



# LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL

A PROJECT OF THE AFTERSCHOOL ALLIANCE

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## 2023 Representative Sample of Local Events

### Alabama

**New Hope, Owens Cross Roads, and Gurley, Alabama:** Afterschool Ambassador Andrea Bridges and Molly Mollinax, The CARE Center, 256-723-2273, [molly.mullinax@thecare-center.org](mailto:molly.mullinax@thecare-center.org)

The CARE Center will host *Lights On Afterschool* events at four area schools the week of October 23. Schools will display *Lights On Afterschool* on the electronic signs at the front of their buildings. The CARE Center will also light up in blue at its administrative and ministry building. Throughout the week, the 21st Century Community Learning Centers afterschool students will write personal messages on paper lightbulbs and display them throughout their schools. Students will also complete an activity in the COSI (the Center of Science and Industry) Connects James Webb Space Telescope Kit. The kits, created in partnership with NASA, help young people learn, through hands-on activities, about the Earth's atmosphere and discover why the Webb telescope was sent to space. Students will make a model of the Webb, and explore how it uses light to study space. On October 27th, parents and guardians are invited to participate with their students to make a model nebula. Participants will engage in this STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math) project while discussing the importance of afterschool.

**Russellville, Alabama:** Angela Crittenden, Tiger PAWS, 256-324-1992, [angela.crittenden@rcs.k12.al.us](mailto:angela.crittenden@rcs.k12.al.us)

On October 26, Tiger PAWS will celebrate *Lights On Afterschool* with the reveal of a new Lu Interactive Board. From 3:00 to 5:30 PM, students and families, staff members, community leaders, and the school board will try out the new instruction tool and learn how it will improve the students' experience in the afterschool program. There will be additional STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) and arts and crafts activities for the students. As many as 60 people may attend.

## **Alaska**

**Anchorage, Alaska:** Brittany Hoskins, 21st Century Community Learning Centers Willow Crest, 907-310-0193, [hoskins\\_brittany@asdk12.org](mailto:hoskins_brittany@asdk12.org)

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, 21st Century Community Learning Centers at Willow Crest hosted an open house on October 19. Guests toured the site and took part in a variety of student-led activities, including word searches, Chinese lanterns, glow salt circuits, and much more.

**Anchorage, Alaska:** Danica Phillips, Northeast Community Council, 907-333-2582, [dphillips@bgcalaska.org](mailto:dphillips@bgcalaska.org)

In celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Alaska will host a Trunk-or-Treat Boo Fest! at Northeast Community Center Muldoon on October 26 from 5:30 to 7:30 PM. The festival is open to the entire community with fall-themed activities such as painting pumpkins, hot cocoa bombs, Halloween games, costume contests, and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activities including pocket solar systems, sculpting lunar geology, and moon leap. As many as 150 children will tour the building, collecting candy and treats from staff members.

**Houston, Alaska:** Tyler Healy, Youth 360, 907-373-3613, [director@youth-360.org](mailto:director@youth-360.org)

Youth 360 will host a *Lights On Afterschool* open house at Houston High School on October 27 from 3:00 to 6:00 PM. The celebration will include a silent disco dance party, painting, raffle prizes, stamp art and a bonfire with marshmallows for roasting. As many as 150 families, youth, school personnel and community members will attend.

**Nenana, Alaska:** Teena Calkin, Nenana City School, 907-830-8202, [tcalkin@nenanalynx.org](mailto:tcalkin@nenanalynx.org)

On October 28 from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM, Nenana City School will host a *Lights On Afterschool* Halloween showcase. The event will include Mission to Mars stargazing, student art exhibits, eSport and board games, stacking cup challenges, pee wee sport games, First Lego League activity, STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) club projects, wellness and leadership activities, drug and alcohol prevention information and giveaways for all attendees. As many as 50 students, families and community members may attend.

**Petersburg, Alaska:** Katherine Holmlund, Kinder Skog, 907-772-5501, [Kinderskog@pmc-health.org](mailto:Kinderskog@pmc-health.org)

Throughout *Lights On Afterschool* week (October 23 to 27), Kinder Skog will showcase its program's STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activities, including the students' Mission2Mars projects. The outdoor based afterschool program focuses on enriching learning through outdoor experiences and facilitating various recreational activities to inspire youth to become life-long lovers of recreation and nature. On October 26, Kinder Skog will lead a *Lights On Afterschool* presentation at the Petersburg Medical Center, highlighting the program's achievements and importance in the community.

**Wasilla, Alaska:** Jovan Archuleta, Wasilla Youth 360, [Wasilla@youth-360.org](mailto:Wasilla@youth-360.org)

For *Lights On Afterschool*, Wasilla Youth 360 will host a Trunk-or-Treat open house for the entire community on October 31 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. Youth will lead haunted tours throughout the building and guests will visit various themed rooms, including Cobweb Corridor, the Graveyard, Space mission, Nightmare Before Christmas, and Skeleton Basketball. Outside, decorated cars will line the parking lot, filled with candy and treats in their trunks for participants.

### **Arizona**

**Chandler, Arizona:** Natalie Alvarez, Kyrene de la Mirada Leadership Academy, 480-541-4230, [nalvarez@kyrene.org](mailto:nalvarez@kyrene.org)

In celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*, Kyrene de la Mirada Leadership Academy will host a fall festival in its multipurpose room from 3:00 to 4:30 PM on October 26. Current and former students will staff booths, including a popcorn station, spider ring toss, bingo, photo booth, and much more. Students will share personal testimonies about why they love the club and snacks will be provided. As many as 120 students and families will attend.

**Phoenix, Arizona:** Ryan Bradstock, Arizona Center for Afterschool Excellence, 602-734-5434, [rbradstock@azafterschool.org](mailto:rbradstock@azafterschool.org)

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, the Arizona Center for Afterschool Excellence will host “School’s Out, Make It Count” conference on October 28 at the Phoenix Convention Center. The annual event provides quality professional development for Out-of-School Time staff and educators. Out-of-School Time is comprised of afterschool programs as well as community, private, public and religious youth programs. K.M. “DiCo” DiColandrea is this year’s keynote speaker.

**Phoenix, Arizona:** Jesus Ballesteros, Valley of the Sun YMCA, 480-721-6826, [jesus.ballesteros@vosymca.org](mailto:jesus.ballesteros@vosymca.org)

For *Lights On Afterschool*, Valley of the Sun YMCA will host a family bingo night at Monte Vista Elementary School starting at 5:00 PM on October 27. Students, teachers, and school staff are invited to the family friendly event. Refreshments will be served and fall-theme goodie bags will be awarded to winners.

**Phoenix, Arizona:** Paul Darrow, YMCA at Dunbar, [paul.darrow@vosymca.org](mailto:paul.darrow@vosymca.org)

On October 26, the YMCA at Dunbar will hold a *Lights On Afterschool* sports festival from 4:00 to 6:00 PM at Dunbar Elementary School. Students and staff will participate in a variety of sports and games. Dinner will be provided.

## **Arkansas**

**Bismarck, Arkansas:** Kim Stinson, LiL Lions Daycare LLC, 501-844-5188, [lil\\_lions@yahoo.com](mailto:lil_lions@yahoo.com)

On October 26, LiL Lions Daycare will celebrate *Lights On Afterschool* with performances by the student band, Rainboomer's, at its Outdoor Musical Flower and Thunder Wall Garden starting at 7:00 PM until 8:00 PM. The event will also feature students' artwork and the program's building will be illuminated in honor of *Lights On Afterschool*.

**Jonesboro, Arkansas:** Michelle Kirkwood, Leap Forward, 870-340-8127, [theleapforwardmovement@gmail.com](mailto:theleapforwardmovement@gmail.com)

From 4:00 to 6:00 PM on October 26, Leap Forward will celebrate *Lights On Afterschool* with their annual family fun night. The free event will feature math games and decorating paper lightbulbs, as well as information about the importance of school attendance. The Center Ossipee Fire Department will be on site with obstacle course challenges and guests will be treated to slices of pie. Mayor Donya Sartor will issue a proclamation recognizing *Lights On Afterschool*.

**Little Rock, Arkansas:** Sheila Hayes, Tendaji Community Development Corporation, 501-663-0290, [tendajicdc@gmail.com](mailto:tendajicdc@gmail.com)

For *Lights On Afterschool*, Tendaji Community Development Corporation will host a literacy festival from 4:00 to 6:00 PM on October 26. The Central Arkansas Library and Arkansas Literacy Council will be present, providing families information about reading and literacy resources. Hamilton Farms, a local farm, will provide a game truck for the kids with laser tag and glam activities. Little Rock Mayor Frank Scott Jr. will give a proclamation to the more than 150 attendees.

**Springdale, Arkansas:** Afterschool Ambassador Ben Rediske, SOAR Afterschool Program, [ben@soarafterschool.com](mailto:ben@soarafterschool.com)

The SOAR Afterschool Program will host its *Lights On Afterschool* event on October 26 at the Jones Center for Families in Springdale. Participants will engage in student-led activities that include STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) Labs, Amazing Shake, Cosmetology Club, Reflex Math, Ozobots, and more. Participants will learn about the opportunities and experiences students have had over the past year – including a trip to Washington, D.C., being the Burls' Kids at the University of Arkansas football game, and more. The SOAR Afterschool Program will also share data and stories about its impact on families and offer ways to support the program.

## **California**

**Anderson, California:** Connie Bradley, Meadow Lane, 530-227-3662, [cbradley@shastacoe.org](mailto:cbradley@shastacoe.org)  
Meadow Lane celebrated *Lights On Afterschool* with a Halloween festival on October 20 from 2:30 to 4:30 PM. The festival was open to Meadow Lane Elementary School students and

families for an afternoon of food and drinks, fall activities, and fun. Attendees enjoyed cornhole, basketball, 4 square, chalk drawings, bubble art, shirt signing, face painting, and pumpkin decorating. Kona ice was offered to the more than 120 attendees and volunteers. Mayor Mike Gallagher was invited to join in the festivities.

**Baldwin Park, California:** Samantha Farias, Think Together at Charles Bursch Elementary School, 626-271-0383, [Samantha.farias@thinktogether.org](mailto:Samantha.farias@thinktogether.org)

On October 27, Think Together at Charles Bursch Elementary will host “The More than Just Scribbles Art Exhibit” for *Lights On Afterschool* from 5:00 to 6:00 PM. The exhibit will showcase the students’ passion, dedication, and time spent on their artwork. At 5:15 PM, the cheer team will perform and the basketball team will run a short drill workshop for the parents and families. Baldwin Park Mayor Emmanuel Estrada will attend.

**Colton, California:** Debrea Collins, Think Together, 909-450-1295, [Debrea.Collins@thinktogether.org](mailto:Debrea.Collins@thinktogether.org)

In celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*, Think Together will hold a talent show on October 26, starting at 3:15 PM. “A Night At Disney: Disney Concert” will feature students from each grade performing a Disney song or skit, ending with a grand finale dance number. The performances will help teach the students the importance of being creative and thinking outside the box.

**Dinuba, California:** David Camarillo, Fuel Afterschool and Monson-Sultana Joint Union Elementary School, 559-804-1729, [davidc@msschool.org](mailto:davidc@msschool.org)

On October 26, students, parents, and community members of Dinuba, California will join Monson-Sultana Elementary School and Fuel Afterschool Program in a color run for *Lights On Afterschool*. The event will start at 5:30 PM at the elementary school and families will have fun running approximately a mile through all the colors of the rainbow. Tickets for the run include a pair of glasses and a t-shirt. The local sheriff’s office and fire department will join the expected 150 attendees.

**Napa, California:** Paris Steinbach, Boys & Girls Clubs of Napa Valley, 707-231-6901, [psteinbach@begreatnv.org](mailto:psteinbach@begreatnv.org)

On October 26 from 3:00 to 6:00 PM, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Napa Valley will host a *Lights On Afterschool* cultural potluck. Guests will enjoy a community feast and learn about various cultures and cuisines. Students will watch Nickelodeon’s better futures video and create their own vision boards that will show what they believe a better tomorrow looks like.

**Oxnard, California:** Liliana Soria, Oxnard Scholars After School Program, 805-814-8302, [lsoria@oxnardsd.org](mailto:lsoria@oxnardsd.org)

Oxnard Scholars After School Program will hold a *Lights On Afterschool* celebration on October 26 from 5:00 to 6:00 PM. The event will showcase some of the many activities taking place

every day at the program, including STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math), ArtTrek, literacy, recreation, and Latin dancing. As many as 200 guests will attend the event at Drifill Elementary School.

**Sacramento, California:** Anthony Ceden, Sacramento Chinese Community Center, 916-271-4049, [anthony.cedeno@sccsc.org](mailto:anthony.cedeno@sccsc.org)

On October 26 from 4:00 to 5:30 PM, the Sacramento Chinese Community Center will host a spooky costume dance party for *Lights On Afterschool* at Tahoe Elementary School. At the event, students and families will dress up in their Halloween best and show off their dance moves. The school will be decorated with students' artwork and more than 150 students and families are expected.

**San Diego, California:** Chris Valdez, Knox Middle School, 619-494-8652, [knox@arc-experience.com](mailto:knox@arc-experience.com)

In celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*, Knox Middle School will host an Indigenous People's Day workshop and potluck on October 26. From 4:00 to 5:30 PM, students and families are invited to learn how to weave baskets together. Pizza will be provided and as many as 65 guests are expected.

**San Diego, California:** Jacqueline Contreas, McKinley PrimeTime and YMCA Expanded Learning Programs, 619-548-9862, [mckinleypt@ymcasd.org](mailto:mckinleypt@ymcasd.org)

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, McKinley PrimeTime will host a spooky talent show on October 26 from 4:00 to 5:00 PM. The talent show will showcase the many talents of the students from singing and dancing to magic tricks and student storytellings. As many as 100 students and families are expected to attend.

