

IMPACT AFTER SCHOOL CONFERENCE

April 28-29, 2016

Ramada Tropics Resort and Conference Center
5000 Merle Hay Road
Des Moines, IA 50322



#Impact2016



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Guidebook
App

Use the code
"impact2016"

8:00 - 8:30 Registration, Visit Exhibitors

8:40 - 8:50 Welcome!

Heidi Brown, Des Moines Public Schools
Vic Jaras, Iowa Department of Education

8:50 - 10:00 Keynote Speakers

Michael Vukovich, Principal, North High School

At the time that Vukovich began serving as the Principal of North High School in Des Moines, North was the lowest performing school in Iowa. However, within two years, they raised test scores by 25 percent and increased participation in activities and clubs, while increasing demands around academic achievement. North has been named a 21st Century School and an Apple Distinguished School. It was recognized by USA Today for diversity and by Edutopia for AP increases and open access. President Obama and Secretary Arne Duncan also visited the school because of the turnaround success in the urban district. In his Keynote address, Vukovich will reflect on how providing afterschool programming that meets the needs of the kids served has been a catalyst to this success.

Emily Lang, co-founder of RunDSM, Kristopher Rollins, co-founder of RunDSM, and Words Taylor, Spoken Word Poet

Lang and Rollins are the Co-Founders of RunDSM, an urban arts organization within Des Moines Public Schools that empowers youth to speak on issues of social justice and directly impact their community through positive self-expression. Similarly, Words is a Spoken Word Poet who has always admired the power of voice and how it can be used as a tool of hope. Through a combination of spoken word poetry and storytelling, these individuals will demonstrate how they have moved student success to the next level.

10:00 - 10:30 Visit Exhibitors and Networking Time



The Iowa Afterschool Alliance is dedicated to developing strong statewide systems of support for high quality, affordable, and accessible before school, afterschool, and summer programs in Iowa.

We do this through:

Policy • Outreach • Practice Support

Check out our website at www.iowaafterschoolalliance.org
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How to Use Guidebook, Our Impact After School Conference Guide

1

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3

Explore Our Guide

You have downloaded the guide, now explore! Learn about the speakers, what sessions are available, who is exhibiting and more!

Tap  in the upper left-hand corner to access all features.

10:35 - 11:45

Investing in Family Engagement With Y4Y • *Ballroom W*

Tania Lazar and Monique McDowell-Russell, You for Youth

You for Youth contracts with the U.S. Department of Education to provide online professional learning and technical assistance for 21st Century Community Learning Centers (out-of-school time programs).

Engaging families in your program can be challenging but is easily worth the investment of time, energy, and resources when you see the value in terms of student success. This session will explore best practices for improving and developing relationships with families. Y4Y trainers will collaborate with participants to customize Y4Y resources and tools to help create a family-friendly dynamic, solicit family input, plan engaging activities, and serve family needs. Please bring a laptop, tablet, or Internet-accessible device to explore Y4Y during the session.

*Note: This session will end at 11:55 *Session focus: Family engagement*

Creating a Summer School Program • *Salon A/B*

Barbara Schmitz, Oelwein Community School

Oelwein has had a very successful summer school program by partnering with area programs. Oelwein offers four hours of programming per day and has an average daily attendance of 160 students. This session will focus on how to build a summer school program from the ground up and make it successful! **Session focus: General afterschool best practice or special focus • K-5 and middle school • all audience levels*

Doing More with More: Utilizing Volunteers to Sustainably Grow Your Afterschool Program • *Ballroom NE*

Michelle Raymer, Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service

It seems that all of us are continually tasked with doing more with fewer resources, and there is always more to be done than time to do it. Instead of doing more with less, learn how you can increase your human capital with volunteers in order to do more with more. In this session we'll spend time identifying innovative new ways to engage volunteers and leave you with actionable steps to make it happen. **Session focus: Program directors • all audience levels*

