

SEPTEMBER, 2019

LITBITS

The official newsletter of the Hillsborough Literacy Council



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CROSSWORD

Annual Assembly 2019 celebrated

The HLC celebrated its annual assembly on September 21st, 2019 at the Italian Club of Ybor. We recognized the hard work of all of our students, tutors, board members and staff. Our guest speaker was Bárbara Cruz, who spoke about her life as a young immigrant from Cuba to the U.S. and her battle against cancer. Her conversation was framed by her mother's own words of wisdom.

We also heard from the President of the Hillsborough Literacy Council, Karla Guzman-Mims, and the Director of the library system, Andrew Breidenbaugh.

Students and tutors of the year were awarded certificates and gifts, and the Sylvia Miller Award was given out. The list of the award winners appears on the next page.

Any student, tutor, or interested community member or family member is welcome to come to the annual assembly. Please keep watch for announcements about next year's event.



JUNE HYJEK ACCEPTS THE TUTOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

Annual Assembly Award Winners

- ESOL Student of the Year: Nelson Finol
- Literacy Student of the Year: Danny Hill
- ESOL Tutor of the Year: Brooke Brink
- Literacy Tutor of the Year: June Hyjek
- Sylvia Miller Award recipient: Paul Suppicich

New Tutor Training Update Format

The HLC has initiated the online New Tutor Training module, which is combined with a short in-person session. We are experiencing success with this new format. Potential new tutors are able to enroll in training more quickly than in the previous format, which only took place four times a year. By having more frequent trainings, we are able to increase our level of overall new tutor intake. Furthermore, smaller and more frequent in-person sessions allow new tutors to focus primarily on giving lessons and tutoring, as well as providing for ample time to look closely at HLC tutoring resources.



The HLC is seeing an increase in numbers of tutors completing training in a four month period compared to when we trained once every four months. We look forward to continuing this format and improving the online training module as we move forward.



New Literacy Department Assistant

We are pleased to welcome Melissa Nye to the Literacy Department. Melissa has previously volunteered as a tutor as well as in the office. She is fluent in multiple languages, including Spanish, so her skills are greatly appreciated here! She comes to us after having taught ESL at the University of South Florida.

The previous Literacy Department Assistant, Laura Elnassar has taken a Librarian position in Pasco County. We wish her well in her future!

Citizenship Classes

The HLC, in partnership with the Hispanic Services Council of Hillsborough County, has been conducting its first round of Citizenship Test Prep courses. These courses are funded by the American Dream Initiative grant, paid for by the Dollar General Literacy Foundation and American Library Association. The courses are currently taking place twice a week at the Town 'N Country Regional Library, and are hosted by Melissa Nye. The courses run for a total of ten weeks, and incorporate new iPads, which were bought with the grant money. Even after the end of this 10-week run, the program will continue at other library locations around the county over the next year. The courses are free and open to the public.



Conversation Corners

Brandon Regional Library
Tuesdays @ 6 p.m. Sept. 10–Nov. 19

Jimmie B. Keel Regional Library
Tuesdays @ 11 a.m. Sept. 10–Nov. 19

Lutz Branch Library
Tuesdays @ 6 p.m. Sept. 17–Nov. 19

New Tampa Regional Library
Saturdays @ 1:00 p.m. Sept. 14–Nov. 23

Seminole Heights Library
Saturdays @ 10:15 Sept. 14–Nov. 23

SouthShore Regional Library
Wednesdays @ 5:30 p.m. Sept. 11–Nov. 20

Town 'N Country Library
Wednesdays @ 11 a.m. Sept. 11–Nov. 20

West Tampa Branch Library Saturdays @
11:00 a.m. Sept. 24–Nov. 23

Student Achievements

Hard work pays off!

- 24 students feel like reading English is easier
- 21 students had meaningful interactions with customers or employers
- 16 students had meaningful conversations with someone in their community
- 20 students were able to read instructional texts on their own
- 17 students read for pleasure or interest
- 15 students completed a skill book level
- 15 students spoke in English over the phone
- 12 students completed official forms
- 9 students got a new job
- 6 students got a library card
- 2 students got driver's licenses
- 1 student became a citizen



You can do it! Check out these comments from tutors:

“[My student] works in a hospital and it’s difficult to give directions. We practiced and now she is confident on how to help visitors. She is using a new book on pronunciation, her biggest problem. The book helps with mouth formation and throat sounds. Next week we are going to tackle irregular verbs.”

“I can tell my student is learning. As the lessons get harder, she is always up for the task. She is grasping many of the intricacies of the English language. I’m thorough enjoying working with her.”

Word Search

Words that end with - LE

M	E	E	L	U	D	E	H	C	S	N	L	I	I
L	L	I	C	A	N	D	L	E	P	E	O	W	L
O	I	I	E	W	O	I	U	Y	E	L	O	T	U
E	M	I	E	L	H	E	E	B	O	I	H	I	V
E	L	P	U	O	C	I	M	S	P	M	O	A	E
P	T	S	L	C	E	O	L	I	L	S	B	L	H
C	P	L	E	E	E	M	L	E	E	O	I	I	I
E	I	I	A	M	A	L	E	E	C	M	C	T	C
L	H	R	D	S	I	N	G	L	E	M	Y	T	L
C	T	I	C	L	I	P	L	B	M	L	C	L	E
S	C	C	L	L	E	S	E	L	L	C	L	E	I
U	T	C	E	V	E	B	O	T	T	L	E	L	M
M	E	L	B	A	T	A	I	S	L	E	B	P	T
P	O	S	S	I	B	L	E	S	A	M	P	L	E

MALE
 WHILE
 CIRCLE
 BICYCLE
 LITTLE
 BOTTLE
 PEOPLE
 VEHICLE
 COUPLE
 TABLE
 CANDLE
 SAMPLE
 AISLE
 SINGLE
 SMILE
 MUSCLE
 POSSIBLE
 SCHEDULE

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/476907/>