



Dear Program Provider,

Welcome to the After School Matters Program Providers Newsletter! This monthly newsletter will share updates, resources, and instructional strategies, as well as celebrate the successes of our teens and build community among our program providers. Enjoy!

Program Updates & Reminders

After School Matters Instructor Forum



February 2, 2018 | Save the date!

Join us at the
Instructor Forum
Friday, February 2, 2018
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
at NEIU Student Union
5550 N. St. Louis Ave.

***Please note that this is a required session for Spring 2018 After School Matters Instructors.**

The [Instructor Forum](#) is a full day of workshops, breakout sessions, and activities which will support you and all other After School Matters instructors in your continuous improvement. The Instructor Forum offers you an opportunity for professional development, a chance to come together as a community and learn from one another, and a space to celebrate your work. [Learn more!](#)

Corporate Partner Workshops

After School Matters has several corporate partners who host workshops for programs. These workshops can be scheduled during your usual program time. Examples of previous engagements include:

- **Mock-Interview & Resume-Writing Workshop:** Teens work directly with corporate volunteers to create or edit resumes and practice interview questions and answers.
- **Financial Literacy Workshop:** Teens learn about the financial resources available to them to plan for their financial future.
- **Office Tours, Q&A discussion:** Teens tour an office and network with industry professionals and learn about the various educational and career paths.
- **Other Content Specific Workshops:** Teens learn best practices on specific content areas, i.e. the Arts, Communications and Leadership, Sports, and STEM.

If you would like to learn more about the available workshops, or would like for your program to participate, please contact Emily Walters, Volunteer Coordinator at emily.walters@afterschoolmatters.org, or 312-768-5200.

Important Dates & Deadlines

Monday, December 18, 2017

Deadline for instructors/liaisons to enter time into ADP (including outstanding time that has not been entered for July - Dec.)

Wednesday, December 20, 2017

Expense report, certification letter and teen documents due (FALL ONLY programs)

Thursday, December 21, 2017

Instructor/Liaison Pay Day



Friday, December 22, 2017

Instructor Program Report due

Friday, December 22, 2017

Teen and Instructor Surveys close

Monday, December 25 - Monday, January 1, 2018

After School Matters offices are closed during this time. Regular business hours will resume on Tuesday, January 2, 2018.

View the full [After School Matters 2017 - 2018 Program Calendar](#).

Opportunities & Resources for Teens

1000 Girls, 1000 Futures

1000 Girls, 1000 Futures is an initiative designed to engage young women interested in science, technology, engineering, and math and advance their pursuit of STEM careers through mentoring and 21st-century skills development. Girls aged 13 - 19 who are enthusiastic about STEM are encouraged to apply to get access to one-on-one mentoring from real scientists, engineers, and more. For more information, click [here](#). To apply, click [here](#).

Future of Buildings and Cities Challenge

The Future of Buildings and Cities Challenge has begun! Teens can sign up today to help build a sustainable future and have a chance to win up to \$7,500 in prizes. To participate, teens must create an account on Launchpad, create or join a team project, and submit their solution before the challenge deadline on **Sunday, December 17, 2017**. Students must be 13-18 years old as of the date of registration in order to participate. Click [here](#) for more information, and click [here](#) to sign up.

14th CineYouth Film Festival

Cinema/Chicago and The Chicago International Film Festival are hosting the 14th CineYouth Film Festival, which showcases the work of young filmmakers ages 22 and younger from around the world. CineYouth 2018 will take place from April 27 - April 29, 2018 at the Music Box Theater in Chicago, IL. Submission details can be found [here](#), and the deadline for entries is **Monday, February 26, 2018**.

University of Chicago Summer Research Programs

The University of Chicago's Comprehensive Cancer Center is offering two summer research training programs for high school and college students interested in biomedicine! [Chicago EYES on Cancer](#) is a year-long research experience for high school and college students, beginning with an eight-week camp during summer 2018. [researchHStart](#) is an eight-week summer cancer research program for high

school teens interested in an immersive media research experience. Both programs are led by lead medical researchers. Applications for both programs will open in January 2018.

University of Chicago Collegiate Scholars Program

The University of Chicago Collegiate Scholars Program (CSP) is a three-year enrichment program that prepares talented Chicago Public School students in grades 10 - 12 for admission and success at highly selective colleges and universities. Current high school freshman can apply [here](#) by **February 11, 2018**. For more information, click [here](#).