Beyond the Bell - Building a Quality Multi-Site Afterschool Program through Collaboration and Diversified Funding

Ballroom SE

Matt Ohman, SHIP, and Jenna Meyer, Beyond the Bell

Beyond the Bell (BTB) Program in Sioux City, Iowa, is a unique, multi-site program run by a non-profit organization in the public (and one private) schools in Sioux City. This session will focus on how the program is able to provide before school, afterschool, and summer enrichment to students in the area through braided funding and strong partnerships and collaboration. **Session focus: Program directors • K-5 and middle school • all audience levels*

12:00 - 1:30 Working Lunch

The Annual Afterschool Awards Presentation will begin at 12:30 p.m.

1:40 - 2:50

Exploring STEM With Y4Y • *Ballroom W*

Tania Lazar and Monique McDowell-Russell, You for Youth

You for Youth contracts with the U.S. Department of Education to provide online professional learning and technical assistance for 21st Century Community Learning Centers (out-of-school time programs).

STEM — science, technology, engineering and mathematics — skills are essential for all paths of education and for success in the 21st century. This session will introduce examples of Y4Y activities that aim to spark curiosity about STEM topics through inquiry and investigation. Participants will collaborate around integrating STEM skill-building into out-of-school time programs, sharing STEM learning opportunities from their programs, and exploring strategies for connecting to school-day partners and community resources around STEM. Please bring a laptop, tablet or Internet-accessible device to explore Y4Y during the session. *Note: This session will end at 3:00* *Session focus: *STEM*

Afterschool Program Sustainability • *Salon A/B*

Jeanette Hartung-Schroeder, Bellevue Elementary School

In its 15th year offering afterschool programming for students, Bellevue Schools knows the secret behind program sustainability. With a total PK-12 enrollment of 650 students, Bellevue Schools has learned how to take a 21st Century Community Learning Center grant program and transition successfully to a sustainable program, primarily through parent support. Come learn about their efforts in making a sustainable afterschool program. *Session focus: *Program directors • K-5 • all audience levels*

Use Chess for Academic Improvement: Whether or Not You Know How to Play • *Ballroom NE*

Stephen and Pat Schneider, Championship Chess

Learn how chess is more than a game. Studies conducted over the last 30 years show that students' IQs increase and STEM-related test scores improve after less than a year of systematic chess study. With its benefits for improving students' cognitive skills, social development, and self-esteem, chess is making a strong contribution to children's growth and learning in schools, clubs, and community programs across the country. Participants will walk away knowing how to incorporate chess into their afterschool programs. Schneider will introduce his successful methods for teaching chess to children and will share effective teaching strategies, sample materials, and tips.

*Session focus: *Frontline staff • K-5 and middle school • beginner and intermediate audience*

Get Outside! Techniques to Engage Youth in the Outdoor Classroom • *Ballroom SE*

Brianna Patrick, Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge, and Samantha Dunn, Blank Park Zoo Foundation

The Outdoor Classroom session will expose attendees to the many possibilities for engagement, investigation, discovery, and FUN just outside of their classroom doors! ANY outdoor space can become an outdoor classroom. Attendees will learn more about the case for the relevance of using the outdoors to engage students. They will also learn simple techniques and strategies for leading project-based, outdoor investigations and managing students outside the classroom. The audience will also complete hands-on activities that will prepare them for leading their own group of students. Most importantly, attendees will walk away with the confidence and knowledge to get outside!

*Session focus: *Front-life staff • K-5 • all audience levels*

2:50 - 3:20 Visit Exhibitors (mark your bingo card!) and Networking Time

Educational apps and resources can be found here:

www.iowa21cclc.wikispaces.com/Educational+Apps

3:20 - 4:30

Implementing Project Based Learning With Y4Y • Ballroom W

Tania Lazar and Monique McDowell Russell, Y4Y

You for Youth contracts with the U.S. Department of Education to provide online professional learning and technical assistance for 21st Century Community Learning Centers (out-of-school time programs).

