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Monthly Newsletter of TEACH - Tutoring English to Advance Change

DECEMBER 2018

Join Us at our Trivia Night Fundraiser!



See attached flier for more information! Please help us spread the word tell your friends and family! TEACH will host its first Trivia Night Fundraiser on Thursday, January 24, 2019! Join us to test your knowledge and outsmart your competitors - gather a team together and join the fun!

The event will be held at Hawthorne's Backyard, 1200 West Hawthorne Lane in West Chicago. Doors open at 6:30pm and trivia starts at 7:00pm. Tickets are just \$25 per person and include appetizers, games, prizes and more!

Proceeds from the Trivia Fundraiser will be used to purchase supplemental reading materials that are frequently requested by our tutors, and a set of Kindle Fires for tutors and students to check out for use during their tutoring sessions. Reserve your spot and register online at

www.teachempowers.org

When you shop, Amazon Gives! amazonsmile

Amazon Smile is a simple and automatic way for you to support TEACH every time you shop at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, Amazon will donate a portion your purchase price to TEACH - when you shop, Amazon gives! Click on the link below to support TEACH when shopping on Amazon: https://smile.amazon.com/ch/45-2564510

Tutor Resources

• Are you looking for more grammar worksheets?

We featured the Azar Grammar website during our last professional development meeting. This website has worksheets organized by grammar topics that you can download and use with your students. There are also Power Point explanations. Check it out!

http://www.azargrammar.com/materials/index.html

• If your student has immigration questions, visit our website: http://www.teachempowers.org

Click on the "Programs and Resources" tab, then "Immigration Legal Services" - information listed includes agencies that can help with completing the application and legal services if your student would like to consult a lawyer. El Taller de Jose also accompanies your student if he/she needs moral support or wants to make sure all the information was clearly understood.

2018 Fact Sheet

As 2018 draws to a close, we wanted to share some interesting numbers with you: **350** TEACH volunteer tutors helped us fulfill our mission.

650 students benefited from our services. Our tutors travelled to **18** locations in **40** communities to offer **9,000** hours of free English literacy tutoring. Our students come to the United States from **35** countries.

Welcome Genevieve!



TEACH welcomes Genevieve Holcomb as our new Program Manager for the Woodridge, Brookfield and Summit locations.

Genevieve has experience in education and a background in the fields of social work and counseling. Currently, she teaches English online to students in China. Genevieve also has had the opportunity to work at an international summer camp as an activity coordinator with her daughter who was an "ambassador" at the camp.

Genevieve can be reached at: (708) 968-7023 gholcomb@teachempowers.org

Constantine's Corner

Dear Tutors and Friends,

The Christmas holiday is fast approaching, and my appreciation for Amazon grows with every passing day...however poignant those store-bought presents are, they do not last. The most sincere, heart-felt and enduring gift we can give is to share our precious time on this earth with people that are meaningful to us, as you do with your students. This is not only a life-long gift that each of you offer; its legacy continues to impact future generations, each one's gift benefiting the next.

Thank you for the year-round spirit of giving that you bring to your tutoring sessions week after week. As ripples in a pond, the good that you are doing now will grow in distance and time, and change lives far and wide for years to come.

On behalf of the TEACH staff and Board, warmest wishes for a holiday filled with love, joy and charity.

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CALENDAR



December 17, 2018 through January 4, 2019 Holiday Break/no classes May your holidays be filled with happiness, good health, good cheer and the

warmth of family and friends!

<u>Monday, January 28, 2019</u>

Professional Development/5:30-7:30pm/Meeting Room South Downers Grove Public Library/1050 Curtiss Street Please RSVP to Susana or Cathy at the phone numbers listed below by January 21, 2019

Tutor Information

NEW Tutor Training

New tutor training has been postponed - please contact Susana or Cathy at the numbers listed below if you or a friend are interested in training.

https://www.teachempowers.org/tutors/tutor-resources/

Tutors Needed!

TEACH is always looking for new tutors at all of our locations, but we have a strong need at the following locations: St. Frances of Rome Church/1500 S. 59th Court, Cicero, IL 60804 *tutoring classes meet Wednesdays 9:00am to 2:00pm* Cicero Library/5225 W. Cermak Road, Cicero, IL 60804 *tutoring classes meet Wednesdays 9:00am to 2:00pm* Summit Library 6233 S. Archer Rd., Summit, IL 60501 *tutoring classes meet Wednesdays 3:00pm to 8:00pm* St. Blase Church/101 S. 75th Ave., Summit, IL 60501 *tutoring classes meet Fridays 9:00am to 2:00pm*

Meet the TEACH Staff!



Constantine Bitsas, Executive Director (708) 609-0945 *cbitsas@Teachempowers.org*



Susana Aguilar, Program Director (630) 217-0396 saguilar@Teachempowers.org



Cathy McCabe, Program Manager (630) 248-9594 cmccabe@Teachempowers.org

Student Spotlight



Congratulations to TEACH student Macaria, who passed the US citizenship test in November! She is married with two children in college. She was born in Mexico and moved to Houston TX when she was 16, then to Addison IL in 1995.

Why did you take the citizenship test?

I want to become a US citizen because I want freedom of religion, speech, the right to vote and to continue contributing to this nation that has been my home.

What does it mean to you to become an American citizen?

My life is here; this is where I have been raising my family. To continue being part of this nation with the same rights as my father and my children who I have raised to love, respect and be a law-abiding citizen of this nation. As a United States Citizen, I will continue to give my loyalty to the U.S. government who protect us and all our rights that are granted by the Bill of Rights and the Constitution.

How do you think TEACH has helped you prepare for the test?

TEACH has helped me with the pronunciation, practice writing the dictation questions as well as with the mock interviews. Teach has taught me about the history of this nation, and I want to thank my teacher, Heidi, for her dedication, time and patience to help me prepare for this test.

Volunteer, donate and find out more at

www.TEACHempowers.org

Our website is under construction and changes are made weekly - check back often!

Connect with us on Facebook! TEACH

Tutoring English to Advance Change https://fb.me/teachempowers

Please like our page and share it with your friends and family!



Test your knowledge and outsmart your competitors at a Trivia Night fundraiser benefitting TEACH!

Thursday

January 24, 2019 Doors open at 6:30pm Trivia starts at 7pm

\$25 per person includes appetizers, trivia, games & more! *(event is 21+)*

Hawthorne's Backyard

1200 W Hawthorne Lane West Chicago, IL 60185

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