

Washington English Center

Improving the lives of immigrants through education.



FY2017 ANNUAL REPORT

A Catalogue for Philanthropy Nonprofit Organization

info@washingtonenglish.org

202-387-2222

2200 California St NW

Washington, DC 20008

www.washingtonenglish.org





BOARD CHAIR MESSAGE

As I enter my second year as Board Chair, I am thrilled to share the news that Washington English Center has once again been designated a featured nonprofit in the Greater Washington Catalogue for Philanthropy, as a member of the Class of 2017-18. Our organization was first selected for the Catalogue's roster in the 2005-2006 cycle and is proud that we continue to meet the Catalogue's high standards.

Barbara Harman, founder and president of the Catalogue, says, "People want to know where to give and they need trusted information. Based on our in-depth review, we believe that Washington English Center is one of the best community-based nonprofits in the region." I would like to thank all of our donors, volunteers, students and staff for making this honor possible.

This coming year is the 25th anniversary of our founding, originally as Language ETC. From modest beginnings, we have grown steadily and increased our offerings--including a recent significant expansion in employment services. To support our academic and workforce programs, we now have over 350 teachers and tutors each term.

This spring, our Executive Director Gabriela Mossi was honored twice for her long-time service to our local Hispanic community. She was recognized as the Community Service Leader of the Year by the Greater Washington Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and as one of the 100 most influential people for the Hispanic community in El Tiempo Latino's Powermeter 100. Congratulations, Gabriela!

Please join us during this coming school year to celebrate not only our past 25 years of success, but also the next 25 years as we seek to provide our immigrant population with the tools they need to participate in American society. We look forward to facing the challenges of the future together with you. Thank you!

Stephanie Lawson

There are more than 350 teachers and tutors each term





A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As I complete my first full academic year at the Washington English Center, I can truly appreciate what a privilege it is to work here. The members of our team amaze me on a daily basis! Every day I witness the commitment of staff members, generous board directors, hard-working students, and dedicated volunteer teachers, coaches and tutors. The enthusiasm and dedication to our mission builds a strong community that is palpable within the classrooms and the hallways. This past year we strove to invite more members of the business, local government and nonprofit sectors to see our school in action. We were pleased to hear how each of them is impressed with our model, our operations, and our results.

Washington English Center also takes pride in our partners—old and new. As we enter our 25th year, we are particularly pleased to note our long association with Our Lady Queen of the Americas—which is celebrating its 50th anniversary. We are excited about our new partnership with Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington to provide English classes and workforce prep services. We also worked with United Planning Organization to provide a hospitality training and certification course; and we formalized collaborations with the Greater Washington Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, The Line Hotel DC, Adams Morgan business owners, and construction contractors to enhance our employment services. As we look forward to our next 25 years of service to immigrants, I want to take the opportunity to thank all the extraordinary people whose support is so vital to our community!

Gabriela Mossi

OUR HISTORY

Washington English Center (WEC), founded in 1993 as Language ETC, provides English literacy and computer training as well as workforce development to low-income adult immigrants. For 24 years, our outstanding corps of volunteer teachers has offered immigrants to the Washington, DC area the critical language skills they need to build a better future for themselves and their families.

OUR MISSION

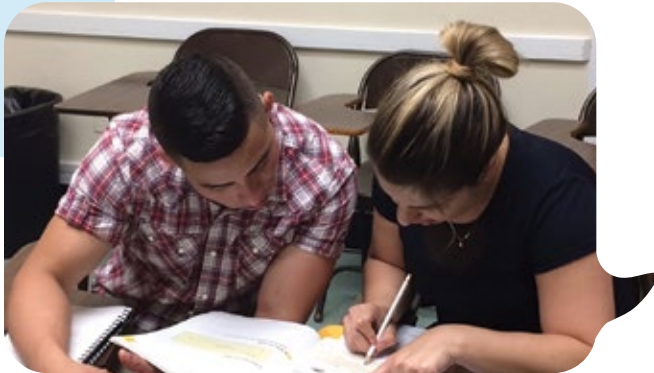
Our mission is to provide excellent and affordable English classes and other workforce programs to adult immigrants using volunteer teachers.