**San Francisco, California:** Boris Coronado, Bay Area Community Resources, 415-650-7699, [bcoronado@bacr.org](mailto:bcoronado@bacr.org)

In celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*, Bay Area Community Resources will host its 2nd annual "Shine Bright like a Beacon" on October 26 from 4:30 to 5:45 PM. The open house festival will feature a variety of activities for students, families, and the community to enjoy including lightning dodgeball, dancing with lights, skateboard course, musical chairs, and glow in the dark painting. More than 200 people are expected.

## **Colorado**

**Denver, Colorado:** Summer Wimberly, Colorado Dream Foundation, [swimberly@coloradodream.org](mailto:swimberly@coloradodream.org)

To celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*, "Superheroes" from national laboratories will be building solar bugs and sharing their energy careers with 4th, 5th, and 6th graders at Colorado Dream Foundation. Group14, a local consulting firm, is sponsoring the event to help energize future

leaders to get into STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math). The event will take place on October 26.

**Leadville, Colorado:** Afterschool Ambassador Alumni Taylor Trelka, Project Dream, Lake County School District, 719-427-7003, [ttrelka@lakecountyschools.net](mailto:ttrelka@lakecountyschools.net)  
Project Dream celebrated *Lights On Afterschool* on October 20 at Colorado Mountain College, hosting student speakers and talent showcases, and playing a video showcasing the program's activities. Parents, community partners, media, and local community leaders were invited to join the event. High school students made cupcakes with button toppers that said "Lights on Project Dream!" Students also wore their tie-dyed Project Dream shirts for the event.

**Parker, Colorado:** Sumer Sandel, Cougar Club BASE, 303-908-9511, [sumer.sandel@dcsdk12.org](mailto:sumer.sandel@dcsdk12.org)

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, Cougar Club BASE will host a fall-themed open house on October 26 from 3:30 to 5:30 PM. Cougar Run Elementary families will see what a typical afternoon is like for the kids. Students and families will enjoy a variety of activities including gym games, arts and crafts, pumpkin painting, and a raffle to win a staff painted pumpkin. The more than 75 attendees are encouraged to wear their best blue and yellow to show their support for *Lights On Afterschool* and afterschool programs.

### **Connecticut**

**Portland, Connecticut:** Afterschool Ambassador Tiffany Wilson, Mill River Park Collaborative, 203-989-0321 x103, [tiffany@millriverpark.org](mailto:tiffany@millriverpark.org)

On October 6th, the Connecticut Network for Children and Youth hosted its 2nd annual *Lights On Afterschool* celebration from 9:30 AM to 2:00 PM at Camp Ingersoll. The event, a Celebration of the Out-of-School Time Field in Connecticut, infused hands-on STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) and SEL (social-emotional learning) skill building activities with shared best practices from peers across the state. More than 80 childcare professionals were in attendance.

### **Delaware**

**Dagsboro, Delaware:** Wendy Mesogianes, Dagsboro Boys & Girls Club, 302-7320-6626, [wmesogianes@bgclubs.org](mailto:wmesogianes@bgclubs.org)

On October 26, Dagsboro Boys & Girls Club 21st Century Community Learning Center will host a career fair from 4:30 to 5:30 PM for *Lights On Afterschool*. The fair will feature a variety of local vocational school programs including a cosmetology team from a local salon, the police department, an HVAC team, waste management, landscaping, banking, and insurance. More than 150 students are expected.

**Laurel, Delaware:** Tasha Esham, Laurel Boys & Girls Club, 302-875-1200, [tesham@bgclubs.org](mailto:tesham@bgclubs.org)

To celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*, the Laurel Boys & Girls Club held a Harvest Party in the Park on October 23 from 6:00 to 8:30 PM. The event included activities such as inflatable slides, sack races, limbo and more, as well as a petting zoo, corn hole, face painting, DJ, photo station, pumpkin tic tac toe, fall-themed book bingo, and cake walk. More than 300 students, parents, and community members were expected. Students delivered remarks about the importance of the Club's afterschool programs in their lives and communities.

**Wilmington, Delaware:** Amber Battle-Winston, Stubbs Early Education Center and The Bancroft School, 302-513-6102, [abwinston@uwde.org](mailto:abwinston@uwde.org)

Stubbs Early Education Center and Bancroft Schools are partnering together to host three *Lights On Afterschool* events. On October 25 and 26, the sites will hold an open house from 4:30 to 5:30 PM, showcasing a variety of STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math) activities. Stubbs will host the open house on October 25 and Bancroft will host on October 26. The weeklong celebration will conclude on October 30 at Christiana Skating Center with a family skating night from 6:30 to 8:30 PM.

### **District of Columbia**

**Washington, DC:** Afterschool Ambassador Andrew Blickle, Life Pieces to Masterpieces, [ablickle@lifepieces.org](mailto:ablickle@lifepieces.org)

Life Pieces To Masterpieces (LPTM) is proud to celebrate *Lights On Afterschool* on October 26th with *A Day in the Life at Life Pieces*, a celebration of the arts, STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math), mentorship, and brotherhood at its program. Students ages three to 18 will showcase their work beginning at 4:30 PM. The event will include a big celebration with food, youth performances, youth and community speakers, and a showcase of LPTM's signature artistic process -- where youth work together to paint, cut, and sew pieces of canvas to express and represent their life experiences. Each colorful, sewn, acrylic-on-canvas quilted painting illustrates a shared story and reflects their courage to create their own destiny and transform their "life pieces" into "masterpieces." U.S. Deputy Secretary of Education Cindy Marten will attend. A videographer will be present while news media, educators, and community leaders are expected at the event. The Afterschool Alliance has partnered with LPTM to make this celebration come to life!

**Washington, DC:** Kenesha Dudley, YMCA at KIPP DC, 202-232-6936, [Kenesha.Dudley@ymcadc.org](mailto:Kenesha.Dudley@ymcadc.org)

On October 26, the YMCA at KIPP DC will celebrate *Lights On Afterschool* with an arts and tech event for children ages three to 13. From 3:30 to 6:30 PM, children will participate in a variety of art projects and tech activities based on their ages. Preschoolers will decorate paper lightbulbs to create a "String of Lights" exhibit. Students ages four to eight will create 3D



lightbulbs out of construction paper. The older students will take photos and conduct interviews with each other for the “Technically Bright” exhibit. More than 600 kids are expected.

## **Florida**

**Kissimmee, Florida:** Linda Allen, Deerwood Elementary School, 407-955-0412,

[Linda.Allen@osceolaschools.net](mailto:Linda.Allen@osceolaschools.net)

Deerwood Elementary School’s 21st Century Community Learning Centers will host a *Lights On Afterschool* event on October 26 from 5:00 to 6:00 PM in the school cafeteria. The celebration will showcase students’ academic achievements through a fun evening of activities and games, in a carnival-like setting. Activities will include pick a pop, ring toss, darts, kerplunk, water coin drop, bean bag toss, cup pong, and a performance from the cheerleading squad. As many as 100 students, families, and community partners are expected.

**Orlando, Florida:** Dawn Dominguez, Orange County Public Schools Afterschool Programs, 407-317-3383, [dawn.dominguez@ocps.net](mailto:dawn.dominguez@ocps.net)

Orange County Public Schools (OCPS) will kick off *Lights On Afterschool* with a proclamation and all 32 OCPS afterschool programs across the county will hold *Lights On Afterschool* events at their sites from 3:00 to 6:00 PM on October 26. In addition, several public landmarks throughout the county will be lit yellow in support of *Lights On Afterschool*, including Lake Eola Fountain, Astrogenesis II, Cedar of Lebanon, Take Flight, Amway Center Spire, Tower of Light and the City Hall Fountain.

**Pensacola, Florida:** Tanya Richardson, Boys & Girls Club of the Emerald Coast, 850-865-5305, [trichardson@bgcec.com](mailto:trichardson@bgcec.com)

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, the Boys & Girls Club of the Emerald Coast will hold a family fun night on October 26 from 6:00 to 7:00 PM. The evening will feature a small rally and a dodgeball game played by parents versus members. The Club is partnering with Cricket cell phones to provide free food for attendees. The mayor and city commissioner may attend.

**Riverview, Florida:** Danjela Jimenez, Boys & Girls Club of Tampa Bay, 813-443-0629, [djimenez@bgctampa.org](mailto:djimenez@bgctampa.org)

The Boys & Girls Club of Tampa Bay partnered with Where Love Grows and held a family dinner night for *Lights On Afterschool* on October 6. Throughout the semester, the Club’s students have taken culinary classes, teaching them how to prepare meals to cook at home. The students prepared an Italian dinner for students and families to enjoy, highlighting the value of gathering and spending time together with family. The 25 culinary students prepared 150 meals and were presented with a class completion certificate.

**West Palm Beach, Florida:** Katie Jacobs, 561-732-8066 ext. 108, [kjacob@primetimepbc.org](mailto:kjacob@primetimepbc.org) and Afterschool Ambassador Suzette Harvey, [sharvey@primetimepbc.org](mailto:sharvey@primetimepbc.org)  
Prime Time Palm Beach County, Florida's only independent afterschool intermediary, which works with more than 200 afterschool programs in Palm Beach and Martin counties, will host its annual *Lights On Afterschool* celebration on Thursday, October 26 from 6:00 to 9:00 PM as part of the City of West Palm Beach's Clematis by Night event. Some 5,000 children and adults are expected to attend to send the message that high quality afterschool programs matter. Prime Time will share a space alongside local vendors, offering a night of fall fun for families and the community.

### **Georgia**

**Ashburn, Georgia:** Joann McGill, Dream Builders Learning Center, 229-313-7354, [high.bell878@gmail.com](mailto:high.bell878@gmail.com)

On October 26, Dreambuilders Learning Center will host a *Lights On Afterschool* open house starting at 6:30 PM. Youth leaders and parents will share how afterschool has impacted their lives and a representative from the Health Department will speak about the importance of healthy habits, nutrition, and physical activity. Families will tour the facility and take part in a variety of arts and crafts with the students. Door prizes and snacks will be provided.

**Atlanta, Georgia:** Ty Woods, Artportunity Knocks, 678-355-8734, [ty.woods@artportunityknocks.org](mailto:ty.woods@artportunityknocks.org)

Artportunity Knocks is thrilled to host its inaugural *Lights On Afterschool* event at L.O. Kimberly Elementary on October 26 from 3:00 to 5:30 PM. The event will showcase the diverse activities and opportunities available and highlight the positive impact the program has on the lives of young people. Activities will include a performance by Artportunity Knocks Performing Arts Team, game trucks, inflatables, and much more.

**Atlanta, Georgia:** Alyssa Barber, East Atlanta Kids Club, 470-531-7181, [abarber@eastatlantakids.org](mailto:abarber@eastatlantakids.org)

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, East Atlanta Kids Club will host a Trunk-or-Treat event on October 31 from 4:30 to 6:30 PM. The community wide festival will take place at Brownwood Park. In addition to spooky Halloween games, students will share why they love their afterschool program. Members of the East Atlanta Parents Network, the East Atlanta Community Association, and East Atlanta Business Association will be in attendance.

**Augusta, Georgia:** Selena Doctor-Smith, E.W. Hagler Boys & Girls Club of Greater Augusta, 804-300-8727, [sdoctorsmith@bgcgreteraugusta.org](mailto:sdoctorsmith@bgcgreteraugusta.org)

In celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*, E.W. Hagler Boys & Girls Club of Greater Augusta will host a Halloween Tricks & Treats event on October 26 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. The family friendly carnival will feature STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activities

including light up crafts, scarecrow can crash, boo bubbles, and a creepy crawlers mystery station. Other activities will include pumpkin putt-putt, pumpkin patch scavenger hunt, face painting, witches hat ring toss, feed Frankenstein cornhole and Boo-ling. More than 200 youth, family members and community supporters are expected to attend.

**Austell, Georgia:** Monica DeLancy, Thrive Resource Center, 770-369-6531, [monicadelancy@hotmail.com](mailto:monicadelancy@hotmail.com)

On October 27, Thrive Resource Center will hold a *Lights On Afterschool* rally from 3:00 to 6:00 PM. Activities will include giant board games, arts and craft tables, a cake walk, read to succeed book distribution, and much more. The event is open to the public and as many as 100 people are expected to attend.

**Macon, Georgia:** Najiva Brown, Girls Dig Deeper Initiative, [naji6181@yahoo.com](mailto:naji6181@yahoo.com)

In celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*, students from Girls Dig Deeper Initiative visited the Macon-Bibb County Government Office on October 17 and spoke to city council members, government officials, parents, community stakeholders, teachers and business owners about what afterschool mentoring means to them and how the program has impacted their lives. On October 25, the mentoring and youth development program will host a *Lights On Afterschool* leadership roundtable for teens at Rosa Jackson Community Center. Students from the program will explore ways they can become more effective and successful leaders.

**Midway, Georgia:** Tracy Jefferson, Think Big Youth Organization, 912-312-2189, [thinkbigyth2015@gmail.com](mailto:thinkbigyth2015@gmail.com)

Think Big Youth Organization will host its second annual *Lights On Afterschool* fall festival at Liberty County Community Complex on October 26 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. Guests will tour the afterschool program and see firsthand the creative activities students participate in each day. Community partners will help lead a variety of activities, including making butterfly masks, creating edible slime, as well as indoor and outdoor games. Students will make glow in the dark lightbulbs as an ode to *Lights On Afterschool*.

**Milledgeville, Georgia:** Kenneth Daniels, The High Achievers Program, 478-443-1639, [kenneth.daniels@gcsu.edu](mailto:kenneth.daniels@gcsu.edu)

October 26, 2023, the High Achievers Program will host a *Lights On Afterschool* celebration from 4:00 to 5:00 PM at Lake Laurel on Georgia College & State University's East Campus. The High Achievers Program is an afterschool program for high school students that focuses on leadership and personal development through STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math) and mental/physical health activities. Participants will go on a hike and explore the native species found around the local pond. Students will also write personal statements, reflecting on the importance of the afterschool program.

