Tapping the power of summer learning to expand opportunity for all children
When We Talk About Summer learning...

We are really talking about:

- Promoting Educational Equity
- Creating Opportunity
- Building Community
Vision

To ensure all young people in America, regardless of background and income, can access and benefit from a high-quality summer learning experience every year.

NSLA provides training and support around our (5Ps) Program Quality, Policy, Partnerships, Public Awareness and People (Leadership Development) to a network of 20,000 leaders representing:

- School Districts and State Education Agencies
- Youth-serving Government Agencies
- Non-profit and Community-based programs
- Summer Youth Employment and Internships
# Summer School vs. Summer Learning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summer School</th>
<th>Summer Learning</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Remedial Education</td>
<td>• New and Accelerated Learning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Punitive and Boring</td>
<td>• Exciting, Engaging, Experiential</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• School-based</td>
<td>• Multitude of Settings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• “Academic-Only” Focus</td>
<td>• Combines Academics, Health, Enrichment, SEL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Mandatory Only for Some Students</td>
<td>• Voluntary and Open to All</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Adults Decide All</td>
<td>• Student Voice, Choice, and Leadership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Feels No Different than School</td>
<td>• Unique and Special Experience &amp; Culture</td>
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Start with “The Why?” NSLA’s 4 I’s of Summer

**Improvement**
Provide both students and staff opportunities to learn, develop and practice new skills. “No training about kids without kids.”

**Innovation**
Most entrepreneurial time in education. Chance to incubate and try out new ideas before scaling. Many well-known, year-round programs started in summer.

**Interconnectedness**
Chance to break down artificial silos in education. Model and develop multi-sector partnerships which can last all year long.

**Impact**
Hands on learning is immediate and lasting. Summer is a high ROI life transition point. Nationally, this is a solvable challenge.
COVID-19: Hard for Everyone, Worse for Some
From Summer Learning Loss to COVID Learning Loss

- More than 200,000 US kids lost at least one parent or caregiver (Imperial College of London)
- Children fell far behind in school during the first year of the pandemic and have not caught up
- Math and reading levels were all lower than normal
- Shortfalls were largest for Black and Hispanic students and students in schools with high poverty rates

Source: NWEA
COVID-19’s Impact on Mental Health

- American Academy of Pediatrics recently declared a national state of emergency in children’s mental health
- Dramatic increases in ER visits for all mental health emergencies
- According to the CDC, suspected suicide attempts by 12-17 year old girls rose by 51% from early 2019 to early 2021
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Societal Changes and Challenges</th>
<th>1900-1920</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Immigration</td>
<td>15 million+ people moved to US</td>
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<tr>
<td>Urbanization</td>
<td>Many settled in cities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Industrialization</td>
<td>Rise of Automation, Factories</td>
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<tr>
<td>1918 Spanish Flu Pandemic</td>
<td>675,000 American Deaths</td>
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<tr>
<td>World War I (1914-1918)</td>
<td>117,000 US Deaths</td>
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We’ve Been Here Before, a Century Ago

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Doubled Down on Community</th>
<th>National Organization (Year Founded)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• 4-H (1901)</td>
<td>• American Camp Association (1910)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Goodwill Industries (1902)</td>
<td>• Boy Scouts (1910)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Big Brothers (1903)</td>
<td>• Girl Scouts (1912)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Rotary (1905)</td>
<td>• Community Chest renamed United Way (1913)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Boys Clubs of America (1906)</td>
<td>• Kiwanis (1915)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• YWCA (1906)</td>
<td>• American Legion (1919)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• NAACP (1909)</td>
<td>• League of Women Voters (1920)</td>
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We Know What Works: High-Quality Programs

Elements of Success
RAND Research Study

Meet ESSA Tier 1 standards

5 week minimum

School-based

Academics + enrichment + SEL
**Figure 3.1**
Number of Summer Programs with ESSA Tier I–III Evidence, by Program Type

- **Employment and career**: 3 Tier III, 1 Tier I
- **At-home learning**: 3 Tier III, 2 Tier II
- **Social and emotional well-being**: 12 Tier I/II
- **Academic**: 20 Tier I/II, 1 Tier III, 1 Tier I

*With detailed descriptions of 43 evidence-based summer programs*
NSLA’s *Community Indicators of Effective Summer Learning Systems* identifies 6 key domains for summer system building:

1. Shared Vision and Citywide Coordination
2. Engaged Leadership
3. Data Management System
4. Continuous Quality Improvement
5. Sustainable Resources
6. Marketing and Communications
Additional Resources

A Summer Like No Other: Lessons from the Field During COVID-19

Yale Child Study Center + Scholastic Collaborative for Child & Family Resilience

Summer Learning: A Bridge to Student Success and America's Recovery, a COVID-19 PLAYBOOK

Summer Starts in September Planning Guide

Wallace Summer Planning Toolkit
1) Sign up at www.DiscoverSummer.org

2) Tap into NSLA’s Training and Support

3) Join one of NSLA’s ten year round Professional Summer Learning Communities (Academics, Arts, College Access etc.)
Focus on KIDS and “Preminiscing” About 2030
Thank you and Open Discussion!

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