



# Literacy Action Corps of Columbia

Spring 2016

## Congratulations New Tutors!



**Welcome, new tutors!** The Fall 2015 tutor training session saw a fantastic turnout. All of the tutors completed the ELL training and many have already started working with students. Congratulations to all of LAC's new tutors: Frank Applegate, Catherine Breyfogle, Kirsteen Buchanan, Amanda Cline, Brianna Duroche, Joanne Fulton, Marty Gibbons, David Jones, Maggie Jones, Misty Keene, Marcia Kelly Nelson, Janet Long, Paige Lombardo, Donna Miller, Leanne Peace, Kathryn Phillips, Kathy Smith, Jana Stephens, Danny Smith, Gina Stewart, Mary Catherine Stubbs, Jennifer Truesdale, Harriet Most Yelon, and Farah Zawani. Thank you for your service, tutors!

Thanks also to Timothy Billups for assisting with tutor training.

### REQUEST FOR INFORMATION FROM TUTORS

In order to make LAC's annual report to ProLiteracy, please tell us the hours you spend on LAC tutoring in 2016. Please provide the information identified on the reporting calendar insert included in this newsletter. Please don't include hours already reported. Estimates are fine. Thank you!

Check out our new fillable reporting calendar on the LAC website at [literacyactioncorps.org](http://literacyactioncorps.org)! You can email your hours to [laccolumbia@yahoo.com](mailto:laccolumbia@yahoo.com) or mail the printed form to P.O. Box 7105, Columbia, MO, 65205.

## Mark Your Calendars!

**NEW  
Spring Tutor  
Training Sessions  
Begin in February**

Literacy Action Corps will host Tutor Training sessions:

**February 6<sup>th</sup>, February 27<sup>th</sup>,  
and March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
9AM – 1PM**

**First Baptist Church**

All training sessions are required for prospective tutors.

The deadline for registration is **February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016**.



**Literacy Action Corps  
of Columbia  
P.O. Box 7105  
Columbia, MO 65205  
(573) 442-4280  
[laccolumbia@yahoo.com](mailto:laccolumbia@yahoo.com)**

# Explore with Your Student Upcoming Events and Activities

Winter has certainly arrived, but Columbia doesn't slow down for snow—and soon spring will bring even more opportunities to be out and about with your student.

- **Columbia Winter Farmers Market**

Saturdays from 9AM – 12PM through March 12th in Parkade Center (free; vendors charge)  
Vendors offer local produce, meats, cheeses, baked and canned goods, and crafts.

<http://www.columbiafarmersmarket.org>

- **Unbound Book Festival**

April 23<sup>rd</sup> at Stephens College (free)

Inaugural festival celebrating literature, with separate programs for Fiction, Nonfiction, Poetry, and Children's Events. Higher-proficiency students may be interested in this event.

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

- **Rainbow House Spring Fair**

April 23<sup>rd</sup> 11AM – 2PM at Flat Branch Park (free)

Games, prizes, face painting, bounce houses, and food to support National Child Abuse Prevention Month.

<http://www.rainbowhousecolumbia.org>

- **Art in the Park**

June 4<sup>th</sup> 10AM – 5PM and June 5<sup>th</sup> 10AM – 4PM (free, vendors charge)

Art, music, food, and fun for the whole family.

<http://artintheparkcolumbia.org>

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## Literacy News

**Share in some words of wisdom from Ruth Colvin,** founder of the literacy group Literacy Volunteers of America (which merged with ProLiteracy in 2002), who is featured in a column published by The Post-Standard in Syracuse, NY. The column shares a tidbit of wisdom or inspiration from a community leader. The column is coordinated by InterFaith Works of CNY. Ruth's "Daily Inspiration" can be read here:

<http://www.proliteracy.org/news/articles/2015/1/16/ruth-colvin-featured-in-the-poststandard>

**Adult literacy education gains attention** as bestselling author Nora Roberts extols the importance of literacy. In an open letter, the author emphasizes the "elemental" nature of literacy: "It's someone filling out a job application to better her life or following a recipe from a cookbook to feed her family." Her open letter supporting ProLiteracy, LAC's parent organization, and its dedicated members can be read here:

<http://www.proliteracy.org/Downloads/NoraRobertsLetter.pdf>

Literacy Action Corps of Columbia is a non-profit organization founded in 1968. It is affiliated nationally with ProLiteracy Worldwide, and is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors. Connect with LAC online at <http://www.literacyactioncorps.org/>, on Facebook, or at [laccolumbia@yahoo.com](mailto:laccolumbia@yahoo.com).