Project Based Learning is an inquiry-based approach to learning that emphasizes student voice and choice. Students pose questions and explore answers through hands-on activities. Learn how the You for Youth (Y4Y) resources can support you as you work with students to craft a driving question, facilitate an investigation, and work towards a culminating event, while building students' knowledge and 21st century skills. Please bring a laptop, tablet, or Internet-accessible device to explore Y4Y during the session. *Note: This session will end at 4:40 *Session focus: Project based learning*

Afterschool + Geocaching = Outdoor Fun (Technology and Physical Fitness) • Salon A/B

Greg Smith, Kids & Company

Geocaching is an outdoor recreational activity in which participants use a Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver or mobile device to hide and seek containers, called "geocaches" or "caches", anywhere in the world. Join this session to explore the basic history of geocaching, how to hide/find geocaches, and how this can be used in an afterschool setting. **Session focus: Front-line staff • all grade levels • all audience levels*

Makerspaces • Ballroom NE

Dan Bower, ECHOES, Cedar Falls School District, and David Welter, Holmes Jr. High School

To describe them simply, Makerspaces are community centers with tools. Makerspaces combine manufacturing equipment, community, and education for the purposes of enabling community members to design, prototype, and create manufactured works that wouldn't be possible to create with the resources available to individuals working alone. Come learn more about Makerspaces and how to integrate them into your afterschool programming! **Session focus: General afterschool best practice or special focus • all grade levels • beginner and intermediate audience levels*

AgJourney: Girl Scouts and STEM • Ballroom SE

Jessie Tobin and Ngan Hoang, Girl Scouts of Greater Iowa

Girl Scouts of Greater Iowa (GSGI) collaborates with community partners to provide afterschool programming for girls through a program called Series. Series provides the opportunity for a group of girls to meet on a scheduled basis, with trained adult Series leaders, to explore a particular interest pertaining to a specific topic such as STEM (science, technology, engineering and math), the arts, environmental leadership, healthy living, or financial literacy. Come learn about the newest Series curriculum, AgJourney, and discuss collaboration and the impact of Girl Scouting on girls in Iowa. **Session focus: Program directors • K-5 and middle school • all audience levels*

Evening: Dinner on Your Own and Collaboration Time



There's an estimated 850,000 afterschool professionals in the U.S. and the week of April 25, 2016 is your week! Serving over 120 million children and youth in afterschool programs across the country, afterschool professionals deserve a shout-out for the great work you do each and every day. Join the Iowa Afterschool Alliance and the National Afterschool Association in celebrating Afterschool Professionals Week by using the hashtags **#heartofafterschool** and **#Impact2016** and visiting the website www.heartofafterschool.org to learn more.

8:00 - 8:30 Welcome to day two! Registration, Breakfast, and Networking

8:30 - 9:40

21st Century Community Learning Centers Super-Session: Part I • *Ballroom W*

Vic Jaras, Iowa Department of Education

This is a closed session for 21CCLC Committees. In this session, the Support, Evaluation, and Conference Committees will share their work and provide time for audience interaction. This super-session is continued at 9:50 a.m.

**Session focus: 21CCLC*

Iowa AEYC Play Experience • *Salon A/B*

Donna Kennebeck and Leann Andre, Iowa AEYC

Play coaches will provide a hands-on opportunity to gain knowledge and inspiration about learning through play for students, administrators, and staff. The audience will have the opportunity for solo and cooperative play with reusable resources as materials. Time will be allotted for reflection and application to your work. **Session focus: Front-line staff*

• K-5 • beginner audience level

STEM Hubs as Partners for All! • *Ballroom NE*

Deb Frazee, Iowa Governor's STEM Program - SW STEM Hub

This session will provide information on ways in which informal programs can access, utilize, and participate in the STEM programs offered by the six STEM Hubs located around the state. Come learn about the resources and programs available to afterschool programs through the STEM Hubs. **Session focus: General afterschool best practice or special focus • K-5 and middle school • all audience levels*

