



The
SGB
Youth
Literacy

Letter



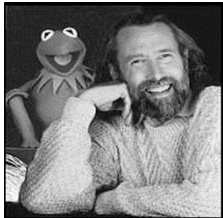
Volume 5, Issue 1

Newsletter of the South Grey Bruce Youth Literacy Council
467 10th St, Suite 303 Hanover, ON N4N 1R3

March 2011

In This Issue

Welcome to the **Letter H**. In addition to news of activities ongoing in our busy organization, we are happy to feature the contributions we received, from far and wide, nominating our Favourite Children's Books. Read further for more exciting news!



Kermit & Henson

We dedicate **The Letter H** to the memory of the remarkable puppeteer, **Jim Henson**, creator of the Muppets. His insight and gentle philosophy have had a huge impact on innovative approaches to learning. "My hope is to leave the world a little bit better than when I got here." His head was definitely linked to his heart.

Opening Hours for Youth Literacy Office

Tuesday through Friday: 9 AM to 5 PM

Other times by appointment

519 364-0008 info@sgbyouthliteracy.org

The Jones Team

Hurray!!! Linette Jones has joined the Youth Literacy Team as our Volunteer and Young Learner Coordinator. She brings her positive presence and creativity to our office hub in supporting our volunteer tutor/learner matches and intake. Linette works together with Dyan Jones in providing our Youth Literacy Program and Volunteer Network across our region, from Dundalk to Kincardine and up to Owen Sound. We are grateful for the generous support of the Ontario Trillium Foundation for their two year grant sponsoring this staff growth. The Jones Team is building the momentum of the learning power of Youth Literacy!

Our Volunteers Are Golden

We are proud of our Volunteers, those trained as tutors paired one-to-one with young learners in need of learning support, plus our volunteers who assist in managing our unique learning resources and facilitate our vital fundraising activities. Congratulations to our volunteers nominated in the 5 and 10 year sectors for the Ontario Volunteer Awards Celebration in June. Please join our team, enhancing life in our community!!

Sustainable Growth – YLC Endowment Fund

Our Board of Directors is mindful of the sustainable growth of our organization. We are announcing the creation of the SGB Youth Literacy Endowment Fund under the Community Foundation Grey Bruce. Tax deductible donations made specifically to this fund will be matched by a 50% grant for the next two years, building sustainability for our future. Of course, we continue to fundraise for our vital programming needs and are grateful for all donations.

Family Literacy Day January 27

The South Grey Bruce Youth Literacy Council is keeping Family Literacy on the map! The Municipal Councils of Brockton, Hanover and West Grey each declared the official proclamation regarding January 27 as Family Literacy Day. We hosted the Family Literacy display with the Hanover Library and distributed free children's books donated by Frontier College. Thanks to Hanover Honda for great corporate support!

"Children learn from adults. If you don't read for fun, then why would your kids read?" ROBERT MUNSCH

THE LETTER

Editor Dyan Jones

Printed In House We are grateful to Canon Canada and Excel Business Systems for assisting us with an educational discount to purchase a new laser copier for our office. The Hanover Rotary Club has also provided special support for Youth Literacy. We are now capable of producing our own printed educational activities for young learners, keeping our program vibrant and individualized. Thanks to Reliance Printing for fine work in printing our past newsletters!

Participate! We welcome newsletter submissions of news, facts, links or articles by email to: info@sgbyouthliteracy.org

Our next issue will be The Letter I

Join our Email List : info@sgbyouthliteracy.org

We will keep you updated with Youth Literacy Events and exciting learning tips and games. At the Youth Literacy Council, we keep it fun while we take Lifelong Learning seriously!



View our website www.sgbyouthliteracy.org

Tutor's Tool Bag

We are fortunate to have Darlene Lamb as one of our amazing volunteer tutors. She shares her strategies for honing Fluent Reading with young learners. She combines lots of great teaching expertise and fun into her learning sessions. Utilizing a simple tape recorder, her young learner tapes himself reading a passage and upon rewinding and listening, learns firsthand how to heighten the enthusiasm and add spark to his reading aloud. Truth be told, he has also been known to read in the voice of Elvis Presley!

Wow, what is that I hear? Why, it's fluent reading! It sounds like someone having a conversation with a friend.

Here are a few strategies that have helped my young reader make gains in his reading level and comprehension too. Our goal is to have the reading sound like natural speech. Where text is being read silently or aloud, much of its meaning comes from the way it sounds. Students who read with expression are able to segment text into meaningful units, marking phrase and sentence boundaries with pauses, vowel lengthening and changes in pitch and emphasis. The result is improved comprehension.

Each session we increase our **sight words** by reading words on small cards. We read small **phrases** of words on small strips to develop fluency. The goal is to always keep it sounding smooth.

