

# Beyond Literacy

CLASS OF 2024



## Congratulations,

## GRADUATES!

### From BeLit's Board of Directors

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Julie Jones, Drexel University
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Board Treasurer
Jeffrey K. Daman, Daman and As

**Jeffrey K. Daman**, Daman and Associates *Board Secretary* 

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Dinesh Indala, Philadelphia Housing Authority

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Becky Leimkuhler, Deloitte Consulting

Michael McCourt, Clarfeld Citizens Private Wealth

Ivy McDaniels, Beck Institute

Keisha Moore, Beyond Literacy Alumna

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Robert Young, Retired Council, Airgas





Niema Alfred | Intake Coordinator

Michael Antosch | ESOL Education Manager

**Debbie Arnold Brown** | Communications & Events

Specialist

Luriel Balaurea | Instructional Technology Specialist

Amy Bell | Instructor

Karen Bennett | Instructor

Mitch Berger | Instructor & IHPDS

Dzemila Bilanovic | Workforce Development Manager

**Lindsay Blade** | Student Support Coordinator - ESL

Ivry Bland | Workforce Development Manager

Scott Bostwick | Intake Coordinator

Gianna Brisbone | Director of Education

Imani Burrus | Instructor

Tiffani Clemons | Site Coordinator

Christian Cody | Instructor

Rebecca Curry | Communications Intern

Suzanne Czarkowski | Instructor

Jemal Davis | Facilities & IT Coordinator

Warren Dobney | Instructor

Steven Doncaster | Student Enrollment Specialist

Kieran Farrell | Student Support Director

**Nicole Ford** | Administrative Assistant

Amara Gregorek | Student Support Coordinator -

**Digital Navigator** 

Kelly Griebert | Director of Enrollment & Placement

Carl Gugasian | Instructor

Patricia Haggerty | Instructor

Song Han | Instructor

Dawn Hannah | Chief Program & Impact Officer

Steve Hawkins | Instructor

Al Haynes | Instructor & Intake Coordinator

Clarece Hicks | Intake Specialist

Kristen Hodge | Intake and Data Coordinator

Roberta Hodges | Senior Site Coordinator

Andy Hoffman | Instructor

Mercy Howard | Student Support Coordinator

Raheem Howard | Instructor

Mara Imms | Instructor

Barry Johnson | Instructor

Shaina Kapeluck | Instructor

Amanda Labrador | Director of Communications

Gabrielle Lanciano | School Partnerships Manager

Lorna Laster Jackson | Community Outreach

Coordinator

Joanne Laub | ABE/ASE Education Manager

Nancy Lawrence Hill | Instructor

Yeri Lee | Digital Navigator

Richard Lopez | Finance Manager

Anna Claire Loper | Development Manager

Sara Manning | Chief Operating Officer

Zaire Martin | Digital Navigation Specialist

Carolanne Mitchell | Tutor & Class Aide Coordinator

Tim Morris | Instructor

Maryellen Norek | Workforce Student Support

Coordinator

Vinny Ong | Intake Coordinator

Kimmell Proctor | Chief Executive Officer

Megan Reamer | Instructor

Angelica Rivera | Data Entry Specialist

Iris Rivera | Intake Coordinator

**Heather Robinson** | Instructor

Vivian Sevcik | Intake & ESL Student Support

Coordinator

Alexis Smith | Instructor, Digital Literacy Specialist &

In-house Professional Development Specialist

Saumya Srivastava | Instructor

Mike Stevens | Instructor

Victoria Szondy | Instructor

Nicole Tomassi | Instructor

Claire Tucker | Data Quality Manager

Jaider Urrea | Intake Coordinator

Melissa Valle Instructor

Monica Vasturia | Data & Assessment Specialist

Valerie Curtiss West | Salesforce Admin Support

Tammy Walker | Instructor

Dan Waters | Instructor

Jelani Wilson | Student Support Coordinator - ESL

Samira Woods | Instructor

Christine Zopf | Instructor

### DEAR GRADUATES,

On behalf of the entire Beyond Literacy community, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to you on successfully completing our challenging education and career training programs!

### **Your Journey**

Your path to graduation has not been easy. While balancing multiple jobs, raising children, and supporting your families and communities, you chose to invest in your future. Your hard work, determination, and resilience have brought you here today. Whether you've earned U.S. citizenship, mastered the English language, obtained valuable workforce credentials, or achieved your high school equivalency diploma, your remarkable achievements have paved the way for a future filled with endless possibility.

