



LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL

A PROJECT OF THE AFTERSCHOOL ALLIANCE

2024 Representative Sample of Local Events

Alabama

Gadsden, Alabama: Janie Browning, Gadsden City Schools, 256-390-6393,
jbrowning@gadsdencityschools.org

On October 24, students across all nine Gadsden City Schools afterschool programs will engage in a variety of exciting activities, including hands-on STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) projects, art showcases, and fun parades for *Lights On Afterschool*. Parents will also join in with “make and take” STEM projects, fostering family involvement. To show unity and support for afterschool programs, everyone will be wearing blue.

Gurley, Alabama: Alex Forsythe, Gurley Community Learning Center, 256-424-1912,
Gclcsitedirector@gmail.com

The Gurley Community Learning Center is excited to welcome students and families to Madison County Elementary School for a *Lights On Afterschool* Fall Festival and open house on October 24 from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM. Students and families will enjoy a literacy corner, games, arts and crafts, and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activities including slime-making and collecting and sprouting pumpkin seeds.

Lincoln, Alabama: Shelia Elston, Boys & Girls Clubs of East Central Alabama, 205-478-5696,
shfredw@aol.com

The Boys & Girls Clubs of East Central Alabama will welcome families to an open house at its Lincoln Clubhouse on October 25 from 4:30 PM to 5:30 PM to celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*. Students will lead parents on a “scavenger hunt” to ensure they see everything the Club has to offer. Parents will then listen to a speaker from the Parents as Teachers organization. The event will also feature student artwork displays, a coloring contest, a photo booth, refreshments, and door prizes.

Roanoke, Alabama: Yolanda Walker-Lee, Roanoke Boys & Girls Club, 334-863-1684,
Ylee@bgcecal.org

For *Lights On Afterschool*, the Roanoke Boys & Girls Club will host an open house/fall fun day on October 24th from 4:00 to 5:15 PM. The event will include fall festival activities, basketball dunking contests, a coloring contest, bingo, and a scary story reading time. The menu will include hotdogs, juice, popcorn, and candy.

Alaska

Anchorage, Alaska: Lisa Bricker, Municipality of Anchorage, 907-343-2975, aplyouth@muni.org

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, the Anchorage Public Library will host a STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) event for school-aged kids in the Learning Commons at the Loussac library building. Students will watch a science video before doing experiments, magnet painting, and chalk art. The event will take place on October 24 from 5:00 to 6:00 PM.

Anchorage, Alaska: Red Coffey, Anchorage Public Library, 907-343-4035, red.coffey@anchorageak.gov

On October 24, the Muldoon branch of the Anchorage Public Library will lead students in art and science-themed projects celebrating *Lights On Afterschool*. The afternoon will include free play with blocks, aurora chalk art, and bracelet-making. The event is open to the public and begins at 4:30 PM.

Delta Junction, Alaska: Tiki Levinson, the Delta Library, 907-895-4102, deltalibrary@wildak.net

The Delta Library is excited to host “Lights ON at the Library,” a glow-themed event for children and teens in celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*. On October 24 at 6:30 PM, students will gather in the library to participate in a series of challenges with glow sticks, such as blindfolded building, and receive glow items as prizes. They will then read stories about light. Finally, students can get their energy out with a glow dance.

Kenai, Alaska: Shanette Wik, Boys & Girls Club of the Kenai Peninsula, 907-398-2191, swik@bgckp.com

The Boys and Girls Club of the Kenai Peninsula will host a festival to celebrate *Lights On Afterschool* on October 26 from 2:00 to 5:00 PM at 11312 Kenai Spur Hwy. The festival will welcome over 3,000 community members to a showcase of all of the activities the students do at their Out-of-School-Time programs. The event will feature art displays, a reading corner with information on resources and ways parents can support their children, and a STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) makers station, a crowd favorite from previous years. Local leaders may attend the event.

Sitka, Alaska: Kiera Dent, City of Sitka, 907-747-4031, kiera.dent@cityofsitka.org

The City and Borough of Sitka Parks and Recreation department hosted a *Lights On Afterschool* tabling and recreation event on October 11 from 4:00 to 7:00 PM at Blatchley Middle School. A variety of nonprofit organizations handed out information about their afterschool programs while also engaging guests with recreational activities.

Wasilla, Alaska: Amanda Baltz-Gainan, Boys & Girls Clubs of Mat-Su, 907-357-2582, abaltz-gainan@bgcalaska.org

On October 24 from 5:00 to 6:30 PM, the Boys & Girls Club of Mat-Su will host a *Lights On Afterschool* open house and festival at its Club. Families can take informational tours of the Club and talk to administrators about the programming offered while kids play Halloween and Aurora-themed carnival games and enjoy costume contests and art activities.

Arizona

Bullhead City, Arizona: Kari Gunsalus, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Colorado River, 928-763-1411, kari@clubriver.org

At 3:30 on October 5, the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Colorado River welcomed the community to its Halloween Bash in celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*. Students, families, and community members gathered in the decorated clubhouse for Halloween-themed activities including a “Happy House,” a car show, arts and crafts, and a costume contest. Resources and information on topics such as public health and safety were available for attendees. Guests also enjoyed food from local food trucks and a Trunk-Or-Treat.

Phoenix, Arizona: Mary Clark, Deer Valley Unified School District, 602-518-8544, Mary.clark@dvusd.org

The Community Education Department at Deer Valley Unified School District will hold open house events at each of its before school and afterschool program locations from 4:00 to 6:00 PM on October 26 in celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*. Students and families will be able to tour the programs while enjoying snacks, STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activities, and arts and crafts such as birdhouse decorating and rock painting.

Scottsdale, Arizona: Paul Germinaro, Scottsdale Parks and Rec Department, 480-312-2584
On October 18, Scottsdale Parks and Rec Department hosted a Movie in the Park to celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*. The free event included fun activities, food trucks, and a screening of *Monsters, Inc.* right after sunset. The event was open to the entire community.

Tempe, Arizona: Jordan Guerrero, The City of Tempe, jordan_guerrero@tempe.gov
Kid Zone at Fuller Elementary School is excited to celebrate *Lights On Afterschool* on October 24. Starting at 3:45 PM, students will participate in several enrichment stations, including cooking, science, and literacy. There will also be a dance party. Each child will receive a

lightbulb coloring sheet to fill out and swag including light-up bracelets. Local elected officials may attend.

Arkansas

Bentonville, Arkansas: Shannon Brown, Bentonville Schools, 479-268-0320,
shbrown@bentonvillek12.org

Adventure Club at Bentonville Schools will host an exciting night of Trunk-Or-Treating in celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*. Students and families will gather at the Adventure Club location at 1701 NE Wildcat Way to collect candy from decorated cars, play carnival games, and enjoy face painting. There will also be a short presentation about how to stay safe while trick-or-treating. The event will take place on October 24 from 6:30 to 7:30 PM and is open to all families in the community.

Fayetteville, Arkansas: Erika Guy, Donald W. Reynolds Boys & Girls Club, 479-335-3121,
erika@fayettevillekids.org

The kids at the Donald W. Reynolds Boys & Girls Club have been hard at work designing flyers and posters to promote *Lights On Afterschool*. Club members and students at affiliated School Kids Connection programs at local elementary schools will enter their work and vote in a contest to choose the Club's official *Lights On Afterschool* poster. Then, on October 24, they will celebrate their afterschool programs with a party starting at 3:30 PM. The Club will be decorated with the winning posters, and students will enjoy ice cream and glow sticks.

Little Rock, Arkansas: Laveta Wills-Hale, Arkansas Out of School Network, 501-660-1014,
gcolbert@astate.edu

On October 24, the Arkansas Out of School Network will host its "Fall Conference: A Best Practices Academy *Lights On Afterschool* Celebration!" from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the Arkansas Cooperative Extension State Office. Participants will enjoy a day of learning, motivation, and celebration. In addition, Arkansas Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders has issued a proclamation, declaring October 24 *Lights On Afterschool* day.

Van Buren, Arkansas: Dawn Winford, Boys & Girls Club of Van Buren, 479-474-9401,
dwinford@cox.net

The Learning Center at the Boys & Girls Club of Van Buren will host a *Lights On Afterschool* showcase on October 24 from 4:00 to 5:30 PM. During the celebration, students will show off the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) projects they have been working on, with an emphasis on lightbulb-themed electronic experiments.

California

Bakersfield, California: Ashley Lewis, Greenfield Union School District, 661-837-6180,
lewisa@gfusd.net

To mark *Lights On Afterschool* and its 25th anniversary, the Greenfield After School SUCCESS Program will hold a festival featuring student performances showcasing art, dance, and music. The event will take place on October 24 from 5:30 to 8:30 PM on the Golden Valley High School football field. More than 1,000 students, family members, and community members are expected to attend. Food will be available from vendors. Local law enforcement, community colleges, and community partners will attend to offer information about local services and resources to students and families.

Baldwin Park, California: Samantha Farias, Think Together, 626-271-0383,
samantha.farias@thinktogether.org

Think Together is proud to welcome students and families to its *Lights On Afterschool* Literacy Night at Bursch Elementary, October 24 at 4:45 PM. The event will celebrate the theme “Kindness Through Fun,” and will feature literary activities such as a book reading session, word search, book swap, bookmark-making activity, and a book podcast station. Outside, students will participate in a basketball workshop and showcase their school spirit through cheer and dance performances, and a choir song celebrating kindness and community. The event will be a chance for families to come together for an evening of learning, creativity, and connection in celebration of afterschool programming.

Fair Oaks, California: Natalie Martinez, California Montessori Project, 279-204-3138,
nmartinez@cacmp.org

On October 24, from 5:00 to 5:45 PM, Club M at the California Montessori Project will host an open house at its American River campus to celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*. As many as 120 students will showcase projects they have been working on, including wiggle robots, paintings, and block builds, in a museum walkthrough. Younger students will demonstrate the food preparation skills they have been working on by serving snacks.

Los Angeles, California: Ethel Fimbres, Youth Business Alliance, 562-292-6244,
ethel@youthbizalliance.org

For *Lights On Afterschool*, Youth Business Alliance will host a community festival at Ánimo Compton Charter School on October 24 from 4:00 to 6:00 PM. As many as 150 guests will enjoy free food, raffles, soccer and basketball games, drum circles, dance, drawing, and financial literacy activities.

Los Angeles, California: Joe Garza, Immersive Art Collective, 408-416-7701,
joe@immersiveartcollective.org

To celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*, Immersive Art Collective will partner with Heart of Los Angeles, Fun Zone Reading Club for Homeless Kids, and Hospitality Training Academy to present its “Shine On Talent Showcase” at The Count’s Den on October 24 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. This free event will feature live entertainment from professional performers and will open

the stage to any child who wants to show off their talent. A variety of other activities will take place, including sports drills, arts and crafts, and cooking demonstrations.

Middletown, California: Toni Hubbard, EDMO, 415-937-3098, thubbard@edventuremore.com

The EDMO program at Minnie Cannon Elementary is excited to present its *Lights On Afterschool* festival on October 24 from 4:00 to 6:20 PM. Families will enjoy skeeball and darts, face-painting, Halloween costumes, and a drill performance from the students. More than 250 students and family members are expected to attend.

Mendota, California: Daniel Lima Alva, Fresno County Superintendent of Schools and Mendota Unified School District, 559-655-3502, dalva@fcoe.org

On November 7, Mendota Expanded Learning Program will host “Aztecs Lights On!” festival and open house in celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*. Over 400 students, parents, and administrators will gather at Mendota Elementary School at 4:30 PM to enjoy virtual reality games, coding and robotics activities, painting, and crafts. Family resources and information on drug awareness and prevention, healthcare services, and internet safety will be available. Mayor Victor Martinez will be in attendance to present a proclamation in honor of afterschool programs.

Newman, California: Julie Thurman, Newman-Crows Landing USD, 209-639-4598, Jthurman@nclusd.k12.ca.us

Newman-Crows Landing USD’s Beyond the Bell will host a student-led open house event at Von Renner Elementary School on October 24 at 4:00 PM for *Lights On Afterschool*. The open house will feature student-led tours, refreshment, performances from the Baile Folklorico Club, and stations for arts and crafts, robotics, physical activity, homework club, and student and parent testimonials. More than 200 people are expected to attend.

Oakland, California: Schevaunte Kelly, Bay Area Community Resources, 714-869-5787, skelly@bacr.org

For *Lights On Afterschool*, Bay Area Community Resources will host “Lights On Luminescent Night,” a Halloween-themed glow party at Thornhill Elementary School from 3:30 to 5:30 PM on October 24. The walls of Thornhill Elementary School will be covered with black paper as more than 150 students unleash their creativity and paint the walls with glow-in-the-dark paint.

San Diego, California: Michelle Clark, YMCA of San Diego County, 619-701-2919, mlclark@ymcasd.org

The Expanded Learning Program at the YMCA of San Diego and the Florence Elementary PrimeTime Extended Day program are excited to host a Hansel and Gretel-themed haunted house to celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*. “Florence PrimeTime Lost in the Woods” will take place on October 30 from 3:30 to 5:30 PM at Florence Elementary. Guests can participate in a “snack walk” and fall-themed games like ball-toss, word search, Jeopardy, and Battleship.

San Francisco, California: Marta Walsh, Bay Area Community Resources, 415-565-9885, mwalsh@bacr.org

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, Sharks Until Dark is excited to host a “DeepSea Luminescence” art festival at Sherman Elementary School. Students can participate in themed art activities like painting cardboard fish, coloring an underwater world with sidewalk chalk, creating underwater scenes with Goldfish crackers and Froot Loops, and adding their handprints to a blacklight mural. The event will take place October 24 from 3:00 to 5:00 PM.

San Francisco, California: Stefanie Torres, Stonestown Family YMCA, 415-850-2228, storres@ymcasf.org

On October 25th from 4:30 to 6:00 PM, the Stonestown Family YMCA will host its *Lights On Afterschool* Spooktacular Event at Commodore Sloat Elementary School. Students will enjoy Halloween-themed activities including arts and crafts stations, a STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activity, an outdoor mini pumpkin hunt, and a light-up balloon dance party. As many as 150 students and family members are expected to attend.

Colorado

Craig, Colorado: Erin Steger, Boys & Girls Clubs of Northwest Colorado, 970-826-0411, esteger@bgcnwc.org

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, the Boys and Girls Clubs of Northwest Colorado will host a fall-themed open house on October 21 at its Craig clubhouse location from 4:45 to 6:00 PM. Club members will participate in STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) activities including disappearing ghosts and pumpkin stress balls. Parents and families are encouraged to stay and participate in the event as they come to pick up their children.

