

# LITERACY NEWS



FLORIDA'S NEWSLETTER FOR LITERACY TUTORS,  
TEACHERS, LEARNERS, AND SUPPORTERS

Number 112

FALL 2005



Alejandra Rubio and her son make a friendship bracelet at GROWS Family Literacy Program.

## November is Family Literacy Month

### Programs Share Successful Practices

Established by the National Center for Family Literacy (NCFL) in 1994, November has been designated as Family Literacy Month. Florida can take pride in its wide range of quality family literacy programs. "We believe the family that learns together, excels together – beginning with the simple, joyful act of reading together," states Roxann Campbell of the Governor's Family Literacy Initiative (GFLI), a leading funder along with the Florida Department of Education and Even Start in supporting family literacy statewide.

This article profiles two accomplished programs and the key factors that have contributed to their success.

#### Calhoun County Public Library

Located in one of Florida's poorest and smallest counties, the Calhoun County Public Library's goal is to create a literate community one adult and child at a time. The Calhoun County Public Library has successfully integrated several program models to offer a variety of instructional opportunities to the families they serve.

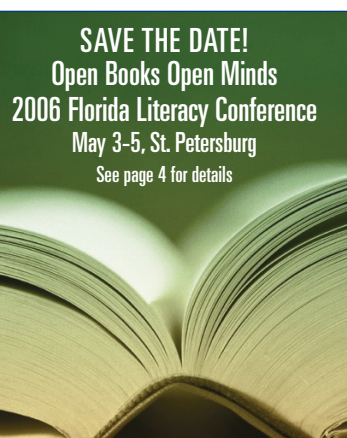
#### Success Factors:

- **Multiple Funding Sources** – The Calhoun County Public Library receives funding from several sources, including GFLI and Even Start. In fact, they are the only public library in the state of Florida to offer Even Start.
- **Diversity of Programs** – The Library's many programs are able to provide school readiness and adult education to parents and children from birth to 3rd grade, with a sufficient intensity of

*(Continued on Page 9)*

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## Seminole Community College ESOL Program Chosen for National Study

Seminole Community College is participating in a grant-funded national study for exemplary practices in the delivery of English for speakers of other languages instruction in community colleges. The grant project is funded by the Hewlett Foundation through the Coalition for the Advancement of Adult Literacy located in New York City.

SCC was chosen as one of twelve schools invited to apply for the project after being recommended by ESL leaders in other institutions via a national survey. The college was one of six institutions invited to participate after the application process. The other institutions participating are Bunker Hill Community College (Boston), Costa Mesa Community College (Oceanside, CA), College of Lake County (Chicago), City College of San Francisco, and Yakima Community College (Yakima, Washington).

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## New Addition to FLC Staff



Erin Balleine

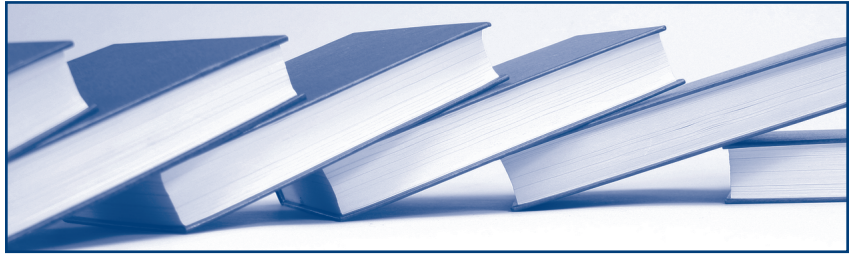
The Florida Literacy Coalition welcomed **Erin Balleine** to its staff in August as an Americorps/VISTA Project Coordinator. VISTA is a full-time, one-year volunteer community service position and is a program of the Corporation for National and Community Service. Erin graduated from Lakeland College of Wisconsin with a major in Sociology and a minor in Social Welfare. She has six years of experience working in non-profits, specifically in the area of alleviating poverty. In her spare time she enjoys painting and dancing.



Dianna Romaguera

The Florida Literacy Coalition would like to welcome **Dianna Romaguera** as the Event Planning Intern. Dianna graduated from the University of South Florida with a B.A. in Communications and is currently at the University of Central Florida working on her second B.A. in Humanities. She hopes to continue her work in the non-profit sector upon graduation in May 2006.