Volunteer Screening: Keeping Our Youth SAFE • *Ballroom SE*

Mary Sheka, Director, Iowa Mentoring Partnership, and Chad Driscoll, Program Officer, Volunteer Iowa

Based on SAFE (Screening Applicants for Effectiveness) Guidelines to prevent child molestation in mentoring and youth-serving organizations, this session offers recommendations on screening and monitoring tools and procedures to ensure maximum safety of the children you serve. We review what is known about child sexual abuse perpetrators, helping youth professionals understand what to look for and how to utilize their informed intuition when applying screening practices. **Session focus: Front-line staff • all grade levels • all audience levels*



chrysalis

Help Chrysalis Today

Chrysalis After-School serves 700 girls in 29 school sites from 5th through 8th grade in the Des Moines metro area. Part of the Chrysalis After-School curriculum focuses on health and wellness, taking care of your body, and developing positive body image. At the end of each school year, Chrysalis celebrates the hard work and achievements of the girls in our programs with our annual HerStory celebration. Along with special activities, girls receive bags of a variety of personal care items to include in their healthy hygiene routines. In order to provide products to 700 girls, we need your help.

Please donate travel or sample size items to Chrysalis by April 30th to support the amazing girls our programs!

Items we need:

- » Shampoo
- » Conditioner
- » Deodorant (highest priority)
- » Soap/Shower Gel
- » Toothbrushes
- » Toothpaste
- » We have special needs for ethnic hair products of all kinds as well

9:50- 11:00

21st Century Community Learning Centers Super-Session: Part II • Ballroom W

Vic Jaras, Iowa Department of Education

This is a closed session for 21CCLC Committees and a continuation of the first session. In this session, the Communication and Family Engagement Committees will share their work and provide time for audience interaction.

**Session focus: 21CCLC*

Using a Growth Mindset to Plan Remediation & Enrichment Activities • Salon A/B

Becca Eastman, Dr. Lisa Stevenson, and Jenni Watkins

Rock-It Academy has served about 100 students at Neil Armstrong Elementary for the last two school years as recipients of a 21st Century Community Learning Centers grant. The majority of the grant funds and time are allocated to providing remediation in literacy and math for students who are not reaching grade level proficiency. This presentation will detail the initial plans and model for tutoring and how an annual evaluation report and student feedback was used to design a model that is showing promising success due to the high level of student engagement, greater increase in fidelity of implementation, and the laser-like focus of skill instruction that each individual child needs, as coordinated by a tight school/program collaborative effort. **Session focus: Front-line staff or program directors • K-5 • beginner and intermediate audience levels*

Engaging and Educating Parents: How it Can Make a Positive Impact on Student Success in the Classroom

Ballroom NE

Sue Renfrow and Ben Burke, Parenting Way, Inc.

Participants will learn and consider the importance of providing parent education classes in schools to strengthen parenting skills and resources in an effort to promote early learning and interaction at home. Through family and parent participation within a child's school setting, neighborhood networks can be built that increase parent and family engagement. Parents may often lack those components that would give them the confidence and understanding needed to engage with their child's school, support their child's educational needs, and effectively communicate with school teachers and administrators. **Session focus: Program directors • all audience levels*

Designing and Implementing Theme-Based Lesson Plans • Ballroom SE

Hannah Olson, Out-of-School Time Enrichment Initiative, and Mallory Tough, Baker Boys & Girls Club

This session will provide participants with hands-on experience designing and implementing theme-based programs for middle school students. Theme-based programs incorporate skills from multiple curricular areas, including reading, writing, STEM, the arts, and others. Participants will leave the session with a clear, purposeful plan for engaging middle schoolers in opportunities across content areas.

**Session focus: Front-line staff • middle school • all audience levels*

11:00 - 11:30 Last chance to visit exhibitors and complete your bingo card!

