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Literally Speaking

A publication of Newport/Mesa ProLiteracy, a program of the Newport Beach Public Library

Newport/ Mesa ProLiteracy

May/June 2018

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"To develop the literacy skills of adults to empower them to achieve greater success in their lives — at home, at work, and in the community."

-Newport/Mesa ProLiteracy Mission Statement

Join Us for ProLiteracy's Annual Gift of Literacy Luncheon



Our Annual *Gift of Literacy* Luncheon on May 18th is **SOLD OUT**. We are grateful to everyone who has purchased a ticket and to the many businesses that continue to support the luncheon.

If you missed the opportunity to join us this time... there is always next year! Make sure to buy your tickets early enough to snag a seat at the very popular *Gift of Literacy* Luncheon.

Proceeds from this event help support excellent programming for adults in the community who struggle to read, write and communicate in English.

*Pictured is author and guest speaker, Janelle Brown

International Literacy Day

Every September, Newport/Mesa ProLiteracy hosts an International Literacy Day (ILD) event at the Newport Beach Public Library. It is a day of celebration as tutors, learners and special guests come together to honor all the people in the literacy program, Rochelle Hoffman Memorial Award winner, named after a dedicated tutor who passed away in 2004.

And as an added enticement, each learner brings a special dish from their home country to share and that complements the catered appetizers.

Another special part of the day is the presentation of the book, *In Our Own Words*, which is a collection of stories, essays and poems written by the learners of the program.

This year, ILD will be held on **Thursday, September 13**, so be sure to save the date. If you are a tutor who would like to nominate your learner for the Rochelle Hoffman Memorial Award or a learner who wishes to submit your writings for the book, you can contact Newport/Mesa ProLiteracy at (949) 717-3874 or Literacy@newportbeachca.gov.

Stay connected!



LEARNER'S CORNER

Irvine Museum Highlights by Negar Pourasad

Thank you so much for providing us all amazing events and programs such as the Irvine museum field trip. Carolyn, our tour guide, gave us a great tour and tried to simplify general information about different art eras and addressed their distinctive characteristics of each style in the exhibition's paintings. It's always hard to pick one out of several interesting ones. The first painting that caught my eyes turned out to be my favorite. Although it wasn't a big frame, the interesting oil on canvas painting by William Clapp called Country Road made me frozen for a moment. It was like watching a garden in spring full of blossom through a rainy window glass. I saw myself sitting in a warm chair and the spring rain had made the scene blurry. The blended colors of the garden's creatures by using the pointillism technique was so powerful that I could even hear the rain pitter-pattered on the window glass. I found the museum's flyers and postcards with the same artwork as a representative of this collection by the entrance door when we were leaving the museum, as if the postcard designers heard the rain melody the way I did and that's why they chose it too.



PRESIDENT EVE-MARIE KUNTZMAN

Eve-Marie began her career at a financial consulting firm as a marketing professional. In 2002, she co-founded a new consulting firm focused on non-profit organizations. A passion for the non-profit sector sparked her interest in joining the board of Newport Mesa ProLiteracy. After serving two back-to-back terms, and taking a mandatory year away, Eve-Marie came back to the board - now serving as its President. During the course of this service, Eve-Marie changed her career path entirely. Today, she is responsible for a \$12 million dollar major gifts campaign at Mercy For Animals, a global non-profit dedicated to advocating against animal abuse in industrialized agriculture. Eve-Marie holds an MBA in Marketing from Arizona State University, and has also completed her Certified Fund Raising Certification (CFRE). Eve-Marie is honored by the ability to lend her skills and passion to Newport Mesa ProLiteracy, and looks forward to elevating the organization's fundraising efforts in particular.

Why you chose or how you got involved with NBPL?

