MUSEUMS AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS:
Leveraging Resources and Increasing Impact

Presenters

Melissa Ballard
Afterschool Alliance

Catherine McCarthy
Science Museum of Minnesota

Keith Ostfeld
Children's Museum of Houston

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Overview

Collaboration networking exercise (Karen)

Museums and community partnerships
    NISE Network (Rae, Catherine)
    Children's Museum of Houston (Keith)

Collaboration opportunities, best practices, and lessons learned
    Afterschool Alliance (Melissa)
    National Girls Collaborative Project (Karen)

Discussion and Q&A

COLLABORATION NETWORKING

Karen Peterson

National Girls Collaborative Project

Speed (Collaboration) Networking

Collaboration Networking

- Your Name
- Your Organization/Program & Role
- Resources *(what do you have to **share**?)*
- Needs *(what do you **need** to meet your goals?)*
- 2 Minutes Each
- Bring your business card to exchange
- You might need a pen to write down great ideas!

MUSEUMS & COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Rae Ostman + Catherine McCarthy

National Informal STEM Education Network

NISE Network

National Network

- Originally dedicated to nanoscale science, engineering, and technology
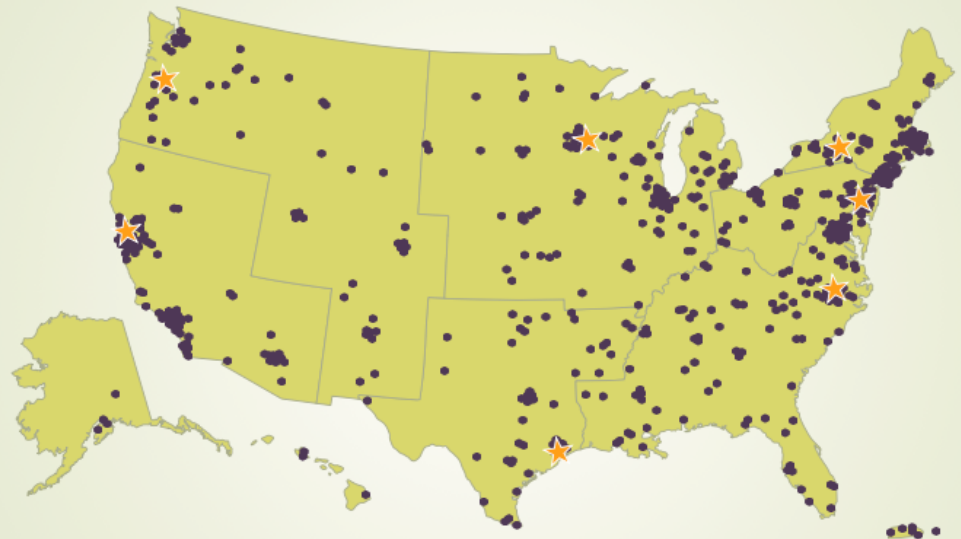- Now have projects on a range of STEM topics

Activities

- Public engagement
- Professional development
- Knowledge and practices related to informal learning

Partnerships

- National
- Local

620 ORGANIZATIONS

regularly participate in Network activities

368 museums

208 universities

44 industry, other

⭐ Regional hub

Museums & Community Partnerships

Project goals:

1. **Engage local communities more broadly** in STEM learning, focusing on nanoscale science, engineering, and technology

2. **Develop local partnerships between museums and community organizations**, helping museums reach new audiences and helping community organizations provide high-quality STEM learning experiences for their audiences

3. **Identify, develop, and share successful practices and models** for reaching new audiences and developing successful collaborations among local organizations

National Partners

Core partners
- Afterschool Alliance
- Boys & Girls Clubs of America
- Girls Inc.
- National Girls Collaborative Project
- 4-H

Additional participation
- American Library Association
- Arizona State Library
- Boy Scouts of America
- Girl Scouts
- Parent Teacher Association (PTA)
- Y (YMCA)
- YWCA

Project overview

Target audience

- Elementary
- Traditionally underserved and underrepresented

Process

- Existing and new partnerships
- NISE Net partners apply, receive kits, and report
- Partnership is defined and managed locally

