

# AFTER SCHOOL matters

After School Matters Program Providers Newsletter | March 2016



## Dear Program Provider,

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

## Program Updates

### Inclusion at After School Matters & Disability Etiquette

The goal of inclusion at After School Matters is to provide equal opportunities for teens with disabilities to participate in After School Matters programs, to integrate teens with disabilities with their peers, and provide insight into the abilities and strengths of teens with disabilities.

Our Inclusion Coordinator, Pat Morin, is available to provide program support to both teens and instructors. Learn more about Pat's role at After School Matters [here](#).

To learn more about appropriate etiquette when interacting with teens with disabilities, click [here](#).

Please contact Pat Morin for more information. Pat can be reached at [patricia.morin@afterschoolmatters.org](mailto:patricia.morin@afterschoolmatters.org) or at 312-

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## Quick Links

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## Program Dates

### Spring 2016

February 22 - May 14, 2016

March 14 - May 28, 2016  
(March-start programs)

Click [here](#) to see the **FY17 Program Calendar!**

## Instructional Strategy of the Month

### The Human Knot\*

Use the Human Knot activity as an energizer or team builder activity for your teens.

702-8591.

### **Teen Interview Outcomes**

Please be sure to complete the Interview Outcomes in Cityspan by **April 1, 2016**. For more details on entering Teen Interview Outcomes click [here](#).

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## **Opportunities & Resources for Teens**

Please see below for details on great opportunities and resources that are available to teens:

### **One Earth Film Festival**

The One Earth Film Festival will showcase 35 thought-provoking films on a variety of environmental topics in the Chicagoland area. The festival will take place from March 4 - March 6, 2016. For more information, click [here](#).

### **Introduction to Engineering Program at Notre Dame**

The Illinois Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers (IL-ASCE) is seeking applications from minority students interested in participating in a two-week summer Introduction to Engineering Program at the University of Notre Dame (learn more [here](#)). **Applications must be received by March 12, 2016 for consideration.** Learn more about this exciting opportunity and apply [here](#)!

### **R2L NextGen**

Applications for the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute's summer high school program, [R2L NextGen](#), are open! R2L NextGen is a week-long leadership and civic engagement program for high school students currently in 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup> grades. The program, which will take place July 10-July 15, 2016, is completely free of charge to all selected student participants. Click [here](#) to access the application. **All applications must be submitted by March 14, 2016 at 11:59pm ET.**

### **Explore Purdue**

Explore Purdue is a special event for all underrepresented minority students to explore a future at Purdue University. Explore Purdue is scheduled for Saturday, April 2, 2016. Click [here](#) for more information and to register for this opportunity.

### **Raw Voices Media Arts Festival**

Raw Voices is a media arts festival for middle and high school students in Chicago taking place on **Saturday, April 16, 2016**. This annual festival is like none other in Chicago, drawing hundreds of teens from around the city each year to the campus of Columbia College Chicago to experience firsthand what it's like to work in the media arts.

1. Have teens stand in a circle facing inwards.
2. Have everyone put their right hand in the middle of the circle.
3. Have everyone reach in with their left hand and grab someone's right hand. Make sure the teens do not grab the hand of the person standing next to them.
4. The group has now formed a knot and must untangle into a circle. Teens are not to release hands until the knot is undone.
5. If you'd like to use this activity to teach the importance of non-verbal communication, tell the teens that they are to untangle themselves without talking to add another level of complexity.

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## **Instructional Tool: One Good Program**

This tool, rolled out during the Spring 2016 Kick-Off meetings, can be used to ensure that your program mission and vision is the driving

The **registration deadline** for Raw Voices is **Friday, April 8**. For more information and a look at last year's workshops, click [here](#).

For additional opportunities and resources for teens, please visit the teen resources section of [our website](#).

## Program Provider Highlight: David Bild

Teenagers Exploring and Explaining Nature and Science



David is the instructor for Teenagers Exploring and Explaining Nature and Science (TEENS). This program gives teens the opportunity to use the tools of environmental and conservation scientists to conduct field investigations. David has created a fun STEM program where teens are excited to talk about their findings and discoveries. Additionally, teens enter their findings into a national database that is used by the professional scientific community. Pictured above are teens from David's program at their Fall 2015 showcase. David has connected teens to many different nature sites throughout Chicago so they can observe how ecosystems differ within the city limits. Thanks David for all you do for After School Matters!

If you would like to submit a highlight to this newsletter, [click here](#).

Thanks everyone for a great start to Spring programs!

Sincerely,

After School Matters

force of all activities. This tool can also be used to help teens plan their final projects or showcases. Check out the One Good Program tool [here](#).

## PLC Highlight

Check out [this post](#) by a fellow ASM instructor on using Structure and Clear Limits in an Arts program! More resources can be found on the After School Matters Professional Learning Community (PLC) [here](#).

## Connect With Us On Social Media



Thank you for telling teens they matter.

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