Pueblo, Colorado: Selina Valdez, Boys & Girls Clubs of Pueblo County, 719-253-6162, selinav@bgcpueblo.org

On October 24 from 6:00 to 7:30 PM, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Pueblo County will host a *Lights On Afterschool* Halloween night at Central High School’s Ray Aguilera Teen Center. Families will participate in a ghost hunt throughout the school. There will also be STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activities focused on electricity and light bulbs and emotional wellness programs.

Thornton, Colorado: Afterschool Ambassador Mandi Browning, The PEAK Learning Center/Adams 12 Five Star Schools, 720-972-6996, mandi.j.browning@adams12.org

On October 24, The PEAK Learning Center in Adams 12 Five Star Schools will celebrate *Lights On Afterschool* with an open house at the Thornton Community Connections Center from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. This event will showcase the robust programming offered in PEAK programs throughout the district including STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math), robotics, soccer, social emotional learning, and much more. In addition to the community

celebration, each of the PEAK Learning Center afterschool programs will hold individual celebrations. Students will design lightbulbs to showcase what they love about afterschool and parents will have an opportunity to write down their dreams for their child and add them to a dream jar.

Westminster, Colorado: Hannah Orff, Butterfly Pavilion, 720-375-9986, horff@butterflies.org

This year for *Lights On Afterschool*, the Butterfly Pavilion Afterschool Club is spreading the word about the great work they do all year. This award-winning program teaches school-age children about invertebrates, helping them develop compassion, empathy, and an appreciation for nature. Students will provide on-camera testimonials about their positive experiences in the club, which will be compiled into a video and shared on social media and with grant funders to spread awareness about the club.

Connecticut

Hartford, Connecticut: Amanda Steffen, Asylum Hill Boys & Girls Clubs of Hartford, 860-893-4862, ASteffen@bgchartford.org

To mark its 20th anniversary and *Lights On Afterschool*, the Asylum Hill Boys & Girls Clubs of Hartford is hosting a *Keeping the Lights On Afterschool* celebration on October 24 from 5:30 to 7:00 PM. The event is open to the entire community and will include tours, photos from when the program first opened its doors, and light refreshments. Guests will also have the opportunity to experience a day in the life of an afterschool participant. As many as 100 people are to attend.

Southport, Connecticut: Coreen Ahmad, Southport Clubhouse, 203-259-4805, coreen@wakemanclub.org

On October 17, Southport Clubhouse hosted a *Lights On Afterschool* celebration at Wakeman Boys & Girls Club from 3:15 to 5:45 PM. Teen volunteers from the clubhouse's leadership and service club created lava lamps with the students and decorated lightbulb coloring sheets with messages of encouragement. There was also an innovation challenge for members to explore entrepreneurship opportunities with students, creating new ideas and inventions.

Delaware

Claymont, Delaware: Nicole Macturk, Claymont Community Center 302-792-2757 x114, nicolemacturk@claymontcenter.org

The Claymont Community Center is hosting a Trunk-Or-Treat from 4:00 to 6:00 PM on October 24 to celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*. Up to 250 children will gather at the historic Claymont Community Center building to collect candy and small gifts, including mini flashlights, from cars.

Laurel, Delaware: Afterschool Ambassador Tasha Esham, Laurel Boys & Girls Club, 302-875-1200, TEsham@bgclubs.org

To celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*, the Laurel Boys & Girls Club hosted a fall harvest festival at Tidewater Park on October 21 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. The celebration included music by DJ Hype, a Trunk-Or-Treat, games and prizes, food by Vital Church, dancing, and much more. Students led demonstrations of afterschool initiatives including Girls on the Run, the 4 H agriculture program, robotics, and the Passports to Manhood program. Community partners also hosted information tables. Mayor John Swed and hundreds of parents, educators, and community members attended the event.

New Castle, Delaware: Shanice Orji, Summer Collab and 21st Century, 302-772-8152, sorji@summercollab.com

On October 24, from 4:30 to 5:30 PM, Summer Collab and 21st Century will hold “Enchanted Evening,” a festival to celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*, at each of its locations at Newcastle Elementary, Eisenburg Elementary, Southern Elementary, George Read Middle School, and La Academia. The event will feature a slideshow allowing parents to see what their kids have been learning and accomplishing in their afterschool programs. There will also be food, a read-along, and a character costume contest.

Seaford, Delaware: Lamyra Ross, Western Sussex Boys & Girls Club, 302-628-3789, lross@bgclubs.org

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, the Western Sussex Boys & Girls Club is proud to host its annual Trunk-Or-Treat on October 25th at 6:00 PM. Participants will walk around the Club’s parking lot, gathering candy from the trunks of decorated vehicles sponsored by businesses from all over the Seaford community. The Club will be decorated with blue lights to mark the event. Children and family members can also enjoy activities such as crafts, a car decoration contest, a costume contest, snacks, and much more.

District of Columbia

Washington, DC: Elizabeth Robinson-Pugh, DC Public Schools, 202-384-5938, elizabeth.robinson@k12.dc.gov

To raise awareness about the importance of afterschool programs, DCPS Out of School Time Programs is hosting interactive *Lights On Afterschool* yoga sessions the week of October 21 from 4:30 to 5:30 PM at 20 locations. Seaton, Burroughs, Cleveland, C.W. Harris, Barnard, Excel Academy, Amidon-Bowen, Garrison, John Lewis, and Bunker Hill Elementary Schools will hold events from October 21 to October 23. The events at River Terrace, Houston, Walker Jones, Patterson, and Moten Elementaries will take place on October 24, and those at Wheatley, Savoy, Marie Reed, Randle Highland, and Turner Elementaries will be on October 25.

Washington, DC: Elizabeth Robinson-Pugh, DC Public Schools, 202-384-5938, elizabeth.robinson@k12.dc.gov

To celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*, DCPS Out of School Time Programs will host a lively and interactive Paint and Sip event at its sites at Boone, Browne, Chisholm, Drew, Garfield Hendley, Ketcham, King, Nalle, Noyes, Raymond, Simon, Takoma, Dorothy Height, Malcolm X, Plummer, Payne, and Truesdell Elementary Schools. Each event will take place on October 24 from 4:30 to 5:30 PM.

Florida

Apalachicola, Florida: Nadine Kahn, First United Methodist Church, 850-653-1322, nk65afterschool@gmail.com

On October 24 from 4:30 to 5:30 PM, the Nest at First United Methodist Church will host a craft fair and family parade to celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*. The craft fair will feature items made by students in grades kindergarten to sixth grade, including gemstone jewelry created in their STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) Lab using a rock tumbler. The fair will also showcase watercolors of monarch butterflies. The students are studying the migration of these amazing butterflies that fly through Apalachicola on the way to Mexico. The event will conclude with a family parade outside the building that will pass in front of City Hall at the Apalachicola location. A student dressed as a monarch butterfly will lead the procession of students and parents.

Brandon, Florida: NaTasha McKeller, Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay, 813-785-0535, nmckeller@bgctampa.org

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay proudly presents “Wish You WELLness,” a mental-health celebration. On October 24 from 2:30 to 6:00, up to 125 club members will gather at the Carey Family Brandon Club to hear from local advocates about the importance of mental health. Youth will learn tips and advice about stress management and learn strategies to improve their mood and self-esteem. Students can then participate in mental-health friendly activities such as art, music, nature photography, physical fitness, and healthy food preparation.

Gainesville, Florida: Elizabeth Cayson, Children's Trust of Alachua County, 352-374-1832, ecayson@childrenstrustofalachuacounty.us

On October 24 from 4:30 to 6:00 PM, Children’s Trust of Alachua County is partnering with the Boys & Girls Club of Northeast Florida to host a *Lights On Afterschool* fall festival. More than 500 guests will enjoy bounce houses, a dunk tank, photo booths, live music, crafts, and free snacks at the Northwest Boys & Girls Club. Seven local afterschool program providers will be present to talk to families about the programs and activities they offer. Commissioners from the City of Gainesville and the Alachua County Board of County Commissioners will attend to give an official proclamation on the importance of afterschool programs.

Marco Island, Florida: Catera Isme, YMCA of Collier County, 239-394-9622 x115, youthsouth@ymcacollier.org

The YMCA of Collier County will host *Lights On Afterschool* celebrations at Manatee Elementary School, Golden Gate Elementary School, Parkside Elementary School, and South Campus on October 24 at 4:30 PM. Each location will welcome students and families for an open house, family bingo, and pumpkin carving.

Orlando, Florida: Dawn Dominguez, Orange County Public Schools, 407-317-3383, dawn.dominguez@ocps.net

On October 24, Orange County Public Schools will hold its 6th annual *Lights On Afterschool* event from 5:00 to 7:00 PM at Pershing School. The event, which is free and open to the public, will feature student performances, a Mascot Dance Battle, pizza, and activity tables. 500 people are expected to attend.

Palm Beach Gardens, Florida: Natasha Wheatley, The School District of Palm Beach County, 561-776-3600, natasha.wheatley@palmbeachschools.org

The H. L. Watkins Middle School After School Program will hold a *Lights On Afterschool* rally and glow party on October 24 from 4:00 to 5:30 PM in the school gym. Students can dance to music from a live DJ, play musical games, eat snacks, and enjoy performances from the cheer and drill teams. All students involved in the afterschool program, or an afterschool sport or club will receive a voucher for food and a wristband for entry into the event.

Riverview, Florida: Faith White, Boys & Girls Club of Tampa Bay, 239-443-7450, fwhite@bgctampa.org

On October 26, the Boys & Girls Club of Tampa Bay will host a *Lights On Afterschool* field day at Giunta Middle School from 5:00 to 6:00 PM. Students will be divided into teams to compete in events such as a sack race, tug-of-war, egg spoon relay, and a water fight. Attendees can also enjoy cornhole, bumper balls and much more.

Georgia

Atlanta, Georgia: Rudin Mucaj, International Rescue Committee, 470-576-2006, rudin.mucaj@rescue.org

The International Rescue Committee's Youth Futures afterschool program will host a *Lights On Afterschool* celebration on October 26 from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM. The event will provide an opportunity for parents and caregivers to learn more about the program and create a collaborative space where students and caregivers can work together on individual learning and career plans. There will also be a showcase of student artwork. The event will take place at the IRC's Atlanta office.

Buford, Georgia: Tania Ballou, Gwinnett Community Services, 678-277-0927,
tania.ballou@gwinnettcountry.com

On October 19, Gwinnett Community Services's Building Brains Anywhere afterschool program hosted "Walk Among the Stars," a free *Lights On Afterschool* event from 1:00 to 4:00 PM. Community members were invited to the Gwinnett Environmental and Heritage Center to enjoy games, crafts, science activities including balloon cars and kaleidoscopes, vendors, and giveaways. As many as 400 people attend the celebration.

Dawson, Georgia: Dorothy Tomlin, Positive Direction Academy, 229-995-6251,
tomlinhl79@yahoo.com

On October 24 at 3:00 PM, Positive Direction Academy will hold a *Lights On Afterschool* open house and rally. Positive Direction Academy has celebrated *Lights On Afterschool* for over 20 years and is proud to bring awareness to the importance of afterschool enrichment for children. The students will perform skits, songs, and dances at the rally. A representative from Congressman Sanford Bishop's office will speak after the performances. Dinner will be provided.

Jonesboro, Georgia: Timothy Buchanan, Clayton County Schools, 763-354-8500,
timothybuchanan@togetherfriends.org

To celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*, Clayton County Schools and the Together Friends Organization will host a parent and grandparent appreciation night at Morrow Middle School at 5:30 PM. The event will feature an essay contest in which students write about a meaningful experience they had with a parent or grandparent. Hundreds of students from all 15 middle schools in the district are expected to enter the contest.

Macon, Georgia: Brittany Maynard, Bibb County School District,
Brittany.Maynard@bcsdk12.net

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, the Rutland Middle School 21st Century Afterschool Program will host "Tropical Thunder," an event to promote family engagement through creative activities on October 24. Starting at 5:15 PM, students and parents will gather in the school cafeteria, wearing glow-stick necklaces. They will unleash their creativity by painting T-shirts, think big by drawing their aspirations and goals for the future, and engage their critical thinking and teamwork skills by building a tower that can support the weight of a heavy object on top.

Rochelle, Georgia: Julie Bloodworth, Wilcox County Schools, 229-313-9084,
bloodworthj@wilcoxcountyschools.org

The Wilcox County PASS program will hold "Be the Light," a talent show in celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*, on October 24 from 4:30 to 6:00 PM at the school building. The mayor will attend, and a representative from the local fire department will speak to parents about the importance of fire prevention. Dinner will be provided.

Rome, Georgia: Jaleesa Foster, Boys & Girls Clubs of Northwest Georgia, 706-234-0594, jaleesa@bgcnwga.org

On October 31, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Northwest Georgia will host a *Lights On Afterschool* fall festival at its West Rome Club at 5:15 PM. Parents will tour the Club and hear about the activities and experiences offered to students. The gym will be transformed into a festival, with inflatables, face-painting, games, and more. At the end of the night, the football field will be lit up to mark the event.

Suwanee, Georgia: Jonathan Underwood, Right At School, 770-524-8741, jonathan.underwood@rightatschool.com

To celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*, over 700 Right At School students from 25 Gwinnett County elementary schools will show their afterschool pride by giving back to their community. From October 1 through October 24, each program site will collect canned food and winter clothes to donate to families in need in their community, as well as those living nearby who have been affected by recent natural disasters.

Hawai'i

Hilo, Hawai'i: Cori Rapoza, Kama'aina Kids, 808-854-0249, sadesilva@kamaainakids.com

Kama'aina Kids will host a *Lights On Afterschool* celebration on October 24 at Ernest Bowen de Silva Elementary School from 2:45 to 4:00 PM. The younger students will decorate paper light bulbs to be hung throughout the school while older students will create posters in support of the afterschool program. Weather permitting, the students will wave signs with uplifting messages to cars leaving the school.

Honolulu, Hawai'i: Afterschool Ambassador Paula Adams, Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance, 808-351-0761

On October 30, the Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance will host a *Lights On Afterschool* celebration at the Hawai'i State Capitol Rotunda. Beginning at 2:45 PM, students will wave signs on Beretania Street to demonstrate their appreciation for afterschool programs. The rally will include afterschool students showcasing their talents in arts, dance, music, and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math), as well as student testimonials and remarks from legislators. Hundreds of students, parents, educators, and community members are expected to attend. In addition, the Aloha Tower will be lit in support of afterschool programs.

