

THE MELTING POT NEWSLETTER



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

June 2019 - Issue 9

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.

This year, over 140 diplomas will be awarded to students who earned their high school credential and 700 certificates to ESOL students who 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.

Light refreshments will be served immediately following the graduation ceremony in the Lowell High School Cafeteria.

Important Reminders and Information:

- Arrive at the LHS Auditorium by 6:00 pm. **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.
- Parking garage tickets **will not be validated** graduation night. You will need to pay for parking. We recommend students park in the Joseph Downes Garage on John St. The Ayotte Garage is being used for an event at the Tsongas Center graduation night.

We encourage all graduates to participate and to invite friends and family!
The evening is free of charge.

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Flag Day

June 14th



Summer starts, June 21st



@Frederick Abisi
Adult Education

STUDENT INFORMATION AND ACTIVITIES

STUDENT FALL REGISTRATION INFORMATION

- **ALL RETURNING AND NEW STUDENTS MUST REGISTER FOR CLASSES.**
- You must register in person. There is no phone or on-line registration available. No one else can register for you.
- **You must have a PHOTO ID and PROOF OF ADDRESS with you at the time of registration and when making an appointment** (a driver's license, bill, or other mail delivered by the post office with your name on it).
- Placement tests will be given at time of registration.
- **Do not bring your children with you.** You will not be able to register if you do.
- Classes fill quickly. If the class you test into is full, you will be placed on a waiting list and notified when space is available.
- You must be able to attend all of your scheduled classes.

MORNING CLASSES @ AAEC CENTER

408 Merrimack St, Lowell

ESOL Classes

(English Speakers of Other Languages)

Registration will be by appointment only.

- Morning class registration appointments will be made from 8:00-11:00am on the following dates:
 - August 19th, August 20th & August 21st
- Registration is by appointment only and will start on Tuesday, August 27th.
- Morning classes meet Monday-Friday, 9:00-10:30am or 11:00am-12:30pm.
- Classes will begin on Monday, September 9th.
- When registration appointments are full, we will continue registration on a "first come, first served" basis starting September 9th, Monday through Thursday at 9:00am.

HSE Classes

(High School Equivalency)

- Morning class registration will be held from 8:30am to 11:30am, starting Tuesday, August 27th.
- Classes will begin on Monday, September 9th, at 9:00am.
- Morning classes meet Monday-Friday, 9:00am-12:00pm. You must be able to attend all scheduled classes each day.
- Starting September 9th, class registration will continue Monday-Thursday, at 9:00am in the HSE Center, on the Lower Level.

EVENING CLASSES @ LOWELL HIGH SCHOOL

50 Father Morrisette Blvd, 3rd Floor

ESOL Classes

(English Speakers of Other Languages)

Registration will be by appointment only.

- Evening class registration appointments will be made from 5:00-8:00pm on the following dates at Lowell High School:
 - September 9th, September 10th & September 11th
- **Registration is by appointment only** and will start on Tuesday, September 17th.
- Evening classes meet Mondays & Wednesdays or Tuesdays & Thursdays from 6:00-8:45pm.
- Classes will start Wednesday, October 2nd, for Monday & Wednesday students and Thursday, October 3rd, for Tuesday & Thursday students.
- When registration appointments are full, we will continue registration on a "first come, first served" basis starting October 9th, Monday through Thursday at 6:00pm.

HSE Classes

(High School Equivalency)

- Evening class registration will be held from 5:30-7:30pm on:
 - Tuesday, September 17th & Wednesday, September 18th
 - Monday, September 23rd & Wednesday, September 25th
- Classes will begin on Wednesday, October 2nd, at 6:00pm.
- Evening classes meet Mondays & Wednesdays from 6:00pm-8:45pm.
- Starting September 30th, registration will be held on Mondays & Wednesdays at 6:00pm.

