

February Newsletter

February is about care and connection – and at WALC, that means supporting our learners every step of the way.

Earlier this month, thanks to a grant from the Green Bay Packers Foundation, we were able to purchase two smartboards for our Women & Children program. We're already seeing how these new tools are improving our English classes, and we're grateful for the opportunity to continue strengthening this program.



We're also excited to bring back several favorite series and events, continuing to create opportunities for growth, confidence-building, and connection across our community.

Our Financial Education Workshops, in partnership with Community First Credit Union (CFCU), kicked off to a fantastic start. We were thrilled to see many familiar faces returning from last year's sessions, along with new learners eager to build their financial literacy skills. From understanding credit scores to navigating personal finances, these workshops are already making a meaningful impact.



Leading up to **Valentine's Day**, our teachers also brought creativity and joy into the classroom with themed lessons and activities. Learners practiced vocabulary, writing skills, and conversational English through making Valentine's cards, crafting paper hearts, and discussing traditions around friendship and appreciation. It was a wonderful way to blend language learning with celebration – a reminder that connection is at the heart of everything we do.

Thank you to our partners and community for the continued collaborations and supports. 2026 is already shaping up to be a meaningful year, and we're

excited to see how we continue growing together and creating opportunities that make a lasting impact.

International Mother Language Day



In celebration of International Mother Language Day, WALC, the Neenah Public Library, and UWO's Chicana/o & Latinx Studies program collaborated and hosted a screening of the Emmy Award-winning short film *Translators*.

We're once again grateful to Leslie, Ashley, Juan, and Salvador for sharing their experiences during the panel discussion. *Translators* isn't just a film – it's a reflection of real-

life stories that so many individuals live every day. It highlights the urgent need for professional interpreters and the importance of breaking language barriers to strengthen adult literacy.

Thank you to our collaborators, our panelist, and the community members who showed up, listened, and engaged in thoughtful conversation. Opportunities like this remind us why this work matters. With your continued support, we're able to keep bringing awareness to issues that impact our neighbors and advocate for a more inclusive, language-accessible community.

Immigration Learning Circle Are Back!

The Immigration Learning Circle (ILC) series is back and ready with new speakers, fresh topics, and more opportunities to learn together!

This month, we kicked off things with Raiden Montero, International Admissions and Recruitment Coordinator at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, who led a session on *Navigating Global Admissions: The International Student Journey to UW-Oshkosh*.



If you missed it, don't worry! Just like last year, ILC's will take place monthly. Our next session will be held March 17th and led by WALC's Executive Director, Dr. Chu May Paing – "*You are so articulate!*" *How Discrimination Shows up in and through Language*.

Register below or visit www.winlit.org/immigration-learning-circles/ to stay up to date on upcoming speakers and sessions!

[Register Here](#)

Check us out on Bookshop.org!

WALC's Recommended Reading



by Winnebago Area Literacy Council

[View all \(19\)](#)



Our Bookshop profile is live and ready to share some awesome reads! For every book purchased through our profile, a portion of the proceeds is donated to support our ongoing efforts to provide free, accessible education to our community.

Check out our curated recommendations using the link below and help us continue our mission to eliminate barriers to literacy.

[Shop Bookshop.org](#)

Teacher Spotlight



Let's welcome WALC English Language Teacher, Machaela Jackson!

Machaela holds degrees in Early Childhood and Secondary Education with a minor in English Language Arts from the Fox Valley Technical College and the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh.

Within our organization, she teaches ELL classes at the Learning Center and works with the Paving Education Pathways program.

Read her story in our latest blog post below!

[Read Now!](#)

Upcoming Events

Financial Education Workshop

Smart Rate Shopping: How to Find the Best Deals - Discover how loans work and how to shop for better rates

March 4th | 12 PM - 2 PM | Oshkosh Public Library Conference Room A/B lower level

[Register Here](#)

Financial Education Workshop

Take Control: Build and Manage your Credit - Set goals and take steps towards a healthy financial future

March 11th | 12 PM - 2 PM | Oshkosh Public Library Conference Room A/B lower level
[Register Here](#)

March Immigration Learning Circle

"You are so articulate!" How Discrimination Shows Up in and Through Language

March 17th | 4:30 PM - 6 PM | 111 N Main St, Suite 202, Oshkosh, WI 54901

[Register Here](#)

OPEN POSITIONS!

If you love gardening, Environmental Science, and English language learning, WALC may just have the right role for you! We're looking for a **Summer Program Teacher** and a **Summer Program Assistant Teacher** — and we'd love to have you be part of something meaningful.

This summer opportunity is perfect for educators and college students! Help learners build English skills while exploring environmental themes through engaging, community-centered programming.

✨ We encourage interested applicants to apply early!

Check out more of the details at <https://winlit.org/careers/> or connect with us, via email, at info@winlit.org. 😊

Eliminate Barriers to Literacy



You can support WALC in many ways

- Volunteer with us
- Donate needed items from our [Amazon Wishlist](#)
- Use **ShopRaise** in your everyday shopping
- Make a financial contribution to support our free literacy services

[Donate Now!](#)

Please remember the Winnebago Area Literacy Council in your will. Learn more about planned gifts on our website.

Connect with us and stay up to date on all things WALC



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