



# After School Announcements

*Bringing together those who serve Maine youth*

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Greetings!

The big news this month is that the Maine AfterSchool Network has entered into a contract to produce a promotional film about Afterschool and summer programs in Maine. It will be used to educate the public, policy-makers, and potential funders about the great work being done by so many of you throughout the state, and to expand awareness of the importance of Afterschool for positive youth development. If you are interested in having your program included in this film and feel your activities would make good subject matter, please call us and we'd love to talk about it!

See Events section for info about Lights On, the Building Bridges to Quality conference in October, and the Network meeting in September.

Cyndy & Deb

## Quality

**"Bonding with Parents to Benefit Youth,"** by Roberta Newman, School-Age Notes, July 2008, Vol. 28, Issue 11, p.1.

This is a promotion of the new edition of Building Relationships with Parents and Families in School-Age Programs. This 10-year-old resource for training after-school staff to make positive connections with families has been up-dated to include new activities and reflect current trends and issues, with new notes, scripts, and other tools. To order call 800-410-8780 or visit [www.SchoolAgeNotes.com](http://www.SchoolAgeNotes.com).

**Afterschool Curriculum Choice: Technology Resources** is a new online resource from the Education Development Center and the National Partnership for Quality Afterschool Learning at SEDL. Site offers activity guides, online games, software packages for designing a technology-enriched activity for a tailored situation to serve the needs of a particular program. Go to [www.sedl.org/afterschool/guide/technology](http://www.sedl.org/afterschool/guide/technology).

**Nominate a Complementary Learning Program! Harvard Family Research Project** would like to hear about programs incorporating the concept of "complementary learning," the notion that children need access to a connected, comprehensive system of support for learning and development, involving links among schools, Afterschool programs, families, social services, libraries, museums, and other community organizations. If you know such a program, e-mail [Suzanne\\_bouffard@harvard.edu](mailto:Suzanne_bouffard@harvard.edu).

**The National AfterSchool Association** announces in the August 2008 School-Age Notes that it has formed a partnership with the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP) to promote the "new learning day" model linking school, Afterschool, parents and communities, and emphasizing communication between school principals and Afterschool programs. Also in the works is a Code of Ethics for Afterschool Professionals! NAA has moved to Washington, D.C. to better communicate with government and other youth organizations.

**Nominate staff for an Afterschool Excellence award.** The AfterSchool Professional Network is sponsoring the Foundation Quest for Excellence Award exclusively for frontline staff who work directly with children daily in an Afterschool program at least 10 hours/week. For a nomination form go to [www.schoolagenotesfoundation.org](http://www.schoolagenotesfoundation.org). Nominations due Nov. 1.

**For Conservation and Sustainability programming,** a fun resource can be found at a website sponsored by American Public Media. Players can enter information on their lifestyles and get feedback regarding how many earths we would need if everyone lived like them. Good information on how estimates are derived, and relative impact of the various categories of lifestyle choices (e.g. transportation, food, shopping, etc.) <http://consumerconsequences.org>.

*In this Issue...*

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  - Afterschool Technology
  - Complementary Learning Nominations
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  - Afterschool Excellence
  - Lifestyle Consumption Game
- Events:
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  - 2008 Lights On
  - MSMA Fall Conf.
  - Building Bridges to Quality in Rockport
  - BOOSTer Summit

Grants:

- Playgrounds
- Afterschool
- Improvement Projects
- Technology
- Kids Gardening Grants
- Good Deeds

## Events

Sept. 23 – **Maine Afterschool Network Meeting** – Holiday Inn Conference Center at the Ground Round, Augusta, 9:30 – 1:30. This will be a special meeting in which participants will engage in a broad policy and strategy discussion about the future of Afterschool organizing in Maine. Professional facilitation will be provided. This is a free and open meeting for all Network members (this means you!). Lunch included. RSVP by Sept. 12 to [cynthia.stancioff@maine.edu](mailto:cynthia.stancioff@maine.edu).

Oct. 16 – **Lights On Afterschool** – A press event with exhibitors, Afterschool participants, providers, and other features will be held in Augusta. Local events throughout Maine are encouraged, as this is a national rally on behalf of Afterschool and summer programs intended to attract policy-maker and public attention. To register as a “Lights On” site and receive comprehensive support materials, go online to [http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/lights\\_on/get\\_involved.cfm](http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/lights_on/get_involved.cfm) . If you would like to exhibit at or attend the Network event, contact the office of the Maine AfterSchool Network.

