

ONE TO ONE LEARNING IS A SPONSORED MINISTRY OF DOMINICAN SISTERS OF SPARKILL

ONE2ONE

Learning, Inc.

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N E W S L E T T E R

A U G U S T 2 0 1 9



newsletter
one2one-learning.org

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PROGRAM

On June 12 our students and teachers completed another successful year with the Awards Ceremony, La Fiesta de Exito.

- Students receiving **106** Honor Certificates
- 24** Merit Certificates and
- 22** Participation Certificates

With a total **152** students completing their course of study for 2018-2019. More information on this in our Annual Report in November.

Teachers and students had a very good year. Teachers remarked on the high quality of their students and their consistent attendance.

Here are some of the experiences of our teachers:

DEANA LAMHUT, a new teacher with a group of Pre-literate Students



I was deeply enriched by working with my students and seeing all the other participants. Their commitment was amazing, so dedicated to learning. My students never missed a session and were so eager to learn how to read and write. I am so proud of their advancement.

MARTHA GONZALEZ, a new teacher with a group of Beginner Students



My experience was very positive. I looked forward to going to teach every Monday and Wednesday, which made the experience more effective and pleasant. I would like to believe that my students felt the same way and that I added value to their lives.

The students and I immediately connected; I could relate to, having been an immigrant, trying to learn the language. I saw myself in them; I arrived in New York City in 1977 as a young immigrant from Columbia. When they felt frustrated, I would share my experiences with them and reassure them that "Yes, we can."

ROSEMARY AMABILE, a volunteer who is now teaching the group of students whom she taught as beginners last year.



The students who attend One to One Learning deserve much praise. After working all day at their jobs and caring for their families, they come to class eager to learn. I admire the three students from our group who received certificates in June because they did not give up. It is not easy to come each week especially during the winter months, but Carolina, Marina and Yuri were determined. Often I was impressed, not only with their hard work, but also with their compassion towards each other. Another great quality in these women is their sense of humor which I enjoyed tremendously. As I looked around the room on the night of the ceremony, it was impressive to see so many students, like the ones in our group, who deserve to feel very proud of their accomplishment.

JOSEPH P. FARRUGGIO, a new volunteer teaching a Beginner Group



I have been retired from teaching in NYC. After retirement, I taught evening High School at "Evander" in the Bronx for two additional years. Have been enjoying retirement but felt something was missing. I tried One to One and am enjoying Sister Cecilia's program. She knows "her stuff".

MARIE MONTELEONE-COHEN, a new teacher this year.



I have worked with three different groups in the course of my first year of teaching. I was impressed with each student in the various groups. They are, without exception, hard working and earnest individuals intent on improving their comprehension of English, and integrating into the American culture.

As a volunteer, new to this arena, flexibility is at the core of one's success; combining students when a volunteer is unable to attend and meeting the needs of individual students. It is so important for us to relate to each other as members of the group. We share information about ourselves and appreciate our commonalities.

My teaching style has evolved, using flashcards for new words or words that are problematic for individuals. They know we will

begin the next class going over them. They quiz each other and delight in achieving the correct pronunciation. We've created an environment where no one feels uncomfortable in making a mistake. I remind them often, how much I admire them, since they are working at being bilingual while I remain largely mono-linguistic. And we always say this is a safe place to make mistakes and to learn.

Elizabeth Dorado is the student I have had the pleasure to work with consistently throughout the majority of the year. She is diligent, quick to ask questions to expand her comprehension and definitely kept me on my toes. She, through her own determination, has expanded her reading comprehension, use of pronouns and correct pronunciation. In the course of this year we have progressed from a student-teacher relationship to friends.

Through each of the students I have grown to appreciate how challenging our language is and how many exceptions to the rule our language contains. We have learned to laugh a lot, enjoy the moment and share in learning. I couldn't imagine a more fulfilling way to share time with others.

Monica Powers-Meade, a second year teacher, continuing with students from previous year.



What a blessing it has been to teach our students. I have learned that English is a complicated and nuanced language. My teaching skills have been challenged and strengthened every week by using new methods and materials that support student learning. The key

for me is to plan thoughtful lessons that provide many avenues of access.

Being part of the One to One family has taught me to be humble when dealing with the needs of my students. I have the utmost respect and admiration for my learners. My students are successful and hard working individuals who love America and the promise of opportunities it represents.



