

Believing in Achieving



Yearbook
Graduation 2004-2005



East End Literacy

Equity, Accessibility & Community

Believe in Achieving

We are thrilled to join with program participants, board, staff and friends of East End Literacy in celebrating our fifth graduation ceremony. When we reflect on the strengths and challenges of our organization, as well as those of our program participants, it is clear that we are a community rich in diversity and human potential. Too often that potential is hidden: buried in the statistics of low literacy skills or newcomer status.

As a training and development organization, we look behind the statistics and make a difference by focusing on developing, expanding and channeling human potential. Our programs are rooted in each individual's reality, goals and dreams and aspirations. And we go the extra mile to ensure that the learning experience is based on the reality of the world around us.

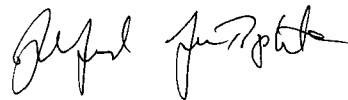
The work that we do is also based on a dream of a new reality. Every dream is based on a certain underlying vision, for example: *Equity, Accessibility and Community*. How meaningful the reality will be, depends on how many people really share the vision and become committed to making it a reality. Many people have had dreams which remained castles in the air and never came down to earth. So sharing the dream, building the vision is an essential part of the work of creating a new reality.

The next step in making the vision a reality is to set clear goals. To do this we need to decide on a certain date, sometime ahead, and agree upon the situation we hope to have reached by that time. This is something we do as an organization, as well as every individual in our program. It is not always easy. Especially at the beginning! But one thing remains true - no matter what dreams or vision we have as an organization, we can only make meaningful progress if we all share that dream, and you believe that there is a place for East End Literacy in helping you achieve your individual goals and aspirations.

The personal growth and change that you have all experienced over the past year has been nothing short of incredible. We would like to congratulate all of you for your dedication, commitment and perseverance and for once again demonstrating, collectively, what it means to believe in achieving!



Anna-Marie Castrodale
President



Alfred Jean-Baptiste
Executive Director

Valedictorian Address

By Brandy Skinner

Good evening. My name is Brandy Skinner, and I am representing the students and 2005 graduating class of East End Literacy. We are gathered here this evening to congratulate and celebrate all of our achievements that we have accomplished over this past year.

To my fellow students of East End Literacy, as well as myself, who are continuing upgrading and are currently in this transitional phase of our lives, we are attempting to maintain a healthy balance between our personal and professional lives. With new attained skills, and new found abilities we are enhancing our capabilities to pursue our education and our careers.

Together we have overcome many challenging barriers that were preventing us from following our dreams. For each of us we have set our futures in motion. Here at East End Literacy we are always looking ahead for new and better ways to reach our goals and maximize our potential. The staff and students are a part of a family where caring, mutual support, encouragement, and personal growth help us to enrich our lives with opportunities to succeed.

Before I became a student at East End Literacy my life was spiraling out of control. I was forced to drop out of High School and to work survival jobs full-time just to keep a roof over my family's head and food on the table. I had low self-esteem, thought negatively about my future, and was blaming others for my circumstances. I had lost what little confidence I had and was becoming a negative contributor of our society.

Now that I have successfully completed Level Three and am graduating and moving on to study Level Four and Five at George Brown Community College, I have regained my self-esteem and a positive attitude. I think often of my future to empower me and to keep me motivated. Never in my life have I been so proud of my accomplishments, and never have I had more control of my life.

East End Literacy
Graduation 2005

Now I am a positive role model for my son and feel more confident in my abilities as a young mother, and my career goal as a future Paramedic.

East End Literacy has plenty of resources that support the community and provide students with both in-class and out of class workshops and seminars. These provided us with important information. We attended many events this school year. My most memorable experiences were the “Ain’t Misbehavin’” theatrical production, which was an amazing performance with an array of talent and The Metro Toronto Movement for Literacy Learner’s Conference which allowed students to meet and greet authors of historical fiction that we had read in class.

We engaged in many different activities to encourage us to have healthy self-esteem, a positive attitude, and a willingness to succeed. **All that we believe, we will achieve.** This is often something we overlook, due to personal circumstances, and or lack of education. We must determine our priorities and effectively manage our time. We must use our problem solving skills to overcome barriers that may arise, and to learn from our mistakes. There are additional areas that we can develop that will enable us to be more efficient, such as budgeting, stress management, healthy eating habits, and exercising. Incorporating these elements will positively affect our way of living.

I would like to thank everyone involved in literacy upgrading because these agencies recognize and respect the importance of an education. **They never doubt that if we believe we, will achieve.**

Thank-You.

Brandy Skinner



Achievement and Pride

By Roselie

It makes me feel good about myself to go to school every day and work hard to achieve my goals. Now I can read and understand what I read better than before. I think I have come a long way with my reading. I hope I can continue getting better every day. I think education is very important to have in life.



