



## @fterschool advisor – June 14, 2012

If you are unable to see the graphics in this e-mail, please click [here](#) to view it on our [website](#).

### Tomorrow is the Last Day to Submit a Nomination for an Afterschool Awards of Excellence!

Nomination forms, guidelines, and submission details can be found on the [AzCASE website here>>](#)

Nominations postmarked by June 15th **WILL** be accepted.

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### Technology Grant Opportunity Coming Soon!

The Arizona Center for Afterschool Excellence is partnering with Cox Communications to expand this year's mini-grant program! Afterschool programs statewide are invited to apply. Stay tuned for more details on this partnership and how your program can be awarded to either create new or expanded ways for incorporating technology or STEM based learning in afterschool programs.

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### Best Practice: Youth Voice & Choice

This week, AzCASE received this fabulous email from an afterschool leader in Colorado regarding our website resources page:

*"My students have been using your webpage [Websites for Youth](#), and brought to my attention how helpful it has been for them...As a thank you, one of my students, Danielle, suggested another resource: [Free Online Economic Resources for Kids>>](#)*

*Could you add this to your page? I think it would be a great addition! I researched the article and it is very resourceful which is why I agreed to write to you when she asked me the other day.*

*We would like to thank you again for the wonderful resources and hope that you add our newly discovered resource to your page! If you put it up, let me know, as I would love to show her the suggestion up...it would be a great motivator for her peers to see too!"*

This is a great example of a program that values **youth voice and choice**. In addition to the experience of in depth internet research, these students feel empowered to share their own ideas with their afterschool leader. This afterschool leader empowered Danielle further by actually sending us her suggestion, knowing that she would be thrilled if it were to appear on our Websites for Youth page (we have since added it!) and it "*would be a great motivator for her peers*".

Research shows that involving youth in planning and allowing them to influence and make decisions about their environments builds confidence, independence, and leadership skills. According to the National Service Learning Clearinghouse, "having opportunities to be heard and to partner with adults in improving schools and communities can help young people master developmental tasks. Additionally, these opportunities can encourage youth to form stronger commitments to school and community and to act as agents of social change," (*Research in Support of Youth Voice and Service-Learning*, May 2007).

Experts suggest several ways to encourage youth voice:

- **Give youth opportunities for input into all stages of projects and activities & allow youth to be responsible for elements of each activity**

When youth can take ownership over various projects and activities, they are more invested and engaged. Allow them to make decisions about content and process and provide them opportunities to lead.

- **Gather information from youth through surveys and focus groups**

Do a quick poll on paper or utilize an online tool such as [SurveyMonkey](#) to gauge youth interest.

- **Involve youth as researchers**

Afterschool providers know that it can often be difficult to develop new and exciting, innovative activities for their programs year after year. The youth in your programs are a great resource for ideas! Get them involved in a brainstorming session about activities and subjects that interest them. Engage them in internet research to find activities -- start here:

[Afterschool Resources: Activities & Curriculum>>](#)

Additional toolkits to enhance youth voice and engagement can be found at [Youth Engagement & Voice here>>](#)

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## **Announcing the Launch of the Afterschool Directors Leadership Council**

Responding to your requests, the Arizona Center for Afterschool Excellence announces the creation of a **Directors' Leadership Council**. The Leadership Council is meant to be a forum where Directors of Afterschool Programs gather to keep abreast of what's happening at the state and national level, share best practices, express and discuss concerns in a safe and supportive environment, and enjoy the camaraderie of your peers.

The Directors' Leadership Council is open to directors of licensed and unlicensed programs statewide. Your needs and your interests will drive the agenda.

**Join us for the inaugural meeting on Tuesday, June 19, 9:30 - 11:30 AM** at the Arizona K-12 Center, 99 East Virginia Avenue, Phoenix, Suite 150. Statewide participation is encouraged and those unable to attend in person can join telephonically by calling 877.391.5938, guest code 5336.

**Please RSVP** for the first meeting by emailing AzCASE at [mmcclintock@azafterschool.org](mailto:mmcclintock@azafterschool.org).

