

Tarrant Literacy Coalition

Opening the door to opportunity.



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May 2014

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May 5, 2014

The Tarrant Literacy Coalition's annual Corporate Spelling Bee is always a great evening but this year's Bee was truly outstanding. A colorful setting, a funny emcee and Wordmaster, spirited teams and generous donors made for a fabulous **soiree** (this and other words in **bold** were among the words that contestants were asked to spell at the Bee). The event set new **benchmarks** for fun and good-natured competition and raised much-needed funds for TLC's activities. Here's a quick **debrief** --

Held at TCU's Brown-Lupton Student Center, the Bee was - as usual - beautifully staged. Kimberly Jerige contributed the flower arrangements, which included some lovely **deciduous** shrubs, and a hardworking crew of volunteers (Stephanie Buckingham, Alan Crawford, Red Goldstein, JR Labbe, Trenton Price, Brisia Rodelas, David Rollins, Dennis Thompson, and a host of dedicated TCU students) helped Kathryn Thompson and Jen Rollins make the room shine right up to the **soffits**. While TCU's catering service provided a delicious meal, I must report that there was, alas, no **lefse**, **champagne** or **cappuccino** on the menu.

Enthusiastic teams -motivated by **eleemosynary** impulses as well as fabulous prize packages - made the Bee fun for all. Teams came dressed as superheroes and rock stars and proudly wore the logos of their corporate and other sponsors. Team supporters and other guests filled the room. With so much spirit in the air, it was no surprise that raffle ticket sales hit an all-time high.

April in Review



Emcee JR Labbe kept everyone laughing and a new, streamlined system for selecting words kept the Bee moving along. At times it seemed there was no more than a **yoctosecond** between one team's turn and that of the next. Smooth **segues** and bad puns seemed to come naturally to Wordmaster for Life Gary Cumbie (inquiring minds still wonder: was his binder **anopisthographic?**). There was a bit of **brouhaha** when one team successfully challenged Judges Cary Siegfried and Barbara Jiongo's call on a word; happily, no **slugfest** ensued.

In the final round, Texas Wesleyan University's team battled to the last **syllable** with Reitman Consulting's squad. TWU faltered on **ytterbium**, but Reitman missed **kallikrein**. It all came down to **weltanschauung** and TWU's Bruce McDonald spelled it correctly without a pause. TWU will proudly hold the Bee trophy until next year's event, when we hope all of these teams and more will be back to try to win it.

How can I thank our Bee organizers, sponsors, donors and participants? If only I could strum them all a song on a **ukulele**, or fashion a monument to them out of **gneiss**! I can offer only the sincere gratitude of the TLC. TWU may have gone home with the trophy, but it is the adult learners that TLC and our many partners serve who were the real winners.

Regards,
Jane Nober
Board Chair, TLC

**Make plans to attend the Health Literacy Training with
UNT Health Science Center on June 6, 2014.**



When Tarrant area literacy instructors and tutors face challenges, they know where to turn for support...

~~FOURTH~~ FRIDAY FORUM

JUNE 6TH 9:00-11:00
3500 CAMP BOWIE BLVD, FORT WORTH, TX 76107

Filling out medical paperwork is challenging for me. How can I help my students better navigate the complicated healthcare system?

UNT HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER | The Learning Center of North Texas | Tarrant Literacy Coalition

On June 6, students from UNT-HSC will present their recommendations on how literacy educators can aid their students in the intimidating task of accurately completing medical documentations brought to you will benefit individuals not confident in their abilities to read, write, and/or speak English well. You will receive a resource valuable particularly for people with dependents to aid in keeping up with not only one's own medical history, but also information for kids, spouses, and aging parents. Please [register online](#) for this event. Space is limited and registration is required by June 2.

