



# OACE and D79 Build a Bridge for a Seamless Transition

The Office of Adult and Continuing Education (OACE) and Pathways to Graduation (P2G) are continually working to find new ways to support our young adult students.

A common goal is to ensure that students who reach age 21 before earning their H.S.E. have the opportunity to continue their learning at OACE sites.

In December, 2013, the GED Plus program was changed to Pathways to Graduation. As promised by Superintendent Mills at the December P2G launch, "What better way to keep this work in the family than to find that bridge?"



As part of this transition, a group of D79 students on the cusp of age 21 participated in guided tours of two OACE adult learning centers.

Students visited the Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) classes as well as Career and Technical Education (CTE) classes, such as Medical Billing and Phlebotomy, A/C and Refrigeration, and the MicroSoft Office Suite.

D79 and OACE ensured that ELL students who participated in the tours had translators available to assist them.



*Assistant Principal Nancy Fernandez describes the offerings at MMALC to D79 students.*

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# Professional Development with the

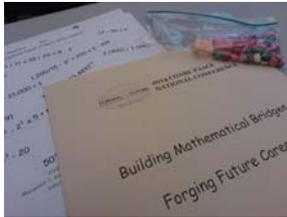
## March 2014 Commission on Adult Basic Education (COABE) and Pennsylvania Association for Adult Continuing Education (PAACE) Conference



*Vanessa Rivera, Region 1 Assistant Principal attended the conference.*

More than a dozen OACE school leaders participated in this year's COABE conference. The theme of this year's conference was Forging the Future: Building Bridges in the Steel City. OACE Assistant Principals presented two well-received workshops.

Lavern Nelson presented a session on "Preparing 21<sup>st</sup> Century Readers." In Luckisha Amankwah's "Make More Moves with Tasks!", participants learned the importance of aligning formative assessment to learning objectives.



*Assistant Principal Luckisha Amankwah leads participants through the mathematics session, "Make More Moves with Tasks!"*

## OACE Staff Present to Central Southern RAEN Educators

For a second time this academic year, central staff at OACE were invited to lead workshops for the Central Southern RAEN. RAEN director James Matt invited a cohort of regional and central staff members to facilitate professional development sessions during a two-day long series on Common Core.



*Lavern Nelson leads a session on Common Core Standards and Reading to adult education teachers and program managers from across the Central Southern Tier.*

Tom Trocco, Patrick Cravillion, Victoria Capeci, Lavern Nelson, and Luckisha Amankwah facilitated a comprehensive set of workshops on Science, ESOL, Mathematics, Reading, and Writing. OACE Superintendent Rose-Marie Mills and Marvin Superville led program managers in a workshop on mathematical practices and integration of technology.

## Chancellor's Professional Development Day, June 5!

This year's Conference Day will be held at the Mid-Manhattan Learning Center. OACE teachers will have the opportunity to reflect on the year's work and plan for the year ahead by engaging in curriculum mapping.

## OACE Teacher Professional Development

To date, 114 professional development sessions have been provided to full-time OACE teachers who must fulfill 12 hours of professional development hours each academic year. Sessions—for case managers and teachers of Basic Education, English as a Second Language, CTE, and Nursing—have included TASC-specific content, Integration of the Common Core Standards for Adult Ed., and the MicroSoft Office Suite.

# Office of Adult and Continuing Ed.

## Caribbean Educators Look to OACE as a Model of Best Practices



*Principal Yvonne Neal, Superintendent Rose-Marie Mills, and Dr. Munroe stop briefly for a photo during the visit.*

The Jamaica Foundation for Lifelong Learning, Jamaica, West Indies recently participated in a study visit at the Office of Adult and Continuing Education. Dr. Grace Camille Munroe, executive director of JFLL, visited two of our sites in an effort to learn and replicate best practices. JFLL, an arm of Jamaica's Ministry of Education, began as JAMAL, the Jamaican Movement for the Advancement of Literacy in 1974 in response to a 1970 study which showed that 40-50% of persons 15 years and over were unable to read.

The visit entailed discussions with OACE Superintendent Rose-Marie Mills, school leaders, data teams, and included tours of two learning centers, Brooklyn Adult Learning Center in Bedford-Stuyvesant and Queens Adult Learning Center in Long Island City.

## 63rd Annual NY Association of Continuing/Community Education (NYACCE), May 12-14th

OACE Regional and Central staff attended the NYACCE Conference in Albany this month. The theme, *Believe it to Achieve It*, gave staff opportunities to attend workshops on diverse topics in adult education as well as the NYS Adult Education address from Kevin Smith, NYSED. Three OACE Central staff presented workshops and led panel discussions during the event.



*Marvin Superville, OACE Supervisor of Technology, leads teachers and program managers through the steps to set up Google Apps for Education.*



*Superintendent Rose-Marie Mills leads a discussion of the Common Core. Seated (far left) are James Matt, Director of the Central/Southern Tier RAEN and (left), Bob Purga, Supervisor of ACCES-Adult Ed.*



*Tom Trocco, OACE Director of Program Support, presents a workshop on Applying the Common Core Learning Standards to Blended Learning Instruction in Adult Education.*

# Zoom in...



## OACE Literacy Zones

OACE has four Literacy Zones located in four boroughs: Queens, Brooklyn, Bronx, and Manhattan. The four welcome centers offer BE, ESL, H.S.E. Preparation, Citizenship, and Career and Technical Education classes to over 5,000 participants annually. OACE Literacy Zones provide comprehensive case management and extensive referrals to over 40 partners. Particular areas of focus include Connections to Workforce Development (BxALC), Connections to Health (BALC), Connections to Training and Post-Secondary Education (MMALC), and Connections to Citizenship (QALC)



## Region 1, BxALC: Cornell Cooperative Extension Workshops

Region 1 (2 photos, left and above left) held a series of 8 nutrition workshops facilitated by Cornell Cooperative Extension. The series of workshops provided participants with visuals and hands-on activities that included bilingual materials. The overall goal of this program is to create awareness to the community at large into healthier eating habits. These easy strategies can be implemented at home and children can participate in preparing most of the recipes. In addition, students practiced cardiovascular exercises. The students are very eager to join in on Tuesdays after their classes dismiss.



