

# Tarrant Literacy Coalition

opening the door to opportunity.

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## Upcoming Events

- Flag Day (6/14)
- Father's Day (6/17)
- Guide to Grant Writing Workshop (6/19)
- First Day of Summer (6/20)
- Independence Day (7/4)
- ESL/Citizenship Training (7/21)
- Literacy Texas Conference (8/6-7)

## Pinterest

Are you using Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, or any other social networking sights (SNS)? There are more than one billion SNS users and chances are, you're one of them. The Tarrant Literacy Coalition has decided to take full advantage of this huge potential audience to spread the word about the need for adult education.

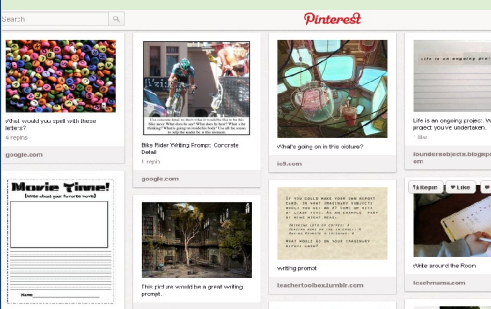
The Coalition has been using Facebook and Twitter for quite some time now. We have been building our profile on LinkedIn and began adding photos to our Flickr account. Please check us out at these sites.

Our most recent social outreach has been through Pinterest. Pinterest is an SNS that lets you organize and share all the beautiful things you find on the internet. People create and use pinboards to plan their weddings, decorate their homes, and organize their favorite recipes.

A user can also browse pinboards created by other people. Browsing pinboards is a fun way to discover new things and get inspiration from people who share your interests. To get started, a user must request an invite, unlike other sites.

The Coalition has created pinboards to be receptacles of resources that can be used in the classroom, dispense information pertaining to literacy, helpful books, inspirational quotes, and even one for local events. It is our hope that literacy providers will be able to use the boards to find creative ways to teach ESL, GED, and ABE along with sharing compelling facts for educating other Pinterest users about the need for adult education.

Please check it out at: <http://pinterest.com/tarrantliteracy/> and request an invite by emailing [Jennifer Rollins](mailto:Jennifer.Rollins@tarrantliteracy.org).



We want to feature you in upcoming issues of the Coalition newsletter. You get to hear about our efforts and events all the time but we really want to hear from you!

Please submit stories and articles to: [Jennifer Rollins](mailto:Jennifer.Rollins@tarrantliteracy.org)

Be sure to include a short author bio and your program's information.



## Prevent Summer Learning Loss



When students are not engaged in summer learning and enrichment activities they may suffer "summer learning loss" – a loss in academic skills and knowledge during the summer months that can set them back significantly when the school year begins.

There are numerous fun ways to engage your students and their families in summer learning. Literacy ConnXus, for example, will host weekly reading picnics and Project BEST will host an all-day GED blitz with Official Practice Tests and subject review activities. Other ideas can be found at: <http://summermatters2you.net/news>.

If you are a year-round program, it may be fun to incorporate some traditional summer activities such as playing baseball, grilling out, celebrating Independence Day, taking a pool day, eating watermelon, going for a hike, going to the library/museum/zoo, helping at a community garden, visiting a home improvement store and talking about honey-do lists, among many other ideas.

Also remember that June is National Safety Month. Your students may benefit from some summer safety reminders: <http://www.ddssafety.net/content/summer-safety-tips>



## GED Summer Testing Information

Just as many GED classes do not meet during the summer, many testing centers have changed their testing schedule for the summer months. Please note when and where your students can register for their test this summer.

- **Tarrant County College (South):** testing on Tues/Thur (will be taking a week off in July TBD) no wait period.
- **Tarrant County College (Trinity River):** will not have GED testing in June or July. Testing resumes in August but spaces are full.

- **Weatherford College:** testing Tues/Wed. Currently no wait period.
- **Arlington GED Testing Center:** Testing on Thur. and second Sat.

Are you looking for a Spanish GED Testing Center? The nearest one operating this summer is the **Lewisville GED Testing Center**.

For more information regarding testing center dates, costs, and locations, contact the [testing centers](#) directly. Email the [Coalition](#) for student scholarship information.

## Update Your Online Information

In order for the community, potential volunteers, and other providers to see where programs do and do not exist, many literacy programs have requested to be listed on the Tarrant Literacy Coalition Website. A tool was set up a couple years ago to provide this information, but some details may be outdated. Please go to our [website](#) and verify that your information is current. If it is not, email [Jennifer](#) to have the information updated. If you would like to be added to the provider directory please submit the [provider directory application](#).



## Highlights from May



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