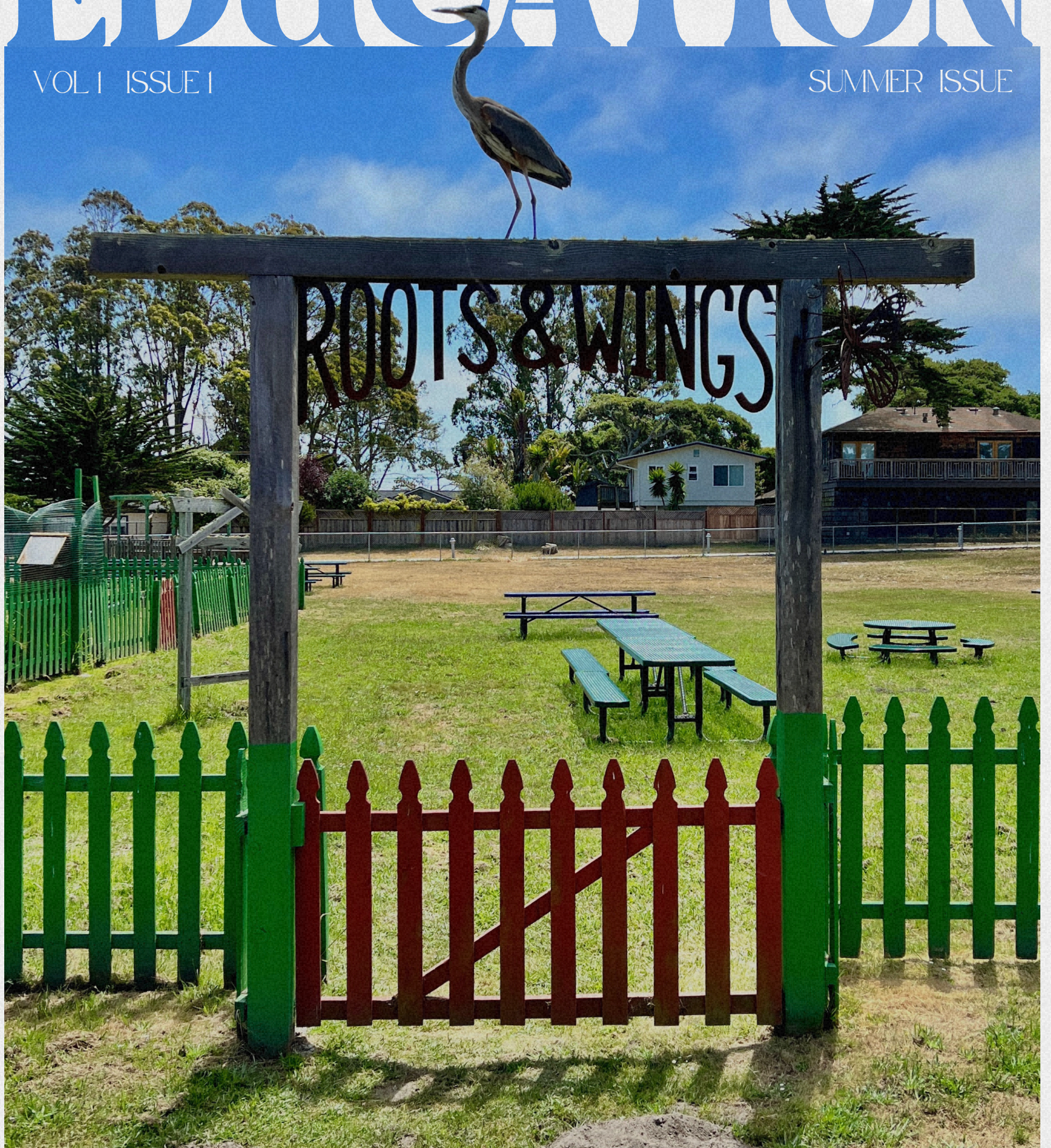


PACIFIC GROVE ADULT EDUCATION

VOL 1 ISSUE 1

SUMMER ISSUE



NEWSLETTER

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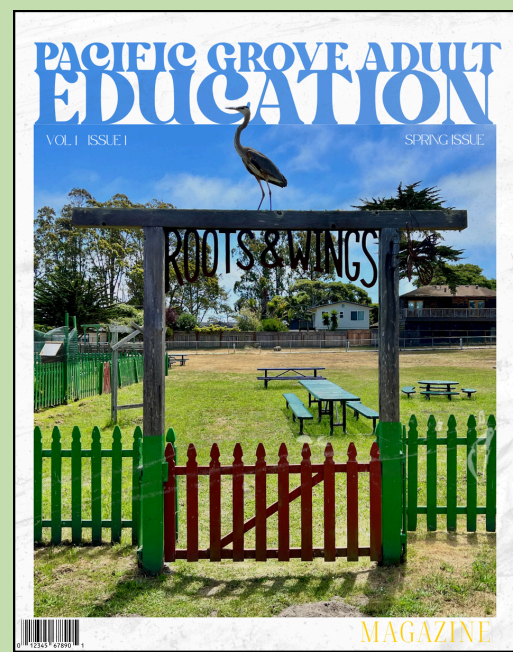
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*Pacific Grove Adult Education
Newsletter*

www.pgadulterd.pgusd.org

Providing a program of quality academic, vocational and physical education for adults is the primary goal of Pacific Grove Adult Education. In achieving this goal, Adult Education has built its curriculum on the philosophy that increasing knowledge allows any subject to be enjoyed, pursued, accepted or defended to greater degrees. We believe strongly in the right of every adult in the community to gain an education regardless of age, heritage, challenges or background.

