

# BOOST Collaborative Newsletter



Issue: 5

August 2010

"I am special because I'm not walking into the future without a direction"  
*Danny, 17*  
*The After-School Corporation, New York, NY*

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## Letter From BOOST

Dear BOOSTers,

Are you celebrating the United Nation's International Year of Youth? If not, you've got just enough time to celebrate its annual International Youth Day on August 12, 2010. Visit their website to find events planned year round to acknowledge the theme for the year "Dialogue and Mutual Understanding." Dive in and live out their slogan "Our Year, Our Voice" with the youth in your life.

To learn more please visit the [Year of Youth Website](#).

Thanks you for all of the work you do to support children, youth, families and communities.

Kate Nadeau  
 Communications Liaison  
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## Newsletter Sponsor of the Month

### ABUTECH - Win a Setof Books Always Believing In You

Take a second and think of that moment in your life where the road to your dreams was lit up by the words or actions of people who took the time to say they believed in you. There is a new spotlight in after-school programs, illuminating the path for children's dreams to come true. Having worked with non-profit



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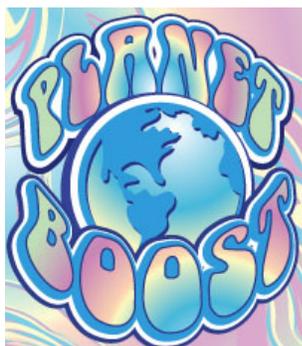
**BOOST Conference Contest**

Congratulations to **Rachel Chase** of Hunter Frontiers in Urban Science Exploration in New York for winning the BOOST Summer Contest and receiving free registration for the 2011 BOOST Conference. She is implementing new STEM training with her students this summer!

organizations for over 17 years, Andre Lewis, the founder of Abutech, is empowering elementary school children across the country with his educational programs, dynamic children's books and motivational presentations. There are several subjects he covers, including but not limited to fighting childhood obesity, bullying, developing proper oral hygiene, closing the achievement gap in technology, and dream-building.

In 2008, Andre attended his first BOOST Conference. Now, he has become a welcome exhibitor and captivating presenter. He has worked with several BOOST attendees, inspiring children and staff everywhere he goes. He recognized that children responded better when they were given a tangible object to support the message - a book!

### Planet BOOST



See the photos submitted of BOOSTers in their BOOST Gear!

[Click Here](#)

Abutech is willing to work with any organization that has a strong fervor for seeing children succeed in life. **Contact us through our website about a presentation for your organization and you will automatically be entered into a drawing to win a set of books signed by the Author.** The drawing will be held on September 30, 2010. The winner will be contacted to confirm inscription and the shipping address. Please visit our website at [www.abutech.com](http://www.abutech.com) and select contact us and provide your contact information (name, school, program, city, state, phone, & email). On the subject line place - Boost News.

### BOOST Buzz

#### Meet the BOOST Ambassadors

The BOOST Collaborative is lucky to have two great interns this summer as part of the BOOST Team. Cassandra Bareno and Denise Zeigler are great assets to our organization and have a lot of expertise and enthusiasm to contribute to new and on-going projects.

### Resource Center



BOOST is proud to bring you free resources to enhance the quality of your out-of-school time program and professional development needs. We will be adding resources to this section on a quarterly basis.

Here is a sampling of what is offered. Please click on the subjects below.

[Academic Curriculum](#)



**Cassandra Bareno** - Cassandra is a senior at Saint Mary's College of California and will graduate with B.S. in Psychology with an emphasis on Adolescent and Adult Development. Throughout her time at Saint Mary's, Cassandra has been exposed to diverse groups of people and has had the opportunity to positively impact the community by serving as a Jumpstart Corp. Member. She is enthusiastic about being part of the BOOST team, so that she can continue to have a positive influence on the lives of children and adolescents.



**Denise Zeigler** - Denise is originally from Elizabeth, New Jersey and grew up in San Diego, California. She is a graduate from Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandise with an AA in Merchandising Product Development and is currently attending Alliant International University for her MBA in Integrated Marketing communications. Previously she has worked as a mentor and camp counselor for middle school and high school with YoungLife. She comes to BOOST with hopes of gaining new insight and experiences, while making a daily positive impact for the youth!

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**Co-Working at BOOST**

## BOOST Breakfast Club Featured Blog

### It All Adds Up: Hiring, Training, and Evaluating for the Things You Really Care About

Nathan Eklund, Senior Education Consultant  
Search Institute, Minneapolis, MN



"I was fortunate enough to lead a pre-conference session at this year's BOOST conference with my good friend Scott Arizala who is the Bono of the camping world. This guy is a bonafied rockstar. He trains and speaks at camps across the country and is a national keynoter and thought leader in the camping community. We co-led a session titled: "Retaining and Sustaining in Times of Crisis." Along with the attendees we had a solid 6 hours to dream and scheme and plan and vent and create. It was a wonderful opportunity to really immerse in how we run our organizations so that staff are capable, effective, healthy, and well prepared for the challenges that come with working with youth."

To read more by Nathan Eklund please [click here](#).

## Program Highlight

### The Meeker Foundation Camping Trip

The mission of The Jarrett Meeker Foundation is to provide programs related to wildlife, conservation, and the environment for children and young adults. Their most recent endeavor fulfilled this mission for a group of 3rd graders from City Heights' Central Elementary School in San Diego. Coming from an area with limited outdoor recreational space these children were able to experience camping and nature first hand.