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**Afterschool: No Bullying Allowed**  
**A Statewide Project for Youth in Afterschool**  
**Deadline: July 13, 2012**

**Afterschool: No Bullying Allowed** is a statewide afterschool project aimed at empowering youth to prevent bullying and promote mutual respect in their social environments. Children and youth participating in summer programs throughout Arizona have the opportunity to create an Afterschool: No Bullying Allowed project. Many of the projects will be on display in an exhibit this fall, in conjunction with Lights On Afterschool as well as in a printed publication.

**Guidelines:**

- \* Program staff engage youth in a conversation about bullying
- \* Youth work together to come up with strategies to eliminate bullying and promote a positive and safe environment in their afterschool program
- \* These ideas and strategies will then be used to create a project ([see project ideas](#)) that may be submitted for inclusion in the *Afterschool: No Bullying Allowed* publication
- \* Children & youth ages 5-17 participating in summer programs in Arizona are eligible to participate

**Submission:**

[Register for free online](#) to participate. Mail or drop off completed Afterschool: No Bullying Allowed projects to: Arizona Center for Afterschool Excellence, 112 North Central Avenue, Suite 700, Phoenix, AZ 85004 by **Friday, July 13th** for a chance to have your program's work displayed in a Lights on Afterschool exhibit and in a printed publication. Projects will not be returned.

**Project ideas, resources, and how to start a conversation about bullying** are available on the [Afterschool: No Bullying Allowed page of our website](#)  
[Register to participate here>>](#)

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**Are You Doing STEM Based Learning Activities in Your Summer Program?**

**We want to hear from you!**

The Center is interested in learning about what fun, hands-on STEM activities you are doing in your program. Tell us about your program or invite us out for a visit! We will be doing site visits of STEM-related programs throughout the summer.

Contact AzCASE at [mmcclintock@azafterschool.org](mailto:mmcclintock@azafterschool.org)  
or call 602.496.3307

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

## **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**

## **WORKSHOPS**

**We are seeking proposals in the following areas:**

*Physical Activity & Fitness  
Nutrition  
Mental & Behavioral Health  
STEM, Arts & Literacy Program Ideas  
Afterschool Safety  
Site Management & Program Planning...and more!*

[Workshop Presenters information & application>>](#)  
**Applications must be received by July 9, 2012**

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## **Making Afterschool an Election Issue in 2012**

The Arizona Legislature adjourned two weeks ago and 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.

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>>](#)

## Important Dates & Deadlines

[General Election>>](#)