Believing in Achieving

By Rocky

When I first started to come to East End Literacy I didn't know how to use the computer. At first I was a bit shy but slowly I gained my confidence. Thanks to my computer teacher. From day one I learned how to use the mouse and not to be afraid to use it, and how to browse. I also know how to send and receive e-mails and surf the internet and how to get my membership card on the computer. Now I can operate a computer with more confidence. I still need to learn more when I reach level three. I know that it is going to be more challenging for me so I am looking forward to it.

Believing in Achieving

By Eileen

I achieved time management. I go to classes in the morning, and do my training at Goodwill in the afternoon. My job there is handover and cash register. It makes me feel good to be able to do these things.

I have achieved more in my reading and writing, and some math. It makes me feel proud.

And now that I can understand the reading, my writing has improved since last year. It makes me feel good to improve so much this year.

Believing in Achieving

By Mohamed

Just one year ago I was hiding my illiteracy well from others. Especially friends and acquaintances could not know. I would not write unless they themselves asked me to write. I hid my work from a lot of people. People would never know or suspect my problem because of how I spoke and my life skills. I was the only person who knew it, but acquaintances who hardly knew me referred to my writing as a disability. That's when I decided to come to E.E.L. to help me tackle my problem.

I registered with E.E.L. with students who were coming the following year. Being around school day in and day out, and speaking with our instructor, we learned how to deal with low self-esteem, which I use daily. One key phrase I picked from class was not to compare, just state facts.

It really helped me with my problem and my problem became clear. Some of the problem was writing, but most of it was self-esteem. So I decided to tackle the self-esteem first, then the writing. That's when I saw improvement in my writing and attitude.

Believing and Achieving

By Rita

This year I am proud to see my reading skills have improved, and spelling “I will keep at it.” Until I get to the point where I can go to work and use my skills. Thanks to my teacher and to my classmates at East End Literacy, and Canada for having good hope for us students.

Believing in Achieving

By Doris

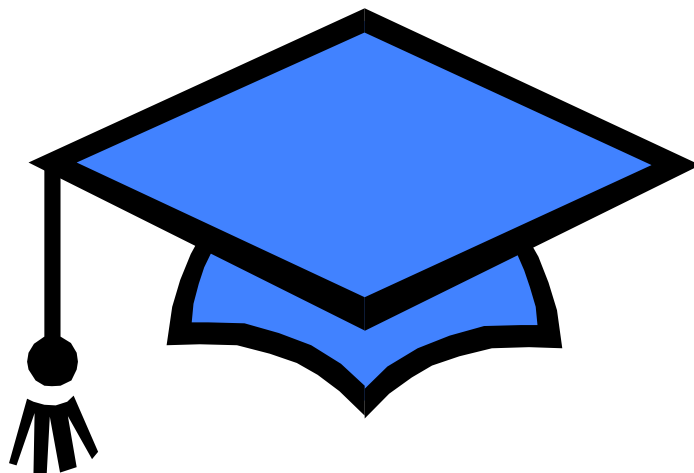
I believe I will achieve what I want because I know what I want and I have to do my best to get it.

I have achieved a lot of things in my life. I went to junior school and I completed it. Then I went to hairstyling school and I got my certificate.

I came to Canada as a refugee. I have my Canadian status and I am going to school now to complete my level 5. I know I will achieve it and establish myself in the business of hairstylist.

Achieving a thing is to know what you want and know what you are doing. To achieve my goals, I have to focus on my studies, and I should not allow anything to discourage me.

I am proud of what I have achieved in my life because I do know what I want to do and I get what I am looking for.



Believing in Achieving

By Ainey

I believe I can achieve my goals in life if I work hard. I had difficulty in writing sentences and spelling. So I started working harder to improve my reading and writing skills with the help from my teacher and tutor. I did a lot of writing sentences and spelling activities in the class and at home as homework.

After doing that, I started making some improvement in my writing and spelling skills. So I felt better about my achievement and kept working harder. Now I can spell simple words and write simple sentences.



Believing in Achieving

By Peter

I believed if I went to school, I would achieve my goal. My goal at school is to read and write letters without asking others to do that for me. I got better education from my teacher that helped me read and write better.

Now I am happy that gained confidence in my reading, writing and math skills. I can read comic books, write a simple letter, and do math work easily. I can use my reading and writing skills to get a better job. I believe everyone can make it if he works harder.

Believing in Achieving

By Gloria

I have achieved reading, writing and math skills since I was at East End Literacy. All the teachers have helped me achieve this. By attending this school, I have also become more of an intelligent person and I am not making too many errors in my writing.

I never thought that school was for me, but I have built the courage to attend school through my sister's suggestion and help. I found it is also important to learn to read and write properly so that no one will turn you around as they like.

Believing in Achieving

By Shawn

I believe I made progress in my reading, writing and math skills at East End Literacy this year.

My goal was to read better, spell better, and sound words out. My goal was also to learn how to break big words into syllables so that I can read and spell them better.

It was so confusing to read big words for me. However, after my teacher helped me know how to break the big words into syllables, it became easier for me to read and write better. Now I feel I can pick up a book or a newspaper. I believe doing this helped me read better and spell better.