Oct. 23-24 – **Maine School Management Association** leadership development conference for Maine school board members and superintendents. Augusta Civic Center. Speakers, luncheons, clinics. For more info contact [soconnell@msmaweb.com](mailto:soconnell@msmaweb.com) or 622-3473.

Oct. 24-25 – **Building Bridges to Quality**, at the Samoset in Rockport, Maine. Sponsored by the Maine AfterSchool Network, the Maine School-Age Care Alliance, and Maine’s 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC Program, this is training for out-of-school-time professionals and supervisors. Participants will gain new insights on program quality, sustainability, current trends and exciting curricula. Many workshops offered. For application contact [cynthia.stancioff@maine.edu](mailto:cynthia.stancioff@maine.edu) or any of the sponsoring agencies.

Nov. 5-6 – **High School After School BOOSTer Summit** in San Diego, Bahia Resort Hotel. Rejuvenate your passion for quality programming when you join national leaders in a retreat-like setting to learn about topics affecting today’s high school programs: academic achievement, youth culture, risk behavior prevention, participation & retention, career development, etc. For details visit [www.BoostConference.org](http://www.BoostConference.org).

## Grants

**KaBOOM!** will link about 150 groups proposing to build playgrounds to corporate sponsors, who are said to usually provide seed grants of \$5,000 or more. Need-based, first-come, first-served. Applicants must demonstrate need for a new playground, ability to organize volunteers, ability to raise additional funds needed. Visit [www.kaboom.org](http://www.kaboom.org).

**Picower Foundation** funding is awarded on a rolling basis for educational programs that benefit children, minorities and at-risk youth through innovations in schools, curriculum development, Afterschool and summer programming, the arts, tolerance education and more. Call 212/935-9860 or e-mail [gverdibello@picower.com](mailto:gverdibello@picower.com) for information on how to approach the Foundation.

**Lowe’s Toolbox for Education** grants of \$2,000-\$5,000 to schools for improvement projects such as reading gardens, vegetable gardens, physical fitness or nature trails, landscaping, parent centers, tutoring centers, playgrounds, revolving student art exhibit infrastructure. Deadline Oct. 17. [www.toolboxforeducation.com](http://www.toolboxforeducation.com).

**Best Buy Teach Awards** – Grants in the form of Best Buy Gift Cards for \$1,000 - \$5,000 for K-12 schools including after-school programs that have integrated interactive technology into the curriculum. Best Buy Teach Awards of \$10,000 for 9<sup>th</sup> grade programs displaying the clearest vision of how to increase the school’s use of interactive technology. Deadline Oct. 12. Visit <https://bestbuyteach.scholarshipamerica.org>.

**Kids Gardening Grants** from Home Depot – **Youth Garden Grants** of \$250 - \$1,000 for schools and community organizations planning to garden with at least 15 children 3 to 18 years old – Deadline Nov. 1. More at: [www.kidsgardening.com/YGG.asp](http://www.kidsgardening.com/YGG.asp).

**Pay It Forward Mini-Grants** of \$500 for service-oriented activities by youth to benefit their school, neighborhood or community. “Pay-it-forward” aspect **must** be shown in application: that is, each beneficiary of a good deed must then do good deeds for some number of others, so that the effect spreads exponentially. Deadline Sept. 15. <http://payitforwardfoundation.org/educators/grant.html>.

### *Purpose:*

*To enable every child to have access to quality, inclusive, affordable after school programming that meets the needs of the child, the family and the community.*

### *Vision:*

*Every school-age child in Maine will have access to quality; inclusive, affordable programs during out-of-school time that meet the needs of the child, the family and the community.*

### *Network Goals:*

- 1. Foster statewide, regional, and local partnerships through clear communication among policymakers and providers, in order to coordinate services across the state.*
- 2. Assist in securing resources needed to develop new after school programs and sustain existing programs.*
- 3. Assist with training, technical assistance and coordination to ensure that programs are inclusive, high quality, and meet the needs of children, families and communities.*