask:

- Are there maps? photos? diagrams? other illustrations?
- What kind of language and vocabulary is used?
- How is text presented? paragraphs? bulleted lists?
- Are there specific places highlighted? What kind?

4. Have the kids decide a location for their own brochure as well as an audience. Ask:

- Who is your audience for this brochure? What is your purpose? (Is it to convince your parents to take you on a trip? Is it to share with your grandparents so they can learn about your adventure? Is it for your neighbors to help them if they decide to go to the same place? Is it for yourself, so that you can keep a vivid memory of your trip?)

5. Using the Things to Include in a Travel Brochure Handout and the art supplies and paper, have the kids work on creating their own brochures featuring their travel destination.

6. Display or share with others!

[See the lesson and others like it on Read Write Think>>](#)



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