

LITERACY LEGACY

Leading Through Reading

LITERACY COALITION OF PALM BEACH COUNTY



www.literacyabc.org • Winter 2014

Brad Meltzer to speak at the Love of Literacy Luncheon



Author of the #1 bestsellers *The Book of Fate*, *The Inner Circle*, *The Zero Game*, *The Book of Lies*, *The Tenth Justice* and *The First Counsel*, Brad Meltzer is the featured speaker for the 23rd annual Love of Literacy Luncheon. His two non-fiction books, *Heroes For My Son* and *Heroes For My Daughter*, a collection of heroes throughout history, have

each been on the *New York Times* inspirational bestseller list. Meltzer is host of the History Channel series, *Brad Meltzer's Decoded*, and is the #1 selling author of the critically acclaimed comic books, *Identity Crisis* and *Justice League of America*, for which he won the prestigious Eisner Award. He is the first author to reach the #1 spot on both the *New York Times* and the Diamond comic book bestsellers lists simultaneously. In 1994, Meltzer co-wrote the original AmeriCorps swearing-in oath that is taken by our 40 Literacy AmeriCorps members and by AmeriCorps members across the country each year.

To purchase table sponsorships or individual or patron tickets, visit www.literacyabc.org. For more information, call 561-767-3370.

Kristin Calder has been named CEO of the Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County...

With more than 15 years of leadership, communications and fundraising experience in the nonprofit community in Palm Beach County, Kristin joins the Literacy Coalition in the midst of the first year in our new headquarters, The Blume Literacy Center on the Brenda and C.P. Medore Campus.



Prior to joining the Literacy Coalition, Kristin was at the Bethesda Hospital Foundation for more than 12 years where she served in various capacities including

Director of Communications, Annual Giving and Special Events.

Kristin has been a passionate supporter of the Literacy Coalition for many years and served as a member of our board of directors since 2010. She has been involved in several initiatives including Read Together Palm Beach County, Read for the Record and the Campaign for Grade Level Reading. She has also been a volunteer leader in our fundraising events including the American Girl Fashion Show and the Great Grown-Up Spelling Bee.

Kristin becomes only the second CEO in the Literacy Coalition's 23 year history, succeeding Darlene Kostrub whose outstanding leadership shaped the growth of the organization.

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The Honorable Susan Whelchel, Mayor of Boca Raton

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Kristin Calder

Florida Literacy Coalition and ProLiteracy Member

Mark Your Calendars

February 22
Loop the Lake for Literacy
Lake Okeechobee

February 24
Read Together Palm Beach County
Press Conference

February 26
Pink Shirt Day
Palm Beach County

March 7
Love of Literacy Luncheon
Kravis Center for the Performing Arts
West Palm Beach
11:30 a.m.

March 13
Adult Essay Contest Reception
Airport Hilton
West Palm Beach

April 7 & 8
Palm Beach Strategic Forum
Palm Beach County Convention Center

April 9
Read Together Palm Beach County Finale

April 12
The American Girl Fashion Show
The Boca Raton Marriott

Literacy Coalition Expands Its Book Distribution Program



Through the generosity of The Rares Family, the Literacy Coalition has, for the first time, a delivery vehicle to utilize in its monthly distribution of new children’s books to more than 32 pediatric clinics. Medical providers in the clinics give the books to the families of young children during well child visits and advise the parents to read to their children every day.

In collaboration with the Children’s

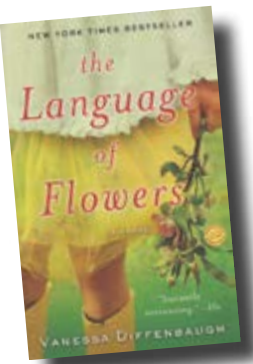
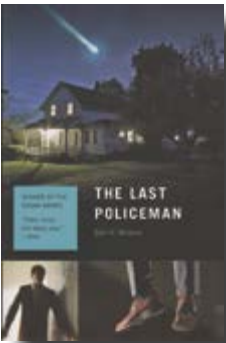
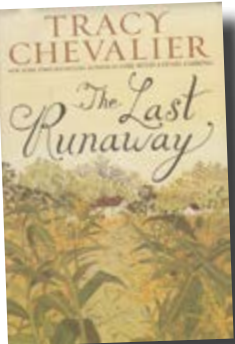
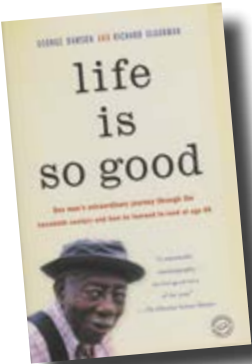
Services Council, the Coalition will expand its book distribution program to deliver 30,000 additional new books to a variety of community programs serving children in West Palm Beach, Lake Worth, Belle Glade and Pahokee among others.

Getting books into the homes of children and families, especially those with limited literacy skills, is a powerful tool in getting children prepared to enter school.



Get Ready to Vote

FOR “THE BOOK” FOR THE 2014 READ TOGETHER PALM BEACH COUNTY CAMPAIGN



Go to your local library or bookstore and read these selections to decide which book you recommend for the community to read together during March 7 - April 7. Voting begins January 13 in public libraries, Starbucks, Barnes & Noble, Park Avenue BBQ Grille, online and at various community locations.

readtogether.palmbeachpost.com

Read Together Palm Beach County @literacycbc

Plan to Participate in Read Together Palm Beach County

Ambassadors

Jennifer Abaid
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Steve Baker
Debbie Battles
Seth Bernstein
Christopher Binnix
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Tandy Robinson
Rhonda Rogers
Donna Ryan
Lourdes Sanchez
Emily Santos
Alexi Savage
Alexa Sherr Hartley
Jim Sugarman
Theresa Trabucco
Kathy Wall
Christina Wood
Jaime Zinser

Read Together Calendar of Events

January 9 – 4 pm

Partner meeting at the Literacy Coalition
Ballots boxes will be distributed.

