

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

ONE2ONE

Learning, Inc.

IN THIS ISSUE

Program	2
Teachers' Experience	2
Students' Critique	3
Hands of Hope	4
Events	6
Thank You	7
Calendar	8

N E W S L E T T E R

A U G U S T 2 0 1 8



newsletter
one2one-learning.org

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CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

Janet Fenton always has the children busy doing one project or another. Here they are decorating cupcakes with one of our volunteers **Moriya Wish** who brought friends from **Solomon Schecter School in Hartsdale**. Because of darkness coming later during the months of May and June, the children were able to be outside and use the little park. They really enjoyed that and the teenage volunteers played all kind of games with them.



Mary Hagan



Providing a safe and accepting experience for students is of great importance. It takes a little time for student to get comfortable with a new teacher. I have also learned that our students are very motivated to learn English and proud of their progress. I have learned to understand that progress is slower for those who cannot attend regularly and why they require more effort on my part.

Barbara Berasi-Rosen



Helping my students learn English has been a very rewarding experience. I am constantly impressed by the happy and uncomplaining natures that they have, considering the horrible climate that exists for immigrants in this country today. They are upbeat, anxious to learn, hard workers and full of gratitude. It's certainly a lesson for me when I find myself complaining about inconsequential things. In short, it's a joy.

Monica Power-Meade



This was a wonderful teaching experience as a child of immigrants. Though my students juggle work demands, they were extremely motivated and eager to learn English. I felt fortunate to make a difference.

On June 13th our students and teachers completed another successful year with the **Awards Ceremony, La Fiesta de Exito**, with 94 Honor, 20 Merit, and 13 Participation students. Teachers received candles, symbolizing the light of learning that they share with their students.

Our teachers, who are our Heart and Soul, share with you their experiences:

Sister Maureen Conway



Am I a teacher or a student? At first glance the easy answer is teacher as I listen to my students speaking in English and moving to a more advanced level. But, as I look deeper and reflect on the unique qualities that my students display: their love of family, determination in the face of seemingly insurmountable obstacles, their warmth, kindness and generosity to all, I am struck by all I have learned. Added to this lesson is my observation of the other teachers whose dedication and willingness to give so much of themselves to their students is truly inspiring. What a privilege to be at One to One Learning as a teacher and a student!

A STUDENT'S CRITIQUE OF HIS CLASS

Ishmael is finishing the Second level Side by Side book. This is a time to begin writing some small paragraphs. This is his first attempt:

This year I had good experiences in One to One. I like to learn English. My teacher is nice and funny. Sometimes the class was boring when I was the only student present but most of the time Rita, my teacher, made it interesting. When I made a mistake, I learned to correct it. I tried to do everything well. So this year was nice and I hope to return next year.



Each student in GED writing class was asked to write to his/her teen-age self in the country of origin before coming to United States.

Dear 18-year-old Teresa,

I know you're afraid of trying all the things that are coming ahead, but don't be afraid. Out of your house are many adventures waiting for you. Trust me, when enough time has passed, you're going to look back and see how far you have come, and how many experiences you have gained.

Before you leave for the airport, remember to pack in your luggage all the clothes you can, because in the United States it is not as easy as they say to own new clothes, and you have some beautiful dresses you would like to have there. Get all the shoes you have because they cost your mother a lot of money, and you will need them for sure. Don't forget to look at your face in the mirror; try to remember that girl with a lot of dreams inside you, trying to embrace the world. Just one more time look at your beautiful face and don't cry. Mama and Dad are sad because you're leaving them, but at the same time they know they have to let you go to work for your future and all your dreams.

Give Mama a huge hug and tell her you will be fine, but I know it will take a little time until you feel better. Be ready: this is not easy to succeed in a place full of new traditions, a new language, new faces, but you can do

it and you will succeed, I'm sure. Give your dad the last kiss, and make sure he knows how much you love him. He will need it. When you leave, make sure to save some money because it will take a few months till you get a job. Don't be shy about asking your boyfriend for some money to eat. He is a good guy who for sure will give you everything you need, without asking you for anything.



"Miss Terese," as your mom used to call you, "remember to ask your friends about schools. Maybe they can help you out before you get married. Try to get into school; that's going to be the key to success." But for sure you're not going to regret your decision to come to the United States, the place where dreams come true, no matter if you are poor or rich. If you want, you're going to be able to do it. Believe in yourself, and that you're going to get into school. Sometimes you're going to feel down, because you don't know how to speak English. But don't feel desperate; you will learn to speak English soon--maybe not as good as a native-born American, but you will be able to communicate very well with others. And you're going to be a great support for your parents. That's an important thing that you will do. You're going to feel proud of yourself, as I'm sure your family does, too.