July 30, 2012 Voter Registration Ends

August 28, 2012 Primary Election

November 6, 2012 General Election

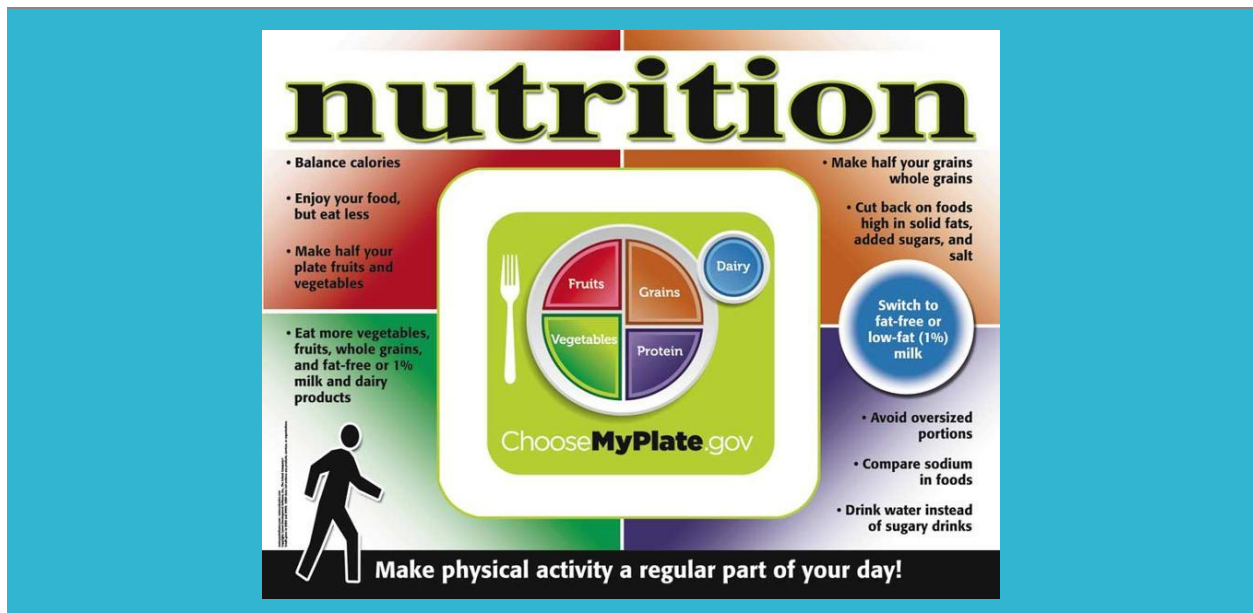
October 8, 2012 Voter Registration Ends

## More information

Access additional election resources, afterschool talking points, and find your legislators on our website at: <http://azafterschool.org/Resources/Advocacy.aspx>

# 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 will feature 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>>](#)*



It is much easier to establish good habits when children are young rather than try to correct poor habits later. Focus on helping youth understand what makes a food healthy, how to make smart food choices, and why it's important to eat healthy!

## June is MyPlate Birthday Month!

Remember to make at least half your plate fruit & veggies! These resources and lessons will help you teach youth to choose healthier options.

For more information on MyPlate, check out <http://www.choosemyplate.gov/>

### Resources for Health

#### 10 Tips Nutrition Education Series

The Ten Tips Nutrition Education Series provides afterschool providers and youth with high quality, easy-to-follow tips in a convenient, printable format. These are perfect for posting in the classroom or at your center.

[View and print tips here>>](#)

#### Choose MyPlate Lesson Plan

Customizable to fit the time of your program and age of your youth- includes an application activity, mini-lab recipes, and a PowerPoint and note guide to accompany the lesson.

[View lesson>>](#)

#### 8 MyPlate Lesson Ideas for K-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

Use these lesson ideas to make education fun! For more [free printable nutrition lesson](#) plans go here. Also check out [Healthy kids Challenge](#) for great nutrition curriculum tools.

[View Lessons>>](#)

#### MyPlate Lesson for Middle School

Through group work and class discussion, youth will Investigate MyPlate and understand the importance of eating healthy foods and exercising regularly.

[View Lesson>>](#)

#### Nourish

Nourish is an educational initiative designed to open a meaningful conversation about food and sustainability, particularly in schools and communities. Nourish combines PBS television, curriculum resources, web content, short films, and teacher and youth seminars.

[More information>>](#)

#### Up for the Challenge: Lifetime Fitness, Healthy Decisions

*Up for the Challenge* takes a wellness approach -- encouraging youth to be active and make healthy decisions throughout their lifetime. This curriculum comes with a Resource Kit containing food models, posters, pedometers, fat and muscle models, music CD, yoga videotape, handwashing storybook, and arts and craft materials. The curriculum is a support piece for the Army Child & Youth Services Program.

[View curriculum>>](#)

## Health Funding Opportunities

### Healthy Kids Dance for Health™

Schools and Youth Programs Raise Funds and Get Healthy! For nearly a decade, Healthy Kids Challenge has been helping communities, schools, and youth programs support kids and adults in making healthy eating and physical activity a habit. Check out the [Event details](#) to support healthy lifestyles and raise funds for your school or program! [Start now!](#)

### 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>>](#)

Arizona's Coordinated School Health Program provides current funding opportunities from their partnering organizations.

