



Arizona Center for Afterschool Excellence

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Author Neil Gaiman on the Importance of Reading & Libraries



Says Gaiman:
"We have an obligation to read aloud to our children. To read them things they enjoy. To read to them stories we are already tired of. To do the voices, to make it interesting, and not to stop reading to them just because they learn to read to themselves. Use reading-aloud time as bonding

November 4, 2013

the @fterschool advisor

Dear Melanie,

We hope you had a great time at the **Arizona Afterschool Conference & Awards of Excellence Luncheon!** Over 550 out-of-school time professionals from around the state attended the annual luncheon and conference, where they participated in over 30 content-rich, strategy-filled **professional development workshops** and engaged in multiple **networking opportunities** offered to make new contacts in the afterschool field. Here's what some of our attendees had to say about their experience:

- "What an **incredible** day it was!" - Tacy Ashby, Grand Canyon University
- "Incredibly **valuable!** I have never **learned so much** and had so much fun at a professional conference!" - Laura Isenstein, Providence Associates, LLC

Helios Education Foundation Founder **Vince Roig**, the 2013 **Afterschool Champion**, was honored for his **commitment to education** at the Awards of Excellence Luncheon. Also honored were the 2013 Awards of Excellence nominees and three **outstanding afterschool professionals, leaders, and programs** were selected as this year's Awards winners:

- **2013 Jane Romatzke Outstanding Afterschool Leader** - Debbie Winlock, *Page Public Library*
- **Outstanding Afterschool Program** - ICAN
- **Outstanding Afterschool Professional** - Kim Allvin,

time, as time when no phones are being checked, when the distractions of the world are put aside."

Read the full article [here](#)

Afterschool in the News

- **16 Trends in Education**
- **Education Q&A with Melinda Gates**
- **The Importance of Collective Impact**

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Boys Hope Girls Hope

Read more about the winners [here](#)

Congratulations to the winners and **thank you** to all who attended the **Afterschool Conference & Awards of Excellence Luncheon** and made the event a **huge success!**

Download YOUR Copy of the New Arizona Quality Standards



School's Out, Make it Count: Arizona Quality Standards for Out-of-School Time Programs is [here](#)!

This comprehensive set of standards gives providers **clear guidelines** for designing **high-quality, inclusive and safe** programming that promotes **positive outcomes for all youth.**

AzCASE is happy to come to your organization, school or community group to give a presentation on the **importance of the standards** and how an individual or organization can get involved using and supporting them.

Please **share** the standards with your networks through your **website, newsletters and social media**. The more afterschool providers that use these quality standards in AZ, the more quality options youth have when the school bell rings.

View & Download the Standards [Online](#)
Email to request **Printed Copies**

Sincerely,

Melanie, Franny, & Angelica
The AzCASE Team

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