

Published monthly by ProLiteracy America  
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Recipients are encouraged to forward this newsletter to staff, board, and volunteers.

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**PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

**1. PROLITERACY CONFERENCE NEWS AND NOTES**

Make your travel plans for ProLiteracy's conference now to take advantage of discounts and early-bird benefits.

- The conference hotel is the Westin Peachtree Plaza, 210 Peachtree St., Atlanta, Georgia 30303. Call 1-800-937-8461 for reservations. Be sure to register by Sept. 2, 2006.  
[http://www.proliteracy.org/conference/atl\\_travel.asp](http://www.proliteracy.org/conference/atl_travel.asp)
- Attendees traveling to conference on American Airlines receive a special discount. Call American Airlines at 1-800-433-1790 and refer to STARfile code A89H6AC or visit [www.aa.com](http://www.aa.com).

- Please be aware that the Atlanta airport is one of the largest, busiest airports in the country. It is very easy to get lost. There are resources posted on ProLiteracy's [conference Web site](#) to help you find the baggage claim and ground transportation areas. Please plan to accompany anyone who is an inexperienced traveler.
- The airport's ground transportation center is the place to pick up shuttles, taxis, buses, and the subway.
- It is inadvisable to rent a car. Hotel parking is \$18 per day. Atlanta's subway system, MARTA, is safe, reliable, inexpensive, and provides easy access to many of Atlanta's sights.

Be sure to attend one of the featured sessions on Thursday, October 5. These sessions bring together experts in the public policy and research fields to discuss the topics that are most important to you.

- Public Policy Panel moderated by Peter Waite:
  - Art Ellison, State Directors of Adult Education Single Point of Contact System
  - Tony Peyton, National Center for Family Literacy
  - Lynn Selmsler, COABE and National Coalition for Literacy
  - Marsha Tait, ProLiteracy Senior Vice President of Public Affairs
- Research Panel: Sandra Baxter, The National Institute for Literacy, and Steve Reder, American Institutes for Research

Bring your dancing shoes for the Peach Masquerade Ball on Thursday, October 5, after the Annual Banquet. Dress up in your favorite costume and dance, dance, dance!

## 2. KEEP UP WITH CONGRESSIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

Check the ProLiteracy Worldwide Web site for frequent [public policy updates](#) about federal appropriations for adult education, actions by legislators, and opportunities for you to influence the federal budget process.

## 3. STUDENT SECTION OF PROLITERACY'S WEB SITE UPDATED

Take a few minutes to check out the [student section](#) on ProLiteracy's Web site and encourage your students to visit. They will find inspiring stories from other adults and information about ProLiteracy's Student Advisory Council.

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## RESOURCES AND EVENTS

### 1. UPS OFFERS BEST PRACTICES TOOLBOX

The UPS Foundation has created a Best Practices Toolbox to help nonprofit organizations exchange successful practices and tools.

<http://community.ups.com/philanthropy/toolbox.html>

### 2. VERIZON LITERACY CAMPUS LAUNCHES NEW SPANISH LANGUAGE LIBRARY

In response to many requests from literacy practitioners, Verizon Literacy Campus has launched a new section in the Resource Center Library. Titled "En Espanol," this section will feature resources in Spanish with links to Hispanic/Latino organizations and Web sites.

Los Elementos de la Lectura (The Elements of Reading), the first resource to be added in this section, is a research-based approach to teaching children to read. It is designed to help Spanish-language teachers and parents understand how each of the five elements—phonemic awareness,

phonics, vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension—works to help children become proficient readers. This resource is also available in English in the Parents and Child Care Workers section of the Library.

The following resources will be available soon:

- Reading Aloud Tips
- Supporting Literacy Learning Tips
- Basic Intergenerational Financial Literacy

These free learning tools will be valuable to you in reaching out to engage Latino immigrant families in the world of reading and other literacy activities. Latino parents and families will develop skills sets to enhance opportunities for future success in life. To learn more, go to: <http://www.literacycampus.org/campus/library.asp>.