## **Hawai'i**

**Honolulu, Hawaii:** Sheilan Pouri and Afterschool Ambassador Paula Adams, Hawaii Afterschool Alliance, 808-956-6515, [pouris@hawaii.edu](mailto:pouris@hawaii.edu)

For *Lights On Afterschool*, the Hawaii Afterschool Alliance will hold a rally at the Hawaii State Capitol Rotunda on October 25 from 2:00 to 5:00 PM. Students will tour the Capitol building and wave signs with messages about the importance of afterschool programs. The event will also include student performances and testimonies about the impact their afterschool programs have on their lives. Local community leaders will deliver remarks. As many as 300 people are expected.

## **Idaho**

**Caldwell, Idaho:** Deja' Brown, Caldwell YMCA, 208-454-9622, [caldwellykids@ymcatvidaho.org](mailto:caldwellykids@ymcatvidaho.org)

Caldwell YMCA will celebrate *Lights On Afterschool* with a fall carnival on October 26 from 5:30 to 7:30 PM full of fun and educational activities. Club kids and families can enjoy everything from physical activities including a rockwall, bounce house, gaga ball, and relay races to STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math) activities like circuit flashlights, pipe cleaner Halloween finger puppets, and free books. The carnival is open to the public.

**Richfield/Shoshone, Idaho:** Afterschool Ambassador Karma Meltzer Fitzgerald, Lincoln County Youth Center, 208-308-3185, [karmawrites@gmail.com](mailto:karmawrites@gmail.com), and Rebecca Wood, 208-320-1387, [commishwood@gmail.com](mailto:commishwood@gmail.com)

On October 17, the Lincoln County Youth Center (LCYC) partnered with the Idaho-Out-of-School Network for the 24th annual *Lights On Afterschool* program that included a pancake supper, bingo, door prizes, a facility tour, and more from 6:30 to 8:30 PM. Participants also took part in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) learning stations and celebrated LCYC's programs, including a multimedia center that connects Lincoln County youth to unlimited resources worldwide. The system provides access to online classes and virtual events and was made possible by a grant from the Idaho Community Foundation and donations from the University of Idaho and Eminent Technical Solutions.

## **Illinois**

**Chicago, Illinois:** Hope Massallo, Chicago Youth Centers, 312-925-5006, [hope.massallo@chicagoyouthcenters.org](mailto:hope.massallo@chicagoyouthcenters.org)

The families of Chicago Youth Centers will come together on October 26 to celebrate *Lights On Afterschool* with a fall Halloween festival from 1:30 to 3:30 PM at the Richard Daley Library. Families will enjoy a variety of activities including painting pumpkins donated by a local Cermak grocery store, face painting, a costume contest, and celebrating everything that "LIGHTS" up the afterschool program. As many as 100 people are expected.

**Chicago, Illinois:** Kristen Pottiger, YMCA of Metro Chicago, 312-459-2688,  
[kpottinger@ymcachicago.org](mailto:kpottinger@ymcachicago.org)

On October 26, the YMCA of Metro Chicago will partner with the Chicago Alliance of Visual Artists (CAVA) for a *Lights On Afterschool* event held at the Bridgeport Arts Center. To promote both teamwork and individual expression, CAVA artists will work with fifth through eighth grade students to create individual paper mache sculptures that students will take home as well as a collaborative sculpture for the students' school. The students will also tour the Project Onward art studio, a nonprofit organization that provides artists with disabilities the opportunity to create their work in a safe, supportive studio environment.

**Morris, Illinois:** Pamela Burton, Morris Area Public Library, 815-942-6880,  
[pburton@morrislibrary.com](mailto:pburton@morrislibrary.com)

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, the Morris Area Public Library will host a community fair on October 26 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM during the Morris downtown trick or treat night. Booths will be set up throughout the library parking lot to hand out candy and provide information on local afterschool programs and activities. Representatives from the YMCA, Girl Scouts, Disability Resource Center, and Morris Historical Society will be on hand to answer questions. There will be games and activities with prizes as well as food for the more than 300 attendees.

**North Chicago, Illinois:** Jaylene Sparks, Boys & Girls Club of Lake County, 847-220-4312,  
[jsparkers@bgclc.org](mailto:jsparkers@bgclc.org)

In celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*, the Boys & Girls Club of Lake County will hold a glow in the dark art showcase on October 26 from 6:00 to 7:00 PM. The classrooms will be decorated with student art featuring the *Lights On Afterschool* lightbulb, lava lamps, words of affirmations, and nature scenes to show club families how the afterschool program is engaging, fun, and impactful for students.

## **Indiana**

**Carmel, Indiana:** Jarred Crossley, Carmel Clay Parks & Recreation, 317-258-8266,  
[jcrossley@carmelclayparks.com](mailto:jcrossley@carmelclayparks.com)

On October 26, the Carmel Clay Parks & Recreation will host a fall festival at Carmel Elementary School from 3:45 to 5:30 PM for *Lights On Afterschool*. The festival will include a variety of activities including cornhole, spooky themed carnival games, face painting, a photo booth for the kids, and pumpkins to decorate and take home. More than 100 kids are expected.

**Indianapolis, Indiana:** Afterschool Ambassador Chrystal Struben, AYS – At Your School,  
[cstruben@ayskids.org](mailto:cstruben@ayskids.org)

In celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*, AYS will host a month-long “We Grow Better With the Lights On” project that will feature STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activities related to agriculture. All 36 sites will collaborate with local community partners and

artists for a week of academic and enrichment programming. On October 26, the sites will host a showcase event with the students. Legislators, parents, and school partners are invited.

**Terre Haute, Indiana:** Afterschool Ambassador Eleanor Remseier, Camp Navigate, Inc., 812-229-3214, [eleanor@campnavigate.org](mailto:eleanor@campnavigate.org)

One of Camp Navigate's four focus areas is choosing healthier lifestyles, so for its *Lights On Afterschool* event, the program is hosting a community walk/run on Saturday, October 28. The event will kick off at 9:15 AM at ISU Memorial Stadium and is being held in partnership with the VCSC Coordinated Health Program and Indiana State University. Participants are encouraged to wear "spooktacular" Halloween costumes. Mayor Duke Bennett will be among the speakers. For every registered participant, Camp Navigate will donate \$1.00 to 14th and Chestnut, a nonprofit youth organization that works with children in high-need areas.

### **Iowa**

**Williamsburg, Iowa:** Olivia Doehrmann, KIND Care, 319-668-9515, [kindcare@williamsburgchildcare.com](mailto:kindcare@williamsburgchildcare.com)

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, KIND Care will host "Light Up The Night," an open house and assembly on October 26. From 6:15 to 7:15 PM, families, KIND staff and local community leaders will come together for a potluck dinner and a demonstration by the Science Center of Iowa on electricity. KIND Care's leadership will also deliver a short speech to the 75 attendees about the importance of its afterschool program. The mayor and several state senators may attend.

### **Kansas**

**Burling, Kansas:** Darla Long, Burling Elementary School Coffey County 21st Century Community Learning Center, 620-364-8882, [dlong@usd244ks.org](mailto:dlong@usd244ks.org)

On October 26, Burling Elementary School will hold a "camp-in" evening for *Lights On Afterschool* from 5:30 to 7:00 PM. The event will focus on literacy and the importance of families reading together. Students and families will decorate paper lightbulbs and enjoy a camp style dinner of hotdogs, chips, and smores. After dinner, families will be given a book to read by flashlight in the gym in tents and forts. Other activities occurring throughout the evening include games, bookmark making, and a presentation on the value of shared reading time. More than 100 families are expected.

**Iola, Kansas:** Afterschool Ambassador Angela Henry, SAFE BASE, 620-365-4780, [angela.henry@usd257.org](mailto:angela.henry@usd257.org)

With the fun theme of "Pokemon," SAFE BASE held its 24th annual *Lights On Afterschool* event on October 19 at Iola Elementary. Having served thousands of students and families over the past 24 years with afterschool programming and SAFE BASE-sponsored outreach projects, parents and students came together to celebrate afterschool through a variety of STEAM

(science, technology, engineering, arts, and math) hands-on activities. Collaborating with longtime partners such as the Iola Public Library, local 4-H clubs, USD 257 Title One teachers and staff, Allen Community College, Southeast Kansas Mental Health Center, and others, the event, with over 500 people in attendance, was a huge success.

**Johnson County, Kansas:** Amber Sherwood, Johnson County Parks & Recreation Department, 913-826-3028, [amber.sherwood@jocogov.org](mailto:amber.sherwood@jocogov.org)

In celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*, the Johnson County Parks & Recreation Department held two days of activities and fun on October 13 and 20. Each day had a morning session from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM and an afternoon session from 1:00 to 4:00 PM at Antioch Park in Merriam, Kansas. The students rotated through six different activities: a dance and games area where kids danced with friends, played with large outdoor games, and received snacks; a STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) area with a mad science presentation; a community service area where students made cards for local nursing homes and veterans in the area; an arts and craft area where students painted rocks with words of kindness to be placed at surrounding parks and schools; a social, emotional learning (SEL) area where students participated in feelings activity; and a healthy eating, physical activity (HEPA) area where children played a large group game to get moving. As many as 700 students attended each day.

**Kansas City, Kansas:** Amelia Scott-Sanjur, Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Kansas City, 913-825-7486, [assanjur@helpkckids.org](mailto:assanjur@helpkckids.org)

On October 26 from 4:00 to 6:00 PM, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Kansas City will mark *Lights On Afterschool* with a pumpkin patch event at the club's Breidenthal Unit. The event will serve as an open house for families and community members. It will include a pumpkin carving, photo booth, and free book fair. Students will also take part in literacy and art activities.

## **Kentucky**

**Covington, Kentucky:** Laura Wright, Learning Grove Out-of-School Time, [lwright@learning-grove.org](mailto:lwright@learning-grove.org)

For *Lights On Afterschool*, Learning Grove Out-of-School Time programs will host candlelight dinner celebrations on October 25 and 26 at nine program locations. Activities will include creating luminaries depicting the importance of afterschool programs, arts and crafts, and campfire-themed activities. Families will receive literature about coping with stress around the holidays and how best to support children. All participants will receive flashlights. More than 250 children will participate.

**Frankfort, Kentucky:** Linda Word, Capital Day School, [linda.word@capitaldayschool.net](mailto:linda.word@capitaldayschool.net)

In celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*, Capital Day School will host a family appreciation day on October 26. Each family attending the program will receive a take home meal so that they have one less thing to worry about that evening.

**Louisville, Kentucky:** Angela Masden, The Prophecy Foundation, 502-631-6895, [theprophecyfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:theprophecyfoundation@gmail.com)

The Prophecy Foundation will host two *Lights On Afterschool* events. Beginning on October 24 at 8:00 PM, it will light its historical walking bridge in blue and yellow, celebrating the importance and impact of afterschool programs. On October 26 from 10:00 AM to noon, the Prophecy Foundation will present “Step into the Glowing World of Afterschool: Illuminating Young Minds.” The video brings to life the transformative power of after-hours education and community engagement. The event includes lunch and guests will receive information and resources about afterschool programs.

**Shelbyville, Kentucky:** Tammy Simpson, Shelby County Public Schools Daycares, Spartan Academy, 502-706-9770, [tammy.simpson@shelby.kyschools.us](mailto:tammy.simpson@shelby.kyschools.us)

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, Shelby County Public School Daycares and its seven daycare centers are partnering with local farmers and businesses for a week-long celebration. On October 23, families will pick up free pumpkins donated by area farms and carving kits donated by local businesses and take them home to carve using the theme, “What We Love About Our Afterschool Program.” On October 26, families will bring their carved pumpkins to their program to be displayed that evening at a rally. At 6:30 PM, participants will gather at Stargazer Plaza to show legislators and voters how important afterschool programs are to the community. Shelby County Judge Executive Dan Ison will light up the courthouse in blue that evening to demonstrate support for afterschool and Simpsonville Mayor Ronnie Sowder and Shelbyville Mayor H. Troy Ethington will light up their city halls in blue. More than 150 people are expected.

## **Louisiana**

**Belle Chasse, Louisiana:** Miriam Denis-Harper, Belle Chasse Academy 21st Century Community Learning Center, 504-433-5850, [mdenisharper@bellechasseacademy.org](mailto:mdenisharper@bellechasseacademy.org)

For *Lights On Afterschool*, the Belle Chasse Academy 21st Century Community Learning Center will host a “Spooky Math and Science Night” on October 26 from 5:30 to 7:00 PM. Students will take part in hands-on activities including literacy in science activities, Lego robotics, and visits to the school garden. Teachers will also lead students in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activities using James Webb Space Telescope Learning Lunchbox STEM kits donated by the Center of Science and Industry (COSI). The kits, created in partnership with NASA, help young people learn, through hands-on activities, about the Earth’s atmosphere and discover why the Webb telescope was sent to space.

**Bossier City, Louisiana:** Albert Dyer, Plant A Seed In Our Youth Foundation, 318-946-2173, [pasyf2013@gmail.com](mailto:pasyf2013@gmail.com)

On October 25, Plant a Seed Youth Foundation will host its annual fall festival for *Lights On Afterschool* at Mitchell Park from 4:30 to 6:00 PM. Open to the community, kids and families



will come together to celebrate the season with a community Trunk-or-Treat, football, and fall carnival games. As many as 70 people may attend.

**Monroe, Louisiana:** D’Jhonel Lewis, Boys & Girls Club of North Louisiana, 318-323-1644, [dlewis@bgcofnl.org](mailto:dlewis@bgcofnl.org)

The Boys & Girls Club of North Louisiana will celebrate *Lights On Afterschool* with a fall festival for Club families and the community to enjoy on October 26 from 4:00 to 6:00 PM. The festival will feature a number of games and art activities for families to enjoy including face painting, pumpkin designing, fall-time coloring books, photo booths, soda toss, jumbo games, and cake walk. As many as 50 families may attend.