Auditory modeling may be the most powerful technique for developing the rhythms and tones of spoken language while reading. This leads to improved understanding.

Echo reading: reading aloud phrase by phrase, slightly after a live (that's the tutor) or a taped model. Choral (group), shared and partner reading are also examples of auditory modeling.

Re-reading familiar material allows the student to learn to be a reader putting his/her very complex recall and sequencing behaviour into practice.

Recording the selection on a tape recorder allows the student to be a performer and hear him/herself when the selection is played back. With greater fluency, readers can concentrate on comprehending what they read, develop greater self-confidence, and enjoy reading more. Increasing the chances for a successful reading experience is the goal.



American Sign Language for the Letter H



The Letter H in Braille

Great Learning Link www.wonderopolis.org

Celebrating Our Favourite Children's Books

In our past newsletter, we invited everyone to share their favourite children's books, either recalled from childhood or one from the current contemporary realm. It was no surprise that we received such enthusiastic responses – the world of children's books is a tapestry of beautiful illustrations, rich story lines and open doors to our burgeoning imaginations. Readers of all ages embrace children's books passionately. We have compiled a random sampling of suggestions from the avalanche of replies received. We welcome further contributions - the door remains open for the love of great books!

**The more that you read, the more you will know.
The more that you learn, the more places you'll go.**
DR. SEUSS

Annika Dyck – *It was a Dark and Stormy Night* by Janet & Alan Ahlberg

Lydia Dyck – *Child of Faery, Child of Earth* by Jane Yolen

Zach Mac Arthur – *Fantastic Mr. Fox* by Roald Dahl

Oliver Keating - *Amulet* by Kazu Kibuishi

Sage Walters – *Up, Up, Down* by Robert Munsch

Gabriel Sugarman – *All Books* by Roald Dahl

Jamie Sugarman – *The Chronicles of Narnia* by C.S. Lewis

Joe Macartney – *The Stinky Cheese Man & Other Fairly Stupid Tales* by Jon Scieszka

Nola Collins, Principal, Holy Family School – *The Big Hungry Bear* by Audrey & Don Wood

Misha Radojkovic – *Outcast of Redwall* by Brian Jacques

Anne Duke Judd, Bruce Dale Press – *Anne of Green Gables* by Lucy Maud Montgomery

Stuart McLean, CBC – *To Think That I Saw It On Mulberry Street* by Dr. Seuss

Kathi Maskell, Mayor of Hanover – *The Paper Bag Princess* by Robert Munsch

Kevin Eccles, Mayor of West Grey – *Bialosky's Christmas* by Leslie McGuire

David Inglis, Mayor of Brockton – *I Spy Books* by Jean Marzollo

Susan Lindsay – *The Secret Garden* by Frances Hodgson Burnett

Liz Barningham – *The Wind in the Willows* by Kenneth Graeme

Jenny & Bruce Iserman – *The Wizard of Earthsea series* by Ursula K. LeGuin

Murray Howard – *The Mouse and his Child* by Russell Hoban

Brenda Hsueh – *A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L'Engle

Let's close with this interesting contribution from our Honourary Patron, the poet Elizabeth Zetlin:

“One of my favourite reads as a child was Macbeth (yes, Shakespeare's). My mom and a couple of her friends gathered in the living room to read the different parts. I was allowed to stay up late and read the part of the three witches. I must have been around 6 years old. I loved the feel of these words in my mouth:

*Double, double toil and trouble; Fire burn, and cauldron bubble.
 Fillet of a fenny snake, In the cauldron boil and bake;
 Eye of newt, and toe of frog . . .*

I may not have understood the play itself, but I loved the drama and the rhythm and richness of the language.

What I realized much later is that reading great literature to kids can be inspiring. It doesn't always have to be a kid's book. Or even great literature. Just look around the house. Maybe your favourite recipe. An article from the newspaper. A poem that moves you. If you, as the adult reader, love it, that love and passion will rub off on your children. Letting them stay up past their bedtime, with reading as the treat, isn't a bad idea either."

Murray Howard is a lifelong learner and friend of Youth Literacy. He contributes to the community by holding weekly read-aloud sessions for the senior residents at Rockway Terrace in Durham. The sharing of reading is an all ages event!

Students Help

The Youth Literacy Council is an excellent learning situation for young volunteers and we thrive on their wonderful energy. Thanks to our past JDSS co-op student, Samantha Becker, who is now currently enrolled in university in Hamilton. We will welcome a Summer Student Experience participant this summer.

Millennia Book Store

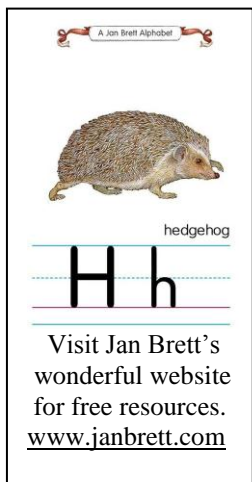
You can contribute your book purchase points to the Youth Literacy Council when you shop at Millennia Book Store in Hanover, assisting new acquisitions for our Learning Resources Library.

