

Adult Learning Center News

Winter 2018

Volume XV, Issue 1



Transforming lives through education

Director's Message

Deanna Strand

Flexible Options Help Adult Students Earn a Diploma

Melissa needed only one credit to finish her diploma when her living situation required she move to Massachusetts. With a young child at home and no car, she was unable to continue taking classes at DALC. Plato allowed her to finish from home and earn her diploma.

Aaron got within a few points of passing the GED when the test changed. Facing beginning again, he chose to earn credits. He took online and in person classes and completed alternative credits to complete the diploma requirements in two semesters. He graduated in June.

There are two ways to finish high school at Dover Adult Learning Center:

1. Pass the HiSET and earn a certificate from the state of NH.
2. Earn credits toward an adult high school diploma.

For adults who left school in their junior or senior year to work or raise a child, for medical reasons or because their family moved, the diploma can be a good choice. Students who have test anxiety may also find success in a program that



allows them choices in how they demonstrate their knowledge and skills.

Credits can be earned in a traditional classroom or via alternative credit options. Competency based options allow busy, working parents to fit course work into their schedules and mesh it with their other responsibilities.

Anywhere there is a computer and internet, students can put in time on the course. Plato, the platform we use at DALC, allows the teacher to monitor the

Which way is right for you?

HiSET or

Adult High School Diploma

Our counselor can help you decide

student's work and step in if it looks like they need help.

Community Service, Home Management and Career Exploration can all be a means to earning credits. By meeting certain minimum conditions and successfully completing a standards based assessment, a student can use real world experience to earn high school credit.

Prior learning can also be applied. Work experience, military service or college coursework all qualify.

Inside this issue:

In Their Own Words 2

Friends of the Center 2

Center Stars 3

Programs in Focus 3

Our Board of Directors

Michael Kupfer - President
 Shauna Brown - Vice President
 Martha Caswell - Secretary
 Bob Renshaw - Treasurer
 Laura Baxter
 Christopher Burns
 Maria Faskianos
 Rollins Janetos
 Felicia LaBranche
 Diane Lambert
 Vincent McGroary
 Dennis Munson
 Don Nary
 Tyler Parkhurst
 Patricia Silberblatt
 David Watters
 Rosemary Zurawel

In Our Own Words... is a collection of original writings. In poetry, personal reflection and artwork, students reveal their diversity, as well as their commonality as learners.

In Our Own Words: My Nongtang Life by Aiting

Page 2

"Nongtang" is a typical old residential community in Shanghai, consisting of many residents but in a small place. I was born and grew up in Nongtang. I spent my entire childhood there. It became one of the happiest time in my life.

I lived with my parents and my grandma. It was a small home. We didn't have a private bathroom and kitchen. There was a public one for us to use. But most of the time, my parents would put me in a small basin and pour some warm water to give me a shower. Because of our small space, they had to take the basin and me out of my home, directly on the street in Nongtang.

Maybe it was so weird and unacceptable for you, but for me, it was so happy and fun at that moment. Every one who walked by that street would say hello or make a smile at me while they saw I was taking bath. They were all my neighbors. We had a very good relationship with them. They were so nice. If you had any difficulties, the neighbors would help you immediately.

We had no air conditioning in the summer, most of the adults would go outside and take a seat to chat just to be in the cool air. Children were playing around their parents. There was much laughter in the Nongtang. Since we lived very close, my Nongtang friends and I were in the same school. We walked to school together hand in hand. After school, we went to each others' home to play. That was such a wonderful time in my life.

When I started my high school, I moved to another place, far away from my friends and Nongtang. Although I had a bigger home than before, I still missed them very much. People in my new home were not as friendly as my old neighbors. They weren't willing to help you. They just cared about themselves.

Even now, there are many Nongtang in Shanghai. Although the building have been updated, still retains the old Shanghai's elements and customs.

Friends of the Center 2018

Founder's Circle (\$500+)

Barbara Bradshaw
 Stephen & Tiffany Brand
 Patrick & Karen Duffy
 Charles Reynolds
 Jim Verschuere & Carlo Nittoli
 Julia & John Ver Ploeg
 Art & Debbie Tasker
 David Watters
 Rosemary Zurawel Jahnke

Helen Phipps Heritage Society:

Ann Schultz
 Martin and Pat Sorenson
 Deanna Strand
 Jim Verschuere

Donations Received In Memory Of:

Helen Phipps
 John Carron

Advocate (\$250+)

Abraham Burtman Charity Trust
 Denise L. Adams
 Michelle L. Baussmann
 Maria Faskianos
 Bill & Jean Irvine
 Thomas R. Jost
 C. Valerie Leavitt
 Don & Debora Nary
 Pamela Shaw & Doug Webb
 Patricia Silberblatt

David & Maureen Staples

Ellen Westbrook
 David & Belinda White
 Elaine White

Benefactor (\$100+)