## 3rd Annual Literacy Leadership Institute to be held in Jacksonville



The Florida Literacy Coalition will host its **3rd Annual Literacy Leadership Institute** December 8-9, at the **Sea Turtle Inn - On the Ocean - Jacksonville**. This free Institute, designed for directors, program managers and board members of non-profit adult and family literacy organizations, will cover topics such as:

- **Strategic Planning / Board Development**
- **Fund Development**
- **Volunteer & Student Recruitment & Retention**
- **Developing & Managing An Effective Volunteer Program**
- **Student Assessment**

Space is limited and travel assistance is provided. To participate, contact **Kelley Jain, Education & Training Coordinator**, at (407) 246-7110 x 203, or [jaink@floridaliteracy.org](mailto:jaink@floridaliteracy.org). This session is sponsored by **Florida's Adult & Family Literacy Resource Center** and funded through a grant from the **Florida Department of Education, Division of Community Colleges and Workforce Education**.

## Submit Your News

Has your organization received funding or planned a major public event? Do you know something that would benefit other adult and family literacy practitioners? Share it with us!

Literacy News needs your participation in order to provide relevant, timely information and resources to adult and family literacy practitioners and supporters throughout Florida. FLC invites you to submit short articles and other news items related to funding, events, staff, hot topics, research and more.

For more information and publication schedules, contact Kelley Jain, Education & Training Coordinator, at [jaink@floridaliteracy.org](mailto:jaink@floridaliteracy.org) or (407) 246-7110 x 203.

## 2006 Student Leadership Initiatives

The Florida Literacy Coalition and the State Literacy Resource Center are planning some exciting events in 2006 to support adult learner involvement and leadership.

### Literacy Ambassador Program January 13-14, Tallahassee

This program brings together adult learners and program managers for a two-day training on how to effectively promote literacy at the local and state level. Students learn how to tell their story for public speaking engagements or media interviews. Program managers learn how to build relationships with the media and market their programs. Students apply what they learn by giving a short interview in which they share their stories and future aspirations.

### Learner Leadership Training March 31 - April 1, Orlando

Developed by VALUE, USA, this training focuses on assisting adult learners to gain leadership skills through involvement in leadership projects. It also works with practitioners on how to: 1) create and sustain learner leadership; and 2) track learner leadership work through specific goals, outcomes and time lines. The training provides resources for local student involvement in retention, recruitment, fund raising, public awareness, creating curricula, learner led program evaluation, creating student leadership positions and creating your own learner leadership projects.

### Adult Learner Day, 2006 Florida Literacy Conference, May 3, Hilton, St. Petersburg

This upcoming, free special event May 3 at the 2006 Florida Literacy Conference offers adult learners the opportunity to choose from various learner-friendly workshops on a range of topics. Once again, FLC plans to heavily involve students in developing and coordinating the 2006 event.

Your organization can learn more about these programs by contacting Erin Balleine, Americorps / VISTA Project Coordinator, (407) 246-7110 x 208, [balleine@floridaliteracy.org](mailto:balleine@floridaliteracy.org).

*These programs are made possible thanks to the generous support of the Florida Department of Education, Division of Community Colleges and Workforce Education.*

## New Publication Features Promising Practices Among Florida's Library Literacy Programs

Florida is fortunate to have a wide selection of adult education and literacy programs that provide free or low cost instructional services. Public libraries, community based literacy organizations, public schools, faith-based organizations and community colleges work together to provide a continuum of services that range from reading and English language tutoring to classes and on-line adult high school / GED instruction.

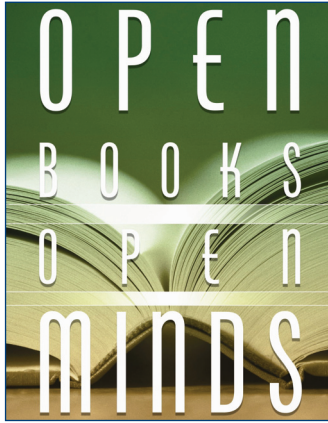
Florida's libraries have been important contributors to the state's adult education system, often serving as a catalyst in establishing literacy programs and support services in underserved communities. In 2005, thirty Florida counties provided direct literacy services, primarily in the form of one-to-one tutoring and small group instruction.

A new publication profiles five of the Sunshine State's library based literacy programs that have established successful instructional initiatives in varied program areas.

