



Arizona Center for **Afterschool** Excellence

@fterschool advisor - September 4, 2012

Announcements from the Center

Friday Deadline to Apply for AzCASE STEM Grants!

You have four days left to apply for funding to support STEM in your program! 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!

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.



2012 Conference Workshops Offer Junior High, Administrator Paths!

Afterschool is not a one-size-fits-all arena. Elementary and junior high programs are different. Line staff and administrators look for different things in trainings. We get it. That's why this year's **2012 Arizona Afterschool Conference** will have multiple options for tracks, in addition to high quality, interactive general workshops with tips for all programs.

Searching for ways to get STEM incorporated into your **junior high** program, or ways to engage tweens in afterschool? We've got a track for that!

Want sessions geared specifically for **administrators** and program leadership, ranging from school and family engagement to grant writing to developing intentional programming? We've got a track for you too!

Looking for **health** programming? Get trained to be a physical fitness leader by nationally-recognized afterschool fitness advocate Normandie Nigh, and learn a range of other health activities you can take back to your program the next day with kids in physical health sessions.

On top of workshops specialized to meet your program's unique needs, you'll get to mingle with 600 afterschool staff and administrators from around the state, find your next great vendor in the exhibit hall, and see your colleagues honored at the Awards of Excellence Luncheon!

Register Now for the 2012 AZ Afterschool Conference!

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

The 20th 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

Deadline is Monday, October 1st!

Director's Leadership Council Meeting

ALL Directors of Afterschool Programs are invited to attend the second meeting of the newly created statewide Directors' Leadership Council.

**Tuesday, September 11
9:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Tempe Public Library
3500 South Rural Road
2nd floor Board Room
(easily accessible north of the Superstition Freeway on Rural Road)**

The Director's Leadership Council launched in June at the request of Directors is a statewide 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,
- discuss professional development needs of you and your staff,
- promote the value and benefit of quality afterschool and summer programming,
- increase support for the professionalism of youth development programs, and
- enjoy the camaraderie of your peers.

The inaugural meeting was such a rich sharing of information that the Directors attending asked to meet again in September.

The Directors' Leadership Council is open to directors of licensed and unlicensed programs statewide whether your program is school or community based. Your needs and your interests will drive the agenda. To that end, we welcome your suggestions for the September 11 meeting agenda. Please call Melanie McClintock 602.496.3307 with your ideas and suggestions.

Statewide participation is encouraged and those unable to attend in person can join telephonically by calling 877.391.5938, guest code #5336.

Please email mmcclintock@azafterschool.org and confirm your attendance whether in person or by phone.

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!

If your program is not yet listed in the directory for families to find, 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 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 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.



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

Start Planning for Lights on Afterschool Now!

Register by Wednesday, September 5th for a chance to win a \$500 gift certificate to [Discount School Supply](#)!

Lights On Afterschool is a national celebration that gives local programs the perfect opportunity to tell your story and show off the incredible work you are doing with the children in your program.

This year's national celebration is planned for Thursday, October 18 but we encourage you to plan your local festivities for any day that week that works best for you. Since quality afterschool programming is not broadly understood, we encourage you to take a "show and tell" approach this year. Specifically, depending on your relationship with local school administrators and policymakers, we encourage you to invite school administrators including school board members, superintendents and principals to visit your programs and see firsthand the quality, hands-on learning environment that your program represents. Or harkening back to the success providers had three years ago, we encourage you to reach out to your mayor, city council, state legislator or even your Congressional representative and host them for a visit to see firsthand how afterschool programs complement the learning done in the classroom AND teach the personal skills of communication, teamwork, problem solving, etc. -- all skills much needed in life and the workplace.

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 make sure others can find it. You'll also get 10 free posters, planning tips, and updates.



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

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 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>>](#)

Curious what the common core looks like? Sample items for the PARCC Assessment, which will be used to assess students under the Common Core standards, were just released. [See sample math and reading questions>>](#)

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

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>>](#)

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>

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 6th or mail in your ballot.

