

## PROJECT READ FUELS THE FIRE OF HOPE AT REDWOOD CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY

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**O**n Friday, Oct. 13, at 6:30 p.m., the 28th annual Trivia Bee benefitting Project READ will be held at Cañada College.

In addition to being a lot of fun, the Trivia Bee helps Project READ raise funds as well as increase awareness about what the organization does for the community and how people can get involved. Organizations or individuals have opportunities to sponsor the event; compete in teams of three; or simply attend, enjoy delicious food and drink, and match wits with the contestants from the comfort of a seat in the audience.

The Trivia Bee is organized by Redwood City Friends of Literacy, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that raises funds for Project READ. Trivia Bee donations provide learning evaluations, eyeglasses,

learning materials and volunteer tutoring for the children and adults reached each year by the Project READ programs in Redwood City. For more information, visit [www.triviabee.org](http://www.triviabee.org).

In a study funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Redwood City's Project READ was identified as one of five exemplary library literacy programs in the nation. Established as part of the Redwood City Public Library in 1987, Project READ is a free, volunteer-based literacy program serving adults, children and families. Tutoring lessons are student-centered, focusing on reading, writing and critical-thinking skills, and are supported by the generous help of our volunteers. Our intergenerational programs are designed to break the cycle of illiteracy by surrounding adults, youth and families with literacy services that promote education and a lifelong love of learning.

One major component of the program is the Adult Literacy Program, which pairs volunteer tutors one-on-one with individual learners to help them reach their personal reading and writing goals, which may be as diverse as learning to read to a child, understanding prescription instructions or even voting for the first time. Despite the fact that over 600 learner-tutor pairs are currently active in the program, many potential learners are still on a waiting list, and tutors are always needed. The next series of tutor training workshops is scheduled to begin Oct. 17. Email [rclearn@redwoodcity.org](mailto:rclearn@redwoodcity.org) or call 650-780-7077 for more information.

Other Project READ programs include Families for Literacy, which is open to all English-speaking, low-literacy Redwood City School District parents with at least one 5-year-old or younger child; Families in Partnership, open to all first- through 12th-grade students in the RCSD who are identified as "at-risk"; Kids In Partnership, in which Sequoia Union High School District students provide tutoring to at-risk first- to third-graders from RCSD; and Family Learning Instructional Center, which provides drop-in tutoring and computer-assisted learning opportunities.

Project READ also provides programming in the San Mateo County Jail. Using the same volunteer tutor model as the Adult Literacy Program, low-literacy inmate learners are paired with other inmates who are able to provide tutoring assistance. Like many other aspects of Project READ services, this dual-intervention program is highly beneficial to both the learners and the tutors.

We hope to see you at the Trivia Bee or at an upcoming tutor training. We also welcome referrals — if you know someone who would benefit from the services offered by Project READ, please be sure to introduce them to us. For more information, visit [www.projectreadredwoodcity.org](http://www.projectreadredwoodcity.org).