G·san
GEORGIA STATEWIDE AFTERSCHOOL NETWORK

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
[DATE]

CONTACT:
[Your Program Name]
[Contact Name]
[Phone]
[E-mail]

Lights on Afterschool Celebration Features [name and title of visitor]

[Your City] *Event Part of Nationwide Celebration of Afterschool Programming*

[Note: Include a picture of your event if possible!]

[Your City]- Children, parents, business and community leaders came together today at **[program name]** to celebrate the achievements of students participating in afterschool programs as part of Georgia's Lights On Afterschool celebration. This event, which is part of the 27th annual nationwide Lights On Afterschool celebration, brought leaders together to learn about and celebrate the positive results of afterschool programming.

[Add event specifics, similar to the following]: Attendees saw students conduct scientific experiments and perform music, while **[insert names of any leaders in attendance, such as your mayor, school officials, business leaders]**, parents and students discussed the importance of afterschool programs.

"Throughout Georgia, afterschool programs provide the kind of enriching environment that has been consistently proven to be a keystone to academic success," said Katie Landes, Director of the Georgia Statewide Afterschool Network. "Afterschool programs have risen to the moment to support youth and are critical supports to address their academic, social, and emotional needs."

According to the Afterschool Alliance, only 13% of Georgia's K-12 youth participate in afterschool programs, while over 853,000 more of Georgia's children who are not in an afterschool program would likely participate if one were available in their community. Afterschool has broad and bipartisan support. According to America After 3PM, 100% of Georgia parents are satisfied with their child's afterschool programming.

[Add a quote from attendee such as a parent or a community leader, similar to the following]: "Children rely on programs such as **[your program]** for a safe and enriching place to go when the school day ends," said **[parent or community leader]**. "It is nice to come out and celebrate what these programs do for Georgia's youth year-round."

Insert a description of your program here – how long your program been in operation, how many children are enrolled in your program, the communities/neighborhoods that you serve, any feedback you have gotten from K-12 teachers and/or parents about the impact of your program on a child, etc. We recommend that descriptions be limited to 60-80 words.

Georgia's Lights on Afterschool celebration is organized by the Georgia Statewide Afterschool Network, a public-private collaborative dedicated to advancing, connecting and supporting quality afterschool programs throughout Georgia.

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About The Georgia Statewide Afterschool Network

The Georgia Statewide Afterschool Network (GSAN) (www.afterschoolga.org) is a public-private collaborative that envisions a day when all communities in Georgia have the resources to provide exceptional afterschool programming. Our mission is to advance, connect, and support high quality afterschool programs to promote the success of children and youth throughout Georgia.