In the past the Meeker Foundation has provided the 3rd grade class with the funds to do a sleepover at the San Diego Wild Animal Park. This year, however, they decided to go completely hands on and instead provide their own camping experience at the Louis Stelzer County Park for the youth to tie into their environment curriculum. The Meeker Foundation was able to invite a representative from the Barona Cultural Museum to talk with the children about the history and culture of the Kumeyaay Native Americans. Additionally, the overnight provided the sky as a blackboard for astronomy lessons. In the morning the children learned about the benefits of fertilizer by composting their leftover breakfast items, learning how earthworms contribute to the environment, and then planting oak trees.

The evenings were a huge success. Despite many of the children having



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[Click here to learn more.](#)

**Affiliate Programs**



Starting your back to school shopping?

Go to the BOOST Marketplace page and click on either logo. BOOST Scholarship Fund will receive 4% of the profits of anything purchased through those links!

[Click here to see the BOOST Marketplace](#)

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never spent a night away from home, homesickness was almost non-existent. Though one student found it important to clarify that if a mountain lion came into his tent, it was okay to scream.

For the kids, it was a complete, well rounded learning experience. Judy Meeker, co-founder of the Meeker Foundation, says she has received letters from all the children with their thanks and telling her all the amazing things they learned. One student felt that we all need to learn from how the Kumeyaay Indians live their lives, taking only what they need. All of the hard work paid off and the 3rd graders of Central Elementary School have had an out door experience like no other.

To learn more about the Jarett Meeker Foundation please [click here](#).

**Staff Highlight**

**Evan Wilson  
Providence After School Alliance**



Like many people who work in afterschool programming, Evan Wilson wears many hats. Evan runs the AfterZone at DelSesto Middle School, which serves about 125 students each session. With a constant emphasis on quality and best practices, Evan and his staff make sure that the AfterZone is always an extraordinary place for middle school youth. Evan regularly works late - calling parents and talking to youth - and has increased enrollment and retention at his site. He is truly an asset to the Providence After School Alliance, which oversees the AfterZone.

Recently, Evan has been working to develop the AfterZone Summer Scholars program as part of a collaborative School Teacher/Community Educator partnership. With Evan's support, guidance, and attention to detail, the 35 participating middle school students have been studying the science behind our daily lives: energy consumption and production, food processes, water use and more. But this is July in Providence, and Evan is not helping to lead summer school - students are out watching a wind turbine, hearing about urban food growing at city farms, and leading their own experiments to bring their learning to life. Evan brings along his collaborative spirit, leadership, and energy each day.

*Do you have a staff member or colleague that goes above and beyond every day? Send a 200 word feature and photo of them to [kate@boostcollaborative.org](mailto:kate@boostcollaborative.org)*

**Research**

**Engaging Older Youth: Program and City-level Strategies to Support Sustained Participation in Out-of-School Time**



### Tell Us What You Want to See



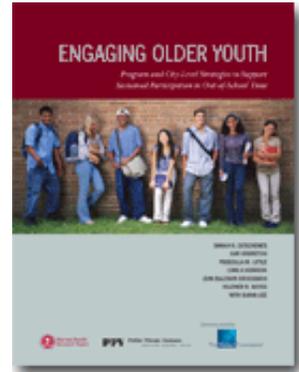
We are interested in highlighting promising practices and innovative programs. Have something that you wish we would share? Want to highlight your program or staff?

E-mail your thoughts to Kate.

kate@boostcollaborative.org

This new report from the Harvard Family Research Project, *Engaging Older Youth*, examines the program practices and structural features of almost 200 OST programs located across six diverse cities—Chicago, Cincinnati, New York, Providence, San Francisco, and Washington, DC—and primarily serving low-income youth.

The report identifies five OST program characteristics (two program practices and three structural features) that set apart the programs that were the most successful in supporting high retention: providing many leadership opportunities to youth in the programs, having staff keep informed in several ways about youth outside programs, being community-based, enrolling 100 or more youth, and holding regular staff meetings.



To download the PDF of "Engaging Older Youth" please [click here](#).

To see more research pertaining to youth please [click here](#) to visit our research page.

### Funding Opportunities

To see more funding opportunities please visit our listing [here](#).

#### [Finish Line Youth Foundation](#) - Sept. 1, 2010

Finish Line Youth Foundation focuses funding on organizations that provide opportunities for youth participation in the following areas: Youth athletic programs - Community-based programs addressing active lifestyle and team building skills. Camps - Established camps with an emphasis on sports and active lifestyle, especially programs serving disadvantaged and special needs kids.

#### [Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy](#) - Sept. 10, 2010

The Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy is pleased to announce our 2011 National Grant competition. The Foundation's grant-making program seeks to develop or expand projects designed to support the development of literacy skills for adult primary care givers and their children. A total of approximately \$650,000 will be awarded.

#### [Ezra Jack Keats Foundation](#) - Sept. 15, 2010

The Ezra Jack Keats Foundation offers Minigrants to public and school libraries for programs that encourage literacy and creativity in children. Programs relating to the work of Ezra Jack Keats are welcome, but not required.

### In The News

#### After School in the News

- [City youth gain 400 jobs for summer](#) (Boston Globe)
- [Summer camp hosts homeless children](#) (Baltimore Sun)
- [Healthy school meals fuel kids, farm industry](#) (Sacramento Bee)

- [Foster kids graduate - into a future of possibilities](#) (Miami Herald)
- [Money well spent during 'prime time' for mischief](#) (Modesto Bee)
- [Parents are vital in preventing gang involvement](#) (JD News)
- [Boys & Girls nonprofit fights to keep local clubs open](#) (Virginian-Pilot)
- [Program to offer mentoring, esteem building for young women](#) (TCPalm)
- [Children of parents behind bars get mentoring help](#)(WHAS)
- [Fla. DCF overhauling care for former foster youth](#) (Florida AP)
- [Kids lobby Congress to end gang violence](#) (USA Today)
- [School police officers become camp counselors](#) (Mercury News)

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