NCTI 2018 Recap and STEM Resources
May 2018

Spotlight
North Country Training Institute

On Saturday, May 19th providers from across the North Country gathered at the Crowne Plaza Lake Placid for the first North Country Training Institute. Attendees received six hours of training on four afterschool topics including, School Age Care Regulations, STEM, Art, and Engineering. Frontline staff attending were able to get hands on training on art activities and engineering design. They also learned how to better understand regulations and explored how to use questions to promote learning in their program.

Not only did participants leave with six hours of training, but they were also able to network over a buffet lunch and learn more about others from the afterschool, summer learning, and expanded learning fields. These opportunities allowed participants to foster connections with others in their area, and bring back some useful tools, tips, and tricks to use in their program.

If you missed the North Country Training Institute, don't worry. The Network for Youth Success will be hosting similar day-long training opportunities in Long Island and Rochester later this year. Details and registration will be sent over the listerv when available!
Regional Afterschool Scan funded Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation

The Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy’s Community Research Institute (CRI) at Grand Valley State University is conducting a regional scan of afterschool programs. The survey could benefit children in your area and afterschool programs like yours by providing the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation with quality information to guide its grant-making. CRI staff will be calling organizations that run afterschool programs in the 9-county Western New York region. We encourage you to participate. The survey gives your organization the opportunity to share with the foundation the important work you do, and the impact your programs are making on youth in your community. If you would like to let CRI know a good time to call, please follow this link: https://bit.ly/2K3CrSb.

Resource
Harnessing the Power of Explanation- Talking with Schools and Families about STEM

Relationships with families and schools are a key component to afterschool, summer, and expanded learning program quality and communication among educators and with families will be key to building and reinforcing relationships.

Afterschool, summer, and expanded learning educators often have informal conversations with school staff, teachers, and families. Every interaction, no matter how brief, has the potential to make the case about the value, the benefit, and the intentionality that goes into providing engaging STEM learning in programs.

This guide, created by the National AfterSchool Association provides easy and readily adaptable messages for frontline staff to communicate STEM program happenings and share children’s engagement and development. We hope that these messages, developed in alignment with research-based communications strategies, will help you to communicate confidently, competently, and effectively with families and schools about why the afterschool, summer, and expanded learning environment provides such a powerful space for STEM learning. Click here to view this guide!

Upcoming Events

5/29: MIT Inclusive Innovation Challenge Registration Closes
The Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation is proud to support the North American component of this global competition, which encourages for- and non-profit organizations of any size in the United States and Canada to share how they use technology to improve economic opportunities for low
and moderate income workers. The MIT IIC is seeking organizations whose solutions are beyond the idea phase and proving to solve one of the four following challenges: Skills Development & Opportunity Matching, Financial Inclusion, Income Growth & Job Creation, and Technology Access. Twenty winners (from North America and four other regions) will be selected to advance to the global grand prize celebration at MIT where over $1M will be awarded at a gala event featuring global tech leaders, policymakers, leading academics, funders, media and more. Information and instructions can be found here!

5/30: Schenectady Youth Summit, Capital Region
The Schenectady Youth Summit is scheduled for Wednesday, May 30th at Proctors. They have renewed their effort to listen to—and to use the voice and perspective of youth — to inform and inspire our work to advance their development and well-being. The Summit will bring together 300 youth and caring adults from Schenectady County in World Café style conversation and problem-solving. The day kicks off in Proctors GE Theatre at 9 am. More information can be found here!

5/30: 4-H Training: Intro to Computer Science, Buffalo
Computer Science is becoming more and more important everyday. At this workshop you will learn some Computer Science activities that can be adapted for students in your afterschool program from grades K-12. Led by Payraw Salih and Sara Jablonski, 4-H Educators. More information can be found here!

5/31: Assessing your Organization's Social Media Impact, New York City
Many nonprofits maintain a social media presence, yet many wonder why they do? Is it worth the resources they put into it, or how they will know if it’s working? This session by PASE explores the basics of effective social media use (platforms we will feature: Facebook, Twitter and Instagram), including a focus on how to evaluate their social media efforts and how to use social media strategies as evaluation tools. This will be an active session to help to support integrated, strategic use and evaluation of social media. Find more information and registration here.

