



NEWS RELEASE
March 6, 2014

CONTACT: Gretchen Wright
202/371-1999

Afterschool Alliance STEM Expert Chosen for Prestigious Fellowship

Krishnamurthi Is First Afterschool Leader Chosen for Noyce Leadership Institute Program

WASHINGTON, DC – Anita Krishnamurthi, Afterschool Alliance Vice President for STEM Policy, was today named one of 18 Noyce Leadership Institute Fellows for 2014-15. The senior-level leaders from science centers, children’s museums, natural history museums, and other science-intensive institutions, will receive intensive support as they hone their leadership skills. Krishnamurthi is the first afterschool leader to be named to the program, now in its seventh and final year.

The Noyce Leadership Institute (NLI) began in 2008, and with this latest group of Fellows now has 123 alumni and current Fellows, representing 91 institutions from 27 nations. NLI works in partnership with the Association of Science-Technology Centers (ASTC), the European Network of Science Centers and Museums (Ecsite), and the Association of Children’s Museums (ACM), with funding from the Noyce Foundation, the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, and the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

“We believe in leadership for the public good. By supporting and challenging our participants, the NLI Fellowship encourages leaders to act as change agents, extending the impact of their institutions deeper into their local communities and ultimately increasing public understanding and excitement about science,” said Dr. Geno Schnell, NLI’s Program Director.

“I’m thrilled to be selected for this program,” Krishnamurthi said of the honor. “It’s a remarkable opportunity to grow as a leader in this field and use the new skills I will gain to ensure afterschool programs become an integral partner in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education improvement efforts in the United States. I’m very grateful to NLI for the chance to take part in this wonderful program and to be among such an inspiring group of colleagues.”

The NLI requires fellows to work on a strategic initiative during their fellowship year. Krishnamurthi’s project will aim to strengthen collaborations between science centers and afterschool providers to increase the number of high-quality STEM learning opportunities in afterschool programs around the country.

“Anita is a wonderful talent and a great asset to our efforts on behalf of afterschool programs and the children, families and communities that benefit from them,” said Afterschool Alliance Executive Director Jodi Grant. “We’re delighted for her, and grateful to the NLI for its support of her work. We know the NLI’s investment in Anita will pay great dividends for the millions of children in afterschool programs across the nation.”

The Fellowship program provides an action-learning framework via a mix of face-to-face sessions, executive coaching, peer learning, virtual learning opportunities, and other development strategies over the course of their year in the program, followed by ongoing alumni activities. NLI's multi-stage selection process sought leaders well positioned to influence others, manage change, and make an impact on their institutions and communities.

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The Afterschool Alliance is a nonprofit public awareness and advocacy organization working to ensure that all children and youth have access to quality afterschool programs. More information is available at www.afterschoolalliance.org.

The Noyce Leadership Institute envisions an essential and transformative role for organizations that engage citizens of every age in crucial science and technology issues. NLI works with leaders of such innovative hubs and encourages them to make the individual, organizational, and community changes required to realize this vision. More information is available at <http://www.noycefdn.org/NLI.php>.

The 2014-15 Noyce Leadership Institute Fellows

- Afterschool Alliance: *Fellow: Anita Krishnamurthi, Vice President, STEM Policy*
- Arizona Science Center: *Fellow: Sharon Kortman, Senior Vice President of Learning*
- Conner Prairie Museum: *Fellow: Cathryn Ferree, Vice President Exhibits, Programs, Interpretation, and Facilities*
- Denver Museum of Nature and Science: *Fellow: Scott Sampson, Vice President and Chief Curator*
- EdVenture Children's Museum: *Fellow: Nikole Williams, Vice President of Education*
- Great Lakes Science Center: *Fellow: Whitney Owens, Vice President of Education*
- Liberty Science Center: *Fellow: Ann Neumann, Concept Planning / Exhibitions Design Lead*
- Maloka: *Fellow: Sigrid Falla Morales, Deputy Director of Science and Society*
- Museum für Naturkunde: *Fellow: Gregor Hagedorn, Head of Digital World and Information Science*
- National Science Museum, Thailand: *Fellow: Ganigar Chen, Director, Office of the Public Awareness of Science*
- New Mexico Museum of Natural History & Science: *Fellow: Alicia Borrego Pierce, Deputy Executive Director*
- Oregon Museum of Science & Industry: *Fellow: Jamie Hurd, Vice President of Programs*

- San Antonio Children's Museum: *Fellow: Rita Mukherjee Hoffstadt, Vice President, Education and Visitor Experience*
- Science Center NEMO: *Fellow: Marjolein van Breemen, Head of Education / Manager, Science Learning Center*
- Science Museum of Minnesota: *Fellow: Joe Imholte, Director of Special Exhibits and Public Programs*
- Science World British Columbia: *Fellow: Pauline Finn, Vice President, Community Engagement*
- The Tech Museum of Innovation: *Fellow: Lath Carlson, Vice President, Exhibits and Content Development*
- The University of the Arts, Philadelphia: *Fellow: Polly McKenna-Cress, Director, Museum Exhibition Planning and Design*