Resources

- 100 kits

Timeline

- Kits delivered winter 2016
- Program delivery spring-summer
- Report on activities summer 2016
- Evaluation results winter 2017
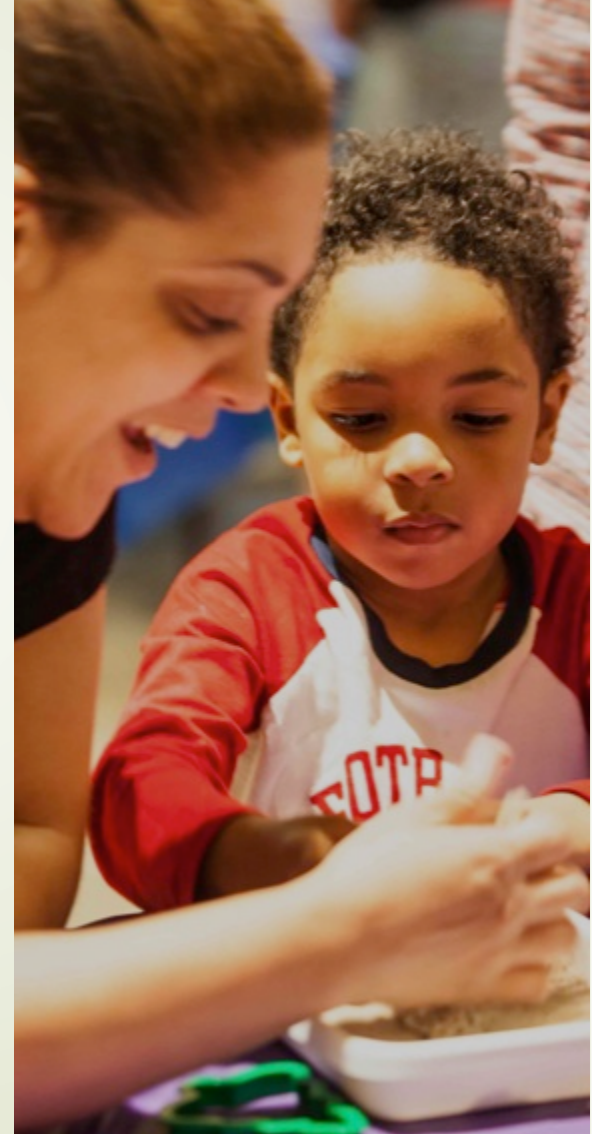
Materials