My achievement in writing helped me win the writing contest held at East End Literacy two times. I believe if you push yourself to reach the goals that you set for yourself, you can make it.



Goals At East End Literacy

By Darryl

Since I have attended East End Literacy I have achieved a lot.

My math skills have improved in so many ways. It's at the point where I can memorize my math skills in my head without writing it on paper. This is definitely a big accomplishment.

Another achievement is my communication skills, I've learned to have a professional conversation and give speeches to a large number of people. This I recognize as a big achievement, because without having good communication skills it is hard to go on in your life.

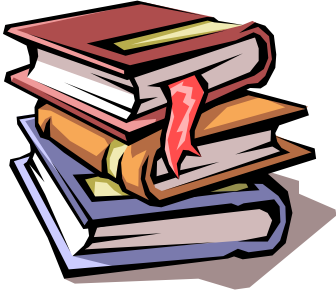
My final achievement this year is doing quality homework. By doing homework in this way it helps one's ability to do things in a professional manner, this for sure is a great achievement.

When I first stepped in East End Literacy, Brenda and I had brief conversation. She asked me to share my goals, wants, and needs for the school year. My goal was to finish the school semester with no absences. This I am 92 percent sure I've done.

A second goal I completed was to learn as much as possible in a matter of four months.

Without the help of East End Literacy, the library, and staff I would have not accomplished these many things. So thanks everyone for the help!

And last but not least thank you for your help this year Caroline.



Believing and Achieving

By Funmi

When I first started East End Literacy back in February 2005, I had a goal and a plan to master Level Three. I didn't know that I had so many strategies and the ability to do my assignments, but there was one thing I knew for sure, I had the motivation to work hard to get the right answers. Drawing upon these moments I know that I had to be resourceful, and I knew that I didn't want to spend two years listening to the same old subject matter, so I had to make the lessons interesting to me, and less boring. What I did was give myself a reason to study exceedingly hard. So far I think that I have established that, because even though this year was tough I still made it through in a short period of time, and now it is time to celebrate my success.

I have been studying my vocabulary more in the spoken and written form to extend my knowledge. And create exciting new ways in which I can use these new words. I have also discovered new ways of understanding a reading project or a writing procedure. I have found out, I am capable of using words in a variety of ways, and understand their purpose even though it seemed difficult at first. Through these experiences I have been able to read between the lines when reading and trying to stay on one main topic is less complicated, also I am now able to be interactive with others.

I also discovered what type of learning style I am. I have learned that I am a visual learner, which means, "I conceive and obtain information through sight". This includes taking notes, understanding storytelling by forming a picture in my head. Since I have found this information out from my instructor, I have been practicing to illustrate more and design clothes, and experimenting in other areas that have to do with visual arts. I even found out what multiply intelligence I was and how I could develop my other ways of learning. Knowing my learning style will help me achieve my goal of being successful in the career field of Fashion and Design.

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I also had to make a speech in front of my classmates about the workshops I attended at this years Learner's Conference. My experience with the presentation was a little challenging. At first it was a little shaky for me but, in the end I think I pulled off something quiet interesting, and I think I did a tremendous job. It was not easy for me to stand in front of the class and do a speech about the workshops that I took. I give myself credit for this because it took courage to do something that I thought I didn't have the strength to do, that's why it was a thrilling experience. After I realized that the class was focused on my project. I forgot about my nervousness. These are the things that I have accomplished, and the areas that I have been working on to succeed.

Here is Poem for the Season Of Believing and Achieving

The word believing is faith with a gift inside.
Believing is the first step to achieving.
Believing is the courage to take a step towards a mile.
Believing is taking a moment to think where you want to be.
Believing is taking the initiative to have it all.
Believing is having your moments of victory.
Believing is your moments of achieving something.
Believing is having a seed to grow, but in the end you will bear many fruits.

The word achieving is to hold and to have.
To achieve something is to know no matter how far
behind you are, you will get there.
To achieve something is to take a journey a billion
miles away, but in time you will get there.
To achieve something is to sacrifice your precious time.
It's taking a simple step to add an inch to a mile, and allow your
courage to lead you on through your victory.
Achieving is knowing that your burning spears are over.



Endless Possibilities

By Kathy



I believe that in order to achieve you have to believe in yourself, there will be days when things just don't go the way we plan. Those are the days that you have to tell yourself, that tomorrow will be a better day.

When I first started EEL back in 2003-2004, I was scared for many different reasons. Over the last two years I have overcome that fear and adapted to school life very well. I also take a big interest in my school work, and activities. I enjoy working and taking part in the everyday activities and challenges that come my way here at EEL.

This year has been a very big challenge for me. My everyday life took a lot of managing and getting use to day after day. I found the work very challenging and competitive, but I got through it and I received a lot of help from my daughters, friends, my teachers, and staff.

There were a lot of times when I felt very weak and not to sure of myself, and wanted to drop out of school. However with the support and determination of my daughters who would tell me that, "*only good things can come from getting an education,*" I hung in there.

