



# KANSAS ENRICHMENT NETWORK

*Making Connections for Out-of-school Time*

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The picture above is from Johnson County Park & Recreation District, where they received news coverage on FOX 4 and in the Kansas City Star.

## Magician Lights Up After School

After School students and staff, parents, classmates, siblings and community members enjoyed the After School Lights On celebration on October 12th in the Columbus High School Auditorium. Lights On After school!, the only nationwide event celebrating after-school, aims to bring attention to the need for after-school programs. October 12th event was a chance for Kansas programs to shine! We already know that after-school programs keep kids safe and healthy, helps working families, and improves academic achievement. This was our chance to share that message with parents, other family members, and the community. This year the group enjoy a special guest, Magician Kevin Wade from Out-Of-Site-Creations out of Miami, Oklahoma. Mr. Wade performed magic as he taught valuable lessons over staying in school and saying NO to drugs, alcohol and tobacco.

## A MILLION PEOPLE TURN THE LIGHTS ON FOR AFTERSCHOOL

Americans young and old, from all walks of life, from rural farm communities to urban centers to overseas military bases, joined the seventh annual Lights On Afterschool on October 12th. The only nationwide rally for afterschool programs, Lights On Afterschool is organized by the Afterschool Alliance.

More support is yet needed as communities gathered to show support for afterschool programs. New data shows programs struggling because of unstable funding. The Kansas Enrichment Network is working for quality, affordable, and accessible afterschool for all Kansas school-age youth. The Afterschool Alliance had released preliminary findings from its national survey of afterschool programs in September, but released the full results on October 12th. They include a considerably larger sample of respondents (more than 2,100), data on more questions, and breakdowns for certain states.

According to Uncertain Times: Funding Insecurity Puts Afterschool Programs at Risk. Many afterschool programs are fully subscribed but still unable to meet the demand in their communities. Respondents to the web-based survey say budget cuts and stagnation are taking a toll on afterschool programs, and the youth and families they serve. Providers report that future funding is insecure, and many have already been forced to make painful cuts to their programs.

"The results of this survey are sobering, and underscore the consequences of failing to fund the afterschool programs our children so urgently need," said Afterschool Alliance Executive Director Jodi Grant. "87 percent of respondents say there are children in their communities who need afterschool programs and don't have access to them. Too many of those kids engage in risky behaviors such as using drugs, joining gangs, or engaging in inappropriate sexual activity. Afterschool programs keep kids safe, inspire them to learn and help working families but we don't have nearly enough quality afterschool programs in the U.S. today. Changing that should be a high priority for lawmakers, corporations, foundations and the public." To view the national survey and to read state-specific reports, go to [http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/Uncertain\\_Times.cfm](http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/Uncertain_Times.cfm).

The picture to the right is from Academie Lafayette (a French Magnet school in KC). They were coloring light bulbs for awareness and also cooked French food and made jewelry. This is a program of the YMCA Kansas City Afterschool Programs.



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## NEWS TO USE

November  
2006

### Upcoming Workshops

#### Physical Extensions Workshop

Friday, December 8th & Saturday,  
December 9th, 2006 Wichita, KS

The Kansas Enrichment Network is hosting a professional development event to help afterschool providers incorporate physical activity into their programs. During this two-day event, Bobbie Harris, Friends University instructor, will teach participants how to use the new out-of-school physical activity curriculum called Physical Extensions. This curriculum was specifically designed to help non-physical education teachers implement regular physical activity and maximum participation in their out-of-school programs. For more information, please see the Kansas Enrichment Website.

#### Afterschool Alliance: All Challenge

April 23rd and 24th Washington D.C.

The Afterschool Alliance has chosen a date for the 2007 Afterschool for All Challenge. Training/Conference day will begin on Monday, April 23rd and the Breakfast of Champion and Hill visits will be on Tuesday, April 24th. Everything will be held at the Washington Hilton Hotel on Connecticut Avenue at Florida Avenue in NW Washington, a few blocks north of DuPont Circle. Mark your calendars and think about inviting others in your state to participate in this exciting event!

#### Johns Hopkins University's Center for Summer Learning Conference

April 19th and 20th, 2007 with pre-conference institutes on April 18th. This year the conference will be in Atlanta, GA at the Sheraton Atlanta Hotel. You can find more information and register online: [www.summerlearning.org](http://www.summerlearning.org).