One to One Board at Hands of Hope Gala 2018



Hands of Hope Gala



2018 HANDS OF HOPE GALA

On Friday, May 4, 2018 the **Hands of Hope Gala** celebrated **21 years** of success of **One to One Learning** at the Nyack Seaport. The event was a wonderful friend raiser and fund raiser as many gathered for an evening of music, sharing, and honoring some very special friends of **One to One Learning**. The food and service provided by **Nyack Seaport** was its usual excellent quality touched off by a delicious **Viennese Table**, complements of **Angelo Rubino**. **DJ Alex Flores** provided some 60's music to get us up to the dance floor between courses.

Sister Grace Hogan OP, Executive Team member of the **Dominican Sisters of Sparkill** shared the blessing prayer. **MC Steve Wilson**, Board Member, graciously kept the program piece of the evening moving as each of the guests was honored for his/her accomplishment. **Sister Cecilia La Pietra**, Executive Director, enumerated the ways in which **St. Francis of Assisi** parishioners through their **Pastor, Fr. Aiden McKeon** have touched the lives of so many in the County, especially students of **One to One Learning**. They were awarded the **2018 Humanitarian Award** for following in the way of their patron, **St Francis of Assisi**, who said, "Preach the Gospel always and when necessary use words".



Rick and Kitty Ufford-Chase from the **Stony Point Center**, especially for supporting "**Proyecto Faro**" "**Light-house Project**", an immigrants' advocacy group founded by **Charo Ureña**, were honored with the **2018 Advocate Award** for being faithful to their mission of welcoming across boundaries, nurturing inclusive community, and cultivating peace and justice.



Sister Grace Hogan OP, Board President, spoke of **Sister Joan Beairsto OP** and her dedication to the mission of education and her service to the **Board of One to One Learning**, honoring her with the **2018 Founder's Award** for embodying the spirit of **Mother Catherine Antoninus Thorpe** by responding to the needs of our times.



hands of hope...

Language Empowers. Language Unites.

Sabrina Greco, Board Member, spoke of the life stories of **Paulo Feteira and Jose David Martinez** and how they came together to eventually become the owners of **"Union Restaurant"**. They proudly received the **2018 Corporate Service Award for being an inspiration for so many immigrants to the United States through their hard work and determination**. Their **"We Care Foundation"** promotes good works and they have been a friend to **One to One** for **Star-Fest** events.



Sister Cecilia La Pietra praised the work of **Caitlin Crowley and Quinn Coughlin**, seniors at **Albertus Magnus High School** who are volunteers in the Children's program, which enables parents to attend class, while their children participate in homework help, reading, crafts, games, and snack time. Maintaining high honors and participating in sports, both **Caitlin and Quinn** were able to keep this volunteer commitment and so they received the **2018 Youth Service Award**.



Dorothy Cox, Board Chair introduced **Dr. Theresa Lewis** sharing the phenomenal service that she has given as a member of the Board of Directors during 2010-2018 in sharing her expertise in BOCES education with our teachers and chairing the Board during Strategic planning. Dr. Lewis received the **2018 Board Service Award for her dedication to the mission of One to One Learning**.



Last but certainly not least, the **2018 Student Service Awards** were given to **Manuel Martinez and Marvin Vivar**. Not only are they excellent students, **Manuel**, passing the citizenship test and **Marvin** in the advanced English group, heading toward high school equivalency but each one is part of the **Leadership Group** who volunteer for the **development of One to One Learning**, raising funds from soccer tournaments and dinner parties. Both of them are sous chefs among other ways in which they assist.



LIMITED RAFFLE

Of the 300 tickets printed we sold 230 giving us \$23,000 half of which went to 7 winners:

First Prize \$7,660 Kathy Geisinger

Second Prizes \$760 to each of 3 winners
Hugo Ruballos, Juana and Alexander Moran,
Sr. Grace Hogan

Third Prizes \$390 to each of 4 winners
Karen Wright, Yoni Ramos Ramos, Sr. Susan Dunn,
Table 14 (Sr. Helen Boyd)

Later partial return on raffle –
Sister Grace Hogan and Sister Susan Dunn

Sister Cecilia spoke about the future. **Twenty-one years heading toward 25!** How have we come this far? We are here by the grace of God with the help of **Dominican Sisters of Sparkill, St. John the Baptist Church, our first home, Sisters of Our Lady of Christian Doctrine, our present home, our teachers, student and alumni leaders, board members, an many generous benefactors and friends.** *"It takes a village!"* Hillary Rodham Clinton 1996

JULY 4TH SOCCER TOURNAMENT

ALUMNI AND STUDENTS DID IT AGAIN - PICTURES ARE WORTH THOUSANDS OF WORDS



Sisters, alumni, students and friends attended a rally at New City Court House on June 30th to stand up for the children who have been separated from their parents at the Mexican Border.