**New Orleans, Louisiana:** Branna Elenz, Community Works, 641-229-5913, [branna@communityworksla.org](mailto:branna@communityworksla.org)

Each of Community Works’ seven sites across the New Orleans area will celebrate *Lights On Afterschool* throughout the week of October 23 to October 27. Activities will include choral and dance performances, *Lights On* arts and crafts, a paint and sip, and more. Students will also take part in STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and math) activities using James Webb Space Telescope Learning Lunchbox STEM kits donated by the Center of Science and Industry (COSI) and created in partnership with NASA. The kits help young people learn, through hands-on activities, about the Earth’s atmosphere and discover why the Webb telescope was sent to space. In addition, students will write letters to leaders about what afterschool means to them. Events will take place at Dr. John Ochsner Discovery Health Sciences Academy, Kenner Discovery Health Sciences Academy, International School of Louisiana Uptown, International School of Louisiana Dixon, International School of Louisiana Westbank, and Homer Plessy.

## **Maine**

**Biddeford, Maine:** Rebecca Cote, Learning Works BLAST, 207-233-1843, [rcote@learningworks.me](mailto:rcote@learningworks.me)

In celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*, Learning Works BLAST and 21st Century Community Learning Center will hold a parent event on October 24, planned and organized by the students, to show why they love afterschool. From 2:30 to 4:30 PM, families will join their students to create light up circuit cards to send to district leaders, state representatives, and other state leaders to thank them for supporting afterschool programs and discuss what afterschool means to them.

**Norridgewock, Maine:** Kyla Roper, Boys & Girls Clubs and YMCA of Greater Waterville: Alford Youth & Community Center, 207-649-0240, [kroper@clubaycc.org](mailto:kroper@clubaycc.org)

For *Lights On Afterschool*, the Alford Youth & Community Center will host an art museum on October 26. From 2:00 to 5:30 PM at the Mills Stream Elementary School, the museum will feature artwork from the kids for parents and families to enjoy. There will also be pumpkin

painting, a craft table, and face painter. The library across from the school will be lit up in celebration of afterschool programs. As many as 75 people are expected.

**Skowhegan, Maine:** Afterschool Ambassador Dawn Fickett, REACH After School, [dfickett@msad54.org](mailto:dfickett@msad54.org)

The Town of Skowhegan will partner with the REACH After School program to celebrate *Lights On Afterschool* with a community-wide open house celebration on October 28th. The open house will offer a snapshot of the afterschool programming offered at all three REACH sites across the town of Skowhegan. The middle school program will present a showcase of all its club offerings, with the cooking clubs catering food, the art club providing face painting, the robotics club offering demonstrations and a mock battle. In addition, the adventure clubs, in partnership with Skowhegan Outdoors, will offer a fun and challenging obstacle course, the Civil Rights Team will showcase its Day of Welcome, and the theater and dance club will offer a dance jam for the whole family. The Margaret Chase Smith site, which serves grades 3-5, will host rotating interactive STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activities in partnership with 4-H. The Bloomfield Elementary site will provide a play-based learning lab. Other community partners including the Town of Skowhegan, Skowhegan Police Department, Franklin Savings Bank, Margaret Chase Smith Library, Somerset Public Health, Maine Grains, the Community Unity Place and the Kennebec Valley Community Action Program will provide additional activities and resources.

### **Maryland**

**Baltimore, Maryland:** Ellie Mitchell, Maryland Out of School Time Network (MOST), 410-374-7692 x101, [emitchell@mostnetwork.org](mailto:emitchell@mostnetwork.org)

For *Lights On Afterschool*, the Maryland Out of School Time Network (MOST) will host its “Lights On Math in Maryland” forum on October 26 from 8:30 AM to 1:00 PM at the Earl G. Graves School of Business and Management at Morgan State University. The interactive forum, hosted in partnership with Maryland Lt. Governor Aruna Miller, will explore solutions for addressing math achievement as well as strategies to get students excited about math during and outside of the school day. As many as 75 people will attend the forum.

**Gaithersburg, Maryland:** Afterschool Ambassador Zainab Abbas, SciTech2U, [zainab@scitech2u.org](mailto:zainab@scitech2u.org)

On October 26, SciTech2U is inviting the community to enjoy a night of games, food, and fun while learning about the activities SciTech2U offers. Other local afterschool programs will attend and together they will showcase the many opportunities for students to engage in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) after school. Maryland state delegate Terri L. Hill may attend.

**Salisbury, Maryland:** Enaka Beteck, Boys & Girls Club of Metropolitan Baltimore, 433-559-1456, [ebeteck@bgcmetrobaltimore.org](mailto:ebeteck@bgcmetrobaltimore.org)

For *Lights On Afterschool*, on October 26 from 5:00 to 6:00 PM, the Boys & Girls Club of Metropolitan Baltimore will host “Get Slimey,” a slime creation project for the community at the Truitt Street Community Center. Teams of four will work together to create the best slime and present their projects to other teams, explaining how they worked together and their creation process.

### **Massachusetts**

**Attleboro, Massachusetts:** Sharon Alves, Robbins Children’s Programs, 508-510-2993, [Blissblvd2@robbinscp.org](mailto:Blissblvd2@robbinscp.org)

For *Lights On Afterschool*, Robbins Children’s Programs hosted an open house on October 19 for families, teachers and community members, showcasing the students’ STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) projects, as well as their anti-bullying messages throughout the center.

**Plymouth, Massachusetts:** Christine Murray, Boys & Girls Club of Plymouth, 508-746-6070, [cyoung@bgcplymouth.org](mailto:cyoung@bgcplymouth.org)

On October 20, the Boys & Girls Club of Plymouth hosted Keep The Lights On! from 4:00 PM to 7:30 PM. During the *Lights On Afterschool* celebration, as many as 100 community partners, club members, and families toured the program and learned why members love the afterschool program and how it benefits families and the community. Students displayed their artwork, the Keystone Club sold candy apples, and the Healthy Habits Cooking Club members provided copies of their new cookbook.

### **Michigan**

**Battle Creek, Michigan:** Afterschool Ambassador, Deondra Ramsey, Michigan Afterschool Partnership, [dsramsey5@gmail.com](mailto:dsramsey5@gmail.com)

On October 26 the Battle Creek Public Schools 21st Century Community Learning Center program will hold a “March on Washington Street” in honor of MLK’s “March on Washington.” Participants will hold signs reading “I have a right to an education,” “I have a dream,” “I have a right to access my homework,” “I have a right to learn,” and “I have a right to learn how to read.”

**Beaverton, Michigan:** Jennifer Letterhart, Beaverton Schools SPARKS program, 989-802-2015, [jletterhart@cgresd.net](mailto:jletterhart@cgresd.net)

For *Lights On Afterschool*, Beaverton Schools SPARKS program will host a Light Up the Halloween Night party on October 25. The 90’s inspired celebration will begin at 4:00 PM and guests will enjoy a variety of neon activities, such as creating galaxy jars, playing glow stick tic

tap toe, and participating in a glow in the dark dance contest. Guests include students, staff, families and community members and dinner will be served.

**Kalamazoo, Michigan:** Morgan Mallard, CIS After School Program, 269-599-7964, [mallardmn@kalamazoopublicschools.net](mailto:mallardmn@kalamazoopublicschools.net)

On October 26 from 4:05 to 5:15 PM, CIS After School Program will host a *Lights On Afterschool* art and awareness event. Students will unveil an art installation that shines the light on the importance of afterschool programs. The hallways will be lined with black and white portrait photos of each student accompanied by personal testimonies about the program. The installation will stay up for the remainder of 2023.

**Kalamazoo, Michigan:** Afterschool Ambassador Deondra Ramsey, Michigan Afterschool Partnership, [dsramsey5@gmail.com](mailto:dsramsey5@gmail.com)

The Kalamazoo Youth Development Network will hold its 9th annual *Lights On Afterschool* event on October 26 from 4:00 to 6:00 PM. This celebration and advocacy event highlights the importance of high-quality afterschool programming. Participants will convene at the Boys & Girl Club at the Douglass Community Association, Northeastern Elementary Boys & Girls Club, and El Concilio for youth performances, games, and speakers. Transportation will be available for students and families. Additionally, there will be a Calhoun County *Lights On Afterschool* celebration in downtown Battle Creek at the Willard Library. During this “storybook” event, youth and staff can dress up and youth will share stories they have written in their afterschool programs.

**Leslie, Michigan:** Kristen Ambroggio, Reaching Higher- Leslie Middle School, 517-257-4854, [kristen.ambroggio@lesliek12.net](mailto:kristen.ambroggio@lesliek12.net)

In celebration of *Lights On Afterschool* and its first year of programming, Reaching Higher- Leslie Middle School will host an open house on October 26 from 3:15 to 5:15 PM. The event will showcase activities taking place each day at the program, from supper to academics/homework assistance to enrichment activities. Visitors will decorate pumpkins, participate in the community light pole contest and work out in cardio classes. The event is open to the public.

**Lincoln Park, Michigan:** Dawn Trueblood, Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency, 313-399-4473, [dtrueblood@waynemetrol.org](mailto:dtrueblood@waynemetrol.org)

On October 26 from 3:30 to 5:30, Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency and Lincoln Park High School will host a “Lights On at Boo Zoo,” an exploration of America’s forests, ecosystems, and wildlife. During the *Lights On Afterschool* celebration, students and families will get an up-close view of different animals such as a kangaroo, monkey, Eurasian eagle owl, Siberian lynx, large python, giant tortoise, tarantula, kinkajou, woodchuck, alligator, and Flemish

giant rabbit. They will learn about the ecological balance needed to sustain these species and guests can create animal masks and take selfies at the “Haunted Forest” backdrop.

**Melvindale, Michigan:** Zenola Brandon, YMCA, 313-433-7755, [bzenola@yahoo.com](mailto:bzenola@yahoo.com)

On October 26, Melvindale YMCA is partnering with the 21st Century Community Learning Centers to host a *Lights On Afterschool* celebration at Allendale Elementary School from 4:30 to 6:30 PM. The family fun event will include a variety of art, science, healthy eating, math, and reading stations for all to enjoy. Students’ artwork will be displayed throughout the school’s cafeteria. Cider and donuts will be served.

### **Minnesota**

**Faribault, Minnesota:** Amanda Beckler, Faribault Public Schools, 501-333-6000, [abeckler@faribault.k12.mn.us](mailto:abeckler@faribault.k12.mn.us)

For *Lights On Afterschool*, Faribault Public Schools hosted an “Art of Healing” evening on October 13 from 4:00 to 8:00 PM. The open house started with a COVID-19 and flu vaccination drive. Those that received a vaccination were entered in a \$50 incentive raffle. A health resource fair followed, with various booths including a health consultation, health screenings, and facial skincare experts. While attendees wandered around the health resource booths and were served free dinner, they also enjoyed an Asian dance performance.

**Little Canada, Minnesota:** Amy Perry, Friendship Connection at Little Canada Elementary School , 651-775-9525, [amy.perry@isd623.org](mailto:amy.perry@isd623.org)

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, Friendship Connection at Little Canada Elementary School will host an open house on October 24 from 5:00 to 6:00 PM for students and families to come together for fun glow-themed activities. The event will feature glow bowling in the gym, glow in the dark painting, and glow in the dark rainbow looms. As many as 80 people are expected and Little Canada Mayor Tom Fischer will attend.

**Rochester, Minnesota:** Niesha Conley, Rochester Alternative Learning Centers, 507-328-3999, [niconley@rochesterschools.org](mailto:niconley@rochesterschools.org)

The Rochester Alternative Learning Centers will celebrate *Lights On Afterschool* on October 29 with a community Trunk-or-Treat. From 3:00 to 4:30 PM, students, families, and community members will come together in the center’s parking lot for an afternoon of fall fun with face painting, cookie decorating, carnival games with prizes, and sweet treats. The local fire department will also attend and give tours of the fire truck.

**Saint Paul, Minnesota:** Mai Choua Vang, Hmong American Partnership, 651-282-0153, [Maichouav@hmong.org](mailto:Maichouav@hmong.org)

On October 26, the Hmong American Partnership (HAP) and 21st Century Community Learning Center programs will hold a harvest festival to celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*. The celebration

will take place at the Community School of Excellence, HAP's partner, from 5:00 to 7:00 PM and will feature a number of games and activities including bookmark making, pumpkin decorating, apple crafting, pumpkin bowling, testimonials from students about what they are thankful for, face painting, and much more. More than 100 people are expected.

### **Mississippi**

**Gulfport, Mississippi:** Adrienne Davis, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast Qatar Center, [adavis@bgcgulfcoast.org](mailto:adavis@bgcgulfcoast.org)

On October 26 from 4:00 to 6:00 PM, the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast Qatar Center will host a *Lights On Afterschool* Trunk-or-Treat in Pass Christian parking lot. Club families, local police and fire departments, and local organizations will decorate their cars for members to come by and receive candy. As many as 150 children are expected to attend.

**Jackson, Mississippi:** Afterschool Ambassador Monique Ealey, Mississippi Children's Museum Launch into Learning Afterschool Program, [monique@mcm.ms](mailto:monique@mcm.ms)

To celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*, the Mississippi Children's Museum Launch into Learning program hosted a free community event on October 17 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. Activities included dinner for all attendees, an awards and recognition ceremony, displays of students' work and projects, museum play, and STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math) demos.

### **Missouri**

**Branson, Missouri:** Peyton Gillman, Boys & Girls Club of the Ozarks, 417-336-2420, [pgillman@bgcozarks.org](mailto:pgillman@bgcozarks.org)

On October 27 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM, the Boys & Girls Club of the Ozarks will host a *Lights On Afterschool* Halloween fest at the Branson Boys & Girls Club. Activities include face painting, carnival food, bouncy house, spooky crafts, candy corn catapults, pumpkin painting and Halloween dancing and karaoke. As many as 120 guests will attend. Additionally, the Shepherd of the Hills Tower will be lit in yellow and blue in celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*.

**Kansas City, Missouri:** Michelle Briggs, Emmanuel Family & Child Development Center, [briggsm2014@gmail.com](mailto:briggsm2014@gmail.com)

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, Emmanuel Family & Child Development Center will host a Trunk-or-Treat for program participants, their families and Genesis Elementary School students on October 31 from 5:00 to 6:30 PM. Guests will tour the program, seeing some of the many enriching activities the students do each day. Partnering organizations will also be on hand to answer questions.

