



Literacy Unlimited

Volunteer Newsletter - June 2026



Hi Everyone,

This fall will mark 40 years since Literacy Unlimited was founded. The program has touched thousands of English learners and volunteers over the decades. This past month, two things happened that highlight the long-term and far-reaching impact of the program.

First, one of our English learners, Nafisi, who worked with Valerie (English tutor/conversation class leader) and Will (math tutor) back in 2023, stopped by the Literacy office. She recently earned her Associate's Degree in Nursing and came to the Literacy office to hand-deliver invitations to Valerie and Will to her Nursing Associate Pinning Ceremony, even though she has not worked with them for several years.

And, we just learned that one of our new tutors' mothers was a Literacy Unlimited student about ten years ago. He recently completed the ESOL tutor training and is looking to "return the favor".

We are so appreciative of all the current and past volunteer contributions. And we hope you are proud to be part of a program with such an enduring legacy.

In gratitude,
Karen, Marjie, and Martha

Upcoming Events and Activities

Last Call - Annual Appreciation Potluck Dinner – Tuesday, June 9th, 6-8pm Framingham Main Library - Costin Room

This informal gathering of tutors, students, and family to share food, meet new people, and hear about some of the amazing accomplishments of our community is always a popular event. We have interesting stories to share and a fun game to play. If you have not reserved your spot yet, please click here: [Potluck RSVP](#). The event is limited to 80 people, so you must reserve a spot to attend.

Tutor Time - Google Drive 101 - Tuesday, June 23rd, 6pm, Zoom

Google Drive is a free online platform for storing and sharing files. Literacy Unlimited staff have begun to use it more often to organize and share resources with our volunteers, including information on Ellii and our new Survival English Opt-In Curriculum. While Google Drive is a great tool, it can be overwhelming to learn how to use and navigate it effectively.

On Tuesday, June 19th, Program Coordinator Martha Coleman will lead an hour-long workshop over Zoom that shows:

- How to create a Google Drive account
- How to create folders and files
- How to move and organize files
- How to share files with others
- How to access files that have been shared with you
- And more!

If you would like to attend this session, please fill out this [registration form](#). This session will be recorded - if you are unable to attend live, please fill out the registration form and indicate that you want to receive a copy of the recording.

Program Updates and Announcements

Library and Literacy Office Closures

The Framingham Public Libraries will close on Thursday, June 18 at 5:00 pm and will be closed all day Friday, June 19, in observance of Juneteenth.

Hello to Our New Tutors

The following tutors just completed the ESOL tutor training, and we are in the process of matching them with an English learner. We hope you have a chance to meet them at one of our upcoming tutor events.

Aviva B	Natasha N	Jane L
Daniel N	Lynn L	Mark K
Lori N	Steve G	Preeti B
Heather H	Kruti S	Vanny K
Emily J	Vickram G	

Tutor Buddies Wanted!

We have two groups of tutors who will complete the ESOL tutor training in May and June. Some of these new tutors may want a little extra support as they plan their first tutoring sessions with an English learner. We are looking for a few volunteers to be a "tutor buddy" for these new tutors. A tutor buddy is an experienced tutor who wants to work with new tutors who are being matched with an English learner for the first time. Tutor buddies offer a little extra support to new tutors before they meet with a student and may help the new tutor prepare for the first couple of tutoring sessions. If you are interested in becoming a tutor buddy or want to learn a bit more about the program, please complete this brief form: [Tutor Buddy Interest](#).

May Baskets - It's a Wrap

Our May Basket fundraiser ended on Sunday, May 31st. We raised \$6,215! Thank you to everyone who bought tickets. The prize drawing will be on Wednesday, June 3 at 1:00 pm at the Framingham Main

Last Month in Review

May 18th - Tutor Time – Survival English/Low Beginner Curriculum

On Monday, May 18th, Martha shared a newly developed curriculum for tutors and conversation class leaders who work with our lowest-level English learners. The intent of this resource is to provide a flexible curriculum from which tutors and class leaders can draw ideas and inspiration for creating their own lessons and materials. If you missed the live session, you can view the recording [here](#). All tutors are encouraged to check out the curriculum [here](#), and save the link, so you can access it in the future!

