

LITBITS



Short Story Mystery Writing Contest

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Volunteer Spotlight	2
News	3
HLC Student Story	4
Student Word Search	5
Literacy Quotes	5

The Florida Literacy Coalition is sponsoring a Mystery Writers Contest to introduce students to a popular genre of fiction and encourage students to write stories to share with others.

Who Can Participate

The competition is open to adult learners in an adult education and literacy, GED, ESOL, or family literacy program in the state of Florida. There is a limit of one entry per student.

What to Submit

Mystery stories must be original unpublished fiction, typed, and may not exceed 2,000 words in length. Authors may select one of the writing prompt story starters or to opt to do their own story from the start.

Prizes

1st place winner	\$300
2nd place winner	\$200
Honorable mention	\$75

Submissions will be accepted until October 3, 2016. Visit the website www.floraliteracy.org/mystery_writing_contest.html for contest rules.

Shout-Out

Tutor, Ruthann Pleus, would like to give a shout-out to her student Trinidad Ramirez for her hard work and faithful attendance during **one full year** of English tutoring!

Save the Date

Annual Tutor Student Appreciation
 September 24, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
 Italian Club
 1731 E 7th Ave., Ybor

Bingo Fundraiser
 October 19, time TBA
 Hamburger Mary's, Centro Ybor
 1600 E 7th Ave., 2nd floor



Please "like" the new HLC Facebook page.



Spotlight on Lark Underwood Volunteer Tutor, Trainer, and Mentor

I have taught pre-school, 1st, 2nd, and 8th grades in Illinois and Australia. After returning to the U.S. from Australia, I was unable to get a teaching position (there was a teacher glut in Iowa!) so I went on to other employments.

Fast forward to 2008, and my steady work days came to a close. I began looking for activities to enjoy and, in 2011, a small article in the *Plant City Courier* announced a Literacy Tutor Workshop would be held soon at Bruton Memorial Library. I had been a voracious reader since grade school and loved falling into the amazing worlds books offered. So the opportunity to share that love with and foster it in others was not to be missed! And having lived abroad as a child and an adult, the opportunity of working with non-native English speakers excited me.

Nowadays, each week during my tutoring sessions, I am rewarded with the awareness and demonstration that nearly all of my students ask more questions, communicate more clearly, and tell me they understand much more of the American world outside of our class. Frequently, I am astounded by the courage, determination, gratitude, grit, humor and successes displayed by all of my ESOL students. It is what makes it worth going to class every week.



Photo of Lark Underwood and James Hargrett (Conversation Corner Organizer at Plant City Library) presenting for the Plant City Women's Club. They led an informative discussion about the HLC and invited the ladies to join us at the next New Tutor Training.

The next New Tutor Training is scheduled for August 6 from 10:30 – 3:30 p.m.
at the New Tampa Regional Library. Please tell your friends!

Tutor Workshop

Thursday, August 4, 6 - 8 p.m.

John F. Germany Public Library
900 N. Ashley Dr.

Special Guest:
Kyle R. McIntosh, PhD
The University of Tampa
Assistant Professor, English & Writing

6 - 7 p.m.: Professor McIntosh will present "Teaching Writing to ESL Populations"

7 - 8 p.m.: Tutor Swap & Share (bring your questions and suggestions)

Please RSVP

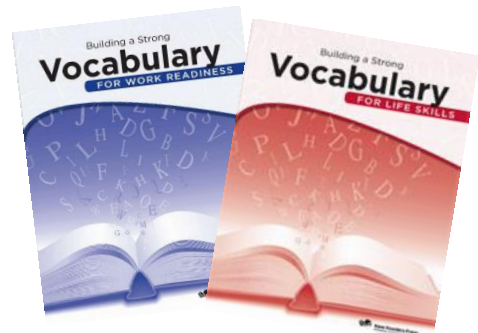
adulteracy@hillsboroughcounty.org or (813) 273-3650

New Books

We have a new book series called *Building a Strong Vocabulary*. The three components include:

- *Life Skills*
- *Work Readiness*
- *Academic Preparation*

You can place a hold in our catalog at www.hcplc.org or contact us to do it for you!



Accepting Nominations

The time has come to select our ESOL and Basic Literacy Students of the Year! If you would like to nominate your student, please send an email to adulteracy@hillsboroughcounty.org explaining why you think your student should win. Winners will be announced at the Annual Tutor-Student Appreciation on September 24, 2016 at the Italian Club in Ybor City.

