



NASW PRESS

# Call for Papers

Special Issue:  
**Organized Activities during  
Out-of-School Time as a Tool  
for Social Justice**

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Organized activities during out-of-school time (OST) have been a crucial support to children, youth, and families coping with the dual pandemics of COVID-19 and racial injustice. OST can include afterschool programs, extracurricular activities, summer programs, extended learning opportunities, and other youth programs offered through community schools and 21st Century Community Learning Centers. OST programs are well situated to holistically address not only academic learning loss, but also “socioemotional loss” from missed social and developmental opportunities during COVID-19 closures. Prevailing OST research has mostly focused on documenting programmatic outcomes. More research is needed on how OST engages questions of equity, power, and justice in critical ways that promote positive youth development and citizenship.

For this special issue, we seek manuscripts that advance the conversation on how educators, school social workers, school-based mental health providers, and other professionals can utilize OST programs to advance equity and social justice.

We seek submissions that address one or more of the following areas: (a) OST programs as radical spaces for disadvantaged and marginalized youth, including studies of best practices, staff training and development, youth engagement, transformative socioemotional learning, and connections/integration with schools; (b) power, privilege, diversity, equity, inclusion, accessibility, funding, and resource distribution within OST; and (c) the integration of critical social theory with quantitative methods (e.g., quantitative criticalism, QuantCrit) to investigate OST programs.

Interested authors should submit abstracts of 500 words or less by **March 31, 2022**, through the online submission portal at <http://cs.msubmit.net> (registration required). Manuscripts may be submitted as full-length articles (20 pages), Practice Highlights (six pages), or As Readers See It columns (two pages). Please indicate that your submission is intended for the OST special issue. Selected authors will be invited to submit full manuscripts by **June 30, 2022**.