

January 2025

project adult literacy
A program of the Newport Beach Public Library

pal

Literally Speaking

Empowering adults to achieve greater success in their lives through literacy skill development

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IMPORTANT DATES

Library Closed

Monday, January 20 - MLK

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SAVE THE DATE

New Volunteer Tutor Training

January 28-29 from 9:30am - 12:30pm

New Learner Orientation

February 11-12 from 10am-11:30am

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**

to some of our fabulous
Volunteers!

Adelyn

Pat

Tony

Risa

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Bookmark Magazine: Learner Highlight



Originally from Spain, Mercedes Adrián Sanz came to the United States in 2018. Mercedes joined Project Adult Literacy in 2021 to help improve her English skills. She has a degree in medicine, and although she does not currently practice, she understands the importance of strong English skills – for speaking, listening and writing.

Mercedes originally wrote a story titled 'Three Things in Life I'm Most Proud Of,' which was

published in PAL's *In Our Own Words: One World Many Stories Diverse Stories from Diverse Lives* – Volume XVII. The Newport Beach Public Library Foundation republished in their Bookmark Magazine - Winter 2025 edition.

Congratulations Mercedes! Stop by the Literacy Office to pick up a copy of Bookmark Magazine - Winter 2025.



Literacy is an essential skill that empowers -- not only by providing a foundation of academic knowledge but quite simply, by changing lives.

literacy@newportbeachca.gov 949.717.3874 projectadulthoodliteracy.org

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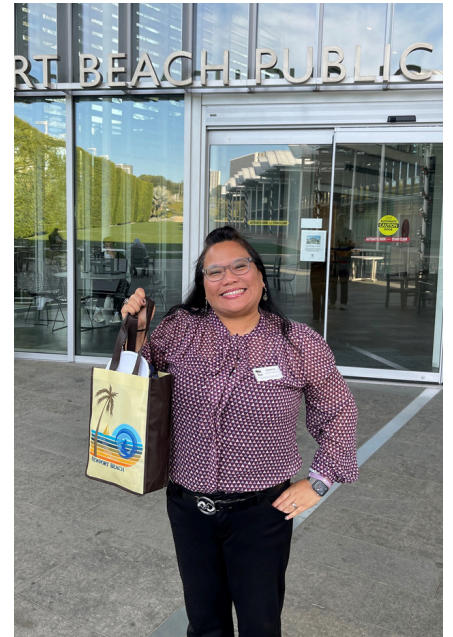
PAL Update: New Literacy Assistant

We are pleased to introduce Jennifer Rusiecki as the new Literacy Department Assistant for the Newport Beach Public Library!

For the past ten years, Jenny has worked in the Newport Mesa Unified, Anaheim Union and Garden Grove Unified school districts. She also served as a research specialist with the Orange County Asian and Pacific Islander Community Alliance and UC Irvine. Other programs she has been involved with include Orange County Head Start, and Jumpstart for Young Children.

Jenny is a graduate from UC-Santa Barbara and is currently enrolled in classes at Saddleback College for Medical Billing. In her spare time, she enjoys cooking, Disneyland, attending live theater performances, crafting, traveling, reading and performing events as a nail stylist adding a little sparkle to everyone's lives.

She looks forward to contributing to Project Adult Literacy and providing any kind of support to the Newport Beach Public Library.



Welcome

Please stop
by and say
hello to
Jennifer!

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Become a Writer: Writer to Writer Challenge

The annual Writer to Writer Challenge is going on NOW! This year we are asking **EVERY LEARNER** to participate! The finalists selected will have their writing published in a special booklet! In the past, we have had many winners from the Newport Beach Library.



How Writer to Writer Works:

Learners read (or listen to) a book of their choice and write a personal letter to the author about how the book has affected them.

"Readers who write become better readers. Writers make more sensitive readers and readers make more informed writers."

The Writer to Writer Challenge is a great opportunity for learners to focus on accomplishing their yearly goals including read a book and write a letter! Please stop by the Literacy Office to pick up an information packet and application.

WRITER TO WRITER CLASS

If you or your learner needs assistance with their letter and/or application, please come to our Writer to Writer Session on Tuesday, February 18 at 12pm-1:30pm.

**APPLICATION &
LETTER DUE
FEBRUARY 28!**

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Resources: Adult Education Programs

Back to School: FREE Classes at OCC



Did you know Orange Coast College in Costa Mesa, CA offers an Adult Education Program which provides instructional programs and student support services to help adult learners improve their English skills, become a U.S. citizen, and/or gain career technical skills to obtain a job or better job?

Class Programs Available

English Language Learning (ELL)

- Multi-skills, Pronunciation & Grammar
- Citizenship
- English for Career Preparation & Advancement
- English for Healthcare
- English for Parents

Career Training

- Architecture
- Computer Basics
- Community Health Worker
- Customer Service/Retail Sales
- Hospitality & Tourism
- Personal Care Aide



Classes start Friday, January 31!

Visit

www.orangecoastcollege.edu/adulteducation
for more information OR scan the QR code

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Resources: Adult Education Programs

Back to School: FREE Classes at Coastline College



Did you know Coastline College in Westminster, CA offers an Adult Education Program which provides instructional programs to serve adults seeking to develop literacy and basic skills, advance their education, obtain employment, and improve their wages?

Class Programs Available

English Language Learning (ELL)

- Sentence Structure
- Reading, Writing, and Grammar
- Listening and Conversations
- Language Preparation for U.S. Citizenship

Career Training

- E-Sports
- Mathematics for the Workforce
- Coast Programs
 - Animal Care
 - Art
 - Culinary
 - Guest Services and more

Classes start Friday, January 31!

Visit

<https://www.coastline.edu/admissions-and-records/adult-education.php>

for more information OR scan the QR code

