LITERALLY SPEAKING

Sept/Oct 2021

A publication of PROJECT ADULT LITERACY a program of the Newport Beach Public Library



Developing the literacy skills of adults to empower them to achieve greater success in their lives



Join us on Saturday, October 9 for happy hour with best-selling author Maggie Shipstead.

Maggie will be discussing her Booker Prize shortlisted novel, *Great Circle*, and the global adventures that prompted the story.

Wine, beer and light hors d'oeuvres will be served at 6 pm. Tickets are \$35 and available at **newportliteracy.org**. Copies of *Great Circle* will be available for purchase from Laguna Beach Books.

> Funds raised support Project Adult Literacy, a program of the Newport Beach Public Library.

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We have a brand new name!

Project Adult Literacy (PAL)

The name may have changed, but the services remain the same.

CLASS CHANGES



Thank you to all of the learners who took the time to fill out the class survey sent out by the Literacy Office.

Look for brand new class registrations coming soon!

We're here to help. Email literacy@newportbeachca.gov or call 949.717.3874

Pick up your copy of **News For You** at the Literacy Office



Stop by to pick up or contact us and we will put a copy of News For You in the mail.

949.717.3874 or

Sign Up For **CONVERSATION MATCHMAKERS**

Conversation Matchmakers is an online group where learners can socialize and develop speaking and conversational skills.

Learners, are you looking for an

opportunity to practice speaking and

connect with other learners?

Contact the Literacy Office for more information.

Thank You for Coming to International Literacy Day

Library board of trustees chair, Paul Watkins,



warmly welcomed quests to International Literacy Day. He then introduced **Project Adult**

Literacy Coordinator, Cherall Weiss, who shared the importance of literacy skills in the community.

Congresswoman Michelle Steel took to the podium next to introduce the learners who have recently become U.S. citizens (pictured right).



The program continued by introducing Renee Hoffman Heath and Risa Hoffman, daughters of the late Rochelle Hoffman, to present (via video) the



Rochelle Hoffman Memorial Award to Shabnam Kavouosi. Shabnam's tutor, Kathleen O'Meara, (pictured far left with Shabnam and her family) shared

why Shabnam was so deserving of this award. In her

acceptance, Shabnam described her experiences and successes during her time with Kathleen.

Honorable mentions for the Hoffman Award went to Mindy Liu and II Jeong Choi for their hard work and dedication.

To illustrate the significance of the program, and to



showcase the progress of PAL's adult learners, every quest received a copy of "In Our Own Words", a collection of stories, poetry and essays written by learners of the program. The book itself was designed by Hilda Kuo, a learner in the program. Attendees also enjoyed a brunch and coffee provided by local vendors.

Following the awards ceremony, Cherall closed with a reminder that there are people all around us that are strugaling, and it is thanks to the many volunteers that some of these lives are changing for the better.

Thank you to all who came, and a special thank you to the amazing events committee for their work (pictured right)

