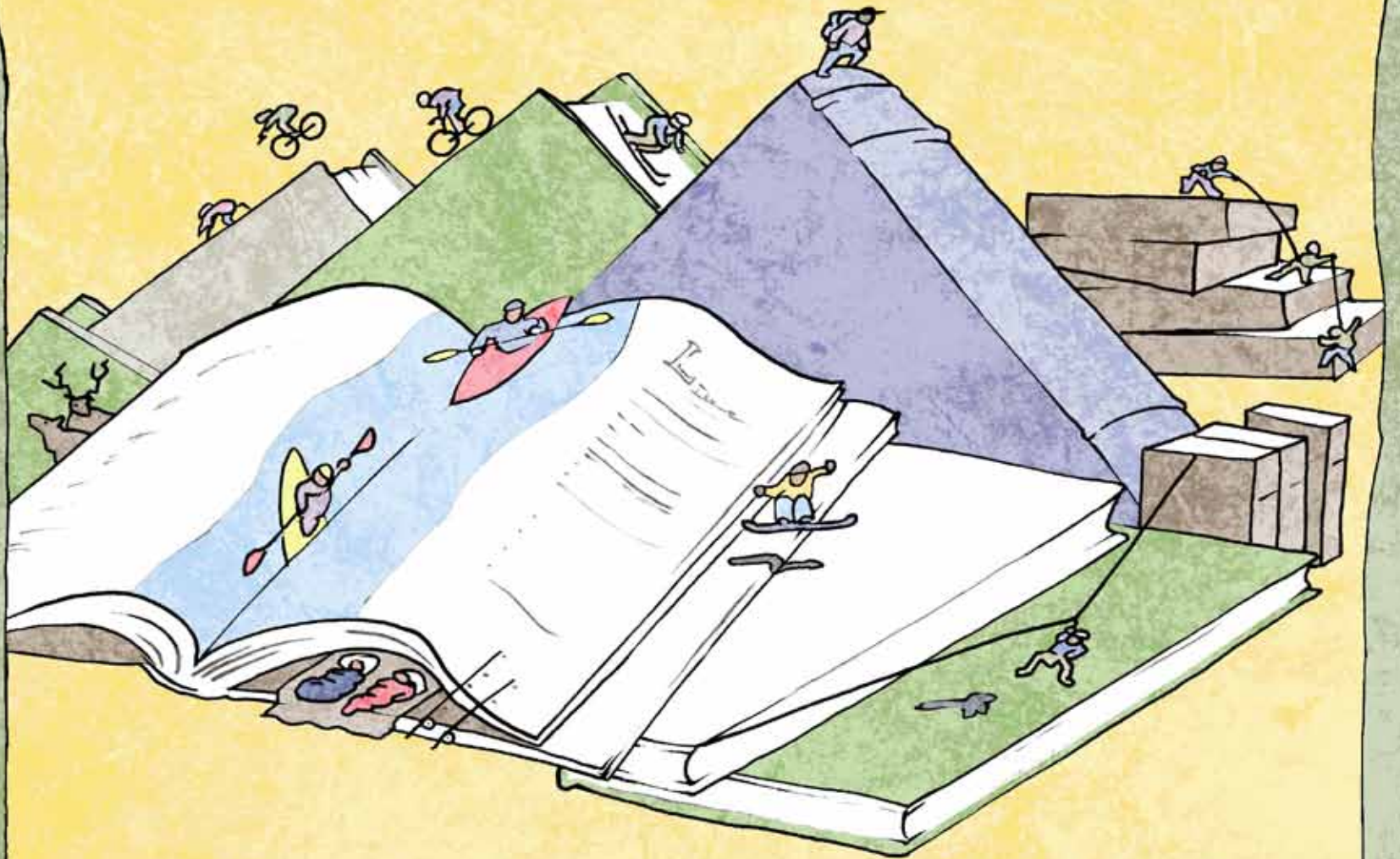


THE LITERACY PROJECT OF EAGLE COUNTY ANNUAL REPORT

2012



THE
LITERACY
PROJECT

Read Well Speak Well Live Well

literacyprojecteaglecounty.org

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

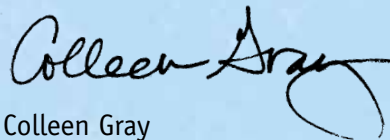
The Literacy Project champions the power of literacy to improve the lives of adults, families, communities, and societies. At the Literacy Project, we view literacy globally as part of our mission. The direct effects can be seen in the daily lives of our students who are finding employment, keeping employment, driving safely and staying healthy. Through our work, we aim to effectively target and address illiteracy as a root cause of social issues.