Having my daughters in my life helping and supporting me has assisted in me getting through the year. Now that this year is over I am looking forward to the challenges that EEL will have prepared for me to take on next year, and hopefully I will become successful, and be able to complete another goal in my life.

The support of family, friends, and having them believing in you really helps you believe that you can achieve your goals. **But you need to believe in yourself first!**



Believing in Achieving

By Feddy

Believing in achieving is a good concept to believe in, since it is a situation where you have to know that no matter what happens, if you have a chance to keep going, and doing good work in line with the goal you want to achieve, surely you will attain it.

If your goal is to study and accomplish your career, it means that you will study hard. Studying is never easy. You struggle, you fall, get up, and go again. There are always challenges to meet because it involves the learning of new things, but I think if you stay focused, use your instructors, teachers, and career counselors, who are around you to help you on your journey of learning, studying will get a little easier which will lead to your career success.

Choosing a career can be challenging, and I think that is why we have people to guide us through. When I came to EEL, I had no career goal and I had searched for it for along time, and had given up. I asked myself, “Now what?” When I was still confused, Mrs. Brenda called me and told me that she had found two courses for me. I had forgotten that when I came for registration, I had mentioned to her, I would like to work in health records. I didn’t know she was going to do her research. I never thought that I could ever get a career goal because studying had been a challenge for me. I saw the courses, and she chose Office Medical Administration. When I read through it, I took a breath and said, “Oh, my God this needs a lot of courage!” And she said, “You can do it. They want Level 5 Math, and as I can see your math is not that bad.” I said, “OK”, but with doubt. She advised me to continue studying and gain more knowledge, and to boost up my confidence and self-esteem. With that advice, I will continue to work on this career goal.

In addition to this, I’m glad that we have Job Placements this year in Level 3. I hope to gain knowledge and experience from mine, and it will help me to see where I am and what I need to learn in order to succeed. Thank-You Mrs. Brenda Silver for you assistance.

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I would like to thank God for giving me a Math Award this year. And I would like to thank Mrs. Caroline Outten for being a good math teacher. I was very happy when she mentioned to me that I was being given a Math Award.

Though I have just joined East End Literacy it doesn't mean that I haven't learned something. I liked that I have learned workability skills, from our Job Readiness Course. It was vital because I had been out of school and the workplace for awhile, it will help and prepare me for entering a work environment. I learned to write business letters, such as cover letters, and memos. I can send a fax and E-mail my relatives and friends. I have gained communication skills and have better understanding of behavior in work settings. I am pleased I obtained the Job Readiness Certificate, I'll use it on my resume. Thank you Mrs. Caroline Outten my Instructor.

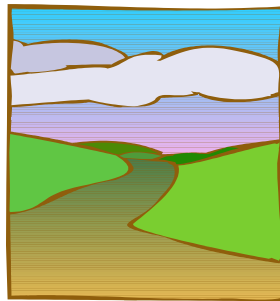
I loved when we went to the Learners' Conference. I attended a workshop called **Bread and Roses, Looking Inside: Being Good to Myself.** This women's workshop was intended to help women to stop being so hard on themselves and apply new ways to help them to take care of themselves. I'm glad I went because, it changed the way I viewed myself. I will always say a word of encouragement now when I'm in a negativity state, and when I'm not. Thanks to the organizers and presenters.

I will be coming back in September and building on the knowledge I have acquired as I move on to Level 4. ***I wish everyone believed in achieving, for it provides you with the motivation to keep pursuing what you want to achieve, until you obtain it.***



Believing Is Achieving **By Maurice**

Believing and achieving may be two different words however, they blend nicely together. For this student, the words believing and achieving were not always there. As some may say, “*seeing is believing*”. What about “*believing is seeing*”? As I look around I see fellow students struggle, I also see the achievements through our hard work and persistence to learn. To achieve a higher understanding of education is the one purpose for being here. The other may be to never give up on ourselves, whatever our goals may be and whether they may be big or small. *Giving up or giving in is too easy*. To turn back time will never happen. One can only improve with what one has. The chance to learn is a chance to achieve. For this student, the chance wasn't so much in the education but rather in the believing.



However, I have learned something through my persistence.

1. Communicating without fear. 2. Was the believing in the students, teachers, and staff around me. This showed me to believe in me. Now, that is an achievement!

Learning Made New

By Rose



I have been a student at the East End Literacy Program since January 2005. During my time here I learned some new things, and did some things I never did before. The encouragement of my teacher and fellow students helped me to work hard in school at my achievements, and to be myself. Now I believe if I work hard I will succeed.

The new things I learned in English were about writing prefixes and suffixes, I never wrote so many pages of sentences and paragraphs. I wrote about the novels I read, I never read so many novels in my life. I started to learn about fractions. I also learned about computers and how to do research on the internet. I went to conferences and some workshops. And I will be ending the school year by going on a work placement. I am so happy about it since it will help me achieve my goals.

