



LiteracyLinks

The Newsletter for Volunteer Tutors

Peggy L. Murphy, Editor
February 2015

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Tutor Conference

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2015 Volunteer Literacy Tutor Conference



KEEP LIGHTING
UP THE WORLD

Saturday, March 21, 2015
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Check-in starts at 8:30 a.m.
Reed College, Vollum Center
3203 SE Woodstock Blvd, Portland, OR

Pre-registration & Payment Required
Details Inside

Keep Lighting Up the World

The Board of Portland Literacy Council invites you to attend the annual Tutor Conference at Reed College. The format features three workshop options, morning refreshments, and buffet lunch (gluten-free option is available). Workshop presenters include adult education and ESL instructors and advocates from throughout the metro area.

Conference Features

- Student speakers
- Network with other tutors
- Door Prizes!

Before registering, please review the workshop offerings outlined in this newsletter for content, presenter names and short bios. Workshop levels are included in the descriptions.

Space in workshops is limited by room capacity limits. Early registration is recommended. Use the Online Registration link below; a link will also be available at www.portlandliteracy.org.

Note

Workshops I and N, Pronunciation Techniques and Tools from a Speech Therapist, have the same content. Please select only one.

Registration Details

Online registration is preferred. If you are unable to register online, please contact the conference registrar, Peggy Murphy:

Email: peggy.portlandliteracy@gmail.com
Telephone: 971-207-6769

Registration Fee: \$38 (credit card or check)

- Some scholarships are available; check with your coordinator.
- Pay by credit card during online registration.
- Or mail a check payable to Portland Literacy Council to:
Portland Literacy Council
C/O Kay Talbot, Treasurer
PO Box 2872
Portland, OR 97208

Registration/Payment Deadline:

Saturday, March 14, 2015

Online Registration

Workshop Session 1: 9:00 - 10:15 a.m.

A. Bridging the Skills Gap with Multi-level, Mixed-ability Groups:

Working with groups of individuals with diverse abilities and language learning experience presents a special challenge to the English language instructor or tutor. This workshop (for ESOL all levels) will give several practical techniques for dealing with the individual learner's needs, while maintaining a cohesive whole class atmosphere. Delpha Turley is an English language instructor, teacher trainer, and materials developer. She's been actively involved in ELT since 2005.

B. Making Grammar Fun:

This workshop will focus on integrating fun activities into your grammar instruction. Many of the ideas presented can be adapted for a variety of tenses and grammar points, from Beginning to Advanced ESOL levels. Jill Kantor was a middle school teacher for Portland Public Schools, wrote theater reviews for the Oregonian, worked as a volunteer literacy tutor coordinator for ten years and has taught ESOL at PCC Cascade Campus for the last seven years.

C. Health Literacy – Practicing Language While Improving Health:

We teach English because we want our learners to have happy, healthy lives with their families. Limited language skills and limited resources make it difficult to make healthy choices, and to navigate the complex US health system. This session (for all ESOL levels) will explore ways to practice language skills and health skills at the same time. Patrik McDade is the founder and program director for People-Places-Things, building language and culture bridges in our communities.

D. Creative Ways to Help Your Students Remember New Vocabulary Words:

Tutors and teachers can get very frustrated when their students fail to remember new vocabulary or are unable to use it in real life. This workshop (for all ESOL levels) will examine this phenomenon and explore ways to help students retain their new vocabulary so that it can be used outside of the classroom. John Runcie is the director of the Community ESL program at Multnomah University, and also teaches at PCC Southeast Campus.

E. From Paragraphs to Essays – Keep Your Students Writing:

This workshop will explore resources for tutors to share and exercises to implement to help students transition from short answers to complete paragraphs and essays. For ABE and Advanced ESOL students. Jennifer Rudin has worked for 5 years as a VLT Coordinator, as a volunteer, and now as an ESOL instructor.

Workshop Session 2: 10:30 - 11:45 a.m.