**Kansas City, Missouri:** Kelsey Smith, Nowlin Middle School, 816-433-7174,  
[ksmith@helpckkids.org](mailto:ksmith@helpckkids.org)

To celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*, Nowlin Middle School will host its annual Junior Youth of the Year Competition on October 26 from 5:00 to 6:30 PM. Each year, the club elects one student representative who goes on to compete against other Junior Youth of the Year winners in the Kansas City area. Parents, families, teachers and school administrators are invited to tour the program.

**Mendon, Missouri:** Amy McCampbell, Northwestern R-1 School District, 660-272-3201,  
[amccampbell@northwestern.k12.mo.us](mailto:amccampbell@northwestern.k12.mo.us)

On October 26 from 3:45 to 5:30 PM, Northwestern R-1 School District will host a *Lights On Afterschool* open house. There will be hands-on STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) experiments with lava lamps, puking pumpkins, and spiderwebs. Missouri State Representative Tim Taylor and a staff member from U.S. Senator Josh Hawley's office will attend.

**St. Joseph, Missouri:** Lea Parker, Interfaith Community Services, Inc., 816-238-4511,  
[lparker@interservstjoe.org](mailto:lparker@interservstjoe.org)

In celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*, Interfaith Community Services will hold a Trunk-or-Treat in the program's parking lot on October 26 from 5:30 to 7:30 PM. Vehicles will be decorated for the event, including the program's 15 passenger van and guests will vote for their favorite trunk. Carnival food and cider will be served.

## **Montana**

**Great Falls, Montana:** Delainie Hall, Boys & Girls Clubs of Cascade County, 406-761-1330,  
[delainie.hall@bgc-cc.org](mailto:delainie.hall@bgc-cc.org)

On October 26, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Cascade County will host a *Lights On Afterschool* open house from 3:30 to 6:00 PM. The event will feature tri-fold displays, showcasing what students do everyday. Students will speak about what they love about the club and emphasize how afterschool is a safe and positive space for kids. The Historic 10th Street Bridge will light up blue to celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*. The more than 150 families in attendance will receive to-go dinner to bring home.

**Sidney, Montana:** Madison Miller, Boys & Girls Club of MonDak, 406-433-6763,  
[e.stedman@richlandbgc.org](mailto:e.stedman@richlandbgc.org)

For *Lights On Afterschool*, the Boys & Girls Clubs of MonDak is partnering with the Sidney Chamber of Commerce to host a community Trunk-or-Treat carnival on October 28. The carnival will start with a Halloween costume contest at 3:00 PM, followed by two hours of Trunk-or-Treat activities, pumpkin decorating, and tours of the program. Local businesses and

community members will distribute candy and treats from their decorated cars to the 500 kids expected to attend.

## **Nebraska**

**Chadron, Nebraska:** Chaona Radtke, Chadron Primary School Just for Kids Afterschool Program, 308-432-0710, [cpsasp@chadronschools.net](mailto:cpsasp@chadronschools.net)

In celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*, the Chadron Primary School Just for Kids Afterschool program will host a Halloween party for students and their families on October 26 at 4:30 PM. The celebration will include coloring contests, glow in the dark putt putt golf, and ‘spooky’ games such as ‘pass the witch’s broom.’ More than 115 people are expected.

**Fremont, Nebraska:** Kristen Widman, Aspire for Greatness, 402-719-7244, [aspirefremont@gmail.com](mailto:aspirefremont@gmail.com)

On October 26 at 4:45 PM, Aspire for Greatness, an afterschool program serving middle and high school students, will hold an open house to celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*. Families and community members are invited to see the afterschool program in action, and students will take part in active games including Human Foosball and Nine Square. The event will take place at the program’s host site, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. As many as 45 people may attend.

**Omaha, Nebraska:** Julie Oelke, Westside Early Childhood Centers Club 66, 402-390-8207, [oelke.julie@westside66.net](mailto:oelke.julie@westside66.net)

Westside Early Childhood Centers’ Club 66 will hold a *Lights On Afterschool* Trunk-or-Treat celebration for all ten of its before- and afterschool program sites on October 27 from 6:30 to 8:30 PM. Families will decorate their trunks and children will wear costumes. The event will include crafts, music, a food truck and a competition for the best decorated car. As many as 100 people are expected, including members of the local police and fire departments.

**Schuyler, Nebraska:** Kimberly Viquez, Schuyler Elementary School, 402-615-3549, [kimberly.viquez@schuylercommunityschools.org](mailto:kimberly.viquez@schuylercommunityschools.org)

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, Schuyler Elementary School will host its fifth annual Trunk-or-Treat on October 26. The event will be open to the community with local businesses, community clubs and community leaders passing out candy and treats to students and families. Additionally, staff members will hand out information about the school’s afterschool program and *Lights On Afterschool* to the more than 600 expected attendees.

## **Nevada**

**Las Vegas, Nevada:** Annalise Lullo, Greater Youth Sports Association, 480-459-7270, [annalise@gysanv.org](mailto:annalise@gysanv.org)

The Greater Youth Sports Association held a basketball recreational game day event on October 15 for *Lights On Afterschool*. The event included a morning session from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM



and an afternoon session from 1:00 to 3:00 PM where local fitness motivation coach Dorian Warmasley led students through warm ups and various practice drills before they participated in a series of friendly scrimmage games with their peers. Families and community members were invited to watch the scrimmage games for students to showcase their skills in an inclusive, non-competitive environment that highlighted the importance of physical activity through encouragement and positive words from local coaches and trainers. More than 300 students attended.

**Las Vegas, Nevada:** Luann LaRochelle, Robert Lunt Elementary School, 702-799-8360 x4010, [larocl@nv.ccsd.net](mailto:larocl@nv.ccsd.net)

For *Lights On Afterschool*, Robert Lunt Elementary School will host a family night followed by a community Trunk-or-Treat on October 26. The family night will take place from 3:00 to 4:15 PM. Families will listen to a short story and create a craft related to the story, followed by a presentation for parents on how to help their children with homework. Following the family night, families from the afterschool program and the broader community will take part in a Trunk-or-Treat celebration at 5:00 PM. Longhorn Casino will donate 15 bags of candy and its marketing director will join the celebration by decorating her car and passing out candy. About 100 people are expected at the family night, and more than 200 people will attend the Trunk-or-Treat.

**Reno, Nevada:** Ally Nicholson, Boys & Girls Club of Truckee Meadows, 775-360-2431, [anicholson@bgctm.org](mailto:anicholson@bgctm.org)

On October 20, the Boys & Girls Club of Truckee Meadows held a community-wide Trunk-or-Treat from 5:00 to 7:00 PM for *Lights On Afterschool*. The celebration included various yard games and face painting for the community to enjoy. Other educational vendors and Keystone Clubs from across Truckee Meadows joined more than 200 community members for the celebration.

### **New Hampshire**

**Ossipee, New Hampshire:** Aimee Lussier, Schools Out!, 603-539-4589, [alussier@govwentworth.k12.nh.us](mailto:alussier@govwentworth.k12.nh.us)

On October 26, Schools Out! 21st Century Community Learning Centers will host a fall family pie night at Ossipee Central School from 6:00 to 7:00 PM. The *Lights On Afterschool* celebration will include plenty of pies as well as physical fitness exercises led by members of the Center Ossipee Fire Department, math bingo, Battle of the Fractions card games, Linking Legos, multiplication war with dominos, guess the weight of the pumpkin, and much more.

**Rochester, New Hampshire:** Sonjia Tainter, Rochester Child Care Center, 207-256-2743, [stainter@rochesterchildcare.org](mailto:stainter@rochesterchildcare.org)

In celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*, Rochester Child Care Center will host an awards dinner on October 26 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM at the Rochester Performing Arts Center. Afterschool Champion honors will be awarded to community members who have gone above and beyond in their support of the afterschool program.

### **New Jersey**

**Linden, New Jersey:** Angelo Monaco, 21st Century Community Learning Center at Soehl Middle School, 908-486-0550, [amonaco@lindenps.org](mailto:amonaco@lindenps.org)

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, Soehl Middle School will host an open house event on October 26 for families and community members. From 3:30 to 5:00 PM, attendees will see the afterschool program in action, featuring activities including homework assistance, an open gym, board games, card games, and other enrichment activities. Several elected city officials and state Sen. Joseph Cryan may attend.

**Madison, New Jersey:** Finola Colon, Madison Area YMCA, 973-822-9622 x2265, [FColon@madisonymca.org](mailto:FColon@madisonymca.org)

On October 27, the Madison Area YMCA will host a *Lights On Afterschool* carnival starting at 4:00 PM. Parents will join students for an evening of arts and crafts and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activities. Staff members will create a video on the importance of afterschool and share it on the program's social media platforms.

**Medford, New Jersey:** Afterschool Ambassador Becca Gutwirth, YMCA of the Pines, 609-654-8225, [Becca@ycamp.org](mailto:Becca@ycamp.org)

The YMCA of the Pines will host a community dinner for *Lights On Afterschool* on October 25 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. Community members will have the opportunity to experience some of the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activities that students participate in on a daily basis. The event will take place at YMCA of the Pines, 1303 Stokes Road.

**Newark, New Jersey:** Afterschool Ambassador Dorine Francis, The FOCUS Nita M. Lowey 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center, [dfrancis@focus411.org](mailto:dfrancis@focus411.org)

For *Lights On Afterschool*, the Cleveland Elementary School, Lincoln School, and Sussex Avenue School are hosting a watch party on October 26 at 4:30 PM. The watch party will feature a special video featuring students and graduates of the programs and staff members discussing the importance of out-of-school time, and the role the afterschool program has played in their lives. Students will receive goodie bags with snacks and trinkets to enjoy while they watch the video.

**Newark, New Jersey:** Deidre Johnson, Ironbound Afterschool 21st Century Community Learning Center, 973-465-0947, [djohnson@ironboundcc.org](mailto:djohnson@ironboundcc.org)

On October 26, the Ironbound Afterschool program will host a *Lights On Afterschool* event from 4:30 to 6:00 PM for families to come together and discuss the importance of afterschool. The students and staff will show a short presentation to the families highlighting how having a safe place to go after school has positively impacted the students' lives. After the presentation and speeches, families will decorate lightbulbs together with what Ironbound means to them to create an art installation. As many as 50 people are expected.

**Newton, New Jersey:** Elysia Caraballo, Halsted Middle School, 973-383-7440 ext.2500, [ecaraballo@newtonnj.org](mailto:ecaraballo@newtonnj.org)

On October 26, Halsted Middle School's 21st Century program will mark *Lights On Afterschool* with a community block party to celebrate afterschool and Hispanic Heritage Month. Activities will include a sing along, Lotería games, and basketball games. The local police department, fire department, and emergency medical service (EMS) will also join and give tours of a fire truck and EMS vehicle. The town manager and Mayor Michelle Teets may join the more than 100 attendees.

### **New Mexico**

**Holloman AFB, New Mexico:** Rhonda Fowler, Holloman School Age Center, 575-572-3753, [rhonda.fowler@us.af.mil](mailto:rhonda.fowler@us.af.mil)

To celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*, the Holloman School Age Center will host "Books of Wonder," an open house event on October 26 from 3:30 to 5:00 PM. Classrooms will be transformed into different children's books, offering themed activities as well as STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) projects. The base's Flight Chief and Commander of the squadron may join the 90 expected attendees.

**Las Cruces, New Mexico:** Enrique Garcia, BOOST Network, 915-603-1867, [boost@unitedwayelpaso.org](mailto:boost@unitedwayelpaso.org)

On October 27, the BOOST (Borderland Out-of-School Time) Network will host a *Lights On Afterschool* fall carnival at the Boys & Girls Club of Las Cruces from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM. The event will celebrate and call attention to the importance of out-of-school time programs for the community and will include live music and carnival games.

**Roswell New Mexico:** Jessica Jacobo, Sierra Middle School, 575-627-2688, [JJacobo@risd.k12.nm.us](mailto:JJacobo@risd.k12.nm.us)

In celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*, students at Sierra Middle School's afterschool program will light up a *Lights On Afterschool* sign using LEDs and coding on October 26. Parents and teachers will join in the celebration, sharing the importance the program has on students, families and the community.

**Santa Fe, New Mexico:** Sara Gmitter, Girls Inc. of Santa Fe, 872-600-5742,  
[sgmitter@girlsincofsantafe.org](mailto:sgmitter@girlsincofsantafe.org)

Girls Inc. of Santa Fe will celebrate *Lights On Afterschool* with an open house from 4:15 to 5:30 PM on October 25. Parents will tour the building and visit their kids' rooms to learn more about the activities they do after school each day. The children take part in several activities as well as share what the afterschool program means to them and what they've learned.

### **New York**

**Bronx, New York:** Madeline Rosario, New Settlement, 718-410-7743,  
[m.rosario@newsettlement.org](mailto:m.rosario@newsettlement.org)

Starting at 3:30 PM on October 26, 150 students and families from the New Settlement afterschool program will march around the school building at 1425 Walton Avenue in support of *Lights On Afterschool*. Students will hold signs they created, calling attention to the need for afterschool programs.

**Bronx, New York:** Irene Rosario, New Settlement Bronx Helpers, 929-510-8939,  
[I.Rosario@newsettlement.org](mailto:I.Rosario@newsettlement.org)

On October 26, Bronx Helpers will host a *Lights On Afterschool* movie night and community engagement event from 2:30 to 7:00 PM. Middle schoolers in the afterschool program have collected donations for 200 self-care kits and posted flyers in local parks, encouraging people experiencing homelessness to visit the program on October 26 to receive a kit. At 2:30 PM, the students will watch a movie together and get decked out in glow in the dark gear. Starting at 5:00 PM, the students will set up tables outside New Settlement and distribute the waterproof personalized kits to people in need.

