Digital Skills & Bicycle Thrills is back!
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The City’s Office of Adult Education (OAE) is committed to providing educational opportunities and outcomes for all Philadelphia’s adult learners. In 2014, we developed and launched myPLACE℠, a centralized adult education system for Philadelphians to find the education programs and services they need. At any of the five myPLACE℠ Campuses citywide, learners can get help from a learning coach, find out their educational skill level and participate in an online self-paced course which helps build their digital literacy skills and awareness for their educational and career needs. From there, the learners are given the opportunity to enroll into programs where they can earn their high school diploma; join a class to improve their reading, writing, or math; enroll in an English as a Second Language class; gain basic computer skills; and start their path to a new job or better career.

>>>Read More

Exciting myPLACE℠ program to start at Southwest CDC. Long underserved - passed in terms opportunities for adult education, Southwest Philadelphia has exciting news from the City of Philadelphia’s Office of Adult Education (OAE). That office, until last September known as Mayor’s Commission on Literacy, has announced that it will set up a new campus of its myPLACE℠ program for city adult learners at Southwest Community Development Corp (Southwest CDC), 6828 Paschall Avenue.

>>>Read More
UPCOMING EVENTS

DIGITAL SKILLS & BICYCLE THRILLS
Cohort 1
April 11, 2017 | 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphia FIGHT | 1233 Locust Street

Cohort 2
May 31, 2017 | 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
PEC - Families First | 325 N. 39th Street

To sign-up for either cohort, call 1-844-446-3346

See Page 12

TWO-GENERATION LEARN & LEAD FAMILY PROJECT
April 22 - June 17, 2017 | 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Southwark Elementary School | 1835 S. 9th Street

See Page 15

29TH ANNUAL TECHNOLOGY & ADULT EDUCATION CONFERENCE
May 19, 2017 | 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Tuttleman Learning Center, Temple University
1809 N. 13th Street

Register at Philaliteracy.org/calendar

THE COMMONWEALTH SECONDARY SCHOOL DIPLOMA (CSSD) CITYWIDE GRADUATION
June 28, 2017 | 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Mitten Hall, Temple University | 1390 N. Broad Street

See Page 6

Philadelphia Adult Literacy Alliance Events

WORKING MEETING
April 6, 2017 | 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Temple University (ECEC)
1509 Cecil B. Moore Ave., Room 214
See Page 16

QUARTERLY MEETING
May 24, 2017 | 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Municipal Services Building | 1401 JFK Blvd.
16th Floor, Room Y
See Page 16
Did you pass all sections of the GED®, HiSET®, or receive your Commonwealth Secondary School Diploma (CSSD)?

Are you a resident of Philadelphia?

If so, you are eligible to participate in a Citywide Graduation to celebrate your attainment of the Commonwealth Secondary School Diploma!

**CSSD Citywide Graduation Ceremony**

*June 28, 2017 | 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.*

*Mitten Hall | Temple University*

To receive an invitation to participate in the Ceremony, send your mailing address, phone number and proof that you passed the GED®, HiSET®, or received your CSSD between January 2015 and May 2017.

Email, mail or fax one of the following by June 1, 2017:

**Transcript**
Send a copy of your transcript that shows you passed all sections of the GED® or HiSET® to (215) 686-5257 (fax) or send to Catherine Freimiller at: Catherine.Freimiller@phila.gov; or

**Diploma**
Send a copy of your CSSD from the State of Pennsylvania to 215.686.5257 (fax) or contact Catherine Freimiller at (215) 686-6044 or Catherine.Freimiller@phila.gov.

For more information contact

Catherine Freimiller at 215.686.6044 or Catherine.Freimiller@phila.gov
Six KEYSPOT Centers Focus on Digital Literacy, Workforce Readiness and Civic Partnership

As a network of 50 public-access computer centers across Philadelphia, KEYSPOT serves over 84,302 visitors annually at our open-access computer centers. Many walk-in clients are looking to improve the skills necessary to apply for jobs, access the Internet, or use an email service.

Research shows that digital literacy training is a critical strategy in helping people to incorporate and use technology in their daily lives. To address this need, KEYSPOT awarded six non-profit organizations with a grant in 2016:

- Congreso de Latinos Unidos
- Diversified Community Services, Dixon House
- Lutheran Settlement House
- People’s Emergency Center
- Philadelphia FIGHT
- Philadelphia OIC

The project, which started in October 2016, focuses on developing high quality trainings in digital literacy and workforce readiness, while also building partnerships with City agencies to enhance civic engagement. During a successful first quarter, over 200 KEYSPOT visitors received training, mentoring and civic partnership opportunities at the awarded sites.

