



# FRIENDS OF PORTLAND ADULT EDUCATION NEWSLETTER



## 1642 Students Registered

By the beginning of the fall semester on September 12, 1962 students had registered for classes. The enthusiasm to enroll was evident by the waiting line of students on September 7. Students had been informed during the summer that testing and registration appointments would be made on this date. More than 200 students lined up well before the appointed time. Valerie DeVuyst, the ESOL Coordinator, stated that such a demand for ESL classes can be overwhelming but that during the last academic school year, the average waiting time to enter a class after testing and interviews was 19 days.

### *On August 11, Director Beth Campbell wrote the following to the staff:*

**T**he search for a new Director is underway. The possibility of a permanent or interim leadership is being considered. Assistant Superintendent Jeanne Crocker is working closely with the leadership team to keep PAE running smoothly during this process. It is important to note that the school is functioning well since many of the staff have stepped up to assume some of the leadership responsibilities.

I am writing today to let you know that I have accepted another position. I am honored to have been a part of this organization and will support your work going forward from a different vantage point. I have been humbled every day by the students' perseverance and achievement. You, the faculty and staff, are an amazingly talented and dedicated group of people who go the extra mile for your students. You meet students where they are and help them achieve their goals and dreams.

Beth made needed changes during her tenure at PAE. She introduced

the staff to the new requirements of the federal Workforce Investment Opportunity Act (WIOA) and the necessary changes in both data collection and curriculum design. She also successfully connected to community foundations and organizations to secure funding and collaboration to enhance learning opportunities for PAE's adult learners.

Both FPAE and the PAE Staff wish Beth well as she begins her new position at United Way as Director of Financial Stability.

Honor our 2016 graduates by making a donation. Send checks to FPAE, PO Box 3185, Portland, ME • Credit card accepted on the website:

**<http://friendsofpae.org/donate>**

Help us transform more lives in Greater Portland with your support.

## Expeditionary Learning Engages Learners

**W**e at Portland Adult Education are hosting two events that showcase ongoing learning with our students. Many of our classes are studying the election (yes, we are tackling it!) and using it as a vehicle for reading, writing, and speaking informational text.

**1** A Portland Adult Education Political Forum led by PAE students with Local Political Leaders Pious Ali (Portland School Board); Jill Duson (Portland City Council); Denise Harlow (State Representative); Anne Haskell (State Senate).

**WHEN** Tuesday,  
November 1, 2016  
12-1PM

**WHERE** The Rines Auditorium  
(lower level)  
Portland Public Library

**2** A Gallery Walk exhibition in which Language Arts students will present their projects about election issues to guests and other PAE students. Feel free to drop by at some point.

**WHEN** Monday, November 7  
6:30 - 7:30pm and also  
Tuesday, November 8  
9:30 - 10:30am

**WHERE** PAE Hallway

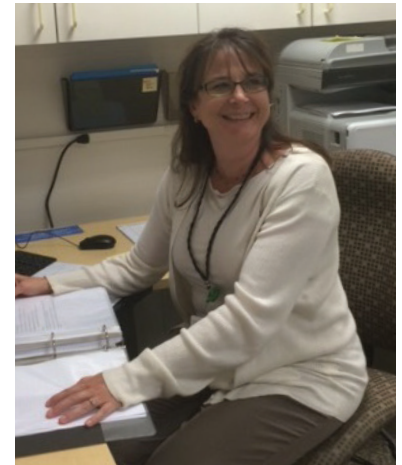


ELL C.N.A. Class

## STUDENT PROFILE Wanda Tarbox

**W**anda Tarbox received her Medical Office Certificate from PAE and is presently working as a patient service representative for Maine Medical Partners Orthopedics and Joint Replacements in Portland, Maine.

The skills she uses the most are medical coding, medical records, and keyboarding. Wanda stated "the Job Skills courses were extremely helpful for me. They gave me the resources and skills I needed to be successful in my job search. PAE is a great place for those who are beginning a new path in their careers. The certificate programs are fantastic; staff is very knowledgeable and kind. I really enjoyed my time at PAE."



## C.N.A. Courses Thrive

**P**ortland Adult Education is working in partnership with local medical facilities in offering Certified

& Residence and most recently First Atlantic Healthcare. The 12 week program consists of 180 hours of



C.N.A. New England Rehab Class

Nursing Assistant courses that lead to the State of Maine license. Affiliations include New England Rehabilitation Hospital, St. Joseph's Rehabilitation

classroom, lab and clinical hands-on experience that prepare students to become a successful C.N.A. The demand for this important profession is high and all graduates are able to find jobs with full benefits.

PAE received a grant from the Department of Education last January for a pilot project to work with new Mainers who are interested in C.N.A. but possess a lower level of English. Students prepared for the C.N.A. course with a 6 week medical terminology class. After completing this class they continued with the 180 hour course. In addition, students worked with an ELL teacher two days a week to work on vocabulary, study skills, asking questions, communication and accent reduction. All students passed the state test. This was such a success that PAE was re-funded for an additional C.N.A. class that is running this fall.



## Teacher Projects Support Learners

FPAE started a new effort to support "Teacher Projects" this summer. (See list at Friends of FPAE.org). Already two projects have been funded:

*English Through Song* taught by Ashley Storrow. Ashley proposes that students will read and listen to lyrics, learn new vocabulary, practice pronunciation, and memorize songs

for a final performance.

*Stress Reduction Training* for Students taught by Arline Saturdayborn. This class plans to include scientifically supported movement practices that help reduce stress, enhance brain functioning, build resilience and improve learning capacity.