So these are examples of new things I learned and did while going to the East End Literacy Program. My teacher and the students influenced me to stay focused and be positive. I had lots of homework every night that I had to do. Some times I felt overwhelmed and thought I would give up, but with determination I hung in there. The students helped me to have confidence in myself by offering encouraging words. We had good times in class. I enjoyed going to school at East End Literacy.

I would recommend this program to everyone because it is a good program for adults to learn many things and to achieve their goals. Everything I learned was useful to me. I am proud of myself for going so far. I am getting closer to my goal of becoming trained as a Personal Support Worker.

Learning How To Achieve Goals

By Carmel

My time at East End Literacy has helped me to see what believing in myself is all about, so I can achieve my dreams.

Before coming to East End Literacy, if you had asked me to describe my achievements in the past year, it would have been the hardest question to answer. You see for me to give that much credit to myself didn't come easily.

Now I do believe in achieving my life dreams, the reason being is that by coming to East End Literacy the right people, ask the right questions, to get the right results from me. I do believe all the answers and the strength are in me and I do know I need to give myself permission to achieve my goals and to succeed in life.

I would like to thank East End Literacy for helping me to improve my Math, English, Computer, Reading, Writing and, Job Readiness so I can go out there and get a job with confidence and knowledge.



I would love to thank all the teachers and staff for their support.

East End Literacy Writing Contest Winner

Why Toronto is a Great Place to Live

By Shawn

Toronto! This is such an amazing place to live. Just walking down our streets is enough proof as to why anyone would want to reside in this city.

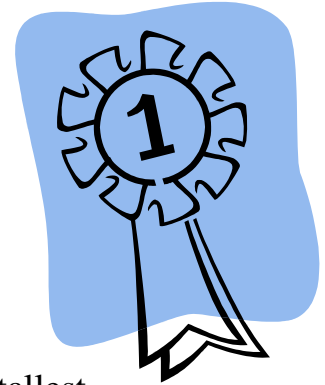
We have many different sights that tourists are to come and explore! Some, for example, would include the CN tower and the Sky dome. The CN tower was named as the second tallest building in the world! Also, the national baseball games, with such teams as the Blue Jays, are played at the Sky dome.

Our city is filled with so many bright lights and colors. It is like living in a blissful dream. You can go to the grocery store and see such a variety of foods that blows your mind! Turn on the television and you can watch movies or TV shows, even listen to music and songs that are broadcasted in different languages.

What I mostly love about our city is how diverse it is. It's like welcoming every single culture, religion, colour and race into one big united city. All I can see in my head is all the different people and cultures surrounding me.

Toronto is so developed that many people can raise their families at ease because there are just so many jobs being offered all around us. Children: nowadays, don't have to be ashamed to bring their food, like curry, roti, or even couscous for lunch! In other places, you probably wouldn't be as open-minded in your decision of what to bring for lunch.

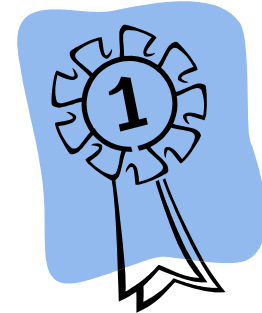
No particular group belongs in Toronto because the fact is everyone can be part of our city! Come and experience this excitement and joy for yourself! Everybody's invited! Come and have fun in our city of lights!



East End Literacy Writing Contest Winner

Toronto Is The Place To Be!

By Brandy



The economic and cultural focus of English-speaking Canada is Toronto, the largest metropolis. Metropolitan Toronto is a rarity among major North American cities.

It sprawls across the northern shore of Lake Ontario. The vibrant skyline dominated by the CN Tower, the largest free standing structure in the world, huge shopping malls and sky-rise office blocks, reflect the economical success of the last two or three decades.

This significant increase of economic stability has attracted immigrants from all over the world. Toronto is best known for its multiculturalism and its diversity, among its urban blend of heritage it is like no other. We recognize and respect our traditional celebrations such as Hanukah, Chinese New Year, Greek Festivals, Winter Solstice, Carabana, Jamaica Day, and much more.

Residents of our city live a distinguished style of living, having equal rights and opportunities. We encourage our citizens to continue their educational training while positively contributing to our city. There are various resources that are available for all to participate in our community, continuing education programs, volunteering opportunities, work readiness programs, co-op placements and much more.

Residents take pride. Toronto is one of the cleanest and safest cities, not just throughout North America but across the world. Toronto has all of the advantages of a city of two and a half million. Major sports teams from Baseball, Basketball, Football, and Hockey leagues are the ultimate symbol of our sporting prominence and our patriotism.

Getting the feel of Toronto's diversity is one of the cities greatest pleasures, but there are amazing breath taking tourist attractions as well. Most are conveniently located in the heart of the city. The most popular is the CN Tower; next to this is the modern hump of the Sky Dome now called the Rogers Centre.

