



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **After School Matters Hosts Recruitment Expos at 41 Chicago High Schools**

From September 18 to 21, After School Matters (ASM) is helping local teens discover a wide range of after-school opportunities by hosting recruitment expos at 41 public high schools throughout Chicago (locations listed below). Expos occur during the school day, between 9:30 AM and 2:00 PM.

Studies show that teens who are not involved in after-school activities are 57 percent more likely to drop out of high school. They are also more likely to get pregnant, use drugs or alcohol, and become perpetrators—or victims—of juvenile crime, which peaks every day just after school lets out, between the hours of 3:00 and 6:00 PM.

“We want to give young Chicagoans the chance to participate in safe and engaging out-of-school activities that offer positive relationships with peers and nurturing adults, marketable job skills that have value in the workplace, and exposure to career and educational opportunities that previously may have seemed out reach,” explained ASM executive director David Sinski.

ASM apprenticeships, which focus on the arts, communications, science, sports, and technology, are hands-on, interactive programs that allow teens to explore diverse career paths and develop marketable skills such as teamwork, leadership, and problem solving. Teens apply online, at [www.afterschoolmatters.org](http://www.afterschoolmatters.org), and interview for the apprenticeships, just as they would if they were pursuing a job. Apprentices receive a stipend for their work, and attendance is required.

Additionally, ASM apprenticeships are led by skilled and dedicated professionals who are experts in their field. “Most important is the chance you have to give back to the community,” said ASM mural painting instructor Khalid Ridgeway. “I’ve been given a lot of chances myself, I’ve had a lot of guidance growing up, and now it’s my turn to instill those values I’ve learned along the way to someone else, so it’s a very rewarding experience.”

After School Matters is a non-profit organization that partners with the City of Chicago, Chicago Public Schools, the Chicago Park District, and the Chicago Public Library, the Chicago Department of Children and Youth Services, and the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs to expand out-of-school opportunities for Chicago teens. By anchoring after-school programs around clusters of city high schools, parks, and libraries, ASM maximizes existing public infrastructure.

ASM aligns the support of these partners with the resources of private, philanthropic, and non-profit organizations to offer teens a comprehensive network of specialized opportunities. Working together, these institutions help revitalize Chicago neighborhoods and enrich the lives of teens around the city.

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## ASM Recruitment Expos 2/2

Fall recruitment expos are being held at the following schools:

1. Foreman High School
2. Roosevelt High School
3. Schurz High School
4. Senn High School
5. Sullivan High School
6. Taft High School
7. UPLIFT Community School
8. Vaughn Occupational High School
9. Clemente Community Academy
10. Kelvyn Park High School
11. North-Grand High School
12. Prosser Career Academy
13. The Campus (Orr High School)
14. Westinghouse Career Academy
15. Austin Community Academy High
16. Clark Academic Preparatory High
17. Collins High School
18. Crane Tech Prep Common School
19. Juarez Community Academy
20. Manley Career Academy High
21. Curie Metro High School
22. Dunbar Vocational Career
23. Farragut Career Academy
24. Kelly High School
25. Little Village Campus
26. Phillips Academy High School
27. Tilden Career Community
28. Calumet Preparation Academy
29. Englewood Technical Preparatory
30. Harper High School
31. Hyde Park Academy High School
32. Gage Park High School
33. Lindblom College Preparatory
34. Robeson High School
35. Simeon Career Academy High
36. South Shore Campus
37. Bowen High School
38. Carver Military Academy
39. Fenger Academy High School
40. Harlan Community Academy
41. Washington High School

To learn more about the wide range of after-school apprenticeships and activities offered by After School Matters, please visit [www.afterschoolmatters.org](http://www.afterschoolmatters.org).

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