We fight hard every day to improve the lives of others to achieve our vision of every man, woman, and child in Eagle County to become literate. During 2012, The Literacy Project offered services to 400 Eagle County adult and youth learners each of who received an educational evaluation, learning plan, and FREE confidential one-to-one tutoring.

The Study Friends Program supported 125 academically at-risk middle school students who met weekly with their volunteers to improve both academics and self-esteem. On a weekly basis, families received 2,050 award-winning books through Raising A Reader. In addition, Reading Buddies paired 75 elementary school children with teen mentors to receive reading practice after school during the academic year.

In addition to our tutoring programs, we hosted a wide range of events throughout the year. Our popular author event featuring Jennifer Gilbert, author of *I Never Promised You A Goodie Bag*, had attendees standing on their feet. The Minturn Burro Race added the excitement of Colorado history and brought awareness about our cause to spectators. Volunteers and students enjoyed a wonderful evening at The Bookworm to celebrate their successes. Thanks to the generous support from individuals, foundations and corporations, we have been able to maintain our robust programming to address the issue of illiteracy in Eagle County. On behalf of the Board of Directors, our staff and volunteers, we thank you for your interest in The Literacy Project. The help we receive from our volunteers and supporters provide a strong foundation that allows us to be true to our mission.

Regards,



Colleen Gray
Executive Director

"If someone offered me \$1,000,000 to go back the way I was before I could read, I would turn them down."

— Earl Mills



UNDERSTANDING LITERACY

Literacy in its simplest form is the ability to read and write, but there is nothing simple about learning to read and write. It may take a lifetime to master, and due to the collaborations happening across Eagle County, it may take a village to teach. Public libraries, community foundations, nonprofit organizations, and school districts have been partnering to pool scarce resources, combine talents and make literacy a priority in our community. These creative collaborative projects range from early childhood literacy and kindergarten readiness programs to family literacy celebrations to helping adults achieve financial, educational, and career success.



Our committed volunteers tutor one-to-one with students.



RAISING A READER

Raising A Reader's mission is to increase literacy in the homes of birth to five year olds by providing them the tools to accomplish this. RAR rotates bright red bags filled with award-winning books into children's homes on a weekly basis. Children enrolled in our program are exposed to approximately 100 books per year. Local implementers are trained in interactive "read-aloud" techniques that stimulate early brain development and language acquisition. They in turn train parents and caregivers. This training helps parents and caregivers, even those with limited English proficiency or low level skills, learn how to engage their child by sharing a book. Through the program, families are also connected to their local public libraries. At the culmination of the program, children receive a blue library bag to keep and continue the practice of borrowing books and "book cuddling." 500 books bags are rotated weekly throughout Eagle County.



Pre-school children prepare for kindergarten.



The Reading Buddies program shares the joy of reading.

READING BUDDIES

Reading Buddies is a partnership with the Eagle Valley Library District where teens are matched with a Little Buddy in first through third grades. Buddy pairs read together, play reading-based games, and participate in group activities to foster a love of reading. The Reading Buddies program is designed to give extra reading practice with a caring, creative teen mentor and to make the reading experience fun. In turn the high school students learn leadership and responsibility by helping the younger children. Reading Buddies takes place year-round at area libraries.

