

February 2017

Dear Tutors,

Please allow me to take this opportunity to introduce myself to all of you. My name is Christina Mandara, your new Program Manager working out of the New City Office. It is a pleasure to have officially joined the staff of Literacy Solutions NY as of December 2016.

I consider myself a tutor first. I was trained in November of 2015 as a volunteer tutor and began working with my first student, Maria Cortes De Garantiva, soon after. In 2016 when Maria passed her test to become a new US citizen I was overcome by the great satisfaction I felt having even a small hand in helping her achieve citizenship. I immediately expressed interest to Pat Rajala and Jane Lemkin in getting more involved in LS at a time when the program was growing. And here I am, today, to better serve you!

My role will be to specifically support the Tutor program. I come to you with my most recent experience managing the team of volunteer Master Gardeners at Cornell Cooperative Extension in their work with agricultural literacy.

In the coming months, I will use this email format to announce new support services to help you - our valued tutors - to connect with each other and your students. I'm looking forward to having an opportunity of chatting with each of you over the next while.

Glad to be on board!

Christina Mandara

Concerns or Requests?!

Call: 845-708-9072 or Email:
christina.mandara.litsol@gmail.com



Christina Mandara (pictured left) alongside her student Maria Cortes De Garantiva (pictured right) who achieved citizenship this past August! Welcome Christina! Congratulations, Maria!

Welcome New Tutors!



Let us welcome the newest members of our LS Tutor Team in Rockland County who have just completed training!

Ms. Judy Levine
Ms. Caitlin Knapp
Mr. Steve Hart

Recap: Tutor's Brunch

A Special Award for Jane Lemkin!

A highlight of our January Tutor's Brunch that took place on January 8th, 2017 was surprising our Citizenship Specialist, Jane Lemkin, with an award for her tireless service helping so many of our students **achieve citizenship.**

The Award pictured here was presented by Ed Day, the Rockland County Executive, on behalf of Literacy Solutions. Also, pictured are the tutors (sitting) with their students (standing) who have recently achieved citizenship. ***Congratulations Jane Lemkin! And congratulations to our new U.S. citizens!***



Who Needs a New Student?

We are currently pre-testing a new group of students to be matched with a tutor.

If you spoke to me at the January brunch, I have you in line for a new student assignment. Some of you include Bernadette Broderick, Paul Fallon, Phil Rockfeld and Mary Beck, among others.

If you are looking to be assigned a new student, please email me your request including your library of choice and the day/time of the week you prefer to meet at your soonest convenience.

New City Walk-In Office Visits

Through March we are available to any tutor on a walk-in basis every Thursday and Friday from 10am - 3:00pm for your tutoring needs.

We have an updated educational resource library for you to use. In the future, we expect to expand hours as we complete offsite librarian visits and new student testing.

Or, please do not hesitate to contact me by email or phone to arrange a special visit.

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