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## **FUND DEVELOPMENT NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES**

### **1. IT'S EASY TO START A PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM**

Every ProLiteracy-affiliated literacy organization may use the tools and information resources provided by ProLiteracy on its [Web site](#) to start a planned giving program. Start simple with a bequest program, add a link from your Web site to ProLiteracy's Planned Gift Calculator or to the Professional Advisors section, or offer the free e-brochures to your supporters. It's a full service planned giving department available 24/7 as a benefit of your affiliation with ProLiteracy Worldwide. For more information, send an e-mail to [gol@proliteracy.org](mailto:gol@proliteracy.org). (Note: If you've forgotten your user name or password, contact [info@proliteracy.org](mailto:info@proliteracy.org).)

### **2. WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT FUNDING SOURCES**

Workforce USA has just launched a section of its Web site on funding sources. You can find it at [http://www.workforceusa.net/fund\\_list.php](http://www.workforceusa.net/fund_list.php).

### **3. GRANTS AVAILABLE TO KATRINA-AFFECTED PROGRAMS**

The Bush Clinton Katrina Fund recently announced grants to organizations in all three states affected by Hurricane Katrina: Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama. The grants include funds to help build new homes; provide mental health and health care services; rebuild water, sewer, and gas utilities; build shoreline improvement projects; provide community and child development services; and provide financial counseling and aid in economic recovery.

The fund expects to conduct most of its grantmaking on its own initiative, by supporting projects selected in consultation with other grantmakers and government entities in the Gulf region. But it will accept unsolicited applications that focus on meeting unmet or undermet needs in the integrated recovery and rebuilding process. Organizations must demonstrate that the needs addressed in the project cannot be met through other sources of financing and that there is a high level of coordination with other interdependent pieces of community development. The fund encourages partnerships and collaborations with other organizations.

For more information, visit the fund's Web site at <http://bushclintonkatrinafund.org/>.

### **4. RESEARCH GRANTS AVAILABLE**

The Institute for Education Sciences is offering a number of grants for education-related research projects. For more information, go to <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ies/programs.html>.

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## **NEW READERS PRESS**

### **1. *LIVING IN AMERICA* TEACHER RESOURCE SERIES**

The *Living in America* Teacher Resource Series will help adult learners with limited oral and literacy skills in English to acquire basic speaking and comprehension skills in the areas of life skills, civic responsibility, understanding U.S. customs, behaviors, laws, and more! Six thematic teacher's resource guides with reproducible masters provide the core material for every lesson.

*Getting Along with Others* is the first available Teacher's Resource Guide in the series. *Getting Along with Others* provides an excellent starting point for teaching some of the most basic vocabulary needed to participate in everyday life in the U.S. Learners can master greetings, family terms, and personal ID, as well as simple phrases and sentences that are useful for navigating more complex situations such as making and keeping appointments, avoiding violence, protecting oneself and others, and understanding appropriate behaviors toward the opposite sex.

Coming fall 2006! Additional titles in the *Living in America Teacher Resource Series*:

- *Using Official Documents*
- *Fitting Into Your Community*
- *Understanding Key Health Issues*
- *Operating a Motor Vehicle*
- *Knowing Your Rights and Responsibilities*

For more information, call 800-448-8878.

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## **INTERNATIONAL UPDATE**

### **1. MICROENTERPRISE INITIATIVE WILL REACH THOUSANDS**

ProLiteracy Worldwide's International Programs has been awarded a grant of \$65,000 from Citigroup Latin America & Caribbean to support learning-based microfinance and enterprise programs in El Salvador, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Colombia, Ecuador, Chile, and Paraguay. These funds will help strengthen, improve, and expand ProLiteracy's microfinance and enterprise efforts in partnership with 10 grassroots nongovernmental literacy and community development organizations in those countries. These combined microfinance and literacy programs will reach 2,400 participants in Central America and the Caribbean, and another 2,150 participants in South America. An additional 11,900 family members and neighbors will benefit directly from this initiative. To learn more about ProLiteracy's partners in these countries, visit [http://www.proliteracy.org/intl\\_prog/partners.asp](http://www.proliteracy.org/intl_prog/partners.asp).