OUR CORE VALUES

We believe that:

- Speaking English is the key to an improved quality of life for immigrants.
- English language proficiency is vital to acquiring other skills.
- Volunteer teachers and tutors are our most critical assets in helping our students achieve their goals.
- The combination of English language instruction and volunteer participation fosters improved understanding between immigrants and the community at large.

Tuition and book costs are discounted and scholarships are available so all can attend, regardless of ability to pay.



OUR EDUCATION PROGRAM

English as a Second Language (ESL) classes

- ESL classes, 12 levels ranging from Basic through Advanced Plus
- Weekday mornings, evenings, and weekend classes to accommodate student schedules
- Three 11-week terms in the fall, winter and spring
- A six-week summer term offering multi-level conversation classes

Conversation Clubs

- Free to all registered ESL students

Technology Programs

- A computer Language Lab enabling students to develop valuable computer skills as they improve their English
- Computer literacy classes offered in both English and Spanish
- Unlimited access for all ESL students

One-on-One Tutoring

- Free individual tutoring available to any student who needs extra help

Citizenship Classes

- Classes available to prepare students who wish to become U.S. citizens

NEW for 2017

- Partnered with the Washington Literacy Center to offer Pre-Basic classes.
- Sponsored a "Know Your Rights" presentation by CARECEN.
- Initiated a "Language of Math" demonstration program.
- WEC Book Club established by Advanced class.

OUR EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

WEC's employment services grew by leaps and bounds in FY 2017. A dedicated staff member, aided by 13 volunteer job coaches, paved the way for over 150 students to obtain jobs and volunteer positions or enroll in higher education and other certification programs.

Overall, more than 275 students took advantage of our job search, career counseling, resume writing, application assistance, interview practice, and other workforce readiness services.



Thierno



When I arrived in the USA from Senegal, I found a lot of English programs in DC, but I couldn't afford them. Then I found the Washington English Center. More than simply giving quality English classes at a low price, they also helped me find and apply for a job. WEC gave me free career

coaching, which helped me update my resume and prepare for my interview with the Washington Nationals baseball team, where I'm working now. I greet and seat guests and respond to their questions. I really like what I'm doing there, it's a fun job. Now I can say because of WEC, my dream is becoming reality.



Students attended 13 Job Fairs/Recruitment Events

- Washington Career Fair
- L&A Hospitality Recruitment Event
- Washington Nationals Hiring Event
- The Darcy Hiring Event
- 19th Annual Job and Opportunities Fair
- Expo Latino Community Showcase
- Washington Career Fair
- Job Fair El Pregonero
- Millennial Week Hiring Fair
- MJMorgan Staffing Agency Hiring Event
- CLP Construction, Recruitment Event
- Onelife Fitness Recruitment
- First Class, Hospitality Recruitment Event
- J&A Hospitality Staffing Recruitment Event

NEW for 2017

- Offered hospitality training leading to certification through the support of the United Planning Organization (UPO).
- Offered 27 workforce readiness workshops covering a range of office, computer, business & financial, and job search skills.
- Offered series of classes on Working in the US Office Environment.

OUR STUDENTS



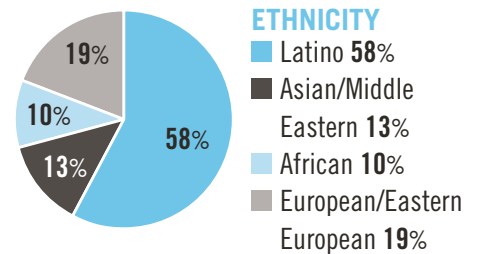
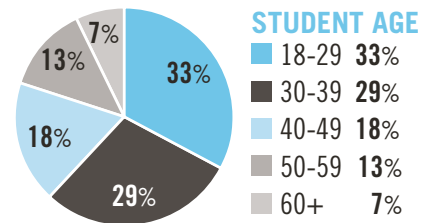
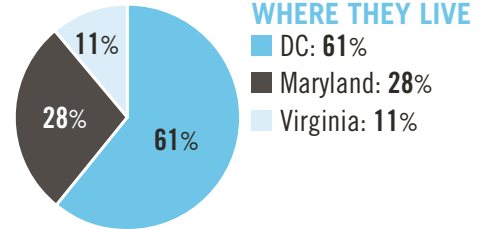
Felix

