



**THE
LITERACY
PROGRAM**
Azusa City Library

Literacy Update

Read better. Write better. Feel better.

Literacy Team:

Adult Literacy Coordinator: Arlene Calderon

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Becoming Part of the American Culture



Wenceslao Garcia became an American citizen March 20, 2018 after he gave his Naturalization Oath of Allegiance. To him, becoming a citizen meant much more than just a legal process. It meant becoming a part of the American culture. He is excited to be part of the

political process and part of the social fabric of the United States.

Wenceslao is originally from Mexico and brought his family here for better opportunities. When he arrived in this country he could not speak the language and was not familiar with American customs. He took ESL classes at a local community college and with help from his sons he was able to secure a job. Both of his sons attend universities, UCLA and UC Berkeley. Wenceslao could not be prouder. Wenceslao's dreams of better opportunities for him and his family are being realized and will continue to grow.

Wenceslao came to our Literacy

program in 2016 and began working with a Basic Literacy tutor to strengthen his writing skills. His tutor encouraged him to join our citizenship program and he finally did. He sent in his citizenship application in June of 2017 and had his interview in March of 2018.

Wenceslao was quick to point out that if it was without the motivation of his fellow classmates, family, and Literacy staff he would not have been able to do this. In reality, we just cheered him on but the determination and will was all his.

Concerts in the Park

Concerts in the Park are community events that take place at Memorial Park in the City of Azusa. Local bands are featured and organizations from the community get to promote their resources. The Adult Literacy Program and Neighborhood Connections were on hand to promote the services they provide the community.



Tutor Spotlight: Edward Sosa

“Life is not measured by what we accomplish. Life is measured by the amount of lives we’ve touched.”

Edward has been part of the Adult Basic Literacy program for a year. He is kind, adaptable and always ready for a new challenge.

While working with his former learner, he felt particularly challenged.

Edward helped his learner obtain his contractors license despite his learner’s limited English. They worked together to translate vocabulary and concepts to where his learner could comprehend. His learner was successful and accomplished his goal of passing his test!

Edward continued to help strengthen his learner’s vocabulary and comprehension challenges.

Edward still hears from his learner and provides him with motivation. They’ve developed a unique bond only a successful learner/tutor can experience.

Edward’s learner provides motivation for him as well.

Edward contributes to his community in other ways as well. He gives back to our local high school and gives his time in anyway he can.

During my discussion with Edward he recited this quote to me, “ Life is not measured by what we accomplish. Life is measured by the amount of lives we touched.”

Edward’s life is very full.



Edward Sosa, Adult Basic Literacy tutor

Grassroots ESL Spotlight: Rosedale

Fong Fong Chu is the Site Coordinator for Rosedale North. Fong Fong performs double duty as the Site Coordinator and a tutor. She works in partnership with her husband Steve.

As a retiree, Fong Fong feels that this program allows her to still contribute to the community while providing

a social aspect. Many of the learners there attend the local community college where they are given more time to learn the English language. She provides challenging activities for the learners but also recognizes this is an opportunity to practice their conversational skills.



Fong Fong Chu, Rosedale Site Coordinator

NEVER WORRY ABOUT NUMBERS. HELP ONE PERSON AT A TIME, AND ALWAYS START WITH THE PERSON NEAREST YOU.
~MOTHER TERESA

Upcoming Events:

Grassroots

ESL

Our Grassroots ESL community partnership is constantly growing. It is our mission to provide free English As a

Second Language services to the community at convenient locations. We will be having a training for volunteer ESL tutors Saturday Sept. 15 from 9:00-1:00. The training will be held at Azusa Pacific University. If interested, please contact Arlene Calderon at 626-812-5266 or acalderon@AzusaCA.gov

Citizenship will be having a workshop with lawyers and legal aides on hand to go over the paperwork necessary for applying for Citizenship. We are working in partnership with CARE-CEN, One Justice and Citrus College to provide this service. We are hoping to increase our number of 20 individuals helped last year. The event will take place at Citrus College Friday Sept. 21 9:00-2:00 pm. Space is limited so please call 213-814-5248 to reserve your spot!