"I used many reading strategies to help my Little Buddy understand and read more fluently. I also learned how to choose books that younger kids like!" — James

"I helped my Little Buddy learn to read better and to learn new words. I also think he likes reading now!" — Susan

"My goal was to help my Little Buddy's reading ability increase and for him to have a really fun time doing it." — Juan



STUDY FRIENDS

The Study Friends program addresses the academic needs of at-risk students in Eagle County middle and high schools. Trained volunteer tutors are matched with teacher-referred students. Staff, teachers and volunteers develop a plan to address the low reading achievement of adolescent and pre-adolescent students by identifying effective instructional approaches. Working in local schools or the libraries, students bring school assignments to the sessions so that they can get one-to-one help and learn strategies to be more successful in the classroom.

Algebra tutorials take place at the Avon Public Library, Eagle Public Library and Gypsum Public Library.



ADULT

The Literacy Project provides private, student-centered, individualized, confidential, free tutoring to adult learners in two basic programs. One track is offered to English as a Second Language to assist students in learning English. Students explore the English language in order to improve their reading, writing, speaking, listening and grammar skills. The other track is geared towards native English speakers who for one reason or another did not learn to read or write at a level high enough for economic and social success. Because these are adult learners, there are many obstacles that they have to overcome to gain success. Often the adult learners have challenging schedules due to the need to work two or more low paying jobs. Many of the students are mothers who have difficulty arranging for child care and our program is offered one-on-one to reduce class peer pressure.

The Literacy Project programs served 300 adults in 2012 and tutor/student pairs logged more than 5,500 hours of study at our area libraries.

Involvement in our program is a choice our students make for themselves, illustrating their motivation and dedication to accomplishing their goals. On-going enrollment enables us to assign students throughout the year.

When individuals learn how to read, write, perform basic math, and use computers, the more likely they are to lift themselves out of poverty, contribute to improved health care costs and sustain employment.

- We prepare students for their GED
- We teach English to speakers of other languages
- We teach financial and health literacy
- We take a comprehensive, individualized approach
- We strive not just to educate, but to empower lives

"Since my involvement with The Literacy Project I have met such dedicated and encouraging people; teachers, administrators, students, and volunteers. They do it with grace and a good deal of humor."

— Pam, volunteer

▲ Funding for adult education and English language instruction has declined by 17% from 2011-2012 (adjusted for inflation).

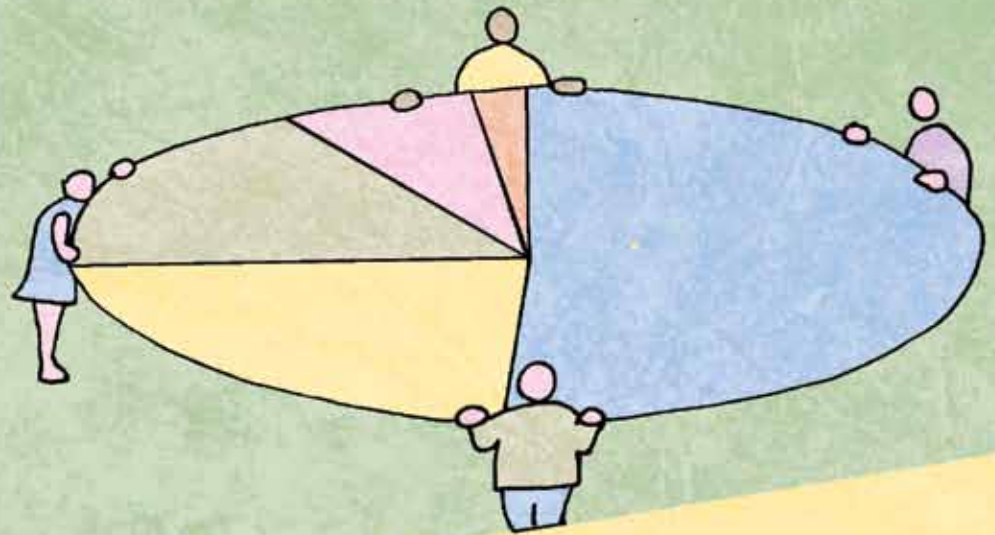
▲ 8.1 million adults dropped out of school before 8th grade, making GED attainment more difficult.

▲ A mother's level of reading is the greatest determinant of her child's academic success.