## Region 2, QALC: Partnership with MOMA

Region 2 (left) has been proudly displaying samples of student work as part of the work with the Museum of Modern Art (MOMA). After a series of on-site workshops at QALC, students took trips to MOMA. In addition to the partnership with MOMA, the QALC also partners with the Queens Legal Services Dept. where representatives meet one-on-one with students and offer free legal consultations to provide a roadmap to citizenship.

# on Our Literacy Zones!

## Region 5, MMALC: Blood Drive, January 22



An MMALC student does his part.



Sula Haska, MMALC Literacy Zone Case Manager, with Blood Drive volunteers.

## Region 5, MMALC: Black History & Women's History Celebrations



Above, Region 5 students sang, danced, and read poetry in celebration of Women's History and Black History months. Region 5 teachers joined in the celebration by singing and performing *I'm a Woman*.



Right, Nancy Fernandez, Assistant Principal, closed the ceremony by proclaiming, "We celebrate You!"

## Region 8 Health Fair & Black/Women's History Month Celebrations

**Literacy Zone and the Connection to Health:** Through workshops and mobile health units parked outside the Brooklyn Family Welcome Center, the Brooklyn Literacy Zone has helped increase the health literacy of over 400 participants by providing free flu shots, medical screenings including mammograms, HIV Testing, blood pressure and diabetes testing, and helping participants gain insurance through the Affordable Care Act.



*Above, students receive medical screenings and help with accessing insurance at the annual health fair.*

**The Brooklyn Adult Learning Center Celebrates Black History and Women's History Month:** Students at BALC presented a diverse and spirited celebration on March 21. From the opening, *Life Every Voice*, to the closing reggae song and dance, students sang, read poetry, acted, and danced.



*Above, students from Mr. Goldstein's Basic Education 2 class, along with Mr. Goldstein, perform a Rosa Parks skit, recreating the historic bus encounter.*



*Above, students Allison Gokool, Joshua Allen, and Jean Mouketou from Ms. Lieberman's BE 1 class perform an African/Hindu dance, creating a "mash-up" of cultures, dance styles, language, and fashion.*



*Right, students from Mr. Tarica's BE 4 class, Debbie Ross, Latoya McFadden, Mauro Duman, Marva Brown, Janeska Ceballo, and Delores Conrad perform Sojourner Truth's Ain't I A Woman speech.*

## The Nursing Corner

On March 5, 19 Certified Nursing Assistant students celebrated the completion of their course. Students opened the ceremony singing *America the Beautiful* and other students recited poetry. Many of these new graduates will be going on to the OACE Licensed Practical Nursing program. Deputy Chancellor Dr. Dorita Gibson and Senior Superintendent Dr. Laura Feijoo were guests. The audience was filled with joyful family, friends, and fellow students from the BE, CTE, and ESL programs at MMALC.



*CNA students celebrate their new status!*



*Proud leaders celebrate students' success. From left, OACE Superintendent Rose-Marie Mills, Deputy Chancellor Dr. Dorita Gibson, Assistant Principal Gladys Byrd, and Senior Superintendent Dr. Laura Feijoo.*



*Region 5 Principal Ryntha Henderson-Amare shares inspirational thoughts with the new Certified Nursing Assistants.*

## New Distance Learning Online Curriculum

OACE Distance Learning students and teachers have access to a new resource. The New York State Department of Education has partnered with New York University to create a Moodle platform that will allow teachers to communicate more easily with students.

New curriculum is being designed to ensure that instruction is aligned with the new, more rigorous standards.

The platform is part of the *Skills to Make Adults Ready to Succeed* (SMART) training. Training sessions for OACE staff, with Kathy Hoar as facilitator, were hosted at the Brooklyn Adult Learning Center. OACE teachers received training on Giving Ready Adults a Study Program (GRASP) in January.



*Kathleen Sheehy (l), from ACCES-Adult Education, coordinated both workshops for OACE staff. Sessions were hosted by OACE at the Brooklyn Adult Learning Center.*

## TASC Testing Snapshot

With the launch of the Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC), OACE students have begun to sit for the Readiness test to assess their preparedness to take the full assessment. The TASC assesses student competency in reading, writing, social studies, science, and math.



Our 10 NYSED-approved OACE testing sites accommodate both paper-based and computer-based testing. Prep program students must obtain a passing score on the readiness assessment before they are eligible to take the new assessment.

## Welcome New Staff!



Najat Amachki, Data Management and Accountability Manager, is the newest member of the Central data team. Before coming to OACE, Najat worked at St. Joseph's College in Clinton Hill, Brooklyn.

## Spotlight Info

We're on the Web: <http://www.oacenyc.org/>

### Step into the Spotlight!

If you would like to contribute articles or photos to the **O.A.C.E. Spotlight on Adult Education**, please contact:

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**Are you interested in NYCDOE-led professional development? Contact OACE Superintendent Rose-Marie Mills at [RMills@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:RMills@schools.nyc.gov)**



A Final Thought from Jay Rifenburg...

**Life isn't what you're given, it's how you take it.**

Jay Rifenburg, author of *No Excuse! – Incorporating Core Values, Accountability and Balance into Your Life and Career*, and keynote speaker at the May, 2014 NYACCE Conference