Mary Ann Veshia, CACFP, and More!
February 26, 2020

School's Out, Make it Count! 2020 Annual Conference Awards
Mary Ann Veshia, Prog. Director/Youth Service Coordinator, Watervliet Civic Center
Recipient of the 2020 Exemplary Award of Professionalism

From now until the School's Out Make it Count! 2020 Annual Conference, we will be spotlighting our 2020 Award Recipients. This is the second year we have decided to give out awards to individuals in the field based on continued excellence and the high-levels of quality they offer to their program and/or field.

After reviewing several nomination letters, we selected two individual/programs each to receive one of the following awards: The Quality Leadership Award, Award for Exemplary Professionalism, Regional Network Leader Award, Champion Award, and of course, Program Award for Excellence and Innovation.

Without further adieu, congratulations to Mary Ann Veshia, Prog. Director/Youth Service Coordinator, Watervliet Civic Center the recipient of the 2020 Exemplary Award of Professionalism.

Mary Ann started her career within the afterschool, summer, and expanded learning field when she left St. Coman's Day Care in 2012. She left after a 20 year career as a Preschool Teacher with St. Coman's to start working at the Watervliet Elementary School. She quickly picked up another job working with The Watervliet Civic Center’s afterschool and summer programs.
Despite Mary Ann's long personal and professional history of working and raising youth of her own, taking a step away from the field hasn't been an option for her. When reflecting on her long career, she said, "You'd think I'd be ready for retirement. Think Again!"

Furthermore, Mary Ann looks to others in the field to gain inspiration. In her response to our questions, she said, "I would like to highlight the moment when I was introduced to two influential women; Erin Broderick and Alicia Salamone-Powers. They gave me the incredible opportunity to highlight my life by inspiring, motivating, and teaching me every single day."

You can join Mary Ann and other afterschool professionals at our 2-day School's Out Make it Count! 2020 Annual Conference by registering on our website [here](#). Registration closes 2/12 so don't wait!

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**CACFP Corner - FAQ**

The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) is a federally funded program administered through the New York State Department of Health which provides reimbursement for healthy snacks and meals.

The USDA 2019-2020 CACFP reimbursement rates, for At-Risk Afterschool Snack/Supper are $.94 per snack and $3.41 per meal served.

If you have anymore questions about CACFP, check out our [CACFP FAQ sheet](#) for more information.

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**Black History Month**

Even though Black History Month is almost over take this chance to expand your children's viewpoint and understanding of the black experience in America with these insightful middle school books. In this article the author finds that often fictional books grab and keep children's attention while also allowing them to emotionally experience what the author is trying to convey. "There is power in those written words!" Check out the article [here](#). You can find most of these books at your local library or purchase through the affiliate links provided in the article for your convenience.

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**CRELO Legislative Breakfast**

The New York State Network for Youth Success, in partnership with one of our 15 Regional Networks, Capital Region Expanded Learning Opportunities (CRELO), would like to invite you to our annual CRELO Legislative Breakfast. This event aims to bring together policymakers, afterschool professionals, and other stakeholders like yourself to highlight
the importance, and the impact expanded learning has on youth, families, and communities in the Capital Region.

This year’s Legislative Breakfast will be held on **Friday, March 6, 2020** at:

- **East Greenbush YMCA**
- **20 Community Way, East Greenbush, NY 12061**
- **Time: 8:30 am -10:00 am**

We ask that you kindly RSVP by **February 26, 2020 (TODAY)** to confirm your attendance, using the link here. For additional information about the event, please contact Marcos Velasquez at capacity@networkforyouthsuccess.org.

We hope that you can join us on March 6, 2020 to elevate afterschool, summer, and expanded learning programs in the Capital Region.

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**Network for Youth Success Events**

**3/4 - 5/7: CRELO Trainings, Across the Capital Region**
The Network for Youth Success will be providing various Front Line and Director Trainings across the Capital Region at no cost. For more information, click here.