Public engagement

- Hands-on activities
- Videos and supporting materials

Professional resources

- Planning and promotional materials
- Training videos, slides, and guides
- Collaboration guide, video, and tools
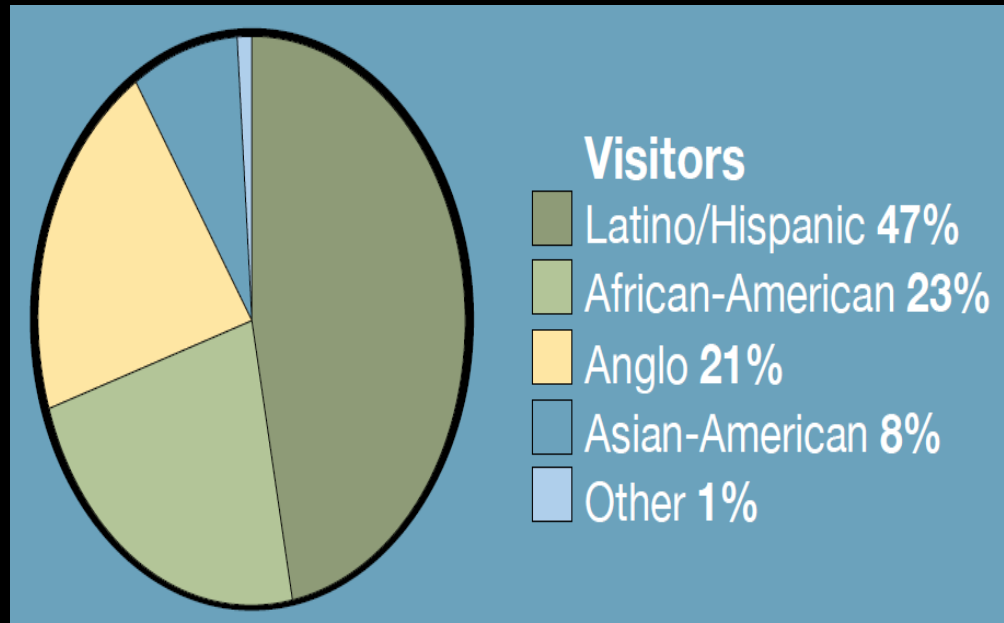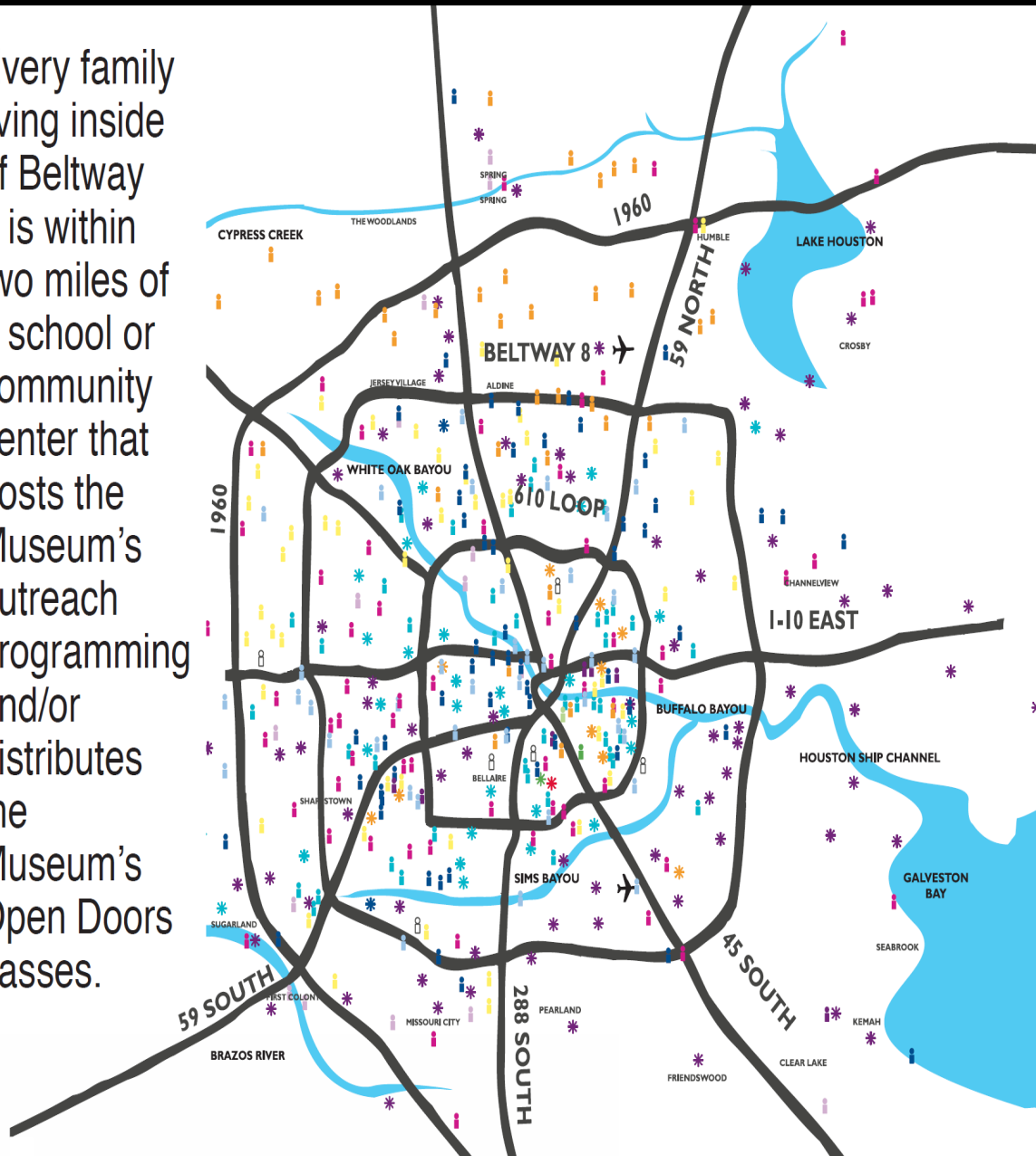
MUSEUMS & COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

