



Tarrant Literacy Coalition

Opening the door to opportunity.



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October 2014

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September in Review

October 7, 2014

Fall is in the air, and the holiday season will soon be upon us! Cooler weather can't be far behind, and our students are counting on us to help them work toward their goals.

The Tarrant Literacy Coalition works with many partners and we are excited to announce that we've have been hard at work creating a wonderful new work space in Henderson Hall at Agape Baptist Church, where two of our literacy partners will join with us to serve the literacy community. Joan Grigsby from The Learning Center of North Texas will share space with us to serve adult learners and Literacy Connexus, led by Lester Meriwether, will also be located in Henderson Hall at the church. Watch for more news to come, and your invitation to our grand opening celebration coming soon.

There are many opportunities for professional development coming up this month and through the end of the year - get your calendar handy and mark down the dates of every event noted below so you won't miss out!

Also, keep an eye out for more information about our **Annual Holiday Celebration** when we will be announcing our **CASH FOR CLASS** awards! Every time you attend a training event hosted by



the Tarrant Literacy Coalition, your name is placed in the drawing for those awards, which are presented in November.

Looking forward to seeing you soon,

Kathryn B. Thompson, CFRE
Executive Director

OCTOBER FOURTH FRIDAY

Who Knew? What's New?

Come for an update on the GED exam; hear the latest news about the exam and alternatives being offered in other states. Learn how you can help your students prepare for the GED and get information about free resources for students and instructors. Tarrant Literacy Coalition personnel will provide a wealth of information for all who are involved with GED instruction.

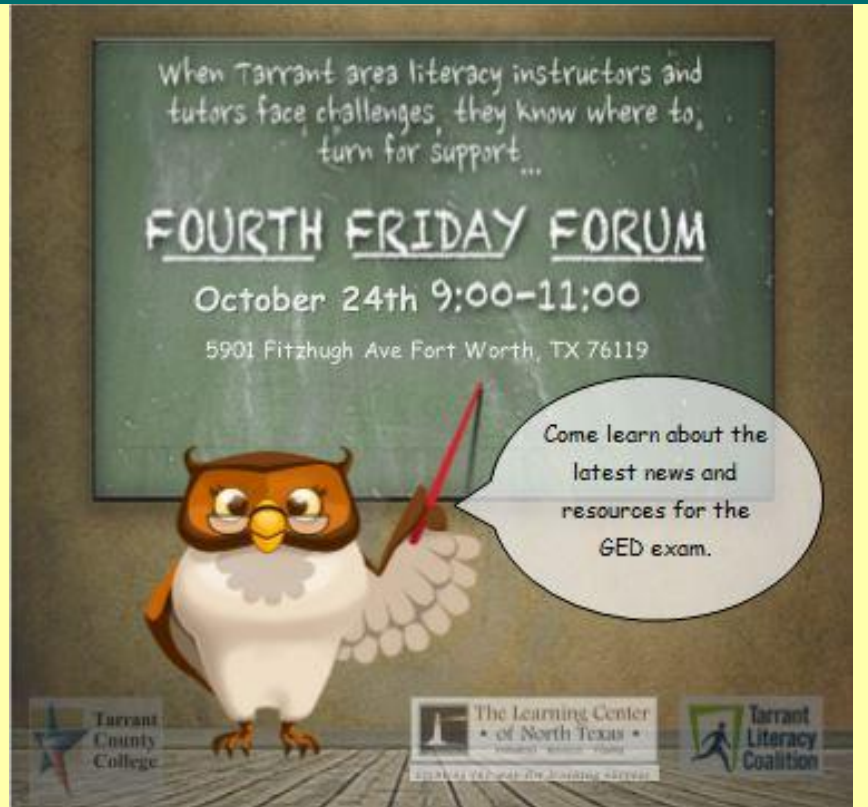
Date: Friday, October 24th

Time: 9:00 am - 11:00 am

Place: TCC Opportunity Center

5901 Fitzhugh Avenue, Fort Worth, TX 76119

Click [here](#) to register today!



OTHER UPCOMING TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Brought to you by our partners at
The Learning Center of North Texas

Building Reading Comprehension: Strategy Sessions to Help Struggling Intermediate Level Adult Students

Dates: October 10 & 31, November 14, December 5

Time: 9:30 am - 12:00 NOON

Place: TBD

Contact Joan Grigsby to register - 817-688-3356

Overview of the Workshop Series

Native English speaking students who struggle with reading comprehension often have a variety of issues which impact understanding. One of the most significant steps in building comprehension is the development of critical thinking skills.



Many volunteers have helped get our new offices and computer lab ready. We are especially grateful to all who helped with the renovations and painting!

In this series of informal sessions, teachers will meet four times to examine the following topics:

1. Development of academic vocabulary (seeing how words relate to other words)
2. The text structure of non-fiction writing
3. Simple strategies for gaining meaning from a short non-fiction text
4. Summarizing the "heart" of the reading.

About the Presenter

Joan Grigsby, director of adult services for The Learning Center of North Texas, provides support for adults with learning difficulties. Her experience includes work with adults in community college and other adult education programs, as well as many years of teaching secondary level students with challenges in learning.

Strategies and Resources for Low-Level ESL Learners: "Make and Takes" to Help ESL Adults

Date: Friday, October 17

Time: 9:00 am- 12:00 Noon

Place: TBD

Click [here](#) to register.

There is no fee for this session, but registration is required.

Overview of the Workshop

As an experienced teacher, Aida is familiar with the importance of "hands-on" learning, especially for students who have difficulty with learning and who need multi-sensory approaches to learning. In this workshop, teachers will have the opportunity to construct resources for learning that they can use with their low-level learners.

About the Presenter

Aida Martinez is well-known to our adult education community for her leadership as an administrator in the FWISD Adult Education Department as well as a trainer for the State on topics such as BEST Plus training. Newly retired from her ISD position, Aida remains involved with the teachers and tutors as a provider of professional development for The Learning Center of North Texas and others.



How Do You Know What They Know? Informal Assessment for English Language Learners Practical Strategies to Inform Instruction

Date: Friday, November 7, 2014

Time:

9:00 A.M. -12:00 P.M.

Place: TBD

Click [here](#) to register.

There is no fee for this session, but registration is required.

Overview of the Workshop

Participants will learn about the impact of formal and informal assessments with adult Learners. Examples of each type of assessment will be shared and discussed. This session is appropriate for administrators, teachers, volunteers, and tutors who work with adult students in all levels of ESL and ABE.

About the Presenter



Dr. Nancy Montgomery will bring her wealth of expertise and years of experience from her work with teachers of ESL as well as her hands-on approach to working directly with students in the classroom to this workshop! She currently lectures at Southern Methodist University in Dallas and has been a presenter at national and international conferences on topics related to ESL in the area of literacy. She has also authored textbook resources for ESL.

What makes this workshop especially relevant is Nancy's ability to share her knowledge in a way that will allow you to use it in your classroom on a day-to-day basis. Her common sense approach to assessment and instruction will give you some great tools to put to immediate use to help struggling learners in the classroom!

