

April 8, 2011

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Local News and Events

1. Volunteers are needed to serve as CASH Coaches and help expand financial literacy in WNY. Free training will be held on April 27th from 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. or April 28 from 3:30 – 7:30 p.m. at the Matt Urban Hope Center, 385 Paderewski Drive, Buffalo. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Maggie Best at 887-2627 or cash.coaches@uwbec.org.
2. WNY Grantmakers Association will host a Grantmaker/Grantseeker Conference "Now More Than Ever: Investing in Your Nonprofits Capacity" will be April 28 from 8 – 11:30 a.m. at the Buffalo Club, 388 Delaware. Registration is \$35. Please call 857-0885 or email wnyga@verizon.net for more information.
3. The Latin American Cultural Association will be celebrating its 34th Anniversary on April 30th at 6 p.m. at 114 Elmwood Ave. The evening will include an informal potluck, raffles, music and dancing. A donation of \$25 helps support the work of L.A.C.A. and its store El Buen Amigo which sells handmade arts and crafts of Latin and Central America with all the profits going directly back to the crafters to support them and their artistic traditions, and the inclusiveness with the WNY communities. Pre-reservations are appreciated by April 25 to lacanewyork@yahoo.com or 885-6343.

National Conferences and Workshops

1. On April 25, the University of California, Irvine is hosting the conference, "[Public Scholarship: Engaging Contradictions in the Contemporary University.](#)" The conference focuses on how to achieve a greater balance between public scholarship and institutional prestige, especially given the need for greater community investment in higher education.
2. Registration is open for the [Society for Community Research & Action \(SCRA\) 13th Biennial Conference](#), June 16-19 in Chicago. The conference theme is "New Pathways Toward Community Change and Transformation."
3. "[Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation Workshop With a Two Day Practicum](#)" will be held at the University of Ottawa in Ottawa, Canada on July 19-23, 2011. This popular and intensive experiential workshop is practically focused with daily excursions into the community and a three-day community assignment with a community based organization.
4. A [Gender Training Workshop](#) will be held at the University of Ottawa in Ottawa, Canada on July 25-29, 2011. This workshop seeks to provide participants with a solid understanding & skills in core concepts, gender analysis frameworks and gender strategies that can improve the effectiveness of your organization's programs and projects in working with women and men, boys and girls.
5. The [Sustainability Education Summer Institute 2011](#) (SESI) will be held July 25-27, 2011 at IslandWood in Seattle, WA. SESI is a rich and vibrant opportunity for K-12 teachers and administrators and teacher education faculty and administrators to deepen their knowledge of education for sustainability (EfS) and apply it to their schools and programs.

Call for Proposals and Papers

1. Abstracts are being accepted for the [10th International Conference on Urban Health](#), to be held November 1–5, 2011 in Belo Horizonte, Brazil. The principal theme to be addressed will be urban health action toward equity, with special interest in the urban context, its metrics, and interventions. The conference will examine how institutions and governments can develop and implement interventions that improve health equity, based upon the urban health evidence. The deadline for proposals is **June 30, 2011**.
2. [Progress in Community Health Partnerships: Research, Education, & Action](#) has released a call for papers for a theme issue on the "Science of Community Engagement." The issue's goal is to highlight concepts that form the foundation for assessing the impact of community engagement across all forms of research conducted with the intention of improving the health of those same communities. The deadline for submitting papers is **August 1, 2011**.
3. In partnership with the Native Research Network, [CES4Health.info](#) is publishing a themed set of products of community-engaged scholarship in Aboriginal and Indigenous Health in 2012. These products could include, for example, resource guides, toolkits, policy briefs, videos, photovoice exhibits, assessment instruments, instructional manuals and partnership agreements. Individuals from community and academic settings with experience in Aboriginal and Indigenous Health are also invited to apply to be peer reviewers. The deadline to apply to be a reviewer is September 1 and the deadline to submit products is **October 1, 2011**. A conference call to answer questions from authors who plan to submit products will be held on May 20 from 12-1:30 p.m. An informational session will also be held at the Native Research Network conference, June 27-30, 2011 in Niagara Falls, NY.

