

JANUARY 2022

Neuhaus News



THE READING CIRCLE

Neuhaus Education Center hosted an evening soiree at Evelyn's Park Conservancy honoring its generous supporters on Tuesday, October 5, 2021. The Reading Circle took place as Neuhaus' first in-person event since the pandemic.

Federico Salas-Isnardi, Director of the Mayor's Office for Adult Literacy (MOAL), shared remarks; and the event provided quality time to toast our generous donors who make our mission possible.

The Reading Circle is a group of individuals dedicated to giving all readers the key to a bright future. With their support, teachers are equipped with the knowledge that will help all children discover reading success.

1: Federico Salas-Isnardi of the Mayor's Office for Adult Literacy; 2: Janet Huie and Susan Wong-Andrus; 3: Cynthia Goehringer and Katherine Veletsos; 4: Lenox M. Reed and Dr. Tracy Weeden; 5: Shandy Reed and Paula Sacks with Neuhaus staff, Tamara Hall and Jennifer Skjonsby; 6: Larry Neuhaus, Graham and Ed Neuhaus, and Jennifer and Will Neuhaus; 7: Ann Johnson, Lenox and John Reed; 8: David and Janna Webber





MESSAGE FROM THE **President and CEO**

Keeping Our Eyes on the Prize – Reading Success for All

We are at an incredibly important juncture as we step boldly into 2022. This month, I meditated on the implications of a famous quote by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who said that “Education must enable one to sift and weigh evidence, to discern the true from the false, the real from the unreal, and the facts from the fiction.” Ironically, there is now a movement afoot and gaining momentum in our nation where the truth about how children learn to read is rising to the surface. It is a national challenge and opportunity. This is a defining moment, which is part of a defining movement, and Neuhaus is a major conveyor of that truth in our society.

There is a colloquialism that “an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.” Thank you for your part in supporting leaders who eagerly learn from our amazing outreach and instructional team so that once they know better, they can do better by the children they serve.

Anecdotally, you have probably been reading about how many great teachers are washing their hands of the profession, which is a national tragedy. Yet, in our partner schools led by leaders who support teachers in best practices, the teacher attrition is not as significant because their teachers are succeeding at doing the RIGHT work. When teachers see that they are winning at helping children succeed at their first job as a scholar, it changes everything.

It comes down to this. We can be powerful together despite the pandemic. The Neuhaus team has drawn a line in the sand where this battle is concerned, and we have continued to fight for teachers who deserve every bit of support we can muster; thus, they are empowered to develop skilled readers who are being well-prepared for their place in a knowledge economy. I know that I can speak for the Neuhaus team by sharing that we are deeply grateful to each and every stakeholder who is making what may seem like a distant dream a measurable reality in our lighthouse classrooms and districts.

Respectfully,

Dr. Tracy Weeden
President and CEO



Picture the high-stakes race for success. Imagine being identified as dyslexic late in life and never receiving therapy. In spite of that diagnosis, as the sole bread-winner, picture being determined to graduate from college to improve circumstances for you and your child. Then, consider the challenge of earning an undergraduate degree when the first hurdle is a remedial English class. The next hurdle? A diagnosis of lupus and going through chemotherapy. At Neuhaus, we call such an individual a "champion" whether the the goal of earning a college degree is completed, or not.

Fortunately, this success story has a very happy ending. Ashley Gordon rebounded from those challenges and took full advantage of the opportunity to finally receive dyslexia therapy in the Margaret H. Ley Adult Literacy program at Neuhaus. Within four semesters in the program, Ashley soared over the hurdle of the literacy gaps she had stumbled over in the past, retook her teaching certification classes in the summer of 2021, and passed those tests for the first time. This amazing champion of literacy is now a brand new teacher at KIPP Intrepid Prep School.

Ashley shared that "You are your final obstacle. If you think you can, you are right, and if you think you can't, you are right." It is the message she lives out courageously every day and shares with the students she serves as a special education teacher.

Ashley is a hero, particularly because she refused to give her power away to challenges that could have stopped her in her tracks. Her journey is a beautiful, full-circle story to celebrate! As her principal stated "Ashley was lifted through literacy by highly skilled Neuhaus instructors, and now she lifts general education teachers she partners with to produce the least

A HERO AMONG US



"You are your final obstacle. If you think you can, you are right; and if you think you can't, you are right."

Ashley Gordon



restrictive environment for the special education students she relentlessly serves." Ashley continues to attend advanced-level classes with Neuhaus because she isn't finished learning! She has worked as a dedicated classroom aide for 10 years, is blossoming as a teacher, and it is my hope that one day she will pursue becoming a dyslexia therapist.

Neuhaus is thankful for the volunteers and generous donors who play a vital role in this full-circle story which is producing profoundly powerful ripple effects. Stories like Ashley's give the Neuhaus team the inspiration needed to soar over the barriers that challenge us, making literacy success a reality for the stakeholders we ultimately serve.