# CoMoGives 2015 and LAC

LAC joined CMCA's third annual CoMoGives campaign with great success. Columbia's fantastic community donated a total of nearly \$350,000 in 2015 to 71 Columbia-area nonprofits. LAC is thankful for the generous donors who committed to furthering adult literacy in the community. All of the participating organizations make a difference in the Columbia community; your generosity helps keep them doing what they do best! Congratulations to the winners of the "Challenge Grants," awards for organizations who met different criteria:



ACT, CMCA, Central Missouri Humane Society, City of Refuge, Global First Responder, PedNet, Ragtag Film Society, Second Chance, VA, We Always Swing Jazz Series, Welcome Home, and Young Life.

**Thank you to every generous donor who contributed to LAC during 2015 and the start of 2016,** including during the CoMoGives campaign. You will be a part of LAC's continuing effort to help adult literacy students and tutors in our community find success. You are greatly appreciated!

- Nancy Amelunke
- Sheela Amin
- Anonymous
- Chad Berchek
- Gregory Brown
- Bill Burnham
- Leslie Clay
- Vicki Conn
- Camellia Cosgray
- Heidi Dixon-White
- Rosa England
- Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund (Ed & Linda Breedlove)
- First Baptist Church (in-kind contributions)
- First Presbyterian Church
- Cecilia Glynn in honor of Laura Maglio



- HyVee (2016)
- KBIA
- KFRU  
(in-kind contributions)
- Carolyn Magnuson
- Kay Murray
- Michelle Millot in honor of Andree J. Wilson
- Marcia Nelson
- Mary Nesladek
- Sara Parker
- Ellen Rippetto
- Gilbert & Donna Ross
- Danny Smith
- Mahree Skala
- Elizabeth Stepanovic in memory of Donald & June Glynn
- Cathy & Kit Salter
- Ann Terry

Giving for CoMoGives took place from 12/1/15 – 12/31/15 through [CoMoGives.com](http://CoMoGives.com). Beyond the CoMoGives campaign, donations can be made to LAC directly at any time. You or your organization may mail a check to: P.O. Box 7105, Columbia, MO, 65205. Thank you for your support.

You can connect with LAC on Facebook!



<https://www.facebook.com/LiteracyActionCorpsOfColumbia/>  
Like LAC for LAC updates, literacy news, and to connect with tutors.



# Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

Thanks to tutors, students, friends, family, and the LAC board, the Annual LAC Volunteer Appreciation Dinner was a great success. The evening started off right with a delicious meal from Country Kitchen



and the election of officers. A fun ice-breaker allowed everyone to mingle and learn some interesting tidbits about each other. It turns out LAC's tutors and students are a well-traveled and well-connected group that enjoys food and language! Thank you to Carol Miller for providing the entertaining game.



After the fun, it was time to recognize the hard work of LAC tutors. It was an honor for the LAC board to present awards to so many deserving tutors.

- Judy Brown – Master Certificate (200 hours)
- Debbie Christianson – Senior Certificate (40 hours)
- Sandy Hild – Senior Certificate (40 hours)
- Valerie Holley – Senior Certificate (40 hours)
- Margaret Ruvalcaba – 500 Tutoring Hours Award (recognized following the dinner)
- Steve Sheltmire – Master Certificate (200 hours)
- Kristen Temple – Master Certificate (200 hours)
- Nancy Silvers – Senior Tutor certificates for completing 40 hours of tutoring.
- Maggie Wong – 200 Hour certificate (after the dinner)



The board also presented ELL Tutor-Shirley Colbert with the President's LAC for many years and her LAC's success. Thank you, Shirley!



Student Coordinator and Tutor Trainer Award 2015. Shirley has been part of dedicated service is a cornerstone of

The 2016 Annual LAC Dinner will Please keep an eye out for a and their families are welcome, so

take place on November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016. postcard invitation and RSVP. Students please invite them to join you if you like!

## LAC Board

If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering with LAC, please consider joining the board. The board is a great place for someone who isn't able to tutor but wants to be a part of adult literacy education in Columbia. Board positions do not require previous experience on a board. For information on the positions, please email [laccolumbia@yahoo.com](mailto:laccolumbia@yahoo.com).