



WINNEBAGO AREA  
**LITERACY  
COUNCIL**

## May Newsletter

Dear Trusted Friends of WALC,

The spring rains have ushered in a season of change, renewal, and rebirth at WALC.

- Summer Program Updates

We are wrapping our second quarter of classes. Both the Learning Center and the Women & Children Program will be on summer recess (Women & Children will resume on June 16. Learning Center classes will resume on July 6.)

Meanwhile, we are thrilled to partner with Wisconsin Bike Federation and the Community Bike Champion Jacob Klaameyer to host a free three-week **Ready to Ride Adult Bike Literacy Program** in June. See the flyer below for details on how to sign up. Children under 18 are also welcome with an adult guardian.

Our partnership with Community First Credit Union will also resume this week to offer a free three-week **Financial Education Workshops on Frauds and Scams**. See below for details.

- GROW Updates

We want to thank volunteers from Oshkosh Corporation and Service League of Oshkosh for joining us to help prepare the GROW garden at St. Andrews Church where we host our Women & Children Program. Special thanks to Oshkosh Area United Way for facilitating and matching us with the Oshkosh Corp team to build the fence, and to our Board member Amy Ashton for facilitating the collaboration with Service League of Oshkosh to set up the garden beds. The garden is now ready for growing, planting,



learning, and playing. See below for ways to get involved with our GROW garden throughout this summer.



- Personnel Updates

**We are thrilled to introduce our new Community Engagement Coordinator, Ashley Patino.** Ashley is not a stranger to WALC; she has been one of the Spanish translators we work with to provide language access to our learners across our programming. She and her sister Leslie Patino have also collaborated with us on the two successful *Translators* Film Viewing and Discussion events we hosted at the Oshkosh Public Library and Neenah Public Library. Ashley brings both lived and academic experience working with adults with limited English proficiency in her community and through her research project at UWO. We are excited to have Ashley join us in this capacity.

We are saying goodbye to our Education Programs Manager, Emma Eiden. Although her time with us was short, Emma left our Adult English language program in a better place than when she joined us. We wish her the best with the next chapter in her life.

**We are seeking a new Education Programs Manager** to continue building on this momentum. See the Job Description below.



- Book Updates

We also witnessed incredible support from the community who showed up to our inaugural *Reading Between the Lines* Book launch event earlier this month. This book is a culmination of collaboration between WALC and Humans of Oshkosh to highlight and celebrate the powerful stories of immigration, resilience, and adult literacy in Oshkosh.

If you missed the event, this featured [news](#) published by UWO Today captured the event beautifully.



The books are still on sale and you can make your purchase [here](#). 100% of proceeds will go towards our adult literacy programs.

Lastly, we are deeply grateful for the generosity we have seen so far through our Spring Campaign. To date, we have raised \$1,914.

With federal funding ending in September 2026, we have had to make the difficult decision to sunset Paving Education Pathways (PEP), our English language program for high school students with refugee backgrounds hosted in partnership with the Oshkosh Area School District, as well as the English Conversation Class offered at WALC.

**Our goal is to raise \$12,000 by the end of June** to ensure the continuation of two regular adult English classes and to continue providing meaningful language-learning opportunities for our community.

Rain can often feel disruptive, yet it plays an essential role in helping the natural world grow and thrive. As we enter this season of change, I find myself reflecting on that symbolism. While change can be uncomfortable, I remain hopeful that it will also bring renewal and new beginnings. We are deeply grateful to our community for standing with us as we navigate this season of transition, growth, and rebirth.

With gratitude and in community,

Chu May Paing, PhD  
Executive Director



## Upcoming Programs & Events

# READY TO RIDE

## Adult Bike Literacy Program

Join WALC and Jacob Klaameyer, Community Bike Champion, this summer for Ready to Ride! There will be basic and intermediate instruction, register below!



