



# Link

## Link Spring 2011

[www.floridaafterschool.org](http://www.floridaafterschool.org)



Keywords - Florida After School Alliance

### **FASA 2011 STATE CONFERENCE OCTOBER 5-7, 2011!!!**

Get ready to rejuvenate your mind, body and soul at FASA’s 2011 Annual State Conference held October 5-7, 2011 at the Orlando World Center Marriott, 8701 World Center Drive, Orlando, Florida 32821. The Orlando World Center Marriott Resort & Convention Center is an extraordinary getaway where you can enjoy a luxurious golf and spa resort that includes 18 challenging holes of championship golf, six swimming pools with 106-foot waterslide and poolside activities, award winning restaurants, and a full-service spa. This year’s conference features over 60 exceptional training seminars, an outstanding Keynote presenter, hilarious FASA Frolics, our Awards of Excellence luncheon to honor our extraordinary winners, a vast array of dedicated vendors at our Exhibit Hall, and numerous exciting networking opportunities. The FASA/21<sup>st</sup> CCLC conferences have become the most attended conference for afterschool professionals in the state. We’re sure you’ll find that this is the premier after school state conference you have been looking for!



PICTURE YOURSELF HERE IN OCTOBER... FASA WILL BE WAITING FOR YOU!!

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# A Message from FASA's President



Good Afternoon FASA Members and Friends,

On March 8, 2011 the Florida's legislative session began. It is so very important that all of our voices are heard in Tallahassee and Washington D.C. Many issues are beginning considered; advocates and experts are forecasting devastating budget cuts to many programs.

Governor Rick Scott released his [\\$65.9 billion budget recommendations](#) and some of his proposals for early care and education are promising. For example, the Governor is recommending more than \$45 million to restore nonrecurring school readiness funds and more than \$72 million to restore nonrecurring federal funds for Florida's Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) program. In fact, he included an additional \$10,458,142 to address projected enrollment growth for VPK. Governor Scott also proposed increased funding for Healthy Start Coalitions and children's mental health services and kept current funding levels for the Florida KidCare and Healthy Families programs. This is a start and we must continue to

support programs that enhance the quality of care for Florida's youngest citizens that have no vote. While we understand that budget cuts are inevitable to restore our economy, we hope that the Legislature supports Governor Scott's early care and education proposals. These are challenging times and we know that cuts to children's services don't easily heal.

Unfortunately, there remains no mention of After School in any of the legislation or funding streams for this very important and critical age group. Please remain unwavering in your commitment and let your elected officials know that investments in school age children and education programs are yielding a significant return. Families need quality child care so they can get to work and stay at work! It is critical in shoring up Florida's fragile economy.

Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> is Provider Appreciation Day! This is a day set aside to recognize child care providers, teachers, and others that tirelessly care for children and youth of working parents. It takes a special person to work in this field and the contribution these individuals make to the quality of children's and families' lives too frequently goes unnoticed. Provider Appreciation Day offers a unique opportunity to recognize and commend the unselfish dedication, commitment and compassion that child care providers demonstrate every day.

Many governors throughout the country are commemorating Provider Appreciation Day by issuing an official Governor's Proclamation. We are confident that Governor Rick Scott will sign this proclamation in Florida that affirms the importance of our early learning system as a whole and recognizes the individuals who serve children and families every day.

Don't forget to register for the National After School Association Convention! Hope to see you there.

In Service for Children,

Sharon Carie  
President

# Join Us

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Since 1988, FASA has hosted an annual statewide conference with training and workshops for all experience levels. To empower its growing membership, FASA partners with local community organizations that provide training, support, and resources for after school programs.

## **ADVOCACY**

FASA is a voice for quality after school programs. From promoting national standards and accreditation for after school programs to working with policy advisory groups, FASA's advocacy efforts help to educate the public about the benefits of quality programs for children and youth during out-of-school time.

## **NETWORKING**

Your membership connects you with other professionals who share your commitment to quality after school programs.

# FASA Implements New Membership Fees Effective June 1, 2011

By joining FASA you are supporting the critical service that after school programs provide to communities and families. Your membership connects you with professionals who share your commitment to quality. Additionally, your FASA membership **meets the Administrator's Credential requirement** for membership in a professional organization.

