



EYLE's March Campaign is Back!

It's that time of year again! The EYLE Annual March Fundraising Campaign begins March 1st.

This is the one time of the year that we ask our supporters to consider donating to help us give the gift of literacy to adults in the East York, West Scarborough and east Toronto communities.

Our main funder provides 50% of our funding with the remainder coming from corporations, foundations, service clubs and individual donors. Those additional funds help us to provide additional programming and services such as our Computer Basics classes, our Workshop Series, Smartphone classes, Welcome Packages, extended hours of operations, a portion of staff salaries and more.



This year, as in the past, we will be sending out a communication piece that we ask our program members to share with their family, friends and colleagues. Let them know about your involvement and support of EYLE, while helping us raise funds, and build awareness of our program and the issue of adult literacy.

Donations can be made online by visiting our website:

<https://eastyorklearningexperience.ca>

and click on the 'Donate Now' button, or by cheque made payable to East York Learning Experience at 266 Donlands Ave.,

Toronto, ON M4J 5B1.

We appreciate your support!

MISSION STATEMENT

EYLE's adult literacy, numeracy and digital literacy programs transform lives and enhance self-worth by empowering individuals to reach their full potential.

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CBC Radio Interview

On February 2nd we had the opportunity to promote EYLE and literacy through a CBC Radio interview on the show 'Fresh Air' with host Ismaila Alfa.

Thank you to EYLE tutor Jane Gadd and student Florence Ekwau who generously shared their stories for EYLE's first ever radio interview.

Special thanks to our Chair – Raj Narain for making the connection and to Ismaila Alfa and producer Helen Bagshaw for making this such a smooth and comfortable process. They were both so warm and friendly, yet professional, and put everyone at ease.

If you missed the interview, give it a listen by clicking on the link below:

<https://www.cbc.ca/listen/live-radio/1-193-fresh-air/clip/16125397-east-york-learning-experience-provides-tutoring-changes-lives>

Success Story

Hello, my name is A.N., and I am a recent high school graduate student. My journey began at a Post-Secondary Transition Program (PTP), that I attended in-person to get my GED. For many years I had struggled in school and I believed that if I got my GED, getting my diploma would be easier. Due to circumstances, I was unable to continue at PTP. Before my departure, I had seen a flyer on their wall advertising East York Learning Experience (EYLE) so, in March 2021, I called and registered. Being approved in their program, I was offered a tutor using Zoom because of the pandemic.

Near the end of April, I managed to get a laptop that was setup with email and Zoom. Having received some credits (ten plus years ago), I reviewed some Math, English and worked on my writing skills. I was fairly familiar with many of the topics, but needed a bit more practice, so my tutor suggested that I might consider going back to school. I was hesitant, because I just wanted to finish as soon as possible, so that I could move forward. I knew it was going to take some time.

In April 2022, I decided to go back to school, so I made an appointment at the City Adult Learning Centre. As I was caring for my child, and the school was a long distance away, I was unable to attend in-person. Consequently, both my child and I were fortunate to have our instruction online. In early May, I started with grade 9 Science and grade 10 Math which had been in progress since April.

Over the next three years, after much hard work and overcoming difficulties such as: issues with Wi-Fi, a damaged phone and laptop, power outages and family obligations, I was able to collect all of the credits required for my Secondary School Diploma. I will receive it in June this year, 2025. EYLE and my tutor provided the support and encouragement for me to keep going in moments when I felt discouraged. Now they are congratulating me for my wonderful achievement.

Thank you to East York Learning Experience for accepting me in their programme, giving me an amazing tutor, and making my achievement possible. I would also like to personally thank my tutor for having patience and understanding, but most importantly, never giving up on me. I truly appreciate you.

A.N.



Tutors' Corner

Brain or Mind Maps & Essay Writing

Whether you refer to them as brain maps or mind maps, this writing tool is an excellent way to get ideas or concepts down on paper and map out and organize your piece before starting to write it.

We do talk about them briefly in Tutor Training but go into much more detail in our Essay Writing Workshop. There are various types and designs of brain maps.

In the workshop, we select a couple of topics and do some brain mapping with participants using a free software called Lucidchart. This software offers a variety of simple to more complex templates to work with which makes the process much easier than starting with a blank sheet of paper. The site is very user-friendly.