Colin, an administrator at Congreso de Latinos Unidos, a grantee organization, described the process of integrating job readiness preparation with computer skills in their workshops:

“The workforce workshop has really come into its own since it first started. Now, it is a two-day workshop, which includes the first day being resume centered while the second day focuses on the safe sites to look for jobs, how to complete an online application, and how to upload their documents into those applications. We are very excited to see the program attracting more clients and think that it will only continue to grow.”

Many of the grantees pursued partnerships with PA CareerLink® Philadelphia to assist KEYSPOT patrons with creating resumes and create Job Gateway accounts to search for jobs. In the winter, two organizations also partnered with the City’s Office of Open Data and Digital Transformation to gain feedback on the design, accessibility and feel of the new website for the City of Philadelphia, beta.phila.gov. ODDT used feedback from the participants to ensure the layout of the website was user friendly for Philadelphians with all levels of digital literacy.

“We are very excited to see the program attracting more clients and think that it will only continue to grow.”

-Colin Walsh, Congreso de Latinos Unidos

Story continued p.8
Although the grantees make up a small fraction of KEYSPOT Network, their sites saw nearly one-third of the Network’s visitors during the last quarter:

Over the past two years, the grantees have shown a high percentage of KEYSPOT training hours:

As this project progresses, we expect to see these numbers continue to grow. The participating organizations will serve as leaders for digital literacy training throughout KEYSPOT and the City of Philadelphia.

For more information on the KEYSPOT Grant Program contact

Shazia Hashmi at Shazia.Hashmi@phila.gov
National Volunteer Week | April 23-29, 2017

National Volunteer Week is an opportunity to recognize and thank volunteers who lend their time, talent and voice to support causes in their community. This National Volunteer Week, and every week, the Office of Adult Education would like to thank the volunteer tutors and mentors who are helping adults reach their educational and career goals. Adult education volunteer tutors and mentors are the backbone of adult education in Philadelphia. Check out the next page to learn how you can become a volunteer.
Partnership brings community-based trainings to Mt. Airy

The Volunteer Program of the Office of Adult Education (OAE) supports adult education agencies citywide by recruiting, training and placing volunteers where they are needed most and increasing the capacity of partner agencies to provide quality services to adult learners. In the last year, OAE offered 24 free training courses for more than 150 volunteers in Basic Education, Adult Secondary Education, English as a Second Language Tutoring and Mentoring.

This past March, OAE partnered with Oxford Presbyterian Church to launch a nine-hour, three-part volunteer training course onsite in the Mt. Airy community. The training will provide volunteers with basic teaching strategies to help adult learners improve their fundamental skills in order to obtain a living wage job or pursue postsecondary education.

Special thanks to Elder Harriet King of Oxford Presbyterian Church for her hard work in launching an adult literacy program in the Mt. Airy community. OAE always seeks to partner with Philadelphia’s faith-based community in support of adult education programming and advocacy. Special thanks as well to the Free Library Techmobile for providing laptops and iPads for the volunteers during their trainings.

For more information on community-based training, contact Catalina Gonzalez at Catalina.Gonzalez@phila.gov

Upcoming Trainings

ADULT SECONDARY EDUCATION (GED® and HiSET®)
TUTOR TRAINING – BLENDED
April 23 (online)
April 27, 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. (face-to-face)
May 7 (online)
Facilitator | Jill Gates-Smith

ASE Tutor Training provides volunteers with the knowledge, tools, skills and resources to support adult learners who are at a 9th grade+ level. Tutors will learn tactics to help prepare students to take standardized tests like GED® or HiSET® in order to obtain a Commonwealth Secondary School Diploma.

BASIC: INTRO TO ADULT EDUCATION – BLENDED*
April 12, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. (face-to-face)
April 19, 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. (face-to-face)
April 26, 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. (face-to-face)
*includes online coursework
Facilitator | Ellen Polsky

Basic Tutor Training provides a foundation of how to tutor adult learners. It is designed to ensure that tutors are not only teaching adult basic education skills (Reading, Writing, and Numeracy) but also incorporating skills needed to succeed in the 21st century workplace such as digital literacy skills.

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL) – BLENDED
May 7 (online)
May 11, 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. (face-to-face)
May 18, 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. (face-to-face)
Facilitator | Ellen Polsky

English as Second Language (ESL) Tutor Training provides adult literacy volunteers with the tools, skills and resources to support adult learners for whom English is not the first language, and whose level of literacy in their native language ranges from non-literate to highly advanced.
Site Coordinator Series

This professional development series is for administrators and coordinators looking to establish community-based adult education programs or seeking to revitalize existing programs. Participants may choose to attend all the trainings, or pick specific trainings. Each training will take place in two interactive workshop sessions (3 hours each).

SUPPORTING INSTRUCTIONAL PRACTICES
April 21 & 28, 2017 | 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Facilitator | Dawn Hannah

This training will give site coordinators an inclusive view of what it takes to support staff and volunteers to best teach adult learners. Participants will leave with an understanding of how to use learner assessments and goals to plan instruction, how to integrate technology into instruction, and an overview of the pros and cons of single skill level classes or multiple skill level classes.

>>> Sign up

BUDGET & FUNDRAISING FOR ADULT LITERACY PROGRAMS
June 2 & 9, 2017 | 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Facilitator | Kate McGeever

Participants will learn how to develop and manage a basic budget for an adult literacy program and review effective strategies for raising funds. Attendees of this training will be able to identify the elements of a budget, draw connections between mission and budgets, and identify the various audiences for budgets.

>>> Sign up

For more information on professional development, contact

Nicole Daker at Nicole.Daker@phila.gov
In February of 2017, the Office of Adult Education launched a unique partnership with the City of Philadelphia’s Streets Department’s Future Track program, which provides 40 youths with paid work and classroom learning experiences. As a member of a collaborative team including supervisors, work readiness and academic facilitators, and a job readiness coach, OAE designed and is overseeing the implementation of a curriculum that connects what participants are learning on-the-job to longer-term career pathways.

Explore the city during a group ride and learn safe cycling skills through online assignments. Graduates of the course will receive a free 6-month pass to Indego (Philly bike share).

**Digital Skills & Bicycle Thrills**

- Explore the city during a group ride
- Learn safe cycling skills through online assignments
- Graduates will receive a free 6-month pass to Indego

**Are you . . .**
- 18 or older?
- Interested in improving your computer skills?
- New to Indego bike share?

**Sign up today for a FREE, four-week digital skills class!**
- 2 hours per week
- Join in one group ride
- Gain confidence biking in the city
- Learn digital skills like navigating the web and using Microsoft Word

**Participants who complete the course receive 6 months of Indego usage for FREE!**

**Two cohorts will be offered in the Spring**

**Orientation Dates:**
- Tuesday, April 11th
  Philadelphia FIGHT
  1233 Locust St
  Philadelphia, PA 19107
  5:30-7:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, May 31st
  People’s Emergency Center
  3939 Warren St
  Philadelphia, PA 19104
  5:30-7:30 p.m.

To sign up, call 1-844-446-3346 and ask to join Digital Skills and Bicycle Thrills
RideIndego.com

*Innovative Programs*
The KEYSPOT Network has computing labs throughout all regions of Philadelphia, connecting Philadelphians to the Internet where they live, work and play. Each KEYSPOT has a minimum of 15 open access hours a week in which patrons can utilize computers for a range of unrestricted activities.

Have you seen the KEYSPOT Network’s newest location flyer? Spread the word about the open-access computing labs and digital literacy trainings in your neighborhood!

The regions with the highest concentration of KEYSPOTs, North and West Philadelphia, are also the regions with the highest number of visits:

*Cumulative through December 2016

The KEYSPOT network welcomes the newest KEYSPOT public computer lab location at LNESC Philadelphia (LULAC National Education Centers). LNESC is the local educational and community branch of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC).

LNESC provides leadership and education programs to create lifelong learners and leaders within the Hispanic community. The new KEYSPOT is located at Fishtown Recreation Center, filling a need for technology centers in Northeast Philadelphia. LNESC Philadelphia programs include Upward Bound Math & Science, OST, and Work Ready initiatives. Center Director Shane Weller is excited to connect LNESC clientele to more job placement, training, and education resources through the KEYSPOT Network! For more information on LNESC visit www.lnesc.org.

For more information on how to become a KEYSPOT, contact Shazia Hashmi at Shazia.Hashmi@phila.gov
Our adult learners work hard. Taking multiple buses to get to school and work, compounded by caring for kids or adult relatives. Transportation - all are barriers that can keep our learners from their goals.

At the Office of Adult Education, it is part of our core mission to explore how technology can be used as a tool to increase adult learning outcomes. Since 2014, we have used research and feedback from our adult learners and providers, to create effective online learning experiences for adults. We currently offer two types of courses.

**myPLACE℠ Online Reading and Math**

These seven-week, online courses are aimed at learners from a 4th-6th grade level. Qualified learners can improve reading, writing, math and computer skills from home, or anywhere with a computer and internet. Classes are cohort-based and have online instructors. Providers can enroll individual learners, or choose to become a myPLACE℠ Online partner.

The next cycle starts on April 8th. Interested in becoming a partner? Learn more here and email Jennifer.Kobrin@phila.gov.

**myPREP℠**

myPREP℠ is a self-paced, online test-preparation and career-advancement course. Learners take a simple assessment and from there they receive a customized learning plan with specific online modules to help them learn the skills they need to take the next steps in their education and careers. With the support of an online instructor, learners then have three months to complete their modules, at their own pace, receiving a certificate of completion at the end.

myPREP℠ accepts learners on a rolling basis. Interested in using myPREP℠ with your students? Learn more here and email Jennifer.Kobrin@phila.gov.

“We learning and earning my high school equivalency will help me move forward with what I want to do.”

-Gerald, myPLACE℠ Learner

We are teaming up with the University of Pennsylvania’s Educational Opportunity Center to bring quick and easy enrollment into myPLACE℠ adult education classes in University City!

For more information on becoming an Enrollment Site, contact Naomie.Nyanungo@phila.gov.
Two-Generation Learn & Lead Pilot Launches on April 22 at 10:00 a.m.

Piloting this Spring, Two-Generation Learn & Lead will engage families in choosing and creating a community service project in their neighborhood. Families will participate together in fun weekly activities, both indoors and outdoors, as they learn and lead within their community.

The Office of Adult Education (OAE) will host the Two-Gen Learn & Lead project at Southwark Elementary School, which is one of current nine community schools in the City. Community schools are public schools where a full-time coordinator works with the entire school community—students, parents, teachers, administrators, service providers and City agencies. The school becomes a vital center, improving access to programs and services for students, their families and their neighborhood.

**Saturday, April 22 | 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**
**Southwark Elementary School | 1835 South 9th Street (at 9th and Mifflin)**
To sign up prospective families, visit our website.
For more information, contact Anne Gemmell at Anne.Gemmell@phila.gov or 215-686-2986.
Recap: March 23rd Quarterly Meeting

On Thursday, March 23, 2017, the Philadelphia Adult Literacy Alliance (Alliance) convened at the City’s Municipal Services Building for the Spring Quarterly Meeting Apprenticeship Opportunities for Adult Learners.

The meeting started off with some updates from Alliance Advisory Board Member Farrah Parkes. The first update was on the Adult Literacy XPRIZE competition field test in Philadelphia. Alliance members were invited to participate in this exciting initiative. For more information, contact Desmond.Dozier@xprize.org. The second update was on the project undertaken by the Alliance Board to tell the story of adult education in Philadelphia. The plan is to gather data to inform stakeholders and advocacy efforts. Those interested in assisting in this project are invited to an Alliance Working Meeting on April 6th. Register at PhilaLiteracy.org/calendar.

The meeting continued with an apprenticeship panel monitored by Alliance Advisory Board Member Ulicia Lawrence-Oladeinde. Guest panelist represented members from a variety of industry professions. Panelists included: Angela Hendrix, Director of the General Building Contractors Association, Inc., Edison Freire, Director of Gateway Initiatives at JEVS Human Services, Mark Genua, Director of Apprenticeships at Philadelphia Works, Inc., Michael Jones, Local 420 Representative for the Steam Fitters Union, Dennis McDonough, Recruitment Coordinator at Finishing Trades Institute, Rev. Robert Paul, Representative of Sheet Metal Works Local 19 and Susan B. Thomas, Director of Industry Partnerships at District 1199C Training & Upgrading Fund. Alliance members heard overviews of apprenticeship programs available to adult learners in Philadelphia and had the chance to have specific questions addressed. A special thanks to our guest panelists for taking the time to speak to the Alliance.

SAVE THE DATE!

WORKING GROUP MEETING
April 6, 2017 | 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Entertainment & Community Education Center
Temple University | 1509 Cecil B. Moore Avenue

QUARTERLY MEETING
May 24, 2017 | 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Municipal Services Building
1401 JFK Blvd, 16th Floor, Room Y

Register at PhilaLiteracy.org/Calendar
Not a member of the Philadelphia Adult Literacy Alliance? Join today!