Partnership with

Pacific Grove Unified School District



*Pacific Grove Adult Education
Office Team*

Principal
Barbara Martinez

Assitant Principal
Kristen Arps

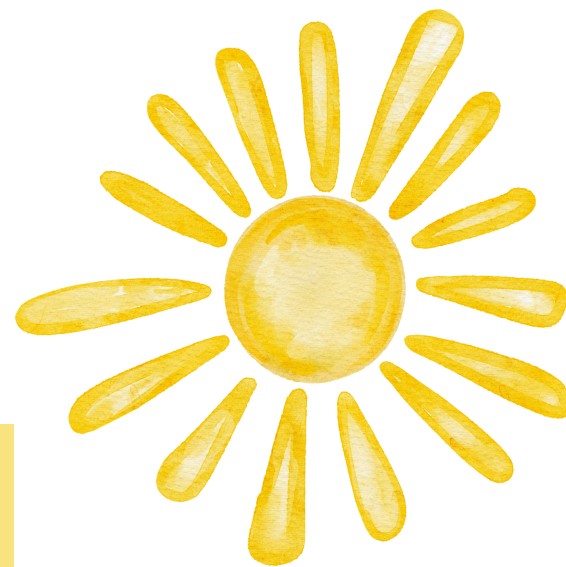
Office Administrator
Diane Pegis

Clerk III/ESL & HS Diploma
Sandra Dorantes

Clerk III/Parent Ed
Sabrina Heilpern

Clerk III/Community Ed
Amanda Garrett

Dear Staff



Welcome to Summer at PGAE!

Welcome to Summer!

Get ready for an exciting summer of learning, connection, and fun at Pacific Grove Adult School! We are thrilled to offer a variety of engaging new classes for our community this summer.

New Summer Classes Coming Your Way!

- Yoga Slow Flow
- Driver's Education
- History of the Middle East
- Sewing with Pari
- Spanish for Traveling
- German Conversation and Culture
- Ready for the Fair!

And guess who's returning to teach American Sign Language?! We are excited to welcome back Charlie Osborne to our teaching team. We've missed you and know our students will be thrilled to learn with you again!

Important Dates

- Registration Opens: June 3rd at 8:00 a.m.
- Summer Session Begins: July 6th
- Classes Run Through: July 6th - September 12th

Whether you're looking to learn a new skill, explore a new culture, stay active, or connect with others in the community, there's something for everyone this summer at Pacific Grove Adult School. We can't wait to learn with you this summer!

Barbara Martinez & Kristen Apps

“ We can't wait to learn with you this summer! ”



NEW TO PGAE

New & Returning Wings

Pacific Grove Adult Education is delighted to welcome some new and returning team members to our learning community.

Your expertise, dedication, and passion for education will help us continue to provide enriching, inclusive, and supportive opportunities for all learners.

Welcome to the PG Adult Education family — we're so glad you're here!

- **Kelly Coyle**, Outdoor Painting
- **Farideh Langari Ferdowsi**, AI Basics Instructor
- **Natassia Grushkin**, Zumba Instructor
- **Charlie Orsburn**, ASL Instructor



Unlock a New World

We are excited to announce that we are bringing back to our language department, American Sign Language! Starting this summer, we will be offering American Sign Language to our students. This is a fantastic return to our language classes and we would love your help in spreading the word to anyone looking to challenge themselves with learning such a wonderful language!

American Sign Language:

- Mondays
- 5:30 - 7:00PM

New & Returning Classes

- AI Basics
- American Sign Language
- German Conversation & Culture
- Sewing & Alterations w/ Pari
- Yoga Slow Flow
- Zumba

Let's give these classes a warm welcome to Pacific Grove Adult Education!



SUMMER SESSION INFORMATION

Some important dates to remember coming up for the Summer Session! Please mark your calendars with these upcoming dates so as to be aware of when the catalog releases, any breaks we may have and so as to be able to inform students of these dates as well. Thank you!

- **May 27, 2026**
 - Catalog Released
- **June 3, 2026**
 - Registration Opens
- **July 6, 2026**
 - Summer Session Begins
- **July 31, 2026**
 - Welcome Back Breakfast
- **September 4 - 7, 2026**
 - Labor Day Break
- **September 12, 2026**
 - Last Day of Summer Session