### **Your Next Steps**

As our esteemed graduates, you will always be cherished members of the BeLit family. We encourage you to give back by becoming a peer mentor to new learners or consider advancing your education through our graduate program pathways and workforce training programs leading to in-demand, high-wage industry careers. Whatever path you choose next, remember that we are here to support and celebrate your continued success.

#### **Our Gratitude**

We deeply appreciate your trust in us to guide your educational journey. Your success story will inspire and motivate hundreds of other adult learners to pursue and achieve their goals. We are incredibly proud of you, our exceptional Class of 2024!

With best wishes for your future,

Kimmell Proctor, BeLit CEO

Kimmell



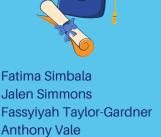
### Class of 2024 Grads

### High School Equivalency

Jasir Alexander
Camilia Al-Rokh
Prince Allah
Kim Black
David Bradley
Iyana Brown
Christella Burrows
Tamara Deair
Mamadou Alpha Diallo
Bianca Diaz

Rosemary Ezinwa
Tameika Floyd
Mikel Gibbs
Maureen Goldson
Nancy Gordon Turner
Nancy Houser
Joseph Montanez
Christian LeBron
Aaron Lochetto
Samantha Lopez

Mia Maleno
Valencia Mitchell
Jonathan Norman
Carlos Oquendo
Kimyatta Pepples
Steven Puntiel
Abdur Rahman Hucks
Jontaye Reavis
Jordan Robbins
Diane Rouse-Marion



Aleisha Wilson

Xa'Vier Wynder

Corwin (Sean) Willis

### English Language & U.S. Citizenship

Wadeline Bein Aime Nedda AlHoranny\* Waldo Jon Baptiste Amadou Boiro Hayat Boukhlik\* Kristina Butsko Katiria Castro Somia Chakkam\* Zhao Chen Maimouna Coulibaly\* Samba Diaby Amayel Diagne\* Hipolito Dormy\*

Sophia Eliezer
Aziaa Eljinyani\*
Fabiola Fils
Vicente Gonzalez\*
Olena Horoshko
Fatumata Jabateh\*
Mona Jeanty
Timurlan Karaketov
Aleksandr Khorolskii
Madane Konate\*
Ritha Lazard
Irma Magana
Anna Morro

Olesia Nakonechna
Salome Neskorodova
Urmi Nurjahan\*
Beatriz Pelaez
Esraa Rabya
Elena Riazanova
Liubov Rodionova
Johanna Roman-Guigni
Alexey Sedik
Natalia Senchovskaia
Bilgin Solak
Ezzaki Souad\*

Frantz Toussaint Aziza Ulibakova Maria Enriqueta Vazquez Jingfang Wang Mohamed Yagoub Hamida Yahmi Yi Zhang

> \*Designates U.S. Citizenship

### Workforce Programs

#### Pre-Apprenticeship

Breighton Golphin
Jaleel Harley
William Johnson
Juan Kelley
Akeem Monroe
Joseph Montanez
Kimyatta Pepples
Siani Rodriguez
Lionel Smith
Hasson Sutton
Jaider Urrea
Martel Williams
Trey Williams
Fatir Womack

Sayfadeen Day Shawn Dejesus Oiyaam Edgefield Beikim Gaines Christopher Gains Donavon Harrison Ian-Wendell Lipford Justin Perry Francis Rodriguez Recep Sonmezsoy Melvin Soto Tamir Thompson Tariq Thompson Tino Uch Kevin Williams

Xa'Vier Wynder

Judithe Sylvain

#### **CAST-Test Prep**

Alexander Berrios
Jordan Brendan
Lakia Butler
Christopher Crawford
Erik Davis
Tonya Diggs
Michael Emfinger
Breighton Golphin
Juan Kelley
Matthew Lotkowski
Khalid McDaniel
Joe Montanez

Jeffrey Parker Sofiane Smaili Daniel Snyder Muhammad Sylla Jaider Urrea Rayza Villa

