School's Out, Make it Count! Award Recipients

Hudson Bluehawk Nation, Kathy Clark
Recipient of the 2020 Program Award of Excellence and Innovation

Despite the conclusion of the School's Out, Make it Count! Virtual Conference, we still have a couple more award recipients to highlight. Ergo, for the next couple week's we will be recognizing their hard work that has both progressed the field and inspired those within it.

This week's spotlight will feature an individual and program that have been a bright spot in the community and field. Someone and someplace that meets the highest standards of quality and implements collective strategies to meet the needs of the community. Without further adieu, congratulations to Kathy Clark and Hudson Bluehawk Nation, recipient of the 2020 Program Award of Excellence and Innovation.

The Hudson Bluehawk Nation Afterschool Program first opened its doors in 2013, although back then it was known as ASP. When they started, ASP was very proud to be one of 125 districts in New York State to be funded by the 21st Century Grant (out of more than 450 applicants). The program started in a classroom with six employees and has since expanded to all Hudson City School District Schools with more than 70 employees. Today Hudson Bluehawk Nation continues its mission, "to provide high-quality afterschool programs and services that improve living conditions and learning outcomes for all students and families in the Hudson City School District."

Of course all of this wouldn't have been possible without the leadership of Kathy Clark. Now retired, Kathy is still a prominent figure in the Hudson City region and works as a consultant for the Hudson Bluehawk Afterschool Program. For 20+ years, Kathy has worked in the field and
believes that allowing youth equal opportunities to participate in the wide variety of programs that are available is the true benefit behind afterschool, and has worked to bring that benefit to as many children as possible.

What keeps Kathy coming back even after her retirement is, - in her own words, "My wonderful and hard-working co-workers. Also, witnessing all the positive things that are happening in the Hudson Community and the Hudson City School District."

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**COVID-19 Resources**

Please see the attached documents in response to the growing concern around COVID-19. Take a moment to read this information and familiarize yourself with the content. We will be updating this section of the newsletter every week with new materials.

- **(3/28)** DOH Returning to Work
- **(3/27)** Guidance for Child Care Providers
- **(3/23)** COVID-19 FAQ for Child Care Providers
- **(3/23)** Guidance for Providers on the Background Check Waiver Process
- **(3/23)** Emergency Employment Attestation for Adults
- **(3/23)** Request for Waiver
- **(3/21)** Dear Provider Letter
- **(3/19)** How to Navigate Meal and Snack Programs
- **(3/19)** Guidance for Parents Seeking Child Care
- **(3/19)** Posting for Staff and Visitors
- **Financial Support for Programs**

Information regarding COVID-19 is evolving rapidly. You and your programs can stay informed by checking the [NYS Department of Health](https://www.health.ny.gov), [OCFS](https://ocfs.ny.gov), and/or [Afterschool Alliance](https://www.afterschoolalliance.org) websites regularly for updates.

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**Mango Math**

Teaching math can be stressful on the best of days, add uncertainty, multiply in personal attitudes, subtract understanding, and divide by misconceptions and we have a problem.

MANGO Math wants to help! They are posting across their social media platforms fun, hands-on activities students can do in math. This isn't worksheets or online programs, this is fun exploration of math.

Each week day they post games, activities and fun problems students can do to explore math and build a strong math understanding. Please contact Mary@mangomath.com for further information.
Policy Corner

The COVID-19 pandemic is rapidly impacting families, youth, and the afterschool program providers who serve them. These concerns should be top of mind for Congress and the administration when negotiating coronavirus relief legislation. Congress just passed the Families First Coronavirus Response Act and now is considering a third and then, soon, a fourth coronavirus bill that must prioritize youth. Your Representatives and Senators must hear from you now on how this public health crisis is affecting youth, youth-serving organizations, and your community-at-large. For more information, click here.

National Census Day

Today is National Census Day! Take less than 5 minutes today to complete your civic duty and ensure your family is fairly counted! Questions about the census? Check out this helpful guide from the Afterschool Alliance here.

Network for Youth Success Events

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.

10/3: Regional Rochester Training Institute, Fairport, NY
Save the date! Join the Network for Youth Success for a day of high-quality professional development that includes six OCFS training hours on a variety of topics that is appropriate for supervisors, teachers, and front line staff working with school-age children. Don't miss out on this great opportunity to develop your career and network with other like minded individuals! Stay tuned for more information.
Other Events

4/1 (Today): Supporting Staff and Families During School Closure, Webinar
Join your 21st CCLC colleagues from across the nation for 90 powerful minutes on supporting program staff and families during school closure. Hear inspiring stories. Get guidance on helping staff, students and families stay healthy and engaged in learning — now and in the weeks ahead. Take a guided tour of free training, tools, and activity ideas available 24/7 on Y4Y. Get a sneak preview of Y4Y’s upcoming virtual series, with strands for leaders and frontline staff, and share your thoughts on ways they can make sure the series meets your needs. You’ll leave this webinar energized by fresh ideas for supporting staff and families, and motivated to expand your professional learning on topics you care about, like social and emotional learning, family engagement, literacy, STEM, managing your 21st CCLC program, and more. Register here!

