



Certified Literate Community Program of Georgia

BARBARA LOAR AWARD EXCELLENCE IN A CERTIFIED LITERATE COMMUNITY PROGRAM

In honor of Georgia Council on Adult Literacy Member Barbara Loar, who was a dynamic advocate for CLCP, community literacy, and lifelong learning, each year a CLCP director is recognized for outstanding accomplishments in the areas of literacy, adult education and community service. Listed are the current and past winners of the award, which provides a cash award to the honoree's CLCP organization.

2017 Award Winner Barbara Moushon *Literacy Alliance*

Achievements:

- Recipient of the Columbus Area Library Award (CALA), Library Recognition Award (LIBRA)
- Established an Adult Education Scholarship at Columbus Technical College
- Celebrated 10 years with the Dictionary Project in partnership with the Rotary of Columbus
- Assisted Literacy Alliance in producing *Words that Have Inspired Me*, a book celebrating Literacy Alliance's 25th anniversary
- Organized Literacy Alliance's biggest Trivia Bee yet, raising nearly \$13,000
- Wrote and obtained three grants for 2016–2017, totaling over \$100,000
- Managed CLCP budgets, programs, public relations, and fundraising
- Facilitated the Kindergarten Readiness program
- Promoted several book parades and book give away events
- Managed 2 summer programs for children, serving 17 students
- Facilitated Adult Literacy classes hosted at 3 locations, serving an average of 22 students daily and managed by 9 tutors



“Barbara’s dedication and endless efforts to the community has enhanced the services to address students’ needs so that they can live and be independent in the community. She encourages and motivates others to volunteer their services for the purpose of providing services to those who do not have the ability to reach the level of success on their own.”

–Lorette M. Hoover, President, Columbus Technical College

“Barbara is tireless in her work – and without peer in enthusiasm; she loves her job.”

–Trina Lombard, Literacy Alliance Board Chair, and Marnie Salter, Literacy Alliance Board Member

“Barbara is easily the most compassionate person I know – the kind of person who goes out of her way to help people who need the power of literacy.”

–April Hopson, Director, Adult Education, Columbus Technical College

Past Winners

2015: Rose Kohler

Chattooga County Literacy Council

- Arranges yearly delivery of dictionaries to all county 3rd graders
- Coordinates Bookcase for Every Child program
- Sets up Year of Literacy events every month, including National Adult Education & Family Literacy Week and Teen Read Week
- 8.2% increase in adults in Chattooga with either high school diploma or GED diploma from 2000 to 2010
- Implemented program to recognize GED students for step completions
- Organized graduation ceremony for county residents attaining GED diploma
- Started and maintains local GED website
- Coordinated writing of grants and obtaining sponsorships totaling over \$20,000
- Coordinates annual Spelling Bee, Belk Charity Days, and Georgia Gives Day, and other fundraisers

“Rose’s enthusiasm, energy, dynamic personality, leadership, dedication, dependability, and discernment—coupled with a sense of humor—have enabled her to gain strong community support of the Council’s effort in making Chattooga County a Literate Community.”

—Suzan B. Spivey, Board Member, Chattooga County Literacy Council

2014: Barbara Moushon

The Literacy Alliance, Columbus-Muscogee County

- Successfully obtains grants
- Makes appearances on local TV and lectures to civic organizations
- Children in Kindergarten Readiness Program gained average of 8 month of vocabulary over 8 weeks
- Recruited and trained 91 volunteers who gave 625 volunteer hours
- 28 students in Adult Literacy class were assisted by 10 mentors who gave over 500 volunteer hours
- More than 2,550 free books were given to at-risk families

“From volunteering in the program herself to keeping a board together and focused...to being the number one ambassador for literacy to our corporate citizens, Barbara literally does it all. Her efforts have yielded tremendous results through the great improvement we have seen at every level in literacy attainment in Columbus. The overwhelming majority of her work occurs behind the scenes, raising funds, organizing programs and leading the organization...It is hard for me to conceive of someone in our community more deserving of accolades for the important work she does.”

—Georgia State Senator Joshua R. McKoon, CLCP Board Member

2013: Sandra Lipkowitz

Dawson County READ

- Promotes community awareness through presentations to government agencies and civic groups
- Under her direction, all 3rd graders receive a dictionary, all 8th graders receive a thesaurus, and 12th graders may apply for a \$1,000 post-secondary scholarship
- Adult Education students received GED® testing fee scholarships
- 2 GED graduates receive post-secondary scholarships each year
- Raised over \$26,000 through fundraising plus another \$14,000 in grants in 2012
- Recruited and trained volunteers who donated 4,560 volunteer hours to Adult Education in 2012
- Sponsored an annual volunteer appreciation dinner

“Thanks to Sandy, Dawson County is well on its way to being a truly literate community...Perhaps Sandy’s greatest contribution...is the recruitment of volunteers...I have never seen such a qualified, dependable and dedicated group. Everybody in Dawson County knows Sandy Lipkowitz and they know that serving our under-educated is her mission...I am inspired by her stamina, passion and courage.”