#### TECH- Test Prep

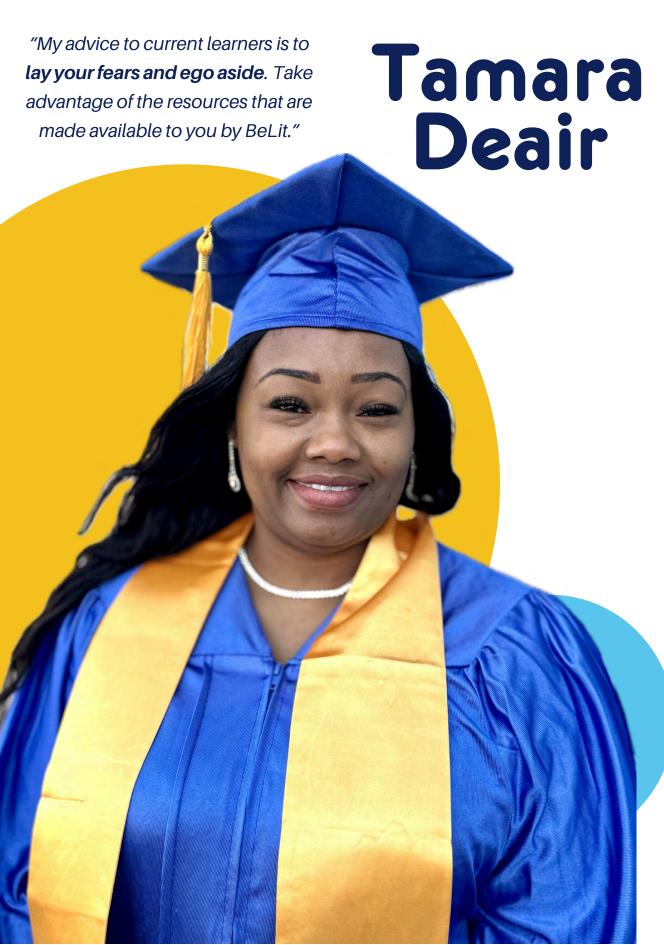
Jack Banks Taj Bland Brendan Jordan Enrique Sanchez











Mamadou Alpha Diallo

"Coming from a French speaking country, learning English and being a GED graduate in a short time is incredible for me. That was possible because of the support I received from my teachers and all BeLit staff." I'm a BeLit GRA

