

# END OF ACADEMIC YEAR 2024 NEWSLETTER

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## CELEBRATING ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR

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## LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear ALP Community,

As we reach the end of another remarkable year, I want to take a moment to reflect on our collective achievements and express my deepest gratitude to each member of our vibrant community. This year has been filled with growth, learning, and a renewed sense of purpose.

Students have demonstrated resilience and dedication, not only in their academic pursuits but also in their personal development. Their achievements, both big and small, are a testament to their hard work and the unwavering support from the ALP staff.

To the dedicated instructors and staff, your passion for education and commitment to nurturing students has been truly inspiring. Your innovative teaching methods and tireless efforts to create an inclusive and stimulating learning environment have made a significant impact on our students' lives. Thank you for going above and beyond to ensure that every student feels valued and supported.

To our partners and collaborators, your partnership and trust in our mission has been invaluable. Your active involvement has played

a crucial role in our students' success. We are deeply grateful for your support and collaboration throughout the year. As we look ahead to the new year, we remain committed to fostering an environment where every student can thrive and achieve their full potential. We will continue to focus on academic excellence, personal growth, and global citizenship, ensuring that our students are well-prepared to face the challenges and opportunities of the future.

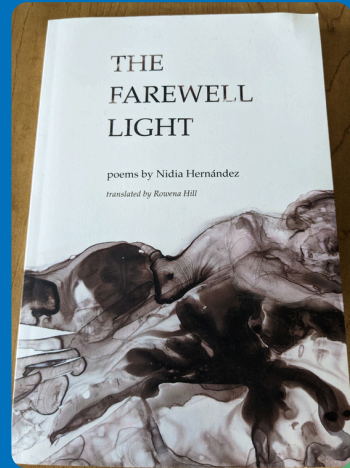
I wish you all a great summer! We look forward to welcoming you back in the fall, ready to embark on another journey of discovery and success.

Warm regards,  
Dr. Joyce E. Henderson, Director



# Former ALP Student Publishes Book of Poetry

Congratulations to Nidia Hernández on the remarkable achievement of publishing *The Farewell Light*, a wonderful book of poetry with Arrowsmith Press! Nidia's dedication, creativity, and hard work have culminated in this beautiful collection which speaks to her talent and passion for the written word. Each poem is a testament to her ability to express complex emotions and ideas with grace and eloquence. Nidia's writing touches the heart, provokes thought, and leaves a lasting impact on the reader. We are incredibly proud of Nidia Hernández for demonstrating what can be achieved with perseverance and passion and look forward to seeing where her writing journey takes her next.



Nidia, congratulations on this outstanding accomplishment. Keep writing and inspiring others with your words.

## Student Spotlight: Robenson



Robenson is one of ALP's new students who arrived from Haiti last year with his wife and daughter. Since then, he has already made incredible progress with his English. He's obtained his work permit and found more than one job. Because of his contagious, positive attitude in the classroom, he motivates and encourages other students to work hard to achieve their own goals, because, as he wants his peers to know, "Education is the key to success."

We hope to see Robenson again next year because he has already advanced so much since joining our program!

## Student Spotlight: Ismaél

Ismaél started his journey with ALP when he joined some friends studying English at ALP's programming at the Mary Curley K-12 parents' group, but he soon realized he wanted to spend more time learning English. In February, Ismaél started attending ESOL level 1 classes in the morning at Curtis Hall Community Center and the Thursday and Friday ESOL classes. "The teachers are fun to learn English from," Ismaél said. "I enjoy learning vocabulary the most, but it is still difficult to speak."

Between studying, Ismaél has been hired to assist ALP's office manager before and after class with set up and take down of the classrooms and keeping the office clean. Thank you, Ismaél for all your hard work and dedication!