Bingo Cards are due by 11:30 a.m. for drawing - bring yours to the registration desk!


Must be present to win.

11:30 - 1:00 Working Lunch and Closing Plenary

Movement 515, a student-led performance, will begin at 12:00, followed by exhibitor bingo prize drawings for attendees (must be present to win)! Movement 515 is an urban arts community in which students and mentors come together to create spoken word poetry and street art.

Attempting to slow down the world and investigate themselves, they work toward becoming change agents, shedding light on the impact that human emotion and connection bring to the global community.

Keynote and Feature Speakers

 View bios for all workshop presenters on the Guidebook app using the code "impact 2016"

Emily Lang

Emily Lang is a teacher and Urban Arts Coordinator in Des Moines Public Schools and co-founder of RunDSM, a for-youth, by-youth organization focused on urban arts and youth activism. She grew up performing on the stages of the Oskaloosa Community Theater and entered the field of education with a strong desire to work with young women and help them find their worth. "I believe in leading with love and providing youth safe and brave spaces to share their truth."

Tania Lazar

Tania Lazar provides customized support and technical assistance to a wide variety of afterschool programs across the country. She is also responsible for developing and presenting Foundations' face-to-face and online professional development sessions for educators. Her many interactions with real-world leaders and practitioners help shape the direction of the training offerings to the education field. Tania's background in afterschool education began in direct service, where she managed an elementary afterschool program. She then spent six years with New Jersey *After 3* as a Program Officer, overseeing more than 33 afterschool programs. Tania's experience spans a variety of roles, including project management and administration, program evaluation, and curriculum development. Tania holds a Bachelor's from Rutgers University and a Master of Arts in Teaching from Monmouth University.

Monique McDowell-Russell

Monique McDowell-Russell serves as Lead Education Specialist for Foundations' subcontractor role with the U.S. Department of Education's You for Youth (Y4Y) online professional development web portal for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers programs. She conducts trainings nationwide to help out-of-school time practitioners better understand and utilize the support that the site offers. She has extensive experience in managing, directing, and providing oversight for elementary and secondary education programs, as well as adult education programs. Monique earned a Certificate from the Emerging Leader Development Program at the Graduate School of Business at Columbia University, a Master of Science degree from Audrey Cohen College, and a Bachelor of Arts degree from the College of New Rochelle.

Kristopher Rollins

Kristopher Rollins is the Des Moines Public School's Urban Arts Coordinator, co-founder of RunDSM, and co-facilitator of the Urban Leadership program at Central Campus. He is passionate about the power of literacy with regards to helping marginalized youth reclaim their voices and futures by providing them safe and brave spaces to be heard. Furthermore, his goal is to continue establishing a feeder pattern for hip-hop arts within the public school system in order to engage populations previously underserved.

