

Literacy Matters

Literacy Green Bay

Our Mission:

To help adults and families acquire the reading, writing, math, English language, computer and workforce skills they need to be fully functioning members of our community.

February 2016

Letter From the Executive Director: History of Literacy Green Bay Chapter 1



The recent refugee crisis reminds me of the motivation behind the formation of Literacy Green Bay. Following the Vietnam War, many Southeast Asian refugees (Hmong, Lao and Vietnamese) fled to Thailand, and were now being resettled in the United States. Catholic Charities assisted in the resettlement. In fall of 1980 as some of the first Southeast Asian refugees began arriving in Green Bay, some local churches and service groups wanted to assist them by helping them acquire English and literacy skills. Many could not read and write in their native language. Certified ESL trainers from Racine and Milwaukee came to

Green Bay to train volunteers as ESL tutors, using the *Each One Teach One* methodology and materials of Dr. Frank Laubach. There were 48 people in that first group of tutors! These first tutors were instrumental in helping many refugees acclimate to a new culture and a new home while learning a new language. From this grassroots effort, the Literacy Council of Brown County was incorporated in 1981 and many of these first tutors served on the first Board of Directors. For several years, as new refugees arrived in Green Bay, our ESL tutors would work with them.

-Kathy Cornell

From the ELL Class Program Manager

The spring semester of English Language classes is underway. Many students have returned to class and over thirty new students have registered. Students can register the first two Mondays and Tuesdays of the month. We have added an additional class this semester for a total of 11 classes. The new class was



added to accommodate a growing number of pre-level 1 Somali students who are not yet ready for the regular level 1 class. Many of these students never went to school and do not have any literacy skills, even in their native language. In this class, students are learning how to recognize and write letters, identify letter sounds and other early literacy skills. We are pleased to be able to meet the specific needs of our students and are excited about the progress they have made so far

Welcome New Tutors



Literacy Green Bay had 10 tutors graduate from our Winter Tutor Training Workshop. We welcome: Elaine Burzinski, Debra Chervenka, Sandra DeRuyter, Arie DeWaal, Sandy DeWaal, Heather Lacoursiere, Hannah Orr, DeEtte Radant, Kathy Rohde, and Jolene Wichlacz.

14th Annual Scrabble Bee

Our Title Sponsor



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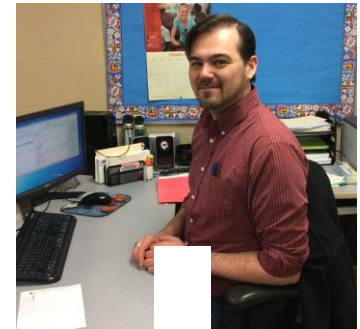
Join us for our 14th Annual Scrabble Bee on Thursday, February 25, 2016 at the Swan Club at Legends in De Pere.

This evening of FUN includes dinner, cash bar, silent auction, oral auction, raffles, and Scrabble with a twist!

For more information and to register for this fun event, click [here](#).

Meet Jordan

We are pleased to announce Jordan Koel as our new Computer Lab Instructor. Jordan has a background in arts and education and is continually looking for ways to be involved with the community. He holds a B.A. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison as well as an M.A. from the University of Oregon, both in the History of Art & Architecture. Since arriving in Green Bay in 2014, Jordan has worked at the Neville Public Museum, where he helped research and install exhibitions, and at the University of Wisconsin-Green



Bay, where he taught and gave guest lectures. Jordan was introduced to Literacy Green Bay through his mother who volunteered as an adult tutor for several years. He is excited to join the staff and is looking forward to ensuring that time spent in the computer lab is enjoyable and educational.

“How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world.”

~Anne Frank

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Sites

Office/Learning Center

424 S. Monroe Ave.

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Salvation Army Kroc Center

Children First Family Literacy

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YWCA & NWTC

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