STUDENT INFORMATION AND ACTIVITIES

STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Student Advisory Council is a group of students elected by their peers to represent their class at our monthly meetings. It consists of 15-20 students from our ESOL 9:00 am and 11:00 am classes, the HSE classes, staff members, and the AAEC Director.

This year, our representatives shared information about their classes, gave feedback on our programs, and contributed ideas for future workshops and presentations. Some volunteered during special events, participated in community activities or offered their time to help with our charity events. After each meeting, representatives shared details of the meeting by reviewing the meeting minutes with their classmates.

These students have taken a leadership role, increased their English conversational skills, and met new people from all over the world. We had students from Colombia, Syria, Iraq, Dominican Republic, Brazil, Mexico, Cambodia, Congo, India, Yemen, Pakistan, Jamaica, and the United States to name a few. They also earned reward points and received a certificate of appreciation.

A special thank you to the students who have attended and participated in our Student Advisory Council Meetings:

ESOL REPRESENTATIVES:

<i>Hana Al Tabali</i>	<i>Sitha Nhim</i>
<i>Burhan Alsamarrai</i>	<i>Nora Osorno</i>
<i>Denyse Araujo</i>	<i>Kossama Peou</i>
<i>Julia Baca-Fernandez</i>	<i>Martha Pizarro</i>
<i>Maria Baltan</i>	<i>Mow Plo</i>
<i>Claudy Beauvais</i>	<i>Khazon Ragabekova</i>
<i>Sarin Chap</i>	<i>Jackeline Ramirez</i>
<i>Nour ElHouda ElBarhami</i>	<i>Yudith Ramirez</i>
<i>Victor Feltrin</i>	<i>Ernesto Rodriguez</i>
<i>Rosalba Garcia</i>	<i>Mayra Rodriguez-Perez</i>
<i>Walid Hasso</i>	<i>Gricelda Santiago</i>
<i>Ponarith It</i>	<i>Theresa So</i>
<i>Evangelina Leon-Rodriguez</i>	<i>Rosa Soto-Calderon</i>
<i>Olga Marquez-Guzman</i>	<i>Harsha Sutaria</i>
<i>Ekaterini Mourtzinis</i>	<i>Hau Truong</i>
<i>Dalila Negrón</i>	<i>Lucia Vega-Ramirez</i>
<i>Jean Ngnitoudem</i>	

HSE REPRESENTATIVES:

Jose Arias Rossis
Michealia Beal
Olga Casey
Ruthie Cox
Daniella Dankwa
Chettnirak Ke
Alphonzine Mukanyarwaya
Andreia Norberto
Meily Sy
Steven Vann
Beatrice Zorokong

STAFF REPRESENTATIVES:

Betty McKiernan, AAEC Director
Adriana Giraldo, Student Services Coordinator
Jocelyn Mitchell, Technology Coordinator/Teacher
Sarah Waterhouse, HSE/ESOL Student Registrar

LAST SAC MEETING



Tuesday, June 4th at 10:30-11:30 am in Computer Lab

STUDENT INFORMATION AND ACTIVITIES

STUDENT SUCCESS CELEBRATION

On May 23rd, AAEC held its final Student Success Celebration of the year. Many students were recognized for the goals they had achieved during the months of February, March, and April. In addition, outstanding attendance certificates were awarded to 82 students who missed no more than 2 classes in April.

After the certificates were handed out, students and staff enjoyed delicious cake and coffee.

Outstanding Attendance Certificates:

- April Attendance* 82 students
- Conversation Club Attendance* 7 students



Certificates Awarded for Goal Achievement:

<i>Getting a Job</i>	13	<i>Getting a Learner's Permit</i>	4
<i>Getting a Better Job or Increased Earnings</i>	6	<i>Getting a Driver's License</i>	6
<i>Meeting a New Job Requirement</i>	1	<i>Volunteering at a School—Recycling</i>	3
<i>Completing Occupational Training</i>	1	<i>Volunteering at a Community Org. or School</i>	10
<i>Opening a Bank Account</i>	8	<i>Helping Child with Homework for 4 months</i>	5
<i>Attaining Legal Residency</i>	2		