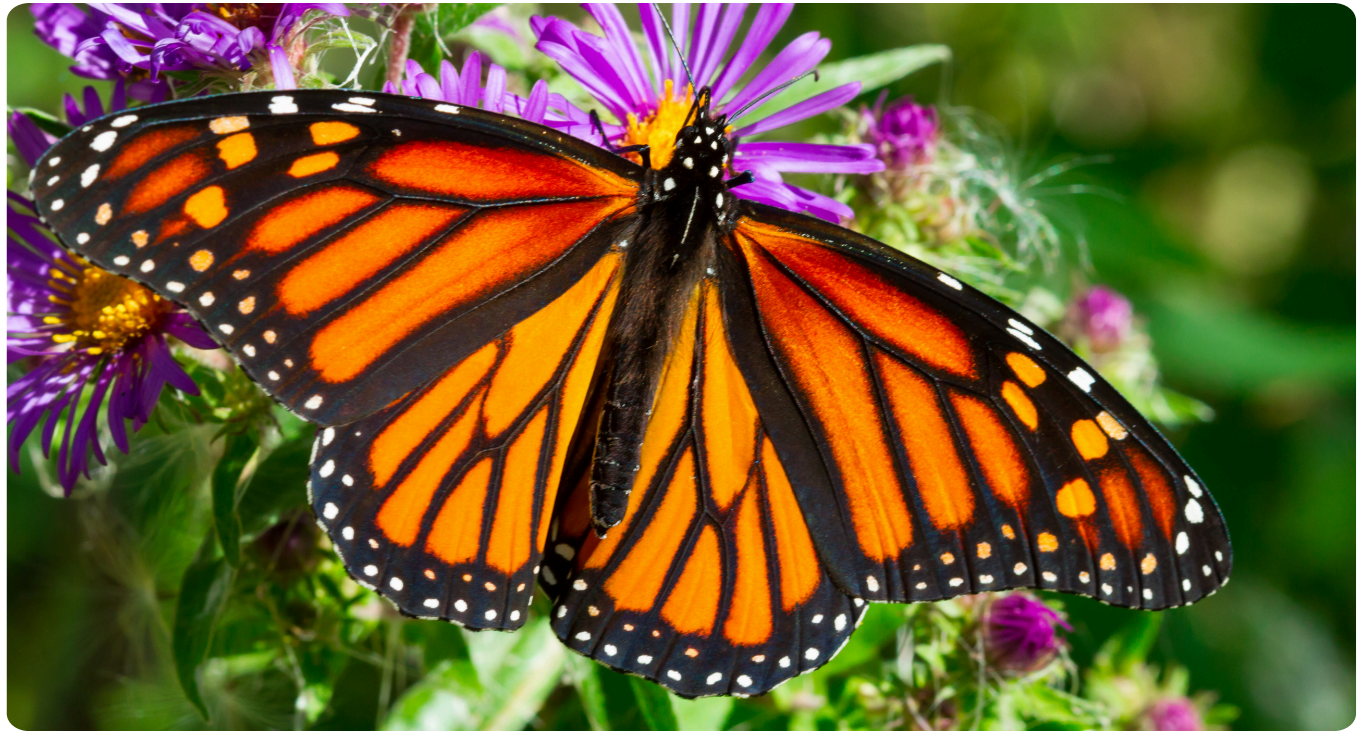
The Month of June

National Immigrant Month

June is recognized annually as National Immigrant Heritage Month—a time to honor the contributions, resilience, and rich cultural traditions that immigrants bring to the fabric of American society. Throughout the month, communities celebrate by sharing family stories, hosting cultural events, and recognizing the vital role immigrants have played—and continue to play—in shaping our nation’s past, present, and future.

As educators and staff, we are in a unique position to create spaces where every story is valued and every student feels seen. This month invites us to consider: How do we honor the diverse journeys that make up our school community? In what ways can we ensure that all students feel a sense of belonging—not just in June, but every day?

By listening more closely, teaching more inclusively, and celebrating more intentionally, we help shape a community where diversity is not only acknowledged, but embraced as a source of strength. Let this month be both a celebration and a call to action—one that continues in our classrooms, our conversations, and our connections with one another.



Pride Month

June is also recognized as Pride Month, a time to honor the history, resilience, and contributions of LGBTQ+ individuals and communities. It commemorates the ongoing pursuit of equality and celebrates the diversity of identities that enrich our schools and society. Pride Month invites us to reflect on how we can foster inclusive, affirming spaces where everyone feels safe, respected, and valued for who they are.

MEN’S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH



Men’s Mental Health

Men’s Mental Health Month, a time to raise awareness about the unique challenges many men face when it comes to mental health and seeking support. It encourages open conversations, reduces stigma, and reminds us of the importance of creating environments where men and boys feel safe expressing emotions and asking for help. By promoting understanding and compassion, we can support healthier, more connected communities.

Juneteenth

Juneteenth, observed on June 19, commemorates the day in 1865 when the last enslaved African Americans in the United States learned of their freedom, marking a pivotal moment in the nation’s history. It is a time to reflect on the enduring legacy of slavery, honor the strength and resilience of Black communities, and celebrate progress while recognizing the ongoing pursuit of equity and justice.



PG EVENTS & HAPPENINGS

Monday Farmer's Market

Pacific Grove Farmer's Market - every Monday from 3:00pm to 7:00pm. At the corner of Central and Grand Avenue. Check it out! For more information: www.everyonesharvest.org

Masquerade Gala

Pacific Grove Chamber of Commerce is hosting an evening of Elegance & Celebration. Join PG Chamber for a magical evening as they celebrate those who make our community shine. Enjoy music, connection and recognition--where elegance meets inspiration.

Where: Asilomar Conference Grounds
When: June 18, 2026
Time: 5:00 to 9:00pm

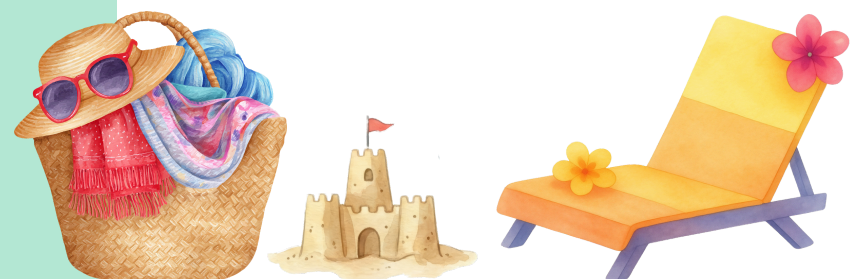
Laguna Seca

Take to the night sky with real astronomers to guide you. The Monterey Institute for Research in Astronomy hosts this incredible event on Hospitality Island in the lakebed. Telescopes of all shapes and sizes and astronomers are on hand to show some of the natural phenomenon happening above. All ages are welcome!

When: Saturday June 6, 2026
Where: 1021 Highway 68 Salinas, 93908
Time: 7:00 to 9:00pm

Fourth of July

Pacific Grove Chamber of Commerce will hold an Independence Day Celebration on Saturday July 4, 2026 at Jewell Park from 11:00am to 3:00pm. Live music, food, shirt giveaway and outdoor activities. All ages welcome!