Chicago Girls Study

The University of Chicago is conducting a study to learn about the neighborhoods, schools, relationships, and experiences of girls growing up in Chicago. Adolescent girls ages 15 - 19 are eligible to participate. Participation includes completing an online survey that asks questions about experiences as a girl in Chicago. Any information provided will be kept completely confidential and names will not be asked or attached to the information shared. Participants will receive a \$10 gift card for completing the survey. Any adolescent girls that are interested should go to girlschicagostudy.com. For more information, please call 872-233-8387, email girlschicagostudy@gmail.com or click [here](#).

Check out more [teen opportunities](#) at afterschoolmatters.org.

Opportunities & Resources for Alumni

After School Matters Alumni Council

Formed in 2017, the After School Matters Alumni Network has a mission to use the existing relationship with and connection to After School Matters Alumni to support their efforts to apply their talents to work and college. The After School Matters Alumni Council is the key decision-making group for the After School Matters Alumni Network. Alumni of all ages and career paths that live in Chicago are welcome to apply. Learn more [here](#) and encourage your alumni to [apply here](#). Applications for new members are due **Monday, December 18, 2017**.

After School Matters Alumni Network

The Alumni Network strengthens After School Matters by reconnecting former participants with the organization and our current teens. The Alumni Network encourages alumni and current participants to support each other in their efforts to discover their potential and find their future.

Learn more about the After School Matters Alumni Network [here](#) or by visiting the After School Matters Alumni Network Facebook page.

Upcoming Workshops:

- Thursday, January 18, 2018 - [Personal Branding: The Art of Marketing YOU](#)
- Thursday, February 15, 2018 - [The Art of Networking: Making Meaningful Connections](#)

Opportunities & Resources for Providers

Support Services Directory

As you build relationships with young people, it's important to remember when and how you can provide additional support if it's needed! If a young person needs additional resources, you can use the [Support Services Directory](#) After School Matters has created to help connect them with resources in their community. If you need to provide a young person with additional support, remember to **always** loop in your Program Specialist. Please also note your status as a [mandated reporter](#).

Instructional Strategy of the Month

Instructor Approved Icebreaker, Energizer, and Reflection Activities Booklet

This [booklet](#) lists a variety of icebreakers, energizers, and reflection activities that can be used during program time. These activities can give teens a chance to get to know one another, help the group re-focus, allow teens to process the experience they're having, and promote a culture of belonging. Have an amazing activity of your own to share with other After School Matters instructors? Email instructions to [Emily Nott](#) at any time.

If you want to discuss this tool or additional facilitation and instruction strategies, contact Emily Nott, Manager of Professional Development at emily.nott@afterschoolmatters.org or 312-702-8591.

Program Provider Highlight

Howard & Darlene Sandifer

The Business of Music



Howard and Darlene Sandifer have been instructors with After School Matters for more than 12 years through their organization Chicago West Community Music Center in the Garfield Park neighborhood. In their program, The Business of Music, teens learn about music production and the fundamental business aspects of music, and more. Howard and Darlene have worked to bring high-profile visiting professionals to their program, such as Jasmine Sullivan and Ray Chew, and have established a partnership with the Berklee College of Music to expose teens to their curriculum while still in high school. In November, Howard and Darlene's program visited Paris, France where they explored the city, attended an interdisciplinary colloquium at the University of Chicago – France Center, and performed music by Chicago jazz, blues and gospel artists.

Thank you, Howard & Darlene, for all you do for After School Matters!

Safety First!

Transporting Teens: All field trips must be approved in writing by your Program Specialist. During programs and field trips, use an approved transportation option, such as a professional bus service or the CTA. Remember — ASM staff, instructors, and program providers are not authorized to transport program participants in their personal vehicles at any time, for any reason. (See Field Trip Request Form in Cityspan)



Teen Stipend Reminders

Wintrust Bank

Teens are able to cash their stipend checks for free at any Chicagoland Wintrust Bank! Teens can find the nearest Wintrust Bank location [here](#).

Urban Partnership Bank

Teens are able to cash their stipend checks for just \$1 at any Chicagoland Urban Partnership Bank! Teens can find the nearest Urban Partnership Bank location [here](#).

School IDs, State IDs and Driver's Licenses will be accepted as forms of identification for cashing checks at both banks.

Contact Us!

You can reach the **Teen Stipend Hotline** at **312-768-5199** or [email us](#).

Comuníquese Con Nosotros

Para mas información en español, llámenos al **312-846-7106** o mándenos un correo electrónico a espanol@afterschoolmatters.org.

Thank you for showing teens they matter.

Connect with us on social media for more program highlights.



#TeensMATTER

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SCHOOL matters®

www.afterschoolmatters.org