"Newsy"

The ESOL Tutor Newsletter



March 2022



National Foreign Language Week

Hi Everyone,

March has no official holidays when the library is closed but it does have National Foreign Language week. Eula Valdez's concept for her poster design is expressed below and is a wonderful reminder of how fortunate we are to be involved in a program that supports these ideas:

"When I think of National Foreign Language Week, I think of unity. I think of a week where a difference in language is not a barrier, but a pathway to learning a new one. When we appreciate other cultures' words, we are championing humanity. The human race is so diverse in languages, and that is a beautiful thing – and something worth celebrating."

New Tutors

We are thrilled to welcome two ESOL and four Basic Literacy tutors into our community this month. Many thanks to Boston, Methuen, and Worcester for registering and training these new tutors in their online sessions:

Renee, Ajit, Will, Liz, Debra, and Lara.

Upcoming Events

Virtual Tutor/Student Social Hour: Wednesday, March 16, 2:00-3:30PM

A fun way to meet others while doing an icebreaker activity on Zoom. Invite your student(s) or classes if you have them.

Virtual New Tutor Information Session - Monday, March 21, 7:00-8:00PM

If you know someone who might be interested in becoming a tutor, please let us know or have them contact us fplmail4@minlib.net or 508 532 5574.

Tutor Time - Tuesday, March 8, 2:00-3:15pm

We now have a Newsela account! We will show you how to login and take you on a tour of the new, tailored modules like:

- Literacy Skills Development
- ABE High School Equivalency Exam Preparation
- Career Pathway Exploration
- and more!

We will send Newsela login information after March 8.

Tutor Time REPEAT - Wednesday, March 30, 6:30-7:30PM

We will repeat the Tutor Time session on Newsela described above.

Text Link

For Tutors

Olly Richard Short Stories

Tim, one of our tutors, recommended the following two books by<u>Olly Richards</u>. They are available through the Minuteman Library Network.

Short Stories in English (Beginners) Short Stories in English (Intermediate)

Olly Richards speaks eight languages and has a popular blog: I Will Teach You A Language. He produces language books and courses across a variety of mediums with the goal of helping other people to successfully learn a new language.

New York Times English & Chinese Side-by-Side Translations

Conversation Class leader, Brian, drafted instructions for his students to find the side-by-side English to Chinese Translation for the digital New York Times. To view the PDF, <u>click here</u>.

Thanks for sharing Brian; the instructions will be posted in <u>Tutor Resources</u> later this month.

Newsy Redesign

We are trying a new format for the monthly tutor newsletter, let us know what you think of it!

To respond quickly to your emails, please send a direct message to the plmail4@minlib.net. It is easy to respond to our announcements and invitations, but this makes it difficult for us to respond and track an email thread to resolution. Thank you!



For Students

Beginner ESOL/Civics class

The <u>Somerville Public Library</u> is offering a free 14 week beginner ESOL/Civics class beginning on March 16.

The class is for students who are interested in pursuing U.S. citizenship, but would like to improve their English and knowledge of U.S. history and civics first. ESOL and citizenship books are provided, which the students can keep.

Registration is limited and required. If you know anyone who may be interested, refer to the flyer or reach out to us for help.



Last Word

It has been really exciting matching our sixteen new tutors with students. They are off to a great start and it is always fun to hear about their first meetings with their students. It takes all of us: tutor trainers, tutor buddies, tutor/student pairs who share their experiences with the new tutors, the staff, and all of our tutors who over time have shared their experience and expertise with us to help these new tutors hit the ground running. Thank you to all!

Hope we see you soon in person or at one of our virtual meetings,

Karen, Elyse, LieHua, and Marjie

Text Link

LVM-Literacy Unlimited | https://framinghamlibrary.org/literacy/our-program/