Idaho

Burley, Idaho: Tiffany Kahalioumi, SPARK Afterschool Program, 208-647-8522, kahtiffa@cassiaschools.org

In celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*, all seven SPARK Afterschool Program sites will come together for a "Unity Equals Comm-Unity" resource fair at Burley Junior High School on

October 24 from 5:30 to 7:30 PM. The event will include a potato bar dinner, take home Eat Together Idaho meal kits, gift card raffles, and a variety of activities and community resources. More than 300 guests will attend.

Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho: Edgar Ramos, Air Force Child and Youth Programs, 208-828-2501, edgar.ramos.4@us.af.mil

On October 24 from 3:45 to 4:45 PM, Mountain Home Air Force Base's Youth Programs will hold a *Lights On Afterschool* open house for parents, showcasing the club's various activities and programs. Parents will take part in hands-on projects with their children, including the popular entomology (study of bugs) activity. The base's commanding officer may join the more than 200 guests.

St. Maries, Idaho: Kelly Feasline, Heyburn After School Program, 208-582-1871, kfeasline@sd41.org

Heyburn After School Program will celebrate *Lights On Afterschool* with a fall festival on October 25 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM at Heyburn Elementary School. The festival will include a free-book give away from the local library, a cookie decorating station, cake walk, candy corn STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) activity, craft activity tables, and other games. Potlatch, the local sponsor of the celebration, will provide pizza for families. As many as 100 guests will attend.

Illinois

Chicago, Illinois: Emma Giamberdino, ACT Now, 312-877-0726, spencere@actnowillinois.org

On October 24, ACT Now will hold a *Lights On Afterschool* rally to urge state elected officials, the Governor's Office, and Illinois State Board of Education to work together to develop a grant program for the new state afterschool funds AND to release these funds immediately so afterschool programs can turn their lights back on and ensure that every child has the chance to shine. The rally will take place in front of 555 West Monroe Street. Event speakers will include program staff, concerned parents, students, and community advocates.

Chicago, Illinois: Anisa Williams, Chicago Youth Centers, 773-531-3672, anisa.williams@chicagoyouthcenters.org

Chicago Youth Centers will host a celebratory party for students with 80% attendance and good behavior in the King Room at Pershing Magnet School to mark *Lights On Afterschool*. Students will receive certificates, dance to music from a live DJ, and enjoy snacks and games. The party will take place from 4:30 to 5:30 PM on October 24.

East St. Louis, Illinois: Syerra Meadows-Haynes, Sinai Family Life Center Afterschool Program, 314-328-7255, smeadows-haynes@eastsidealigned.org

On October 24th, the East St. Louis Youth Development Alliance (YDA) will host a *Lights On Afterschool* celebration from 3:30 to 4:30 PM at Mount Sinai Baptist Church. Illinois State

Senator Christopher Belt and other guests will learn about YDA's impactful work, raise awareness of its coalition, and experience the talents and personal stories of its children and youth, showcasing how afterschool programs have transformed their lives. During the event, Senator Belt will also announce the YDA's acceptance of the R3 Grant and share future plans for this critical funding in Greater East St. Louis. Additionally, YDA, together with its youth ambassadors, will present the Diane Sonneman Award to two outstanding youth development professionals who have made a significant impact in the lives of the young people they serve and in their communities.

Flora, Illinois: Kathryn Holstlaw, Clay County Health Department, 618-662-8322, kthomas@healthdept.org

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, the Clay County Health Department's Beyond the Bell program will host "Whoville Lights Up" as part of Clay County's Trick-or-Treat "Seuss-ibration." On October 24, from 3:30 to 6:00 PM, students will gather in the REA building at Charley Brown Park to enjoy a variety of activities based on Dr. Seuss's Horton Hears a Who, including a Whoville craft corner, storytime with Horton, a themed treasure hunt, snacks, and a photo booth. Local businesses and organizations are invited to support Beyond the Bell by purchasing a cardstock light bulb for display, to show their appreciation for afterschool programs and raise awareness about their important work in the Clay County community.

Morris, Illinois: Pamela Burton, 815-942-6880, Morris Public Library, pburton@morrislibrary.com

As part of the Downtown Morris Trick or Treat event on October 24, the Morris Public Library will host a *Lights On Afterschool* event in its parking lot from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. Parents can explore booths from local afterschool programs and learn about the amazing opportunities available for kids in the Morris community. Representatives from local programs will be in attendance to hand out information and answer questions. Families can then enjoy free hot dogs, courtesy of the Community Foundation of Grundy County before heading out to the rest of the festivities.

Orland Park, Illinois: Amanda Speakman, The Bridge Teen Center, 708-532-0500, amanda@thebridgeteencenter.org

The Bridge Teen Center is excited to give back to its community for *Lights On Afterschool*. Starting at 4:15 PM on October 24, students will volunteer and earn community service hours in the Bridge Thrift Store, which supports the Teen Center's free afterschool program. The thrift store also provides job training opportunities to teens. Tasks include sorting donated Christmas ornaments.

Indiana

New Albany, Indiana: Theresa Thompson, Family & Children's Place, 812-207-3676, tthompson@famchildplace.org

On October 24 from 5:00 to 6:00 PM, Family & Children's Place will host a "Lights, Camera, Action" open house at Hazelwood Middle School. The event is a joint celebration of Red Ribbon Week and *Lights On Afterschool*. Students will present public service announcements they created about what being drug-free means to them and how substance use has impacted their lives. There will be a red carpet to walk and opportunities to take selfies with friends and family. The students will also showcase their "Drug-Free Hall of Fame." Local community leaders may attend.

Plymouth, Indiana: Courtney Fonseca, Boys and Girls Clubs of Marshall County, 574-933-4788, courtneyz@bgcmco.org

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Marshall County-Plymouth Unit has been hard at work promoting the importance of afterschool programs for *Lights On Afterschool*. Over the past weeks, students have colored themed coloring sheets, which were posted throughout the community to advertise the positive impact afterschool programs have on students and families. Older students held brainstorming sessions to find other ways to voice the importance of afterschool programs to their friends and the wider community. The Club plans to celebrate their hard work advocating for afterschool programs by holding a glow party and lighting up its building all night on October 24.

Richmond, Indiana: Rachel Winters, Boys & Girls Clubs of Wayne County, 765-962-6922, rwinters@bgcrichmond.org

For *Lights On Afterschool*, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Wayne County will host an art event at each of its five sites - Richard E. Jeffers, First Bank, Ronald McDaniel, Hagerstown, and Wayne Bank Units. On October 24 from 2:30 to 6:30 PM, club members and their families will decorate light bulbs to "illuminate" the Club's front desk and lobby, highlighting the importance of the Boys & Girls Clubs programming.

Iowa

Des Moines, Iowa: Afterschool Ambassador Linda Phillips, 21st Century Community Learning Centers and Metro Kids/ Des Moines Public Schools, 515-829-7658, linda.phillips@dmschools.org

Des Moines Public Schools 21st Century Community Learning Centers and Metro Kids will host a *Lights On Afterschool* celebration at the Des Moines Public Schools Welcome Center from 4:00 to 6:00 PM on October 24. Community partners, including Sylvan Learning Centers of Iowa, YMCA, Community Youth Concepts, After School Arts Program, Camp Fire and Jewels Academy will host booths and interactive games for families to enjoy. Refreshments will be provided by the Des Moines Public Schools Culinary Arts Program. This event is an opportunity to engage the community, promote collaboration among different stakeholders, and celebrate the resources available to our children.

Des Moines, Iowa: Amy Carothers, Brubaker 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program and Brubaker Metro Kids, 515-336-9819, amy.carothers@dmschools.org

On October 24, Brubaker 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program and Brubaker Metro Kids will hold a family dinner at Brubaker Elementary School from 5:30 to 7:00 PM to celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*. Approximately 150 people will attend the free spaghetti dinner. Each family will decorate a puzzle piece and write down what they enjoy most about the afterschool program. At the end of the evening, they will put the puzzle pieces together to create a collective masterpiece to be displayed on the program's bulletin board. The large puzzle will be a meaningful display, highlighting the diverse experiences that make the Brubaker Metro Kids program special.

Donnellson, Iowa: Danielle Smith, Hawk's Place, 319-835-9510, dsmith@centrallee.org

For *Lights On Afterschool*, Hawk's Place will host a Trunk-Or-Treat at Central Lee Elementary School on October 24. From 5:30 to 7:00 PM, families and local community businesses will come together for a Halloween celebration. Donnellson Mayor Dave Ellingboe and Montrose Mayor Matt Mullins will attend and as many as 500 guests will participate.

Sioux City, Iowa: Kenia Ruiz Herrera, Beyond the Bell, 712-277-3600, kherrera@siouxlandship.org

Beyond the Bell hosted a *Lights On Afterschool* family engagement night at Scarecrow Farm in Lawton on October 10 from 4:00 to 6:30 PM. As many as 600 Beyond the Bell participants and their family members attended the private event. The celebration included a corn maze, petting zoo, games, slides, tractor train rides, obstacle courses, hayrack ride around the apple orchard, food, slushies, and warm drinks.

Kansas

Colby, Kansas: Cheyenne Schnider, Colby Public Schools, 785-269-7995, cschnider@colbyeagles.org

For *Lights On Afterschool*, students from Colby Grade School's afterschool program will enjoy a night of fun, community, and football. Community members and student volunteers will set up activity stations for the afterschool students at Dennen Field during the Colby High School football game on October 25. Starting at 7:00 PM, kids will participate in fun activities and receive goody bags and snacks to enjoy while they watch the game.

Gardner, Kansas: Amber Sherwood, Johnson County, 913-856-5902, amber.sherwood@jocogov.org

On October 17, the Out of School Time program at Madison Elementary School held a *Lights On Afterschool* carnival, featuring a DJ, photo booth, obstacle course, community service activity, STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activity, snacks, and much more. It was an opportunity for kids and staff to celebrate the importance of afterschool programs. Program staff and children also hung *Lights On Afterschool* posters and light bulb art in the school office,

around the school, in the teachers lounge, and in their program space to raise awareness of the importance of quality afterschool programs in our school community. Staff invited the principal, custodians, teachers, and parents into their program for the day to see all the fun, enriching activities kids participate in after school.

Ottawa, Kansas: Leigh Hanson, Reach for the Stars, 913-226-8607, hansonl@usd290.org
To celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*, Reach for the Stars is holding a fall/Halloween party at Eugene Field on October 24 from 4:45 until 6:00 PM. Activities will include glow stick bowling, pumpkin crafts, fall windsocks, pumpkin volcano jars, pumpkin monsters, Halloween puppets and much more. As many as 100 students, family members and community supporters are to attend and will receive *Lights On Afterschool* gifts.

Kentucky

Covington, Kentucky: Afterschool Ambassador Beth Wiseman, Learning Grove, 513-335-9603, bwiseman@learning-grove.org

On October 23, Learning Grove will host a *Lights On Afterschool* celebration at New Haven Elementary School from 4:00 to 5:00 PM. The school will be lit by tea lights and luminaries the students created, depicting their favorite moments in the program. Students will lead gallery walks, demonstrate STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) curriculum, and unveil the spirograph machines they have created. On October 24, nine of Learning Grove's other afterschool programs will be holding open houses including Beechwood Elementary, Blessed Sacrament Elementary, Crittenden-Mt. Zion Elementary, Erpenbeck Elementary, Longbranch Elementary, Kelly Elementary, St. Pius X, St. Agnes, and Steeplechase Elementary.

Lexington, Kentucky: Debbie Glenn, Fayette County Public Schools, 859-338-2817, debra.glenn@fayette.kyschools.us

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, Bridge Builders at Crawford Middle School is proud to present a family game night on October 24 from 6:00 to 7:00 PM. Students and families will gather in the school cafeteria to play board games and work on puzzles while students share what they have been working on in the program. Popcorn and drinks will be served.

Louisville, Kentucky: Melissa Nelson, Metro United Way, 502-292-6103, melissa.nelson@metrounitedway.org

For *Lights On Afterschool*, Metro United Way will recognize its hardworking employees who support students and help them develop the skills they need to achieve their dreams! On October 22, at 11:30 AM, they will host a panel of youth success partners, community leaders, and elected officials. Attendees will nominate afterschool programs that have made a difference in their lives for special recognition during the event.

Louisville, Kentucky: Theresa Thompson, Family & Children's Place, 812-207-3676, tthompson@famchildplace.org

On October 24, Family & Children’s Place will host a “Lights, Camera, Action” themed open house from 5:00 to 6:00 PM at Engelhard Elementary. This event will combine Red Ribbon Week’s theme of “Life is a Movie, Film Drug-Free” with *Lights On Afterschool*. Kids will film and present announcements about what being drug-free means to them and showcase their “Drug-Free Hall of Fame.” Local community leaders may attend.

Shelbyville Kentucky: Carissa Riggs, Shelby County Public Schools, 502-633-4057, carissa.riggs@shelby.kyschools.us

To celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*, Shelby County Public Schools Daycares will host “A Day In The Life of an SCPS Daycare Child” on October 25 from 3:30 to 7:00 PM. Students and parents from all SPCS Daycare centers will gather at Painted Stone Elementary for a series of activities. The event will start with a 5K color run that will take place on the city’s walking trail with stations of powdered paint to be thrown out every half mile. Sponsors have generously provided 200 white SCPS t-shirts for participants to wear. Snacks will be available after the run. Math and literacy activities will take place on separate tables in the school parking lot. Students can also complete a Halloween-themed lightbulb art project to take home. Up to 400 guests are expected to attend.

Louisiana

Baton Rouge, Louisiana: Afterschool Ambassador Yashica Newby, Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Louisiana, 225-733-1473, Yashica@BGCMetroLouisiana.org and Amber Dunbar, Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Louisiana, 225-383-3928, amber@bgcmetrolouisiana.org

On October 24, from 5:30 to 7:30 PM, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Louisiana will host “Glowing UP with BGC!,” a glow-themed carnival at McKinley Elementary School, in celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*. Students will create neon paintings, play sports, run an obstacle course, and participate in computer science activities. Community partners will be in attendance to share information and resources with families. East Baton Rouge School Board member Carla Powell will speak at the event.

Clinton, Louisiana: Tongia Sanders, East Feliciana Public Schools, 225-719-0519, tongia92@yahoo.com

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, East Feliciana Public Schools’ EF Accelerate afterschool program will host “Lights On Courtside,” a community Trunk-Or-Treat on October 24 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. Local leaders will showcase their organizations and businesses at the historic Clinton Courthouse Square and Lawyers Row while children collect candy. Law enforcement, community organizations, and alumni groups will attend to share information about their programs and services while raising awareness about the importance of afterschool programs in the rural Clinton community. The courthouse and nearby neighborhood homes will be lit in celebration.