New Resources

1. ["Opening Doors to Student Success: A Synthesis of Findings from an Evaluation at Six Community Colleges"](#) is a new policy brief that synthesizes findings from the Opening Doors Demonstration — the first large-scale random assignment study in a community college setting, launched in 2003. The demonstration pursued promising strategies that emerged from focus groups with low-income students, discussions with college administrators, and an extensive literature review. Partnering with six community colleges across the country, MDRC helped develop and evaluated four distinct programs based on financial incentives, reforms in instructional practices, and enhancements in student services.
2. ["The Involvement of Users and Carers in Health and Social Research: The Realities of Inclusion and Engagement"](#) by Sue Read and Sian Maslin-Prothero explores the challenges to researchers intending to involve vulnerable populations in health and social care research, and provides evidence-based recommendations to support the proactive inclusion of these populations in the research process.
3. The April 2011 issue of [Community Development Journal](#) is now available. Articles include Shauna MacKinnon's "Building Capacity through Participatory Action Research: The State of the Inner-City Report Project" by Shauna MacKinnon and "Keeping Control: The Paradox of Scholarly Community-Based Research in Community Development."
4. ["Building a Grad Nation 2010-2011 Annual Update"](#) is a new report that indicates that the number of "dropout factory" high schools decreased from 2008 to 2009. The report calls for continued

study of the nation's success stories and work to develop the capacity of the districts, communities, and states that are struggling.

5. ["Education and the Economy: Boosting State and National Economies by Improving High School Graduation Rates."](#) a new study from the Alliance for Excellent Education, shows the likely economic benefits that states could see if they were to cut the number of high school dropouts in half.
6. [The Pedagogy of Confidence](#) draws from neuroscience, cognitive psychology and classroom experience to outline an exciting new vision to help teachers and students reach their full potential.
7. The second part of the annual [MetLife Survey of the American Teacher](#) looks at student differences, how teachers are addressing them, and how well students feel their needs are being met.
8. Google has launched a new [Google for Nonprofits](#) program, offering a variety of free or discounted resources, applications and outreach tools, including: Google Earth Outreach, which allows groups to use Google Earth to "visualize your cause and tell your story through Google's mapping technologies"; YouTube for non-profits which makes available increased uploading limits, a "Donate" button on videos, listing on non-profit channels and video pages, and other perks; and Google Grants, which offers up to \$10,000 a month in advertising on Google AdWords.
9. The [Making Connections Survey](#) was designed to provide information about the relationship between neighborhood change and the well-being of children and families. Data were collected in a set of ten disadvantaged urban communities across the United States that are diverse in terms of race, ethnicity, immigrant populations, and physical and economic characteristics. The data supply measures of mobility, social capital, neighborhood processes, civic engagement, economic hardship, the availability and utilization of resources, and child well-being.

Grant Opportunities

1. The [M-A-C AIDS Fund United States Community Grants Program](#) supports organizations working to address the link between poverty and AIDS through grants for programs that provide food and nutrition or housing services to people living with HIV and AIDS. The deadline is **May 6, 2011**.
2. The [Avon Foundation for Women's Breast Cancer Research Programs'](#) priority areas are: understanding the causes of breast cancer and research to develop new preventative strategies; understanding the role of endogenous and exogenous environmental factors in the development of breast cancer; understanding whether viruses or infectious agents play a role in breast cancer; validation of markers/biomarkers of breast cancer risk or that signal different breast states such as parous/nulliparous; development of clinically applicable assays or diagnostic tests that are predictive of breast cancer risk or that can be used to monitor changes in breast health over time; and understanding how parity and breastfeeding alter breast cancer risk. Letters of intent are due **May 6, 2011**.
3. The Department of Justice's [Tribal Civil and Criminal Legal Assistance Grants, Training, and Technical Assistance](#) program provides support for efforts to strengthen and improve the representation of indigent defendants in criminal cases and indigent respondents in civil causes of action under the jurisdiction of Indian tribes. Applications are due **May 12, 2011**.