Better Together Day

April 10th was Better Together Day. You may be wondering, what is Better Together and what is Better Together Day? Better Together is a national movement of the Interfaith Youth Core. A local chapter from Texas Christian University has partnered with Tarrant Literacy Coalition over the last two years to serve and encourage the children of students in the White Settlement ISD Family Resource Center GED and ESL classes. On April 10th, all of the Better Together chapters across the country spent the day serving their community. Better Together groups want to demonstrate how people of all different faiths can



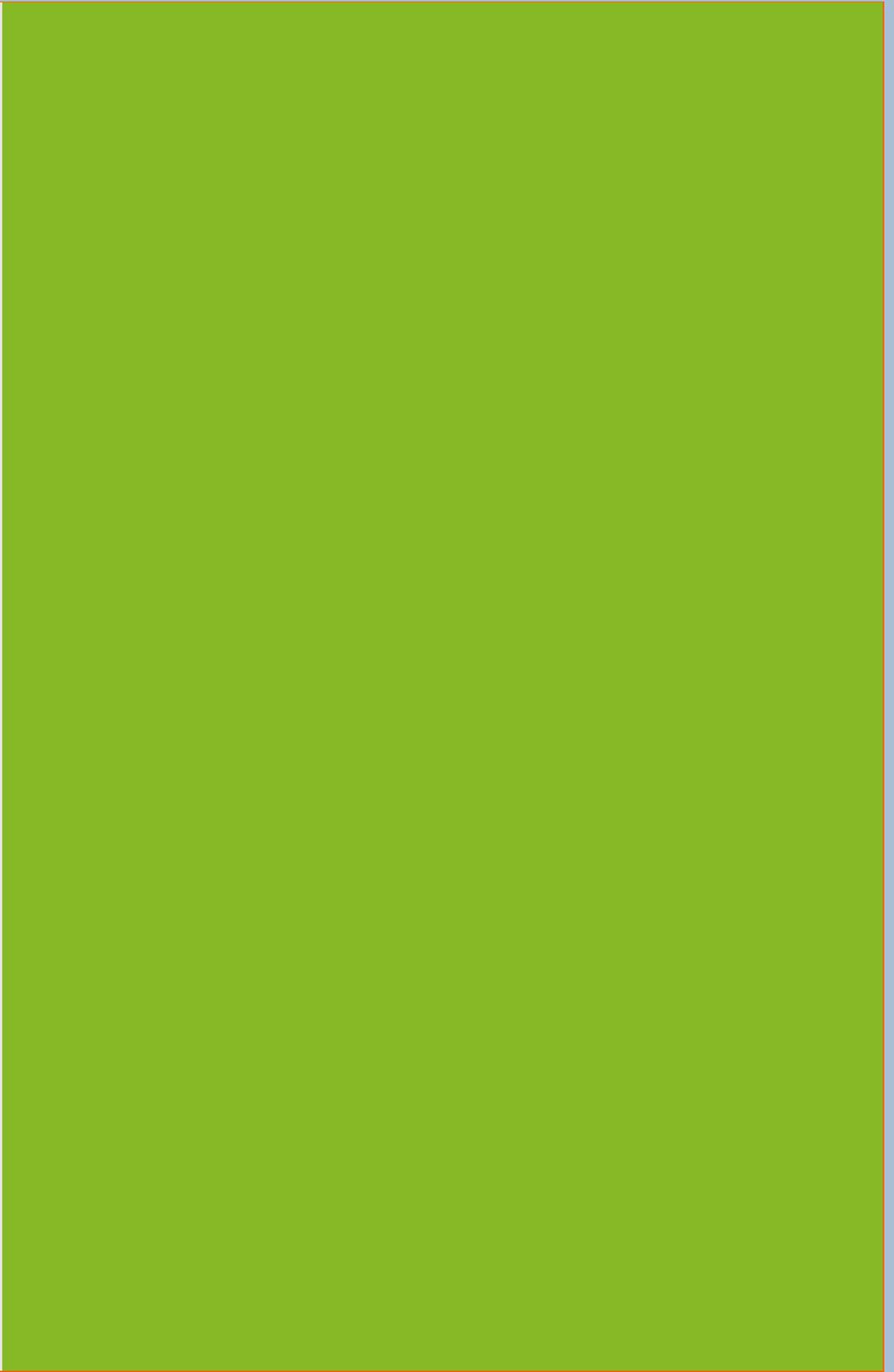


work together to change the world.

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**We want to feature
YOU**

in upcoming issues of the Coalition newsletter. You get to hear about our efforts and events all the time but we really want to hear from you! Please submit stories and articles to: [Jennifer Rollins](#) Be sure to include a short author bio and some general information about your program

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Stay Connected



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