▲ About 2 million immigrants come to the U.S. each year. About 50 percent of them have low literacy levels and lack a high school education and English language skills, severely limiting their access to jobs and job training, college and citizenship.

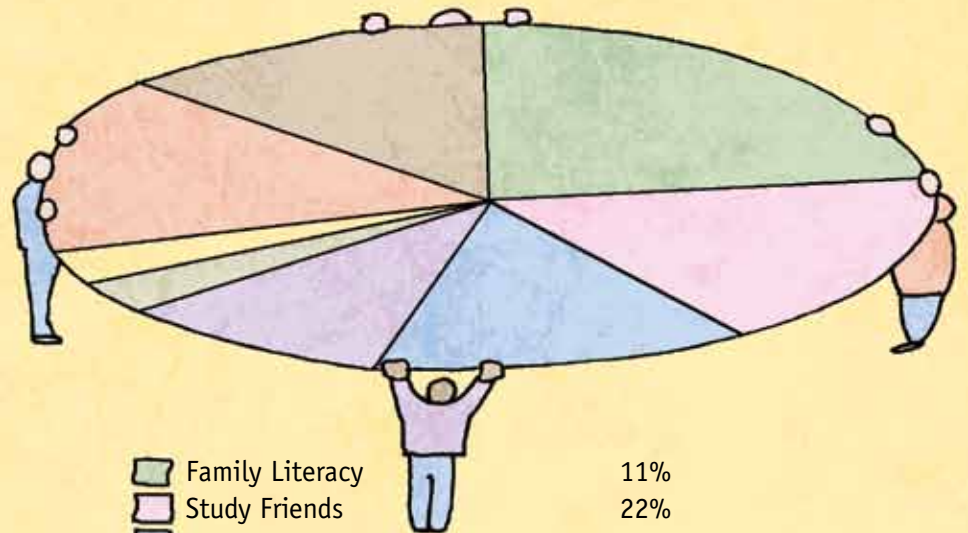
▲ Immigrants to the U.S. with strong English skills make an enormous contribution to our economy earning between 13% and 24% more than immigrants who are not proficient in English.

Income: \$223,107



Library Grant	54%
Foundation/Community Grants	20%
Fundraising Events	17%
General Fundraising/Donations	7%
Miscellaneous & Fees	2%

Expenses: \$216,393



Family Literacy	11%
Study Friends	22%
Adult ESL	13%
Raising A Reader	10%
Reading Buddies	5%
Reading on the Go	4%
Fundraising	23%
Management/Admin	12%



FOSTERING PARTNERSHIPS

Collaborating with other organizations helps The Literacy Project strengthen its collective work around literacy and basic education. In the past fiscal year, The Literacy Project worked with the following organizations:

Bravo! Vail Valley Music Festival
The Bookworm of Edwards
Colorado Mountain College
Colorado State University Extension
Delta Kappa Gamma
Eagle County Health and Human Services
Eagle County School District
Early Head Start and Head Start
Eagle River Youth Coalition
Eagle Valley Library District
Habitat for Humanity Home Store Eagle
National Center for Family Literacy
Nurse Family Partnership
ProLiteracy
Raising A Reader
SOS Outreach
Sylvan Lake State Park
Town of Vail Public Library
Vail Valley Foundation
Walking Mountains Science School

FINANCIAL REPORT

Thank you to all our individual donors as well as our foundation, corporate, and institutional partners. Your invaluable support makes our work possible.

CORPORATE GRANTS AND FOUNDATION SUPPORT

\$100,000 and up

Eagle Valley Library District

\$5,000-\$10,000

Avon Community, LLC
Sidney E. Frank Foundation
Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation
The Youth Foundation

\$1,000-\$5,000

Alpine Bank
Eagle Valley Community Fund
FirstBank
Slifer Smith and Frampton Real Estate
Team Evergreen Bicycle Club
United Way of Eagle River Valley
USBank
Vail Valley Cares

