

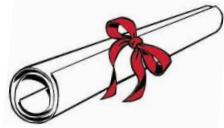
THE MELTING POT NEWSLETTER



Frederick Abisi Adult Education Center
408 Merrimack St, Lowell MA, 01854
www.lowelladulthoodeducation.com - 978-937-8989

May 2019 - Issue 8

AAEC GRADUATION INFORMATION



Friday, June 7, 2019

6:00pm

Lowell High School Auditorium

The Frederick Abisi Adult Education Center will be holding its annual graduation ceremony on Friday, June 7, 2019, at the Lowell High School Auditorium. Light refreshments will be served immediately following the graduation ceremony in the Lowell High School Cafeteria.

This year over 130 diplomas will be awarded to students who completed their high school credentials and 700 certificates to ESOL students who have completed a level of English instruction. Mayor William Samaras, State Representative David Nangle, Superintendent of Schools Jeannine Durkin, members from the Lowell School Committee, and other dignitaries will be in attendance.

Important Reminders and Information:

- Arrive at the LHS Auditorium by 6:00pm. Late comers will not be allowed to sit with graduates and walk across the stage.
- Dress appropriately; no hats, jeans or tee-shirts allowed.
- You will be sitting with your classmates and other graduates, not your guests.
- **Children will not be allowed to sit with you.** They must be seated with a responsible adult you invited.
- You must stay for the entire ceremony.
- Photo opportunities will be available after the graduation ceremony has finished. Audience members CANNOT come up on the stage or in the graduate area to take photos. You are not allowed to take selfies on stage.
- The parking garage stamp **will not** be available to students and guests at graduation. You will need to pay for parking if you park in the garage.

We encourage all graduates to participate and to invite friends and family!

The evening is free of charge.

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Monday, May 27, 2019



*@Frederick Abisi
Adult Education*

STUDENT INFORMATION AND ACTIVITIES

SAC MEETING



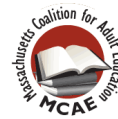
Next meeting

Tuesday, May 7th

10:30-11:30am in Computer Lab

NO SCHOOL

NO AAEC classes on Friday, May 10, 2019.



AAEC teachers will be attending the Massachusetts Coalition for Adult Education Conference. The Lowell Public Schools will be in session.

REWARD CENTER

Don't forget to let your teacher know if you have achieved any new goals this month. Did you:

- meet with your child's teacher, attend a school event, or help them with their homework?
- apply or interview for a job, receive a new position at work, or get a pay raise?
- achieve outstanding attendance by not missing more than two days of school last month?
- participate in community events or volunteer at a community organization?
- apply for health insurance, attend a home buyer seminar, or open a new bank account?

Reward Program statements will be handed out on May 14th. Your statement will have your accumulated points earned through April 30th.

The Reward Center will be open on May 30th, from 9:00am-12:30pm. In June, there will be a big End of the Year Sale. The Reward Center is located outside Room 3 on the first floor. You can redeem your earned points now or continue to accumulate them for a bigger reward later. Points can be accumulated until May 31st.



If you plan to redeem your points, please bring your updated statement with you. There are many rewards to choose from. Check out these recently added items: bottle/can opener, lip balm, USB keychain, mechanical pencil, and pencil sharpener.

If you have questions about your Reward Program statement or the Reward Center, please see Adriana.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



**"The Road to Success Begins
with Good Attendance"**

It is important for you to be here and be on time for your classes. Many students are waiting for the opportunity to join our classes.

Don't forget to inform your teacher if you are going to be absent or call (978) 937-8989. Leave a detailed message stating your name, teacher, and reason for your absence. You can also send an email to:

ESOL Classes—apearson@lowell.k12.ma.us
or

HSE Classes—swaterhouse@lowell.k12.ma.us

Add Abisi Adult Education Center to your phone's contact list to make it easier for you to call us when you are going to be out.

CONVERSATION CLUB

The Conversation Club is a student-led club. It's a great opportunity for our AAEC students to practice their conversation skills. It can help you improve your English language skills by speaking and interacting with other learners. All students are encouraged to join.