[View them here>>](#)

## Research & Reports

### Summer Meals Reaching Fewer Low-Income Children- **Arizona ranks 36th nationally**

Fewer low-income children participated in the nation's summer nutrition programs in July 2011 than a year earlier, according to [Hunger Doesn't Take a Vacation](#) an analysis by the Food Research and Action Center (FRAC). Only one in seven of the low-income students who depended on the National School Lunch Program during the regular 2010-2011 school year received summer meals in July 2011.

[Read more from FRAC>>](#)

### Standards for Healthful Eating

The National Institute on Out-of-School Time has created quality healthful eating and physical activity (HEPA) standards. These standards, adopted by the National AfterSchool Association last year, were created to foster the best possible nutrition and physical activity outcomes for children in kindergarten through 12th grades who attend after-school programs. The standards address snack content and quality, employee training, curriculum, social, program and environmental support.

[View standards>>](#)

**Healthy Summers for Kids: Turning Risk Into Opportunity** The purpose of the *Healthy Summers for Kids: Turning Risk Into Opportunity* brief is to draw attention to summer as a unique developmental period for youth—a time when risk for obesity and food insecurity both rise—by highlighting findings from recent research. The brief also provides a window into opportunities to make positive change to improve children's health in summer, including a few ways that communities, schools, summer programs, health practitioners, and caregivers are already working to promote healthy habits, healthy eating, and increased physical activity.

[Download a copy here>>](#)



## Conferences, Trainings & Seminars

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

You're invited to the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual  
**Arizona Statewide Afterschool Conference &  
Awards of Excellence Luncheon**

**Saturday, November 3, 2012**

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[More information>>](#)

**Questions?**

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

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in the afterschool community,  
join our network on Facebook!



## Afterschool in the News

**Guest Blogger Barry Ford:**

**Where Do Kids Belong in Making Policy?**

Earlier this month, at the *Afterschool for All Challenge* and USTA's First Annual Advocacy Days, I spent a lot of time up on Capitol Hill talking about two issues dear to me: afterschool programs and physical activity for kids. It's the kind of work that is incredibly invigorating, and immensely frustrating. It is invigorating to hear young people, parents, educators and youth workers share their stories and experiences, like the young man whose afterschool program gave him the means, tennis programming, and the motivation, to take control of his diabetes. Or the afterschool chess champ who led a successful campaign to get Mayor Bloomberg to restore funding cut from his school.

[Read more from the Afterschool Snack>>](#)



### **Afterschool Alliance Guest Blog: The Afterschool-STEM Connection**

Many of the solutions commonly proposed for the shortcomings of STEM education in the United States rely on schools doing the same things they've always been doing, only in greater quantity. But longer days and more and longer class periods won't necessarily yield better achievement. As appealing as it might be to policymakers to just throw more class time at the problem, there's not a lot of research to demonstrate it will work.

[Read more from the Afterschool Alliance>>](#)

### **Scottsdale May Raise Academic Bar for Student Athletes**

The Scottsdale Unified School District is debating whether to require a minimum "C" average for student athletes -- a bold move that would make it the largest district in Arizona to raise the academic bar. The governing board on Tuesday will consider ways to set standards for students who compete in activities after school, including sports, marching band, debate and other clubs. Even if the district ends up not requiring a minimum 2.0 grade-point average, it's likely to add more frequent grade checks and extra-help programs for faltering students.

[Read more from azcentral.com>>](#)

### **City Partners to Continue Afterschool Programs**

Circle K Corporation and United Cerebral Palsy of Central Arizona (UCP) have partnered with the city of Phoenix to ensure the future of afterschool programs for Phoenix students this summer. Circle K Corporation committed \$36,000 to fund a Phoenix Afterschool Center (PAC) at Sunnyslope Elementary School, which will cover the costs of training and staffing. Students have the opportunity to work on projects, play games that exercise the mind and body, and engage with other students in a positive, safe environment.