# ALP TEACHERS CONGRATULATE THEIR STUDENTS ON THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS THIS YEAR

"It was a wonderful school year in HiSET! I enjoyed teaching all the students this year. May your summer be filled with good times with your family and friends!" Mary Jones, HiSET Instructor



"I'm incredibly proud of each one of you for your dedication and hard work throughout this year. As we approach the finish line, remember that every step you've taken has brought you closer to your goals. Keep pushing forward with the same determination, and know that your efforts will lead to great success!" Valerie Thomas, ESOL Instructor

"Congratulations to the ESOL evening Level 2 class for a great year! I enjoyed getting to know each and every one of you and to witness your successes! I appreciate your hard work and am wishing you all a restful and amazing summer break!!" Surya Ishaya, ESOL Instructor



"Congratulations to all of my Level 4 students on a year of hard work and success in your English journey! If you continue with that same motivation and passion, you will achieve your language goals."  
Meghan McBain, ESOL Instructor

"I am so proud of the Level 1 students! So many have gotten jobs, driver's licenses, promotions, and more. The students' dedication and effort have led to a successful year. I will miss everyone over the summer!" Jessica Graziano, ESOL Instructor



"This was my first year teaching our students at the Curley School. Students, not only were you a pleasure to work with, but you also taught me. I enjoyed being your teacher and I'm looking forward to working with you again next year." William Washington, Mary Curley Satellite Instructor & Office Manager



"I'd like to congratulate the students in the 2nd CNA Cohort! You all have shown great dedication and positivity throughout the course of the program. I am so proud of the entire class and look forward to staying in touch to follow your bright futures in healthcare. Always remember that ALP is here for you - best of luck in what is to come!"  
Gwendolyn Teutsch, CNA ESOL Instructor

"The students in this cohort were great - hardworking, smart, and willing to help each other out, especially when carefully watching each other practice skills and reminding one another of the steps and procedures as they went along." Gwen Friend, CNA Clinical Instructor



"We enjoyed working with parents at the Margarita Muniz Academy this year. Despite starting midway through the year, the parents jumped in, showed their dedication to their learning, and supported each other as a class community. It has been an excellent experience to see this wonderful group of parents grow and flourish in their English language skills. We look forward to the future!" Julia D'Arcy and Isabel Gonzales, Margarita Muniz Academy Satellite Instructors.

## ALP Elevates Digital Literacy Learning

In ALP's program, digital literacy plays a pivotal role in equipping learners with essential skills for success in today's technologically driven world. Through deliberate incorporation into instruction, digital literacy serves as a catalyst for empowering adult learners to navigate, comprehend, and utilize digital tools effectively.

Our instructional approach seamlessly integrates various educational tools and applications, leveraging their capabilities to augment the learning experience. By embracing technology, we create dynamic and interactive learning environments that cater to diverse learning styles and preferences. From multimedia presentations to interactive exercises, our curriculum harnesses the power of digital resources to engage and inspire learners.

With the addition of Northstar, our program gains a comprehensive framework for assessing and developing digital literacy skills. This integration enhances our ability to evaluate learners' proficiency and provides targeted guidance and resources to address areas for improvement. By aligning our instruction with the Northstar standards, we ensure learners acquire the digital competencies for academic and professional success.

Through the strategic integration of digital literacy and educational technology, our program is poised to elevate the quality of learning and empower adult learners to thrive in an increasingly digital landscape.

# Congratulations to Patricia Carrington on

## Her Retirement



This May, ALP celebrated the retirement of long-time staff member Patricia Carrington after an illustrious career spanning more than 20 years of dedicated service. Though her journey with ALP has ended, we reflect on her contributions and commitment to and lasting impact on our organization.

Before Patricia was a staff member, she was a student, completing ALP's diploma program. Her unwavering dedication has inspired ALP students ever since. She has been a mentor, a guide, and a friend throughout her tenure and as she embarks on this new chapter of her life, we extend our gratitude for her many years of service and wish her a joyous and fulfilling retirement.

Congratulations, Pat, and know that your legacy will continue to inspire us and the students we serve.

## Staff Spotlight: Rana Elbeih

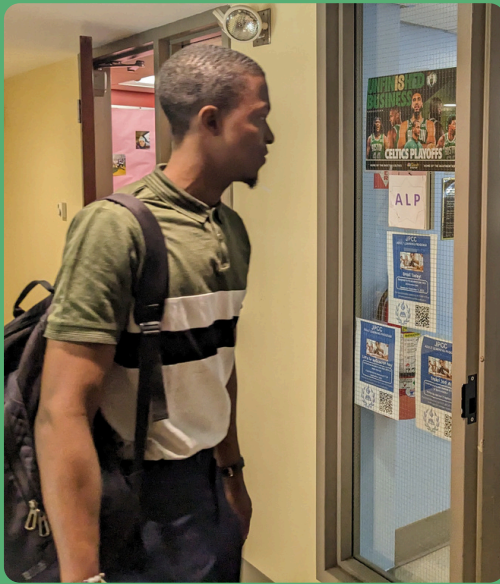


Rana Elbeih, a JPCCALP Student Advisor, has consistently shown her dedication to helping our students throughout this academic year. She goes beyond the call of duty, offering her time, expertise, and support to ensure students receive the guidance they need to thrive.