Congratulations





Maureen





## Abdur Rahman Hucks



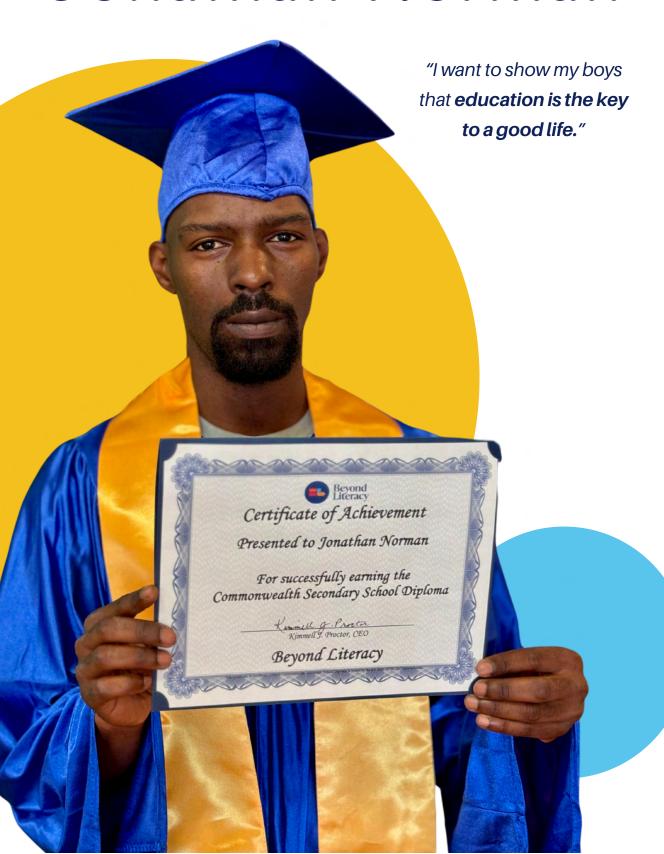
Valencia Mitchell



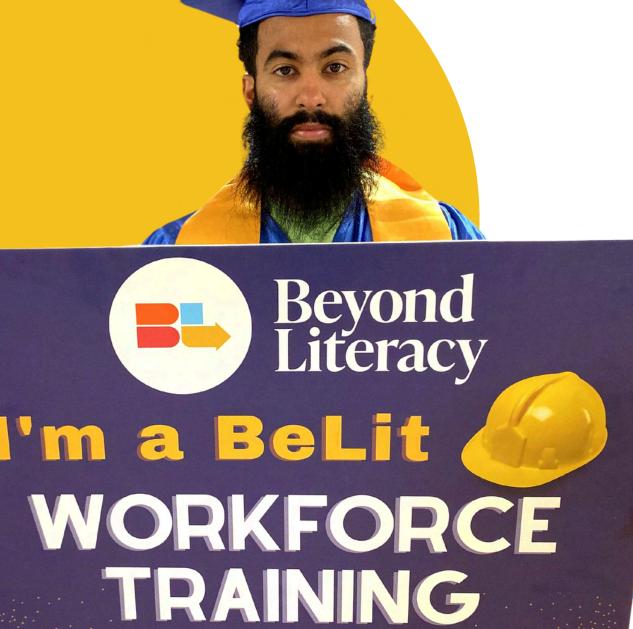
I promised my mom I would one day complete my high school education, **so I did it**!!!!



## Jonathan Norman



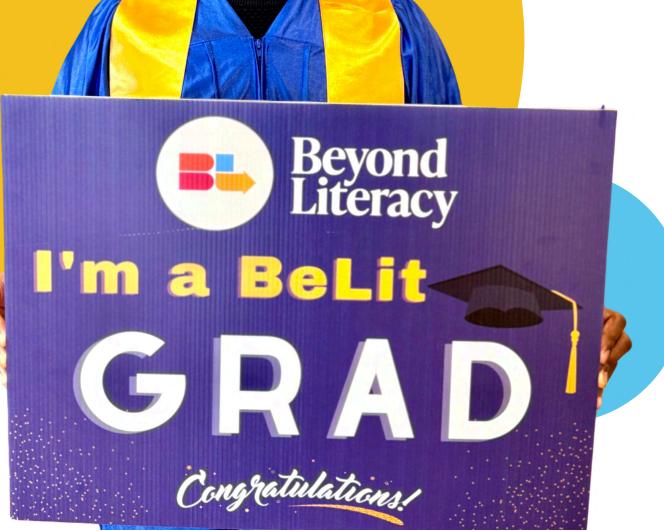
Carlos Oquendo



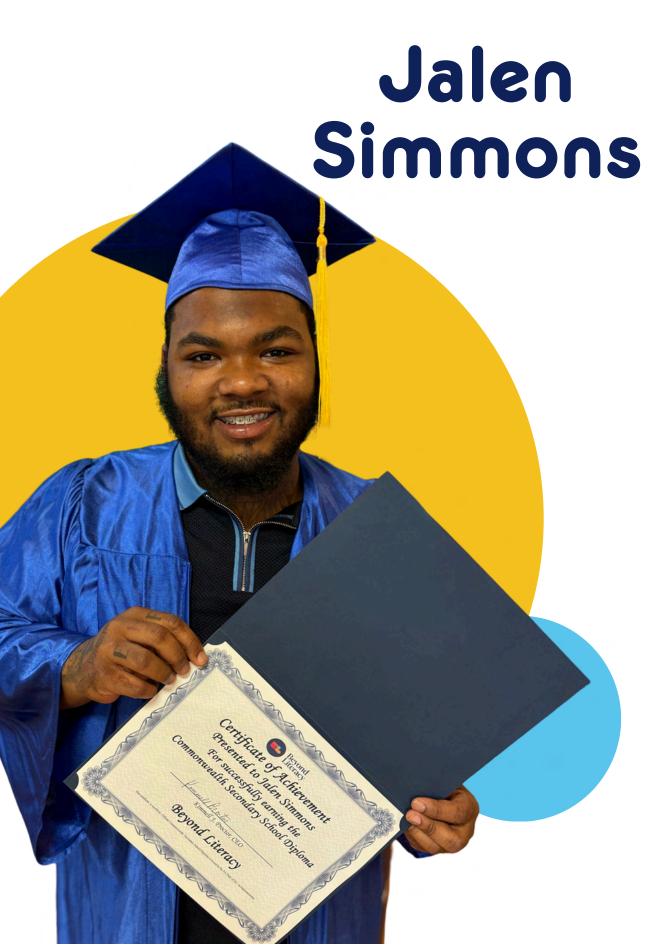




Jordan Robbins







Fassyiyah Taylor-Gardner

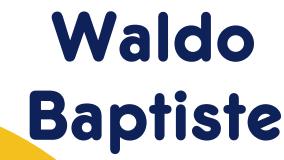


## Aleisha Williams



Xavier Wydner "This is something I always wanted to accomplish. It's never too late to get your GED."