THE NOOK

In celebrating our philanthropy-supported work, we're highlighting new and exciting initiatives, team updates, and sharing the connections among our board members who support our mission of promoting literacy for all.

NEUHAUS IN THE NEWS

Rompiendo El Silencio

"La Dislexia" - A conversation to raise awareness about dyslexia with the Spanish-speaking community featuring Lara Speights, VP of Family Support and Adult Literacy.

Newman and Newman, Inc.

"Conversations with Today's Influencers: The Neuhaus Commitment to Reading Success" featuring Dr. Tracy Weeden.

Benetech Inclusive Education Series

"The Future of Literacy is Digital" featuring Dr. Tracy Weeden.



I was introduced to Neuhaus by another board member and attended an event where I heard a testimonial on how the Adult Literacy program transformed a life through literacy. I was immediately inspired and personally believe that education and lifelong learning are essential to a successful life. I serve on the board for Neuhaus Education Center because I believe in our mission.

Robert (Bob) Palmquist

Chair, Board of Trustees
20 years of service

Annual Benefit Luncheon & Lenox M. Reed Seminar

April 14, 2022

Hilton Americas - Houston | www.neuhaus.org/luncheon

Chairs

Jamie Grissom and Amy Melton

Neuhaus Education Center looks forward to welcoming the support of our board, donors, educators, parents, and friends! The annual benefit luncheon is integral to our mission as we continue to promote literacy for all in Texas and beyond.

Luncheon Keynote Speaker

Brad Meltzer

Infusing humor and insights into engaging, highly moving narratives, Brad Meltzer's inspirational voice and thought-provoking talks truly connect with audiences. Brad inspires us to examine our lives, shape our legacies, and discover the potential within all of us to change the world.



Honoree

T.L.L. Temple Foundation

Since 1962, the T.L.L. Temple Foundation has invested more than \$500 million primarily to strengthen communities in rural East Texas.

Lenox M. Reed Seminar

April 8, 2022 | 8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Registration opens at 7:30 AM

Junior League of Houston

1.5 ALTA CEU credits | www.neuhaus.org/seminar2022

Featured Speaker: David A. Kilpatrick, PhD

Understanding Word-Level Reading Problems: Implications for Instruction and Intervention.

This session will focus on how children learn to read words and why some children struggle. Understanding what research has found about the nature of word-level reading development and word-level reading problems will guide both instruction and intervention.



Questions? Please contact Elizabeth Crockett at ecrockett@neuhaus.org.



2ND ANNUAL RUN FOR DYSLEXIA

5K, 10K, and Half Marathon

Saturday, February 12, 2022
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Houstonian and Neuhaus literacy advocate, Dr. Stephen Cook, helps to raise scholarship money for students in the Houston area to receive dyslexia therapy with Neuhaus trained dyslexia therapists.

EVENT INFO

100% of funds raised go directly to Neuhaus Education Center's Dyslexia Scholarship Fund.

FAMILY SUPPORT OFFICE

Monthly Information Sessions

What is dyslexia? How do you know if your child has dyslexia? What are the laws that relate to identifying dyslexia in public schools?

These and other questions are answered in our information sessions. Parents, educators, and other professionals can benefit from this presentation. Currently, these sessions are held live on ZOOM from 10:00 a.m. - noon (CST).

UPCOMING SESSIONS

- February 2
- February 16
- February 26
- March 2
- March 26
- April 13
- April 23
- May 7



Register for an upcoming session at www.neuhaus.org/calendar

Spanish sessions available! For more information or to get access to the Spanish version of the session, contact the Family Support Office at neuhausFSO@neuhaus.org.



GIFT OF LITERACY

Philanthropy helps Neuhaus remove barriers to accessing the science of reading.

MAKE A GIFT TODAY

CONNECT WITH US

Join our social network community. Like, follow, share, and join the conversation!



Neuhaus Education Center is a nonprofit educational organization dedicated to promoting reading success for all. Neuhaus provides evidence-based training and support to teachers, supplies information and resources to families, and offers direct literacy services to adult learners.

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\$5,000 PROVIDES 3 DAYS
of Neuhaus coaching support to a campus

\$2,500 PREPARES 9 EDUCATORS
to help 180 students learn to read

\$1,000 ENROLLS 5 ADULTS
in adult literacy classes to learn to read

\$750 HELPS 1 STUDENT
receive 1:1 dyslexia therapy for one month

\$500 UNDERWRITES 1 INFO SESSION
for families of struggling readers

\$250 EQUIPS 1 EDUCATOR
with supplies for early literacy activities and student vocabulary development

\$100 PROVIDES 4 BOOKS
*for the Neuhaus Education Center
Collie Resource Library*