I'm Felix and I'm from the Dominican Republic. I want to improve my English. I found out about Washington English Center on the website. I was interested in this school because it's a school that helps all immigrants and it's fun to know people from different countries. We have different teachers every time and that's good for us. Everyone has different ideas and accents and that's good for us. I have friends from everywhere. I'm learning about a lot of cultures, so that's amazing, guys!

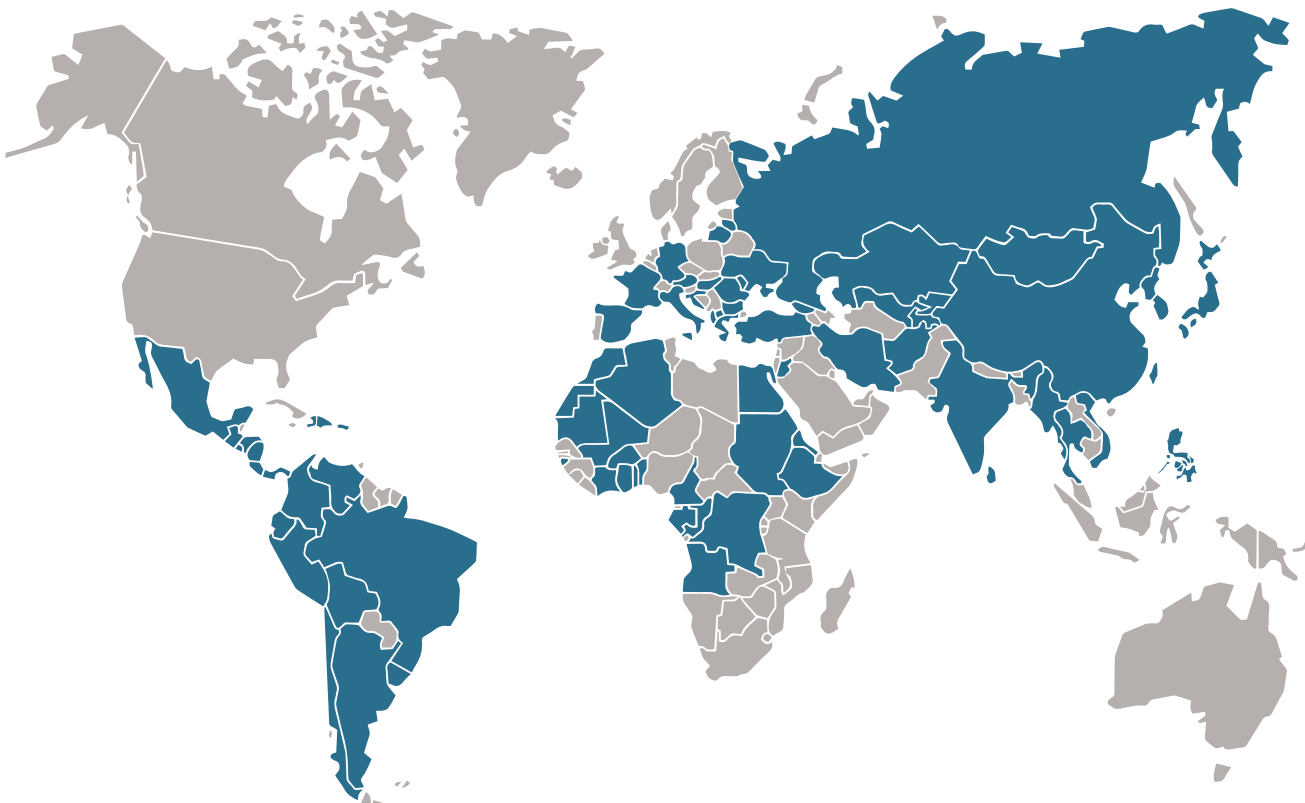


You can see more about Felix in this video:
www.washingtonenglish.org

WEC enrollments exceeded 2700, and 99% of our students indicated they would recommend WEC to their friends.



