



# 2026

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# Prospectus

**PREPARED BY**  
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# IMPACTING PROGRAM QUALITY AND FIELD IMPROVEMENT

The Connecticut Network for Children and Youth is searching for business and individuals that are interested in partnering with us to sponsor our 2026 events.

Our events are designed for program directors, site supervisors, program staff and youth development experts from across Connecticut. Your generous sponsorship will assist the Network in ensuring that all participants have a lower cost to attend these events with little or no additional hardship to their organization and participate in engaging, fun & positive experience.

Our prospectus offers a deeper look into each event and all sponsoring levels. Please feel free to contact us via email or phone should you have any questions. The Network board and staff thank you in advance for your support.

Thank you,



Michelle Doucette Cunningham  
Executive Director



Scan the QR Code  
to access the  
Sponsor  
Application,  
or simply click  
[here](#).

# EVENTS

Underwriting professional development experiences for field supporting activities is more important than ever as resources dwindle nationwide. These could include sponsoring or co-sponsoring any of our statewide training opportunities.

MAR 2 - 6	MAY 29	OCT 2	NOV 2 - 6	NOV 7
SEL Day/SEL Week in CT	Fun for the Field Resource Fair	LOA: A Celebration of the Field	STEM Week	Afterschool Conference

We are always looking for spaces to host our leader roundtables. They allow for connections amongst those working in the out-of-school time field that are often isolated in a program or at a site.

Sharing best practice and having a learning community of support can reduce staff turnover and increase program outcomes

It could be supporting a program series for staff development such as "Coaching and Learning for After School Professionals (CLASP), or contributing to events such as our annual Lights on Afterschool Celebration or Afterschool Conference. These would include prominent logo placement, a word from the podium at the start of events, or a slide in the beginning of a training module.

We can customize sponsorships that can span across events and our initiatives. We are eager to find like-minded individuals, companies, or philanthropic partners to build new relationships to provide support for those who support children and families in afterschool programs across Connecticut daily.

The investment into our professional development opportunities nets dividends to the field we serve. Typically 1 staff person works with 10 to 15 children who are impacted by this person's skills and competencies in programming and activities. Sponsoring professional development experiences allows the Network to develop and re-use content, including sponsorship recognition beyond the initial investment.

# EXHIBIT

Reach Early Childhood, K-12, After School and Summer Providers in-person at one of our two conferences.

## CONFERENCE EXHIBITOR

- All exhibitors will have one 6-foot table. Additional tables are available for a fee.
- Exhibitors will be showcased on social media prior to the event and in the event program if available.
- Electricity is not available for all tables, please make the appropriate selection to request electricity.
- Meals are not included in the exhibitor fee. You are welcome to bring your own or purchase our meals.
- Each exhibitor table will receive one parking voucher.
- All exhibitor fees must be paid prior to the event date.

### Exhibitor Fees

\$50 Nonprofit organization  
\$150 For profit organization  
\$60/person for meals or can bring your own

## FUN FOR THE FIELD EXHIBITOR

- Exhibitors must be available for the entire event.
- Exhibitors must provide their own table. Tents are optional but must also be provided by exhibitors.
- In the spirit of making the event more "fair-like," we strongly suggest having a fun game or activity for participants to win prizes, a raffle, giveaway or other cool creative idea. (ie the Network table does a balloon dart toss, some other examples ring toss, wheel spinning, shell game, etc.)
- We will not share participants' contact info, but exhibitors are welcome to collect during the event.

### Exhibitor Fees

Free Nonprofit organization  
\$25 For profit organization

**All Exhibitor fees are non-refundable)**

## SAMPLE EVENT SCHEDULE

7:00 - 8:00 AM Booth Set Up  
8:00 - 8:45 AM Networking/Breakfast  
8:45 - 9:00 AM Opening Remarks  
9:00 - 9:30 AM Keynote  
9:45 - 11:15 AM Workshop Sess. #1  
11:30 am - 12:30 AM Lunch  
12:45 - 2:15 AM Workshop Sess. #2  
2:30 - 4:00 AM Workshops Sess. #3  
4:00 AM Exhibits Close

# ADVERTISE

More ways to reach our audience. Add your business in our printed programs, digital newsletter and more.

## CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Advertise your business in one of our conference programs which will be distributed to a minimum of 100 participants per event and features a full 8.5" x 11" vertical format.

A great way to reach out to all participants across the state.

**\$200 Full Page Ad**  
**\$100 1/2 Page Ad**  
**\$50 1/4 page Ad**

## CONFERENCE BAG STUFFER

Do you have a coupon, pamphlet, marketing piece that you would like to give to each participant at our event?

We will stuff each conference bag with your item. Please contact us to discuss the size and quantity of bag stuffer appropriate for the conference.

All items must be provided by vendor.

**\$100 per item**

## DIGITAL NEWSLETTER

Professionals in after school, early childhood, STEM & Social and Emotional Learning receive our electronic newsletter with all the latest news related to programs in CT.

Choose from 1 of 4 Newsletters!  
After School (Weekly)  
Early Childhood (Bi-weekly)  
STEM (Monthly)  
SEL (Monthly)

Vendor must provide square image.

**\$75 Single issue**  
**\$200 Four issues**

**DEADLINE FOR ELECTRONIC  
RECEIPT OF ARTWORK CONTINGENT ON EVENT DATE.**

## VIRTUAL SPONSORSHIP

Recognition on Website, Social Media &, Event's Page, Share of promotional Video before virtual event.

**\$150 per event**

# SPONSOR

**Platinum** level sponsors can choose **FOUR** events listed to sponsor. As a platinum sponsor your gift can support multiple events with maximum exposure.

## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

**PLATINUM**  
**\$5000**

Opportunity to Speak During Lunch	1 minute/per event
Conference Only Program	Back Cover
Recognition on All Print, Email, Website & Social Media Promotional Materials Pre/Post-Event	Yes
Website Advertisement and Link on Event's Page	12 months
Weekly Newsletter Sponsorship Ad	12 months
Recognition from the Podium During Event Opening	Yes
Promotional Items in All Event Bags	Yes
Complimentary Event Registrations	3
Prominent Exhibitor Table	1

# SPONSOR

Support our events and make valuable connections with program directors, site supervisors, program staff and youth development experts from across Connecticut. **Bronze, Silver & Gold** level sponsors may choose **ONE** event listed to sponsor.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES	GOLD \$1000	SILVER \$500	BRONZE \$200
Opportunity to Speak During Lunch	1 minute	-	-
Conference Only Program	Full Page	1/2 Page	1/4 Page
Recognition on All Print, Email, Website & Social Media Promotional Materials Pre/Post-Event	Yes	Yes	Yes
Weekly Newsletter Sponsorship Ad	4 weeks	-	-
Recognition from the Podium During Event Opening	Yes	Yes	Yes
Promotional Items in All Event Bags	Yes	Yes	-
Complimentary Event Registrations	3	2	-
Prominent Exhibitor Table	1	1	1

# SEL DAY SEL WEEK IN CT

**"I stumbled upon the webinar hosted with Erin Shea for SEL Week 2025 on YouTube. I loved the webinar and learned so much from it!"**

**Bri, Austin TX**

*Connection, Compassion and Community Starts with Us*  
- This year's theme celebrates the many dimensions of well-being—highlighting how movement, empathy, communication, and inclusion come together to build resilience and nurture thriving communities for both youth and adults.

## ABOUT SEL DAY

- On this day, we aim to increase visibility and awareness of the benefits of social-emotional learning locally, regionally, nationally, and globally while celebrating the annual International SEL Day.
- SEL4US and The Urban Assembly invite schools and communities around the globe to celebrate International SEL Day.

