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ITERACY EGACY

Leading Through Reading

Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County



Newbery
Award Winner
Kwame
Alexander
inspires our
civic leaders.



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INSIDE THIS EDITION:

Looking for a way to engage

youth in a fun community service project that supports literacy? Join ReaderCorps today! See page three for more details.



Help Us Build Better Readers



BOARD OF DIRECTORS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Florida Literacy Coalition and ProLiteracy Member

On the cover: Mayors' Literacy Initiative Luncheon Guest Speaker Kwame Alexander

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Leading through Reading has been the tagline of the Literacy Coalition since 2009. It represents that we are leading adults, children and families to gain literacy skills and empowering them to succeed in life as they embrace reading in their lives as students, employees and parents.

Through extensive outreach and collaboration with a network of community partners, the Literacy Coalition is working to address these needs with services by our Literacy AmeriCorps, Adult and Family Literacy programs and Children's Literacy programs like Budding Readers, Reach Out and Read and Building Better Readers, which support our efforts with the National Campaign for Grade - Kristin Calder Level Reading.

Leading Through Reading

A Message from our CEO

Literacy Coalition Recognized In Top 2% of Charities Nationwide



The Literacy Coalition has earned our eighth consecutive 4-star rating from Charity Navigator. Receiving four out of a possible four stars indicates that our organization adheres to good governance and other best practices that minimize the chance of unethical activities and consistently executes our mission in a fiscally responsible way. Only 2% of the charities rated have received at least 8 consecutive 4-star evaluations, indicating that the Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County outperforms most other charities in America. This "exceptional" designation differentiates the Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County from its peers and demonstrates to the public it is worthy of your trust.

Please join us as we work toward improving the quality of life in our community by promoting and achieving literacy.

January 23-27 Florida Literacy Week – Celebrate with us throughout the week

Loop for Literacy – Walk, run or bike for the whole family February 4

February 22 Pink Shirt Day – Wear pink on this international anti-bullying awareness day, a highlight of our Turning Bullies Into Buddies

high-quality literature afterschool program

Love of Literacy Luncheon – Our signature literacy celebration March 16

The Literacy Coalition loves to share the joy of reading. The Blume Literacy Center on the Brenda & C.P. Medore Campus has a **Neighborhood Book Exchange.** Here community members can take a book or leave a book for others to enjoy.



Our Mission: To improve the quality of life in our community by promoting and achieving literacy.



Introducing The Inaugural ReaderCorps Campaign

Parents often ask how their children can participate in community service projects that support literacy. In response, the Literacy Coalition is launching ReaderCorps. The mission is to provide meaningful service opportunities for children and teens that make them excited about reading while supporting literacy in Palm Beach County. Opportunities will include organizing a book drive, reading to younger children and participating in a read-a-thon. Kits that provide step-by-step directions will be available for all opportunities. Any child from kindergarten through twelfth grade – whether attending a public school, charter school, private school or home-school - can be a member of ReaderCorps. A child or teen may also be a ReaderCorps Ambassador and serve as the leader of the campaign at his or her school.

ReaderCorps will officially kick-off on Monday, January 23 at a celebration of reading at the Barnes & Noble, 1400 Glades Road, Boca Raton with book-themed activities and treats. It will wrap-up the week of April 24th with a recognition ceremony at the Literacy Coalition's Blume Literacy Center in Boynton Beach. We will honor the schools and individuals who have embraced the true spirit of the campaign and helped to make Palm Beach County a community that values literacy.

To register your child to be a ReaderCorps member, please visit the **Literacy Coalition website at** www.LiteracyPBC.org.



Students in William T. Dwyer High School's Early Childhood Teacher Education Academy organized a successful children's book drive. The 102 books that the students collected will bring big smiles to the faces of the children who receive them.



ReaderCorps is made up of K-12 students from all over the county who have a passion for literacy and puiblic service. Setting up a buddy reading program, pairing older students with younger students for a special reading time, is encouraged.

