

September 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 Closure

September 15 - October 5

Learner Open House

Tuesday, October 7

Fall Volunteer Tutor Training

Monday & Tuesday, October 20 & 21

Fall New Learner Orientation

Tuesday, October 28

Volunteer In-Service

Wednesday, October 29

Holiday Literacy Potluck

Saturday, December 6

BIRTHDAYS

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**

to some of our fabulous Volunteers!

Adele

Jerry

Deborah

Shabana

Melanie

Jackie

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RECAP: International Literacy Day

This year's International Literacy Day was definitely one to remember! We had over 85 people celebrate our literacy learners and their accomplishments. Mayor Joe Stapleton read the City of Newport Beach and declared Friday, September 5, 2025 as Literacy Awareness Day. The International potluck was delicious with foods from countries all over the world.



literacy@newportbeachca.gov

949.717.3874

www.projectadulthoodliteracy.org

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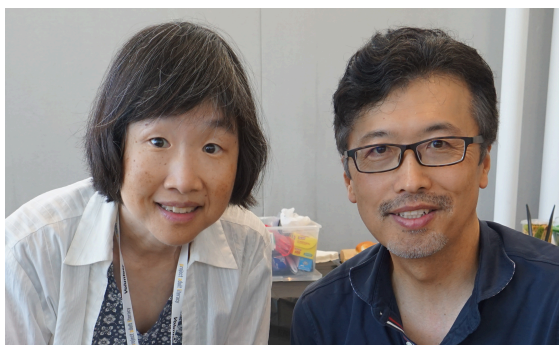
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RECAP: International Literacy Day

International Literacy Day has been a global reminder of the importance of literacy as a matter of dignity and human rights. At Project Adult Literacy, we believe that literacy lights the way to a brighter future for our learners. This year, we celebrated our learners' incredible successes and highlighted their journeys.



Omi Choi, recipient
of the 2025 Rochelle
Hoffman Memorial
Award



Naoya Seta, Winner of the Advanced
Category, Writer to Writer



Maho Goto, Winner of
the Intermediate
Category, Writer to
Writer



Tugba Taskin, publishing her first book,
'My Childhood Adventures'

Literacy Lights the Way

Congratulations

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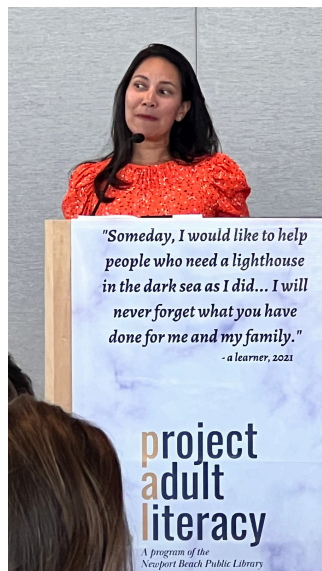
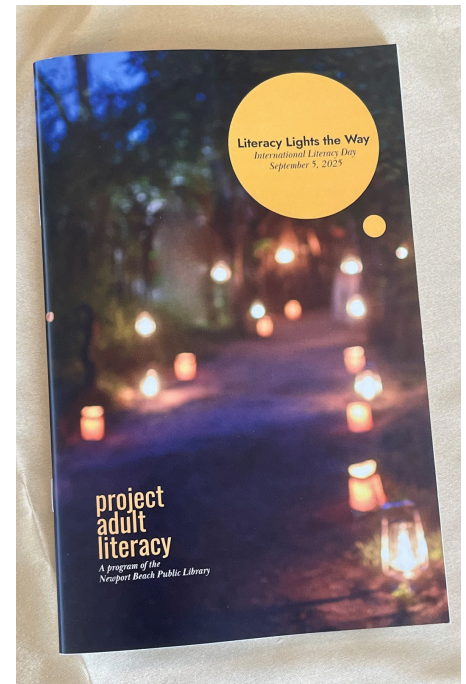
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RECAP: International Literacy Day

We also showcased our anthology publication, "In Our Own Words," a collection of stories, poems, and essays written by our adult learners. For our learners, literacy isn't just about reading and writing; it's about unlocking new opportunities. It's the light that guides them to better jobs, helps them support their children's education, and empowers them to engage more fully in their communities. Our tutors and staff work tirelessly to provide this light, helping our learners navigate their paths toward personal growth and success. The publication of "In Our Own Words" is a shining example of how our learners are not only finding their way but also creating new pathways for others to follow.

