



**28<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Tutor & Adult Learner Conference**

***Saturday, March 23, 2019***

University of Illinois at Chicago  
College of Education, Theater, Music & Social Work Building  
1040 W. Harrison Street  
Chicago, IL 60607

**WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS**

**9:45 a.m. – 10:35 a.m.**

**Round One**

**Every Journey Begins With a Single Step**

Journey to Success offers lessons in Reading, Writing, and Vocabulary which prepare lower level students, step by step, to proceed to pre-HSE instruction. Innovative contextualized instruction in Social Studies, Science, Literature, and Work and Life Skills! New Reading & Writing Series important to today's student as they begin their own journey to success. Help your students to get to *where you want them to be* – and *to where they want to be*.

*Michael Matos and Carol Larsen, Independent Representatives for New Readers Press in Illinois.*

**Google My Maps In the Classroom: Using Place as a Catalyst for Writing, Reading, Investigation, and Collaboration**

MyMaps by Google is a flexible tool that gives students the opportunity to author collaborative maps. In the classroom, it offers a unique platform for adult learners to connect personal, place-based experiences with academic skills like reading and analyzing visual information and authoring and publishing for an audience. There are numerous possibilities for ways that students can use Google MyMaps to capture information and also share a visual experience of a place together. In this workshop, participants will learn how to make a collaborative map, see examples of student work from the ESL classroom of the presenter, and discuss possible ideas for mapping projects in the adult education classroom.

*Bria Dolnick, ESL Teacher, Chinese Mutual Aid Association.*

**Improving Pronunciation and Fluency**

A foreign accent can sound cute, but not if communication is unintelligible. Any pronunciation practice should aim at helping learners produce more intelligible English and be successful at perceiving it. The goal of this session is to provide attendees with practical ideas about how to improve English language learners' pronunciation. Research suggests that effective pronunciation should allow learners to feel, see, and/or touch the sounds so as to raise their awareness of pronunciation issues and improve intelligibility. Techniques and strategies, adaptable to almost any language level, which cover segmentals (individual sounds) and suprasegmentals (stress, intonation and rhythm in connected speech) will be provided.

*Jeanine Ntahirageza, PhD, TESOL Program, Northeastern Illinois University*

**Library Partnerships for Literacy and Adult Education Providers**

The Illinois State Library has conducted two surveys this past year of Illinois public libraries to determine what literacy services are being offered and identifying libraries willing to partner with literacy and adult education programs. Together we will discuss forming partnerships with libraries and identifying resources and services available at libraries to best serve the educational needs of adult learners.

*Irene Williams, Secretary of State/ Illinois State Library Literacy Office*

### **Restorative Justice in the Classrooms Using Peace Circles**

In this workshop, Restorative Justice in the Classrooms using Peace Circles, demonstrates the ideology to bring people together to create solutions for their conflicts within the classroom. This workshop will define Restorative Justice and why it is important in the classroom. It will also identify the reasoning for peace circles in the classroom and how they can be utilized as a restorative justice method in the classroom. This workshop will display step by step procedures how to conduct a peace circle and how to utilize restorative justice methods in the classroom.

*Timothy White, Program Associate, Literacy Volunteers of Illinois*

### **Tips and Techniques for Teaching Multi-Level Classes**

*Becky Deforest, Literacy Works*

### **The Power of Storytelling**

Storytelling is the social and cultural activity of sharing stories. Everyone can and should do it. This session will speak to the importance of storytelling and help you to discover the power of being able to create and tell the story within you.

*Barry B. Mixon, The Gem Hunter Gemmological Appraisal and Storytelling Services*

### **Why Do Vowels Make the Sounds They Do?**

In this workshop you'll learn how consonants determine vowel sounds and how candy can help you recall the short sounds of A E I O U. Additionally, we'll talk about the six syllable types. We'll also spend some time practicing what we've learned.

*Carol Morris, Waukegan Public Library & College of Lake County (retired)*

**10:45 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.**

**Round Two**

### **Know Your Rights**

During this presentation participants will learn what *to do* and *not to do* in case of an immigration raid, what their basic rights with immigration are - regardless of legal status - and how to share the information learned to others. The hot topic of "Public Charge" will also be discussed.

*Fred Tsao, Senior Policy Counsel, Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights*

### **Free Resources for Finding Health Information and Improving Your Health Literacy**

The availability of health information on the internet can be overwhelming at times. This workshop will provide an overview of freely available resources that will help you locate health information, provide tips on evaluating health websites, and resources for improving your health literacy.

*Rebecca Raszewski, Associate Professor & Information Services & Liaison Librarian, University of Illinois at Chicago*

### **Meaningful Interactions**

Language is a living, breathing tool that we can use to get to know our students better. In this workshop, we will use interactive tools that will get students out of their seats. It is important that we bring joy and life into our classrooms, so that we can motivate our students to speak and truly maximize their learning.

*Aurora Lucas, Instituto Del Progreso Latino*

### **Outcome Performance Measures/Alternative Assessments**

We all know that standardized tests are not always the best measurement of adult learners' progress. They are a tool, but not the only way to gauge how well a learner is doing. In this workshop we will explore some "soft tools" that can also help assess our learners' progress while maybe even having a little fun!