Want more conversation opportunities? The Pollard Memorial Library hosts an *ESL Conversation Café* on Monday evenings from 6:30-8:00pm. There are guided conversations between native and non-native English speakers. It is free and no registration is required.



AAEC Conversation Club

Tuesdays & Thursdays
from 10:30-11:00am

Susan's Room (Main Floor, Rm 3)

STUDENT INFORMATION AND ACTIVITIES

STUDENT SUCCESS CELEBRATION

It has been a rewarding experience to celebrate and share in our students' achievements. As we approach our final Student Success Celebration of this year, we encourage everyone to review their goals. Make sure you inform your teacher of goals you have achieved since becoming a student here at AAEC and which ones you are currently working on.

On Thursday, May 23, 2019, we will recognize students who achieved goals during the months of March, April, and May. Outstanding Attendance certificates for April will also be handed out.



You could receive a certificate if you have accomplished any of the following:

CIVIC PARTICIPATION

- Get a learner's permit
- Get a driver's license
- Vote in an election
- Attain Legal Permanent Residence
- Pass the Citizenship exam
- Open a bank account
- Buy a house or condo
- Start a business
- Help child with homework for 4 months
- Take a school/community leadership role
- Volunteer at a community organization

EDUCATION

- Enter Links or transition to College
- Enter occupational training
- Complete occupational Training
- Enroll in college

EMPLOYMENT

- Get a Job
- Get a better job
- Increase your earnings
- Meet new job requirements

We will have regular classes on May 23rd, with specific times for different groups to gather to receive their certificates. After the certificates are handed out, students can enjoy some cake and coffee.

SUMMER SCHOOL

July 8 through August 1, 2019



Monday—Thursday
from 9:30am to 11:30am

HSE and ESOL students who wish to continue learning through the summer can participate in our summer school session. **You must be able to attend ALL scheduled classes.**

Interested students can sign up with their teachers now through Friday, May 17th. Students will be given a confirmation letter during the last week of regular classes. This will be your proof of registration. Bring it with you to the first class on Monday, July 8th.

Summer school is only available to **currently enrolled** students. Students that stop attending class before the confirmation letters are given out will not be considered "currently enrolled" and will not be allowed to attend summer school.

NARCAN TRAINING

On Wednesday, May 15th, Lowell Community Health Center will be presenting a training on how to administer the overdose-reversal drug nasal naloxone, also known as Narcan, to students in Susan and Meg's 9:00am ESOL classes.

This training will show students how to prevent and recognize an opioid overdose, and what to do if one occurs. It also covers the importance of calling 9-1-1, how to perform rescue breathing, and how to administer the nasal naloxone.

If you are interested in participating in or learning more about this training, see your teacher.

STUDENT INFORMATION AND ACTIVITIES

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION TRAINING

On April 26, ESOL students in Meg, Susan, and Liz’s classes attended the City Manager’s Domestic Violence Task Force training workshop at the Pollard Memorial Library. The information presented was informative and helpful to everyone.

Local domestic violence agencies presented information on the cycle of domestic violence, the services available in the community for victims of domestic violence, how police respond to a residential domestic violence 9-1-1 call, the process of getting a restraining and/or harassment order, domestic violence statistics, and domestic violence and immigration. Lowell’s Superintendent of Police addressed our students and told them that the police force is "dedicated to keep us safe where we live, where we learn, and where we pray." At the end of the presentation, students and other attendees were able to submit questions to the presenters.

This training was excellent, and attendees appreciated learning about such an important topic. Thank you Kylie Richman, Alternative House’s High Risk Coordinator, Kristen William, Victim Advocate representing Lowell Police Department’s Family Services Unit, and Cara Spencer, Victim’s Witness Advocate from the Middlesex County District Attorney’s Office for sharing your information with us.

