LITERACY COUNCIL
FREDERICK COUNTY, MD

EMPOWERING ADULTS THROUGH ENGLISH LANGUAGE SKILLS

Literacy Council of Frederick County Newsletter

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Available online!

Spring 2019

Executive Director's Corner - Laurie Fisher

National Volunteer Appreciation Week
April 7-13, 2019

National Volunteer Appreciation Week provides the perfect opportunity to recognize the contributions of the Literacy Council's 160+ incredible volunteers! Thank you for your commitment of time each week -- you are are helping more than 260+ adults each year, and, by extension - their families and children also. We could not do this important work without your caring and compassionate service.

To meet the increased need in our community, we are recruiting MORE volunteers for tutoring and other positions! Learn more about the ways to volunteer. Hear from some of our volunteers sharing their experiences in this YouTube short video!

Our new volunteer training schedule offers mutiple dates and locations around the county. Come find out more by attending a 1-hour Volunteer Information Session. If you are interested in becoming a tutor, the first step is to attend a Volunteer Information Session. See this newsletter's list of Volunteer Information Sessions and Tutor Training Workshops scheduled through October.

Monthly professional development sessions are also available.

JOIN us and become a new volunteer .
TRAIN to be a new tutor ...
REGISTER today!

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Caylee Winpigler, Intern

Volunteer Coordinators:

Lynn Bruton
Basic Literacy Program Coordinator

Holly Bohman
Catherine Coundjeris

SAVE THE DATE - Tuesday, June 11th!! 6th Annual Celebration of Achievements

Mark your calendar: Our 2019 Celebration of Achievements will be held on June 11at the Delaplaine Visual Arts Education Center. More information coming soon!

2018 Celebration of Achievements

READy FOR SUMMER Book Campaign - May 12 Deadline!!

The more kids read, the better readers they become!

Help us send a new book home for the summer with children served by Blessings in a Backpack Frederick. This campaign is a collaboration between **Blessings in a Backpack, Curious Iguana Bookstore, Frederick County Public Libraries** and the **Literacy Council of Frederick County.**

There are several ways you can support this campaign. We need your help by no later than May 12! Learn more HERE.

Thank you to our community for supporting our Annual Holiday Book Drive in November/December. Special thanks go to our partners Curious Iguana Bookstore and Barnes & Noble Booksellers.

The book drive benefited Blessings in a Backpack (BIAB) and collected 2,500 new books for children in 17 FCPS schools.

NEW Workplace Literacy Class for Hospitality Employees

Congratulations to our recent graduates from our new Workplace Hospitality Class from Econo Lodge Frederick! We are so proud of your achievements! Thank you to Econo Lodge for making this class possible, and to Victoria Dos Santos, Workplace Class Teacher!

Karen Nagy
English as a Second Language (ESL) Coordinators

Freida Pryor
Materials Coordinator

Caroline Gaver
Tutor Training Workshops Coordinator

Our Mission

The Literacy Council of Frederick County teaches adults the reading and other English language skills they need to provide for their families and to contribute to the well-being and prosperity of our community.

Our Values

Sustaining our organization through responsible financial stewardship, sound management, and community engagement.

Teaching a parent in order to educate a family.

Educating our students in a learner-centered format with compassion, confidentiality, and respect.

Producing a safer, healthier, economically stronger, and more vibrant community through adult literacy.

Sustaining, empowering, and energizing a passionate, strong, dedicated volunteer base.

Our Vision

A community where literacy is attainable for

For more information about our new Workplace Classes for employees in hospitality and restaurant jobs, contact Kim Brown, kbrown@frederickliteracy.org or (301) 600-2066.

Parent Outreach at Hillcrest & Waverly Elementary Schools

Volunteer ESL Coordinator Holly Bohman is leading the Literacy Council's parent outreach initiative for Hillcrest and Waverly Elementary Schools, togther with The Judy Center.