New Orleans, Louisiana: Afterschool Ambassador Aaron Frumin, unCommon Construction, 504-321-1588, info@uncommonconstruction.org

On October 24, UnCommon Construction will host a *Lights On Afterschool* workshop led by an alumnus of the afterschool program who is now an electrician. The workshop will cover electrical topics including how to fix a broken light switch. Other youth programs, alumni, school partners, and industry partners may attend. The Superdome, located across the street from UnCommon Construction, will be lit for *Lights On Afterschool*.

Slidell, Louisiana: Monica Scott, Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Louisiana, 985-643-3464, monica@bgcmetrolouisiana.org

On October 24 from 3:30 to 5:30 PM, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Louisiana will host a *Lights On Afterschool* event at its Slidell Club location. The event will be an open house where as many as 100 students and parents can enjoy activities such as a painting class, slime making, and a glow party. Students and parents can also write letters to school and community leaders about why they love their afterschool program.

Maine

Dover Foxcroft, Maine: Nichole Martin, SeDoMoCha Middle School, 207-478-8981, nmartin@sedomocha.org

SeDoMoCha Middle School will host a carnival for students and families in honor of *Lights On Afterschool* on October 24, from 3:30 to 5:00 PM. The event will include Halloween-themed games, pumpkin decorating, snacks, an educational activity led by Maine Audubon, and a showcase of student work.

Gardiner, Maine: Heather Genest, Boys & Girls Clubs of Kennebec Valley, 207-582-8458, hgenest@bgckv.org

On October 25 at 6:00 PM, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Kennebec Valley will host its third annual *Lights On Afterschool* event at the Sandra M. Prescott Clubhouse. The Club will show the movie “Casper” on an outdoor screen, while students from the Teen Center serve popcorn and other snacks. There will also be a Halloween costume contest.

Skowhegan, Maine: Afterschool Ambassador Dawn Fickett, REACH Afterschool Program, 207-474-3339 x2254, dfickett@msad54.org

REACH Afterschool Program will host a *Lights On Afterschool* open house on October 26 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. The open house will celebrate the incredible work REACH Afterschool Program is doing and its efforts to keep the lights on after school. Family fun activities, including a climbing wall and mini-ponies who inspire the program’s horse club, will be offered by all three REACH sites and community partners. Light refreshments prepared by REACH cooking club will be served. Costumes welcome!

Maryland

Baltimore, Maryland: Abina Rogers, Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Baltimore, 347-691-0880, arogers@bgcmetroaltimore.org

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Baltimore is proud to welcome the community to a fall festival at its Webster Kendrick Clubhouse to celebrate *Lights On Afterschool!* The festival will be a lively community event designed to bring families and members together for an afternoon of fun, connection, and support. Students, parents, and community members will enjoy a variety of engaging activities, including games, face painting, pumpkin decorating, and a costume contest, ensuring a great time for kids of all ages. The festival will also feature a resource fair with more than 30 local organizations and partners providing resources to members and their families, from health and wellness information to educational materials. Attendees can enjoy delicious seasonal treats, creating a festive atmosphere that celebrates the spirit of community. The event will take place on November 22, from 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM.

Baltimore Maryland: Laketa Lance, The Y in Central Maryland, 443-582-9767, laketalance@ymaryland.org

The Y in Central Maryland is proud to hold its annual STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) and Art Fall Festival to celebrate *Lights On Afterschool!* Students at the Fort Worthington Elementary/Middle School Out-of-School-Time program will paint their own light-up pen holders to take home, get active with light-up mini sports, run a glowing obstacle course, enjoy a healthy meal and snacks, and take home scented candles as souvenirs. Students will wrap up the event by spelling out LIGHTS ON on the school fence in tea lights and cups to show the community their afterschool pride! The Fall Festival will take place on October 24 from 3:00 to 5:00 PM.

Baltimore, Maryland: Zakira Harris, Diamonds On The Rise, Inc., 410-752-070, zharris@diamondsontherise.org

For *Lights On Afterschool*, Diamonds On The Rise is hosting its annual Trunk-Or-Treat celebration on October 31 from 3:00 until 5:00 PM at Matthew A. Henson Elementary School. Children and families will take part in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) activities, arts and crafts, music, a best costume contest, and more. There will also be a best trunk award for the most creative car decoration. Up to 200 guests are expected for the Halloween festivities.

Gaithersburg, Maryland: Afterschool Ambassador Zainab Abbas, SciTech2U, 240-481-1402, zainab@scitech2u.org

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, SciTech2U is excited to host an open house and game night on November 1. Community members will gather at 202 S. Summit Avenue from 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM to enjoy food, activities, tours and information about all of SciTech2U's past, present and future programs. There will be STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activities, board games, video games, and more for children of all ages to enjoy.

Massachusetts

Attleboro, Massachusetts: Sharon Alves, Robbins Children's Programs 508-226-0282, Blissblvd2@robbinsep.org

On October 24, from 4:30 to 6:00 PM, Robbins Children's Programs will hold a STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) open house event for *Lights On Afterschool!* All week, students will be working on STEAM projects and activities to show off to their families at the open house. Local officials may attend.

Fall River, Massachusetts: Eloise Carrier, Citizens for Citizens, Inc. After School Day Care, 508-675-2154 x221, eloise.carrier@cfcinc.org

For *Lights On Afterschool*, Citizens for Citizens, Inc. will host a Halloween Grab-and-Go event on October 24 from 3:30 until 5:30 PM. Students will receive goodie bags that include a Halloween safety activity book, a Halloween social-emotional learning gadget, and a flashlight. Families will write letters emphasizing the importance of afterschool services. Children have made lightbulb crafts to be displayed during the celebration. Student ambassadors will greet parents as they arrive and encourage them to sign an afterschool petition. Refreshments will be served.

Newburyport, Massachusetts: Amanda Bradbury, YWCA Greater Newburyport, 978-465-4435 x3108, abradbury@ywcaneburyport.org

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, YWCA Greater Newburyport will host a glow bounce party at Launch Trampoline Park in Methuen on October 24 from 4:30 to 7:30 PM. There will be information tables as well as pieces from the program's "Color Like Me" project. The community artwork exhibit will include the program's mural that hangs in the local courthouse and a large community dream catcher from its racial justice and land acknowledgement efforts.

Plymouth, Massachusetts: Christine Murray, Boys & Girls Club of Plymouth, 508-746-6070, cyoung@bgcplymouth.org

In celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*, the Boys & Girls Club of Plymouth will host an open house from 4:30 to 6:30 PM. Club members, staff, and guests will participate in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activities from its DIY STEM curriculum, reading activities, and an obstacle course.

Westfield, Massachusetts: Devereaux Merchant, Boys & Girls Club of Greater Westfield, 413-562-2301, dmerchant@bgcwestfield.org

The Boys & Girls Club of Greater Westfield will host a Club celebration and awareness event on October 24 from 3:00 to 5:00 PM at its clubhouse to mark *Lights On Afterschool*. Club and *Lights On Afterschool* swag will be given to each participating member and youth will be

“Lighting up the Club” with arts and crafts activities. Club members will color light bulbs to be displayed around the Club and write messages about what they love about coming to the Club.

Michigan

Ann Arbor, Michigan: Michelle Slocum, Community Day Care and Preschool, 734-680-5282, Michelle@communitydaycareinc.org

Community Day Care and Preschool is excited to host its very first event in celebration of *Lights On Afterschool!* On October 24 from 5:30 to 7:00 PM, students, parents, and community members will gather at the program’s site at the First Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Ann Arbor for activities including pumpkin slime, bowling, leaf art, face-painting, apple stamp art, and family pictures. The festival will conclude with a “Lights On”-themed nighttime scavenger hunt and s'mores. This event will be a chance for the community to come together and celebrate the importance of afterschool programming and the work that Community Day Care does for families and the larger community.

Baldwin, Michigan: Brianna Sova, True North Community Services, 231-745-3261, bsova@truenorthservices.org

Project FOCUS (For Our Children's Ultimate Success) at Baldwin Community Schools will hold an open house event on October 24 to celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*. Beginning at 4:30 PM, program participants, their families, and school teachers and administrators are invited to come together to celebrate and acknowledge the work Project FOCUS students and staff do throughout the year. This is a collaboration between the elementary and middle school programs. The event will include a Parent Connection Corner where resources from this non-profit services organization will be shared. Students will host activities and games tables and snacks will be served.

Belleville, Michigan: Jennifer Leonard, Faith Community Center, 734-637-4890, fccenter48111@gmail.com

The Faith Community Center of Belleville hosted a Fall Festival on October 12 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM for *Lights On Afterschool*. Attendees enjoyed free hotdogs, a Trunk-Or-Treat, and a donut food truck while they learned more about the afterschool programs offered by the center, including tutoring, a life skills program, and a homeschool support group.

Clare, Michigan: Lea Cozat, Clare-Gladwin Regional Education Service District, 989-240-0708, lcozat@cgresd.net

SPARKS at Coleman Community Schools is proud to present its 3rd annual *Lights On Afterschool* celebration! On October 24 from 3:30 to 5:30 PM, students, families, and staff will gather in the Coleman Elementary Cafe for arts and crafts, speeches from librarian Amy Thompson and former Congressman Bill Schuette, a meet-and-greet with the staff, and a free dinner.

Hamtramck, Michigan: Maya Saab, ACCESS, 313-600-5470, bridgeeast21cclc@gmail.com
On October 23, from 4:30 to 5:50 PM, Bridge Academy-East Elementary School's ACCESS 21st CCLC Afterschool Program will host an open house event to celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*. Children will create a fun, glowing atmosphere indoors using glow-in-the-dark balloons and accessories. Snacks will be served. The event will take place at Bridge Academy-East Elementary School.

Kalamazoo, Michigan: Brynn Rohde, Kalamazoo Youth Development, 269-336-1116, brynn@kydnet.org

The Kalamazoo Youth Development Network is hosting a community gathering and Trunk-Or-Treat at four neighborhood hubs: Urban Alliance, Northeastern Elementary, and Northside Association for Community Development in Kalamazoo, and at Festival Market Square in Battle Creek for *Lights On Afterschool*. As many as 100 people are expected to attend each site. These events will take place from 4:00 to 6:00 PM on October 24. They will feature youth performances from local dance companies, lightbulb-themed STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) activities, pizza, and a costume-optional Trunk-Or-Treat.

Lowell, Michigan: Jennifer Becker, Lighthouse Family YMCA, 616-855-9575, jbecker@gymca.org

The Lighthouse Family YMCA Before and Afterschool Care Programs are excited to welcome students and family members to its *Lights On Afterschool* celebration. On October 24 from 4:30 to 5:45 PM, the afterschool programs at Alto Elementary, Cherry Creek Elementary, and Murray Lake Elementary will hold open houses where students and their families can prepare and eat healthy snacks together, do Halloween-themed crafts, and fill out printables with messages about why the afterschool program is important to them.

Minnesota

Little Canada, Minnesota: Moesha Whitehall, Roseville Area Middle School, 651-288-5017, moesha.whitehall@isd623.org

For *Lights On Afterschool*, Roseville Area Middle School will host a community dinner and celebration on October 24 from 3:30 to 5:00 PM. The theme of the event is "Help me shine throughout the school year even in my darkest moments!" Students will prepare a spaghetti dinner with garlic bread and homemade sugar cookies in the shape of a lightbulb. Each guest will receive a movie theater gift basket complete with popcorn, snacks, and a light bulb.

Maple Grove, Minnesota: Chrissy Princeton, Kidstop, 763-315-7368, princetonc@district279.org

Rush Creek Kidstop will host a *Lights On Afterschool* celebration on October 24 from 8:00 to 9:00 AM and 4:30 to 5:30 PM. The glow-in-the-dark themed events will include science

activities, glow-in-the-dark bowling, glow-in-the-dark painting, fun prizes and more! The students are excited to show the community what happens at Kidstop. Guests will receive special treats to take home.

Minneapolis, Minnesota: Ariel Gittens, Minneapolis Public Schools,
marija.nicholson@mpls.k12.mn.us

On October 25, Minneapolis Public Schools will host its 2nd annual Minneapolis Community Education *Lights On Afterschool* fall festival at Whittier School. Families are invited to participate in family-friendly games and activities to help celebrate afterschool programs. Costumes are encouraged.

Northfield, Minnesota: Erin Bailey, Northfield Schools, ebailey@northfieldschools.org

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, Northfield Schools will host a Day of the Dead celebration at Greenvale Park Elementary on October 29 from 5:30 to 7:30 PM. The event will include Aztec dancers, cultural specific arts and crafts, food and much more. As many as 200 guests will attend.

Sartell, Minnesota: Morgan Liebl, Boys and Girls Club of Central Minnesota, 320-257-5440,
mliebl@bgcmn.org

To celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*, the Boys and Girls Club of Central Minnesota will host a Halloween Fest on October 24 at Pine Meadow Kidstop. The family event will include a bean bag toss, coin toss, board games, pumpkin painting, costume contest, prizes, candy and much more.

Shoreview, Minnesota: Jason Roycraft, Emmet D. Williams Friendship Connection,
651-967-2045, jason.roycraft@isd623.org

On October 24, Emmet D. Williams Friendship Connection is hosting a *Lights On Afterschool* family night from 4:30 to 6:00 PM. Guests will assist in painting a mural, take a family photo for a community family tree, and decorate lanterns to be strung up in classrooms.

St. Cloud, Minnesota: Andrew Small, United Way of Central Minnesota, 701-400-2941,
asmall@unitedwayhelps.org

To celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*, United Way of Central Minnesota will hold a short open house from 2:00 to 3:00 on October 24, during which community members can learn about the resources and services it offers. Following this, a group from the program's youth council will volunteer at a local elementary school supporting its family engagement night as part of a service learning project.

St. Cloud, Minnesota: Sylvia Krecklau, Boys and Girls Clubs of Central Minnesota,
320-257-5125, skrecklau@bgcmn.org

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Minnesota will host “Readers to Leaders,” a reading program fall celebration and open house on October 23. From 3:30 to 5:30 PM, students and adult volunteers at the Roosevelt Club site will read books together to work on the students’ literacy goals while enjoying fall-themed activities, including cookie decorating and arts and crafts.

Mississippi

Belzoni, Mississippi: Cassander Thomas, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Mississippi Delta, 601-218-4191, belud@bgcmsdelta.org

The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Mississippi Delta is excited to welcome the community to its Belzoni Club house for a Fall Festival to celebrate *Lights On Afterschool!* The festival will take place on October 31 from 4:30 to 7:00 PM and will feature food trucks, games, hay rides, and bounce houses. Community leaders including the mayor and representatives from the city and county police offices will attend to show their support for the Club.

