

Adult Education Matters | Winter '14 Edition

myPLACE Campuses Introduce a New Approach to Adult Education in Philadelphia



From left to right, Akeesha Washington, Director of Student Services, Community Learning Center; Cynthia Figueroa, President & CEO, Congreso de Latinos Unidos; Brian Davis, student with District 1199C Training & Upgrading Fund; Dr. Judith Rényi, Executive Director, Mayor's Commission on Literacy; Mayor Michael A. Nutter, Leslie Stiles, Interim Chair, Mayor's Commission on Literacy; and Stephanie Webb, myPLACE Site Manager, District 1199C Training & Upgrading Fund, cut a ceremonial ribbon on Thursday, Feb. 20th at the grand opening celebration of three new myPLACE Campuses.

Adult educators, community leaders, elected officials, and adult learners joined **Mayor Michael A. Nutter** and [The Mayor's Commission on Literacy](#) at the grand opening celebration of three new [myPLACE campuses](#) and the official launch of [myPLACE Online](#) on February 20, 2014.

[myPLACE](#), which stands for **Philadelphia Literacy and Adult Career Education**, is the city's new one-stop for adult education and career preparation. [myPLACE](#) campuses meet the needs of Philadelphia's job seekers by providing convenient access to basic literacy, English as a Second Language, GED® preparation services, digital skills, and

In This Issue

[myPLACE Campuses](#)

[Call for Presenters](#)

[PA Dept. of Education News](#)

[ETS Workforce Readiness System](#)

[2014 COABE/PAACE Conference](#)

[Professional Development Opportunities](#)

[Online GED Materials Available](#)

Upcoming Professional Development Offerings

[Assessment Trainings](#)
[2014 GED® Trainings](#)
[Basic, ESL and GED® Tutor Trainings](#)
[Workforce Education Standards for Teachers and Tutors Workshop Series](#)

[Succeeding in the American Workplace: Spring ESL Training Series](#)

[Philadelphia Adult Literacy Alliance Meeting \(April 4, 2014\)](#)

[Note, Alliance membership is required to attend.](#)

[Technology Learning Collaborative Meetings](#)

TLC is an affinity group of the Philadelphia Adult Literacy Alliance dedicated to leveraging technology resources to reduce poverty, improve public health, decrease homelessness, mobilize through media, and prepare individuals and communities to be more employable

work-readiness training. *myPLACE* Online is the nation's first online, cohort based literacy courses designed for low-literate adults.

Each campus is established at a high performing literacy agency: ***myPLACE* @ Community Learning Center**, 229 North 63rd Street; ***myPLACE* @ Congreso de Latinos Unidos**, 2800 North American Street; and ***myPLACE* @ District 1199C Training & Upgrading Fund**, 100 South Broad Street.

[Read more about this initiative](#), [check out event photos](#), or [watch video from the grand opening](#).

Call for Presenters and Vendors: 26th Annual Technology and Adult Education Conference

26th Annual Technology and Adult Education Conference

SAVE *the* DATE

FRIDAY, MAY 16, 2014

"CONNECTED LEARNING IN ADULT EDUCATION"



Temple University, Main Campus

The Mayor's Commission on Literacy and Temple University's Center for Social Policy and Community Development invite you to submit a proposal to present at the [26th Annual Technology and Adult Education conference](#) on Friday, May 16th, at Temple University's main campus in Philadelphia. Proposals are due on **Monday, March 24th at Noon**. Download the presenter form [here](#).

We are also seeking vendors for our exhibit hall. Display your products and services to regional leaders in adult education and new technologies. The vendor application form is due on **Tuesday, April 15, 2014**. Download the vendor application [here](#).

News from the PA Department of Education

[The Pennsylvania Department of Education's \(PDE\) Division of Adult Education](#) announced that the competition for federal Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Title II, Section 231 funds and Pennsylvania Statutes Act 143 adult education and family literacy funds that had been proposed for the spring of 2014 has been cancelled. For additional information visit the [PA Department of Education's Division of Adult Education's website](#).

[ESOL classroom materials grant](#) The Tina B. Carver Fund is currently accepting grant applications for student classroom learning material and/or teacher-related material in support of adult ESL education programs.

in the 21st century. Mark your calendar for upcoming TLC meetings:

[April 17, 2014, Noon - 1:30](#)

Hosted by Welcoming Center for New Pennsylvanians

[May 15, 2014, Noon - 1:30](#)

Hosted by Philly CAM

[June 19, 2014, Noon - 1:30](#)

Hosted by People's Emergency Center

[July 17, 2014, Noon - 1:30](#)

Hosted by Free Library of Philadelphia

[Aug. 21, 2014, Noon - 1:30](#)

Hosted by The Mayor's Commission on Literacy

[Sept. 18, 2014, Noon - 1:30](#)

Hosted by Project H.O.M.E.