- **Conversational English**  
Broward County Library's English Café
- **Workplace Literacy**  
Collier County Public Library
- **Rural Literacy Programs**  
Literacy Volunteers of Gadsden County
- **Adult Learner Involvement and Leadership**  
Palm Beach County Library Adult Learner Leader Program
- **Deaf Literacy**  
Deaf Literacy Center, Pinellas Public Library Cooperate

Program administrators freely share their thoughts and experiences on the development of their programs along with key measures of success and the challenges they faced along the way. "We worked with the State Library to seek out programs that were both successful and unique," said Greg Smith, Executive Director, Florida Literacy Coalition. "It is our hope that this publication will be a useful resource for literacy programs interested in exploring new ways to serve students."

This publication was made possible through the generous support of the Florida State Library and Archives. It is available at [www.floridaliteracy.org](http://www.floridaliteracy.org) or by calling 1-800-237-5113.



## 2006 Florida Literacy Conference

May 3-5

Pre-conference May 2

The Hilton, St. Petersburg, Florida

### *Call for Presenters!*

To help make the 2006 Conference a success, the Coalition seeks session proposals from adult education, literacy and family literacy practitioners and other potential presenters throughout the state and nation. We welcome your participation and encourage you to propose a session by December 6 with our easy-to-complete online form at [www.floridaliteracy.org](http://www.floridaliteracy.org). To request a session proposal form through mail or FAX, contact Kelley Jain, Education & Training Coordinator, at (407) 246-7110 x 203 or [conference@floridaliteracy.org](mailto:conference@floridaliteracy.org).

### *Make Your Nominations for the 2006 Florida Literacy Awards*

Visit [www.floridaliteracy.org](http://www.floridaliteracy.org) for nomination form and procedure. Nominations are now being accepted for the 2005 State Literacy Awards, which recognize outstanding accomplishment and achievement of individuals and organizations supporting adult and family literacy throughout Florida. The awards will be presented on May 4 at a special dinner and ceremony during the 2006 Florida Literacy Conference.

### *Award Categories*

- The Mary J. Brogan Leadership Award: (honors a literacy leader in Florida)
  - Flight for Freedom Award (honors an outstanding adult learner)  
Winner's program will receive a \$150 New Readers Press gift certificate.
  - Outstanding Literacy Volunteer Award  
Winner's program will receive a \$150 New Readers Press gift certificate.
- Excellence in Education Award: (honors an outstanding literacy program/organization)  
Winner will receive a \$200 New Readers Press gift certificate.
  - Outstanding Business Partner Award
  - Outstanding Media Partner Award

## Jacksonville Public Library Celebrates Opening of Adult Literacy Center

Adults wanting to improve their reading, writing, math, and English language skills have a new place to turn for help in Duval County: the Jacksonville Public Library.

Those familiar with the Jacksonville Public Library know that the library's Center for Adult Learning has provided literacy instruction to adults reading below the eighth grade level since 1985. However, after many years of planning and construction, a new Main Library will open in downtown Jacksonville on November 12, 2005. Housed within this Main Library is an expanded 6,000 square foot adult literacy center.

The Center for Adult Learning's new home includes three classrooms, a conference room, and a state-of-the-art computer lab. A large collection of materials for adult new readers and educators is available in the lobby area. Also in the lobby are computers and study carrels for students and tutors. A secured staff area has workstations for up to fifteen employees and volunteers.

While the grand opening of the new literacy center comes during a difficult budget year, the Jacksonville Public Library Foundation and local Wal-Mart stores have provided the additional resources needed to support the center and its activities.

Adult learners at the library may attend classes taught by staff using a modified version of the Wilson Reading System, a curriculum developed for individuals with specific learning disabilities. Students may also choose to utilize the computer lab or borrow distance-learning materials for independent study. Conversational English classes are held at the Main Library as well as at six branch libraries throughout the city. ESL classes are taught by a corps of dedicated volunteers.

Recognized in September 2005 as "Organization of the Year" by the Literacy Council of Northeast Florida, the Center for Adult Learning was applauded for its creative partnerships with other literacy providers as well as twenty years of service to the Jacksonville community. Staff and volunteers at the center, however, are most proud of the accomplishments made by their students. Emma Anderson, for example, recently received the Participant Merit Award from the Literacy Council of Northeast Florida. Emma improved her reading so she could help her daughter in school; Emma later began tutoring a co-worker who could not read.