Since opening our doors, WEC has served students from more than 90 countries

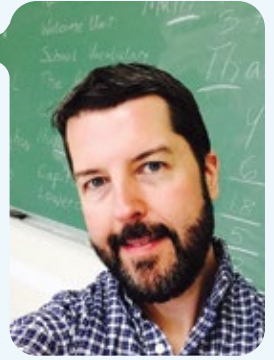


TEACHER PROFILE

I taught ESL to migrant farmworkers and migrant workers in Maryland and California for a few years when I was finishing grad school and when I moved back to DC I thought it would be nice to continue. I see it as much more than just teaching English, it is also a form of personal empowerment for the students as well as community development.

Teaching at WEC inspired me to pursue my CELTA certificate in Mexico City

which, aside from being a good experience, has given me the knowledge as well as the confidence to be a better teacher. I have taught various levels at WEC and other schools, mainly on the weekends, which fits nicely with my work schedule. Additionally, I have recommended WEC to friends and colleagues looking for opportunities to volunteer and will continue to do so.



Miguel



- *Over 350 volunteer teachers and tutors each term in FY 2017*
- *Over 80% of volunteers return to teach a second term*

OUR VOLUNTEERS

Our volunteer teachers come to us from a variety of professional backgrounds, and volunteer age groups range from 20 years old to 80+. Washington English Center does not require prior teaching experience and uses a unique co-teaching model so all teachers have the support they need in the classroom. We welcome new teachers each term, but the vast majority of our teachers return to teach with us year after year.

NEW for 2017

- “Faces of WEC” on social media expanded to include teacher profiles.
- New training in teaching math offered to Level 2 teachers.





COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- The Associate Board hosted fundraisers at the Embassy Row Hotel and Mellow Mushroom's Trivia Night, introducing young professionals to our program and raising funds for student scholarships.
- Washington English Center hosted Community Service Fairs connecting students with area partners to familiarize immigrants with housing, legal assistance, health insurance and a variety of other available services.



SOCIAL MEDIA OUTREACH

Washington English Center social media in 2017:

	Facebook	2327		Instagram	335
	Twitter	464		LinkedIn	962



STUDENT AND VOLUNTEER OUTREACH

Staff and volunteers participated in numerous community events aimed at student and teacher recruitment.

- Greater Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Minority Business Expo
- Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) Volunteer Fair
- Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs Community Picnic and Fair
- Tamal Fest
- Adams Morgan Day
- DC Public Schools Family Resources Fair
- Fiesta DC
- El Zol 107.9 FM Fiesta
- New Americans Expo 2016
- Mount Pleasant Community Fair
- Kalorama Park Day



Financial Statements

Major Institutional Supporters 2017

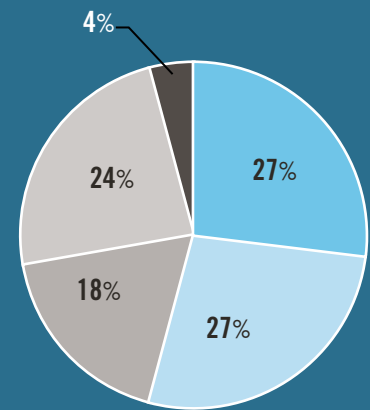
Acacia Foundation
 Ayco Charitable Foundation
 Barbara Notz Hines Foundation
 Clark Charitable Foundation
 Cora and John H. Davis Foundation
 Crimsonbridge Foundation
 Jovid Foundation
 Mayor's Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs
 Mayor's Office on Latino Affairs
 Meyer Foundation
 Office of the State Superintendent of Education
 The Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation



This summer, Washington English Center was named one of the best nonprofits by the Catalogue for Philanthropy. After completing a careful vetting process, the Catalogue for Philanthropy: Greater Washington selected WEC to be part of the Class of 2017-18.

