



AFTER SCHOOL matters® Spring Update

*"I don't know where my dreams and my confidence would be without After School Matters."*

*-- Jessie, 18, Humboldt Park*

Dear Friends,

There is much to celebrate as we wrap up our spring program session and prepare for the summer – when nearly 13,000 teens will participate in our biggest single program session to date! When teens know that caring adults have their backs, they can accomplish anything – curate an art exhibition, teach professional athletes how to grout a glass mosaic, use mathematical formulas to build musical instruments, and so much more.

This summer, when you see a teenager – whether or not they're in a purple t-shirt – I ask you to please smile and offer a word of encouragement. Then we'll start to see more teens like Jessie finding their confidence, and pursuing their dreams. Thank you for all that you do.

Mary Ellen Caron, *CEO*

**#MySummerMATTERS**

June 20, 2017

# DAY OF GIVING

#MySummerMATTERS



On June 20, nearly 110,000 Chicago high school teens will start summer break. While summer is a time for our young people to have fun with friends, it is also unfortunately when violence historically soars, and when teens are more likely to be unsupervised and at risk of finding trouble.



Join us on June 20 to help provide nearly 13,000 teens with a life-changing opportunity this summer.

Learn more about our [Day of Giving](#).

## #SeePurple this summer

After School Matters programs will perform across the city, cook and serve lunch on the rooftop of Gallery 37 Center for the Arts, and open their work to the public in Millennium Park. View our full [summer events list](#).



Visit [afterschoolmatters.org/calendar](https://afterschoolmatters.org/calendar) for more upcoming events!

## Spring at After School Matters

## Thank you, Chicago White Sox!



On Tuesday, April 25, the White Sox Volunteer Corps visited the J-Def Peace Project program at Solorio High School in Gage Park. White Sox great Harold Baines and current stars Miguel Gonzalez and Jacob May helped the teens put together several glass mosaics, and Chicago White Sox Charities generously donated \$50,000 to support our programs.

Learn more and [view the photo gallery](#).

## Spring Break at After School Matters

More than 150 teens took an extra step towards finding their futures during Spring Break by participating in one of three immersive programs!

### *ASMU: After School Matters University*

The fourth annual ASMU helped 120 high school freshmen and sophomores explore their futures. Teens created vision boards, heard from motivational guest speakers, and visited local colleges and offices to tour the spaces and capture their experiences with short videos.

[Follow their experiences](#).



### *College Tour: Emory University*

10 teens from the Youth Ambassador Leadership Council visited Emory University. [Learn](#) what else the teens explored while in Atlanta.

Many thanks to United for making this incredible trip possible for our teens!

### Music in STEM

40 teens participated in Music in STEM at Columbia College Chicago, in partnership with Chicago Public Schools, where teens crafted musical instruments and explored the science and math behind sound. Watch one of our teen engineers play the xylophone he built in [this video](#).



*“Because of the Music in STEM program, I feel like I can build anything.”*

— Tyshawn C., 15

## Citywide Arts Festivals



### Teen Film Festival

This special screening of teen-created short films, documentaries and music videos brought seven programs and 100 teens together to celebrate voices from across Chicago. [Watch their films](#).



### Correct Opinions

More than 50 teen artists showed their work in *Correct Opinions*, a teen-curated art exhibition. Hear from the Arts + Public Life Teen Arts Council members who created the show in [this video](#).

See more [program highlights](#) at [afterschoolmatters.org](http://afterschoolmatters.org).

## Join us this summer!



## Teens, APPLY NOW!

**13,000** opportunities  
**600+** programs

### Summer 2017 programs begin the week of July 5.

*Advanced apprenticeship programs begin the  
week of June 26.*

Spots are still open, so...

**APPLY NOW!**

**#MySummerMATTERS**



## Join the race for Chicago's teens.

TEAM After School Matters began the 2017 running season strong by participating in the Bank of America Shamrock Shuffle 8K. Our team of 20 runners raised more than \$8,000 to support After School Matters.

**Join us in our next race**, Strides for Peace on Thursday, June 1. This 8K and 5K fun run has no fundraising requirement!

Learn more and register [here](#).

# YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS.

We hope something within this update has inspired you to **get involved**.

Chicago's teens need and deserve a bright future, and we are grateful for anything you can do to help provide that.

**Give Now**

**Volunteer Now**

**Learn More**

Connect with us on social media for more program highlights.



# #TeensMATTER

AFTER  
SCHOOL matters®