ASK ABOUT PARTNERING WITH ONE TO ONE LEARNING

Some input from our students:

Elizabeth Dorado Illera (Colombiana) Elizabeth notes this because she is our only Columbian student. Marie Monteleone-Cohen speaks of her in her class input.



This is my first year participating in One to One classes. It has been an extraordinary experience. I progressed in my English learning in grammar, pronunciation, and communication. I congratulate Sister Cecilia and the professors who are part of the work team, for the task of integrating the people residing in the USA through language.

I also thank my teachers Rose, Marie, Alexandra, and Barbara, who with their dedication, I managed to make progress in English.

I thank Sister Nancy who accompanied me in this process, transporting me. A thousand and a thousand thanks, I feel blessed.

My Favorite Pastime by Elias, a student for 9 years at One to One, having started as a beginner, now an excellent writer in our TASC level--most advanced



My favorite pastime is mountain bike riding. I started last summer, and I like it a lot. The sport is a little strange for me because it's not like an Hispanic sport. Many friends ask me why I practice that "gringo" sport, that is just for white people. But I think anybody

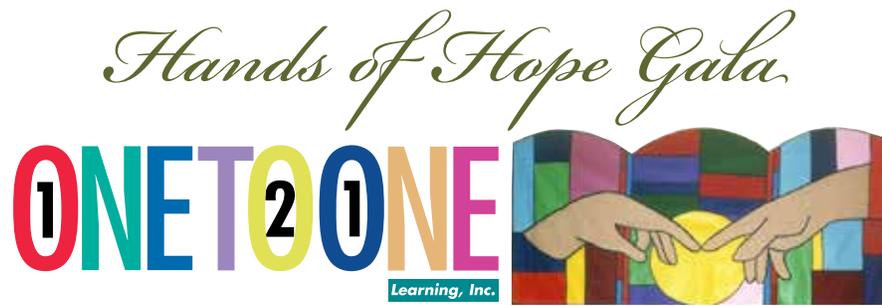
can practice that sport, not just whites!

Every time when I'm riding with my bike on the top of my car's roof, lots of people in my town watch me like I'm different, not normal for an Hispanic guy. I think I love this sport because it requires technique and good endurance, especially in my legs, to be pedaling 20 or 30 miles in the mountains. Mountain bike riding is not just about exercise. It's also to enjoy the nice views, feeling relaxed in Nature. My bike is like my best friend. The only thing about mountain biking that I don't like is the tight clothes!

My goal this year is to participate in the mountain bike race for beginners. I'm training with someone I met at a mountain bike course in upstate New York. He was a racer before, and he is teaching me everything about cross-country riding. He is a nice guy, and another reason I like this sport: you meet nice people.

Hands of Hope Gala

ONE TO ONE Learning, Inc.



On May 3rd we celebrated the **Hands of Hope Gala** at the Nyack Seaport, enjoying the beautiful view and the delicious cuisine. Our MC **Steve Wilson**, Board Member, lead us through the program with **Sister Susan Dunn OP**, Chair of Board, beginning with the Blessing.

Sister Cecilia La Pietra OP introduced the theme of the evening with a quote from Saint Oscar Romero, Archbishop of El Salvador, *“Let us not tire of preaching love; it is the force that will overcome the world.”* Sister Cecilia noted that those present were there to experience the force of love that is alive at **One to One Learning**. Each one present is a part of that love as they responded *“Yes”* to the invitation to celebrate 22 years of faithfulness to the mission of love that empowers newcomers through the gift of language. Each of the honorees represent in some way the love that is part of who we are.

All are woven together in our banner, hand reaching out to hand, preaching love through action in the lives of all who are part of the mission.

Sister Cecilia introduced **Deacon Robert** and **May Pang** of **St. John the Baptist Parish** who received **2019 Humanitarian Award** who through their love foster an inclusive spirit of togetherness among English and Spanish speakers.



Sabrina Greco, Chair of the Development Committee, awarded **Elizabeth Santiago** for the **Center for Safety & Change** the **2019 Advocate Award** for the vision *“to help create a society in which all individuals can live with dignity and equality, free from fear, violence, and oppression”*.



Sister Grace Hogan OP, President of One to One Learning, introduced **Sister Peggy Scarano OP**, who received the **2019 Founder’s Award**, for embodying the spirit of Mother Catherine Antoninus Thorpe by responding to the needs of our times, supporting collaboration which is so important to non-profit organizations in accessing needed resources for the mission.



