

New CRELO Co-Chair Spotlight, SAC Credential, and More!

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June 2019



NEW YORK STATE
NETWORK FOR
YOUTH SUCCESS

Spotlight

Lauren Shafer Named New CRELO Co-Chair

Lauren began working in child care about eight years ago. When she graduated from college she began looking for a job that combined her “passion for music education and social work,” and ended up finding the Boys and Girls Club. Lauren said, “I began as a Youth Development Professional, or an afterschool counselor, and loved it. I wanted a job that made a difference in our communities, and allowed for creativity in my daily tasks.”

Currently, Lauren is the Program Manager for the Boys and Girls Club's 21st Century Community Learning Center sites within Albany. She oversees five elementary school locations, and supervises roughly fifty staff. Lauren stated, “I coordinate with the school district to ensure a stronger link from the school day to afterschool activities, and assist with planning the programming at our locations.”

Lauren has recently been named the next co-chair for the Capital Region Expanded Learning Opportunities (CRELO) network. Lauren told us, “I am thrilled to play a larger part in this organization. I have previously participated in numerous engaging trainings [the network has] hosted, and am looking forward to assisting in planning these trainings, as well as providing more resources to our expanded learning community!”

Lauren believes the benefits of afterschool are huge. Some of the benefits Lauren stated were “providing safety to our youth, as well as enriching activities that improve school performances, and assisting in growing a passion for learning.” She added, “For our families it allows them to have safe, accessible and affordable child care, which in turn provides more opportunity to work for the families. Directly, we provide jobs for some of these family members as well. The



community sees the benefits of more people being able to work, having children occupied and kept safe off the streets, and also having more family friendly events they can participate in with our organizations."

When asked what her favorite part of her job is, Lauren responded, "coming up with fun engaging activities for our youth to participate in at our sites."

Sign Up for the Capital Region SAC Credential!

The New York State Network for Youth Success administers the New York State School-Age Care (SAC) Credential, which promotes quality services to children and families by providing specific standards, training, and evaluation for afterschool professionals.

Training for the SAC credential is available in two formats, either through face-to-face programs offered by local host agencies, or through the asynchronous distance learning component.

The next semesters for the capital region are from September 18 to December 18, 2019 (Semester I) and from January 8 to April 8, 2020 (Semester II). The courses will be held Wednesdays 6:30pm-9:30pm. The cost is \$1,250 per semester.

[Sign up for the course here!](#)

The Power of 3:00 Ambassador Program

This year, we are selecting a cohort of **passionate afterschool professionals and supporters** from across New York who will work directly with staff from the Network's Policy Department to develop the advocacy and media skill set to become an effective advocate for the children and youth they serve!

This is a free and all-expenses paid, year-long advocacy program! Learn more about the program and previous cohorts [here](#).

To apply for the program, click [here](#).

Applications are open until Wed, July 31 at 5pm.

Please share with anyone you think would be interested in this opportunity. We look forward to receiving your applications!



Engaging in Play with Children

Childcare Education Institute

Early childhood professionals have many responsibilities. The list of tasks that must be completed on a daily basis includes everything from making sure the environment is clean and safe to planning lessons and documenting learning. Staff are responsible for feeding children, settling them down for rest time, and supporting them as they develop self-help skills. Staff must establish and maintain open lines of communication with families, collaborate with coworkers, and coordinate with other service providers who work with the children in their care. On top of all of that, staff must be prepared, at any moment, to support children as they work through social interactions with their peers.

These tasks are time-consuming and can fill an entire day in the blink of an eye. They are equally important and together; contribute to the high-quality learning environments that every child deserves. That being said, there is another task that is just as important for children's learning and development;

one that often gets placed on a back burner as staff work to fulfill all of their other responsibilities. We are talking about engaging in play with children.

Different philosophies approach the idea of engaging children in play in different ways. Some people are staunch advocates for allowing children to engage in free-play, without any adult interruption. Others feel it necessary to guide most aspects of children's play, from the materials they can play with, to how long they must play with those materials.

For more information and resources on engaging in play, [visit here](#).

Interested in advancing in the school-age field?
Need the qualifications to become a Site Director?

EARN YOUR SCHOOL-AGE CREDENTIAL TODAY



Upcoming Events

6/24: Strengthening Organizations Through Corporate Engagement, New York, NY

Participants will explore what a corporation values in nonprofit partnerships and identify the varied ways to connect with corporate partners in substantive ways. In this workshop, participants will learn how to establish meaningful and impactful ongoing partners in the private sector and learn how to develop an effective and sustainable structure for continued partnership. Registration begins 6/3/19. [Click here](#) to register.