Holly is recruiting and matching volunteer tutors with parents. In addition, a new conversation class for parents began this month at Centro Hispano de Frederick as a new collaboration between our two organizations. We are in need of more volunteer tutors to help work with parents. Consider becoming a part of this new parent outreach initiative by attending a Volunteer Information Session and Tutor Training Workshop!

Spring Class Schedule: Beginning & Intermediate Literacy, Civics, Computer, Conversation, Pronunciation & Writing

Classes are held during Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall Sessions. Check our website for detailed class descriptions and download our Spring Class Schedule HERE.

Classes include: English as a Second Language (ESL) beginning and intermediate literacy, writing, pronunciation, conversation, civics and parent outreach.

Contact the Literacy Council office at (301) 600-2066 or staff@frederickliteracy.org for more information about eligibility, availability and registration. Space is limited. Classes are taught by Literacy Council volunteers.

Learn About Becoming a Literacy Council Volunteer!!

Check out our expanded schedule of Volunteer Information Sessions and Tutor Training which will be held April through October at multiple locations throughout the region!

everyone.

LIVE UNITED
United Way
United Way of Frederick County
Community Partner

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Friday:
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

If you can't get to the office on weekdays, please contact the office to make arrangements to pick up your tutor materials at a local library branch.
staff@frederickliteracy.org

(301) 600-2066

Tutor & Student Resources Available:

Come check out our latest resources in the Council's Library!

** A Volunteer Information Session and two-session workshop are required for completion. Tutor Training Workshop specific locations will be provided following registration.*

Learn more HERE and REGISTER today!!

January Tutor Training Workshop Graduates!

Upcoming Volunteer Professional Development Sessions

Professional development sessions for tutors are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month from 1:30-3:00 p.m. in the Literacy Council Classroom. These sessions will provide opportunities for tutors to gain expertise that will support their tutoring. A different topic will be presented each month, and tutors will also have a chance for general discussions and to ask questions after the presentation. To reserve a seat, email staff@frederickliteracy.org or call the office at (301) 600-2066.

February Professional Development for Tutors

- **April 17, 2019:** "Let's Play Games: Utilizing game formats to improve word recognition, spelling, and memory."
- **May 15, 2019:** "Language Parameters: Discover some of the patterns and rules that your students are bringing into the classroom based on their native language."
- **June-December:** Watch our website for monthly topics!

Suggestions for topics are also welcome! Please call the office or send suggestions to staff@frederickliteracy.org!

WELCOME TO OUR NEW VOLUNTEERS & STAFF!!

Please join us in welcoming our new members to the Literacy Council team!

Tracy Breslin is a new member of the Office Volunteer team. She is currently a stay at home wife and mom of two grown boys, and enjoys walking, reading and Tai Chi. "My love of reading and helping others led me to volunteer for the Literacy Council."

Debra Lewis also recently joined the Office Volunteer team. "The reason I decided to join the Literacy Council was because I was in a store waiting in line at the cash register. The man in front of me didn't speak any English and the checker didn't speak any Spanish. I couldn't help then but by volunteering at the Council, in some small way I am helping my community."

ProLiteracy

www.proliteracy.org

For our tutors and adult learners - check out the latest resources and literacy facts!

ProLiteracy's Resources for the Adult Educator:

Fall 2018 Notebook
Winter 2019 Notebook

Your Contribution Is Our Community's Future

Consider supporting a cause that is important to you with a planned gift.

Create your legacy by giving the Gift of Literacy.

The Community Foundation of Frederick County can help you with planned giving resources.

Consider a gift to the Literacy Council's Betty Seligmann Literacy Endowment Fund.

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Frederick County Combined Charities Campaign

The Literacy Council participates in the Combined Charities Campaign for Frederick County Government, the

Kris Nammalwar has also joined the Office Volunteer team. "I joined LCFC because I believe helping someone to read and communicate in English would be one of the important steps to better their life in many ways."