[STEAM for Educators](#)

March 27, 2014

10:00 am - 2:30 pm

Interested in incorporating Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts or Math (STEAM) into your programs? Join Philadelphia Youth Network to practice bringing STEAM concepts and projects into your learning spaces. This half-day workshop at the University City Science Center's lab space will give you hands-on experience building team-directed STEAM group projects.

The Commission's PD trainings and other special events are listed on our [online calendar](#).

Free Teacher Training Courses for the 2014 GED Tests

GED education program administrators and teachers can now access a powerful new resource. Kentucky Educational Television and GED Testing Service collaborated on [two free online professional development courses](#) that will help prepare instructors for new GED test content, including specific focus on language arts and math skills. These courses will assist educators in

[Download](#) the PDE e-newsletter for additional announcements.

ETS Pilots Workforce Readiness System

Try ETS' Workforce Readiness System and Receive an Honorarium

Would your students like to learn more about their strengths and areas for improvement in skills that contribute to workforce success? Would you like free access to evidence-based workforce learning materials to address areas students might need to improve for success in the workforce?

If the answer to either of the above questions is "yes," contact ETS to see if you might join our project as a pilot site!

ETS Work Readiness Assessment and Training System is designed to measure and support development of strong interpersonal, professional, and self-management skills, critical for all job types and levels, regardless of field. Trying out this flexible, modularized learning system in a way that fits your program, ***at no cost***. Eligible students should:

- Read at or above the 8th grade equivalent;
- Have access to a computer (home, school, library, KEYSLOT, etc.) for online assessments and surveys; and
- Be interested in learning more about and improving their work-readiness skills.

Teachers and students will receive incentives based on their level of participation. ***ETS would love to explore the possibility of working with you and your students!***

To learn more about our project contact Jane Shore at ishore@ets.org by **April 1, 2014**.

COABE Conference Convened in Pittsburgh, PA



2014 COABE PAACE NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The Commission on Adult Basic Education (COABE) will hold the **COABE/PAACE Conference** in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania **March 16-19, 2014**. With over 10 strands and more than 250 sessions, this conference promises to be another outstanding professional development opportunity for everyone in the field of adult education. **Diane Inverso**, Senior Director with The Mayor's Commission on Literacy, **Joe Boxman**, Assistant Director, and **KayLynn Hamilton**, a Literacy Specialist at Penn State University Institute for the Study of Adult Literacy, will present a session called "**Philadelphia Workforce Education Standards - Building a Model for Workforce Literacy Integration**." For more information on the COABE conference [click here](#).

developing curriculum and teaching strategies to help adult learners succeed on the new GED test and beyond. Read the announcement [here](#).

GED 2014 Practice Tests and Tutorials via The Learning Express Library 3.0

Students and adult educators can now access the new GED® 2014 practice tests and tutorials online through the [Free Library's Learning Express Library](#). Students will need a Free Library card to create a free account in order to access the online materials.

Tech Tutors Sought to Close the Digital Divide

Adult learners don't just need tutors; they need **"Tech Tutors!"** Tech Tutors provide adult learners with tutoring to enhance their general literacy skills through the integrated use of technology. Learn about Tech Tutors [here](#), e-mail Yuri Seung, seungy@freelibrary.org, or call (215) 686-5252 to get involved!

VALUEUSA Seeks Success Stories

[VALUEUSA](#) and the National Coalition for Literacy are seeking your support in the endeavor of collecting student success stories from adult learners who have benefited from adult education. These stories will share the adult learner's obstacles and achievements. Click [here](#) for information on how to submit stories.

Pro Bono Citizenship Day - Sat., March 29, 2014

The Mayor's Commission on Literacy joins dozens of other organizations across the Commonwealth in support of **2014 Pro-Bono Citizenship Day**. Volunteer attorneys will provide free assistance to lawful residents who wish to apply for U.S. Citizenship. [Download the flyer for details and to see if you or your clients are eligible.](#)



Investing in Adult Education Pays

Every contribution helps The Commission increase the quality and quantity of adult learning opportunities for all of Philadelphia's adult learners. Your gift, no matter the amount, makes an impact on the life of a learner, their family, and community. Invest in a stronger Philadelphia by [donating now online](#) or through the United Way (donor option code #7912).

A special thanks to **NorthPoint Solutions** for a recent \$500 donation to support our work. Every year, NorthPoint Solutions selects an organization that is doing exceptional things in the community. We're extremely grateful that The Commission was selected for this honor in 2013. Debra, a NorthPoint Solutions employee, was introduced to The Commission when she participated in our tutor training.

Our Major Partners



The Mayor's Commission on Literacy
1901 Vine Street, Ground Floor, Room 26

Connect With Us!



Philadelphia, PA 19103
215-686-5250
mc1983@gmail.com

www.philaliteracy.org