Important Numbers: *In the event of an emergency or you need immediate help, call 9-1-1.*

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>Alternative House: 978-454-1436 or (888) 291-6228 (24hr Crisis Hotline) PO Box 2100, Lowell</p> | <p>District Attorney’s Regional Office: (781) 897-8900 151 Warren St, Lowell</p> |
| <p>Family Services Unit Lowell Police Dept: (978) 970-4023 (Spanish & Khmer available) 50 Arcand Drive, Lowell</p> | <p>Massachusetts Hotline: (877) 785-2020</p> |



TEAM WALK FOR CANCERCARE



Sunday, May 19, 2019
3 mile or 6 mile walk



This will be AAEC’s 16th year participating in Lowell General Hospital’s TeamWalk for CancerCare. Last year, we had 71 students, staff, family members, and friends walk together and raised \$2,630.00.

TeamWalk funds make a difference in the lives of today’s cancer patients at Lowell General Hospital by paying for medication, nutritional supplements, wigs and prostheses, support groups, skilled nursing visits, transportation, and support services to cancer patients. Funds raised allow Lowell General Hospital to provide assistance, support, and services to help people feel better, build confidence, and instill hope throughout their battle with cancer.

If you are interested in being a part of the AAEC team and participating in the TeamWalk for CancerCare, you will need to:

- Get a registration form from your teacher and fill it out. Write your name, address, phone number, and sign it. Each participant must complete a registration form. If you have a child (under 18), who is participating, fill out a registration form with your child’s information and parent or guardian’s signature.
- Write our team name which is **AAEC-Abisi Adult Education Center**.
- Get sponsors and collect money. There is a registration fee of \$25.00 for each person. We hope that you are able to find sponsors through your friends and family to cover the registration fee and more.
- Return the completed registration form and money to Adriana on or before **May 16th**.
- Meet at school on Sunday, May 19th, at 8:00am, to join staff and other walkers. Everyone participating will receive an AAEC T-shirt and have a team picture taken. Family members and friends are welcome!

STUDENT INFORMATION AND ACTIVITIES

MASSHIRE CAREER CENTER SEMINAR

Are you thinking about becoming a member of the Career Center of Lowell?

On April 25th, seventeen of our ESOL and HSE students participated in a MassHire Lowell Career Center Seminar. During this workshop, students were given an overview of the services and resources available to conduct an effective job search and became official MassHire members.

Members can participate in job trainings, webinars, workshops, create a resume, learn to job search using business social media sites, and more. Best of all, the services at MassHire are free and open to everyone.

Did you miss this seminar or want more information about MassHire? Margie Miller is AAEC's connection to MassHire. She can assist you in becoming a member and tell you about the different services they provide. You can find Margie on the second floor in the back of Room 5, or at the MassHire Lowell Career Center.



Margie's Schedule:

| | @ AAEC | @ MassHire |
|------------|----------------|----------------|
| Wednesdays | 8:30-10:45am | 11:00am-1:00pm |
| Thursdays | 8:30am-1:00pm | No |
| Fridays | 11:00am-1:00pm | 8:30am-10:45am |

MASSHIRE Lowell Career Center
107 Merrimack St
Lowell, MA - (978) 458-2503
masshirelowellcc.com

| | |
|-----------|----------------|
| Monday | 8:00am-5:00pm |
| Tuesday | 8:00am-8:00pm |
| Wednesday | 8:00am-5:00pm |
| Thursday | 8:00am-5:00pm |
| Friday | 8:00am-12:00pm |

LOWELL COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER (LCHC)

Lowell Community Health Center provides high-quality, affordable health care to children and adults in the Greater Lowell area regardless of ability to pay. LCHC offers many specialty services, including dental and vision, in addition to health care. Visit their website at www.lchealth.org for more information.

Outreach Workers

Wednesdays, May 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29
9:00am—12:00pm

Stop by the Main Office to speak with a LCHC Outreach worker to learn about their health services, get information about health insurance, or schedule an appointment. They are here on Wednesdays from 9:00am-12:00pm.



ABISI ADULT EDUCATION ANNUAL FIELD TRIP



Wednesday, June 12th
9:00am-2:00pm
Cost: \$7.00 per student

The McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center is an Air and Space Museum located in Concord, NH. It has two floors of interactive exhibits on astronomy, aviation, and Earth and space science, space history, general science and engineering to explore. There are also outdoor exhibits and a full-dome, digital Sky-Skan theater.