### Three New Partners

#### Unified Government of Wyandotte County/ Kansas City, KS

Pamela Smith, Recreation Specialist [pksmith@wycokck.org](mailto:pksmith@wycokck.org) 5033 State Ave. Kansas City, KS 66102 This is a community-based organization funded by local city taxes, and the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, KS. They have different facilities located throughout the city to accommodate the youth in their neighboring community in a variety of activities.

#### American Red Cross- Wyandotte County

Ashley Adorante, Health and Safety Coordinator [adorantea@usa.redcross.org](mailto:adorantea@usa.redcross.org) 1600 Washington Blvd. Kansas City, KS 66102 The American Red Cross is a humanitarian organization that provides relief to victims of disasters and helps people prevent, prepare for and respond to emergencies. We educate community members in the life saving skills of CPR, first aid, water safety and HIV/AIDS prevention. They provide free presentations/programs to youth on a variety of topics in health and safety and disaster.

#### Bethel Neighborhood Center

Lisa Harris, Executive Director [rharris@bethelcenter.org](mailto:rharris@bethelcenter.org) 14 S. 7th Street, Kansas City, KS 66101 The Center provides programs for youth and children that teach social skills in a safe and nurturing environment. Classes provide a fun, creative environment where students learn about arts, crafts, music, literature, natural science and economics. Bethel also offers services and lunches for senior adults. It also provides health care assistance through seminars, programs, and screenings in addition to a food pantry that is also available for the neighborhood.



### Challenger Learning Center of Kansas (CLCKS)

Challenger Center of Space Science Education is a non-profit organization created as a living memorial formed in 1986 by the families of the NASA Challenger STS-51L space shuttle crew. The organization is dedicated to continuing the education mission of that crew, one of which is located in Wellington, KS. CLCKS creates a space-themed learning environment in which students have a hands-on opportunity to utilize their critical thinking skills. The programs we offer help inspire students in grades 5 through 10 to learn and explore while fostering an interest in math, science, and technology. Our state-of-the-art simulator features a mission control center modeled after the one at NASA and an International Space Station.

#### **Applying for a Challenger Mission Scholarship is Easy!**

Scholarships are a wonderful way to enjoy the Challenger Mission experience at little cost to your school system (you must provide the transportation). Scholarships are for the price of a mission (\$500/mission) and schools can apply for multiple missions. There is no limit as to how many scholarships a school can apply for, so bring a whole grade level. Applying for a scholarship is easy. The first part of the application is simply school information. The second part is three narratives explaining why you need funding, how you plan to integrate the Challenger program into your classroom and if there are any special considerations. The Scholarship application includes the rubric in which your application will be assessed, dates for teacher training/scholarship missions and the registration form. Scholarship applications must be received at least two weeks before the requested Teacher Training date. Any public school in the state of Kansas can apply. Your school does not have to be a "low income" school. Visit [www.clcks.org/programs](http://www.clcks.org/programs) for a scholarship application.

#### **The Experience: A Classroom Like No Other**

Thirty eager students enter the Orientation Room unsure of what is going to happen during the next two hours. They meet their Flight Director and Mission Commander, they are given jobs such as Medical, Communications, Probe, Navigation, Isolation, and Life Support, and then they separate into two groups-Mission Control and Space Station. For the next two hours they will work cooperatively to handle emergencies, ensure the safety of the crew, monitor the conditions onboard the space station, perform experiments, and build scientific instruments. Halfway through their mission, students switch sides so everyone has the opportunity to experience what is happening in Mission Control and the Space Station. At the end of the mission, students come back together in the Briefing Room to discuss what they learned and the power of simulations. So engaging is the Learning Center experience, that students can hardly believe that two hours have past, as it seems like they just arrived. Excited about their experiences, students leave knowing that there is more of the space program than just gazing at stars.

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**NEWS TO USE**

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## Program Highlight: Great Bend 21st Century Grant

Over 400 middle school students and 466 elementary students in Great Bend are growing academically and personally through the 21st Century after-school programs sponsored by USD 428. The classes available to students after school range from help with homework to cooking classes and bicycle clubs. The 21st Century classes are held at two of the district's Title I elementary schools, plus Great Bend Middle School.