—Sharon Clark, EdS., Lead Instructor, Dawson Adult Learning Center

2012: Lisa Johnston

Coweta County CLICK

- Coordinated a 3-part job search series for Adult Education students, in conjunction with the Newnan Career Center, on the topics of resume writing, job networking and interviewing
- Established partnerships with Coweta Family Connection, Chamber of Commerce, Leadership Coweta Board, Newnan Peachtree City Employer Committee, the Newnan Housing Authority, PACE project in conjunction with United Way, the Coweta County School System, Resource Coweta and West Georgia Technical College Adult Education
- As of December 2011, raised over \$35,000 and was awarded \$14,372 in grants and over \$20,000 in individual/business donations

“Lisa has provided our program with dozens of volunteers...who provided hundreds of hours...offering direct support to students as tutors or assisting instructors...These volunteers have made it possible for our evening classes to grow and accept a larger number of students, despite the number of paid staff remaining stagnant...Lisa embodies the kind of ethic and commitment that this award represents.”

—Karen Kirchler, Executive Director of Adult Education, West Georgia Technical College

2011: Sandra Fite

Jackson County CLCP

- Driving force for the CLCP since the its inception
- Sponsors a GED testing scholarship for every Jackson County GED prep student
- Assures funding for literacy from nine municipalities and the county government
- Awards 2 annual post-secondary scholarships for GED graduates
- Holds a low level reading class at the Jackson County Adult Education Center
- Sponsors a GED graduation at the correctional facility

“Sandra and her CLCP are an incredibly successful collaborative power. . . Her relationships have led to significant collaborations with community groups and within correctional facilities. In a growing and changing county, she has brought together diverse elements to focus on literacy, offering consistency and an understated but intense push for literacy.”

–Brenda Thomas, Associate Vice President of Adult Education, Lanier Technical College

2010: Betty Candler

Haralson County LAMP (Learning Always Means Progress, Inc.)

- Sponsors GED graduation and GED testing fee scholarships and cap and gown scholarships annually
- Began a successful stay-in-school project with Haralson County schools, with graduation rates increasing from 48 percent to 75.5 percent since the program began
- Started the National Dictionary Project in Haralson
- Extended the stay-in-school project to middle schools in both Haralson County system and Bremen City Schools

“Ms. Candler has made a significant contribution to the future of Haralson County, and its citizens are in her debt. Her humility and sense of purpose are inspirational.”

–Skip Sullivan, ED.D., President, West Georgia Technical College

2009: Dorothy Shinafelt

Gainesville-Hall Alliance for Literacy

- Instrumental in increasing volunteer participation
- Assists students and teachers with basic skills education, GED prep and ESL programs
- Offered financial support and collaborative contributions to help accommodate long waiting lists at Hall County Adult Learning Center
- Always willing to work with and mentor other counties in Lanier Technical College’s service delivery area
- Arranged with local TV station to film 30-minute adult learning session, resulting in the City of Gainesville agreeing to pay GED test fee for any of its employees
- Creates inestimable amount of public awareness for adult learning and GED programs

“It is the perfect combination of personal characteristics that make Dorothy the unique professional that she is . . . she pursues success relentlessly not only for the Alliance but for the Adult Learning Program.”

–Dr. Michael D. Moye, President, Lanier Technical College

2008: Sherri Perry

Winder-Barrow Coalition for Adult & Continuing Education

- An integral part of literacy efforts, bringing about significant changes in the county’s value of adult education and literacy education
- Assists many students in overcoming personal barriers that are impediments to learning
- Assists students in connecting to resources within the community
- Instrumental in staging major fund-raising entertainment event each year, with proceeds going to literacy programs

“Sherri always goes the extra mile . . . literacy is both her vocation and avocation.”

–Brenda Thomas, Adult Education Executive Director, Lanier Technical College

2007: Shirley Smith

Catoosa Citizens for Literacy (CCL)

- Spearheaded move from borrowed room to 5,500 square foot, five-classroom facility opened in 2000
- Under her leadership, CCL raised \$200,000 from local businesses and individuals and \$300,000 through SPLOST to build the facility
- Led move to add childcare program free of charge for attending students
- Helped raise \$52,000 to purchase bus when students had problems getting to class because of poor transportation, or none at all
- Helped to improve literacy rate in Catoosa County more than 12 percent over 10-year period

“Shirley Smith IS the literacy effort in Catoosa. Without the opportunities she has envisioned and made a reality, thousands would still be dreaming rather than living and achieving a better chance in life.”

–Ann Nix and Randall Franks, Co-Chairs, CCL

2006: Beth McAfee-Hallman

Community Partnership of Elbert County

- Gives first-hand assistance to numerous GED students
- Helped to improve literacy rate in county exponentially
- Enlisted several civic clubs to provide assistance in literacy programs
- Led efforts that produced book banks, family literacy bags, audio lending library and other efforts

“You have no idea how ecstatic ‘movers and shakers’ were in our county when Beth McAfee-Hallman descended upon our rural community. Her passion to improve our dismal literacy statistics was quiet evident.”

–Marcia Jenkins, CLCP Board Member

2005: Debbie Burdette

Troup County CLCP

- Helps to increase literacy rate in county with pro-active, public awareness efforts
- Involved almost every civic club in efforts to improve literacy
- Credited with helping some 788 Troup County residents attain GED diploma in first year of operation
- Reaches out to industries and businesses to help fund programs, such as Books for Babies, along with support for GED classrooms, awards, and recognitions
- Created “Mama Jama” character to raise awareness and get attention for literacy programs on local TV and at other public events

“She is a marvelous administrator and a matchless cheerleader. She is a magnificent asset to the community.”

*–Andrea Lovejoy, editor, *The LaGrange Daily**

News