Meridian, Mississippi: Clair Huff, Mississippi Children's Museum, 601-512-0279, clair@mcm.ms

On October 22, from 5:30 to 6:30 PM, Mississippi Children's Museum's Launch into Learning afterschool program held its *Lights On Afterschool* event. Over 100 students, as well as family members, local school district partners, and local leaders gathered at the Mississippi Children's Museum to tour a gallery of student literacy, math, science, and art projects completed by the students. A meal was served following the open house.

Missouri

Kirkwood, Missouri: Jennifer Hahn, Kirkwood School District, 314-213-6136, jennifer.hahn@kirkwoodschoools.org

The Kirkwood Adventure Club will hold a STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) Fest at each of its locations to celebrate *Lights On Afterschool!* Starting at 4:30 on October 24, parents are invited to join their children for STEM and art activities in the school cafeterias.

Springfield, Missouri: Niki Kiruki, Boys & Girls Club of Springfield, 417-862-9249, nkiruki@bgclubspringfield.org

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, the Boys & Girls Club of Springfield will hold a festival on October 19 at 10:00 to 12:00 PM! Children and families will gather at the Club's Musgrave location to enjoy inflatables, face-painting, balloon animals, carnival games, STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) activities, food, and music. Community agencies will inform guests about their services and resources.

St. Peters, Missouri: Marni Morales, Frances Howell School District, 636-851-5909, marni.morales@fhdschools.org

On November 13, Vacation Station at Frances Howell School District will light up the St. Louis Magic House children's museum to celebrate *Lights On Afterschool!* From 6:00 to 8:00 PM, up to 300 students and family members can explore the Magic House and enjoy hands-on learning experiences free of charge.

St. Louis, Missouri: Chamaya Steward-Moore, Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater St. Louis, 314-322-8749, chamaya@bgcstl.org

Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater St. Louis are proud to announce “A Nightmare on Vista Ave. Chapter 2,” a haunted carnival at Adams Park Club to celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*. On October 24th from 5:00-7:30 PM, as many as 100 students will brave a haunted house, paint pumpkins, enjoy music and face-painting, and satisfy their sweet tooth with candy and snacks. Local organizations including Positive Action, Places for People, Preferred Family Healthcare, Mission STL, the Shaw Nature Reserve, and Wealthy Culture, will partner with the Boys & Girls Club for the event.

St. Louis, Missouri: Krystal Crouch, St. Louis Public Schools, 314-772-0994, krystal.crouch@slps.org

Mullanphy Investigative Learning Center will kick off its *Lights On Afterschool* celebration at 4:30 PM on October 30. The event will begin with a parent meeting at the school, followed by a Fall Glow Party Festival with many activities to choose from! Students can enjoy roasted marshmallows while reading ghost stories around a campfire, play math games, or participate in a glow-in-the-dark dance party in the gym.

Montana

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

For *Lights On Afterschool*, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Cascade County will host an open house, offering local families a chance to visit the Club and hear about the programs students can join. Students will also be given a chance to share what they have learned and experienced in their afterschool programs, and what they like most about the Club. The event will take place during regular programming time on October 24.

Nebraska

Crete, Nebraska: Afterschool Ambassador Joel Bramhall, Cardinal Community Learning Centers, 402-826-9836, joel.bramhall@creteschools.org

On October 24, Cardinal Community Learning Centers will host a *Lights On Afterschool* family engagement night at Crete Intermediate School from 4:30 to 7:30 PM. The celebration will feature community partners leading STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) learning stations, including the KOLN/KGIN Channel 10/11 Weather Shield. Nearly 700 parents, educators and community members are expected to attend. The recently launched Cardinal

Academies at Crete High School will be included, as student ambassadors showcase the career academy model through engineering pathway demonstrations and presentations.

Fremont, Nebraska: Pat King, Fremont Public Schools, 402-658-0628

The Fremont Expanded Learning Program at Linden Elementary School is excited to welcome students and parents to a STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) themed open house event to celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*. Kids will show off the STEM skills they have been learning in afterschool by teaming up with their parents to build a contraption to bob for apples. The event will take place on October 24 at 4:30 PM.

Omaha, Nebraska: Katy Watson, Westside Community Schools, 402-390-8202,
watson.kathryn@westside66.net

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, Westside Early Childhood Center and Club 66 Programs have planned an action-packed week of activities. Each of its 11 sites will be hosting various events for students throughout the week, including painting, solar light decorating, a glow stick party, and more. This fun-filled week will conclude with a Trunk-Or-Treat event for all Westside students on October 25 at 6:00 PM at the Westside Community Center. Families and staff members will pass out candy from their cars, and representatives from the local police department, fire department, and library will attend to show support for afterschool programs.

Omaha, Nebraska: Nicole Everingham, Collective for Youth, 402-932-2025,
neveringham@collectiveforyouth.org

On October 12, Collective for Youth held its *Lights On Afterschool* celebration at the University of Nebraska Omaha's Sapp Fieldhouse. Approximately 1,300 community members gathered at 9:30 AM for a stakeholder celebration featuring elected officials and community partners and a student-led parade. Attendees also enjoyed fun and engaging athletic activities and competitions, including archery and track and field.

Nevada

Fallon, Nevada: Cristan Underwood, Churchill County School District, 775-389-7633,
underwoodc@churchillcsd.com

On October 23 from 4:00 to 5:15 PM, the Churchill County School District's afterschool program, in partnership with the Fallon Youth Club, is hosting a *Lights On Afterschool* celebration for its members and families at Fallon Youth Club. This year's celebration will honor the success of the Churchill County and Fallon Youth Club's afterschool programs and advocate for continued support. Guests will create paper lanterns as a symbolic gesture to "Keep the *Lights On Afterschool*." There will also be hands-on activities suitable for all ages and opportunities to meet with representatives from the Churchill County School District's afterschool program and the Fallon Youth Club to learn more about their initiatives and how they benefit the community. In addition to the afternoon event, Mayor Ken Tedford will sign a

proclamation in celebration of *Lights On Afterschool* on Wednesday morning at 9:00 AM at City Hall, emphasizing the community's commitment to supporting all afterschool programs. All Out-of-School-Time providers and stakeholders are invited to attend.

Henderson, Nevada: Katie Maulawin, After-School All-Stars Las Vegas, 702-259-1859, katheryn.maulawin@asaslv.org

The After-School All-Stars Las Vegas will host a *Lights On Afterschool* family night at Brown Middle School in Henderson on October 24 from 3:15 to 4:15 PM. Students and their families will color light bulbs, write "I love after school" letters, and take family photos.

Las Vegas, Nevada: Jessica Torres, Will Beckley Elementary School, 702-799-7700, hanakjk@nv.ccsd.net

For *Lights On Afterschool*, Will Beckley Elementary School is hosting a Dia de Los Muertos family engagement night on October 23 from 3:45 to 5:45 PM. The event will immerse students and their families in the rich traditions of the Mexican holiday, honoring and celebrating loved ones who have passed away. The festivities will include traditional Mexican sweet bread, crafts, ofrendas altars and offerings, as well as the movie, *The Book of Life*. As many as 150 guests will attend.

Las Vegas, Nevada: Luann LaRochelle, Robert Lunt Elementary School, 702-799-8360 x4010, larocl@nv.ccsd.net

On October 24, Robert Lunt Elementary School will host a *Lights On Afterschool* family STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) night followed by a community Trunk-Or-Treat. The family night will take place from 3:15 to 4:15 PM. Guests will explore four escape room challenges with the goal of discovering a new dinosaur species. They will dig for bones, combine DNA pieces together, develop codes for incubating dinosaur eggs, and uncover the secrets to their new species. Following the STEM activity, families from the afterschool program and the broader community will take part in a Trunk-Or-Treat celebration from 4:30 to 5:30 PM. Longhorn Casino will donate 25 bags of candy for the event. Approximately 125 people are expected at the family night, and more than 200 people will attend the Trunk-Or-Treat.

New Hampshire

Seabrook, New Hampshire: Brittney Gentile, Seabrook Recreation Department, 603-474-5746, bgentile@seabrooknh.org

The Seabrook Recreation Department and Seabrook Adventure Zone held its 2024 *Lights On Afterschool* Halloween event on October 18 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. The event was free for all Seabrook residents and featured family-friendly Halloween activities such as a haunted maze, creepy crafts, a pumpkin patch room, Nightmare Cafe, and more. Guests also competed in a costume contest, pumpkin decorating contest, and pumpkin pie contest. Proceeds from concessions were donated to Youth Opportunities.

Portsmouth, New Hampshire: Jessica DuBois, Seacoast Community School, 603-422-8223, jdubois@seacoastcommunityschool.org

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, Suncoast Community School PEAK will hold an open house focused on community networking and building relationships on October 29. This will be an opportunity for community members to meet the teachers and children, see the space in person, and hear about what the Out of School Time program does for children and the community every day. Snacks will be served. The event will start at 3:30 PM.

New Jersey

Bridgewater, New Jersey: Pete Diana, The Jointure, 908-722-1563 x5, pdiana@jointure.org

For *Lights On Afterschool*, The Jointure will hold a Trunk-Or-Treat event in its Creative Campus parking lot on October 24 at 6:00 PM. Kids will go from car to car collecting allergy-safe treats, and water, snacks, and hot chocolate will be available for sale. In addition to the main event, students at The Jointure's affiliated afterschool programs will enjoy special *Lights On*-themed crafts and activities to honor the educational, social, and emotional enrichment they receive from their afterschool programs.

Newark, New Jersey: Deidre Johnson, Ironbound Community Corporation, 973-465-0947 ext. 402, djohnson@ironboundcc.org

On October 24 from 4:00 to 6:00 PM, Ironbound After School will hold an open house for families and community members at its program location to celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*. When guests arrive they will sign in and write one word that describes what after school programs mean to them on a giant handmade light bulb. Afterward, staff will be given a chance to introduce themselves and share what they enjoy about their work and the impacts they have made. Next, different departments within the organization will have an opportunity to speak about what they do and how they may be of service to families. There will be a brief talk about the history of ICC to commemorate its 55 years of service to the Ironbound community and families and community members will have the opportunity to visit their child's classroom to view their artwork and working spaces.

Plainfield, New Jersey: Dave Leveille, Plainfield YMCA, 908-546-0901, dleveille@gscymca.org

On October 24 at 6:30, Plainfield YMCA, a branch of Greater Somerset County YMCA, will host a *Lights On Afterschool* talent show and silent dance party. The event will start with a silent disco, supported by Girl Scout Troop 80395, during which guests will wear headphones to dance to their favorite beats. This will be followed by a talent show, where students will showcase their talents in singing, dancing, performing magic, and more. This is a night for everyone – students, parents, teachers, and afterschool program supporters are all invited to have fun and celebrate all that afterschool programs have to offer. The event will be held at all five Plainfield afterschool program sites.

Rahway, New Jersey: Cecelia Figueroa, Destiny After School Haven, 732-672-4984, cfigueroa@impact21.org

Destiny After School Haven (DASH) collaborator, fitness instructor and all-around Fun Guy, Evan Benjamin of EvanBeyondFitness will host a *Lights On Afterschool* event at the DASH program site, 501 East Hazelwood Avenue on October 24 from 4:30-6:30 PM. The event will be filled with fitness & exercises, challenges, games, dancing, and lots of outdoor fun. Healthy snacks and water will be available for guests. Students, families, and staff will have the opportunity to give “What do you love about DASH?” shout-outs and recite DASH’s daily affirmation. Tours of the facility will be available and applications for registration will be on hand. DASH encourages Acts of Kindness, so attendees are also invited to bring canned or packaged food and toiletry items for donation to local shelters.

Vineland, New Jersey: Christopher Volker, Boys & Girls Clubs of Cumberland County, 856-696-4190, cvolker@vinelandbgc.org

To mark *Lights On Afterschool* this year, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Cumberland County will hold an art event and open house from 4:00 to 6:00 PM on October 24, to raise awareness of the positive impact afterschool programs have on students, families, and the community. Students at both Vineland clubhouses will create art pieces describing what they like about their afterschool programs, and the valuable skills they have learned there. The artwork will then be displayed at both locations. Parents will be invited to stay during regular pick-up time to view the art and enjoy light refreshments.

New Mexico

Aztec, New Mexico: Traci Shelby, Mosaic Academy, 505-334-6364, shelbyt@mosaic.k12.us

On September 19, Mosaic Academy celebrated *Lights On Afterschool* with a plant-themed family engagement night. Over 70 students and community members played plant bingo, walked the “grass carpet” in a plant pageant, enjoyed healthy snacks, and played plant-themed mini-games. A representative from the local Growers Market educated guests on local foods, nutrition, and programs to promote healthy eating while handing out free stickers and bags.

Farmington, New Mexico: Afterschool Ambassador Teahonna James-Belin, Navajo Preparatory School, 505-326-6571, tjames@navajoprep.com

On October 25, Navajo Preparatory School will host a *Lights On Afterschool* culture night from 5:00 to 9:00 PM. Current students and alumni will lead a panel discussion. There will be workshop stations including traditional cooking demonstrations, storytelling, archery, and painting. The event will conclude with a Navajo song and traditional social dancing.

Las Cruces, New Mexico: Diana Ginez, Raices Del Saber Xinachtli Community School, 575-222-0539, dginez@raicesdelsaber.org

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, Raices Del Saber Xinachtli Community School is hosting a “Thoughts on Afterschool Through Art” celebration on October 24. Students in kindergarten through fifth grade will create artwork showcasing their appreciation of their afterschool program. A collective mural will be made with the work done by each grade.

Santa Fe, New Mexico: Alexandra Van Camp, E.J. Martinez Elementary School, 505-467-3800, avancamp@sfps.k12.nm.us

On October 22, the students of E.J. Martinez Elementary will proudly display their talents in a *Lights On Afterschool* showcase. The students spent two weeks training with artists-in-residence from Emi Arte Flamenco, a local dance company, learning to dance, sing, and play the guitar. The two week training will culminate in a big Flamenco performance for parents and community members.

New York

Bronx, New York: Irene Rosario, New Settlement, 929-510-8939, I.Rosario@newsettlement.org

For *Lights On Afterschool*, New Settlement and Bronx Helpers will hold an open house and tabling event to share resources with the community, including NYPL library card applications, FDNYSmart guides to fire and life safety, evacuation zone maps, READY NY emergency reference cards, and information about recycling. This event will take place at New Settlement on October 24 starting at 2:30 PM, with a presentation from NYC Emergency Management at 4:00 PM.

