



## **Welcome!**

JPL would like to welcome everyone who has started volunteering with the library. We hope you find volunteering at the library to be exciting and rewarding.

## **Meet the Volunteers in Center for Adult Learning**

“The Center for Adult Learning is a department of the Jacksonville Public Library that seeks to help adults improve their reading, math, and language skills. Paid instructors with the program evaluate students and teach classes at several sites, operate a computer learning lab, develop funding proposals, and train volunteers both locally and across the state. Within the past five years, the demand for English language (ESOL) classes has multiplied at a rate that has seriously challenged the resources of local adult literacy programs. Hundreds of adults with limited English skills seek help from the public library each month. We would never be able to adequately meet the needs of these adults without the time, energy, and compassion of our volunteer ESL tutors. Whether retired or working, busy grandparents or new moms, college students or business executives, our volunteers routinely carve at least four hours a week from their schedules to help groups of adults become proficient English-speakers. With the help of these dedicated volunteers, ESOL students become more effective employees, consumers, parents, and citizens. They are, without a doubt, the “unsung heroes” of our community!” Sharon H. Jaskula, Literacy Program Manager

See what some of the volunteers are saying about their volunteer experience...

“I tell each new class that I teach that someone taught my grandmother English when she moved to this country, and helping other new immigrants is a way that I can give back and honor her memory. The fact of the matter is I have met the most extraordinary people throughout my years of teaching ESL. Their dedication to learning English is most inspiring. They come to class after a long day at work, balancing family and other responsibilities. It is a privilege to help them learn the language and also the culture of this country that they have adopted, and the more we learn about each other's different cultures the more we all come to realize how much we all have in common. “

– Helen Hill, Volunteer ESL Instructor at Southeast

“First, I may not be getting paid in money; but the experience I get in meeting people from different countries and different cultures more than suffices the monetary compensation I could receive. If I think about how much information and education I get from volunteering as teacher of English as a Second Language, and I compute how much I would have had to spend to travel to the places where my students come from to get this information, it would cost me a lot of money. The information I get from reading books, from the internet, and from TV shows and documentaries is valuable to me; but it is nowhere near the first-hand experience I get from interacting with people. The information sticks in my mind longer.

Secondly, the time spent with people that slowly become my lifelong friends makes volunteering as an ESL teacher most enjoyable.”

- Julius Matito, Volunteer ESL Instructor at Southeast

Volunteering in the ESL program is a challenging multi-cultural teaching/learning experience. From the students, I learn about their lives in their native countries and what it's like to adjust to life in the U.S. In turn, I have the challenge of trying to determine how I can best help them learn English. The students work so hard and do so much to improve their own lives, that they are truly inspirational. They are also fun to be with. Their frequently-expressed appreciation for our volunteer efforts is a real bonus.

- Carolyn Swain. Volunteer ESL Instructor at West Regional

## Background Screenings

The City of Jacksonville is now requiring all volunteers to be background screened. These efforts will assist to ensure that you, your co-volunteers, staff, and customers are provided a safe working environment. Below is a list of the scheduled dates when a representative from the Office of Volunteers will be fingerprinting volunteers. If you have not been finger printed please make every effort to attend one of these sessions. If you prefer to come downtown please call 630-1020 to schedule an appointment. Anyone who does not pass the background screening will no longer be able to volunteer. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact your Volunteer Coordinator.

February 4 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am – 5:00 pm	Pablo Creek
February 5 <sup>th</sup>	1:30 pm – 6:00 pm	South Mandarin
February 17 <sup>th</sup>	3:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Webb Wesconnett
February 18 <sup>th</sup>	3:00 pm – 6:00 pm	West Regional
February 19 <sup>th</sup>	3:30 pm – 5:00 pm	Willowbranch
February 21 <sup>st</sup>	10:00 am – 2:00 pm	Main/Center for Adult Learning
February 24 <sup>th</sup>	1:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Beaches
February 25 <sup>th</sup>	11:30 am - 4:30 pm	Regency Square
February 26 <sup>th</sup>	4:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Argyle

## Volunteer Opportunities

Have you ever wanted to volunteer for one of the City's special events? Visit the Office of Volunteer Services website at [www.coj.net](http://www.coj.net) to see a list of upcoming events.

The Friends of the Library is gearing up for their **Great Jacksonville Book Sale** that will be held March 6<sup>th</sup> and they need lots of help to get the books ready for the sale and assistance at the sale. Contact the BOOKtique at 630-2304 for more information.

## Accolades

Congratulations to the following volunteers for their continued service:



### 5 Years of Service

Barbara Permenter, Mandarin

### 1 Year of Service

Teddy Acevedo, South Mandarin  
Catalina Alday, Pablo Creek  
Nancy Allen, Regency Square  
Barbara Gallaway, Beaches  
Lois Gilbert, South Mandarin  
Ivy Hartley, South Mandarin  
Helen Hill, Center for Adult Learning

Linda McEnery, San Marco  
Valerie Morris, Southeast  
Edgar Okuno, Mandarin  
Samuel Oliver, South Mandarin  
Barbara Permenter, Mandarin  
Jacobi Simpson, Northwest  
Joseph Smith, Willowbranch

Catherine King, Regency Square  
Patrice Lafser, South Mandarin  
Karen LeBlanc, Argyle  
Kathy Little, South Mandarin  
Duncan, MacInnes, Talking Books

Patricia Strader, University Park  
Kathy Tiernery, Mandarin  
Mariana Toci, Regency Square

500 Hours of Service

Barbara Permenter  
Christina Long  
Joe Clarke, Talking Books  
Bob Bucher, Center for Adult Learning

100 Hours of Service

Marie Schaefer  
Cindy Ballantyne  
Kathy Little  
Caroline Swain  
David Shine  
David Jose  
Karen LeBlanc

Samuel Oliver  
Patricia Strader  
Bich Tran  
Katherine Overall  
Tony Jackson  
Josep Redmond  
Khanh-nhi Vo

## Sudoku Puzzle

Try to fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3 x 3 box accommodates the digits 1 – 9, without repeating any.

						9		
				2	9	5		
		1				3		6
	4		1				3	
5	2							
9								
		7	6	9				
							1	
						2		