## New Mainers' Resource Center 2016

NMRC is a Portland Adult Education program that offers specific courses and case management to bridge the need for a more culturally and

linguistically diverse workforce and the untapped resources of Maine's immigrant and refugee communities. A range of services are offered.

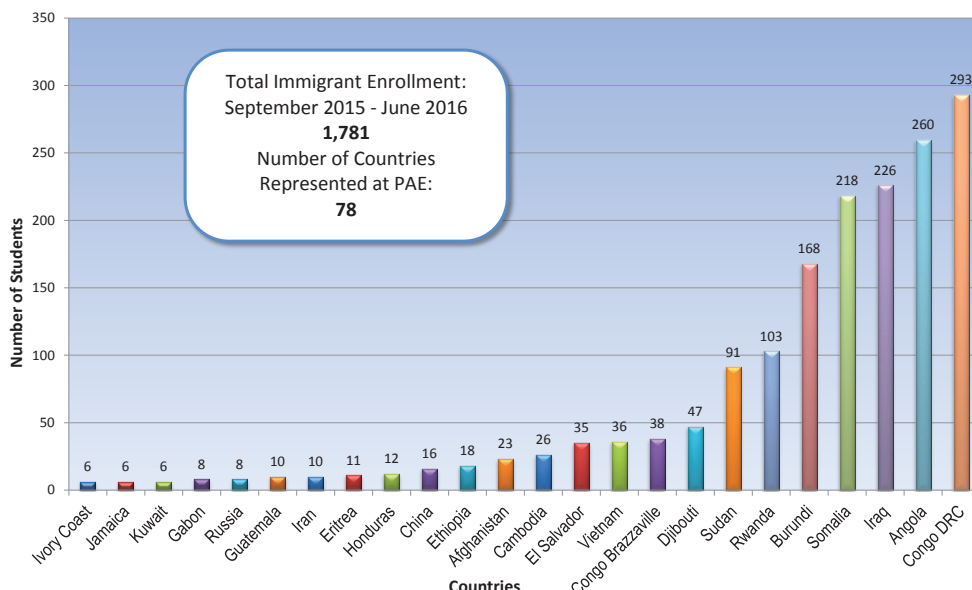
The professional background in the participants' previous countries include the following:

**Business 45**  
**Computer/IT 30**  
**Legal 19**  
**Healthcare 45**  
**Engineering 26**  
**Education 17**

### By the numbers:

**Contacted NMRC in 2016 254**  
**Have Transcript evaluated, translated 48**  
**Gained Employment 134**  
**Received Case Management 198**  
**Participated in Offerings 206**

### PAE Immigrant Enrollment Chart 2016



Countries with 5 or less students attending: Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bosnia, Brazil, Burma, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Gambia, Germany, Haiti, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Korea, Lebanon, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Palestine, Peru, Philippines, Puerto Rico, Senegal, Serbia, South Korea, South Sudan, Spain, Syria, Taiwan, Tanzania, Thailand, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom

## From the FPAE Chair



September always begins a new school year. It has been exciting watching students and staff engage in the wonderful work of learning and teaching. Considering the responsibilities of families, employment, and community, I am always impressed at the optimism and positive results that exudes from Portland Adult Education.

The Friends of Portland Adult Education continues to assist in many ways:

- Support Students- A growing scholarship fund of more than \$15,000 in scholarships for PAE courses
- Support Staff – A "Teacher Project" list seeks funding to encourage teachers to dream and try new approaches and courses to benefit students
- Promotion – FPAE continues to publish three newsletters a year, maintain a web page (friendsofpae.org), and produce and organize visual and print material to promote PAE
- Large Grants-FPAE and its Coordinator assist PAE in framing and submitting large educational grants to maintain and expand necessary programming.

FPAE will continue to support the students and staff with every individual donation and grant proposal we write.

Rob Wood

President of the Friends of Portland Adult Education

# Student Success

In 2015, Yunus Ibrahim, an IT professional from Burundi, found his way to Portland Adult Education's computer based English language learning lab on his 3rd day in Maine. He offered to put his IT skills to work as a volunteer. In the lab, Yunus assisted students as they worked with online English language programs. He was a natural leader and students quickly began to seek him out not only for language support, but for troubleshooting support with their own laptops and tech devices.

Yunus also made the most of his time at Portland Adult Education and enrolled in English classes, volunteered to teach a basic ESOL computer class and participated in an IT networking group supported by the New Mainers Resource Center.

In the spring of 2016, Yunus participated in an English for IT professionals course which included an internship component through Goodwill Workforce Solutions. He secured an internship position at Pierce Promotions in Portland, where he received training on Visual Basic Net and worked on 4 web applications and migrating data and databases. Yunus was recently hired as a Junior Software developer by Pierce Promotions as a fulltime employee with benefits.



## FPAE Board

**Rob Wood, President**  
North Yarmouth, ME

**Anja Hanson, Vice President**  
Portland, ME

**Margaret Cary Curran, Treasurer**  
Falmouth, ME

**Martha Burchenal, Secretary**  
Cape Elizabeth, ME

**Maxwell Chikuta**  
Portland, ME

**Tae Chong**  
Portland, ME

**Valerie DeVuyst**  
Windham, ME

**Joseph Luciano**  
Kennebunk, ME

**Carolyn May**  
Scarborough, ME

**Carol Schreck**  
Cape Elizabeth, ME

FPAE expresses great gratitude to Rachel Guthrie for the layout and design of this newsletter.

## FPAE'S MISSION

To raise resources and awareness to support adults at Portland Adult Education striving to become stronger citizens, employees, parents and entrepreneurs