In the first week of October Riley began holding their activity classes from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. Activities are taught by teachers, retired teachers, community adults, high school students, and even the school principal, Laura Blevins. Mrs. Blevins teaches Bicycle Club and sign language. Other offerings at Riley are sewing, cooking, computer, board games, and drug awareness, taught on a five-week rotation schedule. Vocal music and guitar lessons are also taught. A partnership with Great Bend Recreation Center provides art and physical education classes for students, and Barton County Extension agents meet with the Riley Leadership Club (sixth graders) one afternoon per week to teach community service and leadership skills.

Great Bend Middle School provides Homework Help for an hour before and after school, Monday through Friday. An average of 50 students attend each session. Homework Help is organized into rooms for reading, mathematics, general homework, and ESOL. An additional academic session called "Focus First" targets the teaching of objectives tested on the Kansas Assessments to students who do not demonstrate mastery of these skills. Classes will continue until early May.

Before and after-school activities offered through the 21st Century Program touch on a variety of interests including dance line, vocal music, video production, art workshops, physical activities, community service and student leadership. The middle school schedules their activities in segments and at time slots that do not conflict with middle school athletics. This allows as many students as possible to participate. The number of students participating in these activities varies throughout the school year.



## Funding Sources

### EDUTOPIA.ORG

Edutopia.org is your first stop for finding out about corporate, nonprofit, and government grant-making institutions, periodicals with grant information, and more. For more information, visit [www.edutopia.org/foundation/grant.php](http://www.edutopia.org/foundation/grant.php)

### CORAL ECOSYSTEM SCIGUIDE

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the National Science Teachers Association offer a free, online "science toolbox" about coral reef ecosystems. For more information visit [www.sciguides.nsta.org](http://www.sciguides.nsta.org)

### GTECH AFTERSCHOOL ADVANTAGE

GTech provides nonprofit community agencies serving minority and at-risk children with state-of-the-art computer labs. Proposals are accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis. For more information visit [www.gtech.com/about\\_gtech/proposal\\_guidelines.asp](http://www.gtech.com/about_gtech/proposal_guidelines.asp)

### THE CLAY AIKEN ABLE-TO-SERVE GRANT FUNDING

Washington- The Bubel/Aiken Foundation and Youth Service America (YSA) are pleased to announce grants of up to \$1,000 to support youth-led service projects in which youth with and without disabilities serve their communities together. These grants support youth (ages 5-25), teachers, youth-leaders, youth-serving organizations, or organizations that serve people with disabilities in implementing service projects for National and Global Youth Service Day, April 20-22, 2007. The receipt deadline is Thursday, November 30. To download an application and grant guidelines, please go to: <[www.ysa.org/awards](http://www.ysa.org/awards)>. The Bubel/Aiken Foundation provides services and financial assistance to promote the full integration of children with disabilities into the life environment of those without. To learn more about the Bubel/Aiken Foundation or ways to get involved visit their Web site at [www.bubelaiken.org](http://www.bubelaiken.org)

### 2007 EXPLORAVISION AWARDS FOR STUDENTS K-12

ExploraVision is a national science competition that encourages K-12 students of all interest, skill and ability levels to create and explore visions of future technology. Each student on four first-place teams will receive a \$10,000 U.S. Savings Bond and a trip to Washington, D.C. Here's the challenge: Pick and research a technology, then explore what it could be 20 years from now. Are there problems modern technology has yet to solve? Are there practical solutions to everyday problems we've yet to consider? The 2007 ExploraVision Awards competition is sponsored by Toshiba and administered by the National Science Teachers Association." Entries due January 30, 2007  
URL: <http://www.exploravision.org/about/> Referred by: TeacherVision

### ING UNSUNG HEROES TO REWARD EXCELLENCE IN AMERICA'S SCHOOLS

"Financial services company ING seeks to help K-12 educators and their schools fund innovative classroom projects through its annual Unsung Heroes awards program. All K-12 education professionals, whether or not they are clients of ING, are eligible. However, these individuals must be employed by an accredited K-12 public or private school located in the United States and be a full-time educator, teacher, principal, paraprofessional, or classified staff member with an effective project that improves student learning." Deadline: April 30, 2007

URL: <http://www.ing-usa.com/us/aboutING/communityconnections/ineducation/unsungheroes/index.htm>  
Referred by: Foundation Center

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