[Read more from Phoenix.gov>>](#)

### **Voice from the Final Frontier at NPA**

There were some tense moments at first, when attempts to get a voice on the other end of the radio were met with just noise. One radio was on Earth, specifically Flagstaff, more specifically the gym at Northland Preparatory Academy. The other was inside the International Space Station, some 250 miles from our planet and into the final frontier. At NPA, teacher Kaci Heins tried again and again into her radio. She gave her call sign, KF7RCV, and asked if the astronaut aboard the station at "NA1SS" could hear her. Then a clear transmission came back, a call sign and a greeting: "This is NA1SS, can you hear me, over?"

[Read more from azdailysun.com>>](#)

## **Job Opportunities**

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

[Post it here>>](#)

### **Queen Creek Unified School District Community Education Programs Coordinator**

[Read more>>](#)

**Boys & Girls Clubs of Tucson**  
**Clubhouse Director**

[Read more>>](#)

**Phoenix Day**  
**Summer Program Facilitator**

[Read more>>](#)

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

## **Funding Opportunities**

**\*New opportunities in red**

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### **Singing for Change Grant**

**Deadline: Ongoing**

Funded by singer Jimmy Buffet, Singing for Change offers grants of \$1,000 - \$10,000 that promote the health, education and protection of children and their families. Start with a letter of intent. The foundation then invites grant proposals from selected organizations.

[More information>>](#)

### **Italian Language Study Grants**

**Deadline: June 29, 2012**

The National Italian American Foundation (NIAF) is offering a matching grant program to organizations, schools, and community groups that wish to launch or expand the teaching of Italian in their local public or private K-12 school. The grant may be used to purchase teaching materials, cover teacher salaries, or enhance any activity that furthers the study of Italian. Language programs may be held before, after, or during school hours. Grants range between \$500-2,000 per year.

[More information>>](#)

### **Touching Lives Through Theatre Grants**

**Deadline: June 30, 2012**

Pioneer Drama Service is offering Touching Lives Through Theatre Grants to qualifying middle and high schools. Each grant consists of a \$100-500 credit at Pioneer Drama Service. (After theatrical production costs, any remaining credit may be used for texts, DVDs, and makeup.) Eligible applicants include accredited public or private schools that have a designated faculty member who sponsors their theatre program. Theatre programs must have a budget of \$500 or less annually. Schools with no prior drama program are also eligible.

[More information>>](#)

### **US Airways' Community Education Grant Program**

**Deadline: July 1, 2012**

The US Airways Education Foundation is accepting grant applicants for its 2012 Community Education Grant Program. The foundation will award multiple grants of \$10,000 to nonprofit organizations in Phoenix. To be eligible, applicant organizations must serve children 18 years of age and younger through educational programs that focus on learning and academic achievement for economically disadvantaged or developmentally disabled children and programs that increase student interest and academic achievement in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM).

[More information>>](#)

## **Best Buy Children's Foundation**

**Deadline: July 1, 2012**

Through the Community Grants program, Best Buy teams across the United States select non-profit organizations that give teens access to opportunities through technology to help them excel in school and develop 21st century skills. This year, the Best Buy Children's Foundation will give \$2.8 million in Community Grants. Grant amounts will average \$4000-\$6000 and will not exceed \$10,000.

[More information>>](#)

## **The Fender Music Foundation**

**Deadline: Rolling (reopening in July)**

Multiple awards ranging from \$500 to \$5000 worth of instruments and equipment. Provides music instruction for people of any age who would not otherwise have the opportunity to make music.

[More information>>](#)

## **Tony Hawk Foundation Skatepark Grants**

**Deadline: July 2, 2012**

The Tony Hawk Foundation provides grants of \$1,000 to \$25,000 to encourage and facilitate the design, development, construction, and operation of high-quality public skateparks serving at-risk youth in low-income areas across the United States. 501(c)(3) public charity or a state or local agency (including public school systems or public projects) are eligible.

