

Houston's
best source for
what's happening after 3:00 p.m.!
The afterschoolzone seeks to
ensure that all children and families
have access to quality programs
and activities during non-school
hours.



Each month, four after-school programs across Harris County are highlighted on their website at www.afterschoolzone.org. Those highlighted are recommended for their unique programs and the impact that they are making in their communities. Below is the article posted on their site for January 2008!

CONGRATULATIONS TO MS. SUSAN AND STAFF!!



The Afterschool Kinsmen was started under the auspices of Kinsmen Lutheran Church as a nonprofit outreach program to the community of Northwest Houston in 1993. It is located at 12100 Champion Forest Drive. The program provides before and afterschool care to students ages 4-13 and transportation to and from local schools. Kinsmen has a full size gym, computer lab, two playgrounds and a wonderful youth loft with video games, pool, ping pong and a large screen theatre system. The program started with just a few students and now has an enrollment of over 100 students. Daily activities include a quiet homework study room, science enrichment classes, drama, arts and crafts sports and games and free academic tutoring is provided by certified teachers on Mondays. Piano lessons and

dance classes are available for and additional charge. The students have a variety of clubs they can join such as newspaper club, mystery club, decorating and drama club. Afterschool Kinsmen (A.S.K.) is also open on all staff in-service days, the winter and spring break periods and summer. Susan Wardzinski is the Coordinator of Afterschool Kinsmen. She has been a director of out-of-school-time since 1999. It is her desire to provide quality care along with activities that inspire or delight the students during their after school time. She is assisted by a dedicated staff; Debra Stewart has been at Kinsmen for 10 years and has played a major role in the students' life as a caregiver and art teacher. Eileen Edwards handles the office. There is a team of dedicated staff: Mary Fox, Maria Rubio, Chase Wolter, Bershanned Wilson, Karen Cartegena, Eddy Cartagena, Steven Pate, and Kennard Colwell.

Students' Thoughts:

"I have been going here since I was 5 years old. I am now almost 9. I like Kinsmen because we go to the loft and play video games, pool and ping-pong. We get to go outside if the ground is not wet. We go on field trips and play in the gym. If you want to have fun, go to A.S.K.!" – Grace, age 8

"What I like about Kinsmen: I love all their activities. I like the teachers and the staff. I love their toys! I love how they give us snacks after school! I love their computer lab. I like their computer games! I love how you can color in the mornings! I have been here since I was 4, now I'm 12. I love the people from last year to this year. The teachers will do anything to get us out of harm. I love A.S.K." – Kelsey, age 12

"They have really great teachers and they have good snacks and dinner. It is really fun because we have clubs and a computer lab a loft and a gym so if you come, you can take a break from school." – Demaris, age 12

"I only come in the morning and it is a lot of fun. Kinsmen has a lot of great teachers. Your kids will have a great time!" – Taylor, age 10

BEFORE • AFTER school Kinsmen



"The PLACE to GO"