Bronx, New York: Joselyn Rivero, Phipps Neighborhoods, 917-243-7000, jrivero@phippssny.org

Phipps Neighborhoods will host its 2024 *Lights On Afterschool* celebrations at the Soundview Cornerstone Community Center and the Sotomayor Cornerstone Community Center. The festivities include a rally featuring banners and chants encouraging the community to get excited about afterschool programs. The rally will be followed by a carnival that highlights the activities students are able to enjoy in their program, including art, science, and physical recreation. Attendees can play Ping Pong, run a physical obstacle course, make bracelets at the arts and crafts table, get their faces painted, attend a workshop on drone navigation, and enjoy light refreshments. Both sites will also display a video montage highlighting the experience of students in the afterschool programs. Both events will take place on October 24 from 3:15 to 5:30 PM.

Brooklyn, New York: Denise Moulton, New York Edge, 347-692-8787, ms452k@newyorkedge.org

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, New York Edge at 452K will hold its 3rd annual Family Fitness and Fun Night on October 24. Parents are invited to observe afterschool activities between 3:30 and 5:00 PM. At 5:00, students and parents will participate in workshop sessions focused on

health and wellness, including a Zumba workout, healthy food workshop, and trivia. Attendees will also be invited to share why afterschool is important to them, which will be included in a video after the event.

Brooklyn, New York: Tracey Dixon, Opus Dance Theatre & Community Services, Inc., 718-342-0103, tdixon@opus-arise.org

On October 24, Opus Dance Theatre will host its 2024 *Lights On Afterschool* celebration starting at 4:00 PM. As many as 400 people will gather at Brooklyn Democracy Academy for a student showcase including art, cheerleading, and Afro-Caribbean dance. There will also be a table where attendees can register to vote.

Buffalo, New York: Shea Akers, BestSelf Behavioral Health, 716-515-5886, sakers@bestselfwny.org

BestSelf Behavioral Health- Building Brighter Futures celebrated *Lights On Afterschool* with a student showcase and party on October 18 at 4:00 PM. Students gathered in the Elmwood Village Charter School gymnasium to display digital and fine arts projects and photography, along with dance performances. Students also enjoyed mini golf, candle-making, and luminaria making. On October 24, Niagara falls will also be lit up to mark *Lights On Afterschool*.

New York, New York: Tiara Williams, Roads to Success, 917-569-1140, tiarawilliams@roadstosuccess.org

On October 18, Roads to Success held a Glow-in-the-Dark party for students in celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*. Students gathered in the Amber Charter Inwood gym to fill plastic light bulbs with messages about the things they enjoy about their afterschool program. They then painted the lightbulbs with glow-in-the-dark paint and showcased their creations while enjoying snacks, dancing, glowsticks, and face-painting.

Sodus, New York: June Muto, Network for Youth Success, 315-748-0530, waynemost@networkforyouthsuccess.org

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, Wayne MOST (Maximizing Out of School Time), a network that facilitates afterschool programming in Wayne County, will create a video featuring students, parent, and staff voices from afterschool programs all over Wayne County. The video will be made available on the Wayne MOST website starting October 24, and will be sent to all Wayne MOST members and local legislators to showcase the impact of afterschool programming on families in the community.

Sodus, New York: Ed Rose, Sodus Central School District, 315-483-5238 erose@soduscscsd.org

The Sodus 21st Century After-School Program for grades fourth through sixth will host “Canvas and Connections,” a paint party celebrating *Lights On Afterschool* on October 24 from 4:00 to 5:00 PM. Students will gather in the Sodus Intermediate School cafeteria to create their own

paintings, and each student will be given a time to contribute to a collaborative group painting on a single large canvas. Students will then present their paintings and the stories behind them.

North Carolina

Chapel Hill, North Carolina: April Johnson, Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools, 919-918-7165 x39502, april.johnson@chccs.k12.nc.us

On October 24 from 3:00 to 5:00 PM, the Community Schools Scroggs Elementary Afterschool Program will hold a festival to celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*. Students, parents, and staff will gather at Scroggs Elementary School to enjoy arts and crafts, activities, and Kona ice.

Concord, North Carolina: Tiera Cannon, Cabarrus County Schools, 704-260-6407, tiera.cannon@cabarrus.k12.nc.us

The Kids: Plus program at Wolf Meadow Elementary held a feelings fair on October 18 for *Lights On Afterschool*. From 3:30 to 5:00 PM, students and families gathered in the school gym for social and emotional learning activities concerning mood management, how to identify feelings, mindful eating, breathing techniques, and yoga poses.

High Point, North Carolina: Kayla Brown, YWCA High Point, 336-882-4126, kbrown@ywcahp.com

On October 24, from 4:00 to 6:00 PM, YWCA High Point will hold a STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) open house to celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*. A representative from Thomas Built Buses, a company headquartered in High Point, will attend to guide the students in hands-on STEM activities, allowing them to use their brains and get creative!

Winterville, North Carolina: Cerissa Williams, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Coastal Plain, 252-355-2345 Ext 8141, cwilliams@bgccp.com

For *Lights On Afterschool*, the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Coastal Plain, Jack Minges Unit, will present “Stars of Tomorrow” talent showcase on October 24 at 4:30 PM. Students ages six through twelve will show off their artistic talents through song, dance, music, and poetry for their parents, teachers, and peers. The program’s cheerleading team will perform during intermission.

North Dakota

Bismarck, North Dakota: Beth Demke, Gateway to Science, beth@gscience.org

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, North Dakota’s Gateway to Science will host a celebration on October 24 from 4:00 to 7:00 PM. The family event will feature interactive STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activities and exhibits. All ages are encouraged to participate in a special scavenger hunt. In addition, the science building will be lit up in *Lights On Afterschool* colors.

Fargo, North Dakota: Amber Carlsrud, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Red River Valley, 701-235-2147, AmberCarlsrud@bgcrrv.org

On October 24 from 3:00 to 5:00 PM, the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Red River Valley will host *Lights On Afterschool* celebrations at each of its 14 locations. Students will participate in lightbulb artwork competitions, *Lights On* word searches, kid-grit activities, and lightbulb challenges.

Ohio

Cincinnati, Ohio: Donna Banish, YMCA of Greater Cincinnati, 513-791-5000, rbaxter@myy.org

On October 24 from 5:30 to 6:30 PM, the Blue Ash YMCA will hold a Health & Wellness open house event in celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*. A variety of healthcare and community service providers from the area will inform parents about current and upcoming programs including Born to Move, Ninja Zone, and other exciting family partnerships.

Cleveland, Ohio: Afterschool Ambassador Kasey Morgan, MyCom, 216-399-2274, kasey@mycomcle.org

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, MyCom is featuring a weeklong documentary project. On Oct 21 through 23, students of all ages will create, edit, and produce a compilation of video vignettes about what afterschool means to students. On October 24, the students will present the video at the MyCom offices, located at 13825 Kinsman Road from 4:30 to 8:00 PM. Guests will include families, policymakers, and community members. The video will highlight the youthful voice of the younger children and show the workmanship of the older students. In addition to the video presentation, there will be a panel of experts, including youth, discussing the importance of afterschool programs, hands-on art and technology demonstrations, community partner tables for onsite programming registration, and much more. In addition, the city of Cleveland will issue a *Lights On Afterschool* proclamation.

Cleveland, Ohio: Daziel Roman, Horizon Education Centers, 216-334-4522, droman@horizonohio.org

The Horizon Program at Old Brooklyn Community School invites students and parents to celebrate *Lights On Afterschool* together on October 24 at 5:00 PM. The program will host an event that celebrates Halloween with a focus on student creativity and individuality, allowing students to express themselves through fashion in any way that feels true to them with a Halloween costume fashion show. Booths will also be set up at the event with information about social and emotional learning and self expression, concepts that students have been working on in the program. Parents and community partners are welcome to attend.

Columbus, Ohio: Sheri-Lynn Wynn, Columbus Department of Parks and Recreation, 614-645-3330, slwynn@columbus.gov and Afterschool Ambassador DeAndrea Harrison, The Actions that Matter for Youth, 614-622-4898, outofschool@atm4youth.org
The Parks Afterschool Rec Club is excited to celebrate *Lights On Afterschool* at COSI (Center of Science and Industry) on October 24 from 4:00 to 8:00 PM. The Columbus landmark will open its doors for the evening to more than 500 students, parents, and faculty members from more than 15 afterschool sites around the city. As guests arrive, they will head to the large gallery for snacks and beverages, and then will be able to explore the 320,000 square foot building and participate in a variety of STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) activities as well as a PAW Patrol exhibit. The winners of the program-wide lightbulb-coloring contest will also be announced.

Lorain, Ohio: Jalil Ross, Horizon Education Centers, 440-277-5437, jalil.ross@horizonohio.org
To celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*, Horizon Education Centers will host family engagement events at two of its Lorain locations. On October 22, the East Lorain location will hold a STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) showcase to highlight the STEM projects that students have been working on after school. On October 23, students at Southside Horizon will hold a talent show for families and guests, including the mayor of Lorain. Students at both locations then will enjoy Halloween-themed activities such as pumpkin carving and a Trunk-Or-Treat.

Swanton, Ohio: Michelle McFarland, Swanton Public Library, 419-826-2760, mmcfarland.spl@gmail.com
For *Lights On Afterschool*, Swanton Public Library invites children and families to an open house event on October 24 from 4:30 to 5:30. The library's children's room will have several activity stations set up for children to enjoy including pumpkin art, STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) activities, and dance. Light refreshments will be served.

Oklahoma

Bartlesville, Oklahoma: Summer Buckles, Richard Kane YMCA, 918-336-0713, summer@rkymca.org

The Richard Kane YMCA will celebrate *Lights On Afterschool* throughout October, inviting community members to visit all five After Care locations. Around 300 students will participate in creating lightbulb art and engaging in the lightbulb challenge, highlighting the importance of afterschool programs. The finished artwork and messages from the students about their experiences in their afterschool programs will then be displayed on the parent engagement boards at each location, as well as at the Richard Kane YMCA to show the wider community the impact of afterschool programs. These activities will take place during the usual program time, from 4:00 to 5:30 PM.

Idabel, Oklahoma: Carrie Fletcher, Idabel Public Schools, 580-286-5346, cfletcher@idabelps.org

On October 24, from 5:00 to 7:00 PM, Idabel Public Schools will celebrate *Lights On Afterschool* by hosting a resource fair at the historic Carl Sherman Plaza/Amphitheater in downtown Idabel. Community partners, including local sheriff candidates and representatives from the police and fire departments, Choctaw Nation tribal services, community action agencies, Beavers Bend State Park, and the Army Corps of Engineers will attend the event and provide information about their programs and services.

Ringling, Oklahoma: Kylie Gandy, Ringling Public Schools, 580-662-2386, kgandy@ringling.k12.ok.us

For *Lights On Afterschool*, Blue Devils Achieving Together hosted an open house in the elementary school building from 3:30 PM to 6:00 PM on October 10. Students and parents enjoyed activities such as bingo, lego and magnetic tile building, reading sessions in the library, and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) toys such as Indi cars, which teach coding and computational thinking to kids.

Spencer, Oklahoma: Michael Garrison, Rose State College, 405-401-7851, ibomgg@gmail.com

The Rose State College STEM Outreach Department is excited to announce its *Lights On Afterschool* event, an evening of STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) activities, featuring hands-on activities such as rocket design and launches, electrical circuit design, coding, and more. This event will take place on October 24, from 5:00 to 7:30 PM at the Minnis Lakeview Recreation Center.

Tulsa, Oklahoma: Josie Pascoe, The Opportunity Project, 918-906-9792, jpascoe@theopp.org

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, The Opportunity Project will recognize the importance of afterschool programs by hosting an advocacy night, “Afterschool Special: Keeping the Lights On,” on October 24 at Heirloom Rustic Ales. From 6:00 to 8:00 PM, attendees will join a panel of local policy makers, educators, and community stakeholders for a conversation about the critical role of afterschool programs in the lives of Tulsa’s youth. The event will also include a postcard-writing campaign to bring awareness to the need for more afterschool program funding, giving attendees a chance to make a lasting impact on the future of expanded learning in their community.

Oregon

Bend, Oregon: Sam Ward, Camp Fire, 541-205-9109, sam@campfireco.org

Throughout the week of October 21 to October 26, Camp Fire is hosting *Lights On Afterschool* celebrations at its three afterschool program sites. The afterschool teams have coordinated to facilitate fun *Lights On*-themed activities which will be showcased at Camp Fire’s yearly Autumn Family Faire on October 26 from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM at Troy Field in downtown

Bend. Afterschool students have been involved in the planning process and have chosen some exciting things to create during *Lights On Afterschool Week*. These activities include light-up circuit cards, turning fruit into batteries, creating carnival games, paper-mache pumpkins with tea lights, a photo booth, and more.

Estacada, Oregon: Kendoll Tuthill, Todos Juntos, 971-258-8838, kendollt@todos-juntos.net
On October 24, Todos Juntos will celebrate *Lights On Afterschool* with an aerial lightbulb challenge at the Estacada High School girls soccer game at Buzz Randall stadium. Attendees will gather on the soccer field to create a lightbulb formation which will be captured by a drone camera. The fundraising event will coincide with the soccer teams' senior night that starts at 6:00 PM.

Pennsylvania

Camp Hill, Pennsylvania: Contrell Armor, Center for Schools and Communities, 717-882-8028, carmor@csc.csiu.org

The Pennsylvania Statewide Afterschool Youth Development Network (PSAYDN) will host a convening event at the Harrisburg State Capitol to celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*. The event will feature a press conference at 12:00 PM, with government officials, legislative champions, county officials, and afterschool program advocates all in attendance. Pennsylvania Lieutenant Governor Austin Davis and Secretary of Education Dr. Khalid Mumin will speak at the event.

Greensburg, Pennsylvania: Samantha Nicholson, Private Industry Council, 724-836-2600, picafterschool@gmail.com

On October 24, the Private Industry Council will hold its 21st Century Community Learning Centers Afterschool Enrichment *Lights On Afterschool* events at each of its six locations during regular programming time. Students will create themed t-shirts for the event, sign the Afterschool Alliance petition, and write letters and make drawings showing what they love about their afterschool program. These will be sent to local legislators to raise awareness of these programs. Parents, school officials, and community stakeholders may attend the event to learn about the benefits of afterschool programming.