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:

<p>HiSET Computer Based Testing (Thursday afternoons @ 12:30pm)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">June 20 July 11 & 25 August 15</p>	<p>HiSET Paper Testing Dates (Friday evenings 5:00pm and 7:00pm & Saturday mornings at 8:00am, 9:30am, & 11:00am)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">June 14 & 15 August 9 & 10</p>	<p>GED Weekend Computer Testing (Friday evenings starting at 5:15pm & Saturday mornings beginning at 8:00am)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">June 14 & 15 August 9 & 10</p>
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STUDENT INFORMATION AND ACTIVITIES

SUMMER SCHOOL

July 8 through August 1, 2019



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



HSE and ESOL students who registered for summer school 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 their class before the confirmation letters are given out will not be considered “currently enrolled” and will not be allowed to attend summer school.

END OF SCHOOL BRUNCH

End-of-the-Year Brunch

Thursday, June 13th, from 9:30-11:30am

Come join us for some delicious food and coffee to celebrate the end of the school year with your classmates and teachers.

Food will be provided by the school. Students do not have to bring anything! If students would like to bring ethnic food from their country, they are welcome to do so.

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



Wednesday, June 5
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.

Lowell Community Health Center
161 Jackson St,
Lowell, MA
(978) 937-9700

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.

- 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.

Volunteers are needed to help put together the bagged lunches on Tuesday, June 11 at 10:30 am. See Adriana if you are interested.



STUDENT INFORMATION AND ACTIVITIES

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF NEW ENGLAND



Nadode Mukanyarwaya, Fred Abisi, and Adriana Giraldo

The International Institute of New England Lowell (IINE) is celebrating 100 years of service to immigrants in Lowell. On May 1, 2019, the IINE honored 100 influential leaders and trailblazers who have had a significant impact on Lowell.

Among those honored were three current members of the Abisi Adult Education community: Fred Abisi, AAEC's former Director; Adriana Giraldo, our Student Services Coordinator; and Alphonsine Mukanyarwaya, an HSE student.

Fred and Adriana were honored for their work as Educational Leaders providing immigrants with opportunities to develop their speaking, literacy, and math skills needed to reach their full potential as family, community, and productive workforce members. Alphonsine, a refugee from the Democratic Republic of Congo, was honored as a Welcome & Inclusion Leader, helping immigrants by working as an interpreter at IINE.

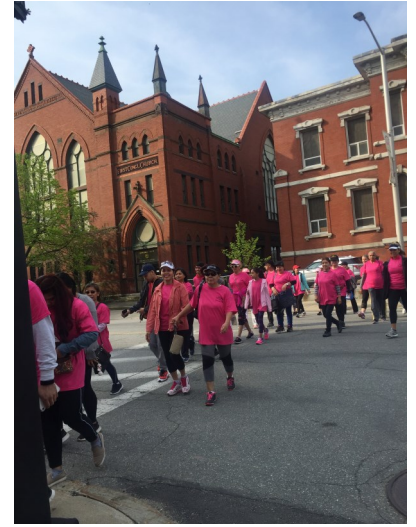
TEAMWALK FOR CANCER CARE

Thank you TEAM AAEC for participating in this year's TeamWalk for Cancer Care walk on Sunday, May 19th.

Through the generous donations from our students, staff, and friends, we raised \$2839.00. All of the proceeds were donated to Lowell General to help patients at their Cancer Center.

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.

A special thank you to Adriana, Meg, and Amanda for leading the walkers and to the students who raised money and participated in the great annual event.



STUDENT INFORMATION AND ACTIVITIES

NARCAN TRAINING

On Wednesday, May 15th, Lowell Community Health Center presented a training on how to administer the overdose-reversal drug nasal naloxone, also known as Narcan, to students in Susan and Meg's ESOL classes and several HSE students.

