



NEBRASKA

# Community Learning Center Network

May 2008  
**E-Blast**

[www.NebraskaCLCNetwork.org](http://www.NebraskaCLCNetwork.org)

Growing successful students, engaged families, stronger communities

## Celebrating Success

Two Nebraska communities are sending high level teams to the 7th Annual *Afterschool for All Challenge* event on May 13th and 14th to celebrate some recent accomplishments recorded by Nebraska afterschool initiatives and to welcome new programs offering more students opportunities to engage in afterschool programs.

This public awareness event organized by the Afterschool Alliance, based in Washington DC, brings together afterschool staff, administrators, advocates and youth from all over the country to participate in workshops, networking, meetings with Congressional offices and celebrations. The event will include the famed Breakfast of Champions, where they honor afterschool all stars, celebrate the 10th anniversary of the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Initiative and hear from congressional afterschool champions. Following the breakfast, participants will meet with Members of Congress and staff to discuss the importance of afterschool and the need for continued investment.

The event will also feature Afterschool Alliance's partnership with the National League of Cities and their National City Afterschool Summit. City officials, superintendents, school board members, and afterschool providers will share ideas and strategies for ensuring the growth of quality afterschool programs.

### Lincoln CLC Initiative Receives National Accolades

The Lincoln Community Learning Centers will receive one of four MetLife Afterschool Innovator Awards at the *Afterschool for All Challenge* Breakfast of Champions. Arnold CLC student Mandy Amberg and her mother Jan Amberg will be joining thr Nebraska Afterschool Ambassador and Arnold CLC site director, Dayna Krannawitter and CLC Coordinator, Lea Ann Johnson, to accept the award on behalf of Lincoln CLC Initiative. Lea Ann will also participate in a panel entitled Afterschool Programs: Connecting Schools, Parents and Communities.

### Omaha to participate to NLC panel discussion

A large delegation from Omaha is also participating in the *Afterschool for All Challenge* with a group that includes: Mayor Mike Fahey, who will be receiving recognition as an Afterschool Champion; Omaha Public Schools Superintendent, John Mackiel; and a large group representing the Sherwood Foundation including Kristin Williams, Bob Whitehouse, Cary Tobin and Katie Weitz-White. Mayor Fahey, Superintendent Mackiel and Kristin Williams will also be participating in a panel discussion organized by the National League of Cities as part of their National City Afterschool Summit.

## Spotlight

### on community outreach resources

We recently posted *Harnessing the Power of Afterschool Young Adolescents* a downloadable presentation on our website that helps make the case for developing afterschool programs for middle school students. This material was developed by Dr. Terry Peterson, the chairman of the Afterschool Alliance. Dr. Peterson is also the Director of the Afterschool and Community Learning Network, a Senior Fellow for Policies and Partnerships at University of South Carolina and College of Charleston and a long standing champion for afterschool programs. We encourage you to use this material to help make the case for programs in your community or to build support for your existing initiative.

Visit [www.nebraskaclcnetwork.org/community\\_center/resource\\_sharing](http://www.nebraskaclcnetwork.org/community_center/resource_sharing) to download this presentation and more.



## Web-based Science and Math

*Afterschool Resources from Exploratorium*

Below is a link to the recently launched Digital Library Afterschool Website from Exploratorium <http://www.exploratorium.edu/afterschool/activities>

This is one resource in a developing web portal of afterschool resources here: <http://www.exploratorium.edu/afterschool>

The goal of the Exploratorium Digital Library Afterschool Project is to bring more science and math enrichment into out-of-school time using resources from the Exploratorium's Digital Library ([www.exploratorium.edu/library](http://www.exploratorium.edu/library)), one of the many collections from the National Science Digital Library. Educators visiting the site will learn different afterschool activities through digital videos, concept maps, links to other STEM resources in NSDL, science explanations, educator tips, and related activities. Portable media in the form of a DVD is also available as well.

## Let us hear from you...

If you haven't already done so, please visit our web site and take a couple of moments to fill out a **Partner Form**.

This is our way of getting to know you and your interests so that we can serve you better.

As always, feel free to contact us with your questions, comments or other feedback. Direct your emails to Jeff Cole at:

[jcole@nebraskachildren.org](mailto:jcole@nebraskachildren.org)

[www.NebraskaChildren.org](http://www.NebraskaChildren.org)

## New 21st C CLC Sites Announced

Before- and after-school programs will soon open at 11 new sites in three Nebraska communities through new federal grants awarded by the Nebraska Department of Education's 21st Century Community Learning Center grants program. These programs provide extra help for students in reading, mathematics and other studies. The State Board of Education approved grants for the following communities:

- Columbus-based Communities Together Can After-School Program
- Madison Public Schools
- Omaha Public Schools

"These after-school programs join other Nebraska 21st CCLC centers to provide more than 5,700 youth a safe, supportive environment with activities and experiences that promote their academic and social development," said Karen Stevens, director of the 21st Century Community Learning Centers grant program.

In addition, five quality programs at 15 sites across the state will continue to receive federal grants for 21st Century Community Learning Center programming. Grants to the following communities will be available for five years:

- Lexington Public Schools
- Lincoln Public Schools
- North Platte Public Schools
- Omaha Nation Public Schools and Walthill Public Schools
- O'Neill Public Schools

In the past five years, the Nebraska Department of Education has awarded 34 First-Time federal grants for students at 88 different sites in 24 Nebraska communities. For more information see the program web site at <http://www.nde.state.ne.us/21stcclc>