- Sign-up and pay your teacher by May 10th.
- Buses will leave school at 9:00am sharp and return by 2:00pm.
- A bagged lunch (sandwich, potato chips, water, fruit) will be provided for everyone. Let your teacher know if you have any specific food allergies.



STUDENT INFORMATION AND ACTIVITIES

HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY (HSE) TESTING INFORMATION

The Massachusetts High School Equivalency credential is accepted by virtually all colleges, universities, and employers in the United States as exactly equivalent to a high school diploma. In order to earn the credential, you must take and pass either the HiSET[®] or GED[®] test. These tests are comparable in terms of cognitive complexity and rates of passing.

The Abisi Adult Education Center offers classes that will prepare students to take either exam and is an approved test center. We offer *HiSET*[®] testing appointments for both Paper Based Testing and Computer Based Testing and *GED*[®] Computer Based Testing. Testing dates are posted below and on our website at www.lowelladulthoodeducation.com.

Detailed information about the two testing options, state requirements, accommodation for testers with disabilities, eligibility requirements, and other important information can be found on the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) website at www.doe.mass.edu/hse/. Denise, in the office, is also available to help you.

HSE Upcoming Testing Dates:

HiSET Computer Based Testing

(Thursday afternoons @ 12:30pm)

May 9, 16, & 23
June 20
July 11 & 25
August 15

HiSET Paper Testing Dates

(Friday evenings 5:00pm and 7:00pm
& Saturday mornings at 8:00am,
9:30am, & 11:00am)

May 17 & 18
June 21 & 22
August 2 & 3

GED Weekend Computer Testing

(Friday evenings starting at 5:15pm
& Saturday mornings beginning
at 8:00am)

May 17 & 18
June 21 & 22
August—no weekend testing,
weekday dates TBD

PARKING

Students driving to school are encouraged to park at the Ayotte Garage, 1 Post Office Sq, across from Lowell High School. Bring your ticket with you to class. You can validate it in the office after classes are finished.

On-street, metered parking is also available. Meters have a **2-hour parking limit** Monday through Saturday, from 8:00am-6:00pm. It costs \$3.00/2 hours. The kiosk accepts cash and credit/debit cards. If a pay kiosk is not working, go to another one, and enter your space number. You may get ticketed if you don't pay the meter.

Remember:



- Do not park in the school parking lot
- Do not park in the library parking lot.
- Do not park in the Santander Bank parking lot.
- Do not park in the Olympia Restaurant parking lot.
- Do not park in the Lowell Housing Authority parking lot.

CELL PHONE REMINDERS



VISITOR POLICY

For the safety of all our AAEC students, outside visitors are not allowed to contact students during class time or to interrupt classes. If you forget something at home or someone needs to leave something for you, make arrangements to meet them after class. Deliveries and drop-offs are not accepted in the office. Please make sure you have all of your materials and items before you leave for school.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

MCC LINKS TOUR

On April 23, Patty, our HSE Career and College Advisor, took 20 students on a tour of the LINKS Program at Middlesex Community College. Karen Spengler, LINKS Program Coordinator, greeted students as they arrived and walked them around the campus showing them where the classes and activities are held. LINKS is a tuition free program at MCC, designed for adults who want to begin college with the academic support that will lead to success.

LINKS will be offering Prep for College Workshops for students considering enrollment in their program within the next year.

Reading, Writing, and Math Workshops:

Prepare for the Accuplacer (the College Placement Test) by attending **free** workshops on each subject. Your score on the Accuplacer will determine what classes you can take at MCC. Get your best start by preparing for the test!