**MARCH 2 - 6, 2026**

In-person/Virtual

Connecticut SEL Week is a statewide celebration dedicated to advancing social and emotional learning (SEL) in schools, out-of-school programs, families, and communities. Aligned with National SEL Week and SEL4US, this week brings together educators, youth leaders, parents, and community partners to highlight the power of SEL in fostering resilient, compassionate, and thriving communities.

## ABOUT OUR AUDIENCE

National and local SEL supporters and advocates.

## 2025 OVERVIEW

In 2025, SEL4CT engaged 164 participants in co-hosted virtual events, reached just under 600 newsletter subscribers, and grew social media engagement by 10%.

## 2025 Goals

1. Educate educators, parents, and youth-serving professionals on SEL practices, frameworks, and applications.
2. Engage local communities in conversations and activities that center on mental wellness, empathy, and belonging.
3. Elevate Connecticut's leadership in whole-child education by showcasing exemplary programs and partnerships.
4. Expand membership, participation, and social impact through outreach and collective action.

## WHO ATTENDS

- Infant/Toddler/ PreK Educators
- K-12 Teachers/Administrators
- Community Providers
- After School Providers
- Program Directors
- Parent Leaders

## IMPORTANT DATES

- Vendor Registration Deadline: 2/20/2026
- Registration closes one day prior for each workshop.

# FUN FOR THE FIELD RESOURCE FAIR

**“It was a wonderful event and we made quite a few valuable connections.”**

**-2023 Participant**

**MAY 29, 2026**

CT Nonprofit Center  
Hartford, CT

Fun for the Field started in 2022 as a low stakes way to provide after school professionals resources and the opportunity to network with others in the field. Every year we are expanding vendors and including resources for all our initiatives.

## ABOUT OUR AUDIENCE

Primarily attended by Program Directors and Site leaders, the Fun for the Field Resource Fair is open to any program provider looking to diversify their programs offerings. We're constantly looking for new, reputable, educational vendors to ensure providers have access to the many quality resources our state has to offer.

## 2025 OVERVIEW

Afterschool professionals got a few hours of fun while they explored educational vendors that offered a wide array of programming, from music and magic to sports and science! Each exhibitor provided games & giveaways. We had 30 registered participants.

## ABOUT THE RESOURCE FAIR

- Bringing together Afterschool Professionals and Educational Vendors to ensure a diverse array of quality resources for programming.
- Providing a fun, low-stakes professional opportunity for the afterschool workforce.
- Creating opportunities for connections throughout the state.

## WHO ATTENDS

- Afterschool Professionals
- Program Directors
- Site Leaders
- Direct Service Staff

## IMPORTANT DATES

- Vendor Registration Deadline: 5/15/2026
- Registration Closes: 5/22/2026



# LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL

**"I got to pet dogs, get a massage and do other fun activities around the camp. A nice day for me to enjoy!"**

**-2023 Participant**

## OCTOBER 2, 2026

Camp Ingwersol  
Portland, CT

Afterschool Professionals are often unsung heroes in communities. Underpaid and overworked, these people give back tirelessly. The Annual Lights On Afterschool event celebrates the work and dedication that happens every day across Connecticut.

## ABOUT OUR AUDIENCE

This annual event encourages staff in the OST field to attend and enjoy a day dedicated to them. Each year we estimate 100 people to attend including directors, supervisors, direct service staff, vendors, providers and more.

## 2025 OVERVIEW

In 2025 after school professionals took part in a day of recharging and celebrating each other. We honored individuals during our annual recognition awards ceremony and hosted educator, activist, and community leader Latoya Fernandez as our keynote speaker. The day included Relaxation Stations (Yard Games, Chair Massages, Henna, science activities and more), facilitated by the Network staff, CT Science Center and New Britain ROOTS. We had over 125 participants.

## ABOUT THE LOA CELEBRATION

- Lights On Afterschool has been celebrated nationally since 1999 as an effort to highlight the importance of "keeping the lights on afterschool"
- Held at the end of October, 1000's of programs take part across the country.
- As a result of the pandemic, CTNCY held a statewide celebration for the field in 2022.
- The event provides an opportunity for the field to be recognized and highlight the value these professionals have in positive outcomes for children, families, and communities.