On May 15th **Sister Cecilia La Pietra** received the **2018 Woman of Achievement Award** from the Rockland County Branch of American Association of University Women. Sisters and Friends joined her to celebrate the honor.

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 \$10,430.



Frank and Donna La Pietra
Eileen K Murray Charitable Fund



John and Jeannine Schwartz
(Memory of Krissy Schwartz)
Nicholas and Cassandra Ludington
Sisters Mary Ann Borrello and Peggy Stadleman
(Honor 2018 Jubilarians)
Robert Lechtanski
(Memory of Bob Giacobbe)
Sophie Platt Pollok
Rockland Friends
Rust Gilbert
John Lizzo



Soyoung An
Sister Deborah Drago
(Honor Sister Joan Beairsto)
Sister Diane McSherry
(Honor 2018 Jubilarians)
Marian Munsen
(Honor Mary Ann Sgroi-Special Birthday)
Sister Madeleine Murphy
(Honor 2018 Jubilarians)



Sister Patricia Beairsto and Liz Beairsto
(Honor Sister Joan Beairsto)
Millie Bebick
Dolores Fontana
Maureen Hatch
Larry and Margaret McKearney
Sister Anne Connolly
(Honor 2018 Jubilarians)
Sisters Peggy Hartling and Katie McKillop
(Honor 2018 Jubilarians)
Sister Margaret Mary O'Doherty
(Honor 2018 Jubilarians)
Sister Maureen Stocking (Honor 2018 Jubilarians)



Sister Mary Brinn (Honor 2018 Jubilarians)
Mary Clifford
Dianne DeVanzo
Sister Theresa Docherty (Honor 2018 Jubilarians)
Sisters Maurice and Nora Doody
(Honor 2018 Jubilarians)
Sister Ann Foley (Honor 2018 Jubilarians)
Jean Looney
Martha Monitto
Marianne Morrelli (Honor 2018 Jubilarians)
Sister Mary Rose Mullervy
(Honor 2018 Jubilarians)
Sister Jean Thomas McHenry
(Honor 2018 Jubilarians)
Wilhelmina Van Ness (Honor Frank Platt)



GALA DONATIONS AFTER VIRTUAL JOURNAL HAD BEEN COMPLETED



Catholic Charities -Table for Alumni and Students and Ad
John and Eileen Lawler



Bruce and Phyllis Schweizer
John McLoughlin
Ugo and Ceil Volpati
Kathy Gnazzo
Rosemary and John Jennings



Sister Eileen Barrow
Mary Elizabeth Benedetto
Barbara Brangan
Sister Mary Shea (Honor Sister Joan Beairsto)

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

CALL SISTER CECILIA

AT 845-512-8176 / 845-216-9799

clpangel59@gmail.com and sr.cecilia@one2one-learning.org

We need all levels of teaching. Knowledge of phonics would help.

We also need young people ages 12 and up to volunteer in the Children's Program

GRANTS

\$10,000 New York State Legislative Education Grant
Assembly Woman Ellen C. Jaffee

•

\$5000 Catholic Charities
Cardinal Dolan
Christmas Luncheon Ladies of Charity

Special Immigration Fund to Assist Students and Friends in Need of Attorneys, Fees for Legal Applications, and other support regarding their status

GINO AND FLAVIA SILVESTRI

BARBARA BEDWAY
(Memory of Marcia Bedway)

Please think about supporting this Fund

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

ONE TO ONE

175 Route 340, Sparkill, NY 10976

Learning, Inc.

NON PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
MONSEY, NY
10952

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

Sr. Joan Beairsto
Ms. Dorothy Cox
Sr. Susan Dunn
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Ms. Sabrina Greco
Ms. Regina Kelly
Mr. Rafael Lemus
Dr. Theresa Lewis
Mr. Ira Lipson
Sr. Veronica Mendez
Sr. Anne Schwartz
Mr. Steve Wilson

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2018

SEPTEMBER 5, 6:00 PM

Teachers' Meeting and Welcome Dinner

SEPTEMBER 10, 8:00 PM

Evening English Classes resume

SEPTEMBER 16, 3:30 PM

Star-Fest IX

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)



Be a **FRIEND** OF 
ONE TO ONE LEARNING
on **FACEBOOK** 



Alice Columbe, Teacher, receiving award for Manuel Martinez



Steve Wilson, MC, with Sabrina Greco

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Language Empowers. Language Unites.