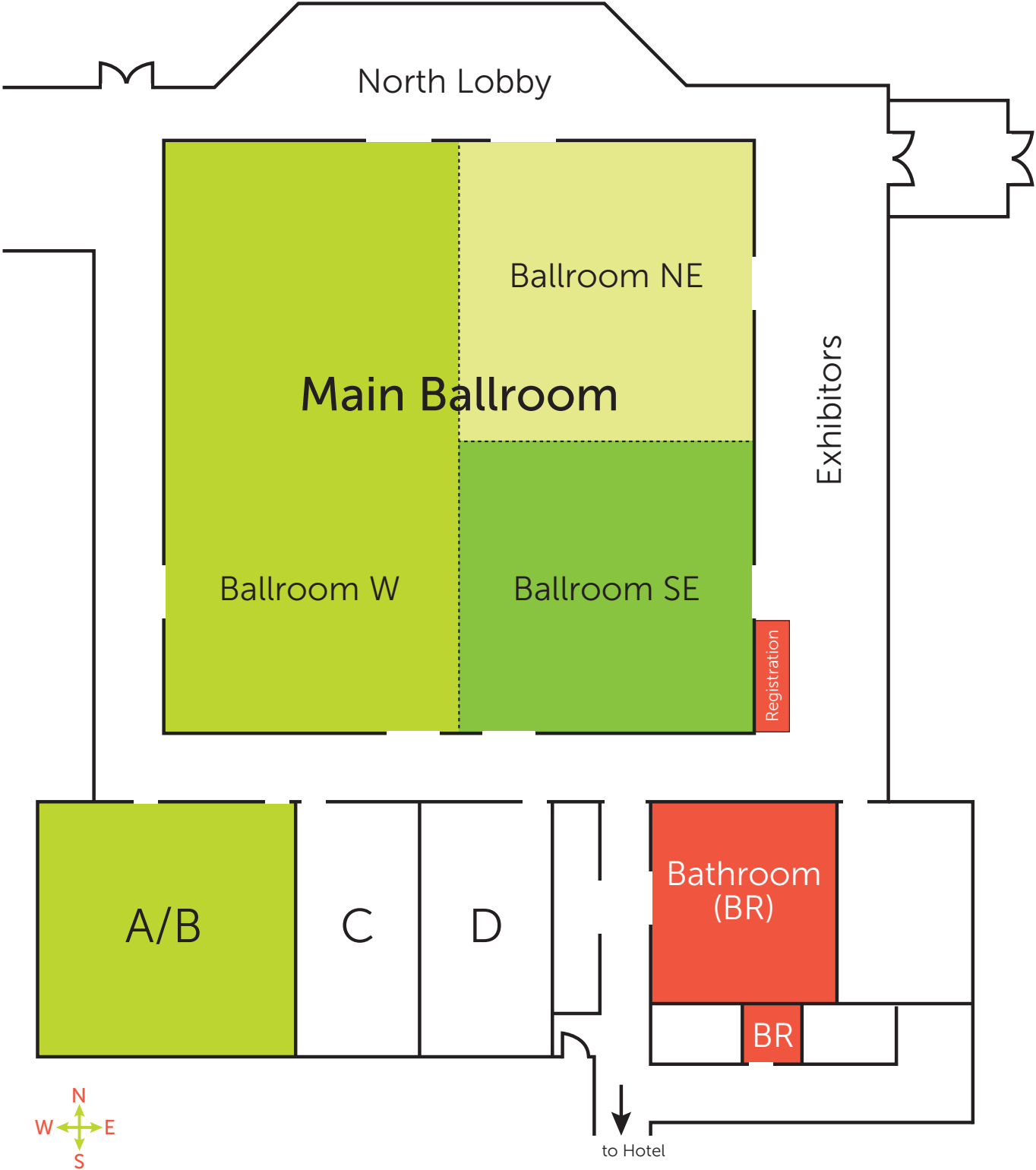
Words Taylor

Words Taylor is a Spoken Word Poet born and raised in Chicago, IL. His love for poetry came out of need for an outlet to release anger and hurt from some childhood experiences. He has always admired the power of voice and how it can be used as a tool of hope in our lives. He has now made it his personal mission to equip every young person and adult with this tool. He believes there is freedom in knowing the power of our words. He has a passion for serving people and seeing them live their dreams.

Michael Vukovich

Michael Vukovich began his teaching career at North Springs High School in Sandy Springs, Georgia, where he spent four years teaching Social Studies. He then moved to Des Moines and served four years at Hoover as a Sped teacher, academic interventionist and interim Vice Principal. The last six years have been spent at North High School in Des Moines where he is currently the Principal. He has served North for one year as a School Improvement Leader, two years as a Vice Principal, and is currently in his third year as Principal.

Ramada Inn Conference Map





afterschool champions

2016 Afterschool Champions Recognition

Advocate of the Year

The Advocate of the Year is the single individual or organization that has been the most active and vocal advocate for afterschool and out-of-school time over the past year.