Lancaster, Pennsylvania: Megan Runkle, Boys & Girls Club of Lancaster, 717-397-5514, mrunkle@bgclanc.org

On October 22 from 5:30 to 6:30 PM, the Boys & Girls Club of Lancaster will host a community open house at the Jack Walker Clubhouse to celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*. Over 100 students and parents will enjoy a mural making activity, a coloring contest, member-led tours, and an adults vs. kids kickball game.

Moon Township, Pennsylvania: Lisa Shaughnessy, Moon Township, 412-262-1703, lshaughnessy@moontwp.us

For *Lights On Afterschool*, the Mooncrest Knowledge Connection is proud to welcome the students of Moon Township to a grand reopening of its program on October 24 from 3:00 to 5:00 PM. Students can enjoy book giveaways, board games, and snack bingo in the School House Activity Center, a historic school house that was recently renovated to serve as the new facility for Mooncrest Knowledge Connection.

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: Harold Hairston, Episcopal Community Services, 267-784-6932, Haroldh@ecsphilly.org

The Episcopal Community Services (ECS) Out of School Time Program at Feltonville Intermediate School will partner with the Wyoming Library, a branch of the Free Library of Philadelphia, to celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*. The two organizations plan to strengthen their partnership by sharing resources and information. Library staff will share information about the library's programs and services and each student will receive a free "Kit for Kids" bag, which includes pencils, markers, folders, and other essential school supplies to help them do their best work. A longtime ECS staff member will also be honored. The event will take place on October 24 from 4:30 to 5:30 PM.

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: Afterschool Ambassador Cecelia Armstrong, Sunrise of Philadelphia, 267-838-0168, carmstrong@sunriseofphila.org

On October 24, Sunrise of Philadelphia will host a *Lights On Afterschool* celebration at F. Scott Key School from 4:00 to 6:00 PM. The event will include a student art gallery, student performances, and refreshments. Each of the other 14 Sunrise of Philadelphia afterschool programs will also host unique *Lights On Afterschool* open houses that day, inviting community members to see all the creative activities taking place each day at the programs.

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania: Afterschool Ambassador Deanna Dugan, Propel Schools, 412-325-7305 x1590, ddugan@propelschools.org

For *Lights On Afterschool*, each of Propel Schools' nine afterschool programs will host open houses on October 24, welcoming families and community members to its program to see the diverse activities taking place. Each site will have unique open houses that focus on specific programming offered at its location, including glow parties, family dinners, arts and crafts, and much more. Propels Schools afterschool programs are located at Braddock Hills Elementary School, Braddock Hills Middle and High School, East, Hazelwood, Homestead, McKeesport, Montour Elementary School, Northside and Pitcairn.

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania: Annamarie Casciato, YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh, 412-522-3961, acasciato@ymcapgh.org

The YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh has 24 before and after school locations that will host *Lights On Afterschool* open house events for families and community members. Postcard invitations decorated by the students will be mailed out to families prior to the event. The events will take

place from 4:00 to 6:00 PM on October 24 and will highlight the amazing programs the YMCA has to offer. At each event, families will enjoy light refreshments, music, and Halloween-themed crafts.

Rankin, Pennsylvania: Steriling Stone, Rankin Christian Center, 412-216-6303, sstone@rankinchristiancenter.org

On October 24, the Rankin Christian Center is hosting a *Lights On Afterschool* celebration from 5:30 to 7:30 PM. Students and families will gather at the center to enjoy a family dinner of soups prepared by local restaurants. After dinner, guests can participate in a Trunk-Or-Treat, featuring over 30 decorated parking spaces and vehicles that will pass out candy, healthy snacks, and prizes to community members of all ages. Representatives from the mayor's office will be in attendance to hand out information about city resources available to families.

Rhode Island

Pawtucket, Rhode Island: Carlene Fonseca, Rhode Island Afterschool Network, 401-617-5539, carlene@riafterschool.org and Afterschool Ambassador Elliot A. Rivera, Youth In Action, 401-751-4264, elliott@youthinactionri.org

On October 24, the Rhode Island Afterschool Network (RIAN) will host its annual *Lights On Afterschool* breakfast from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM at the Boys & Girls Club of Pawtucket. The free conference includes workshops on restorative justice practices, intergenerational leadership opportunities in programs, apprenticeships, STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) engagement activities, partnership building with colleges and universities, and much more. Dr. Bianca Baldrige is the keynote speaker and Governor Dan McKee and Rhode Island Representative Mary Ann Shallcross Smith will attend. The program is open to providers, stakeholders and community members. The Rhode Island State House will be lit in honor of *Lights On Afterschool*.

Woonsocket, Rhode Island: Allyson Marino, Connecting for Children and Families, 401-259-7844, amarino1@ccf.woonsocketschools.com

Connecting for Children and Families at Woonsocket Schools will hold its annual *Lights On Afterschool* fall festival at Villanova Middle School on November 6 at 5:30 PM. The festival is a fun, free event which brings families together to celebrate Out of School Time and showcase all of the amazing work Woonsocket students do all year. The festival offers a combination of carnival style games and activities, STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) challenges, book giveaways, a caricature artist, refreshments, music, performances from our program sites, display tables and more.

South Carolina

Columbia, South Carolina: Zelda Waymer, South Carolina Afterschool Alliance, 803-254-5454, zeldawaymer@scafterschool.com

On October 10, the South Carolina Afterschool Alliance hosted the 2nd annual statewide *Lights On Afterschool* STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) Extravaganza at Segra Park baseball field from 3:00 to 6:00 PM. As many as 1,500 students from kindergarten through 12th grade attended the event. Stations set up along the stadium's concourse offered fun hands-on, interactive STEM activities for students and families. Approximately 60 exhibitors from STEAM companies and organizations participated, showcasing the creative, real-world activities and high-tech educational opportunities offered at afterschool programs.

Florence, South Carolina: Paul Jones, the City of Florence, 843-319-1224, pjones@cityofflorence.com

The City of Florence will host a *Lights On Afterschool* festival, an exciting community event focused on promoting the well-being and safety of children. The event will take place at the Florence Soccer Complex on October 24 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. Fifty vendors will offer essential health, safety, and awareness resources for children and parents. Families will explore the many booths, fill trick-or-treat bags with goodies, and enjoy the festival's fun-filled atmosphere. A highlight of the event will be the Haunted Hayride, a spooky and thrilling adventure for all ages. Guests are invited to enjoy an evening of learning, fun, and community engagement as the city celebrates the impact of afterschool programs and promotes child safety.

South Dakota

Sioux Falls, South Dakota: Shannon McIntyre, Pettigrew Community Learning Center, 605-759-8174, shannon.mcintyre@k12.sd.us

Pettigrew Community Learning Center hosted its fourth annual *Lights On Afterschool* family dance party on October 18 from 4:15 to 5:45 PM in the R.F. Pettigrew Elementary School gym. The event included videos showcasing the students' dance routines and songs, a snack bar, photo booth, and much more. The celebration also kicked off the program's fall service project. This year, they are creating holiday cards with uplifting messages for patients and families at Sanford Children's Castle Hospital. They are also collecting candy canes and small gifts to donate to the children in the hospital. As many as 200 people were in attendance.

Wagner, South Dakota: Jodi Zephier, Boys & Girls Club of Missouri River Area, 605-491-1235, jzephier@bgcmra.org

To celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*, the Boys & Girls Club of Missouri River Area will host an open house, inviting club members, their families, school administrators, and Tribal elected leaders to come tour Marty Boys & Girls Club on October 24 from 3:30 to 6:00 PM. Guests will participate in a scavenger hunt and STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) activities throughout the program's campus. Attendees will also enjoy an Indian taco meal.

Waubay, South Dakota: Rebecca Dargatz, Enemy Swim Day School, 605-947-4605, rdargatz@esds.us

On October 24, Enemy Swim Day School will host its Toka Nuwan Wayawa Tipi *Lights On Afterschool* & Health Fair from 5:30 to 7:30 PM. Activities will include “How to Make a Monster Fruit Cup” station, a SEL (social and emotional learning) escape room, the Scholastic book fair, a free immunization clinic, and much more. As a healthy alternative to a cake walk, the fair will include a salsa walk where participants win a bowl of fresh ingredients and a recipe card to make fresh salsa. Community partners include local ambulance services; nurses from SWO Community Health, Day County Community Health, and IHS Public Health; SWO Tribal Opioid Response; Asnyapi Clinic; Bright Start; Roberts County Alive; SWO Tribal Education Department; and Sisseton Wahpeton Community College. As many as 100 guests are to attend.

Tennessee

Bradford, Tennessee: Jada Sims, Gibson County Special School District, 731-819-3494, simsj@gcssd.org

On October 24, Gibson County Special School District will host a community wide *Lights On Afterschool* celebration. Students, family members, and the wider community are invited to bring their own jack-o-lanterns, lit safely with glowsticks or battery-operated tealights, which will be displayed on the steps and streets of all five schools in North Gibson County. Pumpkins, glow sticks, and tea lights will also be provided at the event, so everyone can light up their schools in celebration.

Gatlinburg, Tennessee: Donnie Hartzog, Boys & Girls Club of the Smoky Mountains, 865-436-0833, dhartzog@bgcsmoky.com

For *Lights On Afterschool*, the Boys & Girls Club of the Smoky Mountains will welcome students and parents to its Gatlinburg club location for an open house and fine arts show on October 24 at 4:30 PM. Students will display paintings and drawings in a variety of media including pastels, watercolor, and acrylic and oil paints, as well as photography.

Knoxville, Tennessee: Afterschool Ambassador Sindy Dawkins-Schade, SHADES of Development, 865-938-9164, sindy@shadesofdevelopment.org and Jake Rick, SHADES of Development, sdm@shadesofdevelopment.org

In celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*, SHADES of Development is hosting a month-long community scavenger hunt. More than 40 programs are participating in the app-based scavenger hunt, with challenges that include interviewing a child in the program about why afterschool is meaningful to them, or interviewing a parent about how afterschool affects his or her family. Participants can also interview a public figure about why they support afterschool programming. In addition, SHADES of Development at South Doyle Middle School will host Bob Ross Paint Night on October 24 from 5:00 to 6:00 in celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*. Students will have the opportunity to share the landscape painting skills they have learned in their weekly Bob Ross Painting Club with their families. Families are also invited to bring a dish for a potluck.

The Henley Street Bridge in downtown Knoxville will be lit up on October 24 in blue and yellow.

Knoxville, Tennessee: Jessica Thacker White, SHADES of Development, 865-579-6701, jessica.thacker@shadesofdevelopment.org and Afterschool Ambassador Sindy Dawkins-Schade, SHADES of Development, 865-938-9164, sindy@shadesofdevelopment.org

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, SHADES of Development will host Spooky Night, a STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) and literacy event at Mount Olive Elementary School on October 24 from 5:00 to 6:00 PM. Kids will enjoy a bubbling cauldron activity, pumpkin slime, reading and art activities, an art show, and a Halloween costume contest.

Knoxville, Tennessee: Denarius Ross, Wesley House Community Center, 865-524-5494, denarius@wesleyhouseknox.org

Wesley House Community Center will hold a fall festival in celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*. As many as 120 students and family members will gather at Wesley House on October 24 from 5:30 to 7:00 PM to enjoy snacks, carnival games, face painting, a Trunk-Or-Treat, and a costume contest.

Nashville, Tennessee: Alesia Hunter, Beech Creek Ministries, Inc., 615-775-1683, centerforimagination.bcm@gmail.com

For *Lights On Afterschool*, the Center for Imagination at Beech Creek Ministries will host a fall carnival at Beech Creek Missionary Baptist Church on October 24 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. The event will feature STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) and literacy activities including making glow-in-the-dark slime, fuzzy monsters, light-up bookmarks, exploding pumpkins, and more. There will also be a Trunk-Or-Treat, pumpkin decorating, and a cake walk. Kids can win prizes including gift cards and free books.

Tellico Plains, Tennessee: Chasity Hutchison, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Ocoee Region, 423-520-3350, chutchison@bgcocoe.org

To celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*, the Torch Club at the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Ocoee Region, Rural Vale Unit will host a haunted house at the Rural Vale Elementary School carnival on October 24 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. The Torch Club is a group of student leaders who work together on community service projects, events, and Club programs. They are proud to give back to their community by hosting this event.

Texas

El Paso, Texas: Enrique Garcia, BOOST Network, 915-603-1867, 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 fall carnival and enrollment fair events for its *Lights On Afterschool* celebration in the cities of El Paso, Las Cruces, and Ciudad

Juarez. These events will celebrate the afterschool programs offered by BOOST Network members in the binational Paso del Norte region, and the exciting experiences they offer their students. The El Paso carnival will take place from 4:00 to 7:00 PM on October 24 at La Nube STEM Center, and will include activities such as table games, crafts, inflatable archery, a karate exhibition, and a robotics workshop.

Fort Worth, Texas: ShaVonne Davis, Maroon 9 Community Enrichment Organization, 817-681-9264, info@maroon9.org

Maroon 9 Community Enrichment Organization is proud to present performances from Kids Acting With Purpose, its free teen afterschool arts program, in celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*. On October 24, from 6:00 to 7:30 PM, the students will preview their upcoming production of “Bone Soup: A Kwanzaa Story,” as well as a panel discussion about the importance of youth arts programs and an educational presentation about Kwanzaa. As many as 100 people are expected to gather at Jean McClung Middle School for the performance.

Harlingen, Texas: Michelle Ayala, Harlingen CISD ACE, 956-577-0164, michelle.ayala@hcsisd.org

On October 10, the Harlingen CISD ACE program, which operates on ten campuses, lit up Harlingen Boggus Stadium from 6:00 to 8:00 PM with a health and wellness family event and rally for *Lights On Afterschool*. Approximately 2,000 people attended the event, which featured performances, music, snacks, games, and activities including archery, bucket drumming, and an obstacle course. Representatives from community organizations attended the event and shared information on local resources and services with families.

Houston, Texas: Quetzaly Harper, Crespo Elementary School, 832-322-3208, harper@houstonisd.org

The CASE for Kids afterschool program at Crespo Elementary School will host a *Lights On Afterschool* glow party at the Willow Creek Apartments Reception Hall on October 26. Students will receive glow-in-the-dark t-shirts featuring the official *Lights On Afterschool* poster, which was designed by two Crespo Elementary students. Dinner will be served at 6:00 PM, followed by a showcase of student dance performances and cheerleading routines. During the showcase, the students will speak about how afterschool is important to them and the valuable skills they have learned from their program. There will also be opportunities for parents to record messages about the positive influence the afterschool program has had on students and families. Following the performances, families will participate in a balloon release and a dance. Houston city council members and district representatives may attend.

