continuing education
2014 donor newsletter continue.utah.edu

As we close 2014 and enter 2015, we want to thank our generous donors who have contributed to Continuing Education’s success. Our donors have supported many programs, including Professional Education’s Nonprofit Academy, the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, and Youth Education’s Club U summer camps and ACT prep courses.

Our classes and programs are geared to people ages two to one hundred two, and we are proud to extend financial assistance for learners across that spectrum.

Thank you for being our partners in a lifetime of learning.

Anne E. O’Brien
Assistant Dean, Continuing Education

YOUTH EDUCATION: Youth Education at the University of Utah offers hands-on educational programs for students from preschool to high school. Our students learn anything from fencing to anatomy; ultimate Frisbee to paleontology. We also offer Club U summer camps for ages five to fourteen, where students meet professors, work in labs, and use the University of Utah’s campus as “home” for the summer. Finally, we offer ACT and SAT prep courses, designed to improve students’ test scores as they apply for higher education.

Donors to Youth Education allow us to offer tuition assistance for Club U camps and our test prep courses. Students are glad for the opportunity to attend these programs:

“Abby suffered a severe brain injury last fall. I hesitantly called to see if it might be a possibility for her to attend Club U again this year. They overwhelmingly responded with ‘yes of course, we will make whatever accommodations we need to!’ They did! Abby even went ‘ice skating’ in a wheelchair! I have been so grateful for the many summers she has spent with you, but particularly this year when she had the opportunity to be ‘just a teenager’ again regardless of her limitations. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your amazing program and people!”

Karen N., Abby’s guardian

Youth Education’s mission is to extend the resources of the University of Utah to as many students as possible. Many thanks for your support in making this possible.

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION: Professional Education’s Nonprofit Academy is designed for managers, staff, and volunteers in Utah’s nonprofit community. Students learn new ideas and tools to improve their programs, network with a diverse group of professionals, and find solutions to the unique challenges nonprofits face.

“As an executive director of a small operation in Salt Lake City, the non-profit academy has been integral in my growth as a new executive director. Without a robust professional development budget, I was only able to get my certificate and attend classes as a result of receiving a generous scholarship. I am eternally grateful to those who supported my education at this level because the lessons I have learned not only help me in my current role, but is something I will take with me throughout my professional career.”

Christopher C., Fund Development Student

“Managing Performance Collaboratively class and received a number of tools that I immediately incorporated into my supervisory duties. These tools helped me think through performance issues without being reactionary and helped me develop positive relationships with the staff members I supervise. Without the scholarship, our organization would not have had the resources to offer this training to me, which would have prevented some of the worthwhile changes we’ve made over this past year from being implemented at the ESLC.”

Sarah F., Leadership and Management Student

Thank you for supporting this important community resource.

As we move into the new year, we are looking forward to building on the success of the past year. We’ll continue to look for new ways to meet the needs of learners in Utah and beyond.

Thank you for all that you do for Utah.”

Anne E. O’Brien
Assistant Dean, Continuing Education
Thank you for allowing us to offer financial assistance to professionals across Utah. Your investment in these programs helps to improve the capacity of nonprofits, as well as improve the skills and success of individuals.

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute: The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at The University of Utah provides opportunities for intellectually stimulating, affordable, non-credit learning and meaningful social engagement to people 50 and better. Started in 2004 with a generous 4-year grant from the Bernard Osher Foundation, the institute is part of a network of over 100 Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes at colleges and universities across the country. Today the Institute is supported by earnings from an endowment received from the Bernard Osher Foundation in 2008, gifts from members and other donors, Continuing Education at The University of Utah, and member dues and tuition.

Beginning with less than 50 members, the Institute has grown steadily to over 1250 members strong. The rapid growth of the institute demonstrates the value it brings to the community. In addition to gaining knowledge, Osher members often strengthen existing bonds and form new friendships. The opportunity to spend time with others who love to learn and discuss topics of common interest leads to lively class discussions and a sense of community. Instructors find teaching at Osher invigorating and return term after term.

“I have been with Osher from its very, very beginning. Teaching Osher students has always been a pleasure – they actually want to learn, never have enough, and always ask challenging questions. They are simply awesome!”

Osher instructor and U of U faculty Ewa Wasilewska

“Osher saved my life last year. I had many pressing matters and I told everyone, ‘don’t schedule appointments on my Osher class days,’ and they listened.”

Osher member

“My Osher class brought back such fond memories of my college days—I literally had tears in my eyes as I privately reminisced.”

Osher member

Thank you for supporting this important community resource. Your investment enhances people's lives and our community.

English Language Institute: The English Language Institute (ELI) at the University of Utah is a preparatory intensive English language program designed for international students and members of the local community and university. Our students come from all over the globe, including the Middle East, Japan, South Korea, and Central and South America. Many of these students stay in the United States to complete university degree programs.

In 2005, ELI collaborated with Zions Bank to launch an English as a Second Language (ESL) scholarship program for the local community—the Zions-ELI Scholarship Program. The Zions Bank–ELI Scholarship Program is designed to provide professional-level English language proficiency, and provide a link between the University of Utah and Salt Lake City’s immigrant community. The scholarship was established to minimize costs for training in advanced levels of English, with an emphasis on language skills required for professional occupations.

Since its establishment in January of 2005, the Zions-ELI Scholarship Program has graduated 24 cohort classes, comprising 389 graduates. More than half of the program’s participants hold college degrees from their native countries, and want to improve their English, and their opportunities, in the United States.

ELI is very grateful to partner with Zions Bank to offer this important program. We are pleased to connect the U to the community, and thankful for the opportunity to help students achieve success.

Your Donations Support:

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute
Osher member

English Language Institute
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