Effective June 1, 2011 FASA will change it's Membership Fee structure to mirror the fee structure of NAA (National Afterschool Association), our parent organization. Annual membership options include a **FULL** membership for only \$70 , an **ASSOCIATE** membership for \$35, and an **ORGANIZATIONAL** membership for 3 members for \$195.

### **TWO FOR ONE DEAL—WHEN YOU JOIN FASA, YOU JOIN NAA**

When you join FASA you receive a like membership with NAA. The benefits of the various membership plans are outlined below for your consideration. We appreciate your membership and look forward to serving as your professional organization for many years to come.

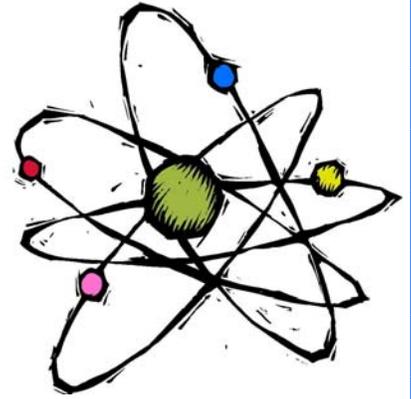
<b>MEMBERSHIP HAS IT'S BENEFITS</b>	<b>FULL MEMBER and ORGANIZATIONAL</b>	<b>ASSOCIATE MEMBER</b>
Eligibility to vote in FASA and NAA elections	YES	NO
Eligibility to apply for a board position for FASA and NAA	YES	NO
Eligibility to participate on FASA and NAA committees	YES	NO
Print publications from NAA	YES	NO
Electronic publications from NAA and FASA	YES	YES
Access to program discounts (materials, curricula, products)	YES	NO
Access to discounts for individuals (insurance, degrees)	YES	YES
Ability to join special interest groups through NAA	YES - Unlimited	YES—Up to 2
Discounted registration at NAA and FASA Annual Conferences	YES	YES
Discounts at local networking events	YES - Free	YES - Reduced
NAA Member Help Line	YES	NO
Access to special FULL MEMBER sections of FASA website (Fall 2011)	YES	NO



*Paul Young NAA  
President and  
CEO*

# NAA - The Year of Science

In a world in which STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) learning has become universally crucial, those individuals who will be able to enjoy the highest personal earnings will likely be those who possess the skills and creativity that position them as innovators and leaders. For our children and youth, increased STEM learning is imperative. An interest in the sciences and the motivation to explore is essential for producing not only higher earnings, but a better quality of life and opportunities that will sustain America's competitiveness in a global society.



Never before has it been so important to encourage, inspire, and prepare the next generation of American scientists. Recognizing this critical need, the Afterschool Alliance, the National Summer Learning Association, and the National AfterSchool Association have joined together in support of increasing high quality science, technology, engineering, and mathematic (STEM) learning opportunities for children and youth during out-of-school hours. Considering how science impacts our nation's strategic interests and security, we encourage our members and stakeholders to join forces with school personnel to increase the capacity of afterschool professionals to deliver instruction and engage learners in high quality STEM activities. This initiative is not just another add-on, but a means to increasing awareness, achieving innovative learning, and preparing students to lead the scientific world.

According to the National Science Foundation, 80% of jobs created in the next decade will require math and science skills. Afterschool programs are excellent venues to extend and enrich STEM lessons that are taught during the regular school day and help prepare our current learners for those jobs. Schools alone cannot and should not be expected to do this preparatory work. NAA and its partners pledge to align our efforts with school and community initiatives by providing professional development for afterschool providers to become STEM leaders. We also intend to inspire young minds, raise awareness and capacity, connect practitioners with resources, and advocate for policies that will support this important work now and in the future.

## Special THANKS to Dr. Charles Byrd

The entire FASA Board would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Charles Byrd for his years of service as a Board Member Emeritus to the FASA Board of Directors. Dr. Byrd's contributions to FASA are greatly appreciated. We particularly want to acknowledge all his hard work as our Conference Co-chair. While he will be missed, we know that he will remain a champion for the after school community. Please join us in wishing Dr. Byrd continued success in all his endeavors!