LEARNER'S PAGES

Student Story: Alice in Wonderland

My name is Yana. I come from Ukraine with my husband and 4 year old son. Coming to US was one of the most exciting events of my life. I have been living in the USA for about 2 years. We have visited many countries in Europe. But when I came here, I felt like Alice in Wonderland. I am so amazed how big the US is. There are many different nationalities, languages, and cultures. I never took the experience it self as a challenge, but rather as an adventure and life-changing opportunity. Every day I have been learning something new about this country, culture and relationship between people. My new life here makes me review my previous lifestyle and begin to live in a new way. I have been very lucky to meet many amazing people here. When I first arrived everything was new around me and I felt like a child who needed to learn to talk again, get a new education, make new friends, work and try to understand how everything works here.

I thought I was brave enough when I lived in Ukraine, but here I need to raise my best side again and again in every simple every day routine. To make a doctor's appointment, register my child for school, and rent a new apartment were each new adventure for me. People who just come to a new country look at it differently than local people for sure.

And one of my greatest eye opening experiences was at the library. In Ukraine people go to the library but use it for studying.

In the U. S. library is a remarkable place that you can to get help, to know useful information, visit English conversation clubs, you can get help with writing a resume, and help with taxes. Here you can find a lot of programs for children and adults. What surprised me the most that it is perfectly organized and absolutely free, and it has a very friendly atmosphere.

At the library I feel more happy and confident, I don't feel my self alone with my problems any more. Never in my life have I met such open, friendly people, ready to help with any question. In conversation classes I also find people from my country and are family friends now.

I think for people who have just come to the US, the library is a wonderful place to start and take social adaptation in new life. And I want to say Thank you to all who every day work in the library and help people like me.

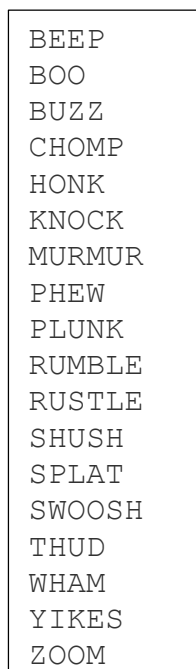
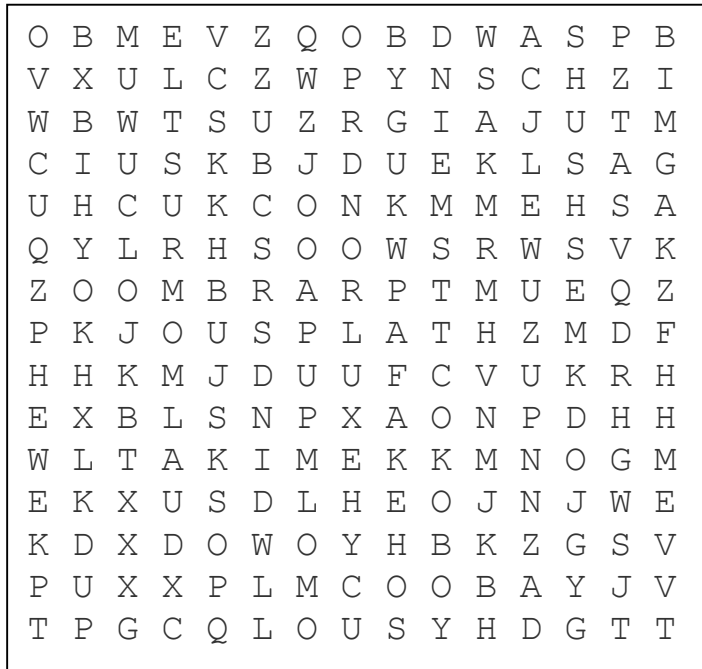
You change world for the best!

Thank you!

Yana Panchyshena
Student at the Town 'N Country Regional Public Library
Conversation Corner
Submitted by Carol Bockenek



Word Search – Onomatopoeia

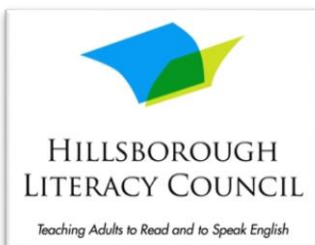


Literacy Quotes

Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body.
- Joseph Addison

Language is the means of getting an idea from my brain into yours without surgery.
- Mark Amidon

HILLSBOROUGH LITERACY COUNCIL



P.O. Box 4499
Tampa, FL 33677

Phone: (813) 273-3650
Fax: (813) 273-3634

adultliteracy@hillsboroughcounty.org
www.hillsboroughliteracy.org