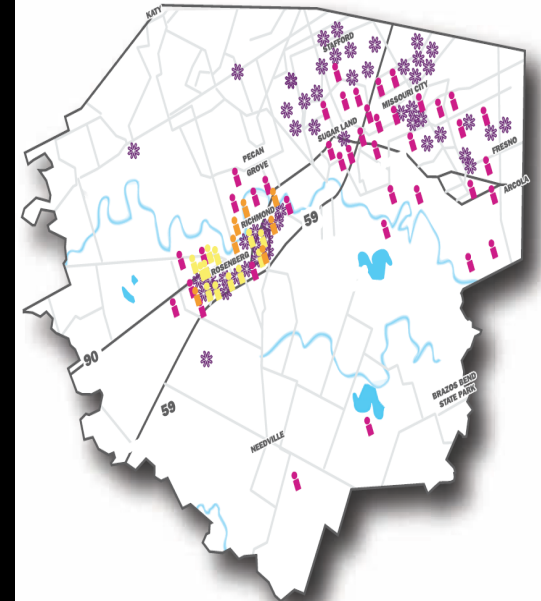Keith Ostfeld

Children's Museum of Houston

Visitor Demographics:

Visitors
- Latino/Hispanic **47%**
- African-American **23%**
- Anglo **21%**
- Asian-American **8%**
- Other **1%**

Every family living inside of Beltway 8 is within two miles of a school or community center that hosts the Museum's outreach programming and/or distributes the Museum's Open Doors passes.

THE WOODLANDS
CYPRESS CREEK
SPRING
SPRING
1960
HUMBLE
LAKE HOUSTON
59 NORTH
CROSBY
BELTWAY 8
JERSEY VILLAGE
ALDINE
WHITE OAK BAYOU
610 LOOP
1960
CHANNELVIEW
I-10 EAST
BUFFALO BAYOU
HOUSTON SHIP CHANNEL
BELLAIRE
SHARPSTOWN
GALVESTON BAY
SIMS BAYOU
SEABROOK
SUGARLAND
KEMAH
59 SOUTH
FIRST COLONY
MISSOURI CITY
288 SOUTH
PEARLAND
45 SOUTH
CLEAR LAKE
BRAZOS RIVER
FRIENDSWOOD

FORT BEND COMMUNITY PARTNERS 2013–2014

KATY
STAFFORD
PECAH GROVE
SUGAR LAND
MISSOURI CITY
FRESNO
RICHMOND
ROSENBERG
59
Lincoln
90
59
BRAZOS BEND STATE PARK
NEEDVILLE

After School Programs

- Professional Development
- ExxonMobil Magnificent Math Moments
- A'STEAM and Kit-Based After-School Programming
- Science Workshop
- Summer of Learning

Open Doors Partners

- ✳ 1–4 Partners
- ✳ 5–9 Partners
- ✳ 10–19 Partners
- ✳ 20–29 Partners
- ✳ 30+ Partners
- ✳ Fort Bend Outreach Partner