Workshops will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30am-12:30pm

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>Lowell Campus: <u>Math:</u> May 28 & 30 <u>Reading/Writing:</u> June 4 & 6</p> | <p>Bedford Campus: <u>Math:</u> May 21 & 23 <u>Reading/Writing:</u> May 28 & 30</p> |
|--|--|

For more information or to register for these workshops contact:

Karen Spengler, Coordinator/Advisor
 781-280-3654 - spenglerk@middlesex.mass.edu



CNA PROGRAM FOR ESOL STUDENTS

Congratulations to the ESOL students who will be participating in the next Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) course this summer. This course is designed for English Language Learners seeking a career in the healthcare field. Each student needed to pass an English language screening test, be interviewed, and commit to the entire program in order to be considered. It is being offered through a collaboration among the Abisi Adult Education Center, the International Institute of New England, Middlesex Community College, and D'Youville Life and Wellness Community and is funded by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

This 200-hour course consists of:

- **Class topics:** English for Employment in Healthcare, skills development, and job readiness preparation.
- **Clinical training:** a 100-hour Certified Nursing Aide (CNA) module conducted by instructors from Middlesex Community College.
- **Preparation for the CNA licensing exam:** Those who are successful will be offered a position at D'Youville Life and Wellness Community.

Students must have U.S. Work Authorization in order to apply, and must pass a basic English language screening to enroll in the class.

Classes will take place at D'Youville Life and Wellness Community, 981 Varnum Ave in Lowell, MA. If you are interested in applying to be a part of the next cohort in the fall, please see Adriana, or visit www.iine.org/learnlowell.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

MERRIMACK VALLEY HOUSING PARTNERSHIP

Project Genesis offers a series of training seminars for first-time home buyers and landlord training for people owning multi-unit homes. These classes are offered in English, Spanish, and Khmer.

Registration information is available on their website, www.mvhp.org, or you can call (978) 459-8490 for English and Spanish speakers. Khmer speakers can call (978)459-6200.

Upcoming Home Buyer Training Sessions

| | |
|----------------|---|
| <i>English</i> | <i>Tuesdays & Wednesdays 6:30-9:00pm - May 7, 8, 14, 15 May 28, 29, June 4, 5</i> |
|----------------|---|

| | |
|----------------|---|
| <i>Spanish</i> | <i>Saturdays 8:00am-1:00pm - June 1 & 8</i> |
|----------------|---|

| | |
|--------------|---|
| <i>Khmer</i> | <i>Saturdays 9:30am-2:00pm - July 13 & 20</i> |
|--------------|---|

Landlord Training Sessions

| | |
|----------------|--|
| <i>English</i> | <i>Thursday, May 21, 4:30pm-8:30pm</i> |
|----------------|--|

POINTS OF LIGHT LANTERN CELEBRATION



2nd Annual Points of Light
Lantern Celebration

Saturday, May 4th
from 6:00-10:00pm

Ecumenical Plaza
282 Suffolk St, Lowell, MA

Points of Light is a spring celebration of unity and renewal that brings together the food, music, and traditions of Lowell's diverse cultures. The centerpiece of the night is a special ceremony in which participants personalize water lanterns that will be released onto the Western Canal, creating hundreds of floating points of light.

Event details can be found on their website, www.pointsoflightlowell.com.

DOORS OPEN LOWELL

Friday, May 10th & Saturday, May 11th

Various locations throughout Lowell

Doors Open Lowell offers an insider's look into many of Lowell's magnificent historic buildings. Now in its 18th year, Doors Open Lowell is a free event held during National Preservation Month. It celebrates Lowell's architectural heritage, urban living, and culture that makes the community a creative and exciting place to live, work, and visit. So put on your good walking shoes, grab a camera, and invite some family and friends along as you discover a different side of Lowell...the inside!



Visit www.doorsopenlowell.org for event details and program guides. Look for the Doors Open Lowell banners indicating the open buildings.

C.H.O.P. DINNER COALITION FOR BETTER ACRE

C.H.O.P

Community Health Outreach Program

Wednesday, May 22nd from 5:30-7:30pm.

Join the Coalition for a Better Acre (CBA) and their partners from Mill City Grows, Lowell Community Health Center, Lowell General Hospital and the Working Cities Challenge for a free monthly dinner event. C.H.O.P dinners are a way to enjoy a free, healthy meal along with fun activities and resources to help you live a healthier life. This event will be held at the Lowell Senior Center on Broadway St., Lowell.

Visit www.cbacre.org for more details.