Newbery Medal Winner Kwame **Alexander inspires** our civic leaders

The Literacy Coalition hosted the 9th annual Mayors' Literacy Initiative Luncheon at the Flagler Steakhouse COMCAST at The Breakers, Palm Beach,



September 22 to provide updates for mayors and city officials about literacy and education issues. Held in partnership with The Palm Beach County League of Cities, Inc. and sponsored by **Comcast**, the Literacy Coalition encouraged participation in our literacy efforts including "Read for the Record" and "Read Together Palm Beach County". The featured speaker was author **Kwame Alexander**, a poet, educator, and *New York* Times Bestselling author of 21 books including Booked and The Crossover, which received the 2015 John Newbery Medal for the Most Distinguished Contribution to American literature for Children, the Coretta Scott King Author Award Honor, The NCTE Charlotte Huck Honor, the Lee Bennett Hopkins Poetry Award, and the Paterson Poetry Prize. Mr. Alexander believes that poetry can change the world.

During the Mayors' Literacy Initiative Luncheon, municipalities were invited to participate in our "We Love to Read" series. This series will focus on residents of various municipalities who are passionate about books and reading. Municipalities were invited to share a story about someone in their community (child, teen, adult or family) who loves to read. These stories will showcase a countywide love of reading.

Thank you to the municipalities who are engaged in making literacy a priority in their communities





Robert Shalhoub, PBC League of Cities President and Mayor of Lake Clarke Shores, Alex Price, Comcast, Kristin Calder, Literacy Coalition CEO, Susan Rabinowitz, Literacy Coalition Board President and Derek Cooper, Comcast



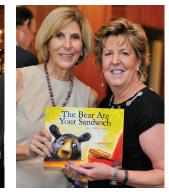
The Town of Lantana: Town Manager Deborah Manzo and Mayor David Stewart



Diva-Licious Cake House designed the cake for the 2016 Read for the Record book.



City of Boca Raton: Council Member Robert Weinroth and Mayor Susan Haynie



City of West Palm Beach Mayor Jeri Muoio and Village of Golf Manager Christine Thrower



Mr. Lavallee presented Mr. Alexander with a "Say Yes" t-shirt as they agree on the shared value of how saying "yes" creates opportunities and chances for great success. Seated: Kwame Alexander and Randy Preston Standing: Dean Lavallee, Literacy Coalition Board Member and Kristin Calder, Literacy Coalition CEO





More than 2.35 million children and adults participated in the world's largest shared reading experience, Read for the Record® on October 27. Volunteers gathered in small towns, cities and rural communities – in all 50 states – to learn, laugh, and read The Bear Ate Your Sandwich by Julia Sarcone-Roach.

The Literacy Coalition celebrated the 2016 Read for the Record by coordinating 438 adults who read to 15,647 children at 446 childcare centers and schools throughout Palm Beach County. The campaign was funded locally by **PNC Bank.**

Children from Tiny Tikes, Glades Family Education Program and Achievement Centers for Children and Families Delray Beach listened to a reading of *The Bear Ate Your Sandwich* and participated in fun activities at the Blume Literacy Center in Boynton Beach. Guest readers included Tania Rogers of WPTV NewsChannel 5 and Kim Reckley of PNC.

Mayors and public officials competed in our annual contest to see which municipality would have the greatest number of community leaders reading: 119 municipality officials and staff read at 56 sites to 3,721 children. The winner for the larger cities was the City of Boynton Beach and the winner for smaller municipalities was the **Town of Lantana**. Honorable



Connie Hoke, John Durgan, Kristin Calder and Boynton Beach Mayor Steven Grant

mentions went to the Village of Palm Springs, City of West Palm Beach and the City of Lake Worth.

We thank everyone who supported Read for the Record and give a special thanks to the members of the Palm Beach **County Fire Rescue** for their great participation.











The Palm Beach Post

The Love of Literacy Luncheon

Welcomes Speaker: Diane Ackerman

> **Author. Poet and Naturalist**

Thursday, March 16, 2017

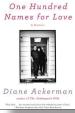
11:30 a.m. | West Palm Beach Raymond F. Kravis Center for the Performing Arts



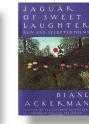
We are thrilled to welcome **Diane Ackerman** as our featured Luncheon speaker. An award-winning poet, author and naturalist, she is the author of two dozen highly acclaimed works of nonfiction and poetry including The Zookeeper's Wife and A Natural History of the Senses books beloved by millions of readers all over the world.