Taylor Hall is working with the Literacy Council as an intern helping to support our tutors and students and programs. She is a sophomore at Hood College, studying English and Psychology in hopes of becoming either a Child Advocate Lawyer or an English professor. "I chose to work at the Literacy Council because of my profound love for English and my desire to work in the English field. I also have experience with family members who, despite English being their first language, struggle with reading, writing, and speaking the language."

Caylee Winpigler is also interning from Hood College, supporting the organization's social media by sharing tips and updates on social media platforms. She is a sophomore history major in the honors program. "I wanted to work with an organization that had a huge impact on the lives of community members. The work of the Literacy Council helps people to provide for their family and enables them to have better lives as they learn English skills. I imagined the fright I would feel not knowing a language and not being able to provide for my family sufficiently."

Jennifer Szabo joins the Literacy Council's staff as the organization's new full time Program Manager. Previously a Literacy Council volunteer, Jennifer brings extensive experience to this position with over 14 years of teaching and six years of management experience in English as a Second Language (ESL) and Basic Literacy programs, including one-to-one tutoring and class instruction. Jennifer holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Linguistics and a Spanish minor, and a Master's of Education degree in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL). Jennifer can be reached at the Literacy Council at (301) 600-2066 or by email: jenniferszabo@frederickliteracy.org

Thank you to our 2019 SCRABBLE® Mania for Literacy Sponsors, Players and Silent Auction Contributors!

The Literacy Council's 4th annual SCRABBLE® Mania for Literacy event was held at Dutch's Daughter Restaurant on March 30th. Over 100 players on 26 teams competed for the top two team places and the highest scoring individual play.

SCRABBLE® MANIA FOR LITERACY

Thank you to our teams from Curious Iguana Bookstore, Leidos Biomedical Research, Frederick County Bank, Sandy Spring Bank, Rotary Club of Frederick, The Frederick News-Post, and the Adult Literacy Center of Strong City Baltimore! Check out some photos from the event!

City of Frederick, and Frederick County Public Schools.

Thank you for your support!

THANK YOU FOR MAKING A TAX DEDUCTIBLE GIFT TODAY!

DONATION

Donations can be made online here or mailed to:

Literacy Council of Frederick County
110 East Patrick Street
Frederick, MD 21701

Your generous contribution gives people who are eager to learn to read or to speak English the help they need to become an integral part of our community.

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that there is an easy way to help the Literacy Council and do your online shopping at the same time? Amazon.com has a program to help nonprofits where a portion of your monies will go back to the organization designated. To help the Literacy Council, you need only use this link

to get to the Council's Amazon page when you want to do your online shopping. The rest is automatic and painless!

Thanks for supporting us!

Thank You to Our Sponsors!

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Blackbird Art & Design, Curious Iguana Bookstore, Grove Public Relations, LLC, Imagination Center

Reflections - Voices of English Learners
Read about the launch of the Literacy Council's *new* Literary Magazine!

Reflections - Voices of English Learners, the first student Literary Magazine of the Literacy Council of Frederick County, was launched at a special event hosted by Curious Iguana Bookstore on September 25, 2018. Read more here!

Due to the success of our first issue as a result of our students hard work and effort, we are getting ready to produce another issue for 2019. The deadlline for students to submit their work is May 15. For more information, contact Catherine at ccoundjeris@frederickliteracy.org.

Special Reception Honors New Giving Society Members
Thank you to Friends of the Literacy Council!

On October 29, 2018, the

Board of Directors hosted a special reception to announce its new Giving Societies of the Literacy Council of Frederick County, and honor founding members.

Literacy Council students shared their work from ***Reflections - Voices of English Learners***, and presented copies of the literary magazine to donors in appreciation of their support. Read more about the event and the Giving Societies program here.

Students share literary work to thank supporters.

IN MEMORY OF Literacy Council Tutors JACQUELYN CLARK TATE & JOHN JUNKINS

The Literacy Council remembers volunteer tutors Jacquelyn Clark Tate and John Junkins who recently passed away.

Jacquelyn and John will be remembered for their dedication and support to their students.

The Literacy Council sends our sincere condolences to their families.