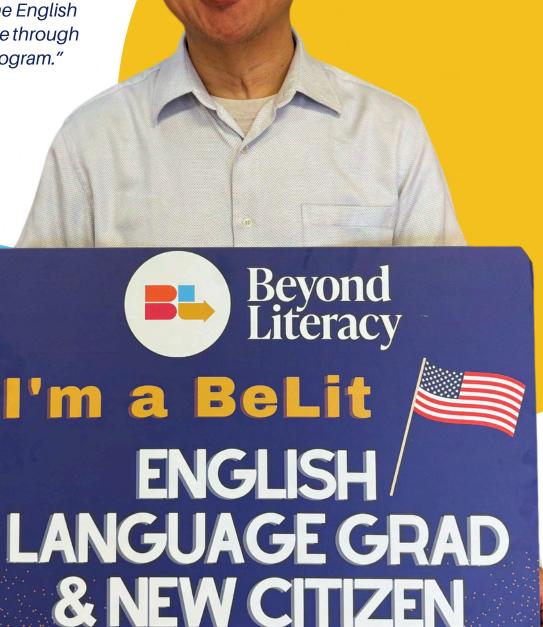






## Zhao Chen

"I had many chances to learn more knowledge about the English language through this program."









"Completing this program is important to me because good English language skills can open up exciting new opportunities and help me reach my full potential, whether for work, travel, or simply personal understanding."



## Fabiola Fils











## Olesia Nakonechna



## Johanna Roman-Guigni

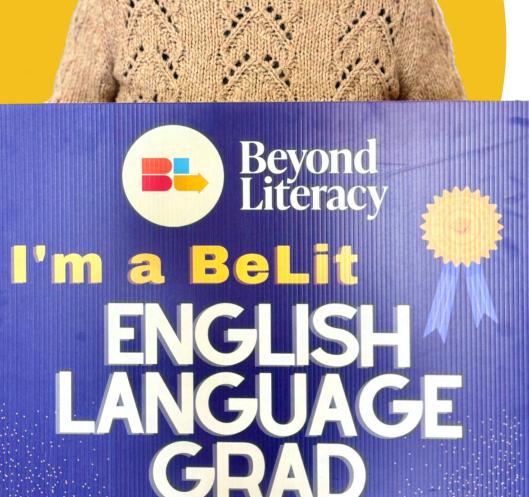


## Natalia Senchovskaia



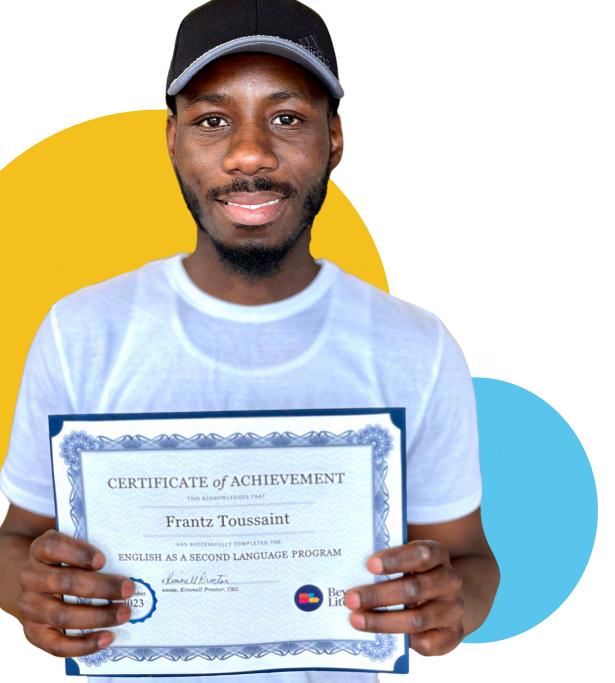
"This program was so helpful for me to understand English. I learned that if I believe in myself, I can do whatever I want."

Bilgin Solak











"Wherever you come from and whatever your age, don't stop learning and don't give up."