Paul and Carolyn Brooks, Muscatine

Paul and Carolyn Brooks have dedicated a number of years to an afterschool program at the Flickinger Learning Center. Paul retired from the Muscatine community school district after 40 years in education. After several years as an educational consultant, he started working at the Flickinger Learning Center, and brought his wife along. The growth in the Flickinger Learning Center network, which has expanded to multiple programs around the Muscatine community, would not have been as successful without the Brooks' leadership and dedication. With Paul and Carolyn's assistance, the Flickinger Center's measurable results in reading scores are verified. Simply put, Paul and Carolyn Brooks' dedication has had a huge impact for the students in need of reading support in the Muscatine community. They have contributed greatly to student achievement throughout their academic careers by the administration of these high impact programs.

Afterschool Innovator

This award recognizes programs that have implemented innovative practices to support children, youth, and/or families in Iowa communities through out-of-school time.

ArtHaus, Decorah

ArtHaus provides robust creative art programming that greatly benefits the children of Northeast Iowa. From exploration of Japanese art, to improv theatre and early childhood art classes, children love ArtHaus. Parents are engaged with walking school buses afterschool that make accessing programming so easy. ArtHaus provides scholarships that let any child join in the learning, and classes that span different disciplines, along with a diverse set of teachers that maximize the arts knowledge of the Northeast Iowa community. In addition to these great components, ArtHaus partners with community members to develop their offerings, including a college professor who teaches creative writing afterschool. Nominated by several community members, including a parent, it is clear ArtHaus is a treasure to children, youth, families, and the community.

Collaboration Award

This award recognizes organizations that exemplify community and school partnerships that are so critical to student success in school and life. Organizations recognized for collaboration are a model for communication among diverse stakeholders, commitment to serving children and youth, and a willingness to partner.

The Chrysalis Foundation, Des Moines area

Chrysalis has been a huge supporter of the *Whyld Girls Program* for many years. Chrysalis provides funding that allows the Whyld Girls to participate in engaging learning activities, art projects, and service learning projects. Chrysalis also has been a huge support to help make sure that the Whyld Girls attend college. Chrysalis has provided scholarship opportunities for members, and they never fail to show the girls how amazing it is to be young women. Chrysalis's support has allowed the Whyld Girls program to succeed, and they have helped us send many first generation students to college. Thank you, Chrysalis!

Principal of the Year

This award recognizes a school principal that is a strong advocate of out-of-school time in their building and believes in the importance of school and afterschool connections.

Steve Mielenhausen, Davenport Community School District, Davenport

Nominated by Shaney Ford of Davenport Stepping Stones, Mr. Mielenhausen currently serves as principal of Madison Elementary, a Full Service Community School and 21st Century Community Learning Center site. Mr. Mielenhausen has always supported afterschool and summer programming. When he became principal at Madison, it became his goal to make sure any student that wanted to be in the afterschool or summer program could participate without barriers. With the introduction of the 21CCLC grant, the program at Madison went from serving 15 students a day to over 65 students each day. He not only helped bring the grant to the school, he has truly integrated the programming into the school by helping the staff and teachers recognize how important the program is to the students and families at Madison. The program has full access to all areas of the school and over 40 percent of the teachers in the building work in some capacity within the program, offering academic enrichment, intervention or homework help. This would not have happened without his leadership and support.

About the Afterschool Champions Awards

Each year, the Iowa Afterschool Alliance Afterschool Champions Awards honor individuals or organizations that believe strongly in the importance of afterschool programs and are willing to provide tangible support to the issue, as well as outstanding students who demonstrate the positive effects of afterschool programs. Nominations for the awards are sought through the Iowa Afterschool Alliance network of over 800 individuals and organizations, and final voting is done by the Iowa Afterschool Alliance Strategic Leadership Team and the Impact After School Conference Planning Committee.

Friend of Afterschool

The friend of afterschool is the elected official that has been most influential in advancing afterschool issues in public policy.

