
Spotlight & STEM Corner!

1 message

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Attention: The Network for Youth Success will be switching its weekly newsletter to Wednesdays in 2019. There will be no newsletter the week of 12/24/18. Have a Happy Holiday and a wonderful New Year. Thank you.

Spotlight**Candace Edwards, Executive Director of Learning Enterprises, Inc.**

Candace Edwards is the Executive Director of Learning Enterprises, Inc., an educational consulting firm, and for the past eight years she was Executive Director of Before and After School Child Care On Location, Inc. (BASCOL). She continues her devotion to fulfill the needs of youth.

Before BASCOL, Candace began her journey educating youth 44 years ago. She held positions of teacher and principal within school districts since 1974 and, in 1979, became the Executive Director of Little Learners Schools where she designed and built six schools from the ground up! During that time, Candace was also on the Governor's Task Force and helped to create the "Core Body of Knowledge" for the Department of Education, which is still utilized today. Candace says her career in this field is a continuation of her journey in education. With all of these experiences combined and after being one of the co-founders of BASCOL twenty-five years ago, she was then approached by the BASCOL Board of Directors eight years ago when they had a need to fill a position at the executive level in hopes to expand the company. She accepted the challenge of Executive Director while also staying on as owner of Huntington Learning Center.

As past Executive Director of BASCOL, Candace was responsible for oversight of all company operations, services, and programs to support the overall mission, goals, and objectives of BASCOL. She also maintained up-to-date knowledge of the current economic environment, local business development, competitive market position, and local, state, and federal laws. BASCOL is an all year program with a summer program too. BASCOL's "Ultimate Summer Escape" includes fieldtrips, Lego Mania Events, and Community Services education and presentations. Candace says they partnered with several other agencies and engaged children in fun activities including Girl Scouts, local Libraries, Paws of CNY, local ambulances, police, and fire departments. They also engaged the children in community service projects which benefited the children learning why community service is so important and the community itself. The children learned about community service and had fun at the same time.

Candace believes in creating a program that is fun and engages all children in social activities that promote friendship and compassion for others – “sharing and caring to help them grow as a community and help promote self esteem.” She says this is one of the major benefits of afterschool, summer, and expanded learning programs.

When asked what her favorite part of her job is, Candace stated, “I would answer this question the same each and every time... the children.” Every time a parent says thank you or how a program has helped their child to achieve their fullest potential, it confirms the reason why she is so passionate about quality programming for children. Seeing the children engaged and enjoying the programs that she and others have worked hard to develop makes her job worth every minute!



STEM Corner

Making Maker Faires

Making and maker spaces combine hands-on experiences for young people with practical skills that can last a lifetime. Learn how to create your own maker space in your program with MakerEd's [Getting Started](#) resources. From initial activities to organizing your space, the resources here can help you get making quickly. If you are looking for like minded people, check out the [Maker Faire calendar](#) to find something near you!



A Successful STEAMfest 2018

STEAMfest 2018 brought together afterschool providers, as well as education, business, and industry leaders from Home Depot, Lockheed Martin, Delta Engineers, Binghamton University, and more to highlight STEAM career pathways for young people and shine a bright light on the importance of afterschool programs. STEAMfest featured fun, interactive “maker” stations where young people could experience Science, Technology, Engineering, Art/Agriculture and Math (STEAM) careers and opportunities throughout Broome County. Organizers estimate that over 1,800 children, youth, and families attended the event.

STEAMfest 2018 was held Saturday, October 20, at the Oakdale Mall, Johnson City. The event celebrated National Lights On Afterschool Week to highlight the important role afterschool programs play in preparing young people to succeed in school, college, work, and life. The event was hosted by the Expanded Learning Network, a regional network of the New York State Network for Youth Success.

Families became archaeologists and dug for artifacts. They built robots to solve the Rubik's Cube challenge, learned about the magic of Harry Potter, engineered their own Floam destressors, took off and flew with the Binghamton Aeros, made their own kazoos and UV detector bracelets, learned how plants can make music, created illuminated greeting cards, made butter with the Broome County Dairy Princess, built with PBS's Bob the Builder, became codebreakers, watched as Pepper Ink's Eric Maruscak create a Harry Potter-inspired chalk art mural—all that and more at STEAMfest 2018!



STEAMfest 2018 was sponsored by Community Foundation for South Central New York, United Way of Broome County, Eastern Southern Tier STEM Hub, Binghamton City School District, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Broome County, Broome-Tioga BOCES, Broome County Promise Zone, Oakdale Mall, New York State Assemblywoman Donna Lupardo, State Farm - Frances Traficante Insurance, Marchuska Brothers Construction, Embroidery & Screen Printing Network, Expanded Learning Network of Broome and Tioga, and New York State Network for Youth Success.