INDEPENDENCE PATHWAYS: SPECIAL OLYMPICS



Pacific Grove Education: IPP

MPUSD & Special Olympics Northern California

Pacific Grove Adult Education's Independence Pathways Program proudly participated in the largest-ever Schools Partnership Program Track & Field Day held at Monterey Peninsula College in partnership with Monterey Peninsula Unified School District and Special Olympics Northern California.

The event brought together approximately 1,400 student athletes with exceptional needs, alongside their peer partners, for a day centered on inclusion, teamwork, athletic achievement, and community spirit. Schools and adult transition programs from across Monterey County participated in a variety of events including: Open Track (100m, 50m, throwing, jumping), Wheelchair Races, 400-meter and a Mile Run event.

Students from the Independence Pathways Program demonstrated determination, sportsmanship, confidence, and enthusiasm throughout the day. Surrounded by cheering crowds of families, teachers, staff, and volunteers, athletes had the opportunity to celebrate their abilities, build connections, and experience the joy of unified sports.

The event served as a powerful reminder of the importance of inclusion and belonging within our schools and community. Pacific Grove Adult Education is honored to have been part of such an inspiring day and is incredibly proud of all of the students who participated.

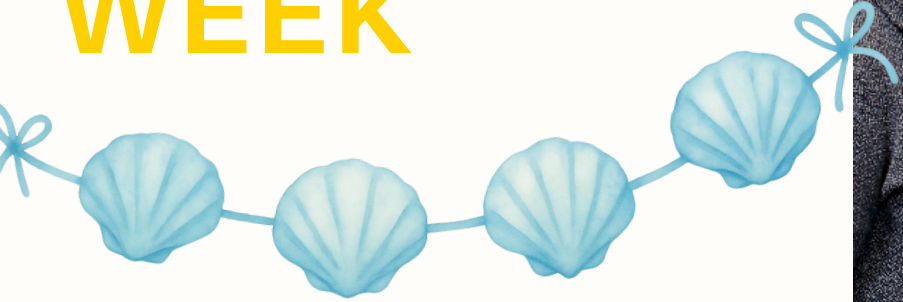
We extend our gratitude to MPUSD, Special Olympics Northern California, Monterey Peninsula College, and the many volunteers who made this memorable event possible.



SPECIAL OLYMPICS HIGHLIGHTS



CELEBRATING ADULT EDUCATION WEEK



Kristen Arps

Advocacy for TK-Adult Students at Legislative Action Day.

As part of our celebration of Adult Education Week, we are proud to highlight the important advocacy efforts taking place on behalf of our students across the TK-Adult education continuum. Assistant Principal Kristen Arps recently participated in Legislative Action Day, where she joined colleagues from Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) and California Council for Adult Education (CCAЕ) in meeting with state legislators to advocate for the needs of TK-Adult learners.

During these meetings, education leaders shared the impact of adult education programs and emphasized the importance of continued support for services that help students build foundational skills, earn diplomas, strengthen English language proficiency, prepare for careers, and transition successfully to college and the workforce. They also highlighted how adult education programs strengthen families, support local economies, and create pathways for lifelong learning.

Participation in Legislative Action Day reflects our district's strong commitment to ensuring that the voices of adult learners—and the educators who serve them—are represented at the state level.

Advocacy efforts like these help secure resources and policies that support equitable access and expanded opportunities for students across all stages of learning.

Thank you, Kristen, for your leadership and dedication in representing our district and championing the success of TK-Adult students during this important week of recognition and celebration.

-The PGAE Team

ESL LEVEL A

Celebrating Student Success During California Adult Education Week: A Bittersweet Celebration.

As part of our celebration of California Adult Education Week, Pacific Grove Adult Education is proud to highlight the powerful success stories unfolding in our classrooms every day. One recent milestone reminded us just how meaningful the journey of adult learning can be.

On March 19th, Pacific Grove Adult Education celebrated a special achievement as four students from our ESL Level A class advanced to Level B.

The occasion was both joyful and emotional, as students and staff reflected on the strong connections built along the way. During the celebration, students learned the meaning of the word "bittersweet"—a perfect description of the moment.

Teacher Lorilee shared, with a tear in her eye, how proud she is of her students' growth and accomplishments, while also acknowledging how difficult it is to say goodbye to such a close-knit classroom community. Level A has truly become a family, and these students will be deeply missed.

Fellow Level A teacher Soleil Turell also joined in honoring the students' achievements and celebrating their progress.

Adding to the significance of the event, Level B teachers Janet Billets and Carol Sendell were present to warmly welcome the students with open arms—helping ease the transition and reinforcing the strong sense of belonging that defines Pacific Grove Adult Education. Each student's journey reflects perseverance, courage, and determination:

Bianca Barros shared how much the class community has meant to her, explaining that it became her support system. Now she knows she can succeed—and she is determined to keep moving forward and never give up.



Bayarmaa shared:

"I came to this class accidentally and saw the level of work on the board and thought it was a good starting place. Now, I can speak and I am ready to move forward to Level B. I learned the word 'bittersweet.' I will miss my teachers and class, but I know this is a good thing to promote!"

Cristina Ramirez reflected:

"I always hated English. I would come up with excuses not to go to class in school, but when I came here, I felt safe. Class was fun and funny. I have learned so much. My teachers and classmates are my motivation."