4. The Department of Education's [Carol M. White Physical Education Program](#) provides support for efforts to initiate, expand, or enhance physical education programs, including after-school programs, for students in kindergarten through 12th grade. The application deadline is **May 13, 2011**.
5. [The ESA Foundation](#) is accepting grant applications from nonprofit organizations that provide programs and services utilizing technology and/or computer and video games to educate America's youth and young adults (ages 7 to 18). The application deadline is **May 15, 2011**.
6. [The CarMax Foundation's National Funding Program](#) assists nonprofit organizations that are national in scope or have a presence in one or more of the company's market areas. Funded organizations should either address auto safety for families and children or work to build a competitive workforce through automotive technical training. The 2011 application deadlines for the National Program are **May 15** and November 15.
7. [The Aetna Foundation](#) provides grants through the following program areas: The Obesity program focuses on addressing the rising rate of obesity among U.S. adults and children. The Racial and Ethnic Health Care Equity program promotes equity in health care for common chronic conditions and infant mortality. The Integrated Health Care program aims to advance high-quality health care by improving care coordination among health care professionals, creating informed patients, and promoting affordable care. Letters of intent may be submitted at any time. The application deadlines for full proposals are February 15, **May 15**, August 15, and November 15, annually.
8. The [Preeclampsia Foundation's 2011 Vision Grants](#) are intended to provide initial funding for innovative ideas focused on the pathophysiology, diagnosis, and treatment of preeclampsia, HELLP syndrome, and other hypertensive disorders of pregnancy that might otherwise not be pursued due to lack of funding. The foundation is also inviting applications for the new Health Services Grant, a separate award focused on the application of health services research to the field of preeclampsia. This funding is designed to inspire investigators to focus specifically on health-delivery strategies that can improve the care of women (and their babies) with hypertensive diseases of pregnancy. The deadline for applications is **May 16, 2011**.
9. The [Stage Directors and Choreographers Foundation's Guest Artist Initiative Program](#) facilitates and funds the hiring of professional SDC directors and choreographers to helm theater productions at universities and colleges across the United States. The deadline is **May 16, 2011**.
10. The US Department of Agriculture's [Agriculture and Food Research Initiative \(AFRI\) Challenge Area](#) addresses the priority of childhood obesity prevention. The outcome for this program is to reduce the prevalence of overweight and obesity among children and adolescents ages 2 to 19 years. Proposals are due by **May 18, 2011**.
11. The [Dollar General Literacy Foundation's Back to School Grants](#) provide funding to help school libraries and media centers meet some of the financial challenges they face in the following areas: implementing new or expanding existing literacy programs; purchasing new technology or equipment to support literacy initiatives; and purchasing books, materials, or software for literacy programs. Youth Literacy Grants provide funding to schools, public libraries, and nonprofit organizations working to help students who are below grade level or experiencing difficulty reading. The deadline is **May 18, 2011**.
12. The [Mitchell Kapor Foundation's Voting Integrity and Civic Engagement](#) (VoICE) initiative supports nonprofit organizations that are directly increasing the electoral empowerment of low-income communities of color. Grants are provided to 1) organizations that provide leadership development, organizing, and issue advocacy, and 2) organizations that are improving the national elections infrastructure and systems, namely voter registration modernization and

campaign finance reform. The remaining application deadlines for 2011 are **May 18**, July 20, September 14, and November 16.