This curriculum is stored in Google Drive. If you want to learn more about how to create a Google Drive account, and how to navigate this free file-sharing platform, please register for the next Tutor Time by clicking here: [Tutor Time session on Tuesday, June 23rd at 6pm](#).

May 21st - Visit to the Danforth Museum - Things!

Our third and final spring visit to the Danforth Museum focused on "things" - sculptures and still life artworks in the collection. Each student created a sketch of items they would include in a still life of their own creation - flowers, books, drinks, and more. While presenting her still life, one student shared how impactful and important this program has been for her. Thanks to overwhelmingly positive feedback from the students who attended, we are looking for ways to continue our partnership with the Danforth next fall!



Read with Me - a successful pilot program

Literacy Unlimited conducted a new program this spring in partnership with ECAF (Early Childhood Alliance of Framingham). Held downstairs in the two classrooms adjoining the Children's Room, this 10-week program used picture books to teach English and early literacy skills to parents and young children together.

Each week started with a song circle and group story time. Then parents received 40-50 minutes of direct instruction from Literacy Unlimited volunteers while children did activities and crafts with ECAF staff which tied back to the book of the week. At the end of the 90-minute program, parents and children received a copy of the book to keep and read together at home.

9 families participated in the program this spring, and they shared incredible feedback about how joyful and impactful the program was. We look forward to partnering with ECAF again next year!

What was your favorite part about the Read With Me program?

"Everything—sharing the learning experience with our children, and everything that followed—in short, absolutely everything."
(translated from Spanish)

Resource Highlight

Are You Tutoring a CNA (Certified Nursing Assistant)?

Thank you to one of our ESOL tutor, Debbie, for sharing documents that she created when working with her English learner. These are focused on her student's CNA job in a nursing home. They include vocabulary and patient/resident dialogue examples. These documents are stored in Google Drive [here](#).

If you want to learn more about how to create a Google Drive account and how to navigate this free file-sharing platform, sign-up for our next Tutor Time here: [Tutor Time session on Tuesday, June 23rd at 6 pm.](#)

We are grateful to Debbie for sharing this resource with us.

Celebrations and Accomplishments

Tutor/Student Accomplishments - Take the Win!!!

Here are some fantastic milestones our students are reaching with the help of their tutors. To the tutors who took the time to share their accomplishments, we are truly grateful. By the way, tutors are doing a great job of sharing with us, and these are just samples of accomplishments reported – there are too many to include them all. Congratulations to all our silent heroes whose achievements, big and small, inspire us all.

- **Denise and Alessandra** – Alessandra has been attending Denise's English Conversation class to gain confidence so that she can exhibit her crafts at local fairs. She recently set up a booth at the Natick Farmers Market, where she sold several items.
- **Martha and Mirian** - A few months ago, Mirian completed an Early Childhood Lead Teacher certification program. In March, she had her first few days of being a lead teacher in one of the classrooms at the preschool where she teaches!
- **Roberta and Jin** - Jin is working on beginning a course at Mass Bay in Framingham
- **Cindy and Ganna** - Ganna used her library card for the first time and has read several of the books she borrowed.
- **Eric and Leandro** - Leandro started a new job at Amazon as a driver.
- **Marilyn and Justice** - Justice filled out 3 job applications.
- **Gretchen and Yaneth** - Yaneth has started a new job.

Thank You to Our Grantors!

Literacy Unlimited's work is made possible by a vibrant community of supporters. We would like to extend a special message of thanks to our FY26 grantors:



[Literacy Unlimited](#) is a program of the Framingham Public Library and an affiliate of Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts

