florida Literacy Conference

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40th ANNIVERSARY

May 8th - 10th, 2024

Orlando Marriott Lake Mary



40 Years of Open Books Open Minds

Welcome to the Florida Literacy Conference. We appreciate your being with us to celebrate the Conference's 40th Anniversary! Over the next few days, you will have ample opportunity to learn from your peers, hear from state and national leaders, meet new people and reconnect with old friends and colleagues.

Featuring more than sixty workshops and special sessions, our conference aims to showcase Florida's exceptional adult education and literacy service providers, as well as the remarkable learners we support. Our conference theme "Open Books, Open Minds" is a tribute to the outstanding efforts of teachers, tutors, and administrators throughout Florida. Your work changes lives on a daily basis, as adults and families become better readers and learn firsthand how books can open new worlds of opportunity.

On behalf of the Florida Literacy Coalition (FLC), I would like to thank all the individuals who have contributed to the success of this Conference. Without the outstanding support of the Conference Planning Committee, presenters, Adult Learner Committee, and FLC staff, board and volunteers, this event would not be possible.

We are also most thankful to our conference sponsors whose generous support allows us to bring you this quality educational experience. Please visit our exhibitors to learn about a wide range of products and services to assist you in your adult education and literacy work.

Whether this marks your inaugural attendance, or you've been part of the Florida Literacy Conference for decades, rest assured that we are committed to ensuring your experience is both welcoming and fulfilling!

Gregory Smith *Executive Director*

Florida Literacy Coalition

"Books are uniquely portable magic."

- Stephen King

Southwest Airlines[®] is dedicated to Florida.

Our mission is to make the connections that empower communities to thrive. Through our meaningful relationships, we proudly support your efforts in the many communities we call home. Whether in the air or the ground, we believe community is more than a place – it's at the Heart of what brings us together.

Southwest Airlines° is a proud partner of the Florida Literacy Coalition.





About the Florida Literacy Coalition

Established in 1985, The Florida Literacy Coalition (FLC) promotes, supports and advocates for the delivery of quality adult and family literacy services in the state of Florida. As a statewide umbrella literacy organization and the host of Florida's Adult and Family Literacy Resource Center, FLC provides a range of services to support more than 250 adult education, literacy and family literacy providers throughout Florida. Special emphasis is placed on assisting community based literacy organizations with their training and program development needs.

Our Services:

Florida Literacy Conference

One of Florida's premier literacy events, this three-day annual conference, offers a wide range of training and networking opportunities to literacy practitioners and volunteers.

Training and Technical Assistance

FLC offers professional development opportunities that provide literacy practitioners and volunteers with tools and resources to enhance program quality. Focus areas include program management, planning, curriculum development, marketing, fundraising, board development and volunteer tutor training.

Literacy Promotion and Toll Free Literacy Hotline

FLC promotes reading and raises awareness about literacy issues in Florida. A trained referral specialist provides on-call information about education programs and volunteer opportunities in communities throughout the state.

Networking and Communications

FLC promotes and facilitates information sharing, networking and collaborative programming among literacy providers through services such as moderated discussion lists, the Florida Literacy Directory and Resource Guide and targeted technical assistance in developing regional literacy coalitions.

Board of Directors

Governing Board:

Jan Setzekorn, President Read Pinellas

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Executive Director

Catherine Matos
Resource & Communication Specialist

Stephanie Rodgers Education & Training Coordinator

Alison Bell Health & Financial Literacy Coordinator

Dana Williams

ESOL Project Coordinator

Susan Chapman *Bookkeeper*

Publications and Resources

FLC provides a wide range of free reference and outreach materials, serving as a clearinghouse for the distribution of quality resource materials for literacy instructors and administrators.

Florida Health Literacy Initiative

The Florida Health Literacy Initiative, funded by the Florida Blue Foundation and operated by FLC, provides grants, professional development and technical assistance in support of quality health literacy programs. This initiative combines ESOL instruction and health education in a multi-disciplinary approach that teaches English to adults and families while helping these individuals acquire skills and knowledge to make informed choices regarding their health and nutrition.

Florida Financial Literacy Initiative

This initiative, funded by Wells Fargo and operated by FLC, provides grants, professional development and technical assistance to support incorporating much needed financial education into adult education programs.

Florida Family Literacy Initiative

Made possible through the support of the Kislak Family Foundation, this initiative provides resources and grants to help Florida schools and educational programs to establish or expand upon family literacy programs in their community.

Online English Conversation Classes

Supported by the Kislak Family Foundation, this multi-organization collaboration provides Florida adult learners with opportunities to practice and improve their English through free online conversation classes.

Advocacy

FLC serves as an advocate for community-based literacy programs and quality literacy services statewide.

Acknowledgements

Thank you for making the 2024 Florida Literacy Conference a success!

Conference Planning Committee:

Lyndsay Amiro

Orange County Library

Phillip Anderson

Florida Department of Education, Division of Career and Adult Education

Lori Benjamin

Brevard County Schools Adult Education

Ann Breidenstein

FLC and Learn to Read St. Johns

Carol Bruner

Florida Department of Education, Division of Career and Adult Education

Lindsay Frankxman

Miss Tampa

Katrina Harkness

State Library & Archives of Florida

Marianne Heard

Palm Beach County Library Adult Literacy Project

Walker Hicken

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Alison Hoefler

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Heather Jackson-Reed

Orange County Public Schools

Julie Kennedy

Brevard County Schools Adult Education

Mark Mallak

Brevard County Schools Adult Education

Veronica Pavon Baker

Literacy Volunteers of Collier County

Ed Rivadeneyra

Seminole State College

Gina Solomon

Adult Literacy League

Additional Representatives Serving on the Adult Learner Committee:

Marty Finsterbusch

Silent Auction Donors:

3 Daughters Brewing

4 Rivers Smokehouse

Bok Tower Gardens

Bradford Renaissance Portraits

Broadway Palm Dinner Theater

Chipotle

Clearwater Aquarium

Foxtail Coffee Co.

Frost Science Museum

Jacksonville Zoo

Lazy Moon Pizza
Orlando Science Center

Solar Bears

Southwest Airlines

Suncoast Primate Sanctuary

Topgolf

Universal Orlando Resort

Wawa

Wonderworks

Invaluable Others:

Florida Department of Education, Division of

Career and Education

Volunteer Session Presenters and Facilitators

Conference Volunteers

Conference Exhibitors

Florida Literacy Coalition Board of Directors

Florida Literacy Coalition Staff

Emma Havelin

Lake Mary High School ROTC/Color Guard

The David Capp Project

Brad Bell, Brevard County Schools Adult Education

Conference Sponsors

Our special thanks to the following sponsors and supporters who have made the 2024 Florida Literacy Conference possible.

Platinum (\$4,000 and higher)













Gold (\$2,500-\$3,999)









Schedule at a Glance

Wednesday, May 8

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	5:15 p.m 5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m 8:00 p.m.	Time to Visit Exhibitors Opening Reception

Thursday, May 9

8:00 a.m 5:30 p.m.	Registration Open
8:00 a.m 9:00 a.m.	Continental Breakfast with Exhibitors
8:00 a.m 3:30 p.m.	Exhibits Open
9:00 a.m 10:15 a.m.	Concurrent Sessions
10:30 a.m 11:45 a.m.	Concurrent Sessions
11:45 a.m 1:30 p.m.	Lunch on Your Own and Time to Visit Exhibitors
1:30 p.m 2:45 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions
2:45 p.m 3:15 p.m.	Extended Break with Exhibitors and Silent Auction Closes
3:15 p.m 4:30 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions

Friday, May 10

8:30 a.m 9:45 a.m.	Concurrent Sessions
10:00 a.m 11:15 a.m.	Concurrent Sessions
11:30 a.m 1:30 p.m.	Closing General Session & Florida Literacy Awards Luncheon

Sessions at a Glance

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

11:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

- Meeting Supply Chain Needs, IET's supporting English Language Learners – F
- Learn the Skills that Pays the Bills: A Novel Approach to Employability – G
- USCIS Naturalization 101 A
- Unlock the Written Word H
- Entrepreneurship and How SCORE Can Help B
- GED Program Update Grand Ballroom
- Essential Education: Get the Classroom Demonstration You've Always Wanted — Orchid II & III (Computer Lab)
- Develop Learning Strategies to Achieve Academic Success C
- Building Partnerships, Boosting Outcomes: Collaborative
 Strategies for Libraries and Adult Education Providers Orchid I
- · Health Literacy Grantee Meeting Hibiscus Suite

1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

• FLC Annual Meeting (Optional) - Grand Ballroom

2:15 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

- Teaching Academic Writing Strategies to Adult ESOL Students
 A
- A Beginner's Guide to Financial Literacy C
- · Making the Move from ESL to ABE B
- 50 Ways to Encourage and Inspire a Love for Reading F
- Integrating ELA into Social Studies & Science Orchid II & III (Computer Lab)
- Adult Learner Experience Grand Ballroom
- Social Media Strategy for Small Organizations G
- Learn English Anywhere: Strategies for Successful Online English Conversation Classes – H

4:00 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.

- Al for ESOL: Tools, Techniques, and Transformation Orchid II & III (Computer Lab)
- Infusing Financial Literacy into an ESOL Course A
- Pictures: Worth More Than 1000 Words B
- Using the ELPs Standards to Guide Instruction in the ESL Classroom $\ensuremath{\mathbb{C}}$
- · Keeping Learners Motivated and Engaged F
- GED Program Update G
- Books & Cooks: Building Healthy Habits through Reading H

Thursday, May 9, 2024

9:00 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.

- Reading XR: Using Extended Reality for Reading Assessment
 A
- Florida Department of Education Update Grand Ballroom
- Decreasing Attention Spans Demand a Response: Strategies for Today's Facilitator – B
- · Health Literacy and Patient Outcomes C
- Reading to Learn Strategies for the Struggling Reader F
- · Using AI in the ESOL Classroom G

10:30 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

- From The Classroom to The Workplace Orchid II & III (Computer Lab)
- Using Biographies to Inspire Student Success A
- · Ventures and Teaching the Speaking Skill B
- Family Literacy in Action Panel C
- Literacy Mastery: Unveiling Effective Instruction Using CASAS Assessments & Tools – F
- IPDAE: Meeting Teachers where They Are Through Sustained Professional Development – G
- · What's Next? Where Research Meets Practice H

1:30 p.m. to 2:45 p.m.

- IET in Corrections Orchid I
- Discover Yourself and Grow Yourself and Your Adult Learners Orchid II & III (Computer Lab)
- Literacy for the Ages: Jacksonville's Senior Memoirs & More A
- Must-Know Spanish Essentials to Most Benefit Spanish-Speaking ELs $\ensuremath{\mathsf{B}}$
- · Outcomes Through Employment C
- · If You Can Talk, You Can Learn to Read F
- Empowering Leaders and Stakeholders: Understanding, Identifying, and Supporting Core Instruction – G

3:15 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

- Technology Programming in Correctional Education Orchid II & III (Computer Lab)
- CASAS: A Compass for Effective Program Implementation C
- LitFit™: Literacy Integration with Fitness Education B
- Learn English Anywhere: Strategies for Successful Online English Conversation Classes – H
- Roundtable for Community-Based Literacy Directors Hibiscus Suite
- · A Face for Radio, A Voice for Print F

Friday, May 10, 2024

8:30 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.

- The Florida Adult Education Curriculum Frameworks C
- Reading XR: Using Extended Reality for Reading Assessment
 B
- · Literacy in Correctional Libraries Orchid I
- SIMPLE ENGLISH: Matter of Method, Not of Time A
- Creating and Continuing a Conversation Class F
- Learning from Families in a Parent-Child Book Program:
 Implications for Early and Adult Literacy Practitioners G

10:00 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.

- Demystifying Artificial Intelligence: Exploring Practical Applications for Instructional Use – Orchid II & III (Computer Lab)
- If You Can Talk, You Can Learn to Read C
- Ease, Engage and Encourage! ${\sf B}$
- · SOS and the 21st Century Adult ESOL Classroom A
- Tips and Techniques for Serving a Very Diverse Group of Adult Learners – G
- Screening and Identification of Learning Disabilities for Literacy Practitioners – F

CONFERENCE TRACKS

- **Adult Learner**
- Corrections
- English Literacy/ESOL
- Family/2 Gen Literacy
- Health Literacy*
- Learning Disabilities
- Library Literacy
- **Program Management**

- Reading
- **Technology**
- **Volunteers in Literacy**
- Workforce Education/College and Career Readiness
- ABE, GED, and Adult High School
- Financial Literacy*

Wednesday, May 8

Adult Learner Day 🍇



Welcome Adult Learners! Today is filled with Adult Learner friendly workshops, which are indicated by the open book icon. Special thanks to FLC's Adult Learner Committee for planning this event. For more information about Adult Learner Day, stop by the registration table.

8:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. - Registration Open - Mezzanine

8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. - Exhibits Open - Mezzanine

8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. - Adult Learner Registration - Mezzanine

8:30 a.m. - 9:20 a.m. - Adult Learner Orientation - Ballroom F

Marty Finsterbush



This session will review the day's events and orient students to the Conference. Come to learn, have fun, and make new friends!

9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. - Opening General Session - Grand Ballroom





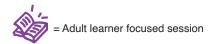
Opening Keynote Speaker - Dr. Barbara Crump

Dr. Barbara Crump's journey from high school drop out to achieving her PhD in nursing research, embodies the power of perseverance through education. Her memoir, "From GED to PhD: My Journey Toward Becoming an Extraordinary Woman", chronicles her journey of self-realization and empowerment. Dr. Crump began her career in nursing at The Veteran's HealthCare System and has also worked as an Associate Professor of nursing and Advanced Nurse Practitioner in the management and treatment of women with cancer at Columbia University Medical Center. Her memoir symbolizes resilience and the importance of continual growth, inspiring others to embrace their own paths of self-discovery.

11:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Concurrent Sessions

Meeting Supply Chain Needs, IET's supporting English Language Learners - Ballroom F Lorri Benjamin and Julie Kennedy, Brevard Adult & Community Education

We will explore how to implement an IET program focusing on logistics that caters to the English Language learner. Strategies and best practices for a successful implementation of an IET program that upskills students will be shared. English Literacy/ESOL & Workforce Education/College and Career Readiness



^{*} Special thanks to Florida Blue for sponsoring the Health Literacy Track and Wells Fargo for sponsoring the Financial Literacy Track.

11:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. - Wednesday, May 8 - Continued

Learn the Skills that Pays the Bills: A Novel Approach to Employability - Ballroom G Rholine Rose, FRB-Atlanta

Upskilling allows workers to improve in current jobs, prepare for better jobs, and ultimately embrace their dream careers. Join us in this session as we explore resources for employability and practice skills-based activities. We can transition from a job to your career by learning skills.

Financial Literacy & Workforce Education/College and Career Readiness

USCIS Naturalization 101 - Ballroom A

Don Jarrell, US Citizenship & Immigration Services

This session will cover the process of naturalization from A to Z. It will provide information on the eligibility requirements of naturalization, how to apply, what to expect at the interview and an overview of the educational testing required. Adult Learner, English Literacy/ESOL & Volunteers in Literacy

Unlock the Written Word - Ballroom H

Whitney Noel and Carter Figg, Newsela - Vender Presentation

During this session, you will explore how to create walled gardens for teachers and students - providing autonomy and choice under restrictive legislation. Also get a sneak peek into new products including assessment, instructional delivery tools, and a brand-new AI writing tool to support students. Reading & Technology

Entrepreneurship and How SCORE Can Help - Ballroom B 🔬 Lois Perry. SCORE Orlando



Learn basics of entrepreneurship and how SCORE provides mentoring and business education to help. Adult Learner, Workforce Education/College and Career Readiness

GED Program Update - Grand Ballroom

Diane Vaccari, GED Testing Service - Vender Presentation

Come see all the new tools and resources that GED Testing Service has created to help educators and students succeed. This session will take a comprehensive look at the GED® program and highlight new tools and best practices for adult

ABE, GED, and Adult High School

Essential Education: Get the Classroom Demonstration You've Always Wanted - Orchid II & III (Computer Lab) Brittney Napolitano and Tara Keily, Essential Education - Vender Presentation

This fun, interactive session will demonstrate a handful of ways educators can implement Essential Education in their classrooms immediately. If you do not use Essential Education software, there will still be great takeaways and ideas to implement into any classroom.

ABE, GED, and Adult High School & Technology

Develop Learning Strategies to Achieve Academic Success - Ballroom C Veronica Pavon-Baker, Literacy Volunteers of Collier County



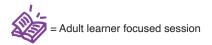
Learn how to get organized and increase purposeful behaviors to be able to process information. Explore ways to create a study plan to achieve your academic goals.

Adult Learner

Building Partnerships, Boosting Outcomes: Collaborative Strategies for Libraries and Adult Education Providers - Orchid I

Karen Strange, LeRoy Collins Leon County Public Library

In this session we will offer ways public libraries can support adult education programs. Participants will learn about successful collaborations and promising projects that benefit both libraries and adult education programs. Library Literacy



11:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. - Wednesday, May 8 - Continued

Health Literacy Grantee Meeting - Hibiscus Suite Greg Smith & Alison Bell, Florida Literacy Coalition By invitation only.

12:30 p.m. - Lunch on Your Own/Time to Visit Exhibitors - Mezzanine & Grand Ballroom

Florida Literacy Coalition Annual Meeting (Optional) - Grand Ballroom 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Find out what's new at the Florida Literacy Coalition (FLC). Your participation is welcome as we review and discuss FLC programs and future directions. Be the first to get a copy of the newly released adult learner essay book, *Pathways*. Several student authors will read their essays, which is always a highlight! So, grab your lunch and join us. Attendees will be entered to win two free 2025 Florida Literacy Conference registrations.

2:15 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Concurrent Sessions

Teaching Academic Writing Strategies to Adult ESOL Students - Ballroom A Iliyana Vassileva, CTAE

This presentation will introduce adult ELL educators to strategies for teaching academic writing, based on Mezirow's transformative learning theory. Key themes include academic writing for workforce readiness and reading for writing. Understanding such relationships can support student success and workforce contributions.

English Literacy/ESOL & Reading

A Beginner's Guide to Financial Literacy - Ballroom C



This session aims to improve students' confidence navigating finances with practical skills such as budgeting, saving, and smart spending habits.

Adult Learner, Financial Literacy

Making the Move from ESL to ABE - Ballroom B

Christina Miller, Aztec - Vender Presentation

Join our session targeting English language learners transitioning to adult education for a high school equivalency. Explore crucial skills essential for progression. This close examination aims to empower learners, facilitating their journey towards academic attainment. Join us to pave the path to success.

ABE, GED, and Adult High School & English Literacy/ESOL

50 Ways to Encourage and Inspire a Love for Reading - Ballroom F

Matthew Fitzpatrick, Orange Technical College - South Campus

It is one thing to know how to read and understand, but it's another thing to love reading. This session will share multiple ways teachers can encourage and inspire students to love reading.

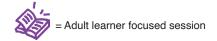
ABE, GED, and Adult High School & Reading

Integrating ELA into Social Studies & Science - Orchid I & II (Computer Lab)

Chris Heintz and Maggie Senor, Britannica Education - Vender Presentation

Participants will learn how high-quality digital content can be used to reach diverse learners through personalized learning in Social Studies and science. During the session, participants will explore SS and Science topics, through differentiated text, images/videos/primary sources and will be paired with targeted learning tasks.

English Literacy/ESOL & Reading



2:15 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. - Wednesday, May 8- Continued

Adult Learner Experience - Grand Ballroom Marty Finsterbusch



Join this interactive workshop as adult learners discuss why they have enrolled and stayed in their programs. Adult learners attending this session will get a chance to share their stories and experiences in life and adult education. **Adult Learner**

Social Media Strategy for Small Organizations - Ballroom G

Peyton Whittington, Adult Literacy League

Social media is an amazing tool for adult education organizations, but it's easier said than done when you're working with a small staff or team of volunteers. Participants will learn social media tips and tricks for small (but mighty!) organizations. **Program Management & Technology**

Learn English Anywhere: Strategies for Successful Online English Conversation Classes - Ballroom H Dana Williams, Florida Literacy Coalition

Practical tips and strategies for individuals and programs looking to establish or expand upon online English conversation classes. Participants will learn how to recruit and retain students, different class models and frameworks, as well as resources teachers can use to enhance their students' learning.

English Literacy/ESOL

3:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. - Extended Break with Exhibitors - Mezzanine

4:00 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. Concurrent Sessions

Al for ESOL: Tools, Techniques, and Transformation - Orchid II & III (Computer Lab) Anna Gandrabura. English for IT

Join this cutting-edge session focusing on the transformative potential of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in teaching. Tailored for ESOL educators, we will delve into AI essentials, reviewing its applications to simplify lesson planning, aid in teaching various language aspects, and streamline assessments.

English Literacy/ESOL

Infusing Financial Literacy into an ESOL Course - Ballroom A

Lucas Katz. Miami Dade College

This session will cover how a first-time Financial Literacy grant recipient organized the inclusion of financial literacy-related material into a higher-level ESOL course. Topics such as budget allocations, lesson planning, project-based learning, partnerships, and student responses will be covered.

English Literacy/ESOL & Financial Literacy

Pictures: Worth More Than 1000 Words - Ballroom B

Therese Martin, Literacy Council of Upper Pinellas (LCUP)

Inspired by the announcement of proposed changes to the US Citizenship test, this workshop explores using pictures and visuals in adult ESOL instruction. We'll look into not only how to describe a photo, but also how to improve conversation skills, reading, writing and much more.

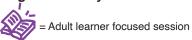
English Literacy/ESOL

Using the ELPs Standards to Guide Instruction in the ESL Classroom - Ballroom C

Veronica Pavon-Baker, Literacy Volunteers of Collier County

The future workforce will be facing many critical challenges. Adult education practitioners will need to provide effective education to prepare students. ESL instruction should focus on measuring higher-order skills and teachers need to apply effective instructional strategies to ensure student academic success.

English Literacy/ESOL



Schedule - Wednesday & Thursday

4:00 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. - Wednesday, May 8 - Continued

Keeping Learners Motivated and Engaged - Ballroom F

Christina Miller, Aztec

Keeping learners coming to classes can be challenging for the most seasoned instructor. By understanding how students learn and what motivates them to stay in your classes can yield tremendous results. This session will provide practical strategies for engaging learners and increasing academic outcomes. This is not a vendor presentation. No sales or product information in this presentation.

ABE, GED, and Adult High School & Program Management

GED Program Update - Ballroom G

Diane Vaccari, GED Testing Service - Vender Presentation

Come see all the new tools and resources that GED Testing Service has created to help educators and students succeed. This session will take a comprehensive look at the GED® program and highlight new tools and best practices for adult educators.

ABE, GED, and Adult High School

Books & Cooks: Building Healthy Habits through Reading - Ballroom H

Jennifer Wise, University of Florida

Books and Cooks is a free program for New Worlds Reading Initiative families to support them through the learning of simple, at-home literacy and nutrition strategies that can be easily added into daily routines. Our curriculum incorporates DOE approved nutrition-related books and Florida literacy standards.

Family/2 Gen Literacy & Reading

5:15 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. - Time to Visit Exhibitors

6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. - Opening Reception - Outdoor Terrace

Join us for an evening of music, food, and fun! Complimentary hors d'oeuvres and drinks will be served. Music performed by The David Capp Project.

Thursday, May 9

8:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. - Registration Open - Mezzanine

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. - Continental Breakfast with Exhibitors - Grand Ballroom

8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. - Exhibits Open - Mezzanine

9:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. Concurrent Sessions

Reading XR: Using Extended Reality for Reading Assessment - Ballroom A

Ted Dinsmore, Reading XR - Vender Presentation

Reading XR will be discussing and demonstrating how to use Extended Reality Technology to do a Reading Assessment. READING XR is a tool for evaluating reading fluency, using eye movements to identify the underlying factors causing reading difficulties.

Reading, Technology & ABE, GED, and Adult High School

Florida Department of Education Update - Grand Ballroom

Carol Bruner & Phil Anderson, Florida Department of Education

Representatives from the Florida Department of Education will present updates on core components of the Adult Education Program including Assessment, Curriculum Frameworks, Professional Learning Opportunities, Integrated Education & Training

ABE, GED, and Adult High School & English Literacy/ESOL

Schedule - Thursday

9:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m - Thursday, May 9 - Continued

Decreasing Attention Spans Demand a Response: Strategies for Today's Facilitator - Ballroom B

Merri Beth Treadway, FL Department of Corrections

With attention spans on the decline, how should teachers of adult learners respond? What strategies can facilitators use to engage students, and where can they gain valuable hands-on experience? Participants will acquire tools to empower their students as they focus on the main thing --- learning!

Corrections & ABE, GED, and Adult High School

Health Literacy and Patient Outcomes - Ballroom C

Jessica Daly, AdventHealth University

Uncover how individuals with low health literacy face increased risks related to patient safety, often leading to medical instructions and medication errors. Moreover, we will discuss how limited health literacy can hinder preventive health measures, contributing to poorer physical and mental health patient outcomes.

Health Literacy

Reading to Learn - Strategies for the Struggling Reader - Ballroom F

Christina Miller, Aztec

Enhance learners' reading skills with active teaching strategies in academic reading. Gain insights on approaching subjects and practical methods for struggling readers. Join this session to empower educators and improve overall literacy in a focused, practical environment. This is not a vendor presentation. No sales or product information in this presentation. *Reading & ABE, GED, and Adult High School*

Using AI in the ESOL Classroom - Ballroom G

Johnny Hernandez, Brevard Adult & Community Education

We will share strategies that effectively enhance the language acquisition of adult learners by incorporating ChatGPT in engaging lessons.

English Literacy/ESOL

10:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. Concurrent Sessions

From The Classroom to The Workplace - Orchid II & III (Computer Lab)

Brittney Napolitano & Tara Keily, Essential Education

This session will cover transferable skills employers seek and how to empower students to discover and articulate them as nontraditional students. HSE prep, survival jobs, raising families, volunteering in their communities, supporting fellow workers, and engaging in civics, build a foundation for work-force readiness.

Workforce Education/College and Career Readiness & ABE, GED, and Adult High School

Using Biographies to Inspire Student Success - Ballroom A

Matthew Fitzpatrick, Orange Technical College, South Campus

"A wise person learns from their mistakes. A wiser person learns from the mistakes of others." Participants will learn the what, how, and wow of using biographies to inspire students toward success and reaching their dreams.

Reading & ABE, GED, and Adult High School

Ventures and Teaching the Speaking Skill - Ballroom B

Jim Goldstone, Cambridge University Press and Assessment

Ventures is the most popular Adult ESOL program in the U.S. Adult ESOL students attend your English program because they want to learn how to communicate better in English--that means Speaking English. Jim will demonstrate how Ventures gives the students many opportunities to speak English!

English Literacy/ESOL & Workforce Education/College and Career Readiness

Schedule - Thursday

10:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m - Thursday, May 9 - Continued

Family Literacy in Action Panel - Ballroom C

Dana Williams, Florida Literacy Coalition, & Panel

A panel discussion with family literacy providers from across the state of Florida. Panelists will discuss the services their programs provide, the challenges they face, and the impact their programs have made in their communities. Includes time for audience questions.

Family/2 Gen Literacy & Program Management

Literacy Mastery: Unveiling Effective Instruction Using CASAS Assessments & Tools - Ballroom F Karla V. Gallequillos, CASAS - Vender Presentation

We will introduce participants to the new CASAS Reading & Listening STEPS assessments, look at sample test items, explore their alignment to the College and Career Readiness and English Language Proficiency Standards, and explore how the new reports can be used to target instruction.

English Literacy/ESOL & ABE, GED, and Adult High School

IPDAE: Meeting Teachers where They Are Through Sustained Professional Development - Ballroom G Juna Rall & Tammy Serrano, IPDAE

Join us as we dive into our easily navigated and responsive website. IPDAE offers various PD delivery and format options including, e-trainings, online courses, webinars, face-to-face workshops and much more. Learn about our resources and strategies that you can immediately implement into your workplace.

Workforce Education/College and Career Readiness & ABE, GED, and Adult High School

What's Next? Where Research Meets Practice - Ballroom H

Karen Welch, New Readers Press - Vender Presentation

Join us for an enlightening session where we explore "What's Next?" – a research-based reading series that seamlessly embeds and reinforces phonics instruction within relevant content. This approach fosters a comprehensive and immersive learning experience tailored for ESL students.

English Literacy/ESOL & Reading

11:45 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. - Lunch on Your Own/Time to Visit Exhibitors - Mezzanine

1:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. Concurrent Sessions

IET in Corrections - Orchid I

Walker Hicken, Florida Department of Corrections

This presentation will cover the Florida Department of Corrections' efforts to establish IET programming in our Career and Technical Education Classrooms.

Corrections & Workforce Education/College and Career Readiness

Discover Yourself and Grow Yourself and Your Adult Learners - Orchid II & III (Computer Lab)

Pamela Jo Wilson, Palm Beach Schools Adult Education

According to an Indeed.com article on the challenges of teamwork, one of the 14 challenges is self-awareness. Then self-awareness triggers many of the other 13 challenges. Come experience how we can help ourselves and our learners succeed in the power skill of self-management.

English Literacy/ESOL & Workforce Education/College and Career Readiness

Literacy for the Ages: Jacksonville's Senior Memoirs & More - Ballroom A

Jennifer Blalock, Literacy Pros of Jacksonville, Inc.

Learn the highlights and best practices for creating a dynamic intergenerational senior citizen focused literacy initiative in your community from Jacksonville's Senior Memoirs Project, which included thirty 55+ readers who had reading circles and wrote their own memoirs.

Program Management & Volunteers in Literacy

Schedule - Thursday

1:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m - Thursday, May 9 - Continued

Must-Know Spanish Essentials to Most Benefit Spanish-Speaking ELs - Ballroom B

Mary Quijano, Literacy Council of Upper Pinellas

ESOL Instructors of Spanish-speaking ELs can benefit their learners by knowing simple syllable-stress rules, variations in pronunciation of some Spanish letters, and cognates. These related words between two languages share a similar meaning, spelling, and origin that will be explained via examples with links and practice.

English Literacy/ESOL

Outcomes Through Employment - Ballroom C

Jesse Riddle, FLDOE - Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

Florida's Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)'s core mission of helping people with disabilities find and maintain employment and enhance their independence drives the growth and innovation of new evidence-based programs and services that are relevant to improving employment outcomes for eligible individuals with physical and mental disabilities. *Learning Disabilities & Workforce Education/College and Career Readiness*

If You Can Talk, You Can Learn to Read - Ballroom F Viki Stein. EBLI

Learn how to teach students of any age how to read, write, and spell to their highest potential. Structured Linguistic Literacy: A systematic, explicit, research-aligned approach of integrated, accelerated instruction that teaches the components of reading and writing leading with speech, not letters.

Reading & Volunteers in Literacy

Empowering Leaders and Stakeholders: Understanding, Identifying, and Supporting Core Instruction - Ballroom G

Talia Cotton, Tallahassee Community College

This session will empower Leaders, Administrators, and Teachers to understand, identify, and support Core Instruction. Participants will leave the session with an action plan to implement core instruction in classrooms, schools, and programs, build a culture of continuous improvement, and enhance student learning outcomes.

Program Management & ABE, GED, and Adult High School

2:45 p.m. - 3:15 p.m. - Extended Break With Exhibitors

Silent Auction Closes at 3pm!

3:15 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Concurrent Sessions

Technology Programming in Correctional Education - Orchid II & III (Computer Lab)

Christopher Dang, Florida Department of Corrections

This presentation covers the introduction of different software used for various purposes and programming in the Florida Department of Corrections.

Corrections & Technology

CASAS: A Compass for Effective Program Implementation - Ballroom C

Karla V. Galleguillos, CASAS - Vender Presentation

Learn about the latest CASAS innovations to support implementation of quality ABE, HSE and ESL programs that include accountability measures, tools for students, teachers, and administrators. Let us be your compass - from beginning literacy through transition to post-secondary and the workforce.

ABE, GED, and Adult High School & English Literacy/ESOL

Schedule - Thursday & Friday

3:15 p.m - 4:30 p.m. - Thursday, May 9 - Continued

LitFit™: Literacy Integration with Fitness Education - Ballroom B

Lindsey Franxman, LitFit, Miss America Opportunity

LitFitT™ integrates literacy with fitness education, providing workshops plus a virtual LitFitT™ Toolkit of curated stories, activities, and resources which promote "LitFititude": the energy and confidence gained from development of literacy skills, strong bodies (nutrition, exercise), and mental health.

Program Management & Volunteers in Literacy

Learn English Anywhere: Strategies for Successful Online English Conversation Classes - Ballroom H Dana Williams, Florida Literacy Coalition

Practical tips and strategies for individuals and programs looking to establish or expand upon online English conversation classes. Participants will learn how to recruit and retain students, different class models and frameworks, as well as resources teachers can use to enhance their students' learning.

English Literacy/ESOL

Roundtable for Community-Based Literacy Directors - Hibiscus Suite

Greg Smith, Florida Literacy Coalition

Community and volunteer-based literacy programs experience unique challenges and opportunities. Join directors and program managers from around the state for a roundtable discussion on trends, promising practices, and strategies for effectively managing adult education and literacy programs.

Program Management & Volunteers in Literacy

A Face for Radio. A Voice for Print - Ballroom F

Rob Wilkison & Andrea Selkirk, Florida State College at Jacksonville

Tutors produced useful, cost-effective digital and physical instructional objects that work together to enhance student learning. Between free digital resources and easy to procure DIY projects, educators can produce these helpful tools for student use.

Technology

Friday, May 10

8:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. Concurrent Sessions

The Florida Adult Education Curriculum Frameworks - Ballroom C

Phil Anderson, Florida Department of Education

In 2024, the Florida DOE offers 13 courses in the following programs: Academic Skills Building, Adult Basic Education, Adult English for Speakers of Other Languages, and GED® Preparation. Session participants will explore the frameworks and discuss ways to develop a curriculum for their students.

ABE, GED, and Adult High School & English Literacy/ESOL

Reading XR: Using Extended Reality for Reading Assessment - Ballroom B

Ted Dinsmore, Reading XR - Vender Presentation

Reading XR will be discussing and demonstrating how to use Extended Reality Technology to do a Reading Assessment. READING XR is a tool for evaluating reading fluency, using eye movements to identify the underlying factors causing reading difficulties.

Reading, Technology & ABE, GED, and Adult High School

Literacy in Correctional Libraries - Orchid I

Saritza Legault, Florida Department of Corrections

A roundtable with the education supervisors and library technical assistants discussing the various states of their library literacy programs, first introduced at the 2023 Florida Literacy Conference.

Library Literacy & Corrections

Schedule - Friday

8:30 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. - Friday, May 10 - Continued

SIMPLE ENGLISH: Matter of Method, Not of Time - Ballroom A

Lynda McReynolds, El SOL Jupiter Neighborhood

Hear how to flip the coin on learning English - no need to be young, smart, or lucky. Using a newfound method rooted in neuroscience and personal development, I authored a bestseller. You can break free from your obstacles and unleash your full potential. It's your time to shine!

English Literacy/ESOL

Creating and Continuing a Conversation Class - Ballroom F

Marianne Heard, Palm Beach County Library System Adult Literacy Project

Learn about strategies and resources to assist in designing and facilitating a fun filled class for English Language Learners to meet and practice their English in an informal setting. Join us for a hands-on session highlighting conversational games, print materials and online resources.

Library Literacy & English Literacy/ESOL

Learning from Families in a Parent-Child Book Program: Implications for Early and Adult Literacy Practitioners - Ballroom G

Jacqueline Lynch, Florida International University

Review a family literacy program with immigrant Hispanic mothers and their Head Start children where the focus was on providing books to families and fostering parent-child engagement. The important implications of this research for adult literacy will be shared in this session.

Family/2 Gen Literacy & Reading

10:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. Concurrent Sessions

Demystifying Artificial Intelligence: Exploring Practical Applications for Instructional Use - Orchid II & III (Computer Lab)

Talia Cotton, Tallahassee Community College

This session will explore the practical and professional uses of Artificial Intelligence, especially ChatGPT. Participants will uncover Al's potential, explore best practices, and brainstorm instructional applications and uses. Attendees will leave with the knowledge and inspiration to immediately utilize Al. *Technology*

If You Can Talk, You Can Learn to Read - Ballroom C

Viki Stein, EBLI

Learn how to teach students of any age how to read, write, and spell to their highest potential. Structured Linguistic Literacy: A systematic, explicit, research-aligned approach of integrated, accelerated instruction that teaches the components of reading and writing leading with speech, not letters.

Reading & Volunteers in Literacy

Ease, Engage and Encourage! - Ballroom B

Alexia Navarro, Palm Beach County School District

In this interactive session, participants will explore strategies and activities that will help ease their students' anxiety through engagement and fun in the classroom.

ABE, GED, and Adult High School & English Literacy/ESOL

SOS and the 21st Century Adult ESOL Classroom - Ballroom A

Pamela Jo Wilson, Adult Education

Shiny object syndrome and the pandemic put us in the passenger seat where we are being whiplashed by many "shiny objects" for ESOL instructors and learners. Come, let's get back in the driver's seat and put the learners and what really matters first.

Workforce Education/College and Career Readiness & English Literacy/ESOL

Schedule - Friday

10:00 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. - Friday, May 10 - Continued

Tips and Techniques for Serving a Very Diverse Group of Adult Learners - Ballroom G Shannon Maitland, Literacy Services of Indian River County

Do you customize your services to meet the needs/goals of adult literacy students? We do! Our students come from 5 continents, 35 countries, and many are newcomers to America. They speak 20+ languages, often with other alphabets and their education levels vary greatly. Hear how we help everyone.

Program Management & English Literacy/ESOL

Screening and Identification of Learning Disabilities for Literacy Practitioners - Ballroom F Dr. Rochelle Kenyon, 21st Century Creative Consulting

Between 50% to 80% of literacy learners that read below the 5th-7th grade may have diagnosed or suspected learning disabilities. This presentation covers the basics of learning disabilities, introduces practitioners to information/resources that identify difficult-to-reach and challenging-to-teach students, and covers LD referral and diagnosis.

Learning Disabilities & Reading

Closing General Session & Florida Literacy Awards Luncheon - Grand Ballroom



11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Keynote Speaker - Steve Berry

Steve Berry is the New York Times and #1 internationally bestselling author of twenty-three novels. His books have been translated into 41 languages with over 25 million copies in 52 countries. Somewhere in the world, every thirty seconds, one of his novels is sold. Among his honors are the Royden B. Davis Distinguished Author Award; the Barnes & Noble Writers for Writers Award; and Florida Writer of the Year. In 2010, an NPR survey named The Templar Legacy one of the top 100 thrillers ever written.

2024 Florida Literacy Award Winners

Excellence in Education – Adult Literacy League

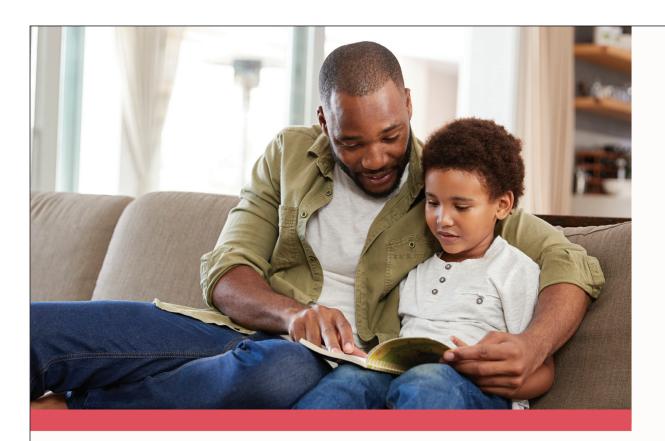
Flight for Freedom Award – Gabriel Lewis

Mary J. Brogan Leadership Award – Philip Anderson

Outstanding Community Partner – Jacksonville Housing Authority

Outstanding Literacy Volunteer – Mike Godown

This is a ticketed event. A limited number of additional tickets are available for purchase at the registration desk.



Keeping you healthy is everything to us.

For over 75 years, Florida Blue, your local Blue Cross Blue Shield, has been among the many businesses dedicated to helping Floridians. We are proud to support the Florida Literacy Coalition as part of our ongoing commitment to helping people in Florida stay healthy.

With our partners, we will continue to serve more than 5 million members, and countless nonmembers, in the state we love to call home.

FloridaBlue.com



Conference Exhibitors

We invite you to visit our Conference Exhibitors in the Mezzanine near Registration.

Aztec Software

Table 1

Aztec has been in the business of improving adult and young adult lives through computerized skills remediation since its inception. Aztec is committed to helping adult learners succeed and grow into their dreams. To educate, empower and elevate adult learners for a better tomorrow.

Britannica Education

Table 2

We believe every learner has the potential to succeed and that education is the key to unlocking that potential. That's why we provide a comprehensive selection of digital tools, professional learning programs, and ongoing support to help educators plan, deliver, and assess instruction more effectively.

Cambridge University Press and Assessment Table 3

Cambridge University Press and Assessment is the worldwide leader in the research and publishing of English Language materials. Our 6-level Ventures ESOL series is widely used in Florida for Adult Education programs. Come by our booth to get free samples of Ventures!

CASAS

Table 4

CASAS is a nonprofit organization that focuses on assessment and curriculum development of basic skills for youth and adults.

