



## Group Discussion Enhances Learning

Are you or your student interested in joining one of our new weekly Conversation Circles? We use articles from *News for You*, a newspaper written for ESL students, to begin our discussion, but conversations can branch off in any direction.

Last week, a news story about Community Police Officers turned into a conversation about pets, social media, the five states that surround Lake Michigan, vacations, and strawberry picking in Michigan!



<https://www.newreaderspress.com/news-for-you-online>

click here to learn more!

In Conversation Circles, students improve both their speaking and listening skills. We have begun Conversation Circles at the Cicero Public Library, Brookfield, the Downers Grove Library and our new location in West Chicago.

- Meet once a week to improve listening and speaking skills
- Talk about a different topic each week
- Everyone is welcome!

Interested in starting a Conversation Circle at your location? Please let Susana or Cathy know!

## Meet the TEACH Board of Directors



Thank you to our TEACH Board of Directors, who meet monthly to discuss the direction of the organization, as well as exchange ideas about fundraising and community outreach. Back row from left to right: Dianne Kirtley (president), Claudia Pascual and Sr. Jean Oursler. Front row left to right: Nancy Perillo, Anne Hillebrand (secretary) and Elaine Spear (treasurer).

## A Resource You Can Use



<https://usalearns.org/>

click here to learn more!

Many of our students need more practice activities during that long week between tutoring sessions. USA Learns is a great FREE resource for practicing English! To access this free website, students only need an internet connection and an email address. Students can practice using a computer or on their cell phone.

- Does your beginning level student need more listening practice? Each of the courses includes dozens of videos that are geared toward beginning students.
- Does your student need more practice with vocabulary? The USA Learns courses are organized around the same types of topics in our Adult ESL textbooks: community, food, health, shopping, recreation.
- Does your student need pronunciation and spelling practice? Students can click on words to hear pronunciation and record their own voice for practice. Each of the vocabulary units includes spelling practice activities.
- There is also a Citizenship Module for your student who is preparing for their U.S. Citizenship Test.
- If your student doesn't have an email yet, that's a perfect short-term goal to work on! Talk to your coordinator if you have questions about this or other resources, or if you need help getting your student signed-up for USA Learns!

## Constantine's Corner

Dear Tutors - For the past two months, we have been emphasizing the importance of tutors helping students develop their own personal short-term, medium-term and long-term goals. We have placed so much value on this activity because the time you spend together should be as meaningful as possible; working toward goals that they themselves have set fosters a sense of personal investment and engagement.

In addition, setting and accomplishing goals nurtures confidence and a feeling that students are in control of their lives or, in the words of our mission statement, it "empowers students to build their strengths and the effective use of their voice." The *Nurturing Adult Learners* article linked below describes how helping your students set goals can be an empowering experience. By guiding them through this process, we can make a lasting impact on their lives and the lives of their families.



<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1qutSaC7BjxYrRqwmzVyaWzeKtKd8BAoM/view?usp=sharing>

click here to learn more!

Thank you for dedicating your time to making a difference in the lives of your students and their families.

*Constantine*



# LITERACY link

Monthly Newsletter of TEACH - Tutoring English to Advance Change

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2018

## CALENDAR

### November 14/4:00-6:00pm

Professional Development for tutors  
Welcome Hall, Congregation of St. Joseph  
1515 West Ogden in LaGrange Park



### Tuesday, November 6

Election Day/no classes

### Wednesday, Thursday & Friday/November 21, 22 and 23

Thanksgiving Break/no classes

## 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

### PASSWORD Information

Access tutor resources at our website:

<https://www.teachempowers.org/tutors/tutor-resources/>  
password: TEACHtutors\_1



click here to learn more!

## Quick Tips:

### Current news articles in plain English for speakers of other languages (ESOL):

Topics covered include: Features, Health & Education, Immigration, Law, Money & Work, New York, News of interest, Opinion, Politics and article tips for teachers to work with ESL students.



<http://www.thetimesinplainenglish.com/>

click here to learn more!

### Helping ESL students understand written text:

This article will give an insight on how tutors can help their ESL students to become more effective readers.



<http://esl.fis.edu/teachers/support/commun.htm>

click here to learn more!

## 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/1428 S. 59th Ct., Lombard, IL 60148  
*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*

## Tutor/Student Spotlight

Tutor Matt has been making and recording music professionally for 14 years and DJing for 30 years. His music is made with drum machines and synthesizers and other electronic instruments. His music is sold internationally and some of his releases were charted by famous international DJs. Matt even owns his own record label: Vibenotic Recordings.

"I am tutoring because it fits my schedule and I empathize with anyone learning English as a second language. Once while travelling abroad I thought I could speak the language well enough to get directions to the airport. I did alright in asking for directions but was not prepared for their answer. All I could do was shake my head. I was confused, embarrassed and running late. I think of that experience a lot when tutoring my students."



Matt & student Sara work on writing and composition.

## Meet the TEACH Staff!



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Volunteer, donate and find out more at



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

click here to learn more!



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TEACH

Tutoring English to Advance Change