

# New Haven READS



Newsletter, Spring 2017 Edition

## Yale Library Shout Out

New Haven Reads has just started an amazing partnership with Yale Library Services which recently invited us to talk about our tutoring program. Eight people signed up!



"The orientation was excellent, and I appreciate the ongoing teaching support and feedback from the Site Director where I volunteer," says new tutor Patricia Thurston. "I work directly across the street from the Science Park site, and the tutoring hour is at the end of the workday and easily fits into my schedule."

Do you work for or know an organization that would be interested in sending volunteers to New Haven Reads? Why not sign up for an informative session! We'll come to you or you can come see tutoring in action.

## Alumni Honorees



In celebration of our 15th year, we honored three exemplary alumni! Former NHR students, **Sally Thach, Mi-Cha-Ei West** and **Jailene Garzon** have all returned as tutors! Thank you for continuing to help us "share the joy and power of reading". We are so proud of you.



## Spotlight: Dale Norton

"I've seen kids make great progress and that is very exciting," Dale says. Despite her job being demanding, her employer, the Nielson Company, offers employees time to volunteer with causes important to them. "I want to share my love of reading with children and help them understand that reading is the foundation for achieving every skill, every dream, in life. Life can get hectic but this one hour a week is so rewarding. I learn more from the students I work with than they will ever learn from me."

When asked what keeps her coming back to NHR, Dale says, "All of the above: the kids, the staff, the atmosphere, that feeling that one hour a week really can have a positive influence on a young person. That's really the driving motivation. To think, one

hour of time can help a child succeed! Unreal!" Dale has tutored with New Haven Reads since 2010.

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## March by the Numbers



**504** students tutored each week in our one-on-one tutoring program.

- **447** volunteers.
- **55** students enrolled in Pre-K and Kindergarten program.
- **10,239** books distributed to the community via the Book Bank.
- **16** school field trips to our Bristol Street Book Bank.
- **80** students on our tutoring waiting list and an additional **26** students on our Pre-K/Kindergarten waiting list.



## Willow Street is One!

Happy birthday Willow Street! Our fourth location now tutors over 100 students with 17 additional students in the pre-k and kindergarten program.

One of the benefits of the Willow Street location is the wonderful partnership we have with East Rock Magnet School, situated right across the street. Four times a week, up to 18 students per day are walked over after school. Volunteers help students with homework before the regular tutoring program starts.

East Rock Principal, Peggy Pelley, said, "We truly appreciate the tutoring, homework help, book bank, and family support that you have provided to our students. The dedication of the New Haven Reads staff and volunteers knows no bounds, and our students have benefited tremendously."

## 15th Anniversary Celebration



It's official! Our 15th Anniversary Celebration was a fantastic success!

With some 150 people in attendance, the L & B Reading Room at Yale's Sterling Library was packed. An original printing of The Declaration of Independence sat prominently against the wall when New Haven Mayor Toni Harp proclaimed that March 30, 2017 was New Haven Reads Day. Ten-plus-year tutor Stacey Spell stole the show with an impassioned speech in which he called tutoring at NHR "one his greatest joys."

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## Make a Difference in 2017!



Looking for a way to make a difference in your community? We are always in need of volunteers for our one-on-one literacy tutoring program or our book bank. No experience is necessary and we provide all of the training and support you need. Help us make a significant impact on the life of a young reader!

**If you are interested in joining us, please email Keri at [Volunteer@newhavenreads.org](mailto:Volunteer@newhavenreads.org)**

## Upcoming Events

### **Volunteer Appreciation Event**

Thursday, April 13.

6:30 to 8:00 PM

*The Study at Yale  
1157 Chapel Street*

### **April Recess. No Tutoring!**

Friday, April 14 through Saturday, April 22

### **General Tutor Training**

Thursday, April 27 1:00 to 3:00

*Dixwell Yale Community  
Learning Center  
101 Ashmun Street.*

### **The Great Give 2017**

Starts Tuesday, May 2 at 8:00 am and runs until Wednesday May 3 at 8:00 pm

*Online fundraiser. Help us get first place!*

### **The 6th Annual New Haven Reads Spelling Bee!**

Friday, October 27

*More details coming soon!*

*New Haven Reads  
45 Bristol Street  
New Haven, Connecticut 06511*

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