## Hamida Yahmi



#### Congrats BeLit Pre-Apprentices!

December 2023



June 2024



## Interested in a Green Energy Career?

Enroll NOW in our free, hands-on Weatherization Pre-Apprenticeship Training Program!



#### PROGRAM INFORMATION

- ree, Fast-Track 20 Week Program
  - Earn Weekly Student Stipends
- Monday Thursday from 9 AM 4 PM
- In-Person at Energy Coordinating Agency
- Earn 5 Industry Training Certifications
- Simultaneously Complete your GED
- Interview for high-paying jobs with top energy companies like PGW & PECO



For Info, email info@beyondliteracy.org





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to our generous event sponsors!





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#### **Cum Laude Sponsors**











#### Class of 2024 Individual Sponsors

Pratik Butala
Enrico Crispo
Denise Cifelli
Ashley Del Bianco
Alison DiFlorio
Jessika Faulkner
Stephen Fitzmartin
Mary Flournoy
Julia Geha

Michelle Grimley Anne Hagele Barabara Halpern Valerie Hosendorf Dinesh Indala Julie Jones Barabara Kaplan Henry Kranzler Michael McCourt

Ivy McDaniels
Hleziphi Naomie Nyanungo
Dr. Erica Patterson
Kimmell Proctor
Paul L. Rathblott
Carol Saline
Bob Young

#### Thanks to our Special Guests from the Graduation Celebration!

Featuring Master of Ceremonies,

#### Miguel Martinez-Valle

Miguel joined NBC10 and Telemundo62 in December 2017. Since then, he has become an active part of the community and has fallen in love with the Greater Philadelphia area and its people.





**S**COMCAST

#### Broderick D. Johnson

With over three decades of experience as an attorney, policy advisor and strategist, Mr. Johnson joined Comcast as Executive Vice President, Public Policy and Digital Equity. He has served under two U.S. Presidents as Deputy Assistant to the President for Legislative Affairs in the Clinton Administration and as Assistant to the President and Cabinet Secretary for the Obama Administration.

Visit BeLit's website to view event photos and the Class of 2024 Tribute Video featuring a special message from

Philadelphia Eagles Super Bowl Champ & Social Justice Advocate

Malcolm Jenkins





## WELL WISHES

FROM OUR GENEROUS INDIVIDUAL SPONSORS!

Congratulations, graduates!
Your dedication and
perseverance shine brightly.
As a board member, I'm
immensely proud. Best wishes
for your future endeavors!
-Dinesh Indala

Your determination has turned the page to a new chapter. May your stories be bold and your achievements grand.
Congratulations!
-Pratik & Neha Butala

Congratulations to the class of 2024!
What a major accomplishment this
is. Best of luck as you continue your
journey of lifelong learning!

-Ivy McDaniels

Congratulations! - Mike McCourt

Wishing you the success you deserve after putting in the necessary work to improve your life, and the lives of those around you! -Julia Geha

Congratulations Graduates! Your hard work and determination have paid off.

-Denise Cifelli & Sam Vrooman

Graduations are commencements..... beginnings. My heartfelt congratulations on completing your course; I know you will live up to your dreams and fulfill our hopes for you. - **Barbara Halpern** 

Congratulations to the Class of 2024! -Stephen J. Fitzmartin

Congratulations to the Class of 2024, You did it! This is the beginning and not the end. This is the time where your dreams take flight, your hard work starts to pay off, and the future becomes a canvas for your aspirations

and endeavors. - Dr. Erica Patterson

All our best wishes to the graduates for a wonderful future!
-Barbara and Jerry Kaplan

Congratulations
graduates! Your
dedication and
persistence paid off!
Keep working hard to
achieve your goals!
-Michelle Grimley

You worked hard and you did it!!! Congratulations and Good Luck as you move to next step of your life.

-Carol Saline

Congratulations. The good news is that this is just the beginning of a fuller, richer life. -Paul Rathblott

Congratulations, BeLit graduates, families, and friends! We celebrate your achievement and all those who support you on your learning journey.

-Ray & Ashley Del Bianco

Congratulations graduates, on your extraordinary accomplishment! You are the very reason that I am so proud to be a part of this amazing organization! Go and be great!

-Julie Jones



The Staff and Board of Directors at Philadelphia Federal Credit Union are proud to support

### BEYOND LITERACY

AND THE

GRADUATING CLASS OF 2024

**Congratulations!** 

OPEN AN ACCOUNT AT PFCU.COM

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Insured by NCUA

#### CONGRATULATIONS, CLASS OF 2024!



WE WISH
YOU
CONTINUED
SUCCESS!





