The Association of Science-Technology Centers (ASTC) and the Afterschool Alliance are pleased to announce the LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL Partnership Grant, a Noyce Foundation-funded grant to foster STEM Learning Partnerships between ASTC-member science centers in the United States and afterschool providers. LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL (October 23, 2014) is the only nationwide event celebrating afterschool programs and their important role in the lives of children, families, and communities.

ASTC-member science centers in the U.S. are invited to partner with an afterschool provider in their community or region and apply to receive one of 20 minigrants of $1,500. These minigrants are to be used to support afterschool STEM programming for the 2014 LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL celebration. The grant recipients will be announced in September 2014.

Eligibility
ASTC-member science centers and museums that have an identified afterschool partner may apply for this opportunity. Eligibility requirements for the minigrant include:

- Current membership in ASTC.
- Science centers and museums must be based in the United States.
- The identified afterschool partner must be a part of a larger afterschool program with multiple sites or be the statewide afterschool network.
- Both partners should share an interest in developing or increasing their capacity for STEM programming for youth in out-of-school-time programs.
- Submission of a complete application that includes some basic demographic data about each partner organization, a narrative description of the proposed activity, an event date, and details about how the event will be promoted in the community.

Application
The application deadline is 11:00 p.m. ET, Friday, August 22, 2014. Complete the online application.

Selection Process
Applications will be reviewed to determine the 20 minigrant recipients. Priority will be given to applications that:

- Reflect a variety of geographical and demographic settings; and
- Describe STEM-related activities to be featured during the 2014 LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL celebration with high potential to be shared or spread in other science center or afterschool contexts.

Grant recipients will be notified in the first week of September 2014; funds will be disbursed by mid-September 2014.

Questions? Contact ASTC Professional Development at profdev@astc.org