LITERALLY SPEAKING

2019 Gift of Literacy Luncheon

Over 200 people attended the 12th annual Gift of Literacy Luncheon held at the Pacific Club in Newport Beach on April 5, 2019. This year’s keynote speaker, Lisa See, spoke about her newly-released (and bestselling) novel, The Island of Sea Women. Each guest received a copy that Ms. See was happy to personalize. Attendees purred the many silent auction and raffle items before being seated and welcomed by professional emcee, Michael Villani. Mr. Villani introduced Newport/Mesa ProLiteracy (NMPL) Event Committee Chair, Helene Chaban who “got things rolling.” Helene introduced some special guests and spoke movingly about how much the program means to her. She then introduced literacy coordinator, Cherall Weiss, who talked about how having literacy issues makes life a struggle, citing the real life example of a diabetic male who couldn’t read his insulin dosage and how the program has grown with the help of so many generous donors. Then, Ms. Weiss introduced the Learner Speaker, Candace Kirby.

Candace came to NMPL because, even though she was born and raised right here in California, she could not read well enough to help her own two children. She spoke of how she struggled through school and then struggled with the realization that her boys struggled because she could not help them. That is going to change! The Gift of Literacy luncheon is the largest fundraiser of the year for NMPL. This year, the event raised funds to support the ongoing needs of the program. Donations Welcome

Donations with credit or debit can be made online at: http://bit.ly/NMPLDonate
Donations through the mail can be made via check and sent to:
Newport/Mesa ProLiteracy
1000 Avocado Avenue
Newport Beach, CA 92660

Pictured above: NMPL at the 2019 SCLLN Writer to Writer Awards

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After several learners recently expressed concerns about navigating the financial system in the U.S., we have launched a series of financial literacy workshops. These workshops are designed to give basic information about various topics of financial interest.

The first session, offered by Bank of America, was on fraud and protecting yourself against stolen cards, identity, etc. The next session, to be held on May 16th and given by Star Care Financial will focus on general financial wellness: credit, budgets, student loans and more.

This event is open to the public and space is limited. Please contact the office to sign up or register online at: https://bit.ly/2XBuEBQ

Welcome New Tutors

We would like to welcome our graduating class of tutors for Spring 2019. 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 17 & 24, 2019 at 5:30pm.
In the Chinese Spring Festival, we went to the Beijing restaurant for dinner. The restaurant was on Yale road, near the Zion market. It was in the north of Irvine. It featured Beijing cuisine. My favorite dish was Beijing roast duck. The duck was freshly toasted and cut. But you should reservation for this dish. And the restaurant moderately I think. But sometimes it was a bit noisy here. If you wanted a quiet environment, you could book a private room. The service was helpful, if you wanted to try the most authentic Beijing food. So I recommend this restaurant.

**In Our Own Words**

**STORIES WANTED**

Each year we publish a collection of learner writings to be distributed at our International Literacy Day celebration. We encourage all learners to submit a story, poem, essay or any other writing for this keepsake publication.

**DUE DATE**

**AUGUST 1, 2019**
May 6, 13, 20
May 7, 14, 21, 28
May 8, 15, 22, 29
May 16
May 23, 30
May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
May 5, 12, 19, 26
June 3, 10, 17, 24
June 4, 11, 18, 25
June 12, 19, 26
June 16
June 23
June 6, 13, 20
June 5, 12, 19, 26
June 4, 11, 18, 25
June 3, 10, 17, 24

Mondays, 10:30 a.m.
Tuesdays, 1:00 p.m.
Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m.
Wednesdays, 1:00 p.m.
Wednesdays, 6:00 p.m.
Thursdays, 10:00 a.m.
Thursdays, 1:00 p.m.
Thursday, 1:00 p.m.
Thursday, 10:00 a.m.
Mondays, 10:30 a.m.
Tuesdays, 1:00 p.m.
Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m.
Wednesdays, 1:00 p.m.
Wednesdays, 6:00 p.m.
Thursdays, 10:00 a.m.

Morning Book Club
Public Speaking and Daily Conversation
News You Can Use
Grammar & Vocabulary
Strengthening Writing and Speaking Skills
American Sitcoms
Discussion: Idioms in Everyday Life
Financial Literacy Workshop: Financial Wellness
American Sitcoms
Discussion: Idioms in Everyday Life
Financial Literacy Workshop: Financial Wellness
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May/June Class Dates and Events

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

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