

PROCLAMATION



City and County of Denver
Proclamation No. CP11-0764

Celebrating Denver's afterschool programs as part of the National Lights on Afterschool Day

WHEREAS, the Council of the City and County of Denver is committed to quality afterschool programs that provide safe, challenging, engaging learning experiences beyond the school day and school year to help children and youth develop their social, emotional, physical, cultural, and academic skills; and

WHEREAS, the Council supports efforts to engage a diversity of students, parents, schools, community partners, business leaders, and working families to build stronger communities to advance to wellbeing of our children after the regular school day ends; and

WHEREAS, the Denver Quality Afterschool Connection, a collaboration between Denver Public Schools, the City, and more than 50 youth service agencies, provides great leadership in the area of community involvement in the education and well-being of youth, grounded in the principle that quality afterschool programs are key to helping our children become successful adults; and

WHEREAS, *Lights on Afterschool*, a national celebration of afterschool programs on October 20th promotes the critical importance of quality afterschool programs in the lives of children, their families and their communities; and

WHEREAS, more than 28 million children in the U.S. have parents who work outside the home, and 15.1 million children have no place to go after school; and

WHEREAS, many afterschool programs across the country are facing funding shortfalls so severe that they are being forced to close their doors and turn off their lights;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:

Section 1. That Council recognizes the outstanding leadership of the Denver Quality Afterschool Connection for its collaboration to provide innovative afterschool programs and activities for Denver's children and families.

Section 2. That the Denver City Council proclaims Thursday, October 20, 2011, as National Lights on Afterschool Day to raise awareness and support for programs to ensure the lights stay on and the doors stay open for all children after school!

Section 3. That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall attest and affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that a copy be transmitted to the Office of Education and Children.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL October 17, 2011

PRESIDENT