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The city's other celebrated attractions are: The Art Gallery of Ontario, Royal Ontario Museum, Casa Loma, The Harbourfront Centre, Hockey Hall of Fame, Centre Island, Ontario Place, The Metro Toronto Zoo, The Ontario Science Centre, The Air Canada Centre, and many more. Toronto has more than ten thousand restaurants representing more than eighty different ethnic cultures.

We also have a spectacular underground shopping outlet that lies between Yonge and York Streets. It is six blocks long and contains three miles of tunnel with a thousand shops, entertainment, bars, and restaurants complete with waterfalls, growing plants, and even trees. Our entertainment district surprisingly is quite energetic equipped with bars, night clubs, theatres, ballrooms, amusement arcades, cinemas, and live concerts.

Regardless of how you decide to set sights on Toronto, you can utilize our public transportation service that will conveniently take you from one destination to another at an inexpensive cost. While taking in the memorable sights and glory of Toronto, check out our parklands, beaches, and gardens which are a unique feature among North American cities.

The only way to truly understand our creativity and ingenuity is to experience it for yourself.



Reflections

From Rita:

During this year I took spelling and reading, math and computer. I found it was just hard enough that I did learn. As for the class it was fun to watch them go way in learning. May the school have a good summer get rested, and have lots of fun and love for you and yours.



From Eileen:

I hope to see some students at school next year. To the staff and teachers, have a safe summer. I wish to see you all next year. To the students who won't be back next year, have a safe summer.



From Mohamed (Eddie):

To my classmates and staff at E.E.L.

Thank you to all for support and understanding through the school year. Thanks to the staff for everything. They have offered support with my learning and my living situation. They give me sound advice on how to manage my living style and life skills.

To the students you all have a great imagination and wonderful sense of humour. Thank you for the memory. Now that circumstances are likely to change I just want to say thanks and good-luck in this summer. You are all heading into prosperous times, keep up with your education and stay out of trouble

I hope to see some of you back next year. We all leave here more knowledgeable and prepared to deal with matters swiftly before they get out of hand.

Bye to all and thank you for everything.

REFLECTIONS ON THE SCHOOL TERM

From Doris:

I am so happy to be at East End Literacy. I learn a lot from the school, and I am able to write on my own, and spell some words on my own.

I am proud of my teacher; she makes me understand when she is teaching. My computer teacher helps me to understand the computer so I know so many things on the computer now. I am proud of them. I say thanks and God bless you all.

I am going to remember East End Literacy because this is where I began my studies in Canada.

I pray I will have a great holiday, enjoy the summer and come back to school in September and meet my classmates in good health and I look forward to being in a new class.

Have a great holiday and see you in September

******i love you all and God bless E.E.L.******



It was good to be in class with the students. Everybody was helpful to each other. Now the school year comes to an end. I was happy to meet with students and teacher, now we must leave for holiday. I hope everyone has a great summer and comes back in the fall.

From Rita:

Getting closer to my God through my Church. all the people of the church have - meekness, love, kindness, supported ,patience kindness ,so much that my cup runeth over .This keep me focused at school and life .This year I met students in class that have grown it exciting to see. I want to thank the teacher for giving me more power in my life to function more like the world does.

From Roselie:

It was good to be in class with the students. Everybody was helpful to each other. Now the school year comes to an end. I was happy to meet with students and teacher, now we must leave for holiday. I hope everyone has a great summer and comes back in the fall.

From Ainey:

I thank my classmates for making our class more comfortable for me. I also thank my classmates for their help. I thank my teacher and tutor for teaching me many things. They helped me to improve my writing skills.. I thank all of the staff for their help.

I would like to say I wish all the best for the students, staff and teachers for the new school year. Have a happy summer.

From Gloria:

I enjoyed every moment in class with my teacher and classmates. I appreciate and thank my teacher because he helped me a lot in improving my reading and writing skills.

I thank my classmates for their kindness and support in classmates. God Bless you all and wish you all the best.. I thank staff for being always available for me.

Have a great summer.

East End Literacy
Graduation 2005

From Peter:

I am happy to be at East End literacy. I felt comfortable to be with my classmates. We helped each other like friends.

I thank my teacher Abukar and tutor Bill for helping me to learn at school with my classmates. I thank my classmates for being friendly and supportive. I thank staff for getting me a training program at Project Work.

I wish all the students the best. Have a good summer for all of you.



From Shawn:

I would like to take a minute to reflect on this school year. First I would like to say that I enjoyed most going to the Bata Shoes Museum because I have learned a lot about past celebrities' shoes. I also enjoyed going to Allen Gardens. I have never seen and gone to such a place that had so many kinds of beautiful plants.

To my classmates, I would like to thank you for the help and advice you gave me and wish you all the best. To all of the staff at East End Literacy, I thank you for your support and understanding. I would also like to thank you for everything you have done for me.

To my teacher at East End Literacy, I would like to thank you for teaching me how to read, write, spell and do math better and showing me how to break words into syllables. I would also like to thank you for advising me to work hard everyday and motivating me to do the things that you know I can do.