# NAA Convention Comes to Florida

2011 NAA ANNUAL CONVENTION

April 16 - 18, 2011

Gaylord Palms Resort and Convention Center

NATIONAL  
**AfterSchool**  
ASSOCIATION

A Bright New Day  
Orlando 2011

## Attend the 2011 NAA Convention!

### The Premier National Convention for AfterSchool Professionals.

The National AfterSchool Association's 23rd annual national convention will bring afterschool professionals together for 3 days of the most comprehensive professional development opportunities available for afterschool professionals anywhere in the United States. This year, the site is the magnificent and spacious Gaylord Palms Convention Center in sunny Orlando, Florida. The NAA Annual Convention has become a must-attend event for leaders in the field. You can select from over 200 member-led workshops and special training opportunities, view the latest in resources and meet important vendors at our Exhibit Hall, observe projects and interact with young scientists at the NAA Science Fair, network and interact with your peers and colleagues from all fifty states and many foreign countries while enhancing your knowledge of common interests and challenges in the profession.

### General Info

The 2011 NAA Convention features 3 dynamic general session speakers and over 200 member-led workshops in which you can obtain new ideas, learn best practices, and gather solutions to the challenges you face each day in the workplace. Building on our success in previous years, the 2011 NAA Convention will feature five primary themes focused on the key issues every afterschool professional faces every day:

- STEM Beyond the Classroom
- Global Learning in Afterschool
- Advancing the Afterschool Profession
- Leading Afterschool
- Learning in Afterschool

Attendees include practitioners and leaders from before school, afterschool and summer school programs; youth-serving organizations; 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21stCCLCs); parks and recreation departments; administrators from all public, private, faith, school and community-based organizations; and local, state and national policymakers and reform leaders.



**2012 NAA Convention,  
MARK YOUR CALENDARS!  
April 2,3,4, 2012  
at the Gaylord Texan, Dallas, TX**

## Attend 2011 Children's Week April 3-6, 2011

Over the past 15 years, the only broad-based promotion of children and family issues in Florida has been Children's Week. A true grassroots event since its inception, Children's Week is supported by over 80 different non-profit, corporate, philanthropic, faith-based, state agencies and organizations. Children's Week develops and implements over 200 community events and activities statewide, bringing thousands of parents, children, policy makers, professionals, community leaders and concerned citizens together to share valuable knowledge and information about children's issues in each community across the state and at the State Capitol.

The week is full of events for advocates across the state. The activities include:

- **Hanging of the Hands** - The official kick off of Children's Week on Sunday, April 3. Hundreds of volunteers from across the state will hang over 100,000 paper cut-outs of children's hands that are decorated and collected at child care centers and schools in Florida. The Capitol Rotunda turns into an amazing display of children's art. The hands remain in the Capitol Rotunda the entire week as a reminder to legislators and advocates that we must take care of our most precious commodity; our children.
- **Community Innovation Awards Luncheon** - On Monday, April 4, policy members, elected officials and community leaders will come together to recognize collaborative efforts on children's issues in communities statewide. The luncheon will be held at the University Center Club from 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. The 2011 Children's Week Community Innovation Award winners will be honored and recognized.
- **Advocacy Dinner & Reception** - Also at the University Center Club, the Advocacy Dinner & Reception will be held Monday, April 4, from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. The dinner honors Children's Week partners and non-profit organizations who dedicate their lives to children. The evening features live entertainment, a decadent dinner and reception, and the opportunity to network with more than 350 advocates, policy makers and business leaders. The winner of the 2011 Chiles Advocacy Award will be announced, highlighting an instrumental child advocate in Florida.

**"Children's Capitol for a Day"** - The State Capitol Rotunda and the Capitol Courtyard will be transformed into the "Children's Capitol for a Day" on Tuesday, April 5. Thousands of children, parents, advocates, community leaders and policy makers from throughout the state gather for a day of educational and interactive events and activities. Teachers and students are encouraged to bring their students to the State Capitol for a field trip to learn about the legislative process, meet with policy makers and enjoy a fun and informative atmosphere of learning. Tours of the Capitol can be taken, legislators will read books to children at the Legislative Reading Corner and a healthy boxed-lunch from Crispers will be provided to all students and schools that RSVP to attend. Additional "Children's Capitol for a Day" events include a press conference and Hanging of the Hands Dedication Ceremony, a Youth Advocacy Workshop, as well as a "Teens Only" Town Hall Meeting where selected student panelists will ask important questions to legislators and policy makers regarding the future of Florida's children.

Additional information about Children's Week and event registration can be found on [www.childrensweek.org](http://www.childrensweek.org). For questions, call Jason Zaborske at 850-251-7274 or send an email to [info@childrensweek.org](mailto:info@childrensweek.org).