[More information>>](#)

## **Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services**

**Deadline: July 19, 2012**

The purpose of the Technology and Media Services for Individuals with Disabilities program is to: (1) Improve results for students with disabilities by promoting the development, demonstration, and use of technology; (2) support educational media services activities designed to be of educational value in the classroom for students with disabilities; and (3) provide support for captioning and video description that is appropriate for use in the classroom

[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>>](#)

## **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>>](#)

### **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>>](#)

### **Construction, Maintenance and Completion Grants for Community Playspaces**

**Deadline: Varies**

KaBoom is offering various grant opportunities to help with the purchase of playground equipment for a community playspace, the maintenance of a community playspace or towards improvements of an existing playground using the KaBOOM! community build model. Grant amounts are \$500, \$750 and \$15,000.

[More information>>](#)

### **Scholastic Book Grants**

**Deadline: Ongoing**

Scholastic is sponsoring donations of 500 to 1,000 books to nonprofit organizations that foster literacy and a joy of reading among at-risk youth and families. Scholastic is particularly interested in promoting

literacy in inner-city and rural areas.

[More information>>](#)

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

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## Awards, Contests & Fellowships

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**Tomorrow is the Last Day to Submit a Nomination for an  
Afterschool Awards of Excellence!**

Nomination forms, guidelines, and submission details  
can be found on the [AzCASE website here>>](#)

**Nominations postmarked by June 15th  
WILL be accepted.**

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### **Nominate an Outstanding Public Employee**

**Deadline: June 18, 2012**

Do you know a leader with exemplary public service achievements, an innovator who brings new ideas and technology to government, or an accomplished public servant who has helped inform, engage and connect with citizens? If so, nominate them for The Gabe Zimmerman Awards, named in memory of Congresswoman Gabrielle Gifford's Director of Community Outreach who lost his life while serving the citizens of Arizona.

[More information>>](#)

### **Youth Activist Awards**

**Deadline: June 30, 2012**

The Mario Sivio Youth Activist Award, which carries a cash prize of \$6,000, is presented each year to a young person with a deep commitment to human rights and social justice and a proven ability to transform this commitment into effective action. The recipients must have demonstrated leadership ability, creativity and integrity. The cash award is divided equally between the individual recipient and an organization of his/her choosing.

[More information>>](#)

### **Arizona Art Education Association Awards**

**Deadline: July 30, 2012**

Each year the Arizona Art Education Association recognizes those who have gone above and beyond in their service to the field of Art Education. Award recipients are announced and honored at the AzAEA annual State Conference. Complete award descriptions and guidelines are available at: <http://www.azaea.org/aaea-awards>

### **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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### **College and Career Readiness Webinar Series Every Tuesday from 12:00-1:30pm**

Join the National High School Center for a series of webinars throughout June on college and career readiness. Nationally-recognized experts and practitioners will share their perspectives on defining and actualizing college and career readiness for all students.

Register [here](#) for individual webinars or the entire series.

### **Splish, Splash- We're having a Blast**

**Saturday, June 16, 2012, 8:00am-10:00am**

**@ ChildTime, 7090 N. Thornydale Rd., Tucson, AZ**

Ever wonder what to do with those older children all day? Come find out how much fun school age programs can be. You will learn new activities, themes, and games for outdoor play. Come and have fun as we explore fun activities to do with school-agers! Register for free by calling 866.987.2469 or email [projectmetoo@blake.easterseals.com](mailto:projectmetoo@blake.easterseals.com)

### **Advanced Youth Nonviolence Institute**

**July 9-13, 2012, 9:30-4:30 PM**

This Training of Trainers (TOT) is intended to prepare and certify students as Youth Nonviolence Trainers. NVLP is accepting nominations of 5-7 students each from middle schools, high schools and youth-serving organizations in Tucson and Pima County to participate in this five-day TOT.

Contact Ann Yellott, NVLP Coordinator, to discuss sending a delegation of youth to this Advanced Youth Nonviolence institute (520-991-6781; [azyellott@aol.com](mailto:azyellott@aol.com)). Cost: \$20 per student (scholarships available)

### **2012 National Conference for Principals and Child Care Directors: *What Really Works? Impact and Innovation for Young Learners.***

**July 15-18, 2012, Baltimore, Maryland**

Whether you are a veteran or novice, this conference will inspire and support you. Participants in previous conferences report that the conference helped them to meet the following objectives: Bolster their leadership skills, strengthen their capacity to implement school improvement, sharpen their classroom observation skills through school site visits, learn about tools that help them to assess and better meet the needs of children, collaborate more effectively with community-based organizations and families, use their program's diversity as strength, and have and use a specific plan for their own program in the coming year.

