Spotlight on challenges and solutions for school-age programs, last call to nominate afterschool leaders, and more

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Spotlight: Dr. Arlene Rider

Dr. Arlene Rider has been an active member of Network for Youth Success's statewide workgroup for the School-Age Care Credential since 2007. For nearly two decades, Dr. Rider has been an advisor and instructor for the NYS SAC Credential, and she is also an endorser for the Credential. Her career in education has spanned early childhood to college, during which time she earned her doctorate in psychology with a concentration in educational psychology.

“In my doctoral studies, I began to realize the passion I had for working with and teaching adult learners,” said Dr. Rider, who interviewed ten SAC Credential candidates as a sample population for her dissertation work on mentoring adult learners. The research spoke to the School-Age Care Credential process from the candidate's point of view. “As my dissertation confirmed,” Dr. Rider explained, “advisors play a vital role in the school-age credential candidate's success, guiding them through the process.”

This love of mentoring made it easy for Dr. Rider to say "yes" in 2002, when asked if she would be an advisor for the School-Age Care Credential.
Learning about and observing the New York State School-Age Care Credential candidates’ challenges and experiences helped Dr. Rider to understand how professionals working in this field work, tirelessly and often with little available materials or resources, encourage and support children’s development, encourage children to fully explore their interests, and ultimately build confidence and competence in all children.

**School’s Out:**
**Challenges and Solutions for School-Age Programs**

Dr. Rider has long dreamed of writing the textbook for the credential course. And now her dream is finally realized. School’s Out: Challenges and Solutions for School-Age Programs is Dr. Rider’s hope and vision that those working in the field will gain knowledge and develop new skills and ideas that will allow them to continue to provide quality programming.

Dr. Rider and Dr. Tracy Galuski have written the perfect low-cost textbook for SAC Credential courses. School’s Out: Challenges and Solutions for School-Age Programs is now available on Amazon. The book reviews all 14 skill areas and covers all the bases of creating a quality program including:

- What quality school-age care looks like
- Forms of out-of-school-time care
- Standards, credentials, accreditations
- Licensing, regulations, health, safety, risk management, supervision, and nutrition
- Roles of the staff and administrators
- Creating child-friendly spaces
- Planning a vibrant, engaging curriculum
- Common issues experienced by school-age providers, including behavior and conflict management

The authors will be facilitating a FREE one-hour training hosted by Gryphon House, the book’s publisher. Registrations are unlimited, and the webinar room accommodates up to 1,000 live attendees.

**WHAT:** School’s Out! Challenges and Solutions for School-Age Programs: Meaningful Activities.
**WHEN:** Wed., Nov. 18 at 2 pm EST
**Click here to register**

Is your program working hard to offer quality services to your community? Let us know about it by filling out a quick questionnaire and we will spotlight your program in an upcoming newsletter.

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

**EARN YOUR SCHOOL-AGE CREDENTIAL TODAY**
NextGen Afterschool Leaders: NOMINATIONS ARE OPEN!

Do you know someone who is 30 or under & believes in the power of afterschool? Someone who is vested in advocacy, professional development, program design, youth voice, and racial justice? Nominate them for the National AfterSchool Association’s Next Generation of Afterschool Leaders!

Deadline is Nov. 13. [Click here to nominate.]

SURVEY: 2021 Budget Priorities

The New York State Network for Youth Success is currently developing our state budget policy priorities for next year. As a valued partner, we would love your substantive input on what we should be prioritizing in the upcoming budget season. Your participation in this quick survey will help us understand the greatest needs facing the field.

[Take the survey.]

Early Lessons from Schools and OST Programs Implementing Social and Emotional Learning

The Wallace Foundation cites this report as the most comprehensive study of social and emotional learning (SEL) implementation to date. This resource offers early lessons for schools and out-of-school-time programs on how to carry out high-quality social and emotional learning instruction.

Among the early lessons for those considering SEL efforts are:

- Focus on developing a set of social-emotional skills of both students and adults;
- Define those skills and plan the needed supports from school districts and OST intermediary organizations;
- Develop a common language for SEL that can build shared understanding of the terminology among school and OST staffers;
- Set aside staff time for clear and frequent communication; and
- Document and formalize SEL routines and practices, such as protected time for SEL in the school/OST schedule, so they can survive staff turnover.

To access the full report, [click here.]

National Geographic Explorers
Introduce your afterschool learners to National Geographic Explorers! Join the National Geographic Society for special editions of National Geographic’s Explorer Classroom this fall designed for afterschool, summer, and expanded learning educators.