**Brooklyn, New York:** Afterschool Ambassador Earl Whitfield, FDNY High School and PATH High School/Child Center of New York and former Program Director, CAMBA's East New York Beacon at The Van Sicken Community Middle School, [earlwhitfield@childcenterny.org](mailto:earlwhitfield@childcenterny.org)  
CAMBA's East New York Beacon will host a laser-tag tournament for students and parents on October 27 at the Van Sicken Community Middle School for *Lights On Afterschool*. They will also host the "Flashing Lights Challenge" at which students will wave signs saying "Flash Your Lights for Afterschool" at passing cars. There will be giveaways and opportunities for family engagement to raise awareness about the importance of afterschool. Local, state and federal lawmakers have been invited.

**Brooklyn, New York:** Marcus Clouden, New York Junior Tennis & Learning Center, 613-985-8447, [asd-ps191k@nyjtl.org](mailto:asd-ps191k@nyjtl.org)

For *Lights On Afterschool*, the New York Junior Tennis & Learning Center will hold two events on October 24 and October 26. The first event will be an open house for Edgemont Elementary School Club families and members of the school to visit and learn more about the program's

day-to-day activities and offerings. October 26 will be the grand opening of the Center's newest site at the Parrottsville location. The celebration will take place during school hours and will include the students dressing up as their favorite character from a book, graphic novel, or comic book for a character day parade, ending at 6:00 PM. More than 100 students are expected.

**New Rochelle, New York:** Yolanda Roberson, Boys & Girls Club of New Rochelle, 718-509-5986, [yroberson@bgcnr.org](mailto:yroberson@bgcnr.org)

The Boys & Girls Club of New Rochelle and 21st Century Community Learning Centers will celebrate *Lights On Afterschool* by raffling off decorated lightbulbs during lunch period on October 26. Boys & Girls Club students will raffle off tickets to their peers, and six winners will be selected to receive a plastic lightbulb filled with candy and goodies. Each lightbulb will be decorated with glow in the dark paint. The winners will be asked to place their lightbulbs in their windows at home to show support for afterschool programs in their communities. More than 300 students will participate.

### **North Carolina**

**High Point, North Carolina:** Kayla Brown, YWCA of High Point, 336-822-4126, [kbrown@ywcahp.com](mailto:kbrown@ywcahp.com)

On October 26 from 4:00 to 6:00 PM, the children and parents of the YWCA of High Point will gather to enjoy arts and crafts projects and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activities in an open house for *Lights On Afterschool*. The kids will decorate lightbulbs and write what YWCA means to them. High Point University will partner with the YWCA to bring its mobile lab for hands-on STEM activities with the students as well.

**Raeford, North Carolina:** Monique Porter, Maggie's Outreach Community Economic Development Center, 910-605-1920, [moc\\_community@mocedc.org](mailto:moc_community@mocedc.org)

Maggie's Outreach Community Economic Development Center will host a "Shine A Light On Afterschool" celebration from 5:00 to 8:00 PM on October 26. Student-made lanterns and lighthouses will light up the outdoor event. Guests will join students in a Zumba dance routine, build STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) light kits, and visit booths staffed by local community partners.

**Statesville, North Carolina:** Shikela Mauey, Boys & Girls Club of the Piedmont, 704-397-2420, [smauney@piedmontbgc.org](mailto:smauney@piedmontbgc.org)

For *Lights On Afterschool*, the Boys & Girls Club of the Piedmont will host a fall festival filled with a variety of activity stations, including face painting, Trunk-or-Treat, a cake walk, arts and crafts, sack racing, and more on October 26 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. The festival will also feature two student-led groups, "Heart Felt Helpers" and "Great Voices." The event aims to encourage community members to support the Boys & Girls Club's efforts to provide a safe place for

kids after the school day ends. More than 270 volunteers, parents, and students are expected. Statesville Mayor Costi Kutteh may attend.

**Wilson, North Carolina:** Candice Rountree, Wilson YMCA and Y-GIG, 252-315-0115, [crountree@wilsonymca.org](mailto:crountree@wilsonymca.org)

Wilson YMCA and Y-GIG, the YMCA's middle school afterschool program, will celebrate *Lights On Afterschool* with an open house event for its teens and families on October 26. From 6:00 to 7:30 PM, families will get to see the impact Y-GIG has on its middle schoolers through an artwalk of the students' artwork and a STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) competition. Parents will also be provided with an overview of the academic support and resources available to their children. The expected 75 families will be served dinner from a pasta bar. Additionally, The Wilson Times, a local newspaper, will be present to cover the event.

### **North Dakota**

**Bismarck, North Dakota:** Kristin Knorr, North Dakota Afterschool Network, 701-997-2614, [kristin.knorr@k12.nd.us](mailto:kristin.knorr@k12.nd.us)

For *Lights On Afterschool*, the North Dakota Afterschool Network will partner with North Dakota's Gateway to Science to host a celebration on October 26 from 4:00 to 6:00 PM. The event will feature booths from various afterschool programs in the area as well as several interactive STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activities and exhibits. The more than 350 expected attendees will also be given snacks provided by 3andMe. Governor Doug Burgum may attend.

**Fargo, North Dakota:** Amy Grandbois, YMCA of Cass and Clay Counties, 701-293-9622, [Amy.Grandbois@ymcacassclay.org](mailto:Amy.Grandbois@ymcacassclay.org)

YMCA of Cass and Clay Counties and its 23 host sites celebrated *Lights On Afterschool* on October 18 and 19 with a mile run and dance party. The kids started the day with a mile run and walk at the Schlossman YMCA location. After the run, the kids went back to their schools sites for a glow in the dark dance party. More than 200 kids attended between the two days and 23 sites.

### **Ohio**

**Cleveland, Ohio:** Sara Wadi, Horizon Education Centers - Market Square, 216-952-2723, [swadi@horizonohio.org](mailto:swadi@horizonohio.org)

Horizon Education Centers will host a *Lights On Afterschool* celebration at Market Square on October 27 from 5:15 to 7:15 PM. The festivities will begin with a student-led Halloween fashion show followed by a haunted house for school age children and family fun for preschoolers.

**Cleveland, Ohio:** Hana Mohammad, Horizon Education Centers - Old Brooklyn, 216-584-5437, [hmohammad@horizonohio.org](mailto:hmohammad@horizonohio.org)

To celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*, the Old Brooklyn location of Horizon Education Center will host a spooky crafts night on October 25. From 4:00 to 6:00 PM, the school age kids will create various Halloween themed crafts, including monster masks and haunted houses. Up to 50 children are expected.

**Cleveland, Ohio:** Daaiyah Rahman, Open Doors Academy, 216-825-3243, [drahman@odacle.org](mailto:drahman@odacle.org)

On October 26 from 4:30 to 6:30 PM, Open Doors Academy is hosting a *Lights On Afterschool* community conversation at MAGNET. The panel discussion and reception will shine a light on the vital work Open Doors Academy does to meet the needs of families across the state to help youth achieve their dreams. Guest speakers include Shannon Teague, Assistant Director of the Ohio Department of Education's Forward Focus Office, and Dr. Anastasia Dimitropoulos, Director of the Schubert Center for Child Studies and Psychology professor at Case Western Reserve University. As many as 250 guests may attend including school, community, and philanthropic partners, advocates, policymakers, researchers, legislators, and members of the Greater Cleveland community.

**Columbus, Ohio:** Francis Call, YMCA of Central Ohio, Frances Call, [fcall@ywcacolumbus.org](mailto:fcall@ywcacolumbus.org)  
On October 20 from 4:00 to 6:00 PM, YWCA of Central Ohio hosted a "Come Glow With Us" dance party in celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*. Students, parents and staff enjoyed the festivities and refreshments at Wilder Elementary School.

**Toledo, Ohio:** Afterschool Ambassador Debbie Frison, Wayman Palmer YMCA, 419-720-3973, [dfrison@ymcatoledo.org](mailto:dfrison@ymcatoledo.org)

The Wayman Palmer YMCA will host its third annual *Lights On Afterschool* Trunk-or-Treat celebration on October 26 from 5:00 to 6:30 PM. Community partners will provide trunks with fall treats for children in the community. The event will feature a bounce house, a DJ and activities in the gym.

## **Oklahoma**

**El Reno, Oklahoma:** Jenniffer Adams, Roblyer Learning Center and Keeping It "Real" Afterschool Program, 405-262-2700, [jadams@elrenops.org](mailto:jadams@elrenops.org)

On October 6, the Roblyer Learning Center partnered with the Keeping It "Real" Afterschool Program to host a fall carnival that featured booth games, displays of afterschool work and art projects from 4:00 to 7:00 PM. Open to the public, the students also promoted the importance of afterschool programs to the community as the carnival served as a fundraiser for the afterschool program sites. As many as 350 people attended.

**Norman, Oklahoma:** Afterschool Ambassador Whitney Dunn, Boys & Girls Club of Norman, Center for Children and Families, [Wdunn@ccfinorman.org](mailto:Wdunn@ccfinorman.org)

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, the Boys & Girls Club of Norman is creating a video that highlights the benefits of afterschool programs and how impactful they are for families and communities. The video will be posted on the program website ([ccfinorman.org](http://ccfinorman.org)) as well as its YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@ccfinorman>. The club will also host a variety of *Lights On Afterschool* activities during the week of October 23 that will allow the students to share what they love about their out-of-school time program. On October 26, community members are invited to visit the club and view the video.

**Poteau, Oklahoma:** Amber Brand, Poteau Pirate Quest, 918-413-5767, [piratequest@poteau.k12.ok.us](mailto:piratequest@poteau.k12.ok.us)

The Poteau Pirate Quest afterschool program marked *Lights On Afterschool* with a literacy-themed event in partnership with the Patrick Lynch Public Library on October 23 from 5:30 to 7:30 PM. The event included read-alouds from Good Time Theatre performers in costume, sign-ups for library cards and the Dolly Parton Imagination Library, a literacy class for parents, and literacy-themed bingo, with prizes including grocery and gas cards. The program gave away 500 free books to children and conducted a drawing for free Kindle e-readers.

**Tulsa, Oklahoma:** Lenny Hope, Youth At Heart, 918-946-5538, [leonardhope1971@gmail.com](mailto:leonardhope1971@gmail.com)  
To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, Youth At Heart will host a dinner theater performance of Eric Carle's "Mister Seahorse" on October 26 from 4:00 to 5:00 PM. The show will feature performances from students in pre-K through fifth grade.

## **Oregon**

**Bend, Oregon:** Nadia Kelem, Camp Fire Central Oregon, [nadia@campfireco.org](mailto:nadia@campfireco.org)

In celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*, Camp Fire Central Oregon hosted an autumn family faire for the community on October 21 in downtown Bend, OR. The celebration included a Camp Fire afterschool art showcase, a raffle of locally donated goods (with proceeds going to Camp Fire's scholarship program), zombie laser tag, a photobooth, carnival games, bouncy slides, local food vendors, and much more. As many as 250 people attended.

**Grants Pass, Oregon:** Crystal Huber, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Rogue Valley Grants Pass Club, 541-659-2095, [crystal.huber@begreat4kids.com](mailto:crystal.huber@begreat4kids.com)

To celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*, students at Boys & Girls Clubs of the Rogue Valley Grants Pass Club will participate in a singing for donuts challenge. As many as 120 students and families will participate in the Karaoke for Donuts event.



## **Pennsylvania**

**Honesdale, Pennsylvania:** Amanda Masters, The Cooperage Project, 570-253-2020 x2, [amanda@thecooperageproject.org](mailto:amanda@thecooperageproject.org)

On October 25, the Cooperage Project will host a *Lights On Afterschool* family night from 4:00 to 6:00 PM. Youth and families will join leaders from its Pop-Up Club, the program's STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math)-focused afterschool club, in playing, experimenting, and creating at activity stations. This free program is designed for families with third through fifth graders, but all are welcome. Stations will include fiddling with snap circuits, building challenges with Kiva blocks, creating and racing straw rockets, artistically designing agamographs and watching the images move, creating wearable light-up pins for trick-or-treating, and much more.

**Mountain Top, Pennsylvania:** Melody Glazenski, Starry Knights Learning Center, 570-417-2669, [starryknightsllc@outlook.com](mailto:starryknightsllc@outlook.com)

Starry Knights Learning Center will hold a week-long event from October 23 through 26 for *Lights On Afterschool* and Red Ribbon Week. Starry Knights will partner with various anti-substance use education organizations to help provide education and resources for students on the dangers of substance abuse and the harms of vaping. On October 24 from 4:00 to 9:00 PM, a drug collection truck will park outside the Center for community members to safely drop off and dispose of any old prescriptions.

**Philadelphia, Pennsylvania:** Iaundi Carrington, Early Life Academy, 267-269-1335, [icarrington@earlylifeacademy.org](mailto:icarrington@earlylifeacademy.org)

In celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*, Early Life Academy hosted a bingo night on October 20 at Frances E. Willard Elementary School. Families enjoyed playing bingo and raising awareness about the importance of afterschool programs.

**Philadelphia, Pennsylvania:** Joni Helton, Legacy Youth Tennis and Education, 215-487-9555, [jhelton@legacyyte.org](mailto:jhelton@legacyyte.org)

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, Legacy Youth Tennis and Education will hold an open house "Sip, Serve, & Paint!" event on October 25 from 3:00 to 5:00 PM. Parents will join their students for an evening of collaborative painting. Each student will work with their family to create a special art project to take home while enjoying healthy refreshments and connecting with afterschool staff. More than 350 students and families from Overbrook Educational Center, Pennell Elementary, McClure Elementary, and Richard Wright Elementary Schools are expected.

**Philadelphia, Pennsylvania:** Cecelia Armstrong, Sunrise of Philadelphia, 267-838-0168, [carmstrong@sunriseofphila.org](mailto:carmstrong@sunriseofphila.org)

On October 26, Sunrise of Philadelphia will host a day of events for *Lights On Afterschool* and the program's 25th anniversary. The celebration will include an afterschool workforce symposium, a *Lights On* jamboree, and a ticketed anniversary event at 5:00 PM. The events will highlight the importance of quality afterschool programs for students and their communities.