## Congratulations to the Class of 2024!

What an amazing accomplishment. We can't wait to see the amazing things you all will do in the world!





#### **CONGRATULATIONS**

to the 2024 Graduates!

FirstBank Charitable Foundation is proud to support the celebration of your accomplishments. We look forward to seeing the positive impact you are all destined to make in the future!





# COMMUNITY PARTNER OF THE YEAR

Presented to



For equipping learners of all ages and stages with the digital access and tools to achieve their goals.

With gratitude, Beyond Literacy Class of 2024



BeLit's Young Friends Advisory Board is comprised of literacy allies who share a passion for uplifting their fellow Philadelphians with the transformative power of education.

For information, visit www.beyondliteracy.com/yfab

## Special Board Member Appreciation



#### **Beyond Literacy Founding Board President**

Enrico, on behalf the entire BeLit team, thank you for your outstanding leadership and dedication as our Founding Board President. Your vision, commitment, and tireless efforts have made a lasting impact on our community.

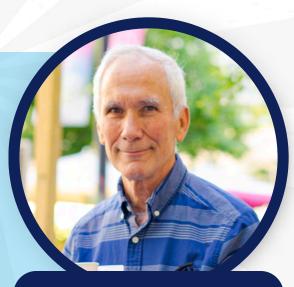
As you transition to Board Vice-President, we are grateful for your continued involvement and support. Your wisdom and experience will remain invaluable.

#### Beyond Literacy Founding Board Governance Chair

Bob, sincerest thanks for your exceptional service and sage guidance which have helped establish and uphold the high standards that define our organization.

As you step off the board, we are immensely grateful for your outstanding contributions and for remaining a vital part of our community as a devoted volunteer tutor. Your passion and ongoing support will continue to inspire and make a meaningful difference in the lives of our learners.





**Bob Young** 

### Our Gratitude to BeLit's outgoing Board Members for your dedicated service:

Dinesh Indala Michael McCourt

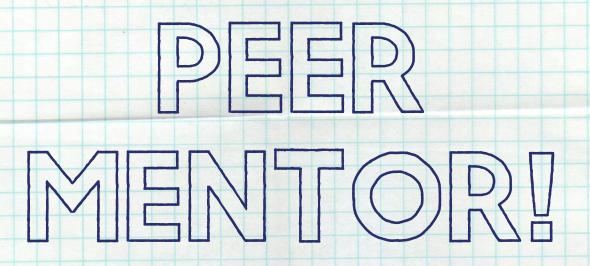
Keisha Moore Kyle Straub Malcolm Yates Robert Young



# You're ready to make a difference and so are we.

Citizens is proud to support Beyond Literacy and celebrate the Class of 2024.

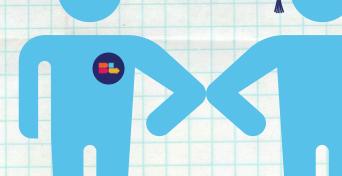
## HEY, CLASS OF 2024! MAKE A DIFFERENCE BY BECOMING A



AS A RECENT GRADUATE, YOU CAN HELP SUPPORT AND EMPOWER FELLOW ADULT LEARNERS ON THEIR JOURNEY FROM LEARNING TO EARNING!

Contact info@beyondliteracy.org to learn more or scan the QR code below.











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## YOU HOLD THE POWER

## Congratulations, Class of 2024 Graduates!

A leader in Pennsylvania for more than 130 years, PECO is dedicated to advancing smart energy to provide safe, reliable, affordable and clean energy services.



Beyond Literacy thanks PECO for their outstanding commitment to providing life-changing opportunities for the communities we serve through innovative programmatic partnership.

#### Visit a BeLit Campus!

Our centers are intentionally located in Philly's most in need communities, making classes accessible to our learners.

Center City Campus\*

211 N. 13th St., 4th Floor Philadelphia, PA 19107 \*Mailing Address

North Philly Campus
100 W. Oxford Street
Philadelphia, PA 19122

West Philly Campus
229 N. 63rd Street
Philadelphia, PA 19139



Call 215-474-1235 to plan a visit!

Plus, our mobile classroom extends our services to even more communities across the city!



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## GET MINIMINITY INVOLVED!







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