



**MEDIA ADVISORY**  
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## **Afterschool Alliance to Honor 2011 Afterschool Champions**

***2011 “Breakfast of Champions” to Feature  
FIRST Founder Dean Kamen,  
National League of Cities President and Charlotte, NC Councilmember James Mitchell***

National League of Cities President and Charlotte, NC Councilmember James Mitchell will join hundreds of parents, children, educators, lawmakers and advocates from around the nation on Tuesday, May 17 at a “Breakfast of Champions” at which the Afterschool Alliance will honor one national and nine state champions for their commitment to afterschool programs. The Alliance will present its “Afterschool for All” Champion Award to *FIRST*® founder (and inventor of the “Segway”) Dean Kamen for his work advocating for improved teaching of science and technology and his efforts to help young people discover the excitement and rewards of science and technology. The “Breakfast of Champions” is an annual event organized by the Afterschool Alliance as part of the tenth annual *Afterschool for All Challenge*. The “Breakfast” will be at:

**8:00 AM Tuesday, May 17  
Room D-G50, Dirksen Senate Office Building**

**WITH**

***National League of Cities President and Charlotte, NC Councilmember James Mitchell***

***FIRST Founder Dean Kamen***

***Afterschool Alliance Executive Director Jodi Grant***

***Afterschool Program Students from Laconia, New Hampshire, Camdenton, Missouri and  
Washington, DC***

***Invited Members of Congress, including: Senator Barbara Boxer (CA), Senator Mark Begich (AK),  
Senator Jean Shaheen (NH), Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (RI)  
and Representative David Cicilline (RI)***

The Afterschool State Champions being honored are:

- **Connecticut:** Agnes Quiñones, Education Consultant, Connecticut State Department of Education

- **Kansas:** Nancy Volpe, Youth Program Consultant, CVS Pathways to Pharmacy and America's Promise
- **Michigan:** Kathleen Straus, Board Member, Michigan State Board of Education
- **Minnesota:** R.T. Rybak, Mayor of the City of Minneapolis
- **Missouri:** Sherry Comer, Afterschool Services Director, Camdenton R-III Schools
- **New Jersey:** Vaughn L. McKoy, President, PSEG Foundation
- **New York:** Kyle Stewart, Executive Director, Alliance of New York State YMCAs, Inc.
- **Pennsylvania:** Carmen M. Medina, Chief of the Division of Student Services, Pennsylvania Department of Education Bureau of Teaching and Learning
- **Virginia:** Mark H. Emery, Administrator for After-School Programs, Fairfax County Public Schools.

In honor of 2011 being the Year of Science in Afterschool, many of the Champions will be recognized for their leadership incorporating the science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) learning into afterschool programs.

Following the Breakfast, afterschool advocates will fan out across Capitol Hill to meet with Members of Congress and congressional staff. In the meetings, they will discuss the importance of afterschool programs and expanding opportunities for kids to engage in STEM activities in those programs.

The 2011 *Afterschool for All Challenge* is sponsored by: United States Tennis Association, Peavey Electronics, NAMM, Open Society Foundations, Cable in the Classroom, National AfterSchool Association, Clever Crazes for Kids, and Arnold and Sandra Grant. Additional funding is provided by the S.D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation, Time Warner Cable, the Noyce Foundation and jcpenny.

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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](http://www.afterschoolalliance.org).*