Museum Field Experiences

- Family Adventures
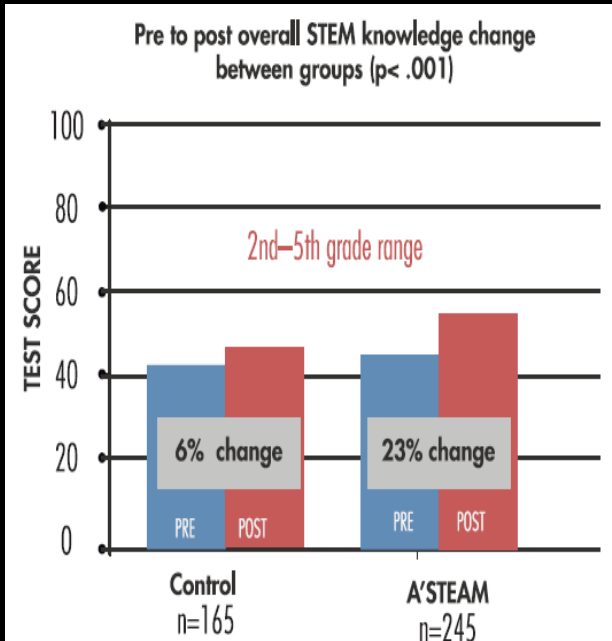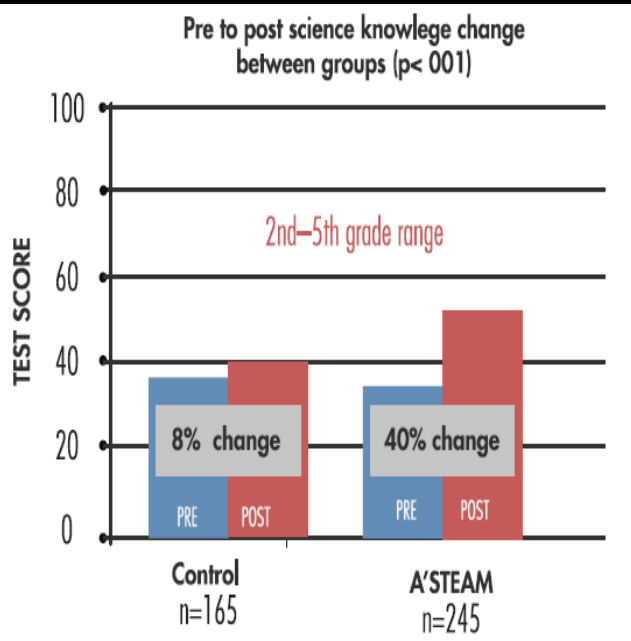- Overnight Adventures
- Student Parent Tours

Family Learning Programs

- Para los Niños
- Parent Stars
- Family Literacy Involvement Program (FLIP)

A'STEAM Program
After-school Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts (Design), and Mathematics

Pre to post science knowlege change between groups (p< 001)

2nd—5th grade range

Control n=165 — 8% change
A'STEAM n=245 — 40% change

Pre to post overall STEM knowledge change between groups (p< .001)

2nd—5th grade range

Control n=165 — 6% change
A'STEAM n=245 — 23% change

"During one of our focus groups with students, a little girl said "I love the science we do here; we actually get to DO science. At school the only science we ever do is on paper…

Bethune Elementary (Aldine ISD)

BEST PRACTICES + LESSONS LEARNED

Melissa Ballard

Afterschool Alliance

The Afterschool Landscape:
Getting to Know Your Potential Partners

Afterschool Alliance

The Afterschool Alliance

1	Policy & Advocacy	2	Research	3	Field-Building

1 — Policy & Advocacy

- National policy
  - Families & children; STEM
- Advocacy day on Capitol Hill
- Lights On Afterschool

2 — Research

- Translate & synthesize research
- Issue briefs & reports
- Collect data

3 — Field-Building

- 50 state networks
- Partnerships for policy, research, & practice
- Best practices & models
- Webinars, blogs, toolkits, & other resources

