



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BASCOL CELEBRATES NATIONAL LIGHTS ON AFTER SCHOOL DAY

Central Square, N.Y. October 25, 2016 – BASCOL (Before and After School Childcare on Location, Inc.) in Central Square celebrated National Lights On After School Day on Thursday, October 20th. Lights On Afterschool is celebrated nationwide to call attention to the importance of afterschool programs for America's children, families and communities. Students at A.A. Cole Elementary BASCOL decorated balloons, put a glow stick in them. The balloons were filled them with helium and released outside to light up the sky. Students at the Hastings-Mallory BASCOL program hollowed out a pumpkin and created a volcano inside it. They filled it with baking soda and vinegar and watched it erupt for their celebration.

In America today 11.3 million children are alone and unsupervised after school. Afterschool programs keep kids safe, help working families and inspire learning. They provide opportunities to help young people develop into successful adults. Lights On Afterschool was launched in October 2000 with celebrations in more than 1,200 communities nationwide. The event grew in 2001 to more than 3,600 events, and more than 9,000 in 2012. This October, more than 1 million Americans will celebrate Lights On Afterschool!

BASCOL's mission is to provide every child in grades K through 6 with the best possible before and after school program. "Our students and staff were very excited to work on their Lights On Afterschool projects and share them with the community," said BASCOL Executive Director, Candace B. Edwards.

Lights On Afterschool is organized by the Afterschool Alliance, a nonprofit public awareness and advocacy organization working to ensure that all children have access to quality afterschool programs. More information on the Afterschool Alliance, Lights On Afterschool and America After 3PM is available at www.afterschoolalliance.org.

BASCOL, a New York State licensed before and after school program has been serving families since 1992. BASCOL currently operates in seven school districts at 18 different locations including Central Square, Holy Cross in Dewitt, Liverpool, Onondaga Central, Solvay, West Genesee and Westhill.

BASCOL's program focuses on core programming areas including art, dramatic play, fine motor skills, literacy, physical education, health and nutrition, social and emotional development and special events. Call BASCOL @ 622-4815 or visit www.bascol.org for more information.

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