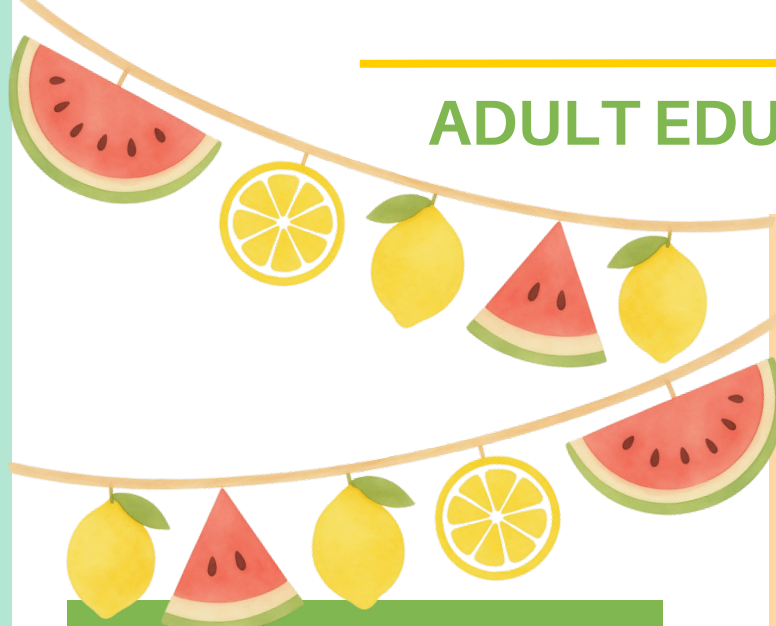
We celebrate these students not only for advancing to the next level, but for their resilience, growth, and the inspiration they bring to our entire school community. Congratulations to our Level A graduates—your journey is just beginning!

PACIFIC GROVE ADULT EDUCATION

Highlighting the vital role of Adult Education in empowering individuals with lifelong learning opportunities, workforce skills, and pathways to higher education!

At Pacific Grove Adult Education, we are "Lighting the Path to Your Education."

ADULT EDUCATION HIGHLIGHTS



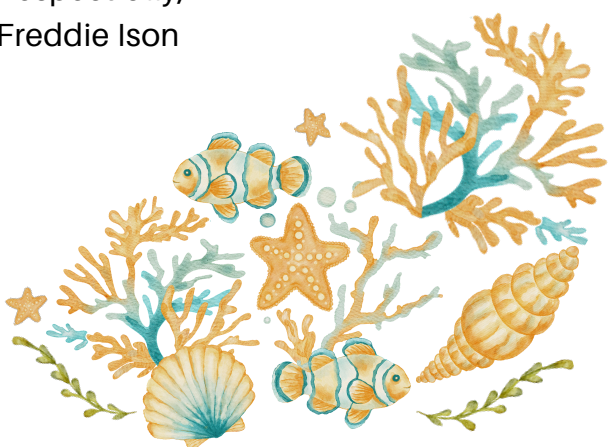
Zumba Gold

Celebrating student contribution that strengthened our community!

I would like to nominate Ms. Marsha Maier. Marsha is a cancer survivor and a truly inspiring member of our Zumba Gold class. When my classes were canceled due to my medical condition, she stepped up without hesitation, organizing the group, coordinating with Ms. Laura Coe to use the recorded choreography, and finding places where the class could continue practicing. Because of her, the group stayed connected, motivated, and uplifted during a very challenging time. Her leadership, kindness, and dedication brought everyone together and even inspired the group to prepare for the Good Old Days event on May 3. I am deeply grateful for all that she has done, her heart for the community and her willingness to help others truly make a difference.

Thank you for recognizing her.

Respectfully,
Freddie Ison



Russian Class

A student's highlight of one of our language classes.

I took an introductory Russian class with Ms. Natalia Lukovenko at an adult school. We met once per week for two hours over ten weeks. From only this short time, I gained control over the recognition of the production of the Russian alphabet, which is substantially different from a Latin-based alphabet. Cultural elements, particularly food and drink, were included in the class as well. By the end of the period, we were able to read dozens of cognates and proper nouns, written in the Cyrillic alphabet, and learned many vocabulary items along the way. We also were treated to sample various foods and drinks from Russia, which brought a new dimension to learning the language: we got to taste the same things that Russian speakers regularly taste! Today, although that class has ended, I continue to read a Russian word-of-the-day email to which I subscribe, to not lose my ability to decode Russian letters. Moreover, a bottle that once contained Birch tree juice, a favorite in Russian-speaking regions, now holds flowers in my kitchen.

Independence Pathway Program

Art Abilities with our Independence Pathway Program, Ritika Kumar. Journaling at Rip Van Winkle Park.

Last Saturday, we spent a beautiful morning at Rip Van Winkle Park, guided by the wonderful Liese Murphree, Director of Education & Outreach from Grove Museum of Natural History. Our students sketched, observed, and drew, noticing the small things, filling pages with color and quiet focus. Dance with Cambell in nature setting. A different kind of creative day, and a really good one. At the same time we also had regular classes in the studio for students who didn't want to be outdoors.





Organic Gardening Class

A Grandmother's Garden Legacy

Being part of the P.G. Adult School Organic Gardening class, with teacher Bonnie Adams, through every unique season, fall 2024 through summer 2025 and into fall 2025, too, made me one of the first year-round members of this outstanding and memorable class.

I have a beautiful year-rounder pin as an award and reminder of all the hands-on organic gardening knowledge and in-the-moment learning I and my classmates experienced, including preparing the organic soil, organic composting, planting seeds especially for Pacific Grove's climate, learning organic pest control, proper watering, raised bed planting—the hügelkultur layering method—care of garden tools, harvesting our crops of zucchini, lettuce, cabbages, potatoes, beets, pumpkins, and many more, then sharing our harvest with the class and the community.

Thanks to the gardening knowledge, teaching expertise, and inspiring energy of Bonnie Adams, I have been able to transfer all that I learned in the Organic Gardening class to my own organic raised garden bed with the help of my 12-year old grandson in our P.G. backyard garden.