[More information>>](#)

### **NIOST Summer Seminars 2012**

**July 23-27, 2012, Boston, MA**

The National Institute for Out-of-School Time - NIOST -- ([www.niost.org](http://www.niost.org)) has an exciting lineup for the 2012 Summer Seminars! Energize your leadership skills and network with other youth-serving professionals in the OST industry! Find the training seminar that is right for you... [APAS \(Afterschool Program Assessment System\)](#) for those interested in program self-assessment, [OST Systems-Building in a New Age of Education Reform](#) for those involved in city or regional collaboration, [Using](#)

[Data for Program Improvement and Reaching Positive Outcomes](#) for those already performing program self-assessments, [HOST - Promoting Healthy Active Out-of-School Time](#) to introduce the new national standards into your program, or Delve deeper into your leadership skills in our new [Session 3 - The Courage to Lead: A Retreat for Personal Renewal](#), a one-day retreat at the beautiful Wellesley College campus.

[More information here>>](#)

### **Art + Writing**

**August 4, 2012, 9am - 3pm, Phoenix Art Museum** Join this one-day workshop exclusively for educators presented in conjunction with the Museum's summer exhibition, *PAPER!* Practice object-based teaching techniques with an emphasis on language acquisition and questioning strategies. Share ideas with other teachers for exploring art objects from a writer's point of view. No prior art experience needed. Seats are limited! Sign up now at [tickets.phxart.org](http://tickets.phxart.org). A registration fee of \$30 includes breakfast refreshments, lunch and teaching resources.

[More information>>](#)

### **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>>](#)

### ***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>>](#)

## **Community Events**

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### **Microsoft Store Summer Camps are Now Open for Registration!**

**Scottsdale Fashion Square**

Introducing the Microsoft Store's 2012 Summer Camps, where technology meets creativity for ages 8-13. Classes are offered to camp participants free of charge. The 2012 Summer Camps are first come, first served. Choose from Digital Movie Madness, Digital Art Smarts, Office Unleashed, and Game Masters Camp.

[More information>>](#)



## **Celebrate Summer Learning Day**

**Thursday, June 21, 2012**

June 21 is Summer Learning Day-a national advocacy day offering an opportunity to showcase your community's summer learning program, as well as spread the word about the importance of summer learning. Host an event during the week of June 21 or anytime during the summer! During this national showcase, your summer program will want to highlight how you work to:

- Maintain and advance participants' academic and developmental growth
- Support working families
- Keep children safe and healthy
- Send young people back to school ready to learn

Are you having a Summer Learning Day event? Visit [www.summerlearningdaymap.org](http://www.summerlearningdaymap.org) and put it on the National Summer Learning Association's event map to spread the word! Make sure your event is listed by June 21.

## **CreateIT Teen Technology and Media Summer Camps**

Join the Pima County Public Library for an array of great summer camps creating animation, web pages, videos, sound art, posters, logos and more. All Camps are Free and Open to Middle School and High School Students. Dependent on location, all classes take place in June, for a minimum of one week, 3 hours per day.

[More information>>](#)

## **Game Design Workshop**

**July 16 -20 & July 23-27, 9:00am - 3:30 pm**

The University of Arizona School of Information: Science, Technology, and Arts is offering a summer workshop on game design for students entering grades 6-12 on the U of A campus. For more information or to register, [click here](#)

## **Free Summer Health Careers Camp**

**July 12-21, 2012**

High school students interested in an in-depth look at healthcare careers still have time to apply for Midwestern University's eight-day Health Careers Institute for High School Students. Each day from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm during this exciting hands-on program, Midwestern faculty and advanced students will teach workshops in anatomy, physiology, and introductory skills for various health professions, with a special focus on how to prepare for college and what to expect from each profession.