Up to \$1,000

Bookworm of Edwards
Cascade Village Theater

Eagle Combined Courts
Eagle Valley Temps
Fiesta Jalisco Numero Tres
Lacy's-The Topp Drawer
Larkspur Restaurant
Pylman and Associates, Inc.
Rocky Mountain Alumnae Club of Pi Beta Phi
Streamside Dental-Dorothy Distelhorst
Talbot Travel
Wells Fargo Foundation

INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS

Valedictorian (\$1,000-\$2,500)

Gary and Carolyn Cage
Steve and Amy Coyer
Carla Guarascio
Daniel M. Guggenheim
Roberta Schmidt

Salutatorian (\$500-\$1,000)

Erin Allen
Cookie Flaum
Ginny Forstmann
Stuart and Becca Green
Dean Johnson
Alexia Jurschak
Virginia Leonhardt
John and Ann Martin
Peter Rosenberg
Christina Wilson

Summa Cum Laude (\$100-\$500)

Peter Abuisi
Esgar Acosta
Larry and Sandi Agneberg
Lorraine Allen
Jan Attoma
Mark Attoma
Marilyn Augur
Doris Bailey
Stephen and Karen Baird
Roger Behler
Lin Bercher
Tim Bettenhausen
M.A. and Eleanor Bramante
Cindy Bright
Norman Bowles and Karen Shupe
Benjamin Broder
Linda Brodin
Ike and Candy Brown
Arlene and Bennett Brummer
Nancy Burton
Charlyn Canada
Peggy Carey
Sue Cary
Lynn Chapin
Elizabeth Coleman
Kathleen Cook
Kathleen Cope
Joel Cox
Kim Cox
Phyllis Leslie Cox

Carey Davis
Susan Davis
Shirley Day
Adina Dean
Jane DeNunzio
Doris Dewton
Joyce Dickerson
Fred Distelhorst
Suzanne Donohue
Amy Dorsey
Stephen and Lysa Erkenbrack

Lynn Rose
Sally Rose
Linda Roy
Sue Rychel
Kim Saalfeld
Doug and Gayle Schwartz
Harry Scoby
Carole and Peter Segal
Maureen Shapiro
Jenifer Herrera Shay
Jane Shriner

By age 4, children in low-income families will have heard 13 million words, compared to 45 million words heard by children in professional families.

Ann Evans
Susan Frampton
Aleene Fraser
Miriam and Morris Futernick
Heidi Friedman
Suzanne Gallegos
Vicky Garnsey
Debra Geddes
Tracy Gillette
Lynn Gottlieb
Susan Wilke Gruber
Emma Halpert
Patricia Hammon
Joan Harned
Martha Head
Jane Healy
Dean Johnson
Alexia Jurschak
Diana Kaylor
Carol Kirsch
Beth Levine
Robert LeVine and Evelyn Phinney
John Lohre
Jane Lowery
Mary Ann McEntee
Modesta Lopez
Chuck and Leslie Madison
Diana Mathias
Kay Mattson
Claire McCarty
Margater Meek
Nancy Mezey in honor of Roberta Schmidt
Peggy Morgan
Marka Moser
Pat Nolan
Dorothy Norton
Jean Oglethorpe
John Pariseau
Charles and Patti Penwill
Suzanne Perozzi
Martha Petrie
Cricket Pylman
Arlene Rakich
Susan Richardson
Maureen Riordan
Andrea Robbins
Anne Robinson

Ann Sinton
Robert Sim
B.J. Smith
Nancy Smith
Sarah Smith
Doreen Somers
Jacilyn Spuhler
Mary Lynn Stachina
Karen Steele
Jarona Stevens
Larry S. Stewart
Judith Stiber
George Strate
Kristen Sunderland
Jody Talbot
Mary Thompson
Patti Thompson
Marc Tribelhorn
Linda VanderGarde
Julie VanNatta
Norman Vogel
Stephen D. Warren, D.V.M.
Patti Weinstein
Marc and Glenda Wentworth
Susan Whitley
George and Elizabeth Wieggers
Betty Ann Woodland
Matthew Woodworth
John and Joanna Yaukey
Louise Young
Janet Zaring

Cum Laude (Up to \$100)

