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**Date:** Wednesday, May 3, 2023 at 8:29:33 AM Central Daylight Time

**From:** Beyond School Bells



May 2023

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## News & Policy

### BSB's Summer ELO Innovation Conversation Series

Building on the enthusiasm generated at March's [ELO Innovation Invitational](#), we are excited to announce that Beyond School Bells is launching a special series of *Innovation Conversations* this summer about how afterschool and summer programs can address leading-edge issues and emerging challenges in the education and development of America's young people.

This series of interactive, online dialogues with thought leaders from across the country will be convened each month, with themes and topics that build on content generated at our ELO Innovation Invitational. Our first hour long zoom conversation in this series will be held on **May 24th at 12:00 central**, when our guest will be Dr. Tony Smith, our ELO Innovation Invitational keynote.



***Where Talent Meets Opportunity:***

*Fostering Innovation in Non-Traditional Learning Environments*

Dr. Tony Smith

CEO & Founder of Whyspeople

Former Illinois State Superintendent of Education

[Registration Link](#) | [Background Video](#)

Each conversation will include pre-readings, polls or videos to introduce the topics; a short, facilitated discussion with the featured speaker about how key issues relate to afterschool

and summer learning and break out groups where on-line participants can explore their perspectives on these topics.

Stay tuned for more updates as we will be discussing other important issues throughout the summer, including:

- How Afterschool and Summer programs can help cultivate Youth Purpose and Identity
- How Afterschool and Summer programs can help reengage boys in learning, including increasing Male Representation in "HEAL" fields (Health, Education, Administration, and Literacy)

We will provide more updates in future newsletters as the monthly calendars take shape. Please let me know if you have any questions.

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### **Workshops and Walk and Talk applications now open!**

Speaking of conversations, we also want to remind you that later this fall we will be meeting in person (with on-line options) for *GetConnected 2023: Come Play in Omaha!*, Nebraska's statewide Afterschool and Summer Learning Conference.

This annual event, hosted jointly by BSB, the NE Department of Education's 21st CCLC program and Nebraska Extension, will be held on **September 22, 2023 at the CHI Health Conference Center in Omaha**. This is a great opportunity to connect with afterschool program leaders and staff, as well as other community partners engaged in our important afterschool systems building work. Our goal is to have 500 in-person and virtual attendees at this year's event, which as the title suggests, will focus on the power of play to excite, engage and inspire youth across Nebraska.

As part of this year's conference we will once again offering individuals and partnering organizations an opportunity to facilitate a workshop or host a *Walk and Talk* table to share info about your program and we are now accepting proposals. So, if you want to share the story about your program, especially if it includes hands-on, play based learning activities, with hundreds of Nebraska Afterschool and Summer learning advocates – now is the chance for you to get your application in. A link to the to all the application forms, as well as additional information about the conference, can be found at: <https://www.education.ne.gov/21stcclc/nebraska-afterschool-conference/>.

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## Congratulations to our Youth Poster Design Contest Winners!



Students in grades Kindergarten through 5th grade participated in the Nebraska Afterschool youth Poster Design Contest. Student designed posters using one of the following themes: My dream Afterschool Program, My favorite Afterschool activity, STEM, or Environmental Education/Conservation. All entries were displayed at Nebraska's ELO Innovation Invitational at the beginning of March and all in attendance were invited to vote for their favorites. The top vote getters were:

### Kindergarten-2nd Grade

- **1st Place:** Kate Diaz, Super Kids Club-Broken Bow
- **2nd Place:** Brianna Larios, Howard Elementary- Fremont
- **3rd Place (tie):** Presley Vieux, Howard Elementary- Fremont
- **3rd Place (tie):** Declan Paden, Clarmar Elementary- Fremont

### 3rd-5th Grade

- **1st Place:** Kelton Hoesche, Crete CCLC
- **2nd Place:** Anahi Diaz Vargas, Super Kids Club- Broken Bow
- **3rd Place (tie):** Angie Cruz, Crete CCLC
- **3rd Place (tie):** Amy Hollman, Crete CCLC
- **3rd Place (tie):** Evan Sughayar, Super Kids Club- Broken Bow

Thank you to all of the artists who shared their amazing art and ideas with us!

# Announcements & Opportunities

## Conservation Management Internship Applications due May 15!



Last call for Conservation Management Internship applications! The application link will close May 8 at 5pm. Students can earn \$500 and gain a once-in-a-lifetime Nebraska experience learning from and working with conservation and outdoor professionals across the state. All high school students at least 15 years old are welcome and encouraged to apply. Contact Dakota Staggs with any questions at [dstaggs@nebraskachildren.org](mailto:dstaggs@nebraskachildren.org)

## BSB's College and Career Readiness Toolkit Webinar



Join us virtually on Thursday, May 4, 2023 from 12:00-12:30pm for NDE's Stay Connected Webinar as we debut our new suite of Career & College Readiness (CCR) resources for afterschool programs in Nebraska. We will share the BSB College and Career Readiness Toolkit for afterschool educators – which provides comprehensive approach for CCR programs in afterschool, as well as information on the specific opportunities youth have for future readiness in Nebraska.

Learn how you and your staff can be prepared with tools and information to excel at the CCR programs you provide to youth.

Join the Webinar

## ACRES Training Cohort: Facilitating Science Practices

Wednesdays: 05/31/2023, 06/14/2023, 06/28/2023 3:30 pm-5:30 pm EST/ 12:30-2:30 pm PST





How can we make sure that our ‘hands on’ science experiences for youth are also ‘minds on?’ In this module, participants learn how to support youth as they engage in science practices to learn science ideas, including planning and conducting investigations around testable questions. They’ll talk about the similarities and differences between questioning in science versus questioning in engineering contexts. [REGISTER HERE](#) Code: AC225SP

## Farewell to Dr. Sandy Day!



And finally, the end of May will bring with it the formal end to Dr. Sandy Day, BSB’s Director of Content and Delivery, long career in education. Before joining our team in 2019, Sandy had a 30+ year career at Omaha Public Schools, where she served as a classroom teacher, a technology coordinator and then as magnet school coordinator. Her educational journey then took her (yeah!) to the out-of-school time learning space when she continued to support children’s educational needs as director of Council Bluffs Community Schools K-12 21st CCLC initiative. She culminated her career at BSB, where she thrived helping communities develop high quality afterschool and summer learning programs and working with college students to develop innovative new educational experiences that would ignite learning in afterschool and summer programs across the state.

Wherever she went along her lifetime journey of educational service, Sandy brought with her a commitment to equity and excellence, especially for underserved children. Dr. Day’s passion for education, commitment to youth and infectious positive energy will be missed both at Beyond School Bells and in the communities she supported across Nebraska as she transitions into a well-deserved retirement with husband Kent and an assortment of children,

grandchildren and animals.

Thank you, Dr. Sandy Day for your many years of service to children and families in Nebraska.

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