

Winter/Spring

2008/2009

Fall 2008 Graduation Ceremony

SOUTHWEST MIAMI ADULT & COMMUNITY EDUCATION CENTER

On December 15th, 2008, Southwest Miami Adult Center held its Fall Graduation Ceremony. There were 35 graduates in total. Two were high school graduates and the additional graduates completed vocational certificate programs in either Cosmetology, Nails or Facials Specialty.

Along with the diplomas and certificates honored, Phong Hoang Nguyen (Cosmetology), Adelaida Prada (Facials), Marcelina Acosta (Nails) and Betsabe Nader (Nails) were presented with Outstanding Student Achievement Awards.



Southwest Adult Center was very honored to have Ms. Alvarez and Mrs. Medina, the Cosmetology teachers, provide all the graduates with an inspirational message on this very important day in their lives.

They said, "always remember that the one thing no one can take away from you is the knowledge you have in your head, so use it to your full potential." Southwest Adult appreciates their words of wisdom. They said, "always re-

Two very special recognitions were given to the two high school graduates, Samantha Harris & Nicole Stockett. After many dedicated hours, these two ladies have persevered to attain their ultimate goal. The principal, Steve J. Rummel, recognized these two students with the Special Recognition Award of Achievement. After the ceremony, the faculty, staff, graduates, and family enjoyed a cake and refreshments in the school's main cafeteria. Overall, the night was very memorable for the Fall 08 Graduates!

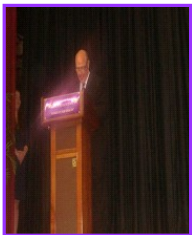
Throughout the ceremony, we were honored to have the cadets of Southwest High School's JROTC program do the presentation of the colors, and Anilly Cona, from the high school's chorus to sing the National Anthem. It made the ceremony exceptional!



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THE PRINCIPAL SPEAKS



In March there will be approximately 30 Southwest Miami Adult students participating in the FCAT. The students have been using Brainchild, a technology-based remediation program for the last six weeks to prepare for the test. I want to wish all of the students the best and look forward to seeing positive results in a few weeks.

We are still looking to increase our ESOL membership and want to remind our current students to bring a friend to class. This month, Mr. David Perez from the Houghton Mifflin Publishing will be doing demonstration lessons using the Riverdeep program. All of the Southwest adult education students can use this very exciting software program; you can access Riverdeep from the student portal using the following username and password: **adultedpop**. Students in the K-12 program also use this program to prepare for the FCAT.

The current term will be ending on April 23rd. The school is now working on the master schedule for the third trimester. The school is looking to add some classes in our community school program; Mr. Cabrera will be posting some flyers in the office on the new programs. While our current school enrollment has increased from last year; we still want more of the community to avail themselves to many educational opportunities offered at Southwest Adult. We want everyone's help in spreading the good news about Southwest Adult Education Center

Steve Rummel

Principal.

**This is a production of
SWAC**

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Fall/ Winter 2009

NEWS FROM SOUTHWEST ADULT CENTER

SWAC offers a great opportunity for High Schools credits in night school through our E-2020 program. The students take classes in the computer lab under the direction of the teacher. Once he/she finishes, the credit is posted in the computer and transferred to their regular High School.. Eight High School subjects are

offered.
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Ms. Davis, a parent in our Adult with Disabilities program donated \$3000.00 to SWAC. Ms. Davis stated she is very pleased with SWAC educational program at A.D. Barnes Park and wants to help our programs.
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SWAC continues its good job in blood drives. SWAC

students donated 152 pints of blood from the beginning of this school year thru April. Mr. Cabrera attended the Blood Drive Luncheon in the Jungle Island and received the plaque honoring SWAC students for such laud-
a b l e e f f o r t s
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ENROLLMENT

SWAC campaigns for increasing enrollment has begun to pay off. Official data collected by the school district on February 20 comparing enrollment with last years shows the following increments:
ESOL—— 42%

High School—— 16 %
Adult w/ disab. ___9 %
Senior Learners ___7 %
Electrical Wire ___40%
ABE _____23%
Facial Specialist__ 25%
Auto-Mechanics__ 12%
General enrollment_ 6%

SWAC keeps using strategies that continue improving enrollment in the various programs offered by our school. Our teachers and administrators are focusing in marketing efforts and enhancing the learning experience as tools for recruitment and retention.