Hope to see you at the Capitol!



## GIVE THE GIFT OF READING

Children's Week is teaming up with the Pearson Foundation who will provide up to 5,000 free books to children. Simply by reading free books online at the We Give Books digital library, you can help us give books to children in need throughout the state of Florida. Visit <http://www.wegivebooks.org/campaigns/united-way-of-florida> and read a book with the children in your care today! It only takes five minutes. Tell a friend to visit the website and read a book with their child as well. Just by sharing the joy of reading with a child in your life, you can help us help children even more through Children's Week.

## 21st CCLC News

The Florida Department of Education is pleased to announce the release of the 2011-2012 Request for Proposal (RFP) for competitive projects for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers program (21st CCLC), Authorized under Title IV, Part B, of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), as amended. Florida's 21st CCLC afterschool programs are designed to help students throughout Florida meet state and local academic achievement standards in core academic subjects, particularly those who attend low-income, low-performing schools through educational and enrichment opportunities. In addition, 21st CCLC programs provide youth development activities, drug and violence prevention programs, technology education programs, art, music and recreation programs, counseling and character education to enhance the academic component of the program.



The funds will be awarded through a competitive grant process based on the implementation of high quality, research-based academic improvement practices, through collaborative efforts, and meeting the grant criteria.

If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Lani Lingo by phone at (850) 245-0852 or by e-mail at [Lani.Lingo@fldoe.org](mailto:Lani.Lingo@fldoe.org).



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# WWW. STEM RESOURCES FOR OST

To see what is happening with STEM initiatives visit these online resources:

<http://www.edequity.org/programs/science-and-math-programs> Education Equity Center at AED

<http://www.childrenandnature.org/> Children's Nature Network

<http://www.usfirst.org/> FIRST Robotics

<http://www.njsacc.org/> Full STEM Ahead!: New Jersey's Afterschool Stem Initiative

<http://www.4-h.org/youth-development-programs/> National 4-H Council

<http://www.nsf.gov/> National Science Foundation

<http://www.noycefdn.org/> Noyce Foundation

<http://www.stemedcoalition.org/> STEM Education Coalition

<http://www.stemschool.com/2009/04/what-is-stem-school.html> STEM School Blog



## Living Healthy - Taking Care of Caregivers

### Breakfast, Snacks and Other Goodies

It's a cycle that often repeats as a result of busy lifestyles: skipping breakfast, then binge eating later in the day on sweets or other high-fat, high-calorie snacks. Here's a better way:

#### Make Breakfast Your Ally:

You can't beat breakfast. Nutritionists say it supplies large amounts of necessary vitamins, minerals and other nutrients you just don't often find in lunch and dinner.

And if you think skipping breakfast is a good way to cut calories, think again: Studies show that breakfast eaters tend to be leaner than non-breakfast eaters. Fact is, they take in less fat and cholesterol all day. And they also tend to get more fiber, which may reduce risk of serious diseases like heart disease, cancer and diabetes.

*Easy breakfast:* low fat granola with fruit and yogurt, whole grain cereal with, milk low-fat bran muffins or whole-wheat toast with low-fat cream cheese.

#### Snack the Smart Way

Done right, snacking can be a great way to fill in needed calories and nutrients during your day. And feeding hunger pangs with low-cal nibbles every few hours can also help prevent overeating, control weight and possible lower blood cholesterol and control blood sugar.

Simple snacks: whole fruit, rice cakes, low-fat crackers. Low sodium instant soups, air popped popcorn or a handful of unsalted dry roasted peanuts.

#### Treat Yourself, Too

Of course, don't deny yourself the occasional candy bar or bag of cheese puffs. Just make them the exception rather than the rule-you'll actually enjoy them more.

# April is National Autism Awareness Month

Autism is a complex developmental disability that typically appears during the first three years of life and affects a person's ability to communicate and interact with others. Autism is defined by a certain set of behaviors and is a "spectrum disorder" that affects individuals differently and to varying degrees. There is no known single cause for autism, but increased awareness and funding can help families today.