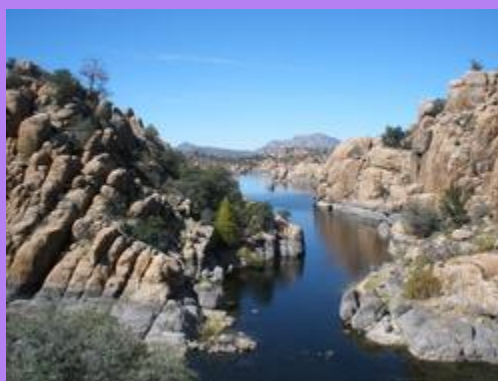
Visit ExpectMoreArizona.org to learn more about Vote 4 Education and how you can get involved!

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>>](#)

Want to feel better? Get outdoors!



A spate of recent studies have been released showing a growing link between time spent outside and well being. The best part about getting outside during afterschool? Everyone wins! One study found that employees who have a view of nature have lower levels of stress, showing adults benefit. Another nationwide study found that children with attention deficit disorder showed a significant reduction of symptoms after spending time outside, as compared to peers with ADHD who didn't get more time outdoors. Get outside to keep kids and adults happy and healthy!

[See the results of the studies>>](#)

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

UnitedHealth HEROES grants

Deadline: October 15, 2012

Youth Service America and UnitedHealthcare are inviting schools and other community-based nonprofit organizations to "step into service" by applying for UnitedHealth HEROES grants. Grants of up to \$1,000 are available for youth-led service-learning projects that aim to combat childhood obesity through walking, running, or hiking. Project proposals must include an activity element where young people can count their steps, as well as a service component that provides direct service, enables advocacy on behalf of a cause, or features youth philanthropy.

[More information>>](#)

Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation 2012-13 Community Grants Program

Deadline: November 15, 2012

Improving oral health for communities and residents of Arizona, particularly the underserved and uninsured, is the mission of the Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation. Since 1997, the Foundation has focused resources across the state

promoting oral health and preventing dental disease in children and youth through age 18. Organizations may apply for grants ranging from \$1,000 to \$15,000 to support oral health promotion and dental disease prevention programs serving children and youth (this includes programs serving pregnant mothers and children and youth through age 18).

Technical Assistance workshops will be held at six sites across the state from 9/6-10/1.

[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 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>>](#)

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

6th 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>>](#)

Do you **LIKE** us?

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



Afterschool in the News

"Uncertain Times" Report Shows Programs Across the US Struggling to Meet Kids' Needs

The Afterschool Alliance released "Uncertain Time 2012: Afterschool Programs Still Struggling in Today's Economy," the third in its series of surveys analyzing the afterschool landscape across the country. Major takeaways: Afterschool programs across the nation are trying to do more with less, faced with diminishing resources and "dismal prospects for new support." The report also highlights the fact that programs in under-served communities, who benefit the most dramatically from involvement with afterschool, have been hit the hardest.

[Read the report here>>](#)

Poll show families worried about education

The annual [PDK/Gallup Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward Public Schools](#) was just released, and the numbers show Americans are worried about education. Lack of financial support was the biggest issue identified as a challenge for schools in respondents' communities, a concern felt particularly strongly by sampled parents of public school children. Closing the achievement gap and improving educational outcomes in urban areas was widely popular, and many respondents were open to paying more taxes to realize those goals. Bullying is also a worry, with respondents saying schools should get involved even if incidents happen outside the school day.

[Read highlights and see more poll data>>](#)

Afterschool Group Has End of Summer Viral Hit

It wasn't all doom and gloom out there in August! A product of the Beats and Rhymes afterschool program at the North Community YMCA in Minneapolis, Y.N.Rich Kids scored an end of summer viral internet hit with "[Hot Cheetos and Takis](#)," a clean rap about their favorite afterschool snack. Apparently kids in Minnesota and Arizona have more in common than they might have thought! Rolling Stone [hailed](#) it as "summer's final truly great jam," and [NPR](#), the [Washington Post](#), and news outlets around the country caught the fever too, spurring conversations about the power of music and arts education to empower and engage youth in afterschool. The video has gotten over two million views, and while it might not be celebrating healthy living, the kids' creativity and ability to drop a beat is no joke!