Keynote Speaker & Author, Dr. Barbara Crump Table 15

Hear more about how Dr. Barbara Crump's journey from high school dropout to achieving her PhD in nursing research embodies the power of perseverance through education. She'll be offering her memoir, "From GED to PhD: My Journey Toward Becoming an Extraordinary Woman", which chronicles her journey of self-realization and empowerment.

Essential Education

Table 5

Essential Education has empowered over 4.5 million adults to achieve their life goals through award-winning online learning systems and print materials. Their programs are designed to assist educators in achieving their desired success, offering a guided pathway for each student that supports all learning environments.

Florida Literacy Coalition

Table 14

Established in 1985, The Florida Literacy Coalition (FLC) promotes, supports and advocates the effective delivery of quality adult and family literacy services in Florida.

GED Testing Service

Table 6

GEDTS has helped over 20 million students achieve high school equivalency and pursue a brighter future by offering a program that develops skills leading to success in higher education and career growth. We strive to empower all students to improve their lives through education.

IXL Learning

Table 7

Used in 95 of the top 100 districts, IXL is an all-inclusive personalized learning platform. With thousands of curriculums and instructional resources, actionable analytics, and state-of the-art assessments, IXL helps maximize learning for every student.

LiteracyPro Systems (LPS)

Table 8

LiteracyPro is the premier provider of data management services for volunteer literacy and adult education programs. See what's new with LACES, our comprehensive and easy-to-use software. LACES offers better data collection, searching, reporting, program analysis, and unparallelled training and technical support to enhance agency quality.

Money Habitudes

Table 9

Money Habitudes is a game-like assessment – played either via physical cards or online, to help people understand and talk about their finances in a fun, constructive way. It also allows people to pinpoint underlying financial habits, attitudes and motivations to make real behavior changes.

New Readers Press

Table 10

For more than 50 years, New Readers Press has been providing educators with the instructional tools they need to teach adult students and older teens the skills for functioning in the world today.

Conference Exhibitors

We invite you to visit our Conference Exhibitors in the Mezzanine near Registration.

Newsela

Table 11

Newsela inspires teachers, unlocks student motivation, and drives long-lasting learning outcomes. With over 15,000 authentic texts published at five reading levels, teacher scaffolding tools, and flexible formative assessments with actionable data and insights, Newsela helps teachers engage, support, and grow every learner

Reading XR

Table 16

Tackling reading problems is a tough job for anyone. READING XR uses the concept of gamification to combine the functional ability of tracking and assessing eye movements, while kids enjoy using the gaming aspect of an Augmented Reality headset. Kids actually WANT to try READINGXR!

The Juice Learning

Table 17

The Juice is an interactive learning platform designed to improve reading comprehension and critical thinking skills in a highly adaptive and individualized way while simultaneously encouraging students to develop their own media literacy practice.

Townsend Press

Table 18

Townsend Press is an independent publisher of acclaimed and affordable educational materials. We are committed to helping students develop the reading, writing, and language skills needed for success in the classroom and beyond.

TPRS Books

Table 19

"What is the fastest way to fluency?" is the driving question of TPRS Books, a company that specializes in training and providing teachers of world languages with the skills and tools to ensure that all students reach high levels of fluency in the fastest way known.

UF/IFAS Books and Cooks

Table 20

Books and Cooks is a free program for New Worlds Reading Initiative families to support them through the learning of simple, at-home literacy and nutrition strategies that can be easily added into daily routines. Our curriculum incorporates DOE approved nutrition-related books and Florida literacy standards.

STAY CONNECTED WITH FLC ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



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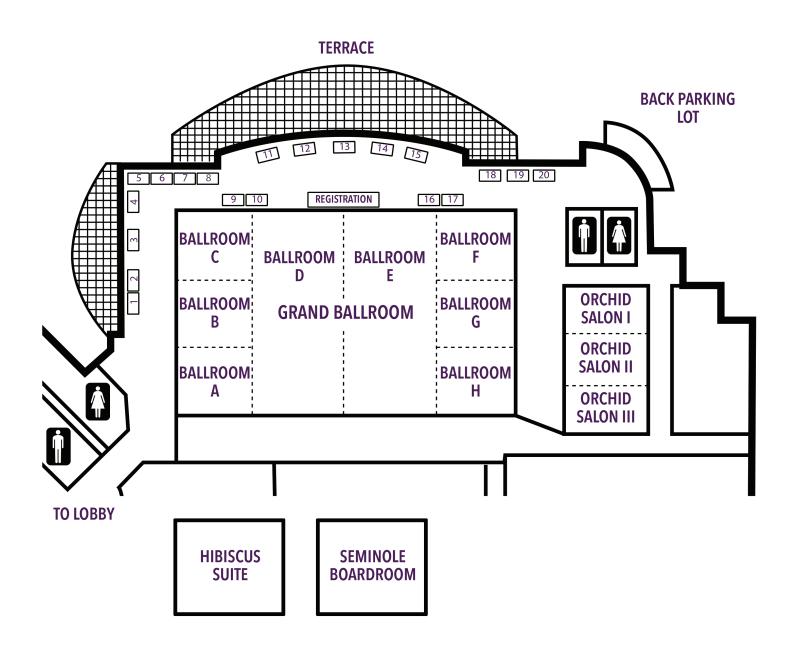


www.twitter.com /FloridaLiteracy



www.youtube.com /fliteracy

Hotel Map



CONFERENCE EXHIBITORS - LOCATED IN PRE-FUNCTION AREA NEAR REGISTRATION

Table 1	Aztec Software	Table 11	Newsela
Table 2	Britannica Education	Table 12	Silent Auction
Table 3	Cambridge University Press & Assessment	Table 13	Silent Auction
Table 4	CASAS	Table 14	Florida Literacy Coalition
Table 5	Essential Education	Table 15	Dr. Barbara Crump
Table 6	GED Testing Service	Table 16	Reading XR
Table 7	IXL Learning	Table 17	The Juice Learning
Table 8	LiteracyPro Systems	Table 18	Townsend Press
Table 9	Money Habitudes	Table 19	TPRS Books
Table 10	New Readers Press	Table 20	UF/IFAS Books and Cooks