In December 2009, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued their ADDM autism prevalence report. The report concluded that the prevalence of autism had risen to 1 in every 110 births in the United States and almost 1 in 70 boys. The issuance of this report caused a media uproar, but the news was not a surprise to the Autism Society or to the 1.5 million Americans living with the effects of autism spectrum disorder. Nonetheless, the spotlight shown on autism as a result of the prevalence increase opens opportunities for the nation to consider how to serve these families facing a lifetime of supports for their children.

Currently, the Autism Society estimates that the lifetime cost of caring for a child with autism ranges from \$3.5 million to \$5 million, and that the United States is facing almost \$90 billion annually in costs for autism (this figure includes research, insurance costs and non-covered expenses, Medicaid waivers for autism, educational spending, housing, transportation, employment, in addition to related therapeutic services and caregiver costs).

Source: Autism Society, The Autism Society improves the lives of all affected by autism through education, advocacy, services, research and support.

## What is Florida KidCare?

Florida KidCare is a new health insurance program for Florida children age 0-18. There are several types of insurance within KidCare to meet the needs of your child.

### Who's Eligible?

- Children age 0-18 who don't have health insurance now
- Your child may be eligible even if both parents work
- Families may make application for unborn children prior to the birth of the baby so that coverage can begin at birth

### How Do I Apply for My Child?

The application process consists of completing a simple, one page form.

### How Much Does It Cost?

- Fees vary—some families pay \$20 a month, some pay more, and some pay none at all

### What Types of Things (or Benefits) Are Covered by Florida KidCare?

- Doctor's visits
- Hospital care
- Prescribed drugs
- Lab tests
- Behavioral or mental health

Florida KidCare offers a complete set of health benefits for your child, such as:

### Who Provides Health Care?

Florida KidCare uses licensed health care providers and health plans who provide high-quality care to your children.

**Important Number to Call:** Call Florida KidCare at 1-888-540-KIDS (1-888-540-5437)



Florida After School Alliance  
 P.O. Box 20425  
 St. Petersburg, FL 33742  
 Phone: 727-568-0778  
 Fax: 727-578-2817  
 www.FloridaAfterSchool.org



Keywords - Florida After School Alliance

*The mission of FASA is to provide leadership, to support professionals and to promote quality programs for children and youth during out-of-school hours. To accomplish its mission, FASA provides training, advocacy, and networking opportunities for after school professionals throughout Florida.*

## MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

### NEW MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2011

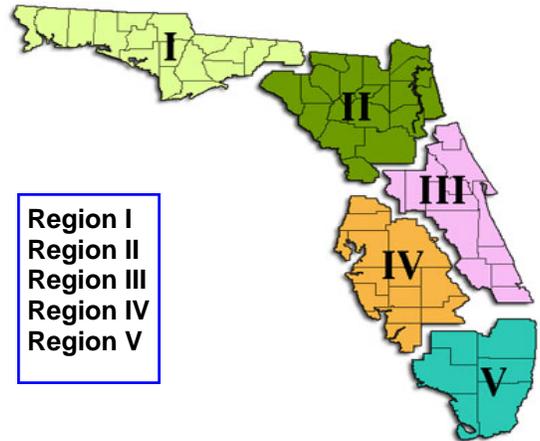
- ASSOCIATE MEMBER \$35 PER YR
- FULL MEMBER \$70 PER YR
- ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBER \$195 PER YR

**SEE PAGE 3 FOR  
 DETAILS  
 REGARDING  
 MEMBER  
 BENEFITS**

**Includes 3 full memberships with FASA and NAA**

## Meet Your FASA Board Members

REGION	POSITION	NAME	EXECUTIVE BOARD	
1	Regional Director	Jessica Wallace	President	Sharon Carie
2	Regional Director	David Hurst	Vice President	Robert Liebman
3	Regional Director	Debi Embry	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Deb Ballinger
3	Regional Director	Greg Snow	Secretary	Kathie DiPolito
4	Regional Director	Raymond Long	Treasurer	Rhonda Rogers
5	Regional Director	Dorothy Johnson		
	Member at Large	Brenda Knight		
	Member at Large	Manuel Ferrer		
	Member at Large	Debbie Zenk		
	Member at Large	Lani Lingo		
	Member at Large	<i>Vacant</i>		



**Interested in serving on the FASA board or a committee?  
 Need more information about FASA?**

“The physical and emotional health of an entire generation and the economic health and security of our nation is at stake.”- First Lady Michelle Obama at the *Let’s Move!* launch on February 9, 2011 <http://www.letsmove.gov/>