Job Opportunities

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

[Post it here>>](#)

YMCA of Southern AZ, Mulcahy City Location
Child Care Director (Tucson-area)

[Read more>>](#)

Boys & Girls Clubs of Metropolitan Phoenix

Youth Program Leader: School Outreach (Phoenix)

[Read more>>](#)

Scottsdale/Paradise Valley YMCA

After School Care Staff (Phoenix)

[Read more>>](#)

Bonanza Educational

Afterschool LEGO Instructors (Phoenix)

[Read more>>](#)

Flagstaff Unified School District

FACTS Afterschool Caregiver (Flagstaff)

[Read more>>](#)

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

Funding Opportunities

***New opportunities in red**

ATTENTION SCHOOL-BASED PROGRAMS: Apply for the Dbacks School Challenge!

Deadline: September 14, 2012

Do you have a great idea for a nutrition and fitness program, need new technology to keep kids engaged, or some other awesome project? Are you a school-based program? Partner with your school site to make your best pitch for up to \$5,000 funding to put towards afterschool programming! The Diamondbacks Foundation and University of Phoenix have teamed up to donate to 30 schools and are accepting project proposals in the areas of educational programming, innovation and technology, nutrition and fitness, and campus improvement.

[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>>](#)

GreenWorks! Grants and Grants for Registered PLT GreenSchools!

Deadline: September 30, 2012

PLT, an award-winning national environmental education program for preK-12 educators and their students, is providing up to \$1,000 for schools and youth organizations that propose environmental service-learning projects. New for 2012: Grants of up to \$3,000 will also be awarded to registered PLT GreenSchools (registration is free) that have established a Green Team, completed one of more of the PLT GreenSchools! Investigations, and propose a project based on the findings of at least 1 of the PLT GreenSchools! Investigations. GreenWorks! encourages students to "learn by doing" through community action projects that improve an aspect of their school or their neighborhood's environment. Some examples of past grant projects include energy conservation, habitat restoration, and watershed improvement.

[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>>](#)

North Face Explore Fund: Helping Kids Discover Nature's Playground

Deadline: October 8, 2012

The Explore Fund will support organizations that encourage youth outdoor participation, focusing primarily on creating more connections of children to nature, increasing access to both front & backcountry recreation, as well as providing education for both personal & environmental health. Grants will be given up to \$2,500. Organizations must have 501 (c)(3) status to be considered. Projects that encourage community involvement, focus on breaking down barriers to getting youth outdoors, and have a good chance of significant measurable results and momentum over a period of 1 to 3 years are encouraged.

[More information>>](#)

Nickelodeon Big Help Grants

Deadline: October 15, 2012

The Big Help Grants program is dedicated to the development and implementation of ideas, techniques, and approaches to addressing four key concerns - environmental awareness, health and wellness, students' right to a quality public education, and active community involvement. The grants target these four concerns as areas of great promise in helping students in the twenty-first century develop a global awareness that encourages and enables them to make a difference in their world. Applicants must be practicing U.S public school teachers or public school education support professionals. Grant funds may be used for resource materials, supplies, equipment, transportation, technology, or scholars-in-residence.

[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>>](#)

Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation 2012-13 Community Grants Program

Deadline: November 15, 2012

Improving oral health for communities and residents of Arizona, particularly the underserved and uninsured, is the mission of the Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation. Since 1997, the Foundation has focused resources across the state *promoting oral health and preventing dental disease* in children and youth through age 18. Organizations may apply for grants ranging from \$1,000 to \$15,000 to support oral health promotion and dental disease prevention programs serving children and youth (this includes programs serving pregnant mothers and children and youth through age 18).

Technical Assistance workshops will be held at six sites across the state from 9/6-10/1.

[More information>>](#)

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>>](#)

Ronald McDonald House Charities

Deadline: Rolling

The Ronald McDonald House Charities not only try to improve the health and well being of children directly through our programs, but we also work with non-profit organizations around the world that are making an immediate, positive impact on children who need it most. Grants to these organizations extend the reach and

impact of RMHC and move donation dollars quickly through to areas in their time of need. Amounts vary.

[More information>>](#)

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

Awards, Contests & Fellowships

Sikorsky Helicopter 2050 Challenge

Deadline: September 15

Challenge your kids to make the leaner, greener helicopter of the future! Prizes include a \$1,000 scholarship. Entries judged on uniqueness of concept, description, and impact on the environment.

