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# Literally Speaking

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

Newport/ Mesa ProLiteracy

July/August 2018

## Gift of Literacy Fundraising Luncheon

Over 160 people attended the 11th annual Gift of Literacy luncheon held at the Pacific Club in Newport Beach on May 18, 2018. This year's keynote speaker, Janelle Brown, spoke about her newly-released paperback book, *Watch Me Disappear*, and each guest received a copy that Ms. Brown was happy to personalize.

Attendees perused the many silent auction and raffle items before being seated and welcomed by Newport/Mesa ProLiteracy (NMPL) Event Committee Chair, Helene Chaban.

Helene introduced some special guests and spoke movingly about how much the program means to her. She then introduced literacy coordinator, Cherall Weiss, who shared the progress of the program and introduced tutor, Trisha Tanner. Trisha has a great story about choosing NMPL as her volunteer work and how much she has learned by tutoring our learner speaker Saman Yazdanfar. Saman has accomplished so many of his goals. After less than one year, he has gotten his driver's license, secured a job, and even won the award for "best employee of the year." Way to go, Saman.

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.

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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



Happy Faces from the 2018 Gift of Literacy luncheon



## Roles & Goals

A hallmark of Newport/Mesa ProLiteracy is its learner-centered commitment; helping learners to meet personal goals. In order to measure our success, California Library Literacy Services (CLLS) requires all programs to report on how they are doing. The Roles & Goals form is the vehicle we use to tout the achievements of every learner in the program.

By now, Tutors should have received email requests for the annual Roles & Goals to be submitted to the office by July 26th. These forms will help us paint a picture of all that you and your learners accomplish together in the year. As you know, reading scores simply do not tell the whole story of our work. Reaching our goals, large and small, is what makes all of us successful.

Even if you are no longer tutoring, your learner has left or you have a new learner, it is still important we receive your report for any sessions you had between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018.

Please return the Roles & Goals form to the literacy office by no later than July 26th. As always, if you need help in completing the form or if you would like a copy of last year's form, please contact us.

## Donations are always welcome

We are grateful for the community support that we receive from local companies, foundations, organizations, and individuals whose donations have been helping the program continue to serve the literacy needs of our community.

If you have any contacts who might be interested in supporting literacy, please contact the office.

### Newport/Mesa ProLiteracy

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## Literally Speaking

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### Literacy Advisory Board

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## Upcoming News & Events

### Tutor Training



July 18 & 25

### Roles & Goals Due



July 26

### In Our Own Words International Literacy Day



July 31



September 13

### Happy Hour



October 6