



**Save the Date:**

**September 7, 2017**

**6:00 P.M.**

**Contemporary Club**

**Adult Literacy  
Welcomes**

**Dr. Francisco Jiménez**



**As a child, Dr. Jiménez worked with his parents in the fields of California. He later became an educator and award-winning author of:**

**The Circuit  
Breaking Through  
Reaching Out  
Taking Hold**

**Check out Dr. Jiménez's books at A. K. Smiley Public Library & join us on September 7th**

**Families are Welcome!**

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**Literacy Changes  
Lives!**

## Learner Says "Literacy Brings Success"

William Acuna joined the adult literacy program in 2015. He is a high school graduate who is working to improve his reading and writing skills. One-on-one tutoring provides focused instruction that helps him succeed. William had two goals when he joined the program: to find a job and to go to college or trade school.

In addition to working with his tutor on his reading and writing, William attended Adult Literacy computer classes where he learned to search the internet. He is now able to regularly use the internet to research topics and then write about them. William said that he used

his literacy skills and his computer knowledge to apply for a job online and he happily reported that UPS hired him for the Christmas season. Improving his literacy and his computer skills helped William find a job and become more self-sufficient. William added, others should join the program because "these are very important skills that will help them become successful."

His tutor, Christa Shewbridge joined the adult literacy program in 2014. Christa worked in libraries for six years and minored in English in college. She says: "I hope that I can pass my love of reading on to William



**William Acuna and Christa Shewbridge celebrate accomplishments!**

and help him to improve his literacy skills."

Christa and William want others to know that the adult literacy program has "a variety of learning opportunities." With his success at UPS and his hard work in adult literacy, we know William will reach his employment and educational goals.

## Adult Learner Wins 1st Place in Writer-to-Writer Challenge

Rosio Perez, a member of the Redlands Adult Literacy Program, was awarded first place for her letter to an author at the 17th annual Writer to Writer Challenge sponsored by the Southern California Library Literacy Network.

The Writer-to-Writer Challenge invites adult literacy learners throughout Southern

California to write a letter to an author whose book inspired them. Rosio wrote to Yona Zeldis McDonough about the impact of her book Who Was Harriet Tubman?

Rosio wrote, "Harriet is an inspiration to me to continue my education and someday to become a teacher and help people."



**Adult Learner Rosio Perez wins first place in Challenge.**

## Redlands Adult Literacy Program

Sponsored by A. K. Smiley Public Library and The Friends of A. K. Smiley Public Library, a 501.c.3 organization. Donations are gratefully accepted.

### For more information...

Call: 909.798.7565, ext. 4138

Email: [literacy@akspl.org](mailto:literacy@akspl.org)

Stop by: A. K. Smiley Public Library, located at 125 W. Vine St., Redlands, CA

Visit the library website: [www.akspl.org](http://www.akspl.org).

Follow us on Instagram: [friendsofsmileylibrary](#)

Facebook: [Friends of A.K. Smiley Public Library](#)



The **MISSION** of the Redlands Adult Literacy Program is to provide professional and confidential tutoring in reading and writing to help learners in the Redlands community reach their literacy goals.

All participants are treated with dignity and respect.

### **You can help support adult literacy in our community:**

- Spread the word that literacy help is available at Smiley Library—most learners find out about the program from family and friends.
- Become a literacy volunteer.
- Come to literacy events.
- Join the Friends of A. K. Smiley Public Library and purchase books at the Friends Bookstore, located in the lower-level of Smiley Library.
- Make donations to the Redlands Adult Literacy Program.

**Help change someone's life!**

## Edison International Grant Furthers Adult Literacy Efforts



**Tutors Trudy Waldron, Dee Simpson and Mary Bailey enjoy "Appy Hour"**

Many adult learners ask for help with new technology so that they can complete job applications, communicate with family and friends, help with their children's schoolwork and improve their reading skills. To respond to this need the adult literacy program offers computer classes and "Appy Hours" that provide hands-on instruction in the use of the literacy program's computers and iPad tablets.

For a second year, Edison International has given the Friends of A.K. Smiley Public Library a generous grant of \$5,000 to enhance the technology component of the Redlands Adult Literacy Program.

The funds will extend vital technology services to adult learners, open additional computer classes, and support the development of a new computer literacy class based on adult learner requests.

Computer class instructor, Kim Green, said: "I start by asking our learners what their goals are for taking the course. Their answers are as varied as their ages and backgrounds: keeping in touch with family, finding information online, preparing a resume, and applying for a job or promotion. It's incredibly rewarding in just a few short weeks to see their abilities and confidence grow. We benefit as a society when people gain skills that allow them to be more connected to their families, communities, and world."

Tutor Mary Bailey uses iPad tablets with her learner. She reported: "The tablets have many wonderful applications that can be used to enhance a literacy lesson for the adult learner. My learner acquired new skills that she was able to

effectively use while assisting her children with homework. We have used the tablets in class to clarify new vocabulary, to clarify multiple meanings of words, as a research tool, and as a valuable resource linking to information that has enhanced the life of the learner and her family."

### **Technology Enhances Literacy!**



**Martha Romo** (shown above in class) said: "I like the opportunity to learn how to use and explore the whole world of knowledge. It is like opening my eyes and seeing colors in every place. I am very thankful for the literacy program."