The Zookeeper's Wife, a little-known true story of WWII, became a New York Times bestseller, and received the Orion Book Award, which honored it as "a groundbreaking work of nonfiction, in which the human relationship to nature is explored in an absolutely original way through looking at the Holocaust." A movie of The Zookeeper's Wife, starring Jessica Chastain and directed by Niki Caro, will be released in late March 2017.











Sponsorship Opportunities

Made possible by Bank of America

Platinum	Diamond	Gold	Silver	Tab	
\$15,000	\$10,000	\$4,500	\$3,000	\$1,5	
TOP	Prime	Priority	Priority	Corpo	

Individual Ticket \$150

complete upon payment.

No ticket(s) will be mailed. Registration is

		1711110	17107119	17707107	ov. _F vv
Recognition in publicity	•				
Name on produced media	•				
Ad in event program	Full page	Full page	Full page	Half page	Listing
Recognition from podium	•	•	•		
Reserved table for ten location	Front Row	Prime	Priority	Priority	Preferred
Name on event sponsor board	•	•	•	•	
Signed copy of author's book	•	•			
No. of guests at private reception	10	8	6	4	

Patron Ticket \$300

Includes a personal color photograph with speaker at a private reception prior to the luncheon. Patron ticket(s) to private reception will be mailed.

Program Ad Sponsor

Half Page \$175 | Full Page \$275

Back Inside Cover \$500 | Front Inside Cover \$750 | Back Outside Cover \$1,000

Full page (5"w x 8.5"h) and half page (5"w x 4"h) black and white ad sponsorships are available. Artwork may be e-mailed to kmatczak@LiteracyPBC.org. Acceptable formats: JPG, TIFF, Photoshop, Illustrator or PDF. Please embed fonts for PDF and include all images. Image resolution: 150 dpi and above. Ad submission deadline is Friday, February 10.

FAIR MARKET VALUE OF GOODS AND SERVICES RECEIVED ESTIMATED AT \$36.60 PER PERSON. ANY PAYMENT IN EXCESS OF \$36.60 IS TAX

Please indicate level of sponsorship desired:

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Please mail form & payment to: Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County 3651 Quantum Blvd, Boynton Beach, FL 33426 • www.LiteracyPBC.org



Saturday, February 4, 2017

Proceeds benefit the Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County



Join us for Loop for Literacy!

LEVENGER

Enjoy family friendly activities for kids of all ages and a delicious lunch following the walk, run and bike ride. Proceeds benefit the programs of the Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County that ensure that adults, children, youth and families gain the literacy skills necessary to succeed in life.

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

GOLD	\$10,000
SILVER	\$5,000
BRONZE	\$2,500
SUPPORT	\$1,000
AID STATION	\$500
MILE MARKER	\$300
WATER STATION	\$300
START/FINISH LINE EXHIBITORS	\$250

CHOOSE FROM:

CYCLE: Roadside Ride – \$50.00 Ride begins in the park at 7:00 a.m., course goes onto the road and then ends in the park. Approximately 40 miles.

RUN: Adult – \$35.00 | Student K-12 – \$15.00 5k run begins at 8:00 a.m.

WALK: Adult – \$35.00 | Student K-12 – \$15.00 5k walk begins at 8:15 a.m.

FUN RIDE: Family Friendly in Park Adult- \$25.00 | Student K-12 - \$10.00 Ride inside the park begins at 9:00 a.m.



Register nine participants and the tenth is free!

REGISTER ONLINE: LiteracyPBC.org

The Great Grown-Up Spelling Bee results are in!

The Great Grown-Up Spelling Bee was held October 20 at the Harriet Himmel Theater at CityPlace to benefit Literacy Coalition programs. The Bee was chaired by Literacy Coalition Board Members Dr. Rob Gingras and Matthew Turko.