America After 3PM

DEMAND IS HIGH

More youth than ever before—

10.2 million

—are in afterschool programs.
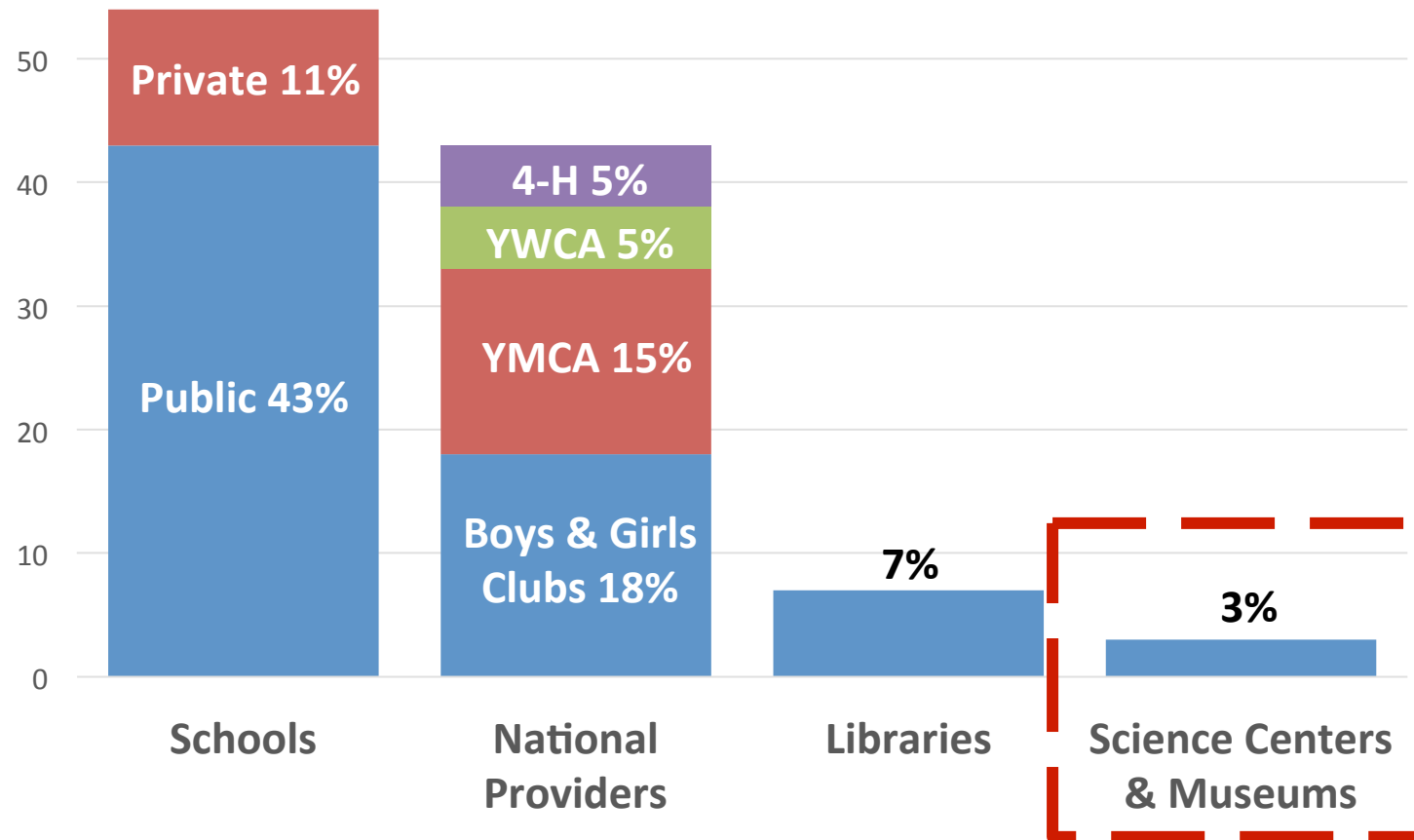
For every child in a program,

2 are waiting to get in.

- Household survey of how kids spend the hours after school

- Attendance & demand much higher in low-income, African-American, & Latino households

AMERICA AFTER3PM

What are kids doing?

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PHYSICAL ACTIVITY
80%

HOMEWORK ASSISTANCE
77%

BEVERAGES, SNACKS AND/OR MEALS
72%

OPPORTUNITIES FOR READING OR WRITING
72%

STEM LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES
69%

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS/CLUBS
65%

MUSIC OR ART
63%

WORKFORCE SKILLS DEVELOPMENT, SUCH AS TEAMWORK, LEADERSHIP AND CRITICAL THINKING
46%

PARENT/FAMILY ACTIVITIES
45%

Afterschool Alliance

AMERICA AFTER3PM

How is afterschool unique?