[More information>>](#)

Future City Contest:

Register Sept.-Oct., Project lasts through Jan.

The Future City Competition is a national, project-based learning experience where students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade imagine, design, and build cities of the future. Students work as a team with an educator and an engineer mentor to plan cities using SimCity™ 4 Deluxe software; research and write solutions to an engineering problem; build tabletop scale models with recycled materials; and present their ideas before judges at Regional Competitions in January. Regional winners represent their region at the National Finals in Washington, DC in February. Registration is \$25 a team, and includes an educator handbook, the SimCity 4 software, support, and a chance to compete at the regional competition.

[More information>>](#)

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

Teaching 21st-Century Skills Outside the School Day (Education Week Webinar)

September 11, 10 am

Innovative efforts are under way around the country to teach and engage students outside the traditional classroom using digital tools. These initiatives range from mobile gaming in after-school programs to high-tech public libraries that target youths. This growing interest comes hand in hand with discussions over whether the traditional definitions of schooling and learning need to change in the 21st century. Join experts who will take a look at cutting-edge, on-the-ground examples of this work and the forces behind this emergent field.

[More information and registration>>](#)

2012 Northern Arizona Education Summit: Threats, Challenges, and Opportunities

September 22, 1-4 pm

Federated Community Church

400 W Aspen Street, Flagstaff

The event will bring together parents, educators, public officials, clergy, business, and other community leaders to discuss the threats to education at the local, state, and national levels, and how we are organizing locally to strengthen education for the common good. Hosted by Northern Arizona Institutions for Community Leadership (NAICL), childcare and translation will be provided.

[More information>>](#)

What an iPad Can Do For You and Your Students (AZK12 Center Training)

September 29, 9a.m. - 3:30 pm

AZK12 Professional Learning Center

99 E. Virginia Ave, Suite 150, Phoenix

Get trained on how to use one of today's hottest tech toys, the iPad, with kids. You'll get hand-on and minds-on time with some of the hottest apps for teachers and students. Participants will learn about working with audio, images, comics, slideshows, video, jigsaw puzzles, eBooks, QR codes, puppet shows, and much more. In fact, the focus will be on workflows, that is, using a variety of apps to accomplish a task. Whether you have one iPad, a small set, or one for each and every student, you will leave with loads of ideas you can immediately put to use in your classroom! *Note: Please bring a fully charged iPad and know your App Store iTunes ID and password so you can download free apps during the workshop.* Registration Deadline 9/7!

[More information>>](#)

Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality: Youth Work Management Training of Trainers

Distance Component: Three One-Hour Webinars on the First Three Fridays in October (10/5, 10/12, 10/19),

Live Component: October 25-26

Chicago, IL

Register by September 17th for this Training of Trainers, targeted at managers and site leaders who wish to be able to support their sites throughout the quality improvement cycle. The course consists of three weeks of distance learning, two days of live training, and one week of distance follow-up. Graduates of the Management TOT can facilitate the Planning with Data and Quality Coaching workshops, as well as provide comprehensive logistical and professional development support to staff who are involved in the process. Participants should expect to spend 2-4 hours per week on readings, practicums, written assignments, and attending webinars.

Management TOT candidates must have successfully attended YPQA Basics and Planning with Data. It is highly recommended, but not required, that candidates have successfully completed the External Assessor Reliability Training and the Quality Coaching workshop.

[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>>](#)

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>>](#)

2012 Statewide Afterschool Conference

November 3, Phoenix Convention Center

Get tips on transforming your program into a health a force for changing lives and saving lives from a nationally-recognized expert! Learn activities and practices you can put to work the next day! Take advantage of specialized Junior High and Administrator tracks! See the nine finalists for the Afterschool Awards of Excellence honored at our annual Luncheon! Enjoy all of this and more at the Annual Statewide Afterschool Conference. Register today!

[More information>>](#)

Ed Trust National Conference

November 8-9, Washington, D.C.

Join hundreds of other educators, advocates, parents, and policymakers who not only believe all students can achieve at high levels, but are doing the work it takes and achieving success for their students. Sessions offer conversations with and best practices from educators at schools across the country that are working to close the gap and getting it done. Topics include implementing Common Core State Standards, ensuring on-time graduation and college/career readiness, closing the literacy gap, and more.

