Community Partnership Feature: Asheville City Schools Foundation

The Asheville City Schools Foundation (ACSF) is an independent non-profit organization dedicated to the educational success of all Asheville City Schools students. The Foundation works to engage and mobilize the community to support teachers, students, and their families.

Right now ACSF is offering the Go Local Card. Asheville City Schools Foundation and the Asheville Grown Business Alliance have teamed up to present the Love Asheville – Go Local Card. Support public education and local independent businesses at the same time with the purchase of this card.

When you purchase in November a portion of your funds can go to the ACS of your choice. You will also receive a pocket guide with over 300 businesses listed.

To purchase go [here](#).

Like this organization? Want to find out more about other community organizations you can work with? Check out the Key Center’s site, [here](#).

Service Learning:

1) Public Service Project:

If you are interested in doing a Public Service Project to become Community Engaged Scholars, please attend one of the mandatory workshops in Highsmith Union 235 (SAIL Boardroom):

Wed. 11/14 4-5 p.m.

Please e-mail the Key Center to indicate your attendance at [keyctr@unca.edu](mailto:).  

2) Community Engaged Scholars:

For more information about the academic honor and Public Service Projects is here: [http://keycenter.unca.edu/community-engaged-scholars](http://keycenter.unca.edu/community-engaged-scholars)

UNCA also has a feature on the first Community Engaged Scholars who graduated in May here: [http://www.unca.edu/features/recognized-giving-back](http://www.unca.edu/features/recognized-giving-back).
Short Term Opportunities

1) MANNA

Manna is currently seeking two volunteer drivers for food drive pick ups.

Pick up would involve driving Manna’s truck to various organizations to pick up donated food. Volunteer must be 18 or older with a valid drivers license. Volunteer should also be comfortable with lifting/shifting/dragging the food barrels onto the truck.

For more information contact Katie katiejeanne7@gmail.com

2) Hurricane Sandy Relief Efforts

The HandsOn Volunteer Action Centers and partners have been working to coordinate volunteer response to Hurricane Sandy.

If you are interested in helping with relief efforts, contact a HandsOn affiliate or a Red Cross affiliate.

These are a few of the HandsOn networks in the northeast:

NEW YORK
New York Cares, New York City
Long Island Volunteer Center, Long Island, NY
Volunteer Center Serving Westchester and Mid-Hudson Valley

New Jersey
Jersey Cares, Newark, NJ
Pass It Along, Sussex County, NJ
Volunteer Center of Bergen County, Hackensack, NJ
Volunteer Center of Philadelphia and South New Jersey

3) Homeward Bound

Homeward Bound will be putting together book packages, called bookshelf starter kits, for those recently placed in new housing.

Volunteers will sort, count and package boxes of books at the storage center. Site is outdoors so volunteers are encouraged to dress for the weather. Project will take place on November 12, 2012.

To sign-up go here.

4) Asheville Downtown Association

Asheville Downtown Association is looking for Holiday Parade and Jinglefest Volunteers on November 17th! Volunteer duties include everything from set-up to parade marshalls.

After the parade the JingleFest will commence with activities for children, hot cider,
caroling and more.

Specific duties and shifts will be assigned after interest is expressed.

To sign-up email volunteer@ashevilledowntown.org

**Long Term Opportunities**

1) **Youth Outright**

Youth Outright is an organization providing affirmation, information and support to LGBTQ youth and allies ages 14-23 in Western North Carolina. Youth Outright holds weekly meetings for youth across 18 counties.

Youth Outright is always looking for volunteers. There are short term opportunities such as guest speaking or assisting at fundraisers or community events. There are also long term opportunities such as research projects, facilitating meetings and participating in Youth Outright committees.

For more information go [here](#).

2) **Family Resource Center at Emma**

FRCE improves family’s financial stability by providing emergency assistance through a food pantry to decrease food insecurity; a clothing closet; emergency financial assistance for rent, utilities and medical expenses; and holiday assistance. In addition, they provide case management to those who are requesting assistance on an ongoing basis. They work with families individually to bring them out of crisis and to financial stability. These services are available to both English and Latino families living in the Emma Community.

They are seeking volunteers to help with tasks such as folding and organizing clothing, stocking and packing boxes in the food pantry and other tasks to support the Emma Community.

For more information contact Lisa Barlow at lisab@childrenfirstbc.org.

3) **Nature Abounds**

Watch the Wild, a program of Nature Abounds needs help in observing the "wild" in your community.

As a Watch the Wild volunteer, you observe and report what is taking place in your community, from trees and plants to weather and wildlife activity. In as little as ten minutes, your observations help us to understand how our eco-systems are changing and helps us to adapt for the future.

Being a Watch the Wild, volunteer is very easy.
All you need to do is:
choose a location or route to observe, whether it be your backyard, a route you drive regularly, or an area that you play, visit, or hike in regularly
record your observations and
report your observations via mail or email.

For more information go here.

4) Buncombe County Detention Center

The Buncombe County Detention Center is seeking volunteers for a variety of programs with inmates.

Volunteers must be 21 or older.

For more information contact 828-989-9459

Community Citizenship

1) Climbing PoeTree

Tuesday November 13 at 8pm, UNCA will host Climbing PoeTree a spoken word duo. Below is Cultural Event’s description of the event.

“WITH FLAWLESS CADENCE and impeccable lyricism, Alixa and Naima weave together their voices to tell powerful stories of suffering and injustice, courage and love in a world overcome with fear. Climbing PoeTree's acclaimed performance is composed of dual-voice spoken-word poetry and multimedia theatre that explores diverse themes, including healing from violence, spiritual expansion, women's empowerment, and social, environmental and racial justice. The poetry they deliver challenges its listeners to remember their humanity, dissolves apathy with hope, and addresses difficult issues in their communities.

Welcome remarks and poem by UNC Asheville alumnus and spoken word artist Griffin Payne (’10)
Opening act by UNC Asheville's own Cory Thompson and Colette Heiser, winners of the SAIL Slam Poetry Competition”

Students are free with onecard and event is open to the public.

2) Private Violence

Private Violence is a documentary film that explores domestic violence through the lens of survivors, advocates, activists, domestic violence scholars, abusers, district attorneys, judges, healthcare workers and others who are working to end this hidden crime.

The documentary will be screened at the Fine Arts Theater on Thursday November 8th at 6pm. Tickets are $8 and there will be a discussion to follow.

For more information on the screening contact Linda Stanton linda.stanton@mahec.net

3) Vance Craft Explosion
Vance elementary school will host its annual Craft Fundraiser on **November 18th** at 12:00pm. There will be a raffle and bake sale as well as a multitude of local artists.

Anyone and everyone is encouraged to become a vendor or to just attend.

To sign up to be a vendor contact vancecraftexplosion@gmail.com

**4) Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week**

HAHAW will start with the Everybody Can-Can! performance taking place on **November 9th** at 7:30pm in Lipinsky.

Other events will take place during the week of November 12th.

Drop by the Key Center for details.

To see all of the Key Center’s service opportunities go [here](http://keycenter.unca.edu/).

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