The Jacksonville Public Library is excited about the possibilities that this new adult literacy center holds for Duval County and surrounding areas. They welcome visitors as well as suggestions for any partnerships and projects. You may reach the Center for Adult Learning by calling (904) 630-2426.



Architect's rendering of the new building.

## Understanding and Promoting Health Literacy

The National Institutes of Health and the Agency of Healthcare Research and Quality invite the investigators to submit R01 Research grants on health literacy. Research on health literacy should assist NIH in its mission of communicating scientifically-based health information to the public.

For more information please visit: <http://athens.pop.psu.edu/allen/AnnByAge.cfm?AgencyID=32>

## The National Book Scholarship Fund

ProLiteracy Worldwide is entering the eleventh year of its National Scholarship Fund, a program that supplies books and materials to local literacy programs. To learn more please visit <http://www.nbsf.org/apply.asp>

## Darden Restaurants

Darden Restaurants support Central Florida and Miami area education programs. For more information visit the website at [http://www.dardenrestauratns.com/com\\_gs\\_funding.asp](http://www.dardenrestauratns.com/com_gs_funding.asp)

## Library Services and Technology Grants

The State Library and Archives of Florida is holding a series of workshops in December that will assist eligible agencies with the preparation of Library Services and Technology Act grants for the 2006 application cycle. These grants may be used to support local adult literacy programs. Workshop dates, locations and registration information can be found at [http://dlis.dos.state.fl.us/bld/grants/LSTA/LSTA\\_grant\\_workshop.html](http://dlis.dos.state.fl.us/bld/grants/LSTA/LSTA_grant_workshop.html)

## Adult Education/Literacy Shows Available Free to Local Stations

The state of Florida has purchased a statewide license from KET allowing local television stations and cable access stations to freely broadcast the following programs:

**Workplace Essential Skills:** This program carries topics such as finding a job, reading, math and communications. Adults looking for a job or looking for better jobs will find lots of help with this program.

**TV411:** a magazine style television program for adults who want to strengthen their literacy skills.

**GED Connection:** Part of the PBS LiteracyLink® Project, this program offers outstanding preparation for the current GED exam. Integrated video programs, workbooks, and online activities make GED preparation accessible for students with a variety of learning styles.

**PRE-GED Connection:** provides the necessary foundation for adult learners at the 6-8 reading level.

Each of these programs have student workbooks and teacher's guides. To learn more about TV411, visit <http://www.tv411.org/index.shtml>. You can learn more about Workplace Essential Skills, PreGED and GED Connections at <http://litlink.ket.org/>.

To make this resource available in your area, your local television/local cable access station must request to broadcast it. Give them a call and let them know it's needed and available. Contact KET at 800-354-9267 for more information.

## Upcoming Literacy Events

**November 14-20**

Children's Book Council

Sponsor: Children's Book Council

Nationwide

[www.cbcbooks.org/cbw/](http://www.cbcbooks.org/cbw/)

**November 30 – December 3**

National Reading Conference

Sponsor: National Reading Conference

Miami, FL

[www.nrconline.org](http://www.nrconline.org)

**December 8-9**

3rd Annual Literacy Leadership Institute

Sponsor: State Literacy Resource Center

Jacksonville, FL

[jaink@floridaliteracy.org](mailto:jaink@floridaliteracy.org)

**January 13-14**

Literacy Ambassador Program

Sponsor: State Literacy Resource Center

Tallahassee, FL

[balleine@floridaliteracy.org](mailto:balleine@floridaliteracy.org)

**March 31 - April 1**

Learner Leadership Training

Sponsor: State Literacy Resource Center

Orlando, FL

[Balleine@floridaliteracy.org](mailto:Balleine@floridaliteracy.org)

**March 15 - 19**

40th Annual TESOL Convention and Exhibit

Sponsor: Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages, Inc

Tampa Bay, FL

[www.tesol.org/tesol2006](http://www.tesol.org/tesol2006)

**March 19 - 21**

Family Literacy Conference "Creating a Literate Nation"

Sponsor: National Center for Family Literacy

Louisville, KY

**May 3 – 5**

22nd Annual Florida Literacy Conference

Sponsor: Florida Literacy Coalition

St. Petersburg, FL

[www.floridaliteracy.org](http://www.floridaliteracy.org)

## Free Fire Safety Literacy Materials

The Fire Safety Literacy Project (Home Safety Council, ProLiteracy, and Oklahoma State University's Fire Protection Publications) has created the first national program to educate adults about fire safety. Each kit contains 10 English fliers, 10 Spanish fliers, pencils, posters, a DVD, and User's Guide. They are available from the Florida Literacy Coalition. To obtain your free kit, call 407-246-7110.



