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### The Voice of Adult Education in Massachusetts

March 17, 2011

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## Adult Literacy Awareness Day: Thursday March 31, 2011

Joint the Massachusetts Alliance for Adult Literacy (MassAAL) and Massachusetts Coalition for Adult Education (MCAE) on Thursday March 31, 2010 at 11am for Adult Literacy Awareness Day (ALAD) at the State House, Gardner Auditorium. Hundreds of adult learners statewide will visit the State House to ask their legislators to support funding for Adult Basic Education (ABE) in the Fiscal Year 2012 Budget. Adult learners will share their stories on why it is important to fund ABE particularly during these difficult fiscal times.

To RSVP for ALAD email Teha Woodrow, MassAAL Associate at MassAAL2011@hotmail.com.

# 15th Anniversary for Immigrants' Day at the State House: April 6th, 2011

Join Massachusetts Immigrant & Refugee Advocacy Coalition (MIRA) at the State House, Grand Staircase on April 6, 2011 from 9am to 12pm for Immigrants' Day at the State House. This event is the largest mobilization of new Americans in Masachusetts. For more information regarding Immigrants' Day and to RSVP please contact Marcony Almeida at malmeida@miracoalition.org or 617-350-5480 ext. 205.

#### **Tips to Make Your State House Visit a Success!**

Adult Literacy Awarenes Day (ALAD) is always an exciting day for students and MCAE wants to make sure your day is a success. Since the event attracts hundreds of students statewide here are some tips to make your day go smoothly.

- Arrive early. There are only two State House entrances and you must pass through metal detectors. This always takes longer than you plan for.
- Metal belts and jewelery set off the metal detectors and you will be asked remove these items.
- Pack light. Encourage students to leave backpacks, or metal items at home.
- If there is a long line at the front Beacon Street/Hooker Statue entrance you should walk around to the entrance located on the plaza on the back side of the State House.

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- Schedule an appointment with your legislators either before or after the ALAD event in Gardner Auditorium. Look up who your elected officials are at <a href="https://www.wheredoivotema.com">www.wheredoivotema.com</a>.
- Call and reserve a formal State House tour either before or after the ALAD event in Gardner Auditorium. To reserve call 617-727-3676. You can also lead your own tour using the State House Tour Information.

Remember the most important thing to do on ALAD is visit legislative offices and ask them to support level funding of \$27.7 million for ABE in the FY12 budget!!

Please feel free to contact Jennifer McAllister at <u>jmcallister@mcae.net</u> or 508-208-0130 with any questions or concerns.

#### **New Post to Working Conditions Blog!**

Check out the latest post "Update:Hotel strike settled!", regarding the hotel that will be hosting the annual COABE Conference in April, at the Working Conditions blog "Making a Living (?) in Adult Education."

Join the conversation at "Making a Living (?) in Adult Education" and post your comments! Let's continue the conversation about our ABE working conditions! Poor working conditions not only impact ABE practitioners, they impact ABE students!

If you would like to submit your thoughts, send articles or posts to Working Conditions committee blogmaster Jana Pickard-Richardson (janapr02@gmail.com) or leave a comment on the blog. We're looking forward to hearing from you. Check it out!

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