6/5: Foundational Series for Line Staff: Supporting Good Nutrition, New York City
In this Partnership for After School Education workshop, participants will review nutrition principles and discuss current eating behaviors, physical activities, and lifestyle trends that impact children’s health. Participants will explore ways to balance food options, make healthy choices with limited resources, and encourage and model healthy behavior to youth and their families. Participants will also learn activities to teach children about healthy eating. This session will emphasize the challenges and opportunities that exist in the summer setting. More information and registration can be found here!

In this webinar, which is co-hosted by the Afterschool Alliance and the National AfterSchool Association (NAA), attendees will be diving deep into what the research says around SEL in OST programs with Stephanie Jones, professor of education at the Harvard Graduate School of Education and co-author of three reports, funded by the Wallace Foundation, that discuss the value of SEL in afterschool and identify straightforward, cost-effective strategies for improving SEL in any program. Join the Afterschool Alliance and NAA for a great discussion of how and why afterschool programs around the country are doubling down on the importance of SEL. Register by clicking here.

7/1: Breakthrough Junior Challenge Submissions Due
Breakthrough Junior Challenge is an annual, global competition for students, designed to inspire creative thinking about science. Students, ages 13 to 18, from countries across the globe are invited to create and submit an original video, no more than 3 minutes in length, that brings to life a concept or theory in the life sciences, fundamental physics or mathematics. The submissions are judged on the student’s ability to communicate complex scientific ideas in the most engaging, illuminating, and imaginative ways. The student winner receives a $250,000 college scholarship, their school gets a new $100,000 state-of-the-art science lab, and their teacher wins $50,000 teacher prize. Learn more about how to enter here!

7/12: National Summer Learning Day
National Summer Learning Day is a national advocacy day aimed at elevating the importance of keeping kids learning, safe, and healthy every summer, ensuring they return to school in the fall ready to succeed in the year. Your participation sends a powerful message across the nation that summers matter and offers an opportunity to showcase how summers can make a life-changing
difference in the lives of young people. Find more information as well as some ways to celebrate here!

7/13: Health Professions Seminar on Adolescent LGBT Healthcare, Hudson/Capital Region
The purpose of the Health Professions Seminar is to provide an educational forum to discuss vital topics of healthcare delivery that are harmful to the LGBT community and their well-being as a whole. It is the intent of the Health Professions Seminars to instill overdue change by increasing the knowledge base of healthcare providers and support staff caring for LGBT patients and to encourage adoption of LGBT culture-friendly practices throughout the healthcare community. The intended audience for this program are physicians, nurses, social workers and all other healthcare professionals (clinical or non-clinical) who provide health-related services to the LGBT patient population as topics will relate to both healthcare services as well as the patient care experience. More information can be found here!

7/24: PASE @ PACE, New York City
The 2018 PASE@PACE Conference is the only conference of its kind in New York City, inclusive of all staff levels and accessible to organizations with budgets of all sizes. Dozens of workshops offered that are consistent with the engaging and informative professional development you have come to expect from the Partnership for After School Education. Networking opportunities to meet and build relationships with colleagues from across the region. Panel discussions featuring leading practitioners from the afterschool field, sharing their expertise on practice, research, and trends. More information and registration can be found here!

7/29-7/31: New York STEM Education Collaborative 2018 Conference
STEM educators, save the date for a summer conference! The New York STEM Education Collaborative wants you attend their 2018 conference! This organization unites state teacher associations in science, math, engineering, technology, and related fields in one conference. Come to Alfred, NY July 29th to 31st to connect with educators, businesses, and leaders from around the state who want to improve STEM education! More details can be found here!

11/10: Rochester Training Institute, Rochester
Save the Date! Our Rochester Training Institute will take place Saturday, November 10th, 2018.

11/12-11/14: Summer Changes Everything,
Join hundreds of summer learning and expanded opportunity leaders on November 12-14 in Kansas City, MO for NSLA’s annual conference devoted entirely to summer learning. What to expect? The nation's top out-of-school time leaders from across the country sharing and discussing effective learning approaches, systems building, program planning, policies, and ways to advocate for our nation's children. More information and registration can be found here!

5/10-5/11: Network for Youth Success Annual Conference, Saratoga Spring
Save the Date! Back by popular demand for one more year in Saratoga Springs! Stay tuned for more information!