**BASIC SMART CYCLING** –Parts of a Bike, Choosing Your Bike, Types of Bikes, Bike Fit, ABC Quick Check, Starting, Stopping, Steering, Signaling, Scanning, Shifting, Principles of Traffic Law, Bike Infrastructure, Hazards in Bicycling

**INTERMEDIATE SMART CYCLING** –Riding with a Group, Bicycle Maintenance, Sharing Paths and Trails, Riding in Inclement Weather, Night Riding, Rural Road Riding, Bicycling for Transportation and Commuting



WINNEBAGO AREA  
**LITERACY  
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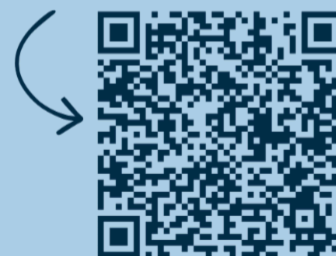
**WISCONSIN  
BIKE FED**

**9:00-11:00 AM  
TUESDAYS**

**JUNE 16, 23, 30**

**111 N MAIN ST SUITE 202  
OSHKOSH WI 54902**

**REGISTER HERE**



**Register for Ready to Ride**



# Financial Education Workshops

**MAY  
27th**

**Fraud Awareness:** How fraudsters target the vulnerable

3 to 5 pm | Oshkosh Public Library  
106 Washington Ave, Oshkosh, WI 54901  
Second Floor Dome Area

**How to Protect Your Finances:** Learn from scenarios and take action

3 to 5 pm | Oshkosh Public Library  
106 Washington Ave, Oshkosh, WI 54901  
Conference Room A/B Lower Level

**JUNE  
3rd**

**JUNE  
10th**

**Finding Trustworthy Information:** Reliable resources to avoid scams

3 to 5 pm | Oshkosh Public Library  
106 Washington Ave, Oshkosh, WI 54901  
Conference Room A/B Lower Level

All sessions are **free**, with childcare and translators provided  
For more information, contact [info@winlit.org](mailto:info@winlit.org) or 920-573-5573

[Register for Financial Education Workshops](#)

Winnebago Area Literacy Council  
IMMIGRATION LEARNING CIRCLE

# LATIN@s IN WISCONSIN

**A CONVERSATION ABOUT  
IMMIGRATION, LABOR, AND  
EDUCATION**



*with*

**ELIE SAAD & DR. JUAN GARCIA OYERVIDES**

This conversation between Dr. Juan Garcia Oyervides, and local business owner, Elie Saad, highlights trends, changes, and emerging issues facing lati@s in Oshkosh and the Fox Valley.



**REGISTER  
NOW**

**TUESDAY JUNE 16TH  
4:30 PM - 6 PM  
111 N MAIN ST, SUITE 202  
OSHKOSH, WI 54901**



Funded in part by  
**WISCONSIN HUMANITIES**

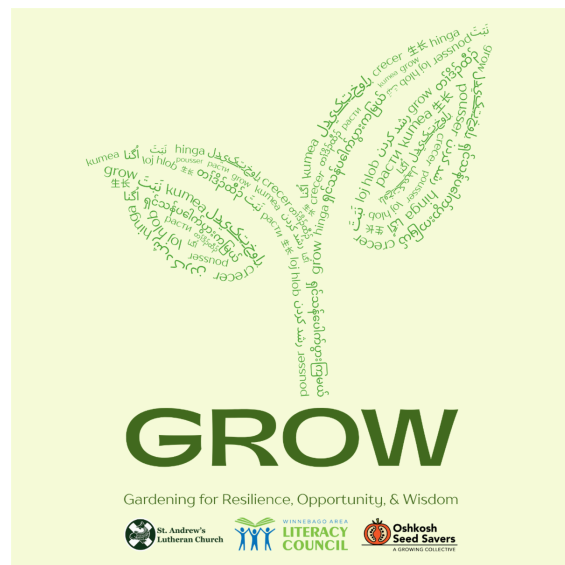
**Register for Immigration Learning Circle**

**GROW with us this summer!**

Our new summer program, GROW: Gardening for Resilience, Opportunity, and Wisdom is getting underway.

Interested in getting involved?

- Regularly volunteer with GROW on Tuesdays and/or Thursday from 1 - 3 pm
- Join our list of volunteers for one-off garden projects
- Donate any lightly used or new gardening tools



Email [thompson@winlit.org](mailto:thompson@winlit.org) to get involved!

## Join Our Team

WALC is hiring a full time Education Programs Manager. We are seeking a dynamic and experienced educator to guide and oversee all of WALC's adult literacy programming. Explore the full job description on our website.

If you, or someone you know, is interested in applying - send a resume and cover letter to [info@winlit.org](mailto:info@winlit.org)!

[Read Full Job Description Here](#)

## Eliminate Barriers to Literacy



Your gift empowers adults and families to build brighter futures through literacy. Every dollar supports free, learner-centered programs that strengthen our community and open doors to opportunity.

[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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