William Badgley & Carol McEntee
 John E. Ballard
 Gerald & Irene Boyle
 Jean Bullen
 Paul & Janet Butler
 Mort & Nancy Cherim
 Dennis Ciotti
 Maureen Claussen
 Paul & Martha Cox
 Gerald Daley
 Peter & Linda Davis
 Paula DePlanche
 David P. Dupont
 Marsha Foster
 Robert & Marjorie Goldberg
 Brian & Susan Gong
 Sam Haddadin-State Farm Insurance
 Raymond Hart, CPA
 Gretchen Hill
 Minnett & Tony Indusi
 Leigh Ivey, Jr.
 Walter & Cora King
 Matthew Lahr
 Debbie & Wolfgang Liskow
 Holly Littlefield
 Kathy MacDonald
 Mary Jo Mahoney

Celia McCormack

Jack & Judy Mettee
 Sally Puth
 Charles & Lucy Putnam
 Pamela Raley
 Ann Schultz
 Deanna & Paul Strand
 Jill Taylor

Mark Townley & Charlene Newton
 Thomas Wilhelm
 Douglas K. Wvickoff

Friend (\$50+)

Maybeth Andersib
 Cathy Beaudoin
 Shari A. Brinson
 Burns, Bryant, Cox, Rockefeller & Durkin
 Matthew Costanzo
 Judith Currie
 Joseph & Paula DuBois
 Muriel Farrar
 Tom & Aline Goss
 Phyllis Heilbronner
 Dorothy Lorenzo
 Teresa McDonnell
 Donna Melillo
 Leslie Pasternack
 Sandra Phipps
 William & Margaret Sawyer
 Thomas Stevens
 Stephen Varney
 Paul Zocchi

Other Supporters

Helen Brock
 Lucie Callahan
 William & Mary Jo Dudley
 Derek S. Gaudet
 Stephen Goren
 Aimee M. Jones
 James & Frances Kageleiry
 Laurie Legard
 Arthur & Myla Mathieson
 McEneaney Survey Assoc., Inc
 Nossiff & Giampa, P.C
 Donald & Helen Sanders
 Evan & Jessica Stowell

Being a Friend Means:

- Students realize their dreams
- Children receive care
- Books/materials are plentiful
- Non-readers have a tutor
- Inmates develop job skills
- Immigrants learn English
- Teen dropouts have a second chance

Center Stars - Our Citizenship Students

Page 3

Throughout the year, we honor individual students or volunteers as our "Center Stars," to recognize them for their hard work, dedication and perseverance.

This time, we thought we would give a big thumbs up to our citizenship students.

Our current students hail from the Philippines, Cambodia, Brazil, and China.

Cheered on by their teacher Carol Birch (back row).

Congratulations and best of luck and keep up the good work.



Programs in Focus: Adult Learner Service/Adult Tutorial Program

The Adult Tutorial Program is a state and federally funded program that serves under-educated adults in all 13 towns of Strafford County.

It is located in the McConnell Center in Dover as part of the Dover Adult Learning Center.

The program offers free, confidential, one-to-one instruction in basic

reading, writing, math and English as a second language, US citizenship test, adult diploma classes and high school equivalency (HiSET),

Volunteer tutors are all ages and come from many different backgrounds and careers.

Patience, humor, and an open mind are much more important, as well as the

willingness to work as one adult helping another adult in a partnership of mutual respect.

Tutors receive training and ongoing support as they work in partnership with their students to help them achieve educational goals they have set for themselves.

To learn more about the Adult Tutorial Program go doveradultlearning.org/programs/ac.



It is truly amazing what personal instruction, attention, and encouragement can accomplish!

Brothers Thien Le (Left) and Thao Le are learning English. Here they meet with their volunteer tutor David Ramsay.



Dover Adult Learning Center
61 Locust Street, Dover, NH 03820

Contact us at:
dalc@doveradultlearning.org
www.doveradultlearning.org
603-742-1030



Save the date for Red's Race

**Sunday, April 8 Join DALC for The 37th Annual
Reds Race for a Better Community**



**Would you like to be a
part of our efforts?**

- ♦ Serve on a committee
- ♦ Become a volunteer tutor
- ♦ Join our Board of Directors
- ♦ Take an enrichment class
- ♦ Teach an enrichment class
- ♦ Become a Friend of the Center by making a donation
- ♦ Include DALC in your estate planning and become a member of the Helen Phipps Heritage Society
- ♦ Become a corporate or event sponsor

Go to doveradultlearning.org/support

Located in the McConnell Community Center, Dover Adult Learning Center of Strafford County helps adults in the Strafford County area enhance their life skills and improve their lives through basic education, job training, high school completion, and enrichment classes. We help our students become more effective lifelong learners, family members, workers, and citizens.