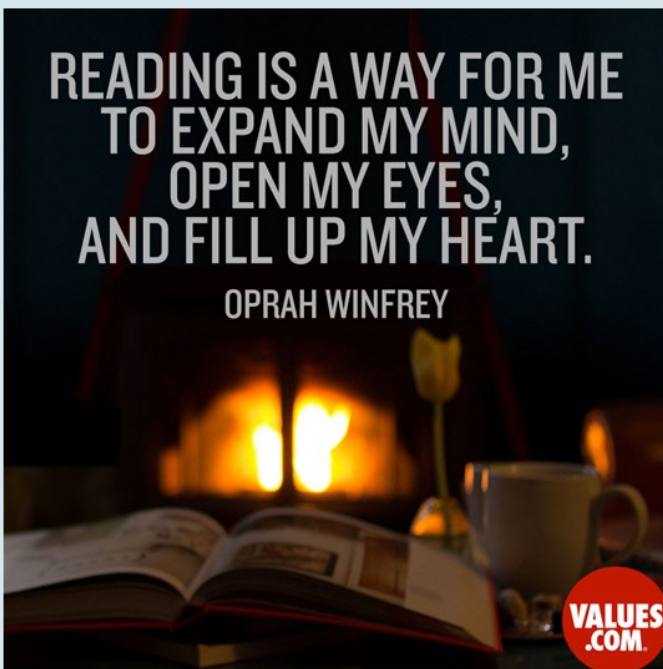
We have added a shortcut onto the student laptops to make it easier for you. Just open the link and you're ready to go.

If you are working on essay writing or even just story writing with your student, we urge you to explore the possibilities on this platform and incorporate the use of brain maps into your tutoring sessions.



READING IS A WAY FOR ME
TO EXPAND MY MIND,
OPEN MY EYES,
AND FILL UP MY HEART.

OPRAH WINFREY



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March Break

EYLE will be closed for tutoring during the March break which runs from Monday, March 10th to Friday, March 14th!

Happy March Break!

Thank you....

To our ongoing funders: Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development and Service Canada for funding our summer student.

Many thanks to the generous foundation, association and corporate donors who have contributed to EYLE since our last issue of eLink: Airlie Foundation, Christelle Holdings Ltd., Friedrichsen Cooper Family Fund, - Hailey Friedrichsen, Grow Trade Consulting Inc., Jacma Foundation, Odyssey Partners, Optimo Clinics and 2641239 Ontario Inc..

Special thanks to our many private donors who make one-time, annual or monthly donations. Your support is vital to the success of our program and appreciated immensely.

For a complete list of our donors please visit our website at: <https://eastyorklearningexperience.ca> and go to the 'Funders' page.

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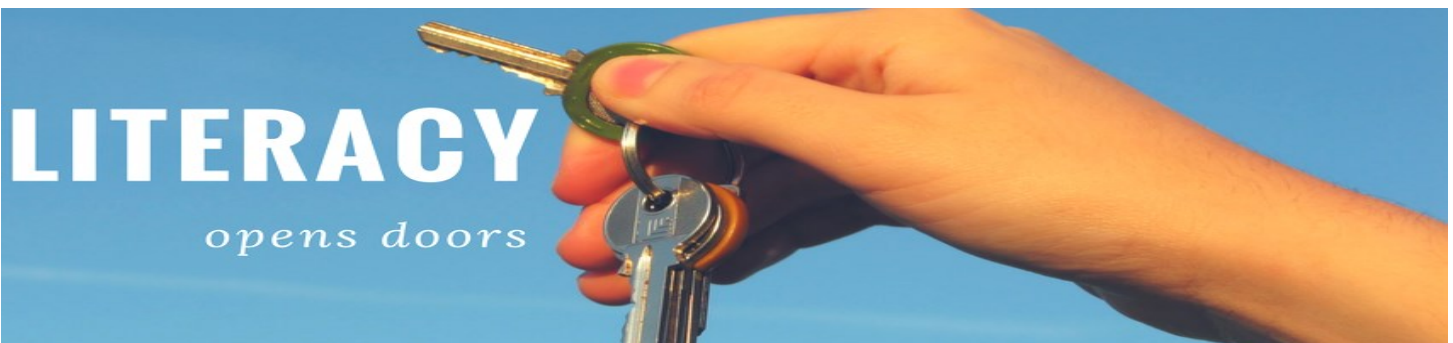
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