F. Hands-on Writing: Writing is a difficult task even for native speakers. Come try out a variety of writing activities designed to help learners get creative and find their voice in English. These activities are geared for low to mid-level ESOL learners and can be used for individual or group settings. Sarah Bauer has been in the ELT field for 25 years, much of that time abroad in Germany and Ecuador. She is currently an ESOL instructor at PCC Southeast and adjunct faculty at Concordia University for the Masters in TESL program.

G. Songs, Chants, and Internet Memes - Making

Grammar Stick: Isn't it annoying when you can't get that catchy song out of your head? Don't you wish that your explanation of the simple present tense was that hard for your students to forget? Learn activities with songs, chants, and memes with grammar so catchy, your students will be singing it for days. For all ESOL levels. Elizabeth Cole is an ESOL instructor at PCC, with a Master's in TESOL and more than eight years experience teaching ESOL nationally and abroad.

H. What's New at the Library for Tutors and

Learners: This session will provide an overview of library print and electronic resources for Tutors and Learners at all levels of ESOL, ABE, and GED. It will also include information about programs at the library for learners at a variety of levels. Lisa Regimbal is the Adult Literacy Coordinator for Multnomah County Library. She has also taught GED, volunteered in ESOL classrooms, and worked as a jail librarian.

I. Pronunciation Techniques and Tools from a

Speech Therapist: Learn techniques and tools for targeting specific pronunciation issues. Topics will include identifying the sounds of a student's home language, and understanding how stress, rhythm and intonation affect speech intelligibility. Cece Dispenza is a Speech-Language Pathologist at Providence ElderPlace in Portland, and also teaches an ESOL Pronunciation Class at St. Anthony's.

J. Culture Exchange: Students from around the world share some of their cultural heritage and practices. Join them for a discussion of the wondrous variety of ways that people express themselves in culture and language. A workshop for students and tutors, facilitated by Kay Talbot, a retired Volunteer Tutor Coordinator from PCC Sylvania. She has a B.A. in Management of Human Resources and an M.S. in Education.

Workshop Session 3: 1:45 - 3:00 p.m.**K. 101 Ways of Teaching Grammar That Make**

Your Learners Smile: This workshop will present simple, practical and adaptable grammar activities for Beginning Level ESOL students. The presentation will include preparations of easy to adapt and learner-centered teaching activities which can facilitate students' participation in 101 fun ways, thus motivating them to smile and love to learn English more. Bernie Bernardo is a native of the Philippines and himself a learner/speaker of English as a second language. He earned his MA TESOL at Multnomah University and is currently an ESOL instructor at PCC.

L. Unlocking the Door - Teaching Reading to

Non-Readers: Through an experiential exercise and exploration of approaches in teaching basic literacy, participants will gain insight into the multiple strategies and skills needed by learners to decode and extract meaning from a simple text. A model lesson for ESOL Literacy Students and/or ABE Low Level readers will be presented. Kathleen Holloway coordinates the Volunteer Literacy Tutoring Program at PCC Southeast Campus, and has taught ESOL for more than 25 years.

M. Tutor Discussion:

Join experienced tutors to talk about the joys and frustrations of tutoring. Bring your questions and ideas to share with others. Moderated by Kay Talbot, a retired Volunteer Tutor Coordinator at PCC Sylvania. She has a B.A. in Management of Human Resources and an M.S. in Education.

N. Pronunciation Techniques and Tools from a

Speech Therapist: Learn techniques and tools for targeting specific pronunciation issues. Topics will include identifying the sounds of a student's home language, and understanding how stress, rhythm and intonation affect speech intelligibility. Cece Dispenza is a Speech-Language Pathologist at Providence ElderPlace in Portland, and also teaches an ESOL Pronunciation Class at St. Anthony's.

O. They Want Their GED Now! Facilitating Reading and

Thinking Skills in ABE and ESOL Students: Changes in the GED as well as workforce demands, challenge students to have more background knowledge and apply critical thinking skills. For the student and tutor, this can be a daunting endeavor. In this workshop, tutors will create a framework lesson addressing pre-reading, reading and post-reading strategies. Tutors will walk away with ideas and a lesson they can adapt. For Intermediate to Advanced ESOL and ABE students. Gale Czerski began teaching adult students in the 1980's. She currently teaches diverse adult students in the ABE program at PCC Southeast.