### **Rhode Island**

**Pawtucket, Rhode Island:** Maryclaire Knight, Rhode Island Afterschool Network, 401-265-3642, [maryclaire1014@gmail.com](mailto:maryclaire1014@gmail.com)

In celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*, the Rhode Island Afterschool Network (RIAN) will host the "Re-Envision, Re-Think, Re-Imagine RIAN" breakfast on October 26 from 8:00 to 11:00 AM at the Boys & Girls Club of Pawtucket. Keynote speaker, Eburn Andrews from Aramco, will discuss the importance of diversifying access to STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) careers through afterschool programming. The celebration will also include a presentation by Young Voices youth leaders who will report on their findings on what young people enjoy about afterschool programs in Rhode Island and what they would like to see more of. These findings will shape the conversation among all stakeholders to re-imagine the role of the Rhode Island Afterschool Network. As many as 150 program providers, stakeholders and community members will attend the breakfast.

### **South Carolina**

**Columbia, South Carolina:** Zelda Waymer, South Carolina Afterschool Alliance, 803-254-5454, [zeldawaymer@scafterschool.com](mailto:zeldawaymer@scafterschool.com)

On October 12th, the South Carolina Afterschool Alliance hosted a STEM Extravaganza for more than 500 students from kindergarten through 12th grade for *Lights On Afterschool*. The event took place at Segra Park from 3:00 to 6:00 PM. Stations set up along the stadium's concourse offered hands-on, interactive STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activities for students. The event celebrated the important role of afterschool programs in keeping South Carolina's youth safe, engaged, and prepared to be successful adults. Attendees included afterschool and summer youth program staff and students, community groups, and policymakers.

### **South Dakota**

**Raid City, South Dakota:** Miranda Carlin, South Dakota Statewide Family Engagement Center, [MCarlin@bhssc.org](mailto:MCarlin@bhssc.org)

In celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*, the South Dakota Statewide Family Engagement Center will host a Halloween family night from 4:00 to 6:00 PM at General Beadle Elementary School's Discovery Center. The event will include a light meal and six stations for families and students to visit: Halloween roll and cover math activities, washi tape pumpkin painting, Halloween

bingo, Halloween mystery touch and feel boxes, a photo booth, and an Escape the Haunted Pumpkin Patch Escape Room. As many as 150 guests will attend the celebration.

**Sioux Falls, South Dakota:** Kyle Hoffman, Boys & Girls Club of the Sioux Empire, 605-359-2794, [khoffman@bgcsiouxempire.org](mailto:khoffman@bgcsiouxempire.org)

From 3:30 to 5:30 PM, the Boys & Girls Club of the Sioux Empire and 13 host sites will be celebrating *Lights On Afterschool* with an open house festival on October 26. Club students will rotate through a number of arts and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activities and enjoy a dance party. More than 100 kids will attend.

**Sioux Falls, South Dakota:** Jodi Miller, South Dakota School Age Care Alliance (SoDakSACA), 605-929-5656, [jahrendsenmiller@gmail.com](mailto:jahrendsenmiller@gmail.com)

On October 13, the South Dakota School Age Care Alliance (SoDakSACA) held a *Lights On Afterschool* event in conjunction with its annual conference for out-of-school time staff from 5:30 to 7:00 PM. The event was held in the parking lot of the Visitor Center for the Sanford Lab and included a variety of outdoor games and a meal before program speeches and awards. A proclamation from the governor was read, several afterschool families gave speeches about the important role afterschool serves in children's and families' lives, and one afterschool provider received the SoDakSACA's annual SACCY Award to celebrate their significant contributions to afterschool. The night ended with the lighting of David Circle at the Lab.

## Tennessee

**Franklin, Tennessee:** Beverly Phelps, YMCA Community Action Programs, 847-207-1890, [bphelps@ymcamidtn.org](mailto:bphelps@ymcamidtn.org)

YMCA Community Action Programs will host a *Lights On Afterschool* celebration at Freedom Middle School on October 26 from 2:30 to 4:30 PM. The celebration will showcase the program's afterschool activities and how they help build students' character. School staff, community partners, and families will paint pumpkins and make taffy apples.

**Knoxville, Tennessee:** Taylor Gideon, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Tennessee Valley,, 865-356-8384, [tsgideon@bgctnv.org](mailto:tsgideon@bgctnv.org)

In celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Tennessee Valley will hold a Boo Bash Spooktacular event on October 27 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM at Lonsdale Elementary. The event will include a costume parade, art contest, jump house, pumpkin volcanoes, games, music, food and treats. As many as 300 people will attend.

**Knoxville, Tennessee:** Elizabeth Saunders, Vestal Boys & Girls Club, [esaunders@bgctnv.org](mailto:esaunders@bgctnv.org)

On October 30 from 4:00 to 6:00 PM, Vestal Boys & Girls Club will host "Vestalween Fall Festival" in celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*. The Halloween-themed event will include

crafts, a slime making station, jumping raisins, face painting, pin the spider on the web, an inflatable bounce house, raffles, and much more. As many as 200 guests are expected.

**Knoxville, Tennessee:** Denarius Ross, Wesley House Community Center, 865-524-5494 x1004, [denarius@wesleyhouseknox.org](mailto:denarius@wesleyhouseknox.org)

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, the Wesley House Community Center will host a family dinner night on October 26 from 5:30 to 7:30 PM. The event will include a costume contest, pumpkin painting, face painting, pumpkin tic tac toe, spider ring toss, Halloween bingo, and a Trunk-or-Treat. As many as 80 guests are expected.

**Manchester, Tennessee:** Jimmy St. John, Manchester City Schools Afterschool Journeys LEAPs/21st Century Community Learning Center, 931-728-3412 x2434, [jstjohn@k12mcs.net](mailto:jstjohn@k12mcs.net)  
On October 26, the Manchester City Schools' two Afterschool Journeys LEAPs programs, as well as its 21st Century Community Learning Centers program, will host *Lights On Afterschool* celebrations at all three program sites. College Street Elementary and Westwood Elementary will hold talent shows, featuring a variety of performances by elementary school students. At Westwood Middle School, students will lead tours starting at 3:30 PM and the event is open to the community.

**Murfreesboro, Tennessee:** Jermesia Jackson, Cason Lane Academy, 615-848-2531, [Jermesia.Jackson@cityschools.net](mailto:Jermesia.Jackson@cityschools.net)

In celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*, Cason Lane Academy will host a Trunk-or-Treat in the school's parking lot on October 26 from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM. The event will include a variety of STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) and fall activities including pumpkin volcanoes, a slime station, a jump house, free book giveaways, and much more. Students, families, and community members will vote on the best decorated car. Up to 150 are expected to attend.

**Nashville, Tennessee:** Darrell Caldwell, Why We Can't Wait Inc., 615-262-0048, [dcaldwl@comcast.net](mailto:dcaldwl@comcast.net)

On October 26 from 4:30 to 6:00 PM, Why We Can't Wait will celebrate *Lights On Afterschool* with an open house and rally at Cleveland Street Baptist Church, featuring remarks from Tennessee State Senator Heidi Campbell. The nonpartisan event will highlight the importance of youth voices. Students will collaborate on legislation to address issues in their communities such as homelessness, violence prevention, gun safety, and more. Dr. Catherine K. Armwood-Gordon, Associate Professor of Civil and Architectural Engineering at Tennessee State University, will present on drones and career paths in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math). The event will include spoken word and musical performances. More than 150 people are expected.

## **Texas**

**Angleton, Texas:** Yajaira Tello, Communities In Schools of Southeast Harris County, 713-740-0784 ext. 43169, [ytello@cistxjv.org](mailto:ytello@cistxjv.org)

Communities In Schools of Southeast Harris County will celebrate *Lights On Afterschool* with hands-on science experiments at the Young Elementary “fall crawl” festival. The afterschool program will showcase a glowing water science experiment, homemade “oobleck,” and other hands-on “mad scientist” STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activities. The event will take place on October 26 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM and more than 200 people are expected.

**El Paso, Texas:** Enrique Garcia, BOOST Network, 915-603-1867, [boost@unitedwayelpaso.org](mailto:boost@unitedwayelpaso.org)  
BOOST (Borderland Out-of-School Time) Network, in partnership with the United Way of El Paso and Paso del Norte Health Foundation, will host multiple events for its *Lights On Afterschool & Kids Night Out* Events Series, including 1,500 tickets to a University of Texas at El Paso football game on October 18 and 1,350 tickets to a Fútbol Club Juárez Bravos in Mexico on October 20. On October 25, BOOST will host a *Lights On Afterschool* fall carnival at Ascarate Healing Memorial Garden from 4:00 to 7:00 PM. Activities will include paper flower crafts, archery, face painting, coloring stations, friendship bracelets tables, books donations and more. Little Amal, the 12-foot puppet of a 10-year-old Syrian refugee, will make a special guest appearance. Little Amal has traveled around the world as a symbol of compassion and human rights and will go to Ciudad Juárez, Mexico on October 26 to be the featured attraction at the *Lights On Afterschool* celebration at the Plaza de la Mexicanidad from 3:00 to 6:00 PM.

**Elsa, Texas:** Alberto Trevino, Edcouch-Elsa ISD ACE Afterschool Program, 956-262-0154 ext. 5312, [atrevino@eeisd.org](mailto:atrevino@eeisd.org)

On October 25 from 5:30 to 7:30, the Edcouch-Elsa ACE Afterschool Program will host its annual tailgate focusing on fine arts and entrepreneurship for *Lights On Afterschool*. Open to the community, the tailgate will feature a student-led food demonstration and cheer-dance squad and folklorico dance team performances. The event will also include carnival games and music, and students and staff will hand out Mexican taquitos. More than 500 people are expected.

**Fort Worth, Texas:** Afterschool Ambassador Miguel Garcia, Jr., Fort Worth After School, 817-815-2953, [miguel.garcia24@fwisd.org](mailto:miguel.garcia24@fwisd.org)

For *Lights On Afterschool*, Fort Worth After School will host a “Lights On For Hope” cancer awareness program at Kirkpatrick Middle School on October 26 from 5:30 to 7:30 PM. The event will include a fun walk, guest speakers, art activities and student-led STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) experiments. There will also be hip hop dance, modern dance, and Ballet Folklorico performances. Kirkpatrick Middle School Principal Jeff Bartalotta will speak about the importance of afterschool programs. Hundreds of parents, educators, faith-

based leaders, business leaders and community members are expected to attend, including event partners from the Salvation Army, YMCA, Clayton Youth Enrichment and Fort Worth Police.

**Fort Worth, Texas:** Cathy Brown Gabrielle Richmond, Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Fort Worth School Age Care, 817-782-7566, [jrbactionzone1145@gmail.com](mailto:jrbactionzone1145@gmail.com)

In celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*, Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth School Age Care will host a retro karaoke night on October 26 from 4:30 to 6:30 PM. Students and families will come together to sing hits from the 80s and 90s in the youth center, decorated with throwback themed decorations.

**Houston, Texas:** Ken Williams, GROW, [ken@kenempowers.com](mailto:ken@kenempowers.com)

On October 26 at 4:00 PM, GROW will host a literacy day at BakerRipley Gulfton Sharpstown Campus, a community center and elementary school, for *Lights On Afterschool*. Youth will engage in storytime, STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) education, and a book signing with local “energy superheroes” in one of the most diverse neighborhoods in the US. This event aims to promote reading readiness and curiosity about STEM in afterschool.

**San Antonio, Texas:** Afterschool Ambassador Shawn Petty, Team ACE (Afterschool Centers on Education), [shawnpetty@westat.com](mailto:shawnpetty@westat.com)

Team ACE will celebrate the significance of afterschool programs with the *Lights On Afterschool* Spectacular in Texas. This unique event will include a live-streamed broadcast featuring various *Lights On Afterschool* events from across the state, including Houston, Dallas, Austin, Waco, and San Antonio. The roving Team ACE reporters will attend and broadcast numerous live events during the evening, bringing the excitement directly to viewers. The celebrations will showcase the diversity and impact of afterschool programs with activities ranging from open houses and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) fairs to dance competitions and much more. The Zoom Link for the live-streamed broadcast is <https://westat.zoom.us/j/89812458791?pwd=X5vx9qeJy9gddpfuuPGCu2frjcuamP.1>

**Uvalde, Texas:** Patricia Perez, Uvalde CISD ACE Program, 830-278-6655, [pperez1231@uvaldecisd.net](mailto:pperez1231@uvaldecisd.net)

The Uvalde CISD ACE Program is celebrating *Lights On Afterschool* with a Halloween parade and Kiwanis festival on October 26. The ACE Program’s third through sixth graders will participate in a parade walking through downtown Uvalde from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. The Kiwanis Club will host a Halloween festival for the younger students from 4:00 to 6:30 PM in the Civic Center parking lot with Halloween activities. Crossroads Academy students will staff a “Lights On” photobooth at the festival. As many as 250 people will take part in the parade and more than 100 people will attend the festival.

## **Utah**

**Draper, Utah:** Jamie McCoy, A to Z Building Blocks, 801-816-9800, [jamie.mccoy@atozbuildingblocks.com](mailto:jamie.mccoy@atozbuildingblocks.com)

On October 20, A to Z Building Blocks held an art exhibit for *Lights On Afterschool* from 4:30 to 6:30 PM. The families of the students and community members were invited to Building Block's Center to see the artwork the students created using different mediums. More than 100 people attended.

**Ogden, Utah:** Georgia Smith, Learning of Life, 801-661-3280, [georgia.smith@lflmail.org](mailto:georgia.smith@lflmail.org)  
For *Lights On Afterschool*, Learning of Life at Lincoln Elementary School will host "The Leader in Me - I Can Light the Way" for the program's kindergarteners and first graders on October 24 from 4:15 to 5:15 PM. The kids will participate in some STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) and leadership activities. Mayor Mike Caldwell may attend.