Rana, your commitment to our students' success has not gone unnoticed. Your contributions to enhancing the CNA training have been invaluable and your dedication to each of our students makes all the difference. **Thank you for everything you do!** We are incredibly fortunate to have you as part of our team.



# Jamaica Plain Community Centers Board Grants Emergency funding for Additional Class



This past February, with the financial assistance of the Board of Directors of the Jamaica Plain Community Centers, ALP launched an additional basic Literacy class in response to a wave of new enrollments primarily for low-level English classes. After seeking support and ultimately not finding it through the city of Boston, ALP's director Dr. Joyce Henderson requested emergency funding from Chairperson Kerry Costello, and the necessary funds were immediately granted.

This class has consistently held an enrollment of over 40 since its creation. Its students have already shown remarkable success despite their short time in the program. Thanks to Kerry Costello and the JPCC Board of Directors, these students are well on their way to finding success on their language learning journeys.

## To Curtis Hall Community Center, with Gratitude

ALP is deeply grateful to Noel Torres and the Curtis Hall staff for accommodating about 100 in-person students per week in the community center. The space at Curtis Hall has been instrumental in creating a conducive learning environment for our students.

Through this collaboration, we have not only enhanced our program but have been able to foster a strong sense of community in our students. We look forward to continuing our collaboration and hope to maintain this positive relationship for the foreseeable future.

Noel, once again, thank you for your invaluable support and for providing us with such a wonderful space. We are truly grateful for your contribution to the successes of the Adult Learning Program.



## Clinical Training for CNA Cohorts

ALP thanks BaneCare for allowing our CNA for ESOL students to complete their clinical rotations at BaneCare facilities. Your willingness to provide us with this invaluable opportunity has been significant in our students' education and professional development. We appreciate the welcoming and supportive environment your staff has created and their instrumental aid in helping our students apply their classroom knowledge to practical scenarios, develop essential skills, and build the confidence and competence necessary for their careers.

Thank you, once again, for your commitment to fostering the growth and education of our students. Your partnership is vital to the success of our training program, and we are incredibly grateful for your support.

# THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS...

Dear Volunteers,

On behalf of the Jamaica Plain Community Centers Adult Learning Program, I thank you for your dedication and selfless service as a volunteer.

Your commitment to volunteering has been truly inspiring. The many hours you have spent as in-class assistants and tutors have not only furthered our mission but have also touched the lives of many. Your efforts have had a profound impact, and for that, we are grateful.

A special thanks to Allies for Immigrants for their exceptional service and dedication to providing JPCCALP with volunteers. We look forward to continuing our partnership and achieving even greater things.

With heartfelt appreciation,  
Mark Henderson  
Volunteer Coordinator/Project Manager

## ... AND TO OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

**The Jamaica Plain Community Centers**  
**Board of Directors**  
**Curtis Hall Community Center**  
**First Literacy Lab**  
**Department of Elementary and**  
**Secondary Education**  
**Mayor's Office of Workforce**  
**Development**  
**MassSTEP**  
**City of Boston New Jobs Trust**  
**English for New Bostonians**  
**Allies for Immigrants**  
**VolunteerMatch**  
**Jewish Vocational Services**  
**BaneCare**

**Hernandez K-8 School**  
**Curley K-8 School**  
**Hurley K-8 School**  
**Margarita Muniz Academy**  
**Rogerson House Memory Care**  
**Assisted Living & Day Facility**  
**Enos Home Medical Supply**  
**Codman Square Neighborhood**  
**Development Council**  
**Hebrew Senior Life/Harvard Medical**  
**School Affiliate**  
**Printify**  
**Action for Boston Community**  
**Development**  
**Asian American Civic Association**

You make all of our programming possible and help change our students' lives for the better. We are proud and grateful to be a part of your community. Thank you and we look forward to working with you again next year!



**English for New Bostonians**

BOSTON, MA



**City of Boston**  
**Mayor Michelle Wu**



**MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF**  
**ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY**  
**EDUCATION**