



MEDIA ADVISORY
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CONTACT: Gretchen Wright
Luci Manning
202/371-1999

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

***FIRST Founder Dean Kamen,
Robin Schepper of First Lady Michelle Obama's Let's Move Initiative
Join Parents, Students, Educators from Across Country to Show Support for
Afterschool Programs, Encourage Increased Investment in Sciences and Math in
Afterschool Programs***

Dean Kamen, the founder of *FIRST*®, a nationwide afterschool program that helps young people discover the excitement and rewards of science and technology will add his voice to those of hundreds of parents, children, educators and policy makers in calling for Congress to preserve afterschool funding and expand opportunities for children to learn about the sciences and math in afterschool programs at the Afterschool Alliance's *Afterschool for All Challenge*, May 16 and 17. The tenth annual *Afterschool for All Challenge* is highlighting the importance of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) learning, in recognition of 2011 being the Year of Science in Afterschool. The event is intended to give people the chance to voice their support for the afterschool programs that keep kids safe, inspire them to learn and help working families.

Other special guests at the two-day conference will include:

- Robin Schepper of First Lady Michelle Obama's *Let's Move!* Initiative;
- Kumar Garg of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy; and
- National League of Cities President and Charlotte, NC Councilmember James Mitchell.

Highlights Include:

May 16, 2:30pm -3:45pm: Plenary Session – STEM in Afterschool: The Time Is Right

Moderator: Joan Higginbotham, Former NASA Astronaut and Afterschool Alliance Board Member

Panelists: Kumar Garg, Policy Analyst, Office of Science and Technology Policy, Executive Office of the President; Gabrielle Lyon, Co-Founder and Executive Director, Project Exploration; Tessie Topol, Senior Director, Strategic Philanthropy and Community Affairs, Time Warner Cable

Presenter: Kellee McQuinn, Founder, KidTribe.

Location: Lincoln Rooms 5/6, Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, 2660 Woodley Road, NW.

Breakfast of Champions, May 17, 8:00am – 9:30am

Master of Ceremonies: National League of Cities President and Charlotte, NC Councilmember James Mitchell

Speakers: Afterschool Alliance Executive Director Jodi Grant, Members of Congress, Afterschool Program Students

Honorees: FIRST founder Dean Kamen will receive the national “Afterschool for All” Champion award. State Champion honorees include leaders from Connecticut, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia.

Location: D-G50, Dirksen Senate Office Building

All events are open to the media. A complete agenda is available at http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/challenge/2011ChallengeProgram5_5.pdf.

The 2011 *Afterschool for All Challenge* is sponsored by: United States Tennis Association, Peavey Electronics, NAMM, Open Society Foundations, Cable in the Classroom, National AfterSchool Association, Clever Crazes for Kids, and Arnold and Sandra Grant. Additional funding is provided by the S.D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation, Time Warner Cable, the Noyce Foundation and jcpenny.

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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.