## Fund Raising Ideas: A Big Boost for Literacy "Food for Thought" event raises money, awareness



Stars of the Hallmark Channel movie, "The Reading Room," attended Food for Thought and signed autographs for the public. (Seated from left) Tim Reid ("WKRP in Cincinnati"), Georg Stanford Brown ("Cagney and Lacey"), and Kathryn Dora Brown ("Judging Amy") met fans at the Center Court Fountain of the Bell Tower Shops. They also attended the movie's screening that evening. Photo: Gaceta Tropical

What could be better than good food, good books and a good cause to draw a crowd?

"Food for Thought," Literacy Volunteers of Lee County's special event at the Bell Tower Shops in Fort Myers, FL, gave a big boost to literacy as it raised money and awareness.

The event was held on September 8, a day celebrating International Literacy, which focuses attention on worldwide literacy issues and needs.

"International Literacy Day is a timely reminder that we should not take literacy for granted," said Tess Murphy, Executive Director of Literacy Volunteers of Lee County. "It is also an occasion to applaud the work of literacy tutors and volunteers whose patient and persistent efforts make such a difference to people's lives."

"Food for Thought" was a unique first-time event featuring food, wine, reading and entertainment to lend support to local literacy initiatives in Lee County.

As part of the event, eight Bell Tower restaurants donated a percentage of their lunch and dinner sales that day to Literacy Volunteers of Lee County. Wine and live music were available at the Center Court Fountain as well as the opportunity for event attendees to purchase books and meet local book authors such as Ad Hudler, Sam Cook and Doug MacGregor.

"For a first-time event we are very pleased with the results," Murphy said. "We had wonderful sponsors who are going to be involved again next year, and we've already met to discuss the 2006 'Food for Thought.'" She added that she would be happy to share the name and logo of the event with other literacy agencies in Florida that would like to hold a similar event. Murphy invited interested agencies to contact her at [tesslvlc@earthlink.net](mailto:tesslvlc@earthlink.net).

Valuable literacy program and mentoring information was provided at the Center Court by Literacy Volunteers of Lee County and the Lee County School District Adult Education Program. The Lee County Library issued new library cards in conjunction with Library Card Sign-up Month, and International College was on-site to discuss its many educational programs.

Event sponsors included Bell Tower Shops, Comcast, The Fort Myers News-Press, Gaceta Tropical (the Spanish-language version of The News-Press) and International College. Through Comcast's efforts, the Hallmark Channel was involved and presented a special screening of "The Reading Room," a television film that will air November 26th with stars James Earl Jones, Tim Reid, Georg Stanford Brown and Kathryn Dora Brown. Tim Reid, George Stanford Brown and Kathryn Dora Brown attended the event, signed autographs and were present at the screening of the movie at Bell Tower's Regal Cinema.

*International Literacy Day is a timely reminder that we should not take literacy for granted.*

(Continued from Cover)

instruction to show promising results. With the GFLI grant, the Calhoun Library provides English as a Second Language for families and parents to be more involved in the child's success. They are also able to provide Pre-GED and GED education for parents using print or electronic media as teaching tools. Their Parent and Child Success Academy uses the Keenan family literacy model, and collaborates with school resource officers, counselors, county judges, and probation officers. Their Interactive Library Literacy Activities (ILLA) program provides a six-week program for parents and children using children's books to teach critical thinking and decision-making skills along with parenting.

- **Home Visits** – The staff conducts several home visits a week. Not only has the staff been able to work with families during their visits, but they have also recruited other adults in the family to participate in their ABE programs.
- **Quality Staff** – The Library's staff, which includes a certified teacher, has extensive training in the Whole Language teaching approach. The entire staff is also certified to administer the TABE test.
- **Computers** – The Library provides computer-assisted instruction to students of all ages. They have found that with the right software, learning-disabled students have responded particularly well to this instructional approach.
- **Partnerships** – Partnerships with Calhoun County School System, the County Sheriffs Department, the County Health Department, and Americorps/VISTA have strengthened the Library's programs.