*Jo Ann Fletcher, Township HS District 214, Adult Education & Family Literacy, Arlington Heights*

### **Ten (Not So) "Secret Rules" of English Speech**

Do you ever wonder why your ESL students don't sound right when they speak, even though they may do a decent job pronouncing individual words? And why they continue to have great difficulty making themselves understood by native speakers? This session will explore the "secret" rules of English speech that native speakers follow unconsciously, making English sound "natural" and clear to native speakers. By knowing these rules and imparting them to our students, we can help them make that magical leap into more natural sounding English.

*Margaret Goldstein, ESL Teacher and Tutor, Literacy Chicago*

### **Why Do I Keep Coming to Literacy Classes?**

This interactive session will have students from Literacy Chicago along with their tutor share information on how and why they came to the program and will provide and seek insight from those attending on what motivates adult learners to keep coming back.

*Sally Maybrook, Tutor and Harold Barnes, Adult Learner*

### **Writing Your Way to Math Fluency**

Math isn't just numbers and symbols--it's also language, and quite a lot of it! In this workshop, we will discuss ways to help students strengthen their math vocabulary and become more confident talking about math ideas. We will also practice a shared problem-solving activity that you can use and reuse with your student. With student writing and drawings as a tool, we will get students reflecting and talking about their own thinking... and help them move to the next level in their math learning!

*Becky DeForest, Literacy Works*

### **Writing Our Worlds: Incorporating Personal Narrative Writing into Adult Literacy Learning**

In this interactive workshop, participants will take part in a sequence of personal narrative writing, reading, and discussion activities, in which the students share stories from their lives. Following the activities, the facilitator will lead a discussion about ways in which this student-centered, generative narrative writing process can be adapted for use with middle to upper level ESL and ABE students, and can be incorporated into a GED/HSE program of study. We will also consider how personal narrative writing can be incorporated into one-on-one tutoring, or be used with a small group of students.

*Janise Hurtig, Howard Area Community Center*

**12:45 p.m. – 1:35 p.m.**

**Round Three**

### **Broadening Transitions – A Scope of How All Transitions Impact Learners**

While we traditionally think of transitions as moving learners from adult education programs into employment or postsecondary education, this session expands on that. We will discuss the transitions between both English levels and grade levels, and how those smaller upward movements impact the learner. Celebrating each smaller transition deepens engagement and aids in retention. We will also discuss the knowledge learners bring with them to determine the career pathway students might think about as they are finishing their time at the adult education provider. Attendees will leave the presentation with ways to celebrate minor achievements in an effort to get learners to the employment and postsecondary transitions the field is looking for.

*Presenter: Dena Giacometti, Program Manager, Chicago Citywide Literacy Coalition*

### **Empowering Immigrants**

Presenters will discuss immigrants' experiences of the life in America based on their personal and clients' stories. This presentation will reveal the how power and control dynamic lies in the society, and how it makes immigrants more vulnerable to any kind of violence. We will also discuss how we can use education as a way to empower them.

*Sara Heidbreder, Samina Kausar & Rini Kaushal, Apna Ghar*

### **How to Make Your Classroom Feel Like a (Happy) Family**

Adult students often put up barriers to learning because they are afraid of being judged by others. In order to help them relax your classroom should be a “safe place” to express themselves, where they can feel free to experiment with their new language. This hands-on, interactive workshop will focus on how to make your students feel relaxed and comfortable in your classroom. You will try out some exercises designed to help students get to know each other and to help them gain confidence in speaking. Learn a couple of easy tricks to make your class more student-student focused rather than the traditional teacher-student approach. Join us for a fun-filled enjoyable workshop!

*Joanne Telser-Frere, Literacy Chicago*

### **“Mirror, Mirror” – Creating and Utilizing a Vision-Board**

This workshop is geared toward understanding the importance of self-discovery through goals and visions. Attendees will receive information about the importance of goal-setting while creating a mini vision board. The vision board will help bring clarity for long and short term goals and open possibilities for the future.

*Fantazia Berry, AmeriCorps Member, Project MORE, UIC Center for Literacy*

### **Phoning It In: Smartphones and Technology for Adult Learners**

Technology is everywhere, and the adult education classroom or tutoring session is no exception. Apps, websites, and even basic smartphone functions can help adults engage with and take control of their learning. Bring your smartphone to this interactive session and explore ways to incorporate technology into your education.

*Jenny Siegfried, Waubensee Community College*

### **Static to Dynamic: Math Activities for ELL/ESL Students**

Help your ELL/ESL students to develop a good understanding of everyday mathematics. Practice integrating the study of mathematics and English vocabulary with hands-on and collaborative activities using games, manipulative and station-to-station activities building rigor and critical thinking. Give ELL/ESL students alternate ways to participate in whole-class, small groups, and paired discussions. Some examples and activities contextualize math instruction. Participants engage numeracy lessons that balance skill building and functional needs.

*Michael Matos, Instructor and Adult Educator*

### **What's Your Learning Style ?**

Do you prefer to learn a skill by listening, reading, viewing or doing it yourself? Explore the various modalities of learning to help you determine how you learn best. On this interactive journey attendees will discover their preferred method of accessing and storing information and how to make the most of it.

*Marlene McLeod, Volunteer Trainer, Literacy Volunteers of Illinois*

### **Writing Activities for Beginning Writers**

Starting with a "Name Acrostic" you'll have the opportunity to work with various writing templates. Templates can be less intimidating than facing a blank page and being told to write a story, a poem, a report or a biography. Journal writing will also be discussed. Student friendly workshop.

*Carol Morris, Waukegan Public Library & College of Lake County (retired)*