Stop by the Literacy Office to pick up a copy!



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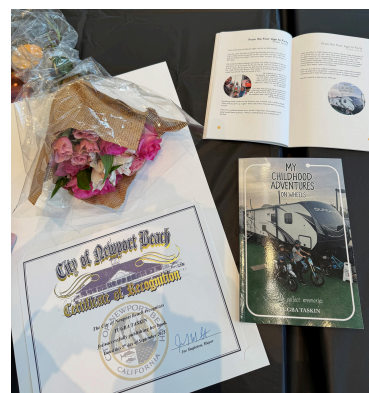
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RECAP: International Literacy Day

A BIG thank you to our literacy community, the wonderful representatives from the City of Newport Beach and the Newport Beach Public Library Foundation for your continued support. It is through this collective effort that we are able to make such a profound impact in our community.



Please Save the Date for next year's International Literacy Day,
happening Thursday, September 17, 2026!

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PAL UPDATE: Library Closed



The Newport Beach Central Library is currently closed from
September 15 - October 5.

We encourage both learners and tutors to continue to meet
for their weekly tutoring sessions at the other Newport Beach
Library branches listed below:

Mariners Branch – 1300 Irvine Avenue, Newport Beach

Monday-Thursday: 9 a.m. – 9 p.m.

Friday-Saturday: 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Sunday: 12 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Corona del Mar Branch – 410 Marigold Avenue, Corona del Mar

Monday-Saturday: 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Sunday: Closed

Balboa Branch – 100 E Balboa Blvd, Newport Beach

Monday-Saturday: 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Sunday: Closed

Project Adult Literacy Office and Literacy Lab will open Monday, October 6.

Classes will resume Monday, October 13.

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UPCOMING EVENT: Learner Open House

We are excited to hold our first Learner Open House on Tuesday, October 7 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the Friends Room at the Newport Beach Public Library. We encourage everyone to attend as this is a fantastic opportunity for both new and returning learners and tutors to connect with each other and learn about our upcoming classes.

Here's what you can look forward to:

- **Meet Your Instructors**
 - Learn more about the topics they will be teaching.
- **Get Your Questions Answered**
 - Ask questions about classes and the PAL program.
- **Learn About Our Classes**
 - Explore the 13 classes we will be offering this Fall.
- **Register for Classes**
 - Staff will be available to help you sign up for classes.

Light refreshments will be provided.

Please contact us to RSVP!

Learner Open House

Tuesday, October 7

Drop-in Times: 10:00am - 12:00pm
Friends Room - Newport Beach Library

**Meet our PAL Instructors, ask questions
& learn about the classes we offer:**

American Sitcoms
Rom-Com Book Club
News for You
Afternoon Book Club
American Culture
Job Search Success
Mastering Conversation & Communication
Writing Your Stories
Mystery Book Club
Idioms in Everyday Conversations
And more...

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SAVE THE DATE: Upcoming Trainings & Events

ANNUAL VOLUNTEER IN-SERVICE TRAINING

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29
10:00AM-12:30PM
CIVIC CENTER COMMUNITY ROOM

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LEARN ABOUT:

- CALIFORNIA STATE 2026 UPDATES
 - WHAT IS LITERACY
 - ROLES & GOALS
 - TUTOR MATCHING PROCESS
- PRESENTATION: AMERICA LEARNS
 - IMPORTANCE OF SUBMITTING HOURS
- 2026 PAL EVENTS
- COLLABORATE WITH PEERS
- Q&A SESSION

Volunteer In-Service Training

Our Annual Volunteer In-Service Training on Wednesday, October 29 from 10:00 a.m. -12:30 p.m. We will be providing California State updates, discuss the importance of submitting monthly reports and looking at 2026 events. This training is a crucial event designed to support, refresh, and empower our dedicated volunteers. Annual training is a key component of a high-quality adult literacy program, ensuring that our tutors have the skills, knowledge, and resources they need to be effective. Please RSVP!

PAL Holiday Potluck

We will be holding our Annual PAL Holiday Potluck on Saturday, December 6 from 10:00 a.m. -12:30 p.m. Friends and family are invited to celebrate and reflect on this past year.

RSVPs will be sent out soon!



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