



MEDIA ADVISORY
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Afterschool Advocates to Visit Nation's Capital to Urge Support for Afterschool at Ninth Annual *Afterschool for All Challenge*

“CSI: NY’s” Hill Harper, Hootie and the Blowfish Guitarist and Founder Mark Bryan, Judge Glenda Hatchett to Join Parents, Students, Educators from Across Country to Show Support for Afterschool Programs for America’s Kids

Longtime children’s advocate and television personality Judge Glenda Hatchett will add her voice to those of hundreds of parents, children, educators and policy makers in calling for Congress to preserve afterschool funding at the Afterschool Alliance’s *Afterschool for All Challenge*, April 19 through 21. The star-studded event will also feature actor Hill Harper of the television series “CSI: NY” and Hootie and the Blowfish guitarist and founder Mark Bryan. The ninth annual *Afterschool for All Challenge* is being held in conjunction with National AfterSchool Association’s annual convention, *Be the Change*, and the National League of Cities’ Afterschool Summit. It will give people the chance to voice their support for the afterschool programs that keep kids safe, inspire them to learn and help working families.

The conference will kick off on April 19 with the NAA convention plenary speech by Hill Harper at 9 AM in the Maryland Ballroom of the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center.

On Tuesday, April 20, the Afterschool Alliance will hold “Capitol Hill Rally for Afterschool” at 2pm on the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol. The rally will feature Judge Hatchett, Mark Bryan, celebrity chef Joey Altman, Members of Congress and afterschool youth.

Also on Tuesday, afterschool advocates, program staff, parents, children and others will fan out across Capitol Hill to meet with their Members of Congress, talk to them about the benefits of afterschool and urge them to increase funding for these vital programs.

On April 21, the Afterschool Alliance will honor ten state champions for their tireless work on behalf of afterschool programs at its annual “Breakfast of Champions” at 10:15am in the Maryland Ballroom of the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center. Honorees hail from California, Connecticut, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina and Tennessee. This year, for the first time, the “Breakfast” will also feature the presentation of the C. S. Mott Foundation’s William S. White Achievement award for excellence in the service of children, schools and communities. The award will be presented by William S. White, the award’s namesake and President and CEO of the C.S. Mott Foundation, to Afterschool Alliance Board Member and Director of the Afterschool and Community Learning Resource Network, Terry K. Peterson. Joan

Lombardi, Deputy Assistant Secretary and Inter-Departmental Liaison for Early Childhood Development, Administration for Children & Families at the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services will also deliver remarks.

The Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center is located at 201 Waterfront Street, National Harbor, Maryland. All events are open to the media.

The 2010 NAA Convention/*Afterschool for All Challenge* is sponsored by: JCPenney Afterschool Fund, United States Tennis Association, Bright House Networks, Quaker Chewy, Torani, Sony Pictures Entertainment, Open Society Institute, Peavey Electronics, NAMM, The Annie E. Casey Foundation, D.C. Children & Youth Investment Trust Corporation, and Cable in the Classroom, Council on Accreditation, and National Summer Learning Association.

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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.