The live YouTube shows connect young people with cutting-edge scientists, researchers, and powerful storytellers around the world. The events are free and include live Q&A with the Explorers as well as an event guide for your learners to get the most out of the experience.

For more information or to register, click here.

Network for Youth Success Events

Nov. 19: Zoom Coffee Chat, 11am-12pm EST, "How Afterschool Programs Can Alleviate Food Insecurity Amid COVID-19"
Join the Network for Youth Success and our partners at Hunger Solutions New York for an open conversation about ways afterschool programs can help alleviate hunger, from serving afterschool meals to helping families connect with SNAP and other nutrition programs. Bring your questions, chat with peers, and learn about new resources and flexibilities available to help connect kids and families with the food they need. Not sure if you can make it? Register anyway to receive follow-up resources. For additional CACFP information and resources, visit AfterschoolMealsNY.org. To register, click here.

Nov. 19 and Dec. 8: Conversations with Dr. Jamie Freeny, Director of the Center for School Behavioral Health at Mental Health America of Greater Houston

Nov. 19, 1pm EST: What You Need to Know About Trauma Informed Practices
You've heard about trauma informed practices, but you may not be sure of what they are, the benefits, and how to integrate them into your work. Join to hear Dr. Freeny’s suggestions for and answers to your questions about supporting young people through use of trauma informed practices. To register, click here.

Dec. 8, 1pm EST: Put Your Own Oxygen Mask on First Self-Care for Afterschool Professionals
Today’s world brings a host of exhausting challenges that necessitate extra attention to the health and well-being of our field’s professionals. Join to hear recommendations on preventing burnout and compassion fatigue along with strategies and practices to ensure that those who work in service of others are also taking care of themselves. To register, click here.

The Network for Youth Success presents these opportunities in partnership with the National AfterSchool Association and Mental Health America of Greater Houston.

Jan. 19 & Apr. 27: Spring 2021 SAC Credential Course (VIRTUAL), Part 2
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 Spring 2021.

SAVE THE DATE! Apr. 23-24, 2021: School’s Out, Make it Count
The Network’s annual conference will be held April 23-24, 2021. Be ready for two full days of trainings, vendor exhibits, awards, networking, and more. Stay tuned!
Other Events

Nov. 18: School’s Out! Challenges and Solutions for School-Age Programs: Meaningful Activities
Children have varied needs, and afterschool program staff are often dealing with challenges such as a restrictive environment, mixed groupings, and varied schedules. Within the context of child development, this edWebinar offers a child-centered approach to developing activities that engage and enhance the program. Participants will explore a number of common challenges along with some possible solutions that can be adapted and applied in their work. For more information or to register, click here.

Nov. 18: Healing Wounded Healers: Building Communities of Care within Organizations
This session, hosted by Credible Messenger Justice Center, emphasizes the importance of self-care. Focusing on credible messengers, it provides a framework for ‘Healing the Healers’ and demonstrates a creative strategy for integrating a healing justice approach into organizational structure and culture. Click here for more information or to register.

Nov. 18-20: Dreaming Big Together: Youth Justice Reimagined
The Coalition for Juvenile Justice will be holding its annual conference virtually this year. Click here for more information or to register.

Nov. 19 and Dec. 10: Engineering Design with Technovation Webinars
If you are looking for a way to step up your STEAM game in a fun and active way with your kids, this is for you. Over the course of three hour-long virtual sessions this fall with Technovation, you’ll become an expert in leading engineering design challenges that help students develop engineering mindsets to build solutions to any sort of problem: 1) use the engineering design process; 2) evaluate and iterate; 3) persist and learn from failure; and 4) work in teams. Get ready for hands-on building during each session. You’ll be part of a supportive learning community. These sessions are for program staff (directors, STEM specialists, and facilitators) working with kids in grades 4–8.

Session 1: Recording and Engineering Design Challenges (recording coming soon)

Session 2: Thurs., Nov., 19, 3:00-4:00 EST
To register for session 2, click here

Session 3: Thurs., Dec. 10, 3:00-4:00 EST
To register for session 3, click here

Feb. 17-19: Beyond School Hours 2021 National Education Conference (virtual)
Foundations, Inc is bringing you the great content and high-quality professional learning you expect from Beyond School Hours—adapted for a remote setting! With the new virtual setting, this conference will last all year long. Join for live and exciting professional learning, site visits, and keynotes during the main conference days, and then join for live follow-up webinars for the rest of the year. All webinars are included with conference registration! To register, click here.

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Remove my name from all future mass email communications:

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