[More information>>](#)

6th 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.*" 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

Flagstaff Unified School District Forums on a Balanced Calendar for the 2013-14 Year

September 10, 6:30-7:30, Sinagua Middle School

September 20, 6:30-7:30, Flagstaff High School

FUSD will hold a series of public meetings in September to discuss the possibility of implementing a "balanced year" calendar. This schedule would keep almost two months free in the summer, schedule a break in October and create a longer spring break. Teachers would provide struggling students with remediation during the first week of breaks, and the second week schools would be closed. Community members will have an opportunity to learn more and discuss the issue at the two forums.

17th Annual Special Needs Activity Day *September 11, 8 am - 3 pm*

Hopi Veterans Memorial Center, Kykotsmovi AZ

Free and fun for all ages.

Phoenix Art Museum Educator Open House

September 12, 5-8 pm, Phoenix Art Museum

Enjoy free appetizers, mini workshops, preview tours, and demonstrations exclusively for educators. Attend this free event meet the museum educators and learn how you can use their resources this year!

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>>](#)

Girl Scouts Career Day at ASU Polytechnic

October 8, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Girl Scouts of Arizona has partnered with ASU and WISE (Women in Science and Engineering) to bring you a fun day filled with science and career exploration at the ASU East Polytechnic campus. Meet professors, eat lunch with students, and get hands on with tons of fun STEM activities!

Open to ALL girls in graded 4-12, even if not Girl Scouts. Fees: \$13 girl, \$8 adult. For more information, contact Crystal Kilkenny at ckilkenny@girlscoutsaz.org.

[More information>>](#)

Resources, Research & Reports

Brookings Institute on Education, Job Openings, and Unemployment in Metropolitan America

The D.C. think tank released a report examining the correlation between education data and employment data. Findings are sobering but not surprising: job openings in metro areas require more education than ever before, and most significantly, metro areas with higher education gaps have experienced lower rates of job creation and job openings over the past few years. More data showing closing the education gap and increasing educational quality and opportunity are more important than ever.

[Read the full report>>](#)

Expanded Learning Time Review of Evidence Base Findings: More Research Needed

Expanded Learning Time in the form of Extended School Days (ESD) or Expanded School Year (ESY) is

spreading to more and more cities around the country - Chicago has experimented, and LA and Denver are two large districts beginning their own ELT pilots. Child Trends looked into the existing evidence regarding EDS and ESY effectiveness, and found that the data available is far from conclusively in favor of ELT, and "more rigorous and higher quality implementation and outcomes evaluations are needed for all types of extended learning time models." Some programs examined even had neutral or negative outcomes in the area of student achievement. As debate swirls around the possibility of states diverting 21st CLCC funds to ELT rather than afterschool, the findings - and cautions from the researchers - are worth a listen.

[Read the full report>>](#)

Featured Activity

President's Active Lifestyle Award Challenge!

The beginning of the year is a perfect time to turn over a new leaf, and if you've been looking to make health and fitness a part of your program, the President's Active Lifestyle Award Challenge is a great way to start. There's an 8 week timeline, and it's been expanded from the fit test we all remember from PE. Nutrition has been added, with kids challenged to get more active and choose a healthy eating habit to add each week.

1. Getting started

Sign up youth or your program for the challenge [here](#).

2. Choose your physical and nutrition activities for the week

You can offer choices for kids to pick their own activities from, or make it a group effort to learn a new sport or try a new healthy food each week, depending on the group. Get the free Tool Kit [here](#) for ideas and a poster. You can always capitalize on interest in the summer Olympics by trying a new sport each week.

3. Log it

Keep track of progress online, or using the [printable log](#) so everyone can see how they are doing on the way to their goals!

4. Celebrate successes

PALA has a variety of awards and prizes [available for order](#), but you can recognize the positive things happening in your program. Have your own closing ceremonies, celebrate with healthy snacks, give away homemade medals or awards, or come up with a way to keep the challenge going and use this as a kick off for the next round!



Arizona Center for **Afterschool** Excellence

112 N Central Avenue, Suite 700

Phoenix, AZ 85004

602.496.3307

www.azafterschool.org