This year there was a surprise patriotic word bank for contestants. The winners of the 25th Annual Great Grown-Up Spelling Bee are...Tied for first: Greenberg Traurig and The Palm Beach Post; Runners up: Friends of the PBC Library System, Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A., Lynn University and NextEra Energy; Best decorated Bee: Keiser University and Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A.; Spirit Award: The Palm

Beach Post and Friends of the PBC Library System; Team Fundraising Award: Friends of the Palm Beach County Library System.

Thank you to those who participated in the Bee, donated and volunteered your time. The Literacy Coalition is grateful for the support from Bee Hive Sponsor Publix Super Markets Charities; Bee Wordmaster Dr. William Mech, Palm Beach State College; Bee judges, Lourdes Marx, Palm Beach State College, Carol Rose, The Palm Beach Post and Bob Van Der Velde, Palm Beach State College; and Master of Ceremonies Steve Weagle of WPTV NewsChannel 5.



Left to Right: Susan Rabinowitz, Literacy Coalition Board President, Greenberg Traurig Team: Linda Kruger, Lauren Whetstone and Lindsay Macdonald, David Fleisher, Literacy Coalition Board Member, Dr. Rob Gingras, Bee Co-chair, The Palm Beach Post Team: Nick Manzino, Sarah Peters and Howard Goodman, Kristin Calder, Literacy Coalition CEO and Matthew Turko, Bee Co-chair; Front: Kenneth Montgomery as Buzzby Book Bee, Literacy Coalition Board Member



Guests enjoyed decorating their table as they cheered for their teams on stage.



Steve Weagle, Kenneth Montogmery, Dr. William Mech, Carol Rose, Bob Van Der Velde and Lourdes Marx.



Bee Hive Sponsor



PUBLIX SUPER MARKETS CHARITIES

BEE TEAMS

Akerman LLP Cozen O'Connor Duffy's Sports Grill Florida Crystals Corporation Friends of the Palm Beach County Library System--Beekeeping It Real Greenberg Traurig, P.A. Haile, Shaw & Pfaffenberger, P.A. Ice Legal Keiser University Lewis Longman & Walker, P.A. Lynn University NextEra Energy The Palm Beach Post Palm Beach State College **Publix Super Markets Charities** WPBF 25 News

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- V: Nancy Vera
- X: The Gildan Family
- Y: The Young Family
- Z: Tom Ztreit

Volunteers Changing Lives with Literacy

The Literacy Coalition is in the midst of our third year of recruiting and training adult volunteers for our newest program, Building Better Readers, to help children in Palm Beach County improve their reading skills and enhance their chances for long-term academic success.

We have more than 100 volunteers tutoring 300 children in first and second grades in 25 elementary schools throughout the County and 16 volunteers providing afterschool tutoring to 24 children from 6 local elementary schools at our Blume Literacy Center.

Teachers, parents and tutors are seeing the results of improved reading and increased confidence in the students. The experience is equally rewarding for the tutors. Here's one success story:

First grader, Malia, joined the Building Better Readers tutoring program last October after her parents learned that Malia was not reading well at school. Reading at a level "D", Malia didn't enjoy reading and suffered from anxiety when asked to read aloud. On her first day of tutoring at the Literacy Coalition, Malia entered crying and begging to go home. As she began working with her encouraging, patient tutor, Sheelin, Malia's distress lessened, and she started making excellent progress in her reading and her comprehension.

By the end of the school year, Malia was reading texts at a level "M", significantly above a proficient first grade reading level. Her tutor, Sheelin, loved seeing Malia's enjoyment of reading grow. She saw significant improvement in Malia's decoding skills, fluency, and comprehension, and was thrilled as Malia began to uncover deeper, hidden meanings in texts. Seeing Malia blossom and gain confidence was just as exciting for Sheelin as it was for her parents. Malia's father couldn't believe it when Malia began leaving her tutoring sessions wanting to read aloud to him on the way home. He is so grateful to the Literacy Coalition and the Building Better Readers program for turning his daughter into a lifelong reader.





