

GetConnected Afterschool Conference, February 25, 2022 (Live Streamed)



Opening Session

Welcome to Omaha

Dr. Cheryl Logan, Superintendent, Omaha Public Schools

The Gifts of Imperfection / Brené Brown

LaRon Henderson, Collective for Youth

Sessions I

Kindness Counts Curriculum, Mary Beth Budz

Presentation

An in-depth and hands on workshop demonstrating the Kindness Counts curriculum for grades K-4. Workshop participants will learn the curriculum concepts, how to use it, when to use and support programs offered to further enhance the curriculum.

Mary Beth Budz / Life Launch Academy / admin@courteouskids.org

Not just a “Slice of the Pie”: The Whole Child Approach, Claire Brown & Claudia Granillo

Presentation

As a culture, we think that mental health is “just a slice of the pie”, rather than an important part of the whole picture. In this presentation, The Wellbeing Partners will dive into how physical activity, nutrition, environment, and social emotional health interact for youth, from infancy through adolescence. We will share how we can address challenges to youth mental health and create community supports using the Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child Model (WSCC), created by the CDC.

Claire Brown / The Wellbeing Partners / ClaireB@thewellbeingpartners.org

Claudia Granillo / The Wellbeing Partners / ClaudiaG@thewellbeingpartners.org

Imagine Science Biomedical Engineering, Tiffany Sessions & Mirissa Scholting

Presentation

What’s in Your Backpack

Backpack Activity Sheet

In this session, attendees learn how to engage their youth using a self-guided Biomedical Engineering camp resource. Guide your youth in using the engineering design process to create multi-stage nano-capsules that promote fighting sicknesses, perform laparoscopic surgery using a youth developed simulator, and more! Best of all, introduce them to local Biomedical Engineering careers!

Tiffany Sessions / Nebraska 4-H / tiffany.sessions@unl.edu

Mirissa Scholting / Nebraska 4-H / mscholting2@unl.edu

Outdoor Classroom Workshop, Jack Hilgert

Outdoor Classroom Educator Workshop is for educators who work with students of any age or grade level. This new specialty workshop will help participants learn how to design and utilize an outdoor classroom. Receive native plant recommendations, learn best practices for teaching outdoors, and activity recommendations - just in time for fun in the sun!

Jack Hilgert / Nebraska Forest Service / jack.hilgert@unl.edu

Water is Wild!, Grace Gaard

What is water and how does it work? Who relies on it and where can we find it? Through a series of activities, we’ll cover how to teach students in grades K-2 about water in the afterschool setting. Beginning with the water “basics”, then following water in the school yard, and ending with water in a Nebraska ecosystem - you’ll walk away excited to dive in!

Grace Gaard / Nebraska Game and Parks Commission / grace.gaard@nebraska.gov

Session II

[Creating A CONTAGIOUS Work CULTURE That Changes Lives](#), LaRon Henderson

A Contagious Work Culture is important for many reasons. A strong, welcome community can help adults feel safe, feel a sense of belonging, and build their sense of purpose. Even beyond these personal growth areas, a strong work community can create an environment where individuals want to stay instead of looking for another job.

LaRon Henderson / Collective for Youth / lhenderson@collectiveforyouth.org

[Youth Entrepreneurship Beyond Pitch Competition](#), Surin Kim & Maria De Guzman

[Presentation](#)

[Program Flyer](#)

Youth entrepreneurship education is emerging as a new framework to provide youth with opportunities to explore entrepreneurial careers, develop 21st skills, and connect with communities. Upstarts was developed as a place-based educational program to cultivate a sense of connection to community and to help youth gain entrepreneurship skills and business acumen. This session will offer chances to learn about the program that brings in-depth engagement between youth and local businesses and the best practices of how youth as agents of changes contribute to community vitality and wellbeing.

Surin Kim / Nebraska Extension Entrepreneurship / surin@unl.edu

Maria de Guzman / University of Nebraska Child, Youth and Family Studies / mguzman2@unl.edu

[Emerging Models: Using High School and College Students to Support Programs](#),

Patricia Sanchez & Sandra Day

COVID-19 has challenged the ability of afterschool programs across Nebraska and the country to secure personnel to adequately staff their work. But what if the answer to school-based afterschool and summer school programs was hiding in plain sight, in your nearby high school? Through use of high school students as core program staff, we can both provide motivated, enthusiastic staff necessary to meet program needs at the same time we are growing the future youth development workforce. This session will profile a successful model of high school student staffing currently being used in Lexington as well as opportunities and challenges for future expansion statewide.

Patricia Sanchez-Stewart / Lexington Public Schools / patricia.stewart@lexschools.org

Sandra Day / Nebraska Children and Families Foundation / sdlay@nebraskachildren.org

[Building Multi-media Capacity to Provide Innovative Programming in STEM](#),

Nik Stevenson & Hayley Jurek

[Presentation](#)

[Activity](#)

The session aims to equip attendees with new skills to engage youth in STEM programming. The session is interactive in nature, as attendees will conduct a STEM activity for use in afterschool programming that is hands on, minds on learning. Attendees will then learn about multi-media directions for the activity to provide higher levels of engagement for youth (e.g. cartoon characters, gamifications, featured lab space/career videos).