**3/6: Legislative Breakfast, East Greenbush, NY**
The Network, in conjunction with our Capital Region Network (CRELO), plans to host its annual Legislative Breakfast on March 6, 2020, at the East Greenbush YMCA. If you would like to attend, please sign up by clicking on the link here.

Don't miss out on one of New York State's largest conferences dedicated to afterschool with our Annual School's Out, Make it Count! Conference. Don't wait, sign up today! Curious about what trainings are being offered? Check out the draft of the brochure, now available on our website. To become a vendor, click here.

**8/20 & 8/25: Health and Safety Training for Directors, Troy, NY**
Directors are responsible for hiring, training, and maintaining staff who provide a healthy and safe environment for children. This course will help directors look at policies and procedures that reinforce high-quality health and safety practices. Directors will get the most out of this training if they bring a copy of the policies and procedures from their program. Registration is limited to 12, so don't wait to register! Click here.

**9/2020 - 12/2020: Distance Learning**
The Distance Learning School-Age Care (SAC) Preparatory Course includes viewing recorded videos, reading, and preparing a portfolio and resource file. This class meets the education requirement to be a Site Director in New York State. We are now enrolling for Fall 2020.

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**Other Events**

**2/29: Community-Wide Basketball League, Rochester, NY**
Rochester Community Centers is looking for players and coaches for their Community-Wide Basketball League. Running from 2/29 - 4/28, games will run from 10am-2pm. There
will be 3 age divisions: Pee-Wee (6-9), Juniors (10-12), and Seniors (13-15). For more information, call 585.428.7592, or visit www.cityofrochester.gov/cwbbl.

2/29: RCSD ROC Restorative Esteemed: Claiming Sacred Spaces for Girls of Color, Rochester, NY
Join keynote speaker Jackie Campbell, Alliance Director, ROC the Future, for a panel discussion with girls of color honoring their current experiences, followed by an opportunity to participate interactive workshops focused on claiming sacred spaces for girls of color. Click here to register.

It's time to start planning your trip to the nation's capital for the annual National Anti-Hunger Policy Conference. Join 1,200+ of your colleagues for what is sure to be the anti-hunger community's biggest and best conference yet. Click here to register.

Join over 2,000 community members at the Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center for four days of networking, learning, and inspiration. Special events, 200+ educational sessions, daily keynotes, and an interactive Learning Expo all designed to meet the needs of the developing professionals, and emerging current leaders of afterschool. Come to NAA Convention 2020, and leave saying, "I've found my people!" For more information, click here.

Common Ground is looking for volunteer mediators to serve in community-based and Family Court Mediation programs. Common Ground is a non-profit mediation center, serving Greene & Columbia counties, funded in part through a grant from the NYS Unified Court System. Send resumes with letter of interest to: dwallant@commongroundinc.org or mail, Dawn Wallant, Executive Director, Common Ground Dispute Resolution Inc., 11 William St., Catskill NY 12414. For more information call 518-943-0523

4/17: Decolonizing Minds: Forging a New Future Through Multicultural Education, Rochester, NY
This conference will take place in Rochester with actress and activist Ms. Abernathy, daughter of American Civil Rights Leader Ralph Abernathy. For more information or to register, click here.

4/28 - 5/1: 2020 BOOST Conference, Palm Springs, CA
The 2020 BOOST Conference will convene over 2,500 global educators April 28 - May 1 in sunny Palm Springs, CA. Register your team today to celebrate the best of afterschool and expanded learning fields. Click here for more information and how to apply.

Enrollment for the 2020 National Bilingual Bee & Biliteracy Competition is now open! The competition is open to any bi-literate students fluent in English and one of the following languages: Arabic, French, Haitian Creole, Mandarin Chinese, or Spanish. To enroll click here. If you have questions please contact mirta@smartcoos.com.

Ways You Can Help the Network!

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Remove my name from all future mass email communications:

Address postal inquiries to:
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