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

If you are close to someone who is at risk for an opioid overdose and need to have Narcan (naloxone) on hand, please contact one of the following:

[Lowell Community Health Center](#): 978-221-6767

[Lowell House Addiction Treatment and Recovery](#) : 978-459-8656

[Learn to Cope](#): 508-738-5148

[The Massachusetts Substance Abuse Information and Education Helpline](#): 800-327-5050

ESOL TECHNOLOGY CLASSES

The Adult Literacy XPrize Mobile Learning Competition is a global competition challenging teams to create mobile applications (apps) that give adults an opportunity to improve their literacy skills. Our students were asked to participate by evaluating an app and provide feedback to the developers.

ESOL students in Carrie, Ann, and Liz's classes downloaded an app called Cell Ed onto their mobile devices. Once the app was installed, they began working on completing different English Language courses. Everyone was engaged and excited to have a learning tool they could access anywhere, anytime.

This competition is funded by the Barbara Bush Foundation for Adult Literacy.



REWARD CENTER SALE



Got Reward Points?

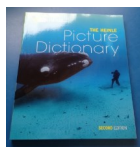
The Reward Center will be open

June 10th

from 9:00am to 12:30pm.

This is your last chance to cash out your points. Remember reward points are **nontransferable** and are **only valid for the 2018-2019 school year**.

**All sales are final!
No returns, No exchanges.**



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

Tuesday, June 4, & Thursday, June 6,
from 10:30-11:00am
Susan's Room (Main Floor, Rm 3)

COMMUNITY EVENTS AND INFORMATION

KIDS SUMMER FEEDING PROGRAM—LPS



All kids 18 and under can enjoy a FREE nutritional lunch this summer at many locations throughout Lowell.

Monday through Friday,
July 8th—August 16th

NO REGISTRATION OR I.D. NECESSARY!

Summer Feeding Locations:

Gage Park <i>McAuliffe School</i>	Breakfast: 8:30-9:00am Lunch: 11:30am-12:00pm
Highland Park <i>Daley School</i>	Breakfast: 8:30-9:00am Lunch: 12:00-12:30pm
Leblanc Park <i>Wang School</i>	Breakfast: 8:30-9:00am Lunch: 11:30am-12:00pm
Shedd Park	Breakfast: 8:30-9:00am Lunch: 12:00-12:30pm
Reilly School	Breakfast: 8:30-9:00am Lunch: 12:00-12:30pm
Girls, Inc.	Lunch only: 12:00-1:00pm

LOWELL LIBRARY

LIBRARY'S ANNUAL BOOK SALE

Come buy used books, audiobooks, CDs, and DVDs for adults and children! Thousands of items for sale! Most items cost between 50¢ to \$2! Just in time for summer!

Thursday, June 20, from 7:00pm-9:00pm
Friday, June 21, from 10:00am-5:00pm
Saturday, June 22, from 9:00am-2:00pm

SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Summer Reading Kick Off Event
"Science Magic" with the Museum of Science

Monday, June 24th @ 7:00pm

For children in grades K-4.



Register required and begins June 10th.

Visit www.lowelllibrary.org for all the family fun events offered this summer.

KIDS BOOK FEST

SAVE THE DATE!

Tuesday
June 11, 2019



Kids Summer BookFest
3:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Jack Kerouac Park | 75 Bridge Street, Lowell, MA



Activities include:

GAMES FREE BOOKS FOOD TRUCKS FACE PAINTING ALPHABET YOGA & MORE!

Thank you to our supporters!



Eastern Bank
JOIN US FOR GOOD



For a full list of sponsors: www.projectlearninc.org/booknooks

Kick off summer literacy with us!

For more information contact:
srivera@projectlearninc.org

LOWELL'S FARMERS' MARKET



Every Friday, July through October, Community Teamwork Inc. (CTI) sponsors the Lowell Farmers' Market. It offers fresh, locally grown produce from area farmers, as well as meats, fish, honey, baked goods, prepared meals, hand-crafts, and more, in a beautiful, urban setting. While you shop, enjoy live entertainment, cooking demonstrations, and activities for the whole family! The Lowell Farmers' Market is a rare gem in the heart of Downtown Lowell.