Nik Stevenson / UNO STEM TRAIL Center / nstevenson@unomaha.edu

Hayley Jurek / UNO STEM TRAIL Center / hjurek@unomaha.edu

[Lunch Session](#)

Lunch and Awards

The Gifts of Imperfection Brene' Brown

LaRon Henderson, Collective for Youth

Bob Whitehouse ELO Policy Champion Award

Nicole Vint accepting on behalf of the NE Department of Health and Human Services

ELO Innovator Award

The Bay, a program of Rabble Mill

ELO Innovator Award

Aftershock – Norfolk Public Schools

Session III

[Engagement & Innovation with Youth Entrepreneurship](#), Scott Mann

[Presentation](#)

Youth Entrepreneurship is an engaging way to recruit and retain youth, provide critical workforce skills, and engage your community of families and partners. Join Scott Mann, the Director of Education of VentureLab to learn more!

Scott Mann / VentureLab / scott@venturelab.org

[Integrate a High Quality Reading Effort into an Afterschool Program](#),

Abby Burke & Angela Dubuc

This session will spotlight research informed ways afterschool and summer programs can incorporate reading into their curricula for children in kindergarten through third grade. We'll delve into a variety of structural and instructional features these programs can successfully incorporate to support the development of students' early literacy foundational skills.

Abby Burke / Nebraska Department of Education / abby.burke@nebraska.gov

Angela Dubuc / Nebraska Children and Families Foundation / adubuc@nebraskachildren.org

[Students Leading the Charge! Project Based Learning Multidisciplinary Experience for Middle Schoolers](#), Ron Kellogg & Petra Wahlqvist

Are you interested in student led learning, but don't know where to start? Would you like to create a relaxed and welcoming environment for learners? Would you like to encourage research and critical thinking skills, while having fun?

Ron Kellogg / Lincoln Public Schools Community Learning Centers / ron.kellogg@lps.org

Petra Wahlqvist / BLIXT / petra@blix.space

[Implementing SEL Afterschool](#), Carrie Lienemann

[Presentation](#)

Learn how North Platte Kids Klub went from no SEL at all, to having a local therapist join their team and facilitate a hands-on SEL program afterschool. See how we did it from the first step to the last, what worked and what didn't.

Carrie Lienemann / North Platte Public Schools Kids Klub / clienemann@nppsd.org

[Dirt Detectives and Give Me Five](#), Courtney Shreve & Brooke Tempel

[Presentation](#)

Explore two multi-day programs filled with hands-on fun. As Dirt Detectives, students investigate population growth and develop a plan to grow more food on a shrinking amount of soil. Give Me Five explores the five food groups and corresponding state-grown foods, making a local connection to a healthy lifestyle.

Courtney Shreve / Nebraska Agriculture in the Classroom / courtneys@nefb.org

Brooke Tempel / Nebraska Agriculture in the Classroom / brooket@nefb.org

Session IV

[Running A Book Club: Can we all get on the same page?](#), LaRon Henderson

Discussing tough topics can be challenging in a work environment. Bringing a team together around a piece of literature may be the answer. During this workshop, participants will learn the benefits of creating a book club to help destroy ignorance and build culture.

LaRon Henderson / Collective for Youth / lhenderson@collectiveforyouth.org

[Nebraska Extension Marathon Kids](#), Mariah Newmyer & Donnia Behrends

[Coach Training](#)

Participants will learn how to implement Marathon Kids, an evidence-based national running program designed to increase the physical activity levels and confidence of youth through running and active minutes. Marathon Kids can be implemented in afterschool programs, in the classroom, virtually, or in-person. Join us as we help youth cross the finish line with confidence, improved health and wellness, and goal-setting abilities as they complete a marathon one mile at a time.

Mariah Newmyer / Nebraska Extension Food Nutrition & Health / mariah.morgan@unl.edu

Donnia Behrends / Nebraska Extension Food Nutrition & Health / dbehrends2@unl.edu

[Think, Make, Create Environmental Education](#), Julie Boyle

In this session participants will learn how the Think, Make, Create Lab can support Environmental Education with hands-on learning.

Julie Boyle / Nebraska 4-H / julie.boyle@unl.edu

[Mad Science: An afterschool program for STEM career exploration](#), Elena Stout

[Presentation](#)

[Skydiving Science](#)

This STEM afterschool program has been getting rural Nebraska youth excited about potential careers in science. Mad Science allows youth to experiment, create, and critically think like a real scientist! Each workshop engages youth in a different field of science, encouraging them to explore their interests or discover their spark. The Mad Science program is intended for elementary aged youth but could be adapted for other grade levels.

Elena Stout / Nebraska 4-H / elena.stout@unl.edu