

MEDIA ADVISORY April 19, 2009 CONTACT: Gretchen Wright Luci Manning 202/371-1999

## Educators, Parents, Children, Advocates to Rally for Afterschool

Hundreds of children, parents, educators and other advocates for afterschool programs from all across the country will join forces to call on Congress to fund and support the afterschool programs that keep kids safe, inspire them to learn and help working families at a rally as part of the Afterschool Alliance's 2010 *Afterschool for All Challenge*. The Afterschool Alliance is holding this year's *Challenge* in conjunction with the National AfterSchool Association's annual convention, Be the Change. The rally will be held at:

## 2 PM Tuesday, April 20 West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol Washington, DC

## WITH

Celebrity Chef Joey Altman, Host of "Bay Café" Mark Bryan, Lead Guitarist and Founder, "Hootie and the Blowfish" Judge Glenda Hatchett, Star of "Judge Hatchett" Afterschool Alliance Executive Director Jodi Grant

## EXPECTED

Senator Barbara Boxer (CA), Representative Rosa DeLauro (D-CT), Representative Dale Kildee (D-MI, Representative Nita Lowey (D-NY) and Representative Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV)

Two young people, whose trips to Washington, DC were sponsored by Bright House Networks, will also speak at the rally. **Ebony Moore of Birmingham, Alabama and David Johnson of Indianapolis, Indiana** will talk about the afterschool programs they participate in and why they believe that afterschool programs are important for young people of all ages.

The 2010 NAA Convention/*Afterschool for All Challenge* is sponsored by: JCPenney Afterschool Fund, United States Tennis Association, Bright House Networks, Quaker Chewy, Torani, Sony Pictures Entertainment, Open Society Institute, Peavey Electronics, NAMM, The Annie E. Casey Foundation, D.C. Children & Youth Investment Trust Corporation, and Cable in the Classroom, Council on Accreditation, and National Summer Learning Association.

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The Afterschool Alliance is a nonprofit public awareness and advocacy organization working to ensure that all children and youth have access to quality afterschool programs. More information is available at www.afterschoolalliance.org.