About the Philadelphia Adult Literacy Alliance
The Philadelphia Adult Literacy Alliance is a membership organization for individuals and agencies in the adult literacy community. The mission of the Alliance is for Philadelphia’s public and private organizations and individuals to work together to ensure the City’s adults are prepared for post-secondary learning, employment, and active citizenship.
Office of Adult Education and Adult Literacy XPRIZE Announce Coalition of Partners

The XPRIZE campaign moves full-speed ahead toward recruitment of 3,500 adult learners for the upcoming mobile learning app field test in Philadelphia that launches in July. OAE and XPRIZE announce the active coalition of partners, to date, for successful rollout of the field test: Ameri-Health Caritas, Comcast, and Philadelphia Works Inc. In addition, Center for Literacy, Congreso de Latinos Unidos, Garces Foundation, and Mercy Neighbors of Philadelphia have committed to provide their computer lab facilities to support the adult learners during the summer campaign.

Read more on the developing recruitment strategy in targeted zip codes citywide.

Contact the ALXP Community Engagement Coordinator with your ideas and interest.

Desmond.Dozier@xprize.org
COABE Campaign: No Cuts in Adult Education

A message from COABE
The Trump administration’s initial budget proposal, which was recently released, proposed a budget cut of 13.5% in the U.S. Department of Education for FY2018. While adult education was not specifically mentioned in this proposal, we anticipate that the complete budget, which will be released in mid-May, will include the cut of 13.5% for adult education along with most other education programs.

The call to action
Given the tremendous harm that a cut of this size would cause to adult education programs and students across the country, COABE and the National Council of State Directors of Adult Education (NCSDAE) are launching a national advocacy campaign to ensure that members of Congress do not approve this devastating cut. The message for this campaign is No Cuts in Adult Education. Each of us as adult educators, students and friends of adult education have the responsibility to take swift and decisive action to ensure that the proposed cut is not enacted.

Visit http://cqrcengage.com/coabe/home?O to submit your contact information. You will then be able preview the letter of support for adult education, and we will send the letter on your behalf to Congress. The campaign will be carried out through the advocacy networks set up by both COABE and the NCSDAE. Working together we can ensure that the voices of our students from across the country will be heard throughout the halls of Congress.
Resources & Events

Kindergarten Registration is Open!

Will your child be 5-years-old on or before September 1, 2017? If so, make sure to register them for Kindergarten! Your child is not guaranteed a spot at their neighborhood school unless you register them! This year, the Kindergarten registration period ends May 31, 2017.

>>>Enroll Now

The Mayor’s Office of Education Early Childhood Education Opportunities Fair.

Thursday, May 18th from 4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. at the Philadelphia Health Management Cooperation (PHMC) main office at 1500 Market Street.

U.S. Census can help you with your next project!

The U.S. Census Bureau offers FREE webinars, video tutorials and classroom trainings so you can make most of the data around you. Learn how to find and use Census data for your everyday uses, including informing your business planning, supporting grant proposals and research projects, planning of local schools and hospitals, and much more! Whether you’re looking for economic or demographic data, we can teach you how to get what you need for your various projects.

>>> Read More

Crawlspaces* for Liberation: Educate to Transform

The Teacher Action Group Philadelphia (TAG Philly) will host their 8th Annual Education for Liberation Conference on Saturday, May 6, 9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., at Folk Arts and Cultural Treasures Charter School, 1023 Callowhill Street. The Conference will include panels, workshops, tablers, and lunchtime conversations.

>>> Read More

Job Listings

Project HOME | Director of Honickman Learning Center Comcast Technology Lab

>>>Apply Here

ACHIEVEability | Director of Community Services Division

>>>Apply Here

ACHIEVEability | Self-Sufficiency Coach

>>>Apply Here
Ways to Get Involved

There are many ways to support the Office of Adult Education (OAE), adult education providers and adults seeking education and/or career development services.

1. Submit your information for the next E-Zine
   Contact Chelsea Reed at Chelsea.Reed@phila.gov by noon on April 17, 2017 to be considered for the next issue.

2. Generate Awareness
   Raise awareness about OAE programs, services and partner agencies among adult learners and prospective volunteers.

3. Sponsor
   Adult education programs and adult learners need your help! Support learners returning to the classroom and the providers working hard to make sure quality education is available to those in need.

4. Advocate
   Be the voice for adult education! Advocate for polices that better support the delivery of quality education and career development services on local, state and national levels. Be part of the solution, join the Philadelphia Adult Literacy Alliance to become a member of Philadelphia’s adult education network.

Philaliteracy.org  /Philaliteracy  215.686.5250  @Philaliteracy

PayPal Donate Now

Our Supporters

COMCAST

Digital Promise
Accelerating Innovation in Education

iHeart MEDIA

For more information on how to get involved, contact Marjorie Morris at Marjorie.Morris@Phila.gov.