The Literacy Coalition has been selected to compete in the 2017 Great Charity Challenge (GCC) on Saturday, February 4, 2017. GCC is a relay style equestrian jumping competition with teams consisting of two junior/amateur riders combined with one Olympic or world-class rider. The rider teams are randomly paired with 34 charities that serve Palm Beach County.

- The winning team of riders will be awarded \$150,000 for its charity.
- Every charity selected will win a guaranteed minimum of \$15,000.

Please join us and cheer on the Literacy Coalition's team to victory at 6:00 p.m. at the Palm Beach Equestrian Center, 3400 Equestrian Club Drive, Wellington, FL 33414.

Participate in the Birdies for Children Campaign

The Literacy Coalition is participating in the Honda Classic's "Birdies for Children" campaign. It costs \$20.00 to guess the number of birdies that will take place at the Honda Classic in February 2017. For \$50.00 you can make 3 guesses. If you guess the correct number of birdies, you are entered into a drawing to win a Honda vehicle! The Literacy Coalition receives the money that is raised by us – plus the Honda Classic kicks in another 10%.



To help you along, the total number of birdies made in each of the last ten tournaments are listed on the Honda Classic website. http://www.TheHondaClassic.com/



DONATE to our Annual Campaign

Did you know...

1 in 7 adults in Palm Beach County functions at the lowest level of literacy.

48% of our third graders read below grade level

Our — efforts

Every year, the Literacy Coalition:

- Coordinates 12 programs that deliver services from Boca Raton to Jupiter to Belle Glade
- Distributes more than 70,000 children's books
- Partners with more than 150 community organizations and schools
- Provides reading tutors for more than 400 children
- Tutors and mentors more than 1,000 high school students
- Helps more than 1,100 adults gain reading, English and employability skills

How You Can Help: Please make a gift today.

ANNUAL CAMPAIGN DONOR RECOGNITION AND BENEFITS

Friend \$100-\$999

• Recognition in The Literacy Coalition's publications

The Avid Reader Society \$1,000-\$2,499

- Recognition in The Literacy Coalition's publications
- Recognition on the Avid Reader Society Donor Plaque in the Literacy Center

The Literacy Advocate Society \$2,500-\$4,999

- Recognition in The Literacy Coalition's publications
- Recognition on the Literacy Advocate Society Donor Plaque in the Literacy Center

The Sustainer Society \$5,000-\$9,999

- Recognition in The Literacy Coalition's publications
- Recognition on the Sustainer Society Donor Plaque in the Literacy Center
- 2 Tickets to The Love of Literacy Luncheon in March 2017
- 2 Tickets to The Love of Literacy Luncheon Champagne Reception with the Author

The Literacy Leadership Society \$10,000-\$24,999

- Recognition in The Literacy Coalition's publications
- Recognition on the Literacy Leadership Society Donor Plaque in the Literacy Center
- 4 Tickets to The Love of Literacy Luncheon in March 2017
- 4 Tickets to The Love of Literacy Luncheon Champagne Reception with the Author
- Invitation to a Private Reception Recognizing Donors
- Lapel Pin



The Literacy Luminary Society - \$25,000 +

- Recognition in The Literacy Coalition's publications
- Recognition on the Luminary Society Donor Plaque in the Literacy Center
- 6 Tickets to The Love of Literacy Luncheon in March 2017
- 6 Tickets to The Love of Literacy Luncheon Champagne Reception with the Author
- Invitation to a Private Reception Recognizing Donors
- Lapel Pin

AmeriCorps...getting things done!



AmeriCorps Pledge

I will get things done for America to make our people safer, smarter and healthier.

I will bring Americans together to strengthen our communities.

Faced with apathy, I will take action. Faced with conflict, I will seek common ground. Faced with adversity, I will persevere.

I will carry this commitment with me this year and beyond. I am an AmeriCorps member, and I will get things done.

