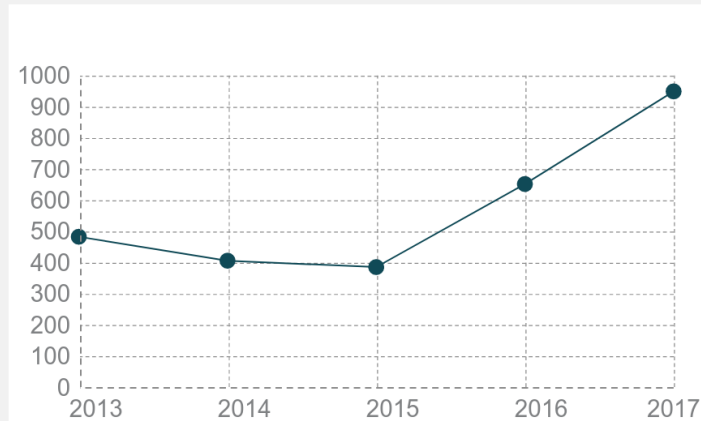


Another wonderful year of learning and community building!

Welcoming the Stranger 2017

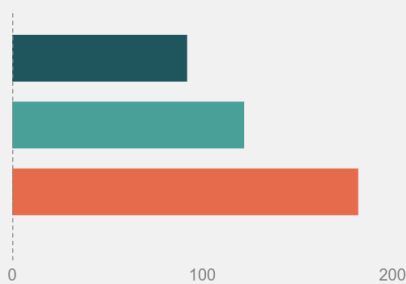
Immense Growth in Student Enrollment in 2017



Student Enrollment Over 5 Years

Incredible growth in student numbers over the past few years has been fulfilling but challenging to our limited resources. This growth was partly caused by greater relationships and connections with our community and partly caused by the diminishing services in other service areas which drew more students to our classes. In the past year alone, we have gained almost 500 new students in our classes. Percentage-wise, we have grown 146% since 2015. This has created a set of challenges that we successfully worked to meet with a smaller-than-usual budget in 2017.

Volunteers



Growth of Volunteer Numbers (Past 3 Years)

We couldn't do it without our volunteers. We have increased volunteer numbers to keep up with the student enrollment increase. The above chart illustrates volunteer numbers in 2015 (top), 2016 (middle), and 2017 (bottom).

Student Learning



Student Confidence

In class surveys taken in the fall of 2017, 88% of students surveyed report having more confidence in their English skills, 12% report feeling the same level of confidence as when they began class, and 0% report having less confidence.

powered by

Some of Our Favorite Moments of 2017



New citizen Lucy



New citizen Yudelvy

Student Accomplishments:

From students who received their citizenship (like the two new citizens pictured above) to students who read their first sentence or first full book in English, to students who got a driver's license, got a job, or ordered take out in English for the first time, we celebrate your accomplishments of 2017! You are all such dedicated, motivated people, and it is an honor to work with you!



Workshops:

Welcoming the Stranger offered a number of job search workshops this year in the spring and fall in partnership with BARC Developmental Services and St. John's Family Resource Center. We also offered "Know Your Rights" workshops in response to rumors and fears surrounding immigration stories in the news. Missed the workshops but would like the information? Contact us and we'll connect you to these resources!



Awards:

In May, WTS was named one of the best charities in Bucks County, and our Executive Director was named a Top Ten Mover and Shaker in Bucks County by BucksHappening. In June, our volunteer Anna Zuckerman was named a Citizen Scholar by the Bucks County Courier Times!



Clothing Drive:

With the help of Episcopal Church of the Advent (Hatboro), Salem United Church of Christ (Doylestown), Yardley United Methodist Church, Southampton Friends Meeting, St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church (Morrisville), Accupac, Inc (Harleysville), and countless community members, students, and volunteers, WTS was able to collect 12,381 pounds of clothing and raise over \$3,000 to help support our programs this fall.

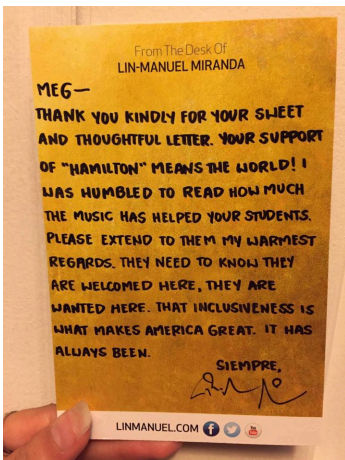


Fundraising Events:

This year's sold out annual International Dinner was our biggest and best yet with 300 guests in attendance to enjoy food and fellowship! In September, UCC Salem in Doylestown hosted a benefit concert for Welcoming the Stranger and A Woman's Place that was rich with talent. This past July, renowned artist Sara Klatchko hosted a Kids Around the World event featuring her global photography in partnership with Cultural Care Au Pair, Pumped Up Kids, LLC, and Bryn Gweled Homesteads.