STUDENT INFORMATION AND ACTIVITIES

LOWELL CEMETERY EVENTS

WALKING TOURS

Saturday, May 4th, at 10:00am

Begin at the Lawrence Street Gate Entrance

Join Lowell Historian and Register of Deeds Richard Howe, Jr. for an interesting 90-minute walk through a beautiful garden-style cemetery, to learn about its rich history and art. Explore early mourning customs, learn the significance of Victorian monument symbols, and listen to engaging anecdotes about the people buried here.

All tours are free to the public and reservations are not necessary. Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring an umbrella if questionable weather conditions exist. There is plenty of free parking inside the cemetery.

MEMORIAL DAY REMEMBRANCE

Sunday, May 19, 2019, at 11:00am



Join the Lowell Cemetery in honoring the men and women who died while serving in the US Military.

A parade will begin at 12:00pm at the Belvidere Gate on Knapp Avenue (behind Shedd Park's upper fields) and will proceed to the G.A.R. lot led by the Westford Firefighters Pipers and Drums.

LOWELL RABIES CLINIC



Hosted by Lowell Police Animal Control Division

Saturday, May 11th

8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

at the Butler School – 1140 Gorham Street, Lowell

License, Micro-chip & Rabies Clinic



Dog License: \$10 (spayed/neutered); **\$20** (intact)

Micro-chip: \$20 (includes registration)

Rabies Vaccination: \$10

(Separate vet for cats and dogs)



Numerous vendors from the area will be in attendance; come check out their tables!

Dogs must be on leashes. Cats must be in carriers.

EARTH DAY PARADE

The Lowell Earth Day Parade is an opportunity for organizations, individuals and families to gather together on the streets of downtown Lowell to celebrate arts, nature, and sustainability. The festivities will feature a mile-long parade with local schools, puppets, costumes, and eco-conscious groups from the Greater Lowell area.



**PARADE & FESTIVAL:
SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2019**

12:30 PM TO 4:00 PM

PARADE • MUSIC • FESTIVAL

www.lowellcityoflearning.org

The parade starts at the Lowell National Historical Park's Visitor Center on Market St in Lowell and ends at the UMass Inn & Conference Center.

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

May 2019

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|--|---|---|---|---|
| | | | 1 LCHC Outreach 9:00am—12:00pm | 2 ESOL Conversation Club 10:30-11:00am Susan's Room | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 ESOL Orientation 8:30 or 10:30am in Susan's Rm. | 7 SAC Mtg. 10:30am Computer Lab ESOL Conversation Club 10:30-11:00am Susan's Room | 8 LCHC Outreach 9:00am—12:00pm | 9 ESOL Conversation Club 10:30-11:00am Susan's Room ETS HiSET CBT @ 12:30pm | 10 Teacher Conference NO Adult Education Classes | 11 |
| 12 <i>Mother's Day</i> | 13 | 14 Reward Program Statements ESOL Conversation Club 10:30-11:00am Susan's Room | 15 LCHC Outreach 9:00am—12:00pm | 16 <small>Lowell General Hospital</small> TeamWalk <small>FOR CANCERCARE</small> Registration deadline ESOL Conversation Club 10:30-11:00am Susan's Room ETS HiSET CBT @ 12:30pm | 17  TESTING SERVICE CBT starting @ 5:15pm ETS HiSET PBT starting @ 5:00pm | 18  TESTING SERVICE CBT starting @ 8:00am ETS HiSET PBT starting @ 8:00am |
| 19 <small>Lowell General Hospital</small> TeamWalk <small>FOR CANCERCARE</small> Meet at the AAEC front doors at 8:00am. | 20 | 21 ESOL Conversation Club 10:30-11:00am Susan's Room | 22 LCHC Outreach 9:00am—12:00pm | 23 Student Success Celebration ESOL Conversation Club 10:30-11:00am Susan's Room ETS HiSET CBT @ 12:30pm | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27  MEMORIAL DAY NO SCHOOL | 28 ESOL Conversation Club 10:30-11:00am Susan's Room | 29 | 30 Reward Center Open 9:00am-12:30pm | 31 | |