Sister Cecilia presented the **2019 Corporate Service Award** to the **Acosta Brothers, Manny, Lindo, and Juan** and their Associate **Jesus Zotamba** for being an inspiration for so many immigrants to the United States through hard work and determination.



Sister Cecilia presented **Rudy Felipe and Hector Esquivel** with the **2019 Student Service Awards** for their lives of service to their communities, their perseverance in their study of English, and their membership in the Leadership group of One to One Learning.



Ira Lipson, Teacher and Board Member introduced **David and Judy Englander** who received the **2019 Board Service Award** for their dedication to the mission as benefactors, teacher, and board member and for their lives of action in support of justice.



Sister Cecilia presented **Johanna Maye** with the **2019 Teacher Service Award** as the face of all our teachers as the heart and soul of **One to One**, sharing their gifts of language, precious time, and a deep sense of caring for each of their servants.



The evening ended with a Viennese Table, kindness of **Angelo Rubino, Nyack Seaport** and our Raffle.

Prize Winners

- First: Mrs. Mary Armstrong \$8,670
- Second: Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Exias \$880
- Third: Judith and Gladys Aguire \$880
- Fourth: Sazanna Frosch \$880
- Fifth: Deirdre Callahan \$440
- Sixth: Sean Scully \$440
- Seventh: One to One Learning \$440
(Purchased by Steve Wilson)
- Eighth: Helen and Michael Brady \$440

Thank you to all who purchased raffles. This year we sold 260 tickets, just 40 short. Let's see if we can make it to 300 next year!!

Later donation by Sean Scully of his winnings. Thank You.



CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

Our children are very fortunate in having **Janet Fenton** as the coordinator of their program. Her main assistants are **Lamis Al-Bagain, Marie Bideiwy, and Bianca Koether**. With the STAC volunteers leaving us at the end of classes, we were fortunate having **Leah Hopson** helping out. Leah, formerly a student at Albertus Magnus High School, now at the University of Maryland. Leah comes regularly during her college breaks. Our older children who have been coming with their parents for several years, have also taken on roles of volunteers, receiving high school credit for service.

HONORING SISTER CECILIA LA PIETRA
 March 5, 2019
Celebrating Women's History Month



ROCKLAND COUNTY LEGISLATURE
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD
 APRIL 8, 2019 – NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY
2019 WOMEN OF DISTINCTION

LIGHTS FOR LIBERTY

On Friday, July 12, 2019, Dominican Sisters, Friends, Teachers, Board Members attended this rally to peacefully protest the inhumane, disgraceful treatment and conditions faced by refugees in detention centers across America. Dominican Sisters from Siena Hall, Dominican Convent made signs, one saying "*Babies in cribs not cages!*"



MEMORIAL DAY AND JULY 4TH
SOCCER
TOURNAMENTS
 ALUMNI AND STUDENTS DID IT AGAIN!



This year we had a change in location. Because of all the rain that we had in May, the soccer field at Masonic Park was soaked and muddy. Our first soccer tournaments had been held at Albertus Magnus High School. So we called our friends and they came to our rescue, allowing us to not only use the field but the kitchen, refrigerator, freezer, ice Wmachine, tables, and chairs. Staff were there to assist us the first time. By July 4th, the other field was not available, and we were invited back to Albertus. By then we were pros. We cooked pupusas on an outside flat grill. They went like hotcakes as the delicious aroma wafted through the air. The weather was great and the teams played very well. Our leadership group worked very hard to make both events great successes.

RESPONSE FROM OUR BENEFACTORS

We are grateful to you as you assist us in paying our monthly bills. Since our last newsletter we have received the following donations totaling \$15,890. We remember our friends and benefactors each morning in prayer.



