



In Our Words Newsletter

In Our Words Book Available!

We printed our first *In Our Words* book since 2019! We have copies available in our office at 4805 Park Avenue. **Email or call us to schedule a pick up:** info@nashvilleliteracy.org or (615) 298-8060

If your work was included in the book, we will contact you to make sure you get a copy!

You can also download a digital version of the book on our website!

[Digital Books](#)

Student Writing

Write About Your Goals, by English Language Learner, Anna Kiryushkina

I set an ambitious goal to improve my English skills during one year.

I have been studying English since the fives grade of elementary school, then continued stadying in university.

The English classes at school were really boring. Most of the time we just learning grammar rules and did reading. There were almost no speaking practise. Later I understood that I was tought to pronouce some words wrong starting from the shool. When I was studying at school I didn't take English classes seruosly. I thought that I don't need to know English because I wanted to be enginner. In univeristy there were English classes just frist two years. The lessons were mainly focused on studying vocabulary related to engienering. And again no speaking practise. When was a university student, I realised that English is a must if I want to work in foreign company. And I took a few English courses and studied by myself. After finishing university I was hired by foreign companies Nissan and Nokian Tyres. My English level was enough to communicate with forein colleagues.

When I moved to the US I started feeling uncomfortable, because I didn't use to American English. Americans speak really fast, quite often using the shorten words and some people have very strong southern accent. Very often people can't understan my English. I really want to change it, because I'm feeling uncomfortable speaking with locals. When I achieve my goal I can make local friends and change the career field.

I enrolled to English classes and styding with a tutor two times weekly. I decided to read at least one English book per month and speak more with locals at work. I believe that I can succed and reach my goal. It won't be easy, but I really want it.

Anna's tutor, Gagana Borra, spoke at The Banquet. We are so grateful for their time!

Write About Yourself, by English Language Learner, Snahider Vega

My name is Snahider Vega and my wife is Janiree Vega. We are from Venezuela. I like to read the newspaper and my wife likes to watch TV. We live in Murfreesboro, and we have one dream. Our dream is to speak and understand English very well. We like to make new friends because this country is our new home. We will achieve these goals with the help of our tutor.

Snahider and Janiree were recognized as part of the ELL Match of the Year at The Banquet with their tutor, Monique Killyon!

Community Partner

Each month we're going to highlight another organization that we think you might want to know about. If you have any suggestions, please let us know!

Code the Dream

Code the Dream offers free intensive training in software development to people from diverse low-income backgrounds. In CTD Labs, our coders work with experienced mentors to hone those skills by building apps and technology platforms for a range of startups, nonprofits and government clients. The ultimate aim of Code the Dream is to create a unique win-win, where our coders gain real experience building apps that make the world a little better place, and then use that experience to launch new careers with enormous opportunity for themselves, their families, and their communities.

Learn more at www.codethedream.org

NALC Announcements

Find news from staff and other updates here!



Thank you for coming to the Banquet!

Thank you for celebrating our 40th birthday with us on November 2! We appreciated everyone's delicious food and company! Special thanks to tutor, Gagana Borra and English Learner, Johana Brito for speaking at the event!

Congratulations to our award winners!

ELL Match of the Year:

Snahider Vega, Janiree Noriega, and Monique Killyon

Adult Basic Education Match of the Year:

John Faust and Andrew Giacobone

Read a recap of the event, see photos, and watch Johana's speech here:

[The Banquet](#)



Submit Your Work

Do you have something to share? Please let your teacher or a NALC worker know OR submit work using the button below. You can also email your work to mharding@nashvilleliteracy.org. We are here to help!

[Learn More & Submit Work](#)

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