In 2006, my then 78-year-old father-in-law avoided the doctor at all costs. It was not until he was forced, by way of a 911 call and an ambulance ride, to see a doctor about a lingering breathing problem. He was diagnosed with Stage 4 lung cancer, and in less than two weeks, he lost his battle with cancer and passed away. What I learned, after he passed, was that the reason he avoided the doctor was not due to his disdain for the medical field, instead, it was because he was unable to read. The stigma of shame he would have faced, had the truth been revealed, was strong enough to drive decisions that ultimately cost him his life.



This experience honed my perception on the value of reading and writing, and gave me a lens to look at others and imagine what a struggle life could be without these abilities. When I found Newport Mesa ProLiteracy, the organization's purpose directly aligned with my passionate belief. I have dedicated my time in service to this organization's mission, in the hopes that others can be prevented from suffering in shame and silence like my father-in-law once did.

Your favorite quote or a quote that defines you?

"Life is 10% what happens to you, and 90% what you do with it".

**“Get it down.
Take chances.
It may be
bad, but it’s
the only way
you can do
anything
really good.”**

- William Faulkner
(American Writer, 1897-1962)

New Tutors

We would like to welcome our graduating class of tutors for Spring 2018. Their time and effort are truly appreciated and many learners will benefit from their participation.

If you know somebody who might enjoy tutoring, please tell them about us (**next Tutor Training, July 18 & 25, 2018, 5:30pm**).



Anne-Marie Angeloff
Jessica Bass
Anne Burns
Lorna Carlin
Camille Hostetler

Pam Jacobs
Ray Johnston
Flora Murai
Cindy Williams
Alison Wright

Upcoming News & Events

Gift of Literacy Luncheon



May 18
 11:30 a.m.

Immigration Workshop



May 30
 11:00 a.m.

Tutor Connection



June 20
 10:00 a.m.

International Literacy Day



*International
 Literacy Day*

September 13
 10:00 a.m.

Literally Speaking

Literally Speaking, the newsletter of Newport/Mesa ProLiteracy at the Newport Beach Public Library, is published bi-monthly and sponsored by corporate and private donations.

Literacy Advisory Board

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This WIOGA Title financially assisted program or activity is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. If you need special assistance to participate in this event, call 949-660-0121 or 213-221-4504. TDD/TTY users, please call the California Relay Service at (800) 735-2922 or 711. Please call 48 hours in advance to allow the Orange County Hiring Fair to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this event.

Newport/Mesa ProLiteracy
a program of the Newport Beach Public Library
1000 Avocado Avenue
Newport Beach, CA 92660

Upcoming Literacy Dates/Events

May 7, 14, 21	Mondays, 10:30 a.m.	Book Club
May 7	Monday, 1:30 p.m.	Script to Screen
May 8, 15, 22	Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m.	Discussion: Life Skills Class**
May 8	Tuesday, 6:00 p.m.	Advisory Board Meeting
May 9, 16, 23	Wednesday, 10:00 a.m.	News You Can Use**
May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30	Wednesday, 1:00 p.m.	Grammar & Vocabulary**
May 2, 9, 16, 23	Wednesday, 6:15 p.m.	Literacy 360**
May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31	Thursdays, 1:00 p.m.	American Sitcoms**
May 4, 11, 18, 25	Friday, 10:00 a.m.	Literacy Game Workshop**
June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30	Mondays, 10:30 a.m.	Book Club
June 5, 12, 19, 26	Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m.	Discussion: Life Skills Class**
June 5, 12, 19, 26	Tuesdays, 6:00 p.m.	Vocabulary Building**
June 6, 13, 20, 27	Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m.	News You Can Use**
June 20	Wednesday, 10:00 a.m.	Tutor Connection
June 6	Wednesday, 1:00 pm	Grammar & Vocabulary**
June 7, 14, 21, 28	Thursdays, 1:00 p.m.	American Sitcoms**

** Requires pre-registration

Note: All programs are held at the Central Library unless otherwise posted and subject to change.
For more details, contact the Literacy Office at (949) 717-3874 or email us at literacy@newportbeachca.gov