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www.newportliteracy.org

Literally Speaking

A publication of Newport/Mesa ProLiteracy, a program of the Newport Beach Public Library

Newport/ Mesa ProLiteracy

November/December 2017

Happy Hour with Lisi Harrison

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Bestselling author Lisi Harrison joined Newport/Mesa ProLiteracy on October 21st for our second annual “Happy Hour” event. Nearly 100 people came to hear Lisi Harrison share the juicy details of her new publication, “The Dirty Book Club”!



The beautiful Bamboo Courtyard was filled with guests mingling, eating delicious charcuterie and drinking good wines and beer.

Thanks to Carolyn Cosgrove who generously donated the wine, Jan Oates who donated the beer and Helene Chaban for contributing the food for this wonderful event. Events committee volunteers assembled the tasty table of cheese, crackers, fruit and more while the rest of the committee assured that guests were checked



in quickly and that the book signing went smoothly.

Lisi entertained the group with stories of how she became a novelist and how she made the leap from writing young adult books to adult fiction; particularly a book about “dirty books”. The truth is, says Lisi, the book is about relationships.

Each character’s unique twist to their life made them interesting and unpredictable. We can definitely understand why they are so quirky. Suddenly, being part of their club becomes our goal. We are already looking forward to our next Happy Hour in Fall of 2018.



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“To develop the literacy skills of adults to empower them to achieve greater success in their lives — at home, at work, and in the community.”

- Newport/Mesa ProLiteracy Mission Statement

Stay connected!



SNAPSHOT

Tutor
Gigi Spragins



What first drew you to the Newport Beach Public Library literacy program?

Once upon a time, I was a middle school English teacher but marriage and children put my career on hold for several years. Being an avid Newport Beach Library user, I had heard of the Literacy Program. But it wasn't until I was at a dinner party with a lovely Japanese woman who waxed so enthusiastically about the program and how it had helped her adjust to life in America that I felt that this could be the perfect outlet for the teacher in me. I called the Literacy office the next day to sign up.

In the past 3 and 1/2 years, I have tutored three learners from Japan, Iran, and South Korea. My current learner has been here from South Korea since 2008 and is a US citizen. She is married with two grown daughters. My learner owns a sushi restaurant where she employs 14 people and where she works seven days a week. She plays the saxophone in an ensemble from her church and often performs for senior living homes. She is also part of a Korean running club and supports her husband who ran in both the Chicago and Boston Marathons this year. As anyone can see, this woman is working hard to be part of the American dream and I am happy to be her champion in reaching that goal through this wonderful program.



“Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success.”

- Henry Rollins



Writer to Writer Challenge 2017

Attention Learners! Southern California Library Literacy Network (SCLLN) invites you to join **Adult Learners** from Southern California in the *2017 Writer to Writer Challenge*.

It is a chance for you to:

- **Share your thoughts with others in writing.**
- **Become a writer yourself.**
- **Relate what you read in a book, story or poem to your own life.**
- **Practice writing a letter, so you can write other letters on your own in the future.**



Read or listen to a book that inspires you and then write a letter to the author expressing how the writing has changed the way you think about life. Your letter is just a friendly note to a favorite author, living or dead. It can be short or long but under 500 words. This challenge is for everyone — from beginning to advanced level learners. Instructions and Entry Forms are available at the literacy office.

Deadline is December 1.

Annual Holiday Potluck

Join us for a morning of food and fun with learners, tutors & volunteers
Spouses and children are welcome.

Saturday, December 9

10:00am - 12:00pm

Newport Beach Public Library
Friends Meeting Room

Bring your favorite food to share

There will be a raffle, games and fun holiday crafts for the kids!!

Vote for our new incoming Advisory Board

Literally Speaking

Literally Speaking, the newsletter of Newport/Mesa ProLiteracy at the Newport Beach Public Library, is published bi-monthly and sponsored by corporate and private donations.

Literacy Advisory Board

Farah Mozaffar, *President*

Eve-Marie Kuntzman, *Vice President*

Jan Oates, *Secretary*

Seema Ali

Wasim Ali

Dziyana Aydin

Michael Habashi

Jay Nunez

Unlock the potential.

Become a tutor.

Join us on November 9th and 16th at 9:15am at the Newport Beach Public Library for our Tutor Training.

- **No Experience Necessary**
- **Flexible Hours**
- **We Prepare You and Supply All Materials**
- **Be Part of Your Community**

We require all prospective tutors to complete our online Tutor Orientation. Check out our website for more information at www.newportliteracy.org

Special One-Time Workshop Held

NMPL is always looking for ways to better serve the needs of our tutors and adult learners. We are always happy to organize special workshops to address concerns that learners or tutors might be having.

For example, on November 8th, Jay Nunez, an immigration attorney and member of our Advisory Board, facilitated a class on immigration. Learners gathered for an in-depth discussion on immigration policies and received help on specific answers to general immigration questions.

Everyone left the workshop feeling just a bit more comfortable about decisions that need to be made and options for them relating to immigration.

If there is something special that you would like the program to explore in a class or workshop, please contact the office.

Newport Beach, CA 92660

1000 Avocado Avenue

a program of the Newport Beach Public Library

Newport/Mesa ProLiteracy

Upcoming Literacy Dates/Events

November 6, 13, 20, 27	Mondays, 10:30 a.m.	Book Club
November 7, 14, 28	Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m.	Discussion: Life Skills Class**
November 7, 14, 21, 28	Tuesday, 6:00 p.m.	Evening Book Club**
November 1, 15, 29	Wednesday, 10:00 a.m.	News You Can Use**
November 8	Wednesday, 10:00 a.m.	Movie Talk**
November 1, 15, 29	Wednesday, 1:00 p.m.	Grammar & Vocabulary**
November 29	Wednesday, 6:00 p.m.	Creative Writing**
November 9, 16	Thursday, 9:15 a.m.	Tutor Training
November 2, 9, 16, 30	Thursdays, 10:00 a.m.	Writing Workshop**
November 2, 9, 16, 30	Thursdays, 1:00 p.m.	American Sitcoms**
November 2, 9, 16, 30	Thursdays, 6:30 p.m.	Conversation Class
November 16	Thursday, 10:30 a.m.	Script to Screen**
November 14	Tuesday, 6:00 p.m.	Advisory Board Meeting
November 23, 24	Thursday & Friday, All Day	Library Closed
December 4, 11, 18	Mondays, 10:30 a.m.	Book Club
December 5, 12, 19	Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m.	Discussion: Life Skills Class**
December 5, 12, 19	Tuesdays, 6:00 p.m.	Evening Book Club**
December 6, 13, 20	Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m.	News You Can Use**
December 6	Wednesday, 1:00 pm	Grammar & Vocabulary**
December 6, 13, 20, 27	Wednesday, 6:00 p.m.	Creative Writing**
December 7, 14	Thursdays, 10:00 a.m.	Writing Workshop**
December 2, 9, 16, 30	Thursdays, 1:00 p.m.	American Sitcoms**
December 2, 9, 16, 30	Thursdays, 6:30 p.m.	Conversation Class
December 9	Saturday, 10:00 a.m.	Holiday Potluck
December 25, 29	Monday & Friday, All Day	Library Closed

Note: All programs are held at the Central Library unless otherwise posted and subject to change.

For more details, contact the literacy office at (949) 717-3874 or email us at literacy@newportbeachca.gov