4/2: Designing a Professional Learning Path for Staff, Webinar
Unsure how to keep staff engaged and learning while programs are closed? Overwhelmed by all the courses and content on the Y4Y site? This webinar will guide you through how to develop a professional learning plan for all levels of staff to keep them growing as out-of-school time educators — and ready to implement great programming when programs reopen. Then get a walk through of engaging online courses, a wealth of resources, and a new lineup of exciting live virtual learning events. Register here!

4/3: Promoting Teacher Resilience, Webinar
Join Aperture’s VP of Research & Development, Paul LeBuffe, in this timely and engaging webinar designed to support educators in these challenging times. They will discuss:

- A blend of theory and practice designed to help educators better understand the science behind resilience
- Ways to promote teacher resilience
- Simple techniques to promote personal resilience and well-being

If you can't attend live, you can still register to receive a copy of the recording after the webinar to watch at your convenience. To register, click here.

4/6 - 4/9: New Leaders Academy Series, Webinar
Are you a new 21st CCLC grantee looking for guidance on where to begin? Does your existing program need tools and resources to help you plan and prepare a high-quality, out-of-school time program?

The U.S. Department of Education’s Y4Y Technical Assistance Team will present a series of four webinars to support new program leaders. If you want to meet new colleagues who are just starting out, come here! The webinars will present a logical process to design and develop a high-quality program. In each session, you'll hear directly from experienced program leaders who've designed successful, high-quality 21st CCLC programs. Leaders will speak to the benefits of using an implementation planning tool to guide program development, and you'll get planning tools along with tips and advice from fellow practitioners. Participants will have opportunities to engage in intersession exploration and receive guidance and answers to questions. Register here!

4/8: Engaging Youth, Not Managing Youth! Webinar
In this webinar explore proactive strategies and concrete techniques to engage youth and keep them engaged. While proactive approaches are preferable, you will also take a look at a few strategies to help you respond to challenging behaviors. As we know from experience, it is always good to have a variety of tools in your toolbox. For more information or to register, click here.

4/21-23: Literacy for Frontline Staff, Virtual Series
Students’ ability to read, write, speak, and listen effectively is critical to their success in school and beyond. These literacy skills lay the foundation for other academic and 21st century skills. In this three-part webinar series, the U.S. Department of Education’s Y4Y Technical Assistance
(TA) Team will share strategies for supporting frontline staff in assessing and improving 21st CCLC literacy initiatives. Site leaders and other participants will improve their understanding of the key components of literacy and take away research-based literacy activities geared toward building 21st century skills like collaboration and critical thinking. Register here.

Ways You Can Help the Network!

Choose us as your non-profit through Amazon Smile, donate, become a member, follow us on Facebook and Twitter, or check out our website!

School's Out, Make it Count! Partners

Please take a moment to view some of our partners for the School's Out, Make it Count! 2020 Annual Conference. Each one offers a variety of resources to the field. Check out their websites for more information by clicking on their name:

Snapology
Capital District YMCA
THE IMPORTANCE OF S.T.E.A.M.

Inspiring and educating our youth in STEAM concepts has never been more important. Snapology wants to partner with you to inspire the next generation of STEAM professionals.

- ENGAGE AND INSPIRE
  Early childhood S.T.E.A.M. programs have been shown to dramatically increase a child’s awareness and interest in Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math. Students show an increase in creativity, problem solving skills and teamwork.

- PREPARE FOR THE FUTURE
  S.T.E.A.M. careers are projected to grow by 13% between 2017-2027, compared to 9% for non-S.T.E.A.M. related jobs. The average median hourly wage for S.T.E.A.M. related jobs is $38.85 and of 100 S.T.E.A.M. occupations, 93% had wages above the national average.

- CLOSE THE GAP
  The US placed 38th of 71 countries in math and 24th in science. Of 35 members of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the US ranks 30th in math and 19th in science. US Universities are expected to produce only 29% of the required graduates to fill the 1.4 million computer specialist job openings.

- CHANGE PERCEPTIONS
  74% of middle school girls express an interest in STEAM but only 0.3% choose computer science as a major in college and women make up just 18% of computer science graduates. African American and Latino workers represent just 16% of the advanced manufacturing workforce, 15% of the computing workforce and 12% of the engineering workforce.

- EMPOWER STUDENTS
  Students engaged in S.T.E.A.M. programs develop confidence and perseverance as they learn that mistakes are just part of the process of learning and that there can be many solutions to one problem.

- TEACH REAL WORLD SKILLS
  Children engaged in Snapology S.T.E.A.M. programs learn the soft skills that are in demand in today’s world. Skills like teamwork and social skills are developed when students learn to work in teams and eventually present solutions to classmates.

Learn More At Snapology.com
Remove my name from all future mass email communications:

Address postal inquiries to:
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