A FAREWELL WORD

From Feddy

The days of departure are approaching. The night and days are running fast. So I want to say farewell to my classmates who are leaving East End for other schools or going to different classes. Keep up the good work, continue to believe in achieving, and remember to say to yourself a word of encouragement when negativity comes your way. Take care of yourself and feel good about yourself.

For the students who are coming back, see you here in September. Try to stay busy school wise.

I would like to thank the Administrative Body for the work of nurturing and guidance that they have done for us, on our journey of studying. I want to thank all the students for being good classmates, and the staff for being there for us. Bye-bye everyone. I wish you all the best, and have a marvelous summer vacation.



Graduation Comments

From Darryl:

I would like to thank all of East End Literacy for helping me out. All the best to them, sincerely. I would like to wish Rose good luck at her new school and I would like to thank her for helping me out, and the courage she provided me during the school year. Brandy I heard that you are going to College good luck. Last but not least congratulations goes out to all whom are graduating. I hope your future plans are a success.

From Funmilayo:

Hi guys, To those who are moving on to the next level, I wish you all the best in the future. To those who are still striving, don't worry. You will get better, and don't give up now.

From Rose

I would like to say good-bye to everyone at the East End Literacy Program. Classmates, Teachers & others: I wish all of you the best in life. I will miss you all at East End Literacy. Especially I will miss my teacher. I thank her very much for giving me the encouragement in class so that I can pursue my goal.

From Brandy

I would like to thank my fellow students and teachers for all of the support and encouragement over this past year. I have seen the outcome of hard work and dedication, and can only hope for the best for all of East End Literacy students. Together we have overcome great challenges and are on the path of success and righteousness. I encourage my fellow classmates to believe in yourselves, to achieve, to pursue your dreams, and to live a more prosperous lifestyle. ***Luck is when preparation meets opportunity.*** May I wish all of the staff and students here at East End Literacy.

“Good Luck”!!

Thank-you dearly.

Graduation Comments

From Maurice:

This year has had it ups and downs but I say “Thank-you”. To all the students, teachers, and staff I wish you all the best in your endeavors in the year to come.



From Carmel:

The end of the school year has come where achieving and moving forward into another level is possible. To all the graduating students, I wish you all the best in your future goals. I love to thank all the teachers and staff for their support, hard work, and dedication to the students and to East End School. So let me say thank you for letting me believe in me and my future.

There is confidence where used to be fear.

There is understanding where there used to be confusion.

There is knowledge where there used to be ignorance.

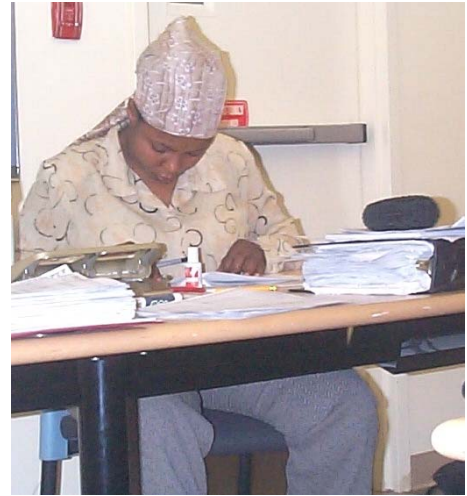
There is a future where there used to be none.

I would love to thank all the teachers and staff for their support.

Photo Album



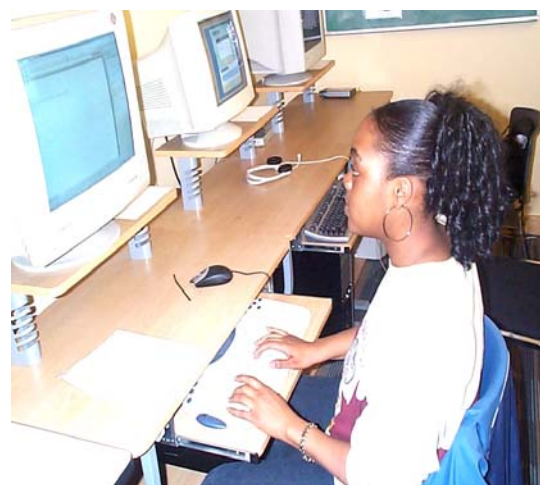
Theresa and Georgette (tutor) work out a math problem



Doris is hard at work



Ainey and Peter listen to their teacher



Brandy works on an assignment

Photo Album



Funmi job-shadows at Planet Aid on Parliament Street



Rose listens to author Richardo Keens-Douglas

East End Literacy
Graduation 2005



Darryl job-shadows at Wellesley Community Centre

Carmel job-shadows at The Hairlift Group on
Parliament Street

Photo Album



Suman speaks at I.W.I.P. Conference



Lejia takes notes I.W.I.P Conference



Feddy files while job-shadowing at the medical clinic at
Regent Park Community Health Centre

Teacher Comments

The Year That Was...

