



STUDENT NEWSLETTER

a Newsletter for Adult Literacy Students



200 N. Vineyard Blvd., Suite 320 Honolulu, HI 96817 Tel: (808) 537-6706 www.HawaiiLiteracy.org

Adult Literacy Program Manager: Heidi, Assistant: Laura

Winter 2008

Congratulations to the following students for their accomplishments:

Elizabeth B.- Completed SB4
Angel H.- Received nursing certification
YoungJa C.- Completed SB2
Terson J.- Completed SB1
Kip L.- Passed taxi driver's exam
Robert M. - Completed SB3
WanPing O. - Completed SB2
SuLing T.- Completed SB2
Telesia T. - Completed Challenger 3
Samantha W. - Completed SB3

Save the Date

The Hawaii Book and Music Festival will be held May 17 and 18. It will be outside Honolulu Hale. There will be books, music, games, and food. Last year, some students went with their tutor or family and they had fun. Hopefully you can go this year and enjoy the festival.

Student Survey

We sent you a survey in the mail. Please fill it out and mail it back to Hawaii Literacy. It helps us know if we are doing a good job. Thank you for your help!

Student Writing

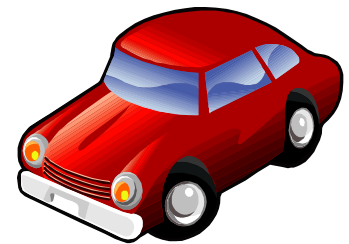
An Afternoon

Today, it's my first day to learn driving. My teacher is tall and slim, he looks like mid-40s years old. He is a master-hand on the side of talk that I guess, because I found he talks unceasingly. But he is excellent on the drive.

I learned to turn left and turn right. Some time I should figure out left or right, I feel so ashamed. I learned to park, learned to reverse. I learned to yield when the other car passed in front of my car.

Some things were interesting when I drove; the car bumper kissed [bumped] the stone [curb]; the car speeds like the turtle; the car running like snake. I think we will find more funny things in the rest of my driver's lessons.

-Written by Lihua



Student Writing (Continued...)

Jamier's Life

Due to ups and downs in life I found myself broke.
But with my training, in the last year I have learned how to cope.
And now with a job and a lot of friends around me, there is hope.
And with the help of my higher power and learning,
I am going to show the world that Jamier is not a joke.
- Written by Jamier



Student Tip



Lots of people make resolutions at the start of a new year. A resolution is when you decide to try very hard to do something. You might want to make a New Year's resolution about reading and writing. You could decide that you will write in a journal every day. You could try to read four books to your child every week. You could spend 5 minutes each day reading. Your resolution can be anything you want.

Game



Fill in the puzzle with a vowel so that each column (top to bottom) and each row (left to right) makes a word.

S	K		M
	N	C	
F			L
T		S	T

Answer

L	S	E	L
T	E	E	F
E	C	N	O
W	I	K	S



TUTOR NEWSLETTER

a Newsletter for Adult Literacy Tutors



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Mahalo to Donors

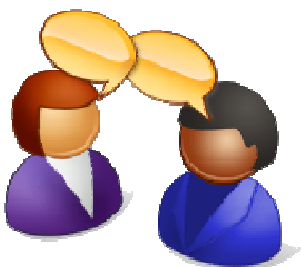
We appreciate the financial support we have had from the Perenin Foundation and the Petrus Foundation in 2007. Hawaii Literacy is a non-profit agency, and relies on donations from the community as well as grants from foundations and companies.



We would like to thank everyone who supported our program in 2007. Without the support of groups like these, and individual contributors, we could not provide the services we presently do.

Tutor Comments

I became interested in volunteering with Hawaii Literacy for several reasons. Primary among them was a desire to help those who were interested in helping themselves. For every hour that I have devoted to preparing and teaching lessons, I am certain that my student has spent two hours in studying and learning. This equates to worthwhile volunteerism; this is not just another free handout.



Another reason that I chose to volunteer is that I firmly believe in English literacy for every US resident. Becoming literate in English opens up so many doors...both economically and in society in general.

Finally, I choose to volunteer with Hawaii Literacy for a very selfish reason...it makes me feel good. The satisfaction that I get from being a part of the solution rather than just a disinterested bystander would be reward enough, but my student's gratitude (and progress) puts "the icing on the cake". - by Eric

Book and Music Festival

The third annual Hawaii Book and Music Festival will be held May 17 and 18 this year. Hawaii Literacy will once again be one of the beneficiaries of the Festival. Stay tuned for more information (and, undoubtedly, various opportunities to volunteer at this one of a kind cultural event!) For information on the Festival you might want to check out their website, www.hawaiibookandmusicfestival.org.

READ & WRITE GALA

Our 2008 fundraiser will be in early May. More information will be coming your way. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Welcome and Congratulations

Welcome to the our newly-certified tutors for this quarter:

Christopher Dung

Lee Hoffman

Toby Kobatake

Bill Hinshaw

Kelly Kimura

Bev O'Sullivan

Congratulations to the following tutors who have been active with Hawaii Literacy for one year as of this quarter:

Dennis Chung

Marty Jackson

Carol Shimabukuro

Katheryn Washington

We are trying to extend the reach of our program and are holding trainings in different areas of the Island – and on other islands (Kauai now, and hopefully Maui and the Big Island in the future) in order to make them more accessible to a number of people. We are looking for experienced tutors (those who have tutored at least six months) who would be interested in becoming trainers. If you would like to become a certified trainer, give us a call (537-6706).

Tutor Tip



It's not uncommon for tutors to comment, "My student was able to do that correctly last week, but this week it was just like he'd never seen it before." What's going on? There's undoubtedly some sort of learning difference that is affecting the performance of the student. Many times that learning difference can be avoided with the attention of a one-to-one tutor, like you! (Remember, you'll never "get rid of" a learning disability – it's a neurological thing; but you can (many times!) successfully get around it!) The learning difference, in the case above, affected the student's long-term memory. You can help the student in the following ways:

1. Make a list of steps for him to follow when doing things, or develop together a sequential list of events that occurred in a story;
2. REVIEW and PRACTICE – it may seem boring and repetitive to you, but it's going to help the student!;
3. Use various multi-sensory techniques in your tutoring - involve as many of his senses (seeing, hearing, touching, tasting, smelling) as possible, and present the information in many different ways – it's easier for him to remember it better then);
4. Use mnemonic devices – ways to help him remember something (how about "ROY G. BIV" for the names of the colors in the rainbow – Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue, Indigo, Violet; or "I have to get CATS at the store" – Chicken, Apples, Tomatoes, Soup);
5. Relate what he's trying to learn to what he knows already –his knowledge and his experience are invaluable to refer to when trying to learn and/or remember something new!

Resources for Tutors -

> On the web, there are many, many resources available. There is a site, set up by Verizon, which has many good resources, and FREE courses which anybody can take. Their web address is www.thinkfinity.org. (Click on the "thinkfinity literacy network" box and see what's available!) You must enroll in the courses, but they are free.

> Got questions, solutions, comments, or ideas? Post them on the Hawaii Literacy Message Board at www.groups.yahoo.com. Username: hawaii_literacy, Password: hiliteracy