January 13 – February 7

Public voting on a choice of five books

February 24 – 10 am

Press Conference to announce “The Book”

March 7

Official kick-off at the Love of Literacy
Luncheon at the Kravis Center at 11:30 am.

March 7 - April 7

Book discussion groups all over the county

April 9

Finale

Campaign Partners (as of press date)

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Library

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To become a campaign
partner e-mail
bkeays@literacycbc.org



Palm Beach County Helped to Break a World Record in Reading



On October 3, adults throughout the nation read *Otis* to children in schools and child care settings as part of Jumpstart's Read for the Record 2013 Campaign.

In the world's largest shared reading experience, *Otis* was read to 2,462,860 children on that day breaking a world record. Tiffani Thiessen, star of *White Collar* joined Matt Lauer live on the *Today Show* to support the cause.

Locally, volunteers from Palm Beach County Fire Rescue, Office Depot, Jarden Consumer Solutions, NCCI, Wells Fargo, Lawyers for Literacy of the Palm Beach County Bar Association, Palm Beach Flagler Rotary, the West Palm Beach Rotary Club, Levenger, WXEL TV, the Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches, Family Central, ADT and Palm Beach Atlantic University joined with the Literacy Coalition in reading to thousands of children in our area.

Special thanks goes to PNC Bank for its financial support for the 2013 Read for the Record Campaign. Everglades Farm Equipment and the Farmers Daughter Produce Market created a terrific learning environment for more than 200 preschoolers who heard Tania Rogers from WPTV NewsChannel 5, Felicia Rodriguez from WPBF 25 News and Eric Hartman from PNC Corporate Banking share *Otis* and other fun children's books amid a setting of tractors, homemade ice cream and even a calf feeding experience.



Felicia Rodriguez, WPBF 25 News, shared stories with young children at Everglades Farm Equipment Company.



The mayor of Loxahatchee Groves, David Browning, and Jeanne Siccone, Coalition Director of Children's Literacy, engaged in fun reading activities with more than 200 children.



Stan Klett, from the Palm Beach County Bar Association, read with children at ABC Montessori of Jupiter Farms.



Palm Beach Gardens officials participated in the Otis reading celebration.



In September, mayors and other city officials were invited to the Mayors' Literacy Initiative Luncheon where they were encouraged to participate in Read for the Record.



Mayors and Local Officials Race to Read for the Record

At a recent League of Cities meeting, several municipalities were honored by the Literacy Coalition for their participation in the October Read for the Record Campaign. In the under 20,000 population category, the municipality having the most officials reading to the most children at the most sites was Lantana with the Haverhill as the Runner Up! Honorable Mention went to Cloud Lake, Lake Park and Palm Springs.

In the over 20,000 population category, Boynton Beach was the winner with 55 officials reading to more than 1200 children. The Runner Up was West Palm Beach with Honorable Mention going to Greenacres, Jupiter, Lake Worth and Riviera Beach.

A total of 144 officials from local municipalities read at 120 centers to 3,396 children.

Turning Bullies into Buddies Happens Daily...

The Coalition’s literature based character education program, Turning Bullies into Buddies, utilizes children’s books, stories and technology to change kids’ lives each week. Kristal Richmond-Hardeman, an Activity Leader at Galaxy E3 Elementary After the Bell program, shared these comments:

“You are doing amazing work with the kids. I am noticing changes in them and the way that they interact with one another throughout the day. I personally have witnessed students standing up for one another and even some who have come forward and admit to being bullied or seeing someone else who is being bullied. I believe these are results of the education that you bring to them every week. ...I think that this awareness and training is a total necessity especially in light of current events that we have been seeing in the media....This makes me very thankful to have you come and educate my students every week.



Students at South Olive Community Center also participate in Turning Bullies into Buddies.

I have even passed on some of your teachings to my colleagues and they also re-taught the lessons. I hope that we will see a more extensive version of this program in the future not only for students but for educators and staff as well. Thanks again....!”

Congratulations to our 2013 Spelling Bee Winners!



1st Place: Palm Beach State College



2nd Place: The Palm Beach Post



3rd Place: Lynn University

Spirit Award Winners:
Haile, Shaw & Pfaffenberger, P.A. and Friends of the Palm Beach County Library System

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LOOP THE LAKE FOR LITERACY

Saturday, February 22, 2014
Lake Okeechobee

- Ride on the dike at one of the most beautiful parts of the lake
- Free registration for those fundraising \$1,000 or more
- Discounts for teams of 10 or more
- Free t-shirts, breakfast, lunch, rest stop stations for all participants
- Jerseys available for purchase
- Early registration discount now available
- Cost: \$85 (for 14, 34 and 68 mile rides)
\$145 (for 115 mile full Loop around the Lake)



Register online at:
www.loopthelakeforliteracy.org
(561) 279-9103
bkeays@literacyabc.org

To benefit the programs of the



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Lenore and her daughter Ana Maria learned to love books and reading by attending the Literacy Coalition's Glades Family Education Program. Your gift can help to ensure that Lenore, Ana Maria and other adults, teens and children learn to read.

Will you please help more families learn to read?

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Any gift will help our neighbors improve their literacy skills and is greatly appreciated.

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