Sally Aarons
Mary Adams
Cynthia Allard
Anonymous
Gerry Arnold
Mike Beltracchi
Susan Wolin-Brown
Sue Callahan
Judith Carson
Lynn Chapin
Ellicott Dandy
Shirley Day
Carey Davis
Susie Davis
Abby Dixon



Zoella Donaghue
 Amy Dorsey
 Debbie Douglas
 Patrick Essy
 Jan Etters
 Elizabeth Fessenden
 Tracy Gillette
 Annie Goodman
 Colleen Gray
 Amy Gornikiewicz
 Michelle Hall
 Catherine Hebert
 Heidi Heide
 Dwight Henniger
 Julie Herr
 Jim Himmes
 Rosalie Hill Isom
 Jean Keith
 Debbie King
 Sally Jackle
 Sharon Jones
 Carol Krueger
 Sue Lathrop
 Joan Leader
 William Lee III
 Virginia Leonhardt
 Eleanor Manzi
 Michelle Marx
 Nicki McBride
 Kim and Richard McGhee
 David Miller
 Rosie Moreno
 Thomas Mullen
 Jean Naumann
 Carol Nitz
 Tere Nottingham
 Sue Parker
 Bette Pietsch
 Susan Pollack
 Robert and Elma Reed
 Narda Reigel
 Barbara Richardson
 Pearl Rieger
 Margaret Rogers
 Richard and Gwendolyn Scalpello
 Katherine Schmidt
 Gayle Schwartz
 Judy Shoemaker
 Elizabeth D. Seed
 Meg Segerberg
 Eric Seifert
 Sydney Sexton
 Jenifer Shay
 Nancy Smith
 Karen Steele
 Jarona Stevens
 Tricia Swenson
 Elena Tafoya
 Susie Tjossem
 Sandy VanDeVenter
 Barbara Vaughn
 Jennie Wahrer
 Deborah Webster
 Linda Welch
 Colleen Widlak
 Allison Wright



IN-KIND DONATIONS

The Literacy Project appreciates all the thoughtful in-kind donations of goods and services that directly benefit our mission and remind our students they are supported in a meaningful way.

Allegria Spa
 Alpine Bank
 Alpine Laser Clinic
 Allure-Heidi Worth
 Asian Village
 Batter
 Beaver creek Resort Company
 Blitz
 Blue Moose
 BlueSky Breckenridge
 BOL
 Chop House
 Cocotay of Bergdorf Goodman
 Dewey Dabbles in Art
 Digits
 Dogma Athletica
 Foods of Vail
 IMPACT Energy
 Katherine Schmidt Photography
 Leadfoot Linda's
 Mangat-Etage
 Merle Norman Cosmetics
 Mountain Pedaler-Eagle
 Mountain SNO
 Wendy Nagel
 Pazzo's Pizza
 Roxy
 Spa Anjali
 SteamMaster
 Stella & Dot-Jennifer Stiebel
 Tess Backhus
 The CosBar
 The Dusty Boot-Eagle
 The Golden Bear
 Vail Valley Academy of Dance-Eagle
 Vail Valley Animal Hospital
 Vilar Center for Performing Arts
 Zip Adventures

Dean's List – Our Volunteers

Mary Adams
 Mindy Alderete
 Addie Arnold
 Kelsey Ashton
 Jan Attoma
 Bonnie Baker
 Mariel Baez
 Amber Barbella
 Hana Barclay
 Kenneth Baughman
 Karl Becker
 Mike Beltracchi
 Chapin Benway
 Olivia Bolwell
 Sue Brandl
 James Brieger
 Kayla Brito