McAllen, Texas: Linda-Aurora Vasquez, IDEA Los Encinos, 956-529-7356, linda.vasquez3@ideapublicschools.org

On October 23, IDEA Los Encinos will present its Shining Vaqueros *Lights On Afterschool* Showcase from 4:30 to 6:30 PM. The event will feature an art gallery walk showcasing student artwork, a 3D light bulb crafting activity, and performances from the Champions Cheerleading Team, Grupo Folklorico Tierra Vaquera, Drumline, and the Sapphire Dance Team. Parents will also have a chance to connect with afterschool enrichment specialists and learn about available clubs and activities.

New Braunfels, Texas: Yunuen Hooper, Comal ISD, 830-221-2144, yunuen.hooper@comalisd.org

The 20 elementary schools of Comal ISD will be celebrating *Lights On Afterschool* the week of October 21 with a district-wide spirit week, featuring themed days such as crazy socks day and team jersey day and a lightbulb-decorating art contest. Additionally, each school will host its own events, such as open houses, talent shows, and family movie nights. The schools will have craft stations so families can exercise their creativity together and will display student artwork at their events to highlight the talent of the students.

San Antonio, Texas: Mercedes Moreno, Good Samaritan Community Services, 210-434-5531, communications.admin@goodsamtx.org

On Friday, October 18, Out-of-School-Time at Good Samaritan Community Services held a fright night festival to celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*. More than 500 people enjoyed a haunted house, raffle, vendor tables, a photo booth, family-friendly carnival games, and concessions.

San Benito, Texas: Jessica Diaz, San Benito CISD, 956-361-6450, jdiaz@sbcisd.net

To celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*, the San Benito CISD After School Program is hosting its annual fall festival on October 25, from 6:00 to 8:30 PM. More than 300 students, family members, and community partners will attend the festival at Bobby Morrow Stadium. The event will highlight the importance of collaboration and partnership between afterschool programs, students, and families, and will celebrate students' talent and creativity. Attendees will play games, win prizes, and enjoy music from the After School Program's DJ club. The dance and cheerleading teams will entertain guests with performances and the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) club will take aerial photos of the event with drones.

Smithville, Texas: Danette Perez, Smithville ISD, 512-237-5623, dperez@smithvilleisd.org
Smithville ISD's ACE Afterschool Program will celebrate *Lights On Afterschool* on October 26 with its second annual "Roarin' Red Brick Trunk or Treat." As many as 600 students and families will gather at the Smithville ISD administration building from 5:00 to 7:30 PM. Parent volunteers will pass out candy and host games from their vehicles while students enjoy games, music, snow cones, door prizes, and face painting. Attendees can also take tours of the iconic Smithville ISD Red Brick Building and learn about its rich history. In honor of the Red Brick Building's 100 year anniversary, 1920s-themed costumes are encouraged!

Weslaco, Texas: Daniel Avila, Weslaco Independent School District, 956-969-7173,
deavila@wisd.us

On October 24, the Weslaco ISD ACE Program will host a *Lights On Afterschool* carnival in the parking lot of the South Texas Vocational Technical Institute starting at 5:00 PM. The highlight of the evening will be a student talent showcase. The ACE Program and its community partners will set up booths featuring hands-on science activities, make-and-takes, family engagement games, and career information. There will also be food and music, promising a fun event for all ages.

Utah

Moab, Utah: Murice Miller, BEACON Afterschool Program, 435-260-9439,
millerm@grandschools.org

On October 15, BEACON Afterschool Program hosted a *Lights On Afterschool* celebration at the Moab Grand Center from 5:30 to 7:00 PM. The event not only raised awareness about afterschool programs but also celebrated students' accomplishments and community support. The school district superintendent read a *Lights On Afterschool* proclamation during the event. As many as 100 guests enjoyed student performances, speeches, artwork, laser tag and a prize drawing. Dinner was provided.

Murray, Utah: Veronica Edmondson, Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Salt Lake,
vedmondson@gsclclubs.org

To celebrate *Lights On Afterschool*, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Salt Lake will host a Trunk-Or-Treat at Miller Family Boys and Girls Club in Murray on October 31 from 3:00 until 6:00 PM. Events include a spook bus, arts and crafts, and Halloween themed activities. As many as 250 Club families, staff and community supporters will attend the festivities.

Ogden, Utah: Jazmine Gruber, Boys & Girls Clubs of Weber-Davis, 801-663-1877,
jazmineg@bgcweberdavis.org

On October 28, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Weber-Davis will host a *Lights On Afterschool* fall family engagement night at Ogden High School. Guests will tour the building, enjoy dinner, and play games with students.

Salt Lake City, Utah: Joni Record, Boys & Girls Club of Greater Salt Lake, 801-488-0841,
jrecord@gsclclubs.org

The Boys & Girls Club of Greater Salt Lake will host a Sugarhouse *Lights On Afterschool* celebration at its Sugar House Club in Salt Lake City from 4:30 PM to 6:30 PM on October 25. Students and families are asked to dress in their favorite costume and join in trick or treating with various community partners as well as taking a stroll through a haunted hallway hosted by the program's teenagers.

Salt Lake City, Utah: Megan Shaw, Neighborhood House, 801-363-4589, megan@nhutah.org
To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, the Neighborhood House will host a Trunk-Or-Treat family night on October 31 from 4:00 to 6:00 PM. Everyone is invited to celebrate with the Neighborhood House community in a Halloween event with fun, games and candy. Guests are encouraged to wear their costumes.

South Salt Lake, Utah: Rob Fuller, Promise Center, 801-386-0589, rfuller@sslc.gov
For *Lights On Afterschool*, the Promise Center will host a Trunk-Or-Treat on October 24 from 6:00 to 7:30 PM. The event is open to the community and will promote safe trick or treat practices for youth. As many as 200 guests are expected to attend.

Vermont

Bennington, Vermont: Kayla Becker, Berkshire Family YMCA, 802-500-2770, kbecker@bfymca.org

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, the Berkshire Family YMCA will hold an open house on October 24 from 5:30 to 8:00 PM at its Bennington location. Guests will gather in the Youth Center for a “snack and swirl” event featuring a local artist. Additionally, all afterschool program sites will mark the occasion with special snacks and crafts.

Virginia

Kilmarnock, Virginia: Sheena Hebbons, Boys & Girls Club of Northern Neck, 804-435-9696 x202, shebbons@bgcnn.org

For *Lights On Afterschool*, the Boys & Girls Club of Northern Neck will host Illumination of Success family night on October 24 from 5:00 to 6:00 PM. Guests will experience an evening of programming, dinner, and activities. Businesses on historic Main Street are encouraged to display a blue light in support of afterschool organizations.

Richmond, Virginia: Dominique Menefee, NextUp, 540-522-6054, dmenefee@nextuprva.org
On October 19, NextUp hosted a community fair from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM at Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School to kick off *Lights On Afterschool* week. Partnering organizations included Higher Achievement, the Mayor’s Youth Academy, the Boys and Girls Club of Metro Richmond, Parks and Recreation, Girls on the Run, and the YMCA. Families, youth, and providers engaged in various hands-on STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activities, games, and art contest and explored different tables and workshops highlighting the wonderful afterschool programs available throughout Richmond. As many as 500 people attended. On Thursday, October 24, NextUp’s social media page will feature highlights from events happening across the city, including videos and photos emphasizing the importance of out-of-school time. Richmond’s city hall will also be lit in blue and yellow throughout the week.

Virginia Beach, Virginia: EJ Ferguson, Boys and Girls of Southeast Virginia, 757-368-6664, rosemontpd@bgcseva.org

For *Lights On Afterschool*, Boys and Girls of Southeast Virginia will host an open house from 4:00 until 7:00 PM on October 24. Guests will participate in educational activities, including math wars, STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) projects, and much more.

Virginia Beach, Virginia: Robyn Eley, Armed Services YMCA of Hampton Roads, 757-363-1884, reley@asymca.org

In celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*, Armed Services YMCA of Hampton Roads will host a Pizza & Picasso night on October 24 from 4:30 PM to 6:30 PM. The open house will include a student art show and auction, classroom tours, and a video montage of readings from students. Each family attending the event will receive a free pizza donated by Marco Pizza.

Woodbridge, Virginia: Princess Fitzgerald, George M. Hampton MS 21st Century Community Learning Centers, 571-589-3713, FitzgeP@pwcs.edu

For *Lights On Afterschool*, Hampton MS 21st Century Community Learning Centers program will host an open house with food, fun, and entertainment on October 24 from 4:45 until 7:00 PM. Guests will experience firsthand what fantastic activities the afterschool program provides the youth of Hampton Middle School. Students will showcase their talents for art, dance, math, and reading by providing participants with an art show of recent projects completed in the afterschool program, a talent show, and readings of original stories entitled “What 21st CCLC Has Done for Me.”

Washington

Lynnwood, Washington: Ruth Cassidy, Boys & Girls Clubs of Snohomish County, 4250-774-3022, rcassidy@bgesc.org

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Snohomish County welcomes students, parents, and community members to a fall carnival at its Alderwood Clubhouse in celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*. Guests can win tickets to spend on prizes by playing a variety of carnival games such as balloon toss, cupcake walk, a mystery box, and more. Kids can also tour an interactive “Frankenstein’s Lab” haunted house. Every child will take home a loot bag sponsored by a community partner. The event will take place on October 25 from 3:30 to 5:00 PM.

West Virginia

Beckley, West Virginia: Emma Harvey, The Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club of Beckley, 304-647-8388, emma.harvey@uss.salvationarmy.org

Students at the Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club of Beckley will perform a play on October 24 at 5:30 PM in celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*. The play, a spin on Alice in Wonderland, will showcase the students’ talent, creativity, and leadership. This event is open to the community.

Huntington, West Virginia: Lori Murdock, Playmates Child Care, 304-522-4858, wvlac@aol.com

Playmates Child Care Center welcomes students, families, and community members to its annual Trunk-Or-Treat event for *Lights On Afterschool*. Volunteers will pass out candy from their cars while kids enjoy popcorn and cotton candy, glow-in-the-dark slime, ring toss, and invisible ink writing. The event will take place on October 24 from 6:30 to 8:30 PM at the Bridge Street location.

Morgantown, West Virginia: Summer Cochran, Monongalia County Schools, 304-291-9270, srcochran@k12.wv.us

The U-Time afterschool program at University High School is proud to present an open house-style event on October 24 in celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*. U-Time students will showcase the career and technical education programming they participate in throughout the year. The student-run bakery, coffee shop, and school store will hand out swag and snacks while attendees enjoy tabletop games, crafts, and activities. The event will take place from 3:00 to 6:00 PM at University High School.

Parkersburg, West Virginia: Darlene Murphy, Boys & Girls Clubs of Parkersburg, 304-485-6434, darleneparsons@bgcparkersburg.org

For *Lights On Afterschool*, the Boys and Girls Club of Parkersburg will welcome children and families to its Club on October 24 from 6:00 to 7:30 for a Trunk-Or-Treat. In addition to the Trunk-Or-Treat, the event will feature tours of the Club, food, a haunted house, a “psychological thriller” haunted trail, and Halloween games.

Wisconsin

Appleton, Wisconsin: Lisa Clark, YMCA of the Fox Cities, 920-637-4355, lclark@ymcafoxcities.org

To mark *Lights On Afterschool*, YMCA School Age will hold a fitness glow party at Ferber Elementary on October 22, and will host another party at Janet Berry Elementary School on October 24. From 4:00 to 5:30 PM, students and their families will get moving with dance routines, try their luck at glow-in-the-dark “minute to win it” stations, and enjoy games of glow-in-the dark beach ball.

Appleton, Wisconsin: Nate Fietzer, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Fox Valley, 920-213-1367, nfietzer@bgclubfoxvalley.org

For *Lights On Afterschool*, the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Fox Valley will invite families from its programs at Columbus Elementary, Edison Elementary, and the Appleton Bilingual School to “Raptor Night: Wings Over Wisconsin” a night of fun, discovery, and wildlife on October 23. Starting at 5:30 PM, students and families will gather in the gym at Columbus Elementary for a free, interactive event featuring live raptors including hawks, owls, and falcons. They will learn about the role these birds of prey play in our ecosystem and the conservation efforts that help keep them thriving in Wisconsin, while getting up close and personal with the birds themselves.

Ashland, Wisconsin: Michael Van Uytven, School District of Ashland, 217-706-1453, mvanuytven@sdak12.net

On October 24 at 5:00 PM, students and families will gather at Lake Superior Elementary to celebrate the Ashland Area After School Program. The *Lights On Afterschool* open house will showcase the variety of projects and activities students participate in at the afterschool program. Light refreshments will be provided.

Green Bay, Wisconsin: Brooke Unrath, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Bay & Lakes Region, 920-494-7090, bunrath@bgcgb.org

The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Bay & Lakes Region will celebrate *Lights On Afterschool* with a free family dinner event. The theme of the evening is “Lighting Up The World With Kindness.” The Club will use this opportunity to spread awareness on bullying and promote activities related to the theme of kindness and emotional wellness. Guests are encouraged to wear blue to represent their commitment to ending bullying. The main event will take place on October 22 from 2:45 to 6:00 PM at the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Green Bay, with smaller satellite events at the clubhouses at Westside Green Bay, Shawano, and Door County.

Milwaukee, Wisconsin: Dawn Mendoza, Milwaukee Public Schools, 414-934-4711, mendozdm@milwaukee.k12.wi.us

On October 24, Camp Stars at Stars Early Childhood Center will celebrate *Lights On Afterschool* with a festival from 5:00 to 7:30 PM. Students and their families will enjoy face-painting, temporary tattoos, cookie decorating, arts and crafts, and slime making. Students can also win candy and prizes during this night of fun, family, and community.

Solon Springs, Wisconsin: Julie Fromm, Solon Springs School District, 715-378-2263, jfromm@solonk12.net

The Solon Springs School District will hold a *Lights On Afterschool* family and community engagement night on October 24 from 5:00 to 6:30 PM in the Solon Springs School cafeteria. Students will paint pumpkins to look like their favorite book characters. The school will provide 50 pumpkins that were grown in the school garden and the finished pumpkins will be displayed in the school library with their matching books. Snacks will also be provided.

Wyoming

Douglas, Wyoming: Whitney Tomlinson, Boys & Girls Club of Douglas, 307-358-4100, whitneyt@bgcdouglas.com

The Boys & Girls Club of Douglas is proud to welcome students and family members to its *Lights On Afterschool* open house and family engagement night. On October 24 from 4:00 to 6:00 PM, families will gather at the Douglas Club house to participate in activity stations, create arts and crafts, and enjoy dinner together.