Congressman Dave Loebsack, Iowa's 2nd Congressional District, Southeastern Iowa

A long-time member of the Afterschool Caucus in the United States House of Representatives, Congressman David Loebsack has been an advocate for afterschool programming since his first term. Last year, Congressman Loebsack introduced the Rural Education Bill in which a rural afterschool grant program was created. The Congressman is a long time supporter of 21st Century Community Learning Centers and afterschool STEM. Individuals previously recognized include Iowa Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds; Representative Ron Jorgenson of Sioux City, Iowa; Representative Kevin Koester of Ankeny, Iowa; and J. Scott Raecker of Urbandale, Iowa, former state representative.

Outstanding Afterschool Students

The Outstanding Afterschool Student Award honors students who reflect the best of the best among Iowa's children and youth, based upon the degree to which they represent afterschool programs' priorities of engagement, good character, academic achievement, and leadership.

Mercedes Castillo, North High School, Des Moines

Nominated by Dawn Oropeza, Mercedes has received the benefit of numerous afterschool programs over the years and has become a strong leader at her school and within the community. Although not typical for Latino families, Mercedes' parents have always encouraged her to attend and work in afterschool programs, including Afterschool Arts, CFUM, Whyld Girls, and Al Exito. According to her nominator, Mercedes is one of the most amazing people she has ever met. In the face of a tragic accident that claimed the life of her father last year, Mercedes went on to successfully perform in Peter Pan as Pan. She was selected for the Civic Center Theatre Summer Scholarship last year, and is now working with the North Theatre Alum to fight to save the position of the theatre faculty at the school. Mercedes has served as a teaching artist, started an Aztec dance group, received high honors at the Iowa Speech contest and is now a full member and leader of Movimiento Al Exito. In that role, she has presented to 300 Iowa State University teachers about serving minority students; she has sung the national anthem at the Black and Brown Forum and in the Univision/ Fusion video of "Dear Next President, Do Not Deport My Family;" she has served at the Immigrant Entrepreneurial Summit; and she has led sessions for the State of Iowa Latino Youth Summit and Maize 4H Camp.

Crosby Chanthavisouk, Storm Lake Middle School, Storm Lake

Nominated by Christine Carlson, Crosby has shown outstanding leadership skills in the Tornado Learning Club afterschool program (TLC). Crosby is a 7th grader who approached the TLC Director with ideas of enrichment clubs that he thought everyone would enjoy being part of. Crosby came up with the clubs, the hours, the requirements and rules, and became a TLC Volunteer. He comes every day to TLC to help guide the younger children, when needed, and to run the clubs he designed. He is a true role model. All the younger TLC students say, "When can I be like Crosby and be your worker?" He is the most dependable, calm young man that the TLC Director has had the pleasure to meet. He truly cares about the TLC afterschool program and the students who attend. Crosby is also in sports, choir, and continues to be on the Honor Roll at Storm Lake Middle School.

Carrie McGrean, Southeast Polk High School, Altoona

Nominated by Brooke Findley, Carrie McGrean, a Senior at Southeast Polk High School, has served as an afterschool leader for three years. Carrie participated in Chrysalis After-School programs in 6th, 7th, and 8th grades and re-engaged as a leader in 2013. She is a Senior GirlPower Peer Mentor that works with 6th, 7th, and 8th grade girls to understand emotions, manage behaviors and encourage healthy relationships as a preventive factor for avoiding violence. Carrie has led over 25 groups and trained a dozen new Mentors in high-quality, professional leadership.

About El Exito – the maker of this year's awards



dream. learn. succeed.

¡AL ÉXITO! is an Iowa-based organization which provides programming and mentoring for middle and high school Latino students, family programming and events, and interaction with Latino students on college campuses to motivate students to stay in school and plan for education beyond high school. For more information visit their website at <https://alexitoiowa.org/>.

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Thank you to this year's conference exhibitors!

