

Announcing the Science Gender and Afterschool (SGA) Community of Practice Website

The Educational Equity Center at The Academy for Educational Development (EEC/AED), formerly known as Educational Equity Concepts, is pleased to announce it has received a National Science Foundation grant to create a unique web-based community of practice on science, gender and afterschool (SGA). The project is being conducted in collaboration with the AED Center for Youth Development and Policy Research and in partnership with the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). The goal of the *SGA Community of Practice* is to broaden the participation of underserved girls in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) by furthering research in STEM, gender, and afterschool fields; aiding afterschool program practitioners in accessing high quality STEM content; and fostering connections between researchers, policymakers and practitioners.

The *SGA Community of Practice* will:

- provide an innovative way to reach researchers, practitioners, and policymakers about the important role of afterschool in engaging and sustaining girls' interest in pursuing education and careers in STEM.
- serve as an ongoing learning exchange to disseminate the results of new and continuing research, program evaluations, afterschool science curricula, best practices, and relevant STEM resources.
- bring national attention to issues pertaining to girls' participation in, and access to afterschool STEM opportunities.
- build on research-based evidence about high quality afterschool programs and the components that foster girls' interest and confidence in STEM
- provide researchers interested in the cross-section of the STEM, gender, and afterschool areas with access to information on prior research, and the opportunity to participate in focused dialogue with other researchers, practitioners and policymakers.
- allow practitioners to access resources on gender-sensitive science program content and curricula, training opportunities, and funding sources.

The SGA website can be accessed through www.afterschool.org; developed and managed by the AED Center for Youth Development and Policy Research

The mission of the Educational Equity Center at AED is to eliminate inequities due to gender, race/ethnicity, disability, and poverty that are barriers to children's learning. For more information on EEC's programs and materials visit our website www.edequity.org or see contact information below.

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