## GROWS Literacy Council

Located in Apopka, GROWS Literacy Council focuses on providing family literacy services to low-income immigrant families. The program works with families to help them acculturate into American society and emphasizes the importance of parent participation in their children's education as their pre-schoolers prepare to attend English-only kindergarten classes.

### Success Factors:

- **Use of Funding Sources** – Funding includes grants from the Governor's Family Literacy Initiative (GFLI) and Even Start.
- **Home Visits** – Staff members make visits to the homes of participants.

During the visit they encourage the families to designate one spot in the home for reading to the children. They also encourage the family to invest in a bookshelf, so that books have a special place in the home.

- **Thematic Teaching** – Each week a new theme is introduced. Books, activities, nursery rhymes, songs, and an inspirational thought match the weekly theme.
- **Age Appropriate Children's Education** – Provide pre-school classes for children ages 2-3 and ages 3-5. Children learn basic readiness skills that they will need to be successful in kindergarten. Children in their program have shown a 93% improvement in basic skills.
- **Free Books** – GROWS passes out two children's books a week so that families can build their home library. As a result, last year, mothers as a group spent a total of 1, 206 hours reading to their children at home.
- **Speaker Series** – GROWS has brought in a variety of speakers including the Mayor of Apopka, the Apopka Library Branch Manager, and representatives from the Apopka Fire Department, Hispanic Health Initiatives, and Real Estate Hunters. Workshops have been provided about esteem, FCATs, and college scholarships.
- **Field Trips** – Participants have taken several trips to different education places in the area, including the zoo, Morse Museum in Winter Park, Borders Bookstore for English conversation, and the Jewish Community Center.
- **Partnerships** – GROWS has partnered with the Farm Workers Association and Americorps/VISTA.
- **Results** – Their efforts have been a success, as GROWS boasts that pre and post CASAS test scores show a 96% improvement among participants. Alejandra Rubio, one of GROWS participant mothers states, "All the English I've learned, I've learned here. I can go grocery shopping, go to the bank or the doctor, and I'm okay."

For more information about Family Literacy grant opportunities visit:

Governor's Family Literacy Initiative

[http://www.volunteerfloridafoundation.org/grant\\_info.php](http://www.volunteerfloridafoundation.org/grant_info.php)

Department of Education, Families as Educators

[http://www.firn.edu/doe/dwdgrants/2004/fo\\_adulted04.htm](http://www.firn.edu/doe/dwdgrants/2004/fo_adulted04.htm)

(Continued from Cover)

English Language Studies Director Beth Larson and ESOL Resource Specialist Sandy Ares, who is working as the SCC local researcher for the project, attended an organizational and implementation meeting at the University of Maryland Baltimore County in June. At that time, best practices from all of the participating colleges were discussed and several were selected from each college for focus papers to be included in the study.

ESOL practices at SCC selected for closer study include Clearly Said; Clearly Read phonemic awareness and pronunciation project funded by Florida DOE Leadership grants, the TIES: Total Immersion of English Strategies, which was developed under an English Literacy and Civics Education Grant, and ESOL 24/7, a Region III Regional Professional Development Advisory Council workshop project developed and presented by SCC faculty and administrators. The project will also focus

on SCC practices of providing intensive classes with managed enrollment, support for adjunct faculty through systems including orientation and program specialists, and Moving On presentations that offer ESOL students greater insight to transitioning into college credit or certificate and career programs.

Future involvement by the participants will include visits to all participating institutions by the project leaders during the year. The group will convene again in New York in June of 2006. The culmination of the project in December of 2006 will be the publication of the study's findings for use as a model for English language literacy programs.

## ProLiteracy Revises Trainer Certification System



In January, 2006, ProLiteracy America will launch a new trainer certification system. The system will present a competency-based, locally driven, and flexible approach to the organization's goal of supporting a national network of skilled and

knowledgeable trainers. Local organizations will find that having certified trainers strengthens their credibility and supports their efforts to become more accountable.

Trainers may be certified in basic literacy, English as a second language (ESL), or both. Certification will be based primarily upon three accomplishments: securing the endorsement of a local program, successfully completing a content examination, and demonstrating a set of defined training competencies.