Mr. and Mrs. Frank La Pietra
Ms Terry Siracusanò
Dr. Diane Fellows
Honor her mother, Virginia McCauley
Vanguard Charitable –
Michael T. and Damian P. Gregg



Rust Gilbert
Robert and Ten Lechtanski
Memory of Robert Giacobbe
Mary and John McCoy
Marian Munson
Honor Mary Anne Sgroi
Sisters Louise Mileski and Peggy Jennings
Honor 2019 Jubilarians
Sisters Mary Ann Borrello and Peggy Stadleman
Honor 2019 Jubilarians



Carlo and Joan Costanzo
Dorothy Cox
Rockland Friends Meeting
Maryann Gorman
Rosemary and John Jennings
Ira and Jill Lipson
Memory of Giuseppina Sacco
Honor Yolanda and Efrain Aguilar, Leadership
Ann and Dan Maccabee
Margaret Mapelli
Robin Ann Miller
Honor Sister Cecilia Jubilee
Sister Diane Mc Sherry
Honor 2019 Jubilarians
Marty Nealon
Sister Mary Reynolds
Honor 2019 Jubilarians
Sisters Catherine Rose, Rose Mary, Eileen,
and Margo
Honor 2019 Jubilarians
Ugo Volpati, Memory of Ceil Volpati



Albert Birkmaier
Sister Patricia Broderick
Honor 2019 Jubilarians
Sister Daniel Catherine and Mary Ann
Honor 2019 Jubilarians
Sister Amelia DeMarco
Honor 2019 Jubilarians
St Dominic Community
Sister Susan Dunn
Honor Sister Cecilia Jubilee
Sisters Pius Fagan and Mary Jo Heman
Honor 2019 Jubilarians
Dolores Fontana
Sister Peggy Gannon
Honor 2019 Jubilarians
Sisters John Rose and Katie McKillop
Honor 2019 Jubilarians
Sister Madeleine Murphy
Honor 2019 Jubilarians
Sister Barbara Paul
Honor 2019 Jubilarians
Sister Nancy Richter
Honor 2019 Jubilarians
Marilyn Buck Timberger



Sister Mary Brinn
Honor 2019 Jubilarians
Mary Clifford
Sister Anne Foley
Honor 2019 Jubilarians
Sisters Peggy Gannon and Joan O'Leary
Memory of Sisters Joanne and Rita
Kathleen Leventhal
Memory of Mauren Noble
Sister Anne Tahaney
Jean Looney
Ann McGill
Sister Joan O'Leary
Honor Sister Cecilia Jubilee
Mildred Oslica
Roberta Zampolin
Memory of Maureen Noble



MEMORY OF FRANK PLATT



Joyce Gavin and Bernard Doyle
Mrs. Diana Pike Harding/ Dr. Robert Harding
Nicholas and Cassandra Ludington



The Cheney Cemetery Association
Geraldine Miras
Wilhelmina Van Ness



Raymond Bernick MD
Janice Van Buskirk

GALA DONATIONS

(Some included in Journal, others too late)



Agustine and Elizabeth Nolan



Soyoung An
Sister Grace Anne Hogan
Carine Joannou
Lynn Sykes
Honor David and Judy Englander



Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Delargy
Sisters Nora and Elizabeth



Lucille Levine
Sister Mary Rose Mullervy
Sister Jeanine Nolan
Sister Maureen Robinson

GRANTS

\$500 Rockland Country Club Foundation

One to One is a sponsored ministry of The Dominican Sisters of Sparkill

ONE TO ONE

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Learning, Inc.

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

OUR MISSION

To provide English Classes and other supportive services for immigrants to empower them to reach their full potential and lead meaningful lives within their communities.

TRUSTEES

Sr. Irene Ellis
Sr. Eileen Gannon
Sr. Grace Ann Hogan
Sr. Mary Murray
Sr. Margaret Palliser

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mr. Dan Calahan
Sr. Susan Dunn
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Sr. Peggy McGirl
Sr. Veronica Mendez
Ms Charlotte Murray
Sr. Anne Schwartz
Mr. Steve Wilson

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2018

SEPTEMBER 4, 6:00 PM

Teachers' Welcome Dinner & Meeting

SEPTEMBER 9, 8:00 PM

Evening English Classes Begin

SEPTEMBER 15, 3:30 PM



Star-Fest X

640 N. Midland Avenue, Nyack
Grounds of Marydell Faith and Life Center

- **ONE TO ONE LEARNING IS ON AMAZON SMILE**
Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchase price to us



- **GOODSEARCH** (1 cent for each search)
GOODSHOP (% of your purchase price)



INTERESTED IN BECOMING A MEMBER OF THE ONE TO ONE LEARNING FAMILY

CALL SISTER CECILIA
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CLPANGEL59@GMAIL.COM

WE NEED ALL LEVELS OF TEACHING KNOWLEDGE OF PHONICS WOULD HELP. *We also need young people 12 and up to volunteer in the Children's Program*