From: Caroline Outten
Instuctor, Level 3

Congratulations to Brandy, Kathy and Maurice for successfully moving on to Level 4 in September. Keep your eyes on the prize, as you continue to pursue your future goals. To those who are continuing their Level 3 journey in the fall, keep your head up. With determination and a renewed focus you will build on the many successes you have already attained. This was a challenging year, full of trials and triumphs for both you as students and for me, as your instructor. However when we look back on the 2004-2005 school year, let it be with a multitude of fond memories, which remind us of: *who we were, who we are, and who we have yet to be.*

Have a safe and fun filled summer to all; I will see you next spring!!



From: Eleanor McKechnie
Instructor, Level 2

What a great year it's been! Level 2 students warmly welcomed me in October, and kept up their enthusiasm for learning and their commitment to achieve their goals throughout the year. In spite of our physical separation from East End Literacy, in our hideaway down the street, your spirit kept us close to the heart of the organization.

Congratulations to all of you for your great effort and dedication to moving forward toward your goals. To those who are moving to Level 3, keep up the great work! To those who are returning to complete their work at Level 2, you've taken great strides forward and your continued effort will take you to your goals.

Thanks to you all for your sense of purpose, your sense of humour, and your determination. Thanks, too, to my colleagues at East End Literacy for your support, your encouragement and your contagious enthusiasm.

Have a safe and wonderful summer!

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From: Abukar Hagi
Level 1 Instructor
Level 2 Computer Instructor

It has been another exciting year at East End Literacy. I have always been moved by the strength of spirit shown within our team. Through hard work, dedication, commitment, and innovation, we have made remarkable progress in delivering high quality education and support services to our students. I would like to thank our team, staff and instructors, for contributing to the excellence of our school and students.

Our students have worked hard and committed to achieving their goals. They have enlightened our school with their enthusiasm for learning. To all graduating students and those moving on to another level or making progress within the level they were in, I congratulate you on your success and achievements.

Wish you all the best and have a great summer



From Brenda Silver:
Instructor/Assessment Counsellor

To All East End Literacy Students,

Thank you for doing your part in making East End Literacy a safe and welcoming environment for everyone. It is truly a pleasure to come to East End every day and be met by the enthusiasm and dedication of staff and students alike.

The students have studied hard all year long and have shown remarkable progress. Now it's time to take a break, enjoy the summer and have a much needed rest. I look forward to working together with the returning students next term. Congratulations to Brandy as she goes on to George Brown College. She has made us all proud. Good luck, Brandy.

To all the students: *Every day, little by little, you are getting closer to your goal.*

Keep up the good work! You are an inspiration to us all! ☺

BELIEVING IN ACHIEVING

From: Satha Vivekananthan
Program Coordinator

Dear Graduates,

The courage which is inbuilt in you is seen tonight. When you walked in through the EEL doors on your first day at EEL, you told the instructors and other staff that you were nervous, excited, anxious. Tonight I am sure you are proud of yourselves, confident and happy.

Your achievements are milestones in your life, so hold them tight. There are many more achievements to come; look forward for them, and work the way you worked with us.

Congratulations and best wishes to our graduates.



From: Maria Navarro
Admin & Comm. Coordinator

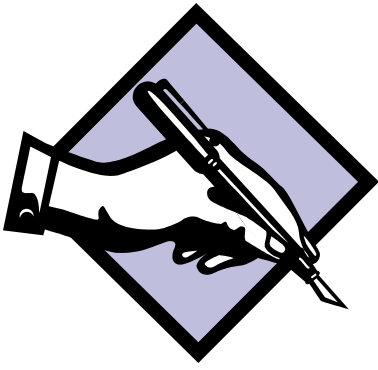
To our dear East End Literacy participants,

Always remember that life should be a pattern of experiences to savor, not to endure. Don't take things for granted. Try very hard not to put off, hold back, or save anything that would add knowledge and shine to your lives. Open your eyes each day and tell yourselves that you're making a difference.

Congratulations for all your hard-earned achievements!

To our Graduates, I commend you for your determination and will power. I wish success in your future undertakings. You are true testimonies of "If you believe, you will achieve."

East End Literacy
Graduation 2005



Autographs

East End Literacy
Graduation 2005

Sincerest thanks to

Our students
Our volunteers and supporters
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To our Job-Shadowing Partners:

Thank you for your generosity of time and spirit

The Hair Lift Group, Kiki Kosta
Heart 2 Heart, Nick Rondelli
Planet Aid, Alison Britt
Regent Park Community Health Centre, Victoria De Guzman
Wellesley Community Centre, Bihm Rana

Special thanks to:

Allen Gardens Conservatory, Christine Kennedy
CanStage, Paul Shaw
Sama Yoga, Jennifer Helland
The Mill Centre Program, Theresa Perera
Woodgreen Employment Centre, Michael Martin

And to all those who believe in the work that we do

The Printing House-Debbie White



Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities



George Cedric
Metcalf Charitable
Foundation