

California Library Literacy Services
Regional Library Literacy Network Training

Call for Presenters

Presentation Title: How Thinkfinity Literacy Network Can Support Your Program, Staff, Volunteers and Community

Presenter's Name: Kathy St. John

Title: ProLiteracy's Southwest Regional Representative and Regional Institute Coordinator

Library (if applicable): _____

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Experience in Adult Literacy and/or Adult Education:

Kathy taught English as a Second Language in Washington D.C., Chicago and Madison, WI from 1989-1993. Her first work in basic literacy was as the Adult Literacy Assistant Coordinator and then Coordinator at the Blue Gargoyle Youth Services Center in Chicago from 1993-1995. Kathy supervised Read Santa Clara, the literacy program at the Santa Clara Public Library in California, from 1995-2001.

From 2001-2002, Kathy researched grant funding opportunities and wrote grant proposals for Literacy Volunteers of America. She has been a freelance literacy and resource, program and board development consultant since 2002. Since 2003 she has been ProLiteracy America's Southwest Regional Representative working with state organizations and affiliates in six states. From 2004-2006, Kathy was the Project Manager for the Dollar General/ProLiteracy

America Student Expansion Project and managed national research and dissemination projects on reducing student waiting lists and improving community student referral systems. She is ProLiteracy's Regional Institute Coordinator.

Experience as a Presenter:

Kathy's first experience as a presenter was as a tutor trainer in 1993. She presented during dozens of tutor training workshops from 1993-2001. She has developed and presented a variety of conference and in-service workshops for adult basic education and literacy administrators, instructors and learners since 1993. She has presented at the following local, state, regional and national conferences since 2002.

*California Literacy
California Library Association
Read San Diego Tutor Conference
Read Santa Clara Tutor/Learner Conference
New Mexico Adult Education Association
Colorado Adult Education Professional Association
Mountain Plains Adult Education Association
California Council on Adult Education
ProLiteracy*

Presentation Abstract: (Limit 50 words)

What happened to Verizon Literacy Network, the wonderful free online resource many literacy programs used and enjoyed the past few years? It is not gone-it has just morphed and become part of a larger and more comprehensive website. This workshop demonstrates the new and improved resources available to programs.

Presentation Objectives:

In this workshop participants will:

- Be introduced to Thinkfinity Literacy Network and its resources
- Explore free online courses for the general public, prospective volunteers and current volunteers and staff

- Develop a list of tips for effective online learning for literacy volunteers, tutors and staff
- Discuss strategies for utilizing online courses and resources
- Create a "Next-Steps Plan"

Presentation Content and Main Points: (Tell what you want participants to learn from your presentation. Explain how you will present the information. Will you use handouts? Limit to 300 words. You may attach an additional sheet to this form.)

Participants will increase their capacity to raise awareness about literacy and deliver enhanced literacy services by learning about the numerous online resources available on Thinkfinity Literacy Network to inform and educate the public about literacy, recruit and orient prospective literacy volunteers and provide professional development opportunities for volunteers and staff. The presenter will introduce participants to the Thinkfinity Literacy Network website and its contents. Participants will review a list of Thinkfinity online courses and discuss how to augment their programs using Thinkfinity resources.

References: (who has heard you present on this topic that we may contact?) Please provide contact name, phone #, e-mail and when they heard you present.

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2006 Mountain Plains Adult Education Association/Colorado Adult Education Professional Association annual conference

This is a new workshop based on a past workshop on Verizon Literacy Network that I have presented at the CLA annual conference in 2005, the Mountain Plains Adult Education Association/Colorado Adult Education Professional Association annual conference in 2006, and the New Mexico Adult Education Association annual conference in 2005. I didn't keep a record of the participants but my evaluations were very good and are most likely available from these organizations.