We recently harvested our own delicious broccoli, cherry tomatoes, cabbages, rainbow chard, red leaf lettuce and romaine and have just finished renewing the soil and planting our second seeds and plant starts, more broccoli, chard, tomatoes, an artichoke, two varieties of pumpkins, sunflowers, and a fairy-garden of wildflowers.

Thanks to the Organic Gardening class, the growing and harvesting cycle continues for me, as I teach the next generation of my family the joys of digging in the earth and watching miracles sprout.



Community Garden and Organic Gardening Class

Earth Day Ever Day: Dancing Between the Raindrops!

At the Pacific Grove Community Garden and within the Adult School Organic Gardening classes, "Earth Day" isn't just a date on the calendar—it's a daily practice.

While the rest of the world pauses once a year to honor the planet, our gardeners have spent the season quite literally getting their hands dirty in the best way possible.

This spring has been a masterclass in resilience and joy. We've back-stepped between raindrops to keep our planting schedules, finding that the damp soil is the perfect invitation for new life.

The reward for that persistence? The first strawberries of the season, plucked warm from the sun and bursting with flavor.

The garden has also become a sanctuary for more than just students and members. We've shared our space with a majestic heron frequenting the playground, a quiet reminder of the wildlife we work so hard to support.

Every day we work and get on our knees to plant, and it is truly amazing to be a part of it all.

Every time we tuck a seedling into the earth or tend to the soil, we are celebrating the spirit of Earth Day.

Here's to the continued growth, the shared harvests, and the community that makes it all possible.

Thank you, Mother Earth!!





Spanish Class

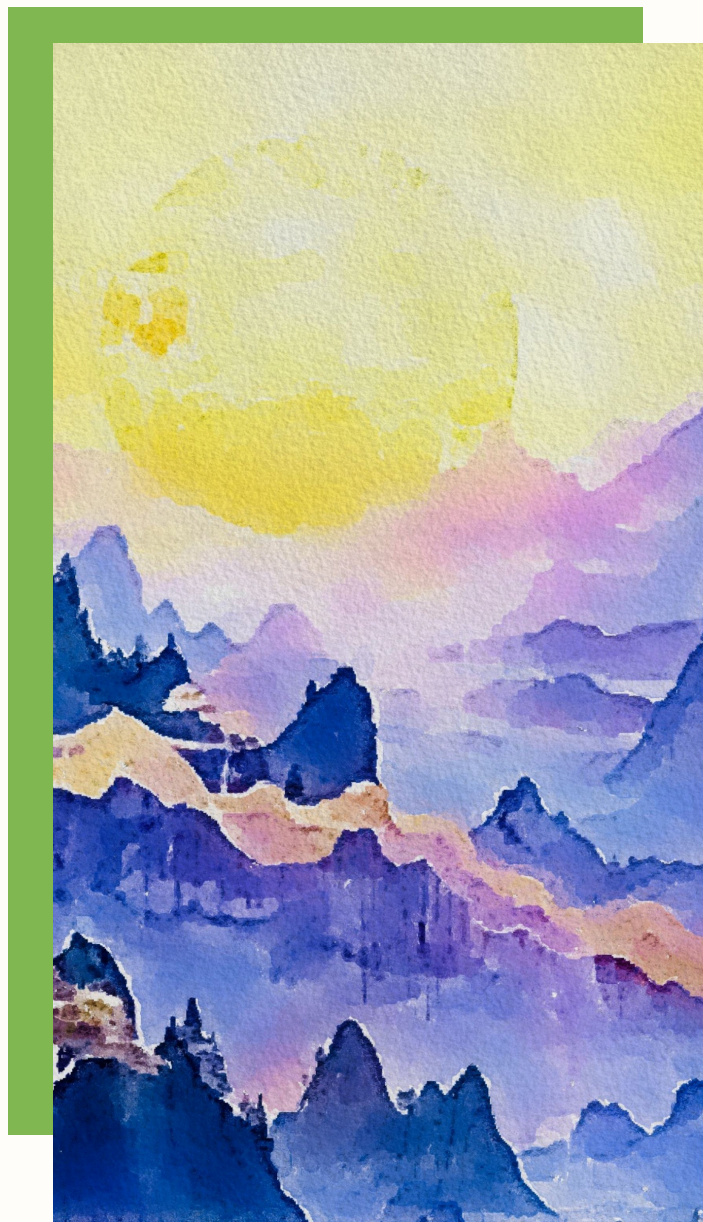
Student Spotlight from Instructor

I feel very proud of all my students, regardless of their Spanish proficiency level.

This time, I would like to introduce you to Maggie Gulati, one of my advanced Spanish students. She strives every day to help the Spanish-speaking community serving as a volunteer at the aquarium and is incredibly enthusiastic about teaching others. In class, she is always sharing and helping everyone. Without a doubt, she is a wonderful person. Apart from that, she is a very knowledgeable person about a lot of topics, and it is always interesting to hear what she has to say.

I appreciate the spotlight given to these great students!

Claudia Rodriguez, Spanish Instructor



Art Class

Great Outcomes for Art Students at Pacific Grove Adult Education

For my beginning drawing and watercolor classes, I stress that what I want my students to get out of classes is not necessarily incredible art, but access to the meditative quality of art and also being able to see the way an artist sees.

Students this term reported early in the term how much more they saw in what was around them. They noticed the shape of things, the interrelationship of colors, the volume of objects and the space between things. They are having such a rich life this way, using the right side of their brain that in most daily activities for most of our lives is ignored.

One student did not become an artist, but started buying watercolors at estate sales because she recognized how much work the painting represented. Another artist, Drew Harvell, is using her art to illustrate the marine biology creatures she studies professionally.