What is Literacy AmeriCorps? Literacy AmeriCorps members provide a variety of support services to children, youth, adults and families in Palm Beach County. Members are placed at various locations throughout Palm Beach County, called service sites. Members may be assigned to family literacy centers where they work with parents and children, library programs serving adults or children, afterschool centers where they tutor children who are underachieving in reading, and adult literacy programs where they teach groups of adults who want to learn English. Some of our members serve at high schools as graduation coaches for students who are at risk of dropping out. One of the advantages of our program is the diverse array of service opportunities our members can experience. When they are not serving at their sites they are out in the community giving their time to help other organizations with community service projects. To donate support or apply for the program visit LiteracyPBC.org.



Literacy Coalition AmeriCorps members took their oath administered by author Kwame Alexander at the Mayors' Literacy Initiative Luncheon.

"One of my students created a name for himself due to misbehaving and absences. His first year of school he was expelled and it began a tradition of moving from school to school. Many people have given up on him, but from day one I told this student I would be extremely transparent and go to war and back for him if he worked hard and he's done just that. His absences have decreased, he's been studying more, completing assignments and reporting his grades to me regularly. When I first met him he said college was unnecessary and a waste of time, but on Monday he asked me if we could fill out a Palm Beach State College application."

Ezichi, Literacy AmeriCorps High School Graduation Coach

Where Literacy AmeriCorps Serve:

Take Stock in Children

Adopt-a-Family of the Palm Beaches
Believers Academy
Boynton Beach City Library
ED VENTURE Charter School
Farmworker Childrens Council
Glades Family Education Program
Gulfstream Goodwill Transition to Life Academy
The Lord's Place
Mandel Public Library of West Palm Beach
Palm Beach County Library System
The School District of Palm Beach County
SouthTech Academy

Village Readers Family Education Program

Boynton Beach City Library • City of West Palm Beach • Clinics Can Help
Community Partners & Community Partners: Bridges of Highland
CROS Ministries • Feeding Children Everywhere/United Way • Habitat for
Humanity • John I Leonard High School • Keep PBC Beautiful • Lake Worth
Community High School • Locks of Love • Loggerhead Marine Life Center
Mandel Public Library of West Palm Beach • Paint Your Heart Out/United
Way • PBC Food Bank/United Way • RCMA Farm Workers Council • Children's
Schoolhouse Museum and Learning Center • Sea Angels • Special Olympics
The Lord's Place • Take Stock in Children • United Way • United Way/Jeff
Industries • Village Readers Family Education Program

The Literacy Coalition's AmeriCorps program recruits, trains and supervises up to 40 members. These members contribute

68.000 hours of service in tutoring, mentoring

and participate in meaningful community service

projects with partners including:

American Association of Caregiving Youth/Camp Treasure • Adopt-a-Family

Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee U.S. National Wildlife Refuge



Blume Literacy Center on the Brenda & C.P. Medore Campus 3651 Quantum Blvd. Boynton Beach, FL 33426 (561) 279-9103

www.LiteracyPBC.org













How you can help

Volunteer



You can volunteer to tutor an adult or child in need of literacy skills. There are also opportunities to help an adult learn English and/or prepare to take the GED exam. No experience is required as we will provide training.

Make a Donation

Help our neighbors in Palm Beach County establish a legacy of literacy for their families. Your taxdeductible donation will provide literacy services to adults, children and families who are working to achieve a better life by improving their literacy skills. Ask us about other ways to give including planned giving and stock transfers.

Book Drives

Organizations and individuals can conduct book drives for the Literacy Coalition. The books that



are collected are used with the children's literacy programs operated by the Literacy Coalition, or they are distributed to partner agencies serving economically disadvantaged children.

Attend an Event

There are various events to attend throughout the year that support our literacy programs and initiatives. Events include Loop for Literacy, the

ORDER TICKETS

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Love of Literacy Luncheon and the Great Grown-Up Spelling Bee.

Read to a Child

Read together everyday. Point out print everywhere. Do not limit yourself to reading books with your child. Street signs and cereal boxes count too. Tell your child how much you enjoy reading with him or her. This attention lets them know they are special and loved.

Promote Literacy

You can support the mission of the Literacy Coalition and become an advocate for literacy. Share our posts and information on your social media accounts.

Follow LiteracyPBC today!