13. The Department of Agriculture's [Agriculture and Food Research Initiative: Integrated Research, Education, and Extension to Prevent Childhood Obesity](#) program provides support for integrated projects that generate new knowledge of the behavioral (not metabolic) factors that influence childhood obesity and use this information to develop and implement effective family and/or school-based interventions for preventing overweight and obesity in pre-adolescent and early adolescent children (ages 9-14 years). Applications are due **May 18, 2011**.
14. The National Endowment for the Humanities' [Preservation and Access Research and Development](#) program provides support for projects that address major challenges in preserving or providing access to humanities collections and resources, including the development of technical standards, best practices, and tools for preserving and creating access to humanities collections; the exploration of more effective scientific and technical methods of preserving humanities collections; the development of automated procedures and computational tools to integrate, analyze, and repurpose humanities data in disparate online resources; and the investigation and testing of new ways of providing digital access to humanities materials that are not easily digitized using current methods. The application deadline is **May 19, 2011**.
15. The [Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's Grand Challenges Explorations](#) initiative provides grants to scientists, inventors, and entrepreneurs so that they can pursue unconventional ideas with the potential to transform health in developing countries. Subjects for research in this round are: The Poliovirus Endgame -- Create Ways to Accelerate, Sustain, and Monitor Eradication; Create the Next Generation of Sanitation Technologies; Create Low-Cost Cell Phone-Based Solutions for Improved Uptake and Coverage of Childhood Vaccinations; Design New Approaches to Cure HIV Infection; Explore Nutrition for Healthy Growth of Infants and Children; and Apply Synthetic Biology to Global Health Challenges. Applications are due **May 19, 2011**.

Misc.

1. The [VSA Playwright Discovery Program](#) invites middle and high school students to take a closer look at the world around them, examine how disability affects their lives and the lives of others, and express their views through the art of playwriting. Young playwrights with and without disabilities are encouraged to submit a script. The deadline is **April 15, 2011**.
2. [Congress in the Classroom](#) is a national, award-winning education program dedicated to the exchange of ideas and information on teaching about Congress. Congress in the Classroom is designed for high school or middle school teachers who teach U.S. history, government, civics, political science, or social studies. All online applications must be received by no later than **April 15, 2011**.
3. The Skoll Foundation's [Skoll Awards for Social Entrepreneurship](#) provide unrestricted funding to further extend the reach of social entrepreneurs who have achieved significant impact in the areas of tolerance and human rights, health, environmental sustainability, peace and security, and economic and social equity. The application deadline is **April 27, 2011**.
4. The [Toyota International Teacher Program](#) offers U.S. secondary school educators the opportunity to travel to Costa Rica to explore environmental and cultural preservation, biodiversity, and sustainability through a variety of site visits, discussions, lectures, and hands-on activities. One of the main goals of the program is to encourage the U.S. teachers to incorporate global and environmental education into their classrooms and communities. The application deadline is **May 4, 2011**.

5. The [Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's New Connections: Increasing Diversity of RWJF Programming](#) initiative is designed to expand the diversity of perspectives that inform RWJF programming and introduce new researchers and scholars to the foundation while simultaneously helping to meet staff needs for data analysis. The program invites Junior Investigators (scholars from historically disadvantaged and underrepresented communities) and Midcareer Consultants (scholars from historically disadvantaged and underrepresented communities who have between ten to fifteen years of research and/or evaluation experience) to submit brief proposals that address programming priorities for one of RWJF's program areas. Applications are due by **May 5, 2011**.

6. The [Health and Aging Policy Fellows Program](#) is designed to provide a unique opportunity for professionals in health and aging to receive the experience and skills necessary to make a positive contribution to the development and implementation of health policies that affect older Americans. The residential track allows fellows to participate in the policymaking process on either the federal or state level as legislative assistants in Congress or as professional staff members in executive agencies or policy organizations. The non-residential track allows fellows to work on a policy project and brief placement(s) throughout the year at relevant sites. Core program components focused on career development and professional enrichment are provided for fellows in both tracks. Applications are due by **May 9, 2011**.

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