A couple students have begun participating in the active art community on the Peninsula. Lynne Weatherman only regrets not taking art classes sooner! She quickly made progress in art and has shown an aptitude for painting in oil. Lynne is showing her art at the gallery Reflections Elegante, and Elizabeth Panetta shows her art at Monterey Peninsula Art Forum Gallery.

My first Zentangle class was a lesson in an ink and watercolor class. Sarah Boyns received a YouTube video I sent out featuring 200 patterns and came back the next week to say, "Thanks, I lost 2 days of my life!" She decorated myriad pumpkins with Zentangle that fall. Making tangle patterns turns out to be very meditative and relaxing. Once we've greeted each other, the class is remarkably quiet as they work on repetitive pattern making. Many of my Zentangle students signed up because it doesn't require any artistic skill or training. All the same, they are producing creative and beautiful pieces. Both Carolyn Hardy and Sun Wah Kim will show Zentangle art as part of a mosaic of 8x8" pieces on Grand Ave. May-September this year.

And then there is Nancy Donaldson. She took beginning classes, and realized how valuable creative time was to her as a caregiver. She rented a studio downtown and has created a space which attracts a growing number of artistic community members. Down the street from Nancy's studio, one of my watercolor students Christy Porter has opened "The Poppy Collective," a store which sells art and art supplies as well as focusing on local plant and wildlife and aromatherapy.

Diane Grindol, Art Instructor



Adult Education Highlights



French Class

French Class - Messages from Students

In humbly submitting the two responses below, it must be said that it is an honor and pleasure to be part of the wonderful P. G. Adult School. Barbara Martinez has been a steady, reasonable force as "head," hiring great people around her!

I have been "blown away" by the caliber of student I have been privileged to teach/facilitate/learn from. ~ Merci à tous! ~ Judy (Fifi) Doby

From Laurel Schrier:

At 16 years old in high school, I took my first French class. Patricia Beaumont (Sister Daniel Margaret) was a dynamo. She squeezed learning into every minute of class time. That year I fell in love with the French language and culture. From then on, French has been a part of my life - through university study, teaching, travel and friends. But how lucky was I, when newly retired in 2024, I found Pacific Grove Adult School's Advanced French class, "Les Amis." And how lucky I was when the teacher turns out to be the same kind of dynamo I had at 16! Each week we receive a packet filled with current topics in French politics, culture, music and literature. The class brings together a group of students with varied life experiences, making for rich conversations and friendships. How lucky am I to have found a French class of this caliber that allows me to continue learning and growing my love of French. Quelle bonne chance!

From Claudia Jennings:

Several years ago the logistics of my husband's and my travel plans in France became complicated by a nationwide train employee strike. One day we discovered that our train returning to Paris from an outlying area had been cancelled at the last minute. The only ticket agent in the small town train station did not speak English. Thanks to my Adult School French class, I was able to not only book another return train, but also negotiate un remboursement, a refund, of the prepaid tickets that had been cancelled. Thank you, Judy Doby

ESL Classes

ESL Class - Messages from Students

ESL A Class:

Hello. My name is Lumbum. I'm from Tibet. I'm in ESL-A. What I like about my class is there are many students from all corners of the world. I have good teachers. I like to study English with them. I'm happy to meet our class students and teachers. Something interesting about the student picture. I like to learn a lot. I study hard. I wish our class good luck. Thanks!!!

Hello. My name is Olga from Russia. My city is Omsk (Siberia). I'm in ESL-A. What I like about my class is I'm very happy to meet friends from all countries of the world. My teachers and my friends are my school family. I like to study English. Something interesting about me is I love my grandchildren and I like to work in a vegetable garden.

Hello! My name is Maria, "Chela". I'm from Colombia. I arrived in the U.S.A., on February 17, 2024. I'm studying English at Pacific Grove School. I'm happy. I know people from many countries. I'm learning a lot. I like to travel, arts, read and listen to music. My teachers are excellent with me. Thanks!!!

Hello! My name is Salima. I'm from Uzbekistan. I studied in ESL-A. I've been learning English for two years here. What I like about my class is I met someone with kind, responsive and cool teachers here. I have met some interesting friends and I love that they're here for two years. I have been speaking English. The teachers help me with this. I love my class, my teachers and friends. Salima.

Hello. My name is Vladimir. I'm from Georgia. I'm in ESL-A. What I like about my class is the teacher and learning English. Something interesting about me is that I am a Locksmith and a teacher.

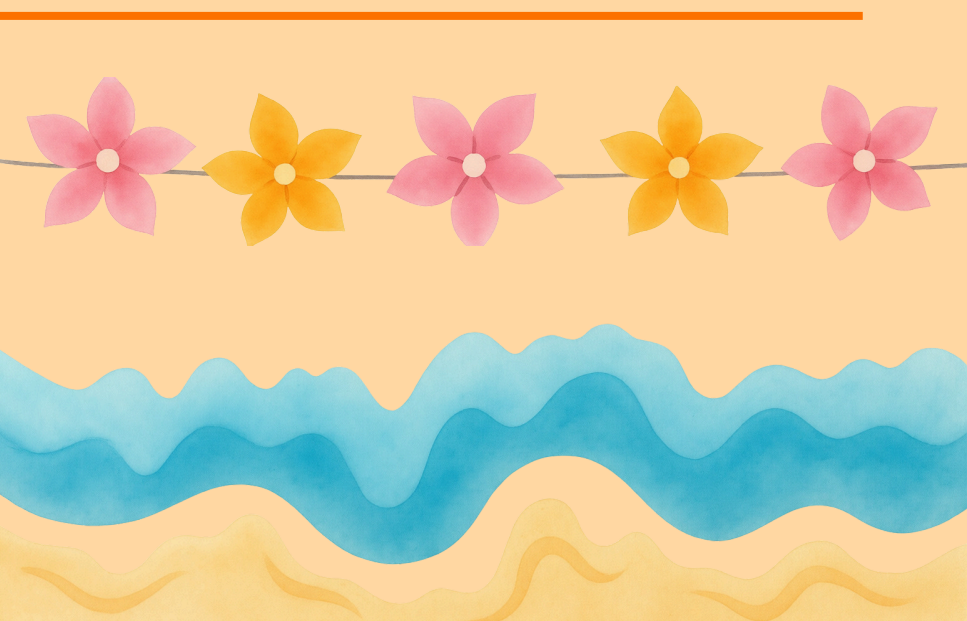
Hello. My name is Grace. I am from Colombia. I'm in ESL-A. What I like about my class is learning English. Something interesting about me is that I love to walk.