Thinking Graphically

We have written in past newsletters about the popularity and value of graphic novels in providing a variety of reading. Utilizing graphic organizers is also a valid contemporary learning tool. You can google this concept online for an eyeful of templates and strategies. **Pinkfish.ca** is the website of Reilly Dow, a young freelance graphic recorder based in Toronto who has the flair to set down lots of information in a clear fashion. Graphic organizers are a boon to students for studying and assembling their knowledge creatively.

Our Growing Learning Resources

Our Learning Resources are available for free loan to all. We are currently actualizing our Barcoding Project which will have all materials tracked on our database. Thanks to Elizabeth Hahn, who gives many hours to this project and Hanover Rotary for their support. Our volunteers have been busy creating unique educational activities (some might call them fun & games) which deliver strong learning concepts which are accessible for our young learners. Anchoring concepts can require lots of repetitions - the key is to keep it fun! We continue to build our Math Kits, and create life skills activities which demystify telling time and counting money. There are many books available to borrow too!



Friends of Youth Literacy

Contributors in Kind

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Doug Abell | Jan Moore |
| Bayshore Broadcasting | Hanover Public Library |
| Back Eddies Café | Elizabeth Hahn |
| Bluewater Radio | Frontier College |
| Samantha Becker | Bruce Iserman |
| Holly Bowen | Dianne Joyce |
| Brick Books | Susan Lindsay |
| Bruce Telecom | Merri Macartney |
| Maryanne Buehlow | MOSAIC Magazine |
| Chesley Public Library | Randy Martin |
| Chicory Common | Harvey McFadden |
| Colour Jar | Mudtown Pottery |
| Downtown Bookstore | Northcott Fabrics |
| Grant's Independent | A & R Music |
| Bruce Iserman | Millennia Books |
| Craig, McDonald, Reddon | Misha Radovkovic |
| Durham Art Gallery | Mandy Sproat |
| Jennifer Dimeck | Scholar's Choice |
| Frederick Turner Books | Victoria Jubilee Hall |
| Theresa Filsinger | Isaiah Walters |
| The Funny Ones | Welbeck Sawmill |
| Oliver Keating | Mandy Rhody Zuk |
| Sean Keating | |

Donors

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| ARTicles Artists | Don B. Marshall |
| Auditory Health Care | Joan Martin |
| Bruce Dale Press | St. John's--Port Elgin Aux |
| Colour Jar | Michael Martin |
| BDO Dunwoody | John McPhee |
| Liz Barningham | Mountain Bison Farm |
| Anne & Fred Black | Municipality of Brockton |
| Maryanne Buehlow | Municipality of West Grey |
| Pat & Leigh Butler | Nature's Millworks |
| Paula Butterfield | Neustadt & District Lions |
| CSR Walkerton | New-Life Mills Ltd |
| CWL Holy Family Parish | Queen's Bush Pub |
| Collen Lantz Run 4 Youth | Noah's Inn |
| CFUW members | QUILL Learning Network |
| John Ernewein Construction | R.C. Legion-Women's |
| Ilse Gassinger | Auxiliary Chesley |
| Elizabeth Hahn | Saugeen Credit Union |
| Carol & Doug Harris | Saugeen Music School |
| Hanover Honda | David Sugarman |
| Hanover Friends of Library | Town of Hanover |
| Hear Now Musicians | Rachel Walters |
| Dyan Jones | Catherine Vassiliadis |
| Linette Jones | Wayne Schwartz |
| Walter Kuz | Construction |
| Susan Lindsay | Walkerton Rotary Club |
| Cheryl D. Lindsay | Elizabeth Zetlin |

Sponsors

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| Bruce Power | Meridian Credit Union |
| CIBC | Ontario Trillium Foundation |
| Canon Canada | Gore Mutual |
| Community Foundation | Energizer Canada |
| Grey Bruce | United Way of Bruce Grey |
| Rotary Children's Fund | Hanover Rotary Club |

Affiliate Organizations & Partnerships

ABC Canada, Bluewater & District School Board, Bruce-Grey Catholic District School Board, Bruce County Public Libraries, BBBS, Community Living Walkerton and District, Durham Art Gallery, Edge Hill Country School, Frontier College, Grey Highland Public Libraries, Hanover Public Library & Friends of the Library, Keystone Child Youth and Family Services, Ontario Early Years Centre-Hanover, Ontario Literacy Coalition, Project Canoe, QUILL Learning Network, Walkerton & District Community Living, West Grey Public Libraries, Victoria Jubilee Hall, Words Aloud Spoken Word Festival, Youth Roots.