For more information on the process, steps to trainer certification, benefits to trainers and organizations, instructions for currently certified trainers, and options for registered apprentice trainers, see the Florida Literacy Coalition's website, [www.floridaliteracy.org](http://www.floridaliteracy.org), or contact ProLiteracy America at (315) 422-9121 x 283 or E-mail [trainer@proliteracy.org](mailto:trainer@proliteracy.org). Application materials will be available online by January 1, 2006 at [www.proliteracy.org](http://www.proliteracy.org).

## Tutor Tip

### Create a Sentence Activity

**Purpose:** This activity helps students understand the basic parts of writing a sentence. Because no one person has responsibility for the entire sentence, students can relax and have fun.

**Preparation Time :** 10 minutes

**Materials:** Chalkboard/white board, or sheets of paper.

**Preparation:** Create the following grid on the board or on a piece of paper:

Who	Did What	Where	When	(!?)
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				

**Procedure:** Show the class the grid.

- First person comes up with a word to describe WHO or WHAT (e.g. Brandi)
- Second person comes up with a word or two to describe an action (DID WHAT) (e.g. went dancing)
- Third person comes up with a sentence to describe WHERE (e.g., at the Palace Ballroom)
- Fourth person describes WHEN (e.g., on Friday)
- Fifth person determines the appropriate PUNCTUATION (e.g. ! )

In a classroom situation, do the activity as a whole group, calling on individuals to make contributions. In a one-to-one situation, you can alternate giving answers with your student. With more independent students, you can make a grid and they can pass the sheet around and fill in the blanks.

For other tips visit [http://www.themlc.org/Create\\_a\\_Sentence.html](http://www.themlc.org/Create_a_Sentence.html).

## Dr. Sandra Baxter Appointed Director of National Institute for Literacy

The Secretaries of the Departments of Education, Labor, and Health and Human Services have appointed Dr. Sandra L. Baxter as Director of the National Institute for Literacy (NIFL), a federal organization that addresses literacy across the lifespan and across federal agency programs.

Dr. Baxter has served as the Institute's Interim Director since October 2001 and has been on its staff since 1999. Under Dr. Baxter's leadership, the Institute is planning new lines of work in adult English language acquisition, workforce literacy and basic skills, adult literacy, and youth literacy and employment.

For more information on NIFL go to [www.nifl.gov](http://www.nifl.gov).

## Study Finds that Investing in Adult Learning is Key to State Prosperity

The Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) has issued a report entitled *Investing Wisely in Adult Learning is Key to State Prosperity*. This publication documents the benefits of providing more education for adults who did not complete high school and the urgency of increasing the number of high school dropouts who pursue further education. It focuses on three key indicators of progress: enrollments in Adult Basic Education, GED completion and enrollments of students who earned the GED credential in postsecondary education. Some SREB states have made strides in developing policies and programs for adult learners, and the report profiles their efforts and results. The report offers some promising practices for addressing the adult learning challenge facing southern states.

SREB assists state leaders by directing attention to key education issues in the southern region; collecting, compiling and analyzing comparable data; and conducting broad studies and initiating discussions that help states and institutions form long-range plans, actions and policy proposals.

This report can be accessed on-line at [www.sreb.org](http://www.sreb.org).





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### Executive Committee

**President** Joe Pankowiecki, *Siemens Westinghouse*

**Vice President (Providers)** Darlene Kostrub, *Palm Beach County Literacy Coalition*

**Secretary** Sandy Newell, *State Library of Florida*

**Treasurer** Jay Roesch, *Walt Disney World*

**Executive Director** Gregory Smith

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## Join the Coalition and Make a Difference for Literacy in Florida!

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Annual Membership – \$25   | I want to increase the impact of my membership: | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting Donation: \$5 - \$99    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Organizational Annual Membership<br>Annual budget under \$200,000 - \$50<br>Annual budget over \$200,000 - \$75 |   | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining Donation: \$100 - \$499 |
|  |   | <input type="checkbox"/> Patron Donation: \$500 - \$999     |

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Company/Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  Home  Business

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION FOR ORGANIZATION #CH-8608 MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS BY CALLING TOLL FREE WITHIN THE STATE: 1-800-435-8472. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE. NO OUTSIDE INDIVIDUAL OR FIRM HAS BEEN HIRED TO SOLICIT FUNDS ON BEHALF OF THIS ORGANIZATION. 100% OF CHARITABLE GIFTS ARE RETAINED BY THIS ORGANIZATION.