**Roy, Utah:** Madison Hansen, Boys & Girls Club of Weber-Davis, 801-614-5454, [madisonh@bgcweberdavis.org](mailto:madisonh@bgcweberdavis.org)

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, the Boys & Girls Club of Weber-Davis will hold a Halloween art showcase from 5:00 to 6:00 PM on October 31. The event will have monster and Halloween themed artwork by the students on display for Club families to enjoy. Additionally, there will be an arts and crafts table for families to create their own themed artwork. As many as 120 people are expected.

**Salt Lake City, Utah:** Mikayli Kaighn, Evergreen Afterschool Program, 801-440-0054, [mikayli.kaighn@aau-slc.org](mailto:mikayli.kaighn@aau-slc.org)

The Evergreen Afterschool Program will hold a Halloween carnival on October 26 from 4:30 to 6:30 PM for *Lights On Afterschool*. Students and parents will play a variety of carnival games including twister, pin the bow on the skeleton, dart boards, musical chairs, and cup pong. The event will also include cookie decorating and a dance party. A chicken dinner will be served. Millcreek Mayor Jeff Silvestrini will attend.

**South Salt Lake, Utah:** Claudia Quintanilla, Promise SSL, 801-657-0416, [cquintanilla@sslc.gov](mailto:cquintanilla@sslc.gov)

On September 19 and 20, Promise SSL held a two-day open house event for *Lights On Afterschool* to showcase to families the activities students take part in each day as well as other afterschool programs offered in the area. Tables featured activities such as violin lessons, Boy Scouts and Girls Scouts, arts and crafts and science projects. Parents also learned about field trips offered by Promise SSL. More than 250 people attended across the two days.

## **Vermont**

**Northeast Kingdom, Vermont:** Afterschool Ambassador Elizabeth Chambers, North Country Supervisory Union - Encore, 802-334-0933, [Elizabeth.chambers@ncsuvt.org](mailto:Elizabeth.chambers@ncsuvt.org)

North Country Supervisory Union's Encore Programs will celebrate *Lights On Afterschool* by unveiling a new logo at nine open houses starting October 20th through October 27th. Each open house will lead families, board members, and community members in hands-on learning activities from highly engaging clubs occurring this session. Youth will create story walks at local rec trails, lead guests through student-made art shows, use their Junior Chef skills to create delicious snacks, and more. Staff and student leaders will wear gear with the new logo, the first Encore has had in its 20 years of programming, and each site will have exciting giveaways for visitors to spread the word that Encore Programs are "Keeping the Lights On!"

## **Virginia**

**Charlottesville, Virginia:** Lisel Bruscia, STEAM Discovery Academy, [lisel@steamda.com](mailto:lisel@steamda.com)

For *Lights On Afterschool*, "superheroes" from Apex Clean Energy will visit students at the STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math) Discovery Academy on October 26 at 4:00 PM. RePowering Schools and KidWind will be part of this STEAM learning celebration. Afterschool students will learn about the importance of renewable energy through hands-on activities, such as building solar bugs, and meet women of cutting-edge careers in STEAM.

**Hampton, Virginia:** Afterschool Ambassador Michelle Simpson, Alternatives World Changers, 757-838-2330, [msimpson@altinc.org](mailto:msimpson@altinc.org)

In celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*, the Alternatives Hampton World Changers will conduct an "Are You Smarter Than A Fifth Grader" STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) experiment with fifth grade students at Mary W. Jackson Elementary School on October 26 at 1:00 PM. The event will utilize the James Webb Space Telescope Learning Lunchbox STEM kits donated by the Center of Science and Industry (COSI). The kits, created in partnership with NASA, help young people learn, through hands-on activities, about the Earth's atmosphere and discover why the Webb telescope was sent to space. Middle and high school students will pair up with fifth graders as buddies/mentors to execute the experiment. During this time together, students will discuss the transition from elementary to middle school, giving the 5th graders an opportunity to ask questions, eliminate fears, and learn how to be better prepared for the transition.

**Harrisonburg, Virginia:** Cristina Lotts, On the Road Collaborative, 540-200-8778, [cristina@ontheroadcollaborative.com](mailto:cristina@ontheroadcollaborative.com)

On the Road Collaborative will host two events on October 27 for *Lights On Afterschool*. A family engagement session will be held from 5:30 to 6:15 PM and will be followed by a basketball game from 6:30 to 7:30 PM. The family engagement session will be led by James Madison University's Institute for Innovation in Health and Human Services and SexEdVA



about how parents can be an “askable adult” for their teens. Following the workshop, On the Road staff members will go up against kids from Highline and Thomas Harrison Middle Schools in a basketball game. Harrisonburg’s Mayor Deanna Reed may attend.

**Martinsville, Virginia:** Irma Brimmer, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Blue Ridge, 276-806-8264, [albertharris@bgcbr.org](mailto:albertharris@bgcbr.org)

The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Blue Ridge will hold a *Lights On Afterschool* celebration at Albert Harris Elementary School on October 26 starting at 4:00 PM. Students will perform dance routines, sing songs, and give speeches on what the afterschool program means to them. Local business leaders will also give words of encouragement to youth. Mayor L. C. Jones may attend.

**Roanoke, Virginia:** Daphne Sargent, Vinton Baptist Church Boys & Girls Club, 540-798-4737, [dsargent@bgcswva.org](mailto:dsargent@bgcswva.org)

On October 26, the Vinton Baptist Church Boys & Girls Club will hold a family night in partnership with the Vinton Police Department from 5:30 to 7:30 PM for *Lights On Afterschool*. The police will give a presentation to the families about cyberbullying and hand out fingerprinting kits. Families will also participate in a graffiti sidewalk art competition, a community service project presentation, and a pizza dinner.

## **Washington**

**Kennewick, Pasco and Prescott, Washington:** Afterschool Ambassador Margarita Alaman, Educational Service District 123 21st Century Program, 509-544-5723, [malaman@esd123.org](mailto:malaman@esd123.org)

For *Lights On Afterschool*, the Educational Service District 123 21st Century Program is hosting six events between October 10 and November 2 at program sites in Kennewick, Pasco, and Prescott. On October 10, Highlands Middle School in Kennewick hosted a “Hidden in Plain Sight” celebration. On October 20, FirstFruits Farms in Prescott hosted a holiday feast. On October 26, Fuerza Elementary in Kennewick and New Horizons High School in Pasco will host Trunk-or-Treat celebrations with book giveaways. The final event, a family paint night celebrating *Lights On* and Dia de Los Muertos, will take place on November 2 in Pasco.

**Lynnwood, Washington:** Ruth Cassidy, Boys & Girls Club of Snohomish County, 425-774-3022, [rcassidy@bgcsc.org](mailto:rcassidy@bgcsc.org)

On October 27, the Boys & Girls Club of Snohomish County will host a festival for Club families from 2:00 to 3:45 PM. The festival will include a fun house, cookie decorating, and a variety of fall themed carnival games like a pumpkin toss, corn toss, pin the spider on the web, skeleton put together, and bottle stand up. Mayor Christine Frizzell and city council members may attend.

## **West Virginia**

**Belington, West Virginia:** Carol Malcolm-Parsons, KidREACH Appalachia, 304-476-1406, [cmalcolm@worldvision.org](mailto:cmalcolm@worldvision.org)

On October 26, KidREACH Appalachia will hold *Lights On Afterschool* celebrations at each of its locations. Belington Middle School will host a positive relaxation event from 4:00 to 6:00 PM. Students will learn about managing emotions and make sensory bottles. At Belington Elementary, students will enjoy a glow party, complete with glowing games, painting, play dough, and much more. At Junior Elementary, the site's STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) coordinator will lead a STEMing the Sun event. Students will learn all about the sun and build their own sundials.

**Craigsville, West Virginia:** Monica Cox, Gauley River Elementary, 304-619-9762, [mnacox@k12.wv.us](mailto:mnacox@k12.wv.us)

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, Gauley River Elementary will host "Lights on Afterschool: Camp Bobcat!" on October 27 from 4:00 to 6:00 PM. The event will feature a variety of academic and health and wellness activities for students and families to enjoy including math and literacy games, a book and school supplies donation drive, healthy choices education, and physical activity games. The school's mobile resource center will be present for the more than 350 attendees as well.

**Fairmont, West Virginia:** Afterschool Ambassador Shannon Yost, Flipside Afterschool Program, 304-366-4550, [shannon@tvunitedway.org](mailto:shannon@tvunitedway.org).

For *Lights On Afterschool*, the Flipside afterschool program engaged some 200 students and family members at four sites for a "scientifically good time" at its "Back to the Flipside" event on October 12 from 4:30 to 6:00 PM. The STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math)-themed activities for the whole family included time travel, hoverboards, DeLoreans, trivia, photo booths, food, and more. Students used James Webb Space Telescope Learning Lunchbox STEM kits donated by the Center of Science and Industry (COSI). The kits, created in partnership with NASA, help young people learn, through hands-on activities, about the Earth's atmosphere and discover why the Webb telescope was sent to space. All families had an opportunity to connect with afterschool staff and celebrate what makes their afterschool programs special.

**Philippi, West Virginia:** Carol Malcolm-Parsons, KidREACH Appalachia, 304-476-1406, [cmalcolm@worldvision.org](mailto:cmalcolm@worldvision.org)

On October 26, KidREACH Appalachia will hold *Lights On Afterschool* celebrations at each of its locations. At Philippi Elementary School, local high school athletes will visit and host a *Lights On Afterschool* reading party for the students. Students at both Philippi Middle School and Philip Barbour High School will participate in a madcap workshop to celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*. Performers from Old Brick Playhouse will lead various literacy, art, and theater

activities. Participants will create Mardi Gras masks and experience French Quarter street performance and Creole traditions.

### **Wisconsin**

**Black River Falls, Wisconsin:** Paige Stuckey, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Greater Chippewa Valley, 715-284-4005, [pstuckey@cvclubs.org](mailto:pstuckey@cvclubs.org)

On October 26, the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Greater Chippewa Valley will host a *Lights On Afterschool* open house at its Lunda Center. Schools are closed on October 26, so the center will offer a full day of activities, including tours, cooking and art activities. Students will make homemade pizza dough and applesauce to enjoy during lunch, and staff from the local school district will assist with pumpkin carving. The event is open to all Club members and their families.

**Green Bay, Wisconsin:** Preben Rasmussen, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Bay & Lakes Region, 920-615-9785, [prasmussen@bayandlakes.org](mailto:prasmussen@bayandlakes.org)

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Bay & Lakes Region hosted a paint and sip celebration at Howard Elementary School on October 23. Students, families and teachers painted pumpkins together and tie-dyed items with their favorite colors. The program provides a safe place for play, homework assistance, STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activities, literacy, meals, and fun.

**Madison, Wisconsin:** Meghan Johnson, Goodman Community Center, 608-204-8033, [mjohnson@goodmancenter.org](mailto:mjohnson@goodmancenter.org)

Goodman Community Center will celebrate *Lights On Afterschool* with a family fun night filled with games, food, and fun on October 26 from 5:30 to 7:00 PM. The event will feature several fall-themed games and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activities through partnerships with University of Wisconsin-Madison and other STEM partners. The Center's childcare and youth families will also be served dinner, with 200 people expected.

**Milwaukee, Wisconsin:** Dawn Mendoza, Frances Starms Camp, 414-934-4711, [mendozdm@milwaukee.k12.wi.us](mailto:mendozdm@milwaukee.k12.wi.us)

On October 26, Frances Starms Camp will host its third annual *Lights On Afterschool* event. From 5:00 to 7:00 PM, students and families will come together at the Starms Early Childhood Center for a family fun night full of arts and crafts activities. The event will feature booths with jewelry making, face painting, cookie decorating, and mad scientist slime. More than 150 people are expected to attend.

**Shawano, Wisconsin:** Kim Ihrcke, Boys & Girls Club of Shawano, 715-851-6171, [kihrcke@bgcshawano.org](mailto:kihrcke@bgcshawano.org)

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, the Boys & Girls Club of Shawano will host an open house on October 26. Club members are invited to tour the facility, meet the staff and enjoy light refreshments. Parents will write down what the Club means to their family on paper lightbulbs which will decorate the halls.

**Wautoma, Wisconsin:** Adam Smet, A+ Parkside, 920-787-4577, [smeta@wautoma.k12.wi.us](mailto:smeta@wautoma.k12.wi.us)  
For *Lights On Afterschool*, A+ Parkside will host “Creepy Crawly Ball,” a festival to bring students, families, and the community together on October 26 from 4:30 to 6:00 PM. The festival will feature a number of booths from community partners including a community food pantry, energy assistance, a local health clinic, the Girl Scouts, and the public library. Staff members will also host trivia, games, and two STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activities – slime making and “bone bridge building” – for the students. Community partners are also donating goodie bags for event attendees.

### **Wyoming**

**Cody and Powell, Wyoming:** Afterschool Ambassador Tiffany Wutzke, Youth Clubs of Park County-Cody Club, 307-527-7871, [youthclubs.tiffanywutzke@gmail.com](mailto:youthclubs.tiffanywutzke@gmail.com)

Youth Clubs of Park County will host *Lights On Afterschool* open houses at its Cody and Powell sites from 4:00 to 6:00 PM on October 26th. Community members and parents will tour the clubs and participate in Halloween-themed STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) projects with students. Other activities include pumpkin catapults, candy corn towers, Frankenstein phlegm (slime), and photo booths. Students will greet guests and lead scavenger hunt tours. Refreshments will be served and costumes are encouraged.

**Douglas, Wyoming:** Whitney Tomlinson, Boys & Girls Club of Douglas, 307-358-4100, [whitneyt@bgcdouglas.com](mailto:whitneyt@bgcdouglas.com)

In celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*, the Boys & Girls Club of Douglas will host a Halloween parent engagement night on October 24 from 4:00 to 6:00 PM. Parents and students will create monster masks, learn how to dance the monster mash, and much more. More than 130 students and their parents will enjoy a ghostly dinner of green spaghetti and monster cookies.