WEC will also be one of 30 featured nonprofit organizations in the Catalogue's "Inspiration to Action" annual gala event in December 2017 at Sidney Harman Hall. Some of the top nonprofits in the area will come together for an interactive and informative fundraising event.

Washington English Center Revenues and Expenses 2017

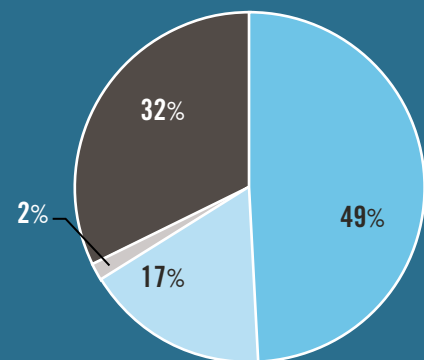


Revenue

Tuition	\$ 247,594
Government Grants	\$ 247,051
Foundation and other grants	\$ 162,492
Individual Contributions*	\$ 214,539
Other Income**	\$ 37,083
Total Revenue	\$ 908,759

* includes event income

** includes in-kind facilities contributions of \$34,832 in 2017



Expenses

Salaries and Benefits	\$ 418,990
Rent	\$ 143,638
Event Expenses	\$ 12,490
Other Expenses	\$ 273,604
Total Expenses	\$ 848,722



WASHINGTON ENGLISH CENTER LEADERSHIP

Our work would not be possible without the dedication of our staff and the stewardship of our Board of Directors, Associate Board and Academic Advisory Board

STAFF LEADERSHIP

Gabriela Mossi

Executive Director

Clodoaldo Lopez

*Office Manager,
Weekdays*

Claudia Belloso

*Office Manager,
Weekends*

Yadilka Márquez

*Coordinator of
Employment Services*

Mary Spanarkel

*Director of Curriculum
and Instruction*

Elizabeth Madjlesi

*Director of Volunteer
Programs*

**Lois Hammond &
Louise Godley**

*Weekday Volunteer
Coordinators*

Baker Osman

*Weekend Volunteer
Coordinator*

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Summer Communications Intern, Miles Igou from Elon University, visits the Mayor's Office on Latino Affairs for community outreach projects.



Valerie Bystrova started at Washington English Center as an Advanced Plus student and later became our Fall Communications Intern before returning to her hometown of Moscow, Russia.

WASHINGTON ENGLISH CENTER

(July 2016 – June 2017)

Washington English Center (WEC) thanks the individual donors listed below for their generous support in Fiscal Year 2017. As the following report reflects, WEC relies on gifts large and small to provide services to the immigrant community.

The following list recognizes only those who donated between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017.

\$10,000 and over

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Ms. Joan M. Kerrigan

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Ray Suarez accepts “Champion for Immigrants” award from Washington English Center.

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 Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Zengerle



STUDENT PROFILE

I'm Rocío and I'm from Lima, Peru. It's very important to study because now I can understand in my job and have good conversation with my bosses. Before I started taking classes, sometimes I understood but now I can use good sentences and grammar. Also, now in class, I can understand the teachers when they are explaining. Before, I was at a public school, but I didn't understand. I found out about Washington English Center from the recommendation of friends and my sister who studied here before. The school is strong and the teachers are very good. I like it because the classes are interesting and the school is very near my work. I feel better now and the hours are good. 10-1. Night classes are impossible for me so 10 am is very good.

Rocío

Why do you study English?



Graphic design by
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Washington English Center
2200 California St, NW
Washington, DC 20008

(202) 387-2222

info@washingtonenglish.org



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2200 California St, NW
Washington, DC 20008