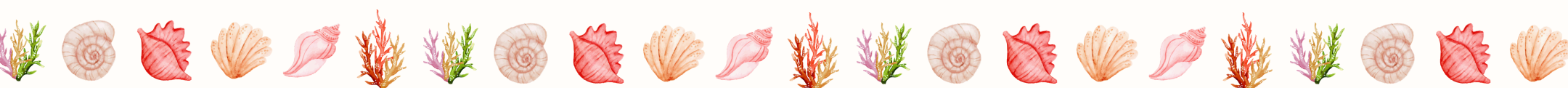
Hello. My name is Yuan. I'm from China. I'm in ESL-A. What I like about my class is I get to meet good teachers and friends from all over the world. I love to study English because English opens windows for me, and I see the world from the windows. I feel that after I study English, I become smarter and smarter! My teacher always tells us, "You can do it!" "Never give up!" so I have confidence everyday. Something interesting is Student Picture. From this, I study things a lot! I like my class very much!

Hello my name is Teresa. I come from Mexico. I'm studying in ESL-A to learn English. What I like about my class is spending time with my teachers and classmates. I'm happy to meet people from different countries. Something interesting about me is that I have 3 children. I appreciate the time of my teachers.

Hello my name is Neri. I'm from Veracruz, Mexico. I'm in ESL-A. What I like about my class and spending time with my teachers and classmates, something interesting about me is that in Mexico I was a carpenter. Now I'm a student.

Hello! My name is Remy. I'm from Guadalajara, Mexico. I study in ESL-A and I like the classes because I learn the English language and the teacher is very good at teaching us English. Something interesting about it is, I'm a Nutritionist and I like my profession.





Adult Education Highlights



ESL Classes Cont: Advanced ESL Student

How PGAE Impacted My Life

When I moved to Pacific Grove, the adult school was the first place that I visited. I signed up for an ESL class and started attending the school. At that time, my vocabulary wasn't big enough to express my thoughts clearly. I could say what I wanted to say, but with a lack of confidence and with many mistakes.

Of course, I am still making mistakes (ha-ha), but significantly less, and I often realize them while I am speaking. This school gave me not only English. It gave me a really friendly community of teachers and students, which I value very highly.

The school gave me more confidence in my daily life, which is very important when you are a newcomer, an immigrant. At school, I learned a lot about American history and culture. It gives me the opportunity to better understand the people I meet on my way.

I am grateful to the school and all of the staff who help me. And I definitely know that I am very lucky to meet Barbara Kraus and Soleil Turell, the best teachers ever. Like Barbara usually says, we have the youngest teacher and the oldest teacher :). This allows me to see this world broadly and across generations.

Kateryna Beschasna

Russian Class: Past Students

Messages from Past Students

This actually happened yesterday. I ordered a pizza through Uber Eats and the delivery driver was a lady with the name of Olga. Looking at her picture, she indeed looked Russian.

When she delivered the food she needed a PIN code to complete the transaction. She did not speak English. She knew just enough to work as a delivery driver. She was surprised when I called her Olya, because that is the diminutive form of Olga.

The code was 9338, so I gave her the PIN code in Russian: девять три три восемь. I thought of our Russian class and it certainly helped knowing the numbers.

RK

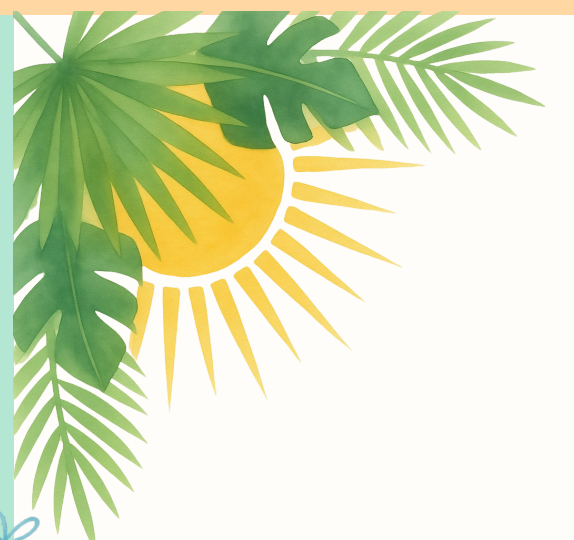
My husband, who was originally from Latvia, passed away in 2025. I was asked to clear out his office at the Naval Postgraduate School. I arranged to do it this year. He had told me that he had several books that were important to him. He either wrote them or contributed to them. They were written in Russian, since Latvia had been part of the Soviet Union.

I saw that the Pacific Grove Adult School had a course in basic Russian, so I decided to enroll. I was not able to make it to many of my classes, but the emailed lessons from my instructor were invaluable.

I learned how the Russian language was very phonetic, and that insight helped me to pack 4 banker boxes with books that contained my husband's name. I was also able to translate titles. In all, I packed and moved out close to 100 boxes of books and papers.

The class I took gave me the confidence to undertake and complete my task.

Patricia



SUMMER