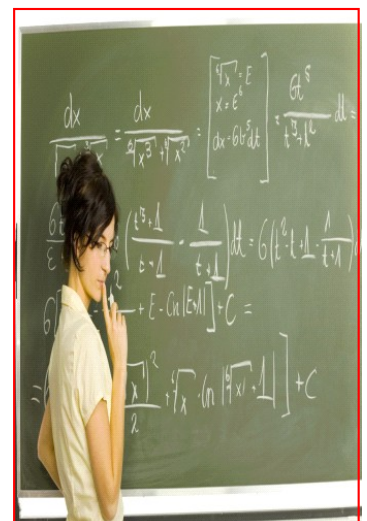


OUR COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Due to the State reduction in education funding, our computer class was in danger of closing, however, our Community School came to the rescue. The class opened under the Community School program and the enrollment surpassed the expecta-

tions. The curriculum was expanded to cover beyond general computer knowledge. Useful applications that will help students seeking work in offices as clericals were added. The enrollment for this class surpassed expectations. Another success in

SWAC.
The community request and SWAC responded. We opened a BASIC ELECTRICITY class in 2008-3. Enrollment for this class fulfilled the expectations and we are receiving very positive feedbacks.



LA ESQUINA DE NUESTROS ESTUDIANTES DE ESOL

Estudiar un idioma extranjero es una de las tareas más difíciles que un estudiante puede tener. No hay forma de memorizar expresiones para usarlas a nuestra conveniencia. El idioma es algo “vivo” que solamente con práctica intensa y sobre todo tiempo se puede aprender. El mejor método es la inmersión en el lenguaje. Cuando el alumno está inmerso diariamente en situaciones y conversaciones en el idioma que está tratando de aprender, adquiere el vocabulario y la sintaxis u orden del idioma de una forma natural. Es sencillamente de la misma forma en que aprendió su idioma natal. Cuando usted nació, no sabía ningún idioma. Tomó años de inmersión en el idioma para comenzar a hablarlo. Usted oía a sus padres, hermanos, vecinos etc. hablando alrededor suyo y poco a poco su cerebro fue adquiriendo el vocabulario hasta que usted empezó a balbucear las primeras palabras y después las primeras frases. Más tarde, en la escuela, continuo practicando y aprendiendo el idioma. Ese es el mismo proceso que tiene que ocurrir nuevamente cuando está aprendiendo el nuevo idioma. Por eso es que al asistir a clases se debe usar solamente el idioma que se quiere aprender. De esa forma el cerebro está inmerso por unas horas diarias en ese idioma. También es muy recomendable usar la televisión para practicar e incrementar el tiempo de exposición al Inglés. A veces es frustrante porque se comprende poco de lo que se escucha; pero si se continúa la práctica, se llega al momento en que se empiezan primero a reconocer palabras, después frases, y por último oraciones completas.

Aprender Inglés no le tomará tanto tiempo como aprender su primer idioma. Ya al saber un idioma natal usted tiene ciertas estructuras formadas en su cerebro que le permitirán utilizar algunas de las habilidades para la comprensión del nuevo lenguaje. Los lingüistas llaman a ese proceso “transferencia.”

En el proceso de su aprendizaje hay cuatro habilidades para aprender: comprensión, escritura, lectura, y conversación. Usted empezará a poder leer y escribir primero puesto que para ello tiene tiempo de “pensar” e invariablemente usted se sentirá tentado a traducir. Con la práctica oral diaria y sostenida empezará a entender, primero alguna que otra palabra, y después frases y oraciones que usted “conectará” para tener “una idea de lo que se trata” y por ultimo comenzará a hablar expresiones simples. Más tarde adquirirá mayor fluidez. No es cuestión de desesperarse, sino de tomar el tiempo y la práctica necesaria. Todo el mundo tiene la facultad de aprender otro idioma, unos con más facilidad que otros, pero todo el mundo puede hacerlo sin importar la edad. Otra cosa es solo una excusa de los que no quieren hacer el esfuerzo.

Aprender el Inglés le abrirá a usted las puertas del mundo. El Inglés es considerado actualmente el idioma universal. No importa adonde usted viaje actualmente siempre podrá comunicarse si habla Inglés. En nuestro país, el Inglés le permitirá no solamente mejores oportunidades de empleos y económicas, sino un campo ilimitado de conocimiento y cultura. Millones y millones de libros, películas, canciones, obras de teatro, exposiciones etc. son ofrecidos en el idioma Inglés. Cuando usted llegue a comprenderlo y hablarlo, sera parte de una comunidad de millones de personas que lo emplean. Millones de ellos comenzaron como usted, asistiendo a una escuela para aprenderlo y hoy soy beneficiarios de un excelente, sólido, y bello idioma: la lengua de William Shakespeare.



Fernando Cabrera