Youth Development Goals

- Empowering young people

- Socio-emotional learning

- Positive relationships with adults

- Non-academic skills like leadership, confidence, teamwork, service (21st Century)

Environment

- Low-stakes

- Flexible in time and space

- Community partnerships

Approach to Learning*

- Hands-on, experiential

- Project-based

- Experimentation & failure

- New entry points to topics

- Connected to communities, home cultures, and student knowledge & experiences

Resource: What does youth development look like in practice?

Afterschool Alliance

Addressing Equity

THE

6,000
HOUR LEARNING GAP

By the time they reach 6th grade, middle class kids have likely spent **6,000** more hours learning than kids born into poverty.

Jack's family has the means to help him explore all kinds of learning opportunities.

Mike was born into poverty, with fewer chances at every turn to discover and grow.

1,395 HRS
PRE-SCHOOL

+

220 HRS
FAMILY READING TIME

+

245 HRS
WEEKEND DAY TRIPS

+

1,080 HRS
SUMMER CAMP

+

3,060 HRS
AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

=

6,000-HOUR LEARNING GAP

Afterschool Alliance

ExpandEDSchools by TASC

Afterschool Providers

National Providers

Community-Based Organizations

Religious-based organizations, local community centers, public housing centers, immigrant or refugee service providers, etc.

Others

City-run afterschool programs through your Parks & Recreation Department or Police Athletic League.

School-Based Sites

Unique to every community!

The Connectory

- Database of STEM program providers looking for partners & resources
- Post your programs to the parent portal

System-Builders for Afterschool

State & Local

Statewide Afterschool Networks
Funded by C.S. Mott

City / Regional Intermediaries
e.g. Every Hour Counts

National Organizations

National Afterschool Association

Afterschool Alliance

National Summer Learning Association

Partnership Tips

Key Steps:

1. Get a sense for your local landscape (youth-serving org in general)

2. Connect with system-builders

3. Make sure you have a respect for afterschool providers' expertise & experiences

4. Learn to speak each other's language

5. Start with a small, concrete activity to do together

Keep in mind:

- Afterschool practitioners can have limited conception of creative or more substantive museum partnerships

- Won't necessarily understand the museum field

- **Savvy leaders are key!**

Afterschool Alliance

What could you do?

Community of Practice

Professional development

Themed event

Committees / Networks / Boards   Advocacy

Outreach programming

Co-teaching models

Afterschool Alliance

BEST PRACTICES + LESSONS LEARNED

Karen Peterson

National Girls Collaborative Project

Best Practices in Successful Collaborations

1) **Prepare**
2) **Look**
3) **Plan**
4) **Build**

http://ngcproject.org/ngcp-extended-webinar-session-increasing-program-impact-best-practices-collaboration

National Girls Collaborative Project

Prepare to Collaborate

- **Reflect** on past collaborations and the characteristics of successful or ineffective collaborations.

- Create a **quick summary** of your program services you can easily share when you first meet potential collaborators.

Prepare to Collaborate

- Identify your **strengths and challenges.**

- Identify the **resources you have to offer.**

- Identify your **needs**.

Look for Collaborators

- Find the "home" of your audience **who can benefit** from your program and services.

- Identify **guides.**

- Network with **purpose.**

Plan for a Successful Collaboration

- Be flexible and **patient**.
- Be explicit about **project benefits**.
- Create a collaboration **agreement.**

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Build a Successful Collaborative Project

- **Communicate** frequently.
- **Adapt** as personnel, plans, and needs change.
- Celebrate **successes.**
- **Debrief** the collaboration.

National Girls Collaborative Project

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Collaboration Mash-Up

Mash-Up Guidelines

- Group Activity
- Create a project or activity that uses and builds upon **all of your resources and strengths**
- You have $1000
- Only 8 minutes to plan

National Girls Collaborative Project

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DISCUSSION + Q&A

Thank you

NSF

NISE network™
NANOSCALE INFORMAL SCIENCE EDUCATION