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Upcoming Events

12/18: Gender, Sexuality, and the Family in Early Childhood Education (NYC)

We know that children are smart and observant. In the world of Disney princesses, Marvel superheroes, and ubiquitous advertising, how do we support children in exploring gender? How do we teach children the skills to stand up for themselves, to examine the world thoughtfully and critically, and to name and shape their own identities? To explore these questions and gain new resources, the New York Early Childhood Professional Development Institute invites you to a series of workshops on "Gender, Sexuality, and the Family in Early Childhood Education." Follow this link to [register](#).

1/8 – 4/23: Supporting Youth Development through STEM

Increase your skills using positive youth development practices to engage youth in meaningful STEM learning experiences. This ACRES series includes 3 modules: Developing STEM Identities and Making Career Connections, Giving Youth Voice and Choice, and Exploring Youth Understanding in STEM. The group will meet for a lesson and coaching session for each module at 10 AM - 12 PM on Tuesdays from January 8 to April 23, 2019. [Use this link](#) for specific dates and to register.

1/23: Advocacy Day, Albany, NY

The Network for Youth Success will be hosting our Annual Advocacy Day on January 23, 2019! Program providers, students, parents, and other supporters of afterschool, summer, and expanded learning programs are encouraged to join us in Albany, NY to meet New York State

Assemblymembers and Senators to advocate for New York's children and families. [Click here to register!](#)

1/26 and 3/16: CryptoClub Training in Schenectady

CryptoClub is a 12-20 activity curriculum that uses message encryption and decryption to explore applied mathematical concepts. This two-day training session features hands-on experiences with ciphers and codes, starting with pen-and-paper and moving on to using a computer. Participants will walk away with materials to start their own CryptoClub, including teacher's manual and workbooks for 15 students. This training is for educators in the middle grades (4th through 9th) who serve at least 15 students. Cost is \$794 total (covers both days of training). For more information about CryptoClub, visit the University of Chicago's page for [CryptoClub](#). To register, click [here](#). You can also email Timothy Fowler (timothy@networkforyouthsuccess.org) with "CryptoClub in Schenectady" in the subject line if you have questions.

1/28: Community Schools Advocacy Day

Join the New York State Community Schools Network as they host their 4th annual statewide advocacy day in Albany on Monday January 28, 2019. The event is to advocate for the New York State Community Schools Network's FY20 Budget Priorities and inform the state legislature on the community schools strategy by highlighting local efforts and stories of impact across the state. Registration can be found [here](#).

1/29 -1/31: 21st Global Youth Justice Training, Las Vegas, NV

These rapidly expanding local volunteer-driven diversion programs harness positive peer pressure and utilize it in a peer judgment setting to help address the anti-social, delinquent, and criminal behavior of youthful offenders. The peer judgment, volunteer-driven, youth-led, and positive peer pressure aspects of these diversion programs are the primary programmatic elements that separate these juvenile justice and youth justice diversion programs from all others. This three (3) day training institute includes a free 1/2 day grant writing session, and provides participants with the knowledge and skills to establish, expand, enhance and/or learn Teen/Youth/Student/Peer Court and Peer Jury programs. This new Double-Track Training includes sessions for beginners and an advanced track. Click here to [register](#).

2/1: Science Action Club: Bird Scouts Training

This training will take place at our offices in Troy. This training will give practitioners the knowledge and materials to run 12 modules of content and engage youth in citizen science connected to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Follow [this link](#) to register.

3/5-3/18: National AfterSchool Association Convention, New York, New York

Join our community for four days of networking, learning, and inspiration. For more information, follow [this link](#).

3/12-3/14: Challenging Behavior in Preschool Children Train-the-Trainer, Hartford, CT

This train-the-trainer session is designed specifically for professionals working with teachers to better support preschool children with challenging behavior. During this professional development experience, trainers will participate in an intensive, interactive session delving more deeply into the understanding of, prevention of and planned responses to challenging behaviors in young children. It highlights the Devereux Center for Resilient Children DVD resource, Facing the Challenge, as well as the best-selling book by Barbara Kaiser and Judy Sklar-Rasminsky, Challenging Behavior in Young Children, 4th Edition. This session is a MUST for trainers who want to enhance their training sessions on the difficult and important topic of working with children with challenging behaviors. Click [here](#) to register. (Registration closes March 1st).

3/16: Terra Science and Engineering Fair

Whether you want to explore Cassini's adventures around Saturn, test water quality in a local creek, or design an app to prep for your next exam, the Terra Northeast Regional Science & Engineering Fair (TNRSEF) enables you to ask questions and find answers! Students in grades 6-12 can come to SUNY Geneseo in March to celebrate all s/he has learned and perhaps even earn an award. More information can be found [here](#).

School's Out, Make it Count!

2 0 1 9 A n n u a l C o n f e r e n c e

5/10-5/11: Network for Youth Success Annual Conference, Saratoga Springs

Back by popular demand for one more year in Saratoga Springs! The New York State Network for Youth Success is holding its Annual Conference May 10 & 11! Come attend New York's only statewide conference for Afterschool, Summer, and Expanded Learning Professionals. This conference brings together over 200 professionals to participate in two full days of workshops on topics ranging from SEL to Leadership. [Follow this link](#) to register today!

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