Applications for the annual summer event, which will take place on the Midwestern University Campus in Glendale, must be postmarked by **May 1**. Call 623-572-3353 to request an application, or visit the event page at [www.midwestern.edu/azhealthcareersinstitute](http://www.midwestern.edu/azhealthcareersinstitute).

# **Resources, Research & Reports**

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## **Children's Action Alliance Weighing In: Progress Fighting Obesity Among AZ High School Students**

Last week the 2011 Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), a collection of self-reported data from high school students covering subjects such as tobacco use, sexual health, drug abuse, dietary behavior, and physical activity, was released. [After comparing survey results in 2009 and 2011, data show that the number of children describing themselves as obese has decreased from 12.8% to 10.8%.](#) In addition, children are reportedly spending less time glued to the television screen. If correct, this data shines a positive light on declining rates of childhood obesity in Arizona.

Some survey findings, however, raise concern. Less impressive findings reveal that the number of children meeting physical activity recommendations in Arizona has remained unchanged and is below the national average. This is no surprise as the report also shows fewer students report attending Physical Education classes. While the survey is limited to high school students and the data is self reported, it is good information on what Arizona teens say about their own health activities. By continuing to implement creative strategies which allow kids to be active, Arizona's children can avoid childhood obesity and the lifelong complications which accompany this epidemic. For a list of creative strategies to promote physical activity in schools, see Children's Action Alliance's latest publication, [Weighing In>>](#).

### **Coursera: Free Online Courses**

Through Coursera, older youth can improve their learning experience through FREE online courses taught by professors from the top universities in the world. Coursera seeks to give everyone access to the world-class education and aims to help students learn the material quickly and effectively. Many studies have demonstrated that standard lecturing is not the most effective mode of instruction. Considerably more effective are the teaching methods that use active learning and interactive engagement between faculty and students, and between students and their peers. Courses are offered in Humanities, Medicine, Biology, Social Sciences, Mathematics, Business, Computer Science, and many others.

[More information>>](#)

### **Healthy Summers for Kids: Turning Risk Into Opportunity**

The purpose of the *Healthy Summers for Kids: Turning Risk Into Opportunity* brief is to draw attention to summer as a unique developmental period for youth—a time when risk for obesity and food insecurity both rise—by highlighting findings from recent research. The brief also provides a window into opportunities to make positive change to improve children's health in summer, including a few ways that communities, schools, summer programs, health practitioners, and caregivers are already working to promote healthy habits, healthy eating, and increased physical activity.

[Download a copy here>>](#)

### **Mixing in Math: Summer Season**

Mixing in Math has created a free 28-page PDF with summer-themed activities to ensure that children and youth practice math this summer. Activities include a five-second dash, where children move - like a snail, rabbit or crab - and see how far they go in five seconds. Or create a "giant" museum, in which children create scale models of everyday objects.

[View Lessons>>](#)

### **Summer Meals Reaching Fewer Low-Income Children- *Arizona ranks 36th nationally***

Fewer low-income children participated in the nation's summer nutrition programs in July 2011 than a year earlier, according to [Hunger Doesn't Take a Vacation](#) an analysis by the Food Research and Action Center (FRAC). Only one in seven of the low-income students who depended on the National School Lunch Program during the regular 2010-2011 school year received summer meals in July 2011.

[Read more from FRAC>>](#)

### **Extended Learning Time: Research and Resources**

This resource list was developed by The Finance Project to provide policymakers, school and nonprofit leaders and afterschool providers with a select list of research that supports Expanded Learning and Extended Learning Time (ELT). The resource list includes summaries of each suggested research piece,

which includes resources describing recommendations related to policy initiatives and resource allocation. For ease of use, the resources provided are divided into two meaningful sections:

- 1) Extended Learning Time and Extended Day Initiatives
- 2) Afterschool and Expanded Learning Opportunities

[Download here>>](#)



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