
The Partners Press

Tompkins Learning Partners

Summer 2010

Tutor and Exemplar Awards Announced

The recipient of Tompkins Learning Partners' 2010 **Henry Cowan Outstanding Tutor Award** is Mary-Lynn Cummings.

Mary-Lynn exhibits patience, understanding, and enthusiasm – qualities that are essential to any successful literacy tutor – and combines them with a generous and sensitive spirit that allows her to focus on the small details of her students' goals while not losing sight of the big picture.

She is a tutor who clearly sees the benefit of sequential instruction directly related to her students' needs and goals, and she recognized that this also meant new learning for herself. Materials were purchased, manuals read, videos viewed, round-table discussions attended, often after a full day at work.

The latest result of Mary-Lynn's dedication can be seen in her current student who also regularly attends a BOCES GED preparation class. She has met with the classroom teacher to coordinate the student's TLP program and progress. The student's reading instruction needs are being met by Mary-Lynn, as evidenced by more than one grade level increase in 2010.

This is not Mary-Lynn's first success in her many years as a TLP tutor, and we certainly don't believe it will be her last.

The recipient of Tompkins Learning Partners' 2010 **Exemplar Award** is Carol Hockett of Cornell University's Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art.

TLP was lucky to attract Carol, the coordinator for School and Family Programs at the museum, as a volunteer nearly three years ago. During that time she has enriched TLP's literacy instruction with art education. She has brought objects and slides from the museum's collection to TLP for tutor and student workshops and she has brought tutors to the museum for Art and Literacy Tours. Using innovative approaches, she finds and presents links between the image or the object and the written word, thereby incorporating literacy into art appreciation.

Carol's enthusiasm is unflagging. She has made herself available weekends, evenings, and during her time off in the summer. And, she intuitively understands what it takes to keep a volunteer agency up and running.

TLP greatly appreciates its collaboration with Carol and Cornell's Johnson Art Museum, and we are looking forward to a continuing relationship.

*Join us at the Ice Cream Social for the opportunity to meet and congratulate Mary-Lynn and Carol!
(See details on back page.)*

Winter and Spring Tutor Training at TLP

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Winter and Summer Workshop series! Special thanks go to tutors Maggie Goldsmith, Carol Hockett, Helen Ranck and Tom Weiler for facilitating workshops.

New Tutors Who Attended Training

Joseph Abraham
Laurie Ann Atienza
Amanda Bentley
Vanessa Bentley
Alden Bliss
Zaira Chaudry
Jessica del Mundo
Sandy Do
Shelley Garvey
Meredith Gray-Greener
Harold Herman
LuAnn Irwin
Julie Jackson
Daniel Joh
Yasmin Kassam
Lauren Matlock
Carol Miller
Michael Miller

Roxana Orellana
Amanda Perlman
Deb Schmidle
Brendan Shuey
Vikram Singh
Priscilla Walker



Experienced Tutors Who Attended Training

Cheryl Barbasch
Jessica Barnes
Kelly Basner
Chris George
Maggie Goldsmith
Jean Healy
Liz Hobday
Carol Hockett
Pilar Junco
Linda Keeler

Katie Kelly
Jeanne Mackin
Lauren Matlock
Judy Scarpella
Peter Specker
Leslie Ungberg
Tom Weiler

“We believe the ability to read and write is critical to personal freedom and the maintenance of a democratic society.” ProLiteracy Worldwide

Find Out How Tutoring Makes a Difference!

Until every adult and youth learns to speak, read, and write in English, there will be a need for Adult Basic Education, English as a Second Language, and Incarcerated Youth tutors. If you are patient, creative, pragmatic, empathetic, adaptable, enthusiastic, organized, have a sense of humor and are able to commit to ongoing training, come volunteer to be part of their success – and make a difference in the community!

Ongoing training is for active and new tutors alike. Fall training is scheduled for late September through October.

The first step to find out if tutoring adults or incarcerated/residential youth is for you is to attend an orientation designed by the ABE and ESL coordinators to answer your questions and set the stage for successful literacy partnerships.

The next Volunteer Orientation for new volunteers is: Saturday, September 11, from 10:00 a.m. to noon. The orientation takes place at Tompkins Learning Partners. Call 277-6442 to pre-register.

TLP Tutors Help Immigrants Become Citizens

Many immigrants dream of becoming U.S. citizens, but in order to reach their goal they must pass a test on U.S. history and civics, as well as show an examiner that they can read, write, and speak English. For most immigrants in Tompkins County, TLP is the only place they can go for help.

Last year, eight TLP students became citizens with the help of dedicated tutors. The two most recent were Burmese husband and wife, Than Nwe and Pyi Aye. Their citizenship is then conferred onto their minor children, so their accomplishment is important for the whole family. Than Nwe worked with tutor Peter Specker, while Pyi Aye worked with tutor LuAnn Irwin.



Tutor LuAnn Irwin (left)
and new citizens Pyi Aye & Than Nwe

If you are interested in helping a TLP student become a U.S. citizen, you can attend the two-hour workshop Citizenship: Passing the Test offered by TLP in each tutor workshop series.

Could you pass the civics and history test to become a U.S. citizen? Take the quiz to find out!

1. How many amendments does the Constitution have?
2. The House of Representatives has how many voting members?
3. If both the President and the Vice President can no longer serve, who becomes president?
4. Who is the Chief Justice of the United States now?
5. Who wrote the Declaration of Independence?
6. Who did the United States fight in World War II?
7. When was the Constitution written?
8. When is the last day you can send in federal income tax forms?
9. We elect a U.S. Senator for how many years?
10. Who makes federal laws?

Answers

1. 27; 2. 435; 3. the Speaker of the House; 4. John Roberts; 5. Thomas Jefferson; 6. Japan, Germany and Italy; 7. 1787; 8. April 15th; 9. six; 10. Congress

If you got 6 or more right, congratulations! You passed the test.

Let's Not Go To Las Vegas!

Thank you to everyone who has already participated in our summer fundraising "Non-Vegas Trip."

To date we have received \$3,145 in donations. Students, tutors, and staff appreciate your generosity!



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TLP's Mission

Our mission is to help adults and young people who live or work in Tompkins County meet their personal goals, free of charge, by improving their ability to read, write, and speak English, and to use math and computers. Students achieve these goals by working together with professionally trained and supported volunteer tutors.



Ice Cream Social!

Saturday, September 25

3:00 - 5:00 P.M.

(Awards at 4:00 P.M.)



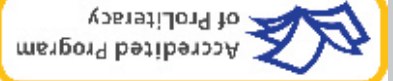
Mark your calendars and join us in the Activities Room at Lifelong (around the corner at 119 W. Court Street) for our Annual Tutor Appreciation event. Students, please come join us in thanking our tutors for all their volunteer efforts this past year!

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TLP respects the privacy of our students. We never use students' full names or photos without their permission.