Social Justice Initiatives:

This past year, Welcoming the Stranger has recognized an uptick in fear and discrimination in our local communities. In keeping with our mission to welcome all strangers with peace and acceptance, we took part in several initiatives to help. In the beginning of 2017 we joined together with several local leaders to form One Bucks, a coalition to denounce hate acts and promote peace and community in Bucks County. Throughout the year, we partnered with groups such as Bucks County Human Relations Council, Bucks County Marching Forward, Interfaith Community of Lower Bucks, Rise Up Doylestown, and The Peace Center to co-sponsor events like the Middle East Potluck for Peace, Vigil for Syria in Doylestown, Town Hall in Bristol Borough Addressing White Nationalism, Many Faiths, One Community (a show of solidarity for our Muslim neighbors), and Speak Up For Peace and March Against Hate in Levittown in response to racist hate crimes. As a founding partner of Immigrant Rights Action Group Doylestown, we offered trainings and workshops on "Know Your Rights" topics and assisted in legal aid and referrals to those who needed these services.



A personal letter to Welcoming the Stranger from Lin Manuel Miranda of hit musical "Hamilton" fame reads,

Thank you kindly for your sweet and thoughtful letter. Your support of "Hamilton" means the world! I was humbled to read how much the music has helped your students. Please extend to them my warmest regards. They need to know they are welcomed here, they are wanted here. That inclusiveness is what makes America great. It has always been.

**Siempre,
Lin Manuel Miranda**

WTS ENROLLMENT FIGURES – December 2017

Fall Term (Sept - Dec)

300 Students (271 unduplicated), 65 teachers and helpers in Fall 2017 Term

305 Students (251 unduplicated), 46 teachers and helpers in **Fall 2016 Term**

158 Students (144 unduplicated), 35 teachers and helpers in **Fall 2015 Term**

130 Students (120 unduplicated) 30 teachers and helpers in **Fall 2014 Term**

168 Students (157 unduplicated), 40 teachers and helpers in **Fall 2013 Term**

201 Students (178 unduplicated), 41 teachers and helpers in **Fall 2012 Term**

216 Students (199 unduplicated), 42 teachers and helpers in **Fall 2011 Term**

256 Students (240 unduplicated), 40 teachers and helpers in **Fall 2010 Term**

210 Students (196 unduplicated), 47 teachers and helpers in **Fall 2009 Term**

163 Students (153 unduplicated), 35 teachers and helpers in **Fall 2008 Term**

151 Students (139 unduplicated), 30 teachers and helpers in **Fall 2007 Term**

200 Students (180 unduplicated), 31 teachers and helpers in **Fall 2006 Term**

157 Students (143 unduplicated), 34 teachers and helpers in **Fall 2005 Term**

178 Students (160 unduplicated), 33 teachers and helpers in **Fall 2004 Term**

150 Students (132 unduplicated), 38 teachers and helpers in **Fall 2003 Term**

126 Students (106 unduplicated), 26 teachers and helpers in **Fall 2002 Term**

Winter Term (January - April)

310 Students (264 unduplicated) 52 teachers and helpers in Winter 2017 Term

151 Students (137 unduplicated) 34 teachers and helpers in **Winter 2016 Term**

104 Students (97 unduplicated) 28 teachers and helpers in **Winter 2015 Term**

134 Students (130 unduplicated) 30 teachers and helpers in **Winter 2014 Term**

153 Students (136 unduplicated) 49 teachers and helpers in **Winter 2013 Term**

178 Students (162 unduplicated), 38 teachers and helpers in **Winter 2012 Term**

196 Students (191 unduplicated), 39 teachers and helpers in **Winter 2011 Term**

219 Students (213 unduplicated), 27 teachers and helpers in **Winter 2010 Term**

133 Students (130 unduplicated), 29 teachers and helpers in **Winter 2009 Term**

147 Students (139 unduplicated), 26 teachers and helpers in **Winter 2008 Term**

160 Students (141 unduplicated), 32 teachers and helpers in **Winter 2007 Term**

158 Students (135 unduplicated), 35 teachers and helpers in **Winter 2006 Term**

128 Students (124 unduplicated), 37 teachers and helpers in **Winter 2005 Term**

142 Students (119 unduplicated), 36 teachers and helpers in **Winter 2004 Term**

131 Students (??? unduplicated), 36 teachers and helpers in **Winter 2003 Term**

Spring/Summer Term (April - July)

337 Students (311 unduplicated) 65 teachers and helpers in SS/2017 Term

193 Students (171 unduplicated) 42 teachers and helpers in **SS/2016 Term**

123 Students (116 unduplicated) 29 teachers and helpers in **S/S 2015 Term**

138 Students (130 unduplicated), 30 teachers and helpers in **S/S 2014 Term**

160 Students (154 unduplicated), 42 teachers and helpers in **S/S 2013 Term**

170 Students (161 unduplicated), 41 teachers and helpers in **S/S 2012 Term**

218 Students (197 unduplicated), 42 teachers and helpers in **S/S 2011 Term**

218 Students (195 unduplicated), 37 teachers and helpers in **S/S 2010 Term**

141 Students (136 unduplicated), 30 teachers and helpers in **S/S 2009 Term**

153 Students (134 unduplicated), 33 teachers and helpers in **S/S 2008 Term**

142 Students (124 unduplicated), 34 teachers and helpers in **S/S 2007 Term**

160 Students (137 unduplicated), 34 teachers and helpers in **S/S 2006 Term**

126 Students (101 unduplicated), 33 teachers and helpers in **S/S 2005 Term**

143 Students (126 unduplicated), 40 teachers and helpers in **S/S 2004 Term**

119 Students (101 unduplicated), 30 teachers and helpers in **S/S 2003 Term**

Totals of WTS (since inception): **3,800 students, 416 teachers and helpers**