Fundraising Activities and Support

We are grateful to the many groups that contribute to our organization and fundraise on our behalf. The Queen's Bush Pub in Hanover, Bruce Dale Press of Port Elgin, Nature's Millworks in Paisley and the Colleen Lantz Memorial Run 4 Youth 2010 were among our many generous supporters in this past year. Thank you for keeping the candle of Youth Literacy burning brightly!

Mark Your Calendars!!!

ARTicles Art Show & Sale Waterlife Film Screening - Saturday, May 14th Victoria Jubilee Hall, Walkerton

Two years ago, the ARTicles Art Show for Youth Literacy was a major happening for the community. Back by popular demand, these unique Shadow Boxes, created and donated by regional artists, will be shown for the week prior and sold for \$123 each at the evening event at the beautiful Victoria Jubilee Hall. Coupled with the ARTicles Art Show & Sale will be the screening of *Waterlife* the award winning documentary film heralding the beauty and fragility of the Great Lakes. The film's director, Kevin McMahon will personally present the film. Doors open at 6:30pm, film screening at 8pm. Advance Film Tickets \$10, \$5 for students available at the door and the Youth Literacy Office. info@sgbyouthliteracy.org 519 364-0008

Words Aloud 8 Spoken Word Festival Saturday, October 22nd at 1pm Victoria Jubilee Hall

The Family Presentation for the Words Aloud Festival will feature Kenneth Graeme's classic, *The Wind in the Willows*, brought to the stage with live music, puppets and film projection by Rag & Bone Theatre from Ottawa. Stay tuned for details!

Writing Contest for Youth

Our fourth annual poetry and short story writing contest flies this autumn with the theme of **Wind**. Supported by the Bruce County, Hanover, Grey Highlands & West Grey Public Library Systems, we are able to give cash awards and the opportunity to present the winning entries at the performance of *The Wind in the Willows*, October 22, Victoria Jubilee Hall. Toss your imagination into the breeze! Info available this fall!

HEAR NOW – A Musical Gift For Youth Literacy

This project is a labour of love, two years in the making, and a major fundraising effort for our organization. Sixteen singers, songwriters, musicians and poets contributed their original music in a compilation CD, **Hear Now**, a featured cultural project. Talented young people joined seasoned professionals in this multiple mix of music genres. All recording and engineering was donated by Track 6 Studio. The Gala Concert CD Launch was held at Victoria Jubilee Hall in Walkerton on Oct. 16th before an enthusiastic audience, hosted by Steve Morel. All proceeds are dedicated to our Volunteer Tutor Program supporting young learners. The CD is available for sale at venues throughout our region and from our website. www.sgbyouthliteracy.org



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cKwS2ixt53E>

The South Grey Bruce Youth Literacy Council, a community-based organization, will strive to assist youth, ages 6-18, who are struggling in school, in their quest to improve basic reading, writing and math skills, so that they may enjoy full participation as citizens in the community.

--Mission Statement

Readers' & Reluctant Readers' Bill of Rights

The right to not read this.
The right to skip pages.
The right to re-read.
The right to read everything.
The right to escapism.
The right to read anywhere.
The right to browse.
The right to read out loud.
The right to not defend your tastes.
The right to read at your own pace.
The right to choose whatever book you want.
The right to not like a book.
The right to read books published for various age levels.
The right to listen to a book.
The right to read online.

Originally penned by Daniel Pennac

Contributed by Elizabeth Hahn

☀ Tutor Enrichment Session ☀ Spring Into Learning

Thursday, May 19, 2011 7pm Reading and math will both receive a good spring cleaning with fun teaching activities offered for tutors and parents to enliven young peoples' learning. Thank you to the Hanover Public Library for providing the Saugeen Room for our free public workshop. All are welcome. R.S.V.P. 364-0008 info@sgbyouthliteracy.org

Our Patron, Elizabeth Zetlin

Patron, poet and filmmaker extraordinaire, Elizabeth Zetlin has created both the DVD documentary of the Words Aloud 4 Spoken Word Festival and an educational DVD set for teaching Spoken Word with free online study guide. These are available through our website. Proceeds from these sales are generously donated by the artist to support our Volunteer Tutor Program.

United Way Backpack Program

We are proud to be a member agency of United Way of Bruce Grey. In preparation for school each fall we distribute new backpacks full of school supplies to families free of cost, upon request, as part of the United Way Backpack Program. Contact our office before school lets out for the summer if your family wishes to participate.

519 364-0008 info@sgbyouthliteracy.org

Tutor-Learner Matches

We are currently supporting 27 tutor-learner matches, and have a steadily growing waiting list of young learners. We support English as a Second Language and provide Family Literacy support. Help us grow!



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