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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*

[Your City]- Children, parents, business and community leaders will come together on October 22th, 2026, to promote the importance of quality afterschool programs in the lives of Georgia's youth as part of the 27th annual nationwide Lights on Afterschool celebration. Last year, over one million people celebrated the importance of and demand for afterschool nationwide during Lights on Afterschool.

In **[city/county]**, **[name of program]** will be holding a celebration as part of Lights on Afterschool on **[date]** from **[time]** to **[time]**. **[Insert information about your celebration here. What activities will be taking place? Will there be a tour? Is anyone speaking?]**

"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 someone familiar with your program such as]: "Unfortunately, we don't have enough afterschool programs to accommodate this demand," said **[program staff/director]**. "This event, like events throughout the state, will showcase the high quality afterschool programming that should be available to all of Georgia's youth."

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.