Marilyn Brock
 Benjamin Broder
 Suzanne Bross
 Bennett Brummer
 Justine Bukovich
 Deidra Burns
 Judith Carson
 Linda Chaney
 Lynn Chapin
 Judy Chavez
 Rebecca Cherry
 Susan Chipman
 Katie Coakley
 Maddi Conlin
 Michelle Cortes
 Zeiri Cortes
 Jennifer Crabtree
 Esme Cruz
 Nicole Daigle
 Abby Davidson
 Kendra Doepken
 Jack Dorfman
 Sara Dorfman
 Maggie Eickholt
 Brett Ferraro
 Nina Ferzacca
 Diana Feinson
 Molly Fiore
 Tom Fiore
 Cookie Flaum
 Judy Fonda
 Cynthia Forstmann
 Cici Franklin
 Morris Futernick
 Paul Gallagher
 Carol Gallegos
 Stephanie Gallegos
 Jessica Garcia
 Evin Garretson
 Mabry Gentry
 Angela Giovagnoli
 Gino Giovagnoli
 Natalie Goodwin
 Karen Gonzalez
 Maria Gonzalez
 Sofia Gonzalez
 Leslie Granzo
 Dale Green
 Kelly Guarascio
 Michelle Hall
 Torey Hanrahan
 Jennifer Hansen
 Steve Hatley
 Amanda Hawkins
 Matthew Healy
 Karen Hernandez
 Kimberly Hetrick
 Susan Hicks
 Joyce Hildebrand
 Jim Himmes
 Erickson Hirn
 Trexler Hirn
 Dan Houck
 Carol Hymers
 Racquel Jacinto

Kat Jahnigen
 Rivers Jardis
 Jenna Jay
 Yoselin Jimenez
 Anne Johnson
 Kyatt Johnson
 Polly Johnson
 Amber Jones
 Cheryl Kachenmeister
 Catherine Karsh
 Jean Keith
 Karla Kerekes
 Wanita Kirwan
 Collen Key
 Debbie King
 Serena Kozusko
 Dackssiry Landeros
 Horacio Ledon
 Diane Levin
 Jane Linstroth
 Mariana Loera
 Elodia Lopez
 Donna Lovato
 Annette Lyttle
 Ric Marshall
 Gabriela Martinez
 Kylie Martinez
 Leila Martinez
 Rocio Martinez
 Leticia Mata
 Rebecca Matlon
 Emma Matzko
 Pam McKay
 Michelle McKinney
 Sarah Meline
 Eileen Miller
 Nydia Miranda
 Cinthia Molinar
 Morgan Murphy
 Cortni O'Brien
 Michaela O'Connor
 Susan Ogilvie
 James O'Rourke
 Adriana Palma
 Hannah Patterson
 Cooper Perkins
 Martha Petrie
 Erin Petruccione
 Tanner Pierce-Durance
 Natalie Pinto
 Cornelia Platt
 Jason Platt
 Amy Pope
 Samantha Pritchard
 Rebecca Puhl
 Linda Quiring
 Cindy Rascon
 Jaimee Rindy
 Andrea Robbins
 Gloria Roberson
 Karla Robledo
 Peter Rosenberg
 Kim Saalfeld
 Karla Sandoval
 Carmen Saucedo



Our Volunteers (continued)

Viviana Saucedo
Randal Schroeder
Sandra Schroeder
Lois Schwager
Garrett Smith
Nancy Smith
Harrison Stevens
Roberta Schwartz
Saundra Spaeh
Ed Spivak

Karlene Spivak
Sherri Steeves
Gerald Stempler
Harrison Stevens
Quinn Story
Helen Thompson
Patti Thompson
Paola Toscano
Anna Trombetta
Zach Trombetta
Morgan Trujillo
Hope Tudanger

Jose Valencia
Robert VanHyfte
Aide Vasquez
Carmen Vasquez
Barbara Vaughn
Anne Verratti
Aracely Villalobos
Adriana Villegas
Dan Wallace
Cjae Warman
Carolyn Weiner-Trapness
Caitlin Weis

Leila White
Sidney Whitmarsh
Karen Woody
Hap Young
Nancy Young
Nathan Young
Owen Young
Meredith Zafian
Rebekah Zenor

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Jan Attoma
Lin Bercher
Adina Dean
Virginia Forstmann
Jim Himmes
Michelle Marx



THE LITERACY PROJECT STAFF

Colleen Gray
Executive Director

Sloan Munter
Director of Educational Programs

Kira Barclay
Eagle and Gypsum Program Coordinator

