

Spring 2009 Promising Practices Announcement



The AED Center for Youth Development (CYD) is pleased to announce the Spring 2009 Promising Practices.

CYD investigates and shares with innovative AfterSchool programs and practices through our **Promising Practices in AfterSchool** (PPAS) work on the PPAS Listserv, funded by the Mott Foundation, and on www.afterschool.org.

CYD investigates Promising Practices to:

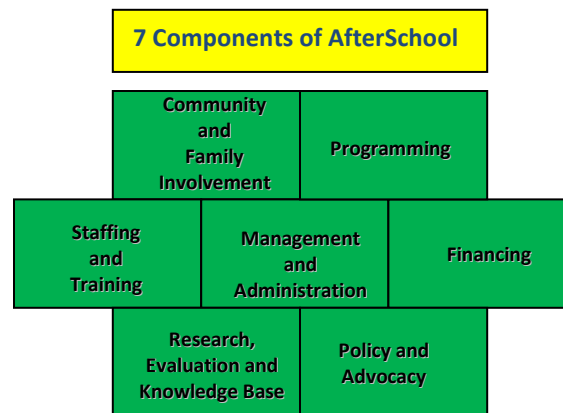
- learn about youth development outcomes, opportunities and supports
- highlight the efforts, direction and capabilities AfterSchool programs can play in the lives of young people and communities
- share and potentially replicate Promising Practices that create engaging learning environments for young people.

Each Call for Promising Practices in AfterSchool focuses on one of the seven Components of AfterSchool, and this year our cross-cutting theme is: **School Connectedness**.

Definitions

A **practice** is the underlying rationale for a program activity, the “why”, whereas an Activity is simply the “how”.

Promising Practices underlie the activities in AfterSchool programs, have indicators/evidence of



During the Spring 2009 Call for Promising Practices over 15 submissions were received from organizations. Trained PPAS Reviewers, from across the country, selected seven as **Promising Practices** and six as **Aha! Practices**. (An Aha! is a great idea to be shared with other AfterSchool programs and has the potential to become a Promising Practice.) You will be able to search for specific details about the practices, activities and outcomes from each of the organizations and their programs on the www.afterschool.org website (click on the PPAS button) by July 15.

And the Spring 2009 Promising Practices winners are...

Spring 2009 Promising Practices

Organization/ AfterSchool Program	Component	Promising Practice
All Stars Project, Inc. New York, NY www.allstars.org "The Development School for Youth"	Programming	Performance/Improvisational Performance that helps inner city young adults better understand they have to go through a process of accommodating institutions in the world, and teaches them how to be adaptive. School is one of those institutions. The issue of cultural and societal adaptation of these young people to school is less often discussed and attended to.
The Leadership Program New York, NY www.theleadershipprogram.com "HERstory"	Programming	Serves middle school girls utilizing the vehicle of drama and the lens of female empowerment to teach academic and social-emotional skills in a women-focused afterschool club.
Team-Up for Youth Oakland, CA www.teamupforyouth.org "Coaching Corps"	Staffing and Training	Recruits, trains, and places college students as volunteer coaches at afterschool programs in low-income communities in California. Highly-trained, volunteer coaches help afterschool programs increase and improve their physical activity offerings. As a result, more young people benefit from academic outcomes associated with sports participation, such as increased school connectedness, aspirations for higher education, and improved school attendance and homework completion.
The Leadership Program New York, NY www.theleadershipprogram.com "Bronx Initiative for Small Schools Character Education Program (BISCEP)"	Programming	Integrates character education elements into core academic subjects linked throughout the school day applied in engaging arts and recreational afterSchool activities.
Anaheim Family YMCA Anaheim, CA www.anaheimymca.org "Anaheim Achieves Collaborative"	Programming	Assists and supports student understanding that academics and study lead to finding fulfillment in their future school life and careers. Students learn that all their school work, both during the daytime program and after school, helps to prepare them for college and career. Students learn to understand their talents and interests. They investigate careers and visit worksites to see vocations in operation in the work world. They develop academic strength, the spirit of team work, and interpersonal skills. The program supports students in their quest to achieve their "cap" -- and career success through post-high school education.
Anaheim Family YMCA Anaheim, CA www.anaheimymca.org "Anaheim Achieves Collaborative"	Programming	Encourages student interest and engagement in school. Students compete in an academic contest held at a community college and also tour the campus. The practice provides experience with the college campus, college students, and the prerequisites for continuing education beyond high school. The rationale for Kids Challenge is exposure to a college campus and support for academics that lead to continuing education and successful careers.
"e" Planet Boston, MA www.e-action.us "Planet Protectors"	Programming	A unique mix of dynamic science learning that helps children and youth gain a deep understanding of our planet's systems and beings, along with civics skills and projects that allow students to put their understanding to work making a difference for their community or the earth, gain confidence in their academic skills, and also see themselves as capable actors in their community.

2009 Aha! Practices

Organization/Program	Component	Aha! Practice
New Jersey Department of Education Trenton, NJ “21st Century Afterschool Science Project”	Programming and Research and Evaluation	Implements a water curriculum with the philosophy of how to facilitate science engagement. Facilitates scientific inquiry and being proactive and intentional about equity for minorities and females in STEM programs. “Science by inquiry” is a powerful tool to facilitate students’ science learning and involves asking questions and using evidence to answer those questions and the activities through which students develop knowledge and understanding of scientific ideas, as well as an understanding of how scientist study the natural world.
Jefferson Parrish Schools Harvey, LA “St. Ville Academy”	Programming	Creates and publishes the <i>Star Publications-Sisterhood of the Shining Stars</i> school newspaper to reach out to the community and showcase students’ various talents.
Richland Parish School Board Rayville, LA www.richland.k12.la.us “Delhi Elementary and Delhi Middle School 21st CCLC”	Programming	Offers opportunities to help elementary and middle school students be academically successfully in a small, poor, rural community through art history, culinary arts, nutrition, and etiquette.
The After-School Corporation (TASC) New York, NY www.tascorp.org “Expanded Learning Time/New York City”	Programming	Develops strategies that connect more time for learning, discovery and enrichment to children’s higher achievement and healthy development. TASC’s promising practice is collaborative team teaching – pairing school teachers with CBO instructors, trained in youth development practices, during the after-school hours, also providing continuity for students between the school day and ELT.
South Asian Youth Action S. Ozone Park, NY “SAYA! Afterschool Program at John Adams High School”	Programming	Provides an internship program, open to all interested students from Southeast Asia (India, Bangladesh, Pakistan) and Caribbean (Jamaica, Trinidad and Guyana) designed to help these students in an effort to expose them to work skills and related knowledge, through direct internship experiences which will 1) empower them personally and socially, 2) help them find decent, high paying jobs and 3) help them select a major for college.
Family Guidance Center of Warren County Washington, NJ “New Jersey After 3 Program at Family Guidance Center of Warren County”	Programming	Offers small peer-group-based academic reinforcement and enrichment exploration in a small rural town serving a very diverse population of students.

Website: www.afterschool.org

For Further Information: Please contact 202.884.8715. **To Post to the PPAS Listserv:** Please visit

Disclaimer: The AED Center for Youth Development PPAS Listserv is intended to promote informed discussions around afterschool issues for afterschool program staff, youth workers, school-age care providers, educators, researchers, policymakers and others with an interest in keeping up-to-date and who subscribe to the PPAS Listserv. Although CYD tries to ensure the information distributed is accurate, we encourage you to confirm the information through the source referenced.

<http://www.afterschool.org>. Click on the Promising Practices button.