



## **Research Grants Award to Out-of-School-Time Providers to Explore Community-Based Programs and Benefits**

The National Institute on Out-of-School Time (NIOST) at Wellesley Centers for Women, in partnership with the Robert Bowne Foundation, is pleased to announce the selection of the 2010 Edmund A. Stanley Jr. Research Grantees. These awards support research about community-based youth programs during out-of-school-time hours.

- Katie Brackenridge of the Bay Area Partnership will explore the impact of an increase in state funding in California for school-based afterschool programs on the relationships, policies, programming and afterschool practices of school districts, cities and community-based organizations. The study will draw connections between the situation in California and similar scenarios on a national level.
- Julie Maxwell-Jolly of the University of California, Davis will review the literature on the range of factors and strategies that contribute to improving English learners' education outcomes with the aim of providing guidance regarding the kinds of activities that would be most likely to contribute to English language improvement. The review will also look to the research on after and out of school time programs for similar evidence regarding success factors and strategies, in order to explore where the two bodies of literature intersect.
- Carla Roach of the Innovation Center for Community and Youth Development will investigate community-based youth agencies and their potential to catalyze a collective leadership approach during out-of-school time. She will do so by gathering and analyzing empirical data from three community-based organizations: Tohono O'odham Community Action (TOCA) in Sells, Arizona; Youth Development Training and Resource Center (YDTRC) in New Haven, Connecticut; and the Monterey Bay Aquarium working in Watsonville, California.
- David Shernoff of Northern Illinois University will create case studies of empirically-based OST programs that "work" in actual practice in order to be of maximum usefulness to educators and practitioners. Programs that "work" are considered those which have been investigated empirically, *and* for which measures of participant engagement is high. The study will identify models in a variety of domains holding promise for the future of youth engagement.

In addition to the Edmund A. Stanley, Jr. Research Grantee program, the Afterschool Matters Initiative funded by the Robert Bowne Foundation and coordinated through NIOST includes the Practitioner Fellowship Program; the *Afterschool Matters Journal*; and Research Roundtables that provide a forum for connecting research and practice.

For more than 30 years, the National Institute on Out-of-School Time at the Wellesley Centers for Women has been dedicated to moving the afterschool field forward through its research, education and training, consultation, and field-building. Much of NIOST's work has encompassed projects of national scope and influence, several representing "firsts" for the field and many focusing on building out-of-school time

systems. NIOST is a program of the Wellesley Centers for Women. Since 1974, scholars at WCW have helped drive social change through their rigorous research projects and pivotal training programs.

*For more information about the National Afterschool Matters Initiative please go to [www.niost.org](http://www.niost.org), or to be placed on a list to receive the 2011 Edmund A. Stanley Jr. Research Grant RFP, please contact Sara Hill, Senior Research Consultant, National Institute on Out-of-School Time, [sara@sarahill.net](mailto:sara@sarahill.net).*