The Michael and Karyn Lutz Center for After School Matters

Investment Opportunities
We have a vision for the future of Chicago and its vibrant communities.

After School Matters provides more than 15,000 Chicago high school teens each year with life-changing after-school and summer program opportunities. Now, thanks to the transformative generosity of the Michael and Karyn Lutz Family Foundation, we have greatly expanded our youth services in one of the city’s fastest-growing yet under-resourced communities.

Located at 3435 N. Cicero Ave. in the heart of Chicago’s Belmont Cragin neighborhood, The Michael and Karyn Lutz Center for After School Matters is a facility specifically designed for teenagers — providing a safe space where our youth can grow, thrive, and discover their potential. A gift to the Center is an investment in more than bricks and mortar — it is an investment in the voices, minds, and hearts of young people.
We are pleased to offer a variety of legacy opportunities within the Center in recognition of significant commitments to the future leaders of Chicago — our teens.

There are many ways in which you can become a part of the philanthropic family of After School Matters.

Gifts of $500 and above will be recognized on our donor wall and may be used to name the program areas and spaces within the building.

You may take advantage of these opportunities through an outright gift or a pledge over a period of time.

In-kind gifts as well as gifts of any amount are also appreciated and will help provide the resources that our teens deserve.
The Center features a new Dance Studio.
Chef’s Kitchen
$250,000
A significant investment in culinary supplies is needed for the Chef’s Kitchen. Items ranging from commercial ovens and refrigerators, to sinks, pots, and pans are essential to the program’s day-to-day operations and the long-term success of our teens. Teens learn culinary techniques — from basic to advanced — as well as the nutritional skills they will need as they look forward to independent living.

Community Showcase Space
$100,000
When teens are able to showcase their work, they gain confidence and valuable presentation skills. This area provides a wonderful setting for such showcases, along with the flexibility to adapt to alternative uses. The rich artistic creativity of our teens illuminates the history of After School Matters in this space.

Dance Studio
$150,000
After School Matters’ various dance programs have been recognized internationally in a variety of disciplines — including ballet, tap, jazz, modern, and hip-hop. The Dance Studio provides a proper space for training and collaboration so our teens can realize their potential.

Makerspace
$100,000
Makerspaces provide a flexible environment where learning is made physical by applying science, technology, engineering, math, and creativity to generate ideas and solve problems. Here, teens gain practical hands-on experience with new technologies and innovative processes to design and complete projects.

1st Floor
$1,500,000 for full-floor naming
The Center features a new Chef's Kitchen and Dining Room.
The Center features a Vocal Rehearsal Room and two Recording Booths.
Vocal Rehearsal Room | Recording Booth  
$100,000 | $25,000  (2 available)

When teens find their voices, they see that there is no limit to what they can achieve. These spaces provide plenty of room for our teens’ voices to soar through a variety of vocal arts and music programs.

Resource Center  
$15,000  (3 available)

Our teens face many issues that are all too real in today’s environment; violence, unemployment, and lack of resources are pervasive. At the Center, teens have a safe space to seek guidance on anything from post-high school graduation plans to personal issues that present barriers.

Dining Room  
$50,000  |  Donor Investment Secured

The Dining Room serves as the learning space where teens can develop a full-spectrum view of the culinary field and the career opportunities it holds in a safe, nurturing, healthy, and fun environment. This area will also serve as a gathering place for guests to enjoy meals created by our talented teens.

“The Michael and Karyn Lutz Center for After School Matters is an investment in our teens and our future.”

Karyn Lutz, Founder
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$250,000

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Studio (3)

Studio 1 - Art | $15,000
Studio 2 - Fashion & Design | $15,000
Studio 3 - Tinkering | $15,000

Studios provide safe spaces and creative environments where our hands-on, project-based programs allow our teens to thrive.
3rd Floor
$1,000,000 for full-floor naming

Innovation Lab
$250,000

This space is designed to create an environment that supports 21st century learners. Flexibility and fluidity encourage creative and critical thinking, while freeing students to communicate clearly about the task at hand. The Innovation Lab enriches the educational experience by providing teens with the opportunity to work collaboratively in simulated real-world environments.

Tech Labs
$100,000 (4 available)

Computer skills expose teens to new ways of thinking, using both their creative and logical thought processes. Math, science, art, and other programs can be incorporated in fun and innovative ways, giving teens more opportunities to develop skills for their future. Our teens deserve cutting edge technology to stay competitive.
4th Floor
$1,000,000 for full-floor naming

Creative Commons
$250,000

This large open space allows for our teens to collaborate and work in a creative environment. The Creative Commons area provides a flexible setting for teens to brainstorm, sketch, and draft — important steps in the design process.

Workshops (2)
$25,000

Workshop 1 - 3D Art/Sculpture Studio
Workshop 2 - Tinkering Space  | Donor Investment Secured

Workshops provide dedicated spaces for teens to tinker, visualize, and realize their ideas. Here, teens will learn how to use various technologies to design and produce actual prototypes.

Large Art Studio
$50,000

By creating works of their own, our teens develop the skills of imagining, reflecting, seeing, and feeling in art. By working with various media, they expand their ability to invent and experiment. The Large Art Studio space provides a collaborative environment for our teens to create and flourish.

Small Studio
$15,000

Studios provide safe spaces and creative environments where our hands-on, project-based programs allow our teens to thrive.
The Center features a new Small Studio.
“After School Matters creates opportunities for young people to become leaders. It provides a safe environment for us to learn life skills that can be applied to the real world—our community—in the future.”

Edna, 17
After School Matters Teen
“We would love to share our beautiful new building with you. Please join us as we literally shape the future of Chicago.”

Mary Ellen Caron
CEO, After School Matters

For more information about naming opportunities, please contact Anedra Kerr, Chief Development Officer, at 312.768.5185 or anedra.kerr@afterschoolmatters.org.

www.afterschoolmatters.org