7/1-8/9: STEM Summer Institute 2019, Teachers College, New York, NY

The STEMteachersNYC [STEM Institute](#) brings together educators from around the country for innovative, hands-on, and teacher-led professional development in STEM. Choose from over a dozen workshops in biology, physics, chemistry, computer science, elementary STEM, and more. Work side by side with active classroom teachers and revolutionize the way you teach science using a student-centered active learning approach, shown to increase classroom engagement and understanding of key science concepts. [Click here to register and learn more](#).

7/17: 2019 Site Leader Institute, Troy, NY

Site directors in afterschool programs often have skills at working with children and youth but little to no training in program operation and management. In order to build the best foundation for programs, the Network for Youth Success will deliver training and support to site directors and leaders. The goal of this training is to expose new directors to the knowledge base and skill set of effective afterschool supervision and management. The training will focus on positive youth development approaches and the supervision of those approaches. The training will also review practices on resource management, family and community partnerships, project management, and coaching techniques for supervisors. For more information and how to register, [click here](#).

7/20: Monroe County Girls Sports Festival, Rochester, NY

The Monroe County Girls Sports Festival is a great opportunity for young women, ages 6-12, to showcase their athletic ability, be active, learn about leadership and teamwork, and take on new challenges. The festival supports young women from throughout Monroe County in their pursuit of new experiences and new opportunities. Festival participants will be able to choose four different sports to explore. Local teams and organizations will manage each of the sports and participants are welcome to select any four available sports, but are also encouraged to try a sport they have never experienced before. Registration is free! Additional information can be found at www.monroecounty.gov/GirlsSportsFestival

7/23: Framing Our Future: Emerging Trends and Opportunities for Afterschool

This signature event at Baruch College in New York City celebrates the impact of the field on youth and families and promotes innovation and research to sustain this work. There is expected to be over 200 participants including executive directors and supervisors from youth-serving community-based agencies, funders, colleagues in higher education, policy makers, and educators. For more information and registration, [click here](#).

7/30: School-Age Care Credential Informational Meeting, Poughkeepsie, NY

The New York State School-Age Care Credential has been developed to promote quality services to children and families by providing specific standards, training, and evaluation of school-age staff members and providers based on their ability to meet the unique needs of this age group. It is an opportunity for adults working with school-age children to gain professional recognition for demonstrating competence in their on-the-job skills. Come to an informational meeting on Tuesday, July 30 from 5:00 - 6:00 pm to learn about the credential and the credential process as well as meet the instructor/advisor, Arlene Rider. For more information or to enroll contact Darla Fulmer at (845) 473-4141 ext. 216 or dfulmer@childcaredutchess.org.

8/4-8/10: Mindfulness Training for Educators, Lake Placid, NY

This weeklong program set in the idyllic environment of a lakeside retreat in the Adirondacks explores teaching for the 21st century. Participants will learn mindfulness practices, meditation, the neuroscience of learning, the nature of mind, and how to cultivate their inner resources. Each day will include experiential learning, as well as a cognitive element – and afternoons will be free to enjoy the many outdoor activities available to us, or to simply relax and read a book. Learn how mindfulness might benefit you in your role as an educator, and re-connect with the ideals that brought you into this field from the start! [Click here](#) for more information and how to register.

8/19-8/20: Games in Education Symposium, Troy, NY

This is a two-day event focusing on the use of technology to supplement and inspire education in the classroom. Participants span early childhood through post secondary educators in New York's Capital District and surrounding regions who are interested in finding ways to use video games and related technology to enrich and inspire interest by students in core curriculum topics. The symposium has run annually since 2007 and is free for educators to attend. See more at: <http://gamesineducation.org/>

10/5: North Country Training Institute, Plattsburgh, NY

Join Erin Broderick and Timothy Fowler for a day of school-age training! The North Country Training Institute will cover topics relevant to school-age providers in afterschool, summer, and expanded learning programs. This day-long event features four 90-minute sessions (a total of 6 hours of training): guiding positive behaviors, managing transitions, engineering design, and bookmaking. For more information and how to register, [click here](#).

10/24: Lights On Afterschool, Nationwide

Since 2000, Lights On Afterschool has been celebrated nationwide to call attention to the importance of afterschool programs for America's children, families, and communities. [Click here](#) for more information.

11/8: Regional Network Symposium, Rochester, NY

SAVE THE DATE! Our Regional Network Symposium will be November 8 at the Holiday Inn in downtown Rochester! Look out for more information here and on our website.

11/9: Rochester Training Institute, Rochester, NY

SAVE THE DATE! Our Training Institute will be November 9 at the Holiday Inn in downtown Rochester! Look out for more information here and on our website.

3/20 - 3/21: School's Out, Make it Count! 2020 Annual Conference, Troy, NY

Our 2020 Annual Conference will be in Troy for 2020! Save the date now! Look for more information here and on our website as we get closer to the date!

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Address postal inquiries to:

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