Fridays, July 12—October 25, 2019
from 12:00pm-5:00pm

Lucy Larcom Park, 258 Merrimack St., Lowell

- Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover accepted
- WIC coupons, SNAP/EBT, and Senior Coupons accepted
- Department of Agriculture authorized Farmers' Market

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

MERRIMACK VALLEY HOUSING PARTNERSHIP

Project Genesis offers 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. Khmer speakers call (978)459-6200.

Home Buyer Training Sessions

English	June 17 –20
Spanish	June 1 & 8
Khmer	July 13 & 20

BE TICK SMART



Be aware this summer. Tick season is predicted to be extremely heavy this summer. Remember to check yourself, children, and pets every day.

PROJECT CITIZENSHIP

Free Citizenship Workshop

Saturday, June 15th

Lowell Senior Center at 275 Broadway St, Lowell

To register for an appointment or for more information go to www.projectcitizenship.org.

Project Citizenship is an organization that educates immigrants about the benefits of citizenship, and to help eligible, legal permanent residents to overcome barriers to naturalization.

Project Citizenship is partnering with the City of Lowell and the Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association (CMAA) to offer a free citizenship workshop at the Lowell Senior Center. This workshop will provide screening, application assistance, legal referrals, and any other materials needed to apply for citizenship.



SUMMER SHOWS, CONCERTS & FESTIVALS










Concerts on the River Sampas Pavilion Lowell Heritage State Park Pawtucket Blvd, Lowell www.heritagefarmicecream.com	Every Monday starting at 7:00pm.	Lowell Summer Music Series for Kids Boardinghouse Park, Downtown Lowell www.lowellsummermusic.org	Every Wednesday and Thursday from July 10 through August 15 Shows start at 11:00am.
Greek Festival @ Holy Trinity Church Hellenic Cultural Center Broadway St, Lowell	Friday, June 14, — Sunday, June 16. Starting 4:00pm on Friday.	Lowell Folk Festival Various locations Downtown lowellfolkfestival.org	Friday, July 26 through Sunday, July 28.
African Festival Sampas Pavilion Lowell Heritage State Park Pawtucket Blvd, Lowell www.africanfestivalowell.org	Saturday, June 15, from 11:00am-7:00pm.	Southeast Asian Water Festival UMass Boathouse Pawtucket Blvd. lowellwaterfestival.org	Saturday, August 17 All day
Independence Day Celebration LeLacheur Park (Spinner's Park) Aiken St, Lowell	Wednesday, July 4 Park opens at 6:30pm Activities at 7:00pm Fireworks at 9:00pm	In the Acre Festival & Resource Fair North Common Amphitheater 413 Fletcher St, Lowell	Saturday, June 8th from 11:00am-4:00pm

Check out www.likelowell.com for more of Lowell's events this summer.



SCHOOL ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

June 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4 SAC Mtg. <i>10:30am Computer Lab</i> <hr/> ESOL Conversation Club <i>10:30-11:00am Susan's Room</i>	5 <i>LCHC Outreach 9:00am—12:00pm</i>	6 No AAEC Classes Graduation Preparation	7 No AAEC Classes Graduation 6:00pm 	8
9	10	11 Outstanding Attendance Certificates  ESOL Conversation Club <i>10:30-11:00am Susan's Room</i>	12 <i>field trip</i>  Bus leaves at 9:00am	13 End of the Year Brunch 9:30am-11:30am Last Day of School	14  CBT starting @ 5:15pm <hr/>  PBT starting @ 5:00pm	15  CBT starting @ 8:00am <hr/>  PBT starting @ 8:00am
16 Happy Father's Day 	17	18	19	20  CBT @ 12:30pm	21	22



July 8th through August 1, 2019
Monday—Thursday, from 9:30am-11:30am for registered students.