## WHO ATTENDS

- 90% Afterschool Program Directors and Site Staff
- 3% Nonprofit Administrators
- 3% School and Govt. Administrators
- 4% Other (Parents, Consultants, Evaluators, Board Members, etc.)

## IMPORTANT DATES

- Recognition awards submission deadline: 9/11/2026
- Registration Closes: 9/25/2026

# STEM WEEK IN CT

**"Very engaging and loads of fun.; Very informative and creative."**

**-2025 CLASP STEM Conference Workshop Attendee**

## NOVEMBER 2 - 7, 2026 Virtual

National STEM Day is Sunday, November 8th. We want to expand, support and celebrate STEM during STEM Week by bringing members of our growing STEM community featuring engaging workshops, experiences and resources that providers can bring to their program. Different activities will be scheduled each day and culminating in person at our Annual After School Conference on Saturday, November 7, 2025.

## 2025 OVERVIEW

Our inaugural STEM Week featured a variety of different local and national organizations including the CT Science Center, Little to Great Scientists, the Afterschool Alliance, CLASP STEM Core 2025 cohort members, and National Inventors Hall of Fame all took the opportunity to connect with OST educators from around the state and share STEM learning and networking opportunities with STEM Week attendees. Those who then attended the Afterschool Conference got to connect with new STEM Vendors and participate in our third annual Afterschool Conference STEM track!

## WHO ATTENDS

- OST STEM Educators
- Afterschool professionals
- Program Directors
- Site Leaders
- Program Administrators
- Direct Service Staff
- STEM education leaders

## IMPORTANT DATES

- Presenter Application Deadline: 10/16/2026
- Vendor Registration Deadline: 10/30/2026
- Registration Closes: 10/30/2026



## ABOUT STEM DAY/WEEK

- Sharing a variety of tools and resources that are available to help connect programs to hands-on learning STEM opportunities.
- Workshops and videos of STEM activities to do at programs.
- Discussion and exploration of the best places to explore STEM throughout CT with young people and as an educator.
- Networking opportunities to connect with after school educators focused on STEM learning.
- A formal STEM Track and a designated exhibit space for Afterschool Conference participants.

# AFTER SCHOOL CONFERENCE

**Very grateful  
for the  
opportunity  
to attend this  
incredible  
event. So  
Inspirational!"**

**-2025  
Participant**

## ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

- Connecticut's only conference designed specifically for afterschool and summer program providers
- Local and national expert presenters
- Multiple workshops on best practices in programming and curriculum; organizational leadership and more.
- Special Leadership track for Program Directors and Administrators



**NOVEMBER 7, 2026**

Hartford Marriott  
Downtown  
Hartford, CT

Join us for this full day event bringing together after school professionals for professional development, networking, and inspiration. The conference is designed specifically for K-12 after school and summer program providers.

## ABOUT OUR AUDIENCE

The conference is open to everyone interested in learning beyond the traditional classroom, although it is primarily attended by after school program providers in CT serving K-12 youth.

## 2025 OVERVIEW

In 2025, the conference hosted over 155 program directors, and direct service staff from every corner of Connecticut. The conference included a plenary, 18 workshops, and over 20 exhibitors. in addition we launched our STEM Exhibitor Hall as part of National STEM Day/Week.

## WHO ATTENDS

- Afterschool Professionals
- Site Leaders
- Program Directors
- Afterschool Advocates
- Direct Service Staff
- Educational Leaders

## IMPORTANT DATES

- Presenter Application Deadline: 10/16/2026
- Vendor Registration Deadline: 10/30/2026
- Registration Closes: 10/30/2026

# APPLICATION

Please scan the QR code to access sponsor application. Complete the form in its entirety and submit artwork. Sponsorships will only begin once payment is received in full. Make checks payable to the CT Network for Children and Youth.

## STAY CONNECTED

Visit [www.ctncy.org](http://www.ctncy.org) to:



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or simply click [here](#).**

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