

## **COUNTY OF YOLO**

Office of the County Administrator

**Patrick S. Blacklock**County Administrator

Beth Gabor Public Information Officer 625 Court Street, Room 202 • Woodland, CA 95695 (530) 666-8150 • FAX (530) 668-4029 www.yolocounty.org

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Beth Gabor, Public Information Officer (530) 666-8042 [w] • (530) 219-8464 [c]

## **Yolo Reads Honors Adult Learners and Volunteers**

Refer an Adult Learner to Yolo Reads or Volunteer at the Yolo County Library

**(Woodland, CA)** – On September 15, Yolo Reads, the Yolo County Library adult literacy program, held its annual Literacy Celebration honoring the efforts of adults in Yolo County to improve their reading and writing skills. The event also honored the dedication of the volunteers who assist these adult learners.

During the celebration, adult learners Raquel and Ayovie shared their experiences as a result of the Yolo Reads program. Raquel has graduated from the California Library Literacy Services' Adult Learner Leadership Institute, a six-part training program designed for adult learners, by adult learners. Ayovie entered a letter into the California State Library-sponsored Writer to Writer Challenge which she read during the Yolo Reads Literacy Celebration.

Participants in the celebration enjoyed an enchilada dinner, generously donated by Silvina's Basket in Woodland, and dessert provided by Nugget markets in Davis and Woodland. Floral arrangements were provided by Raley's. Yolo Reads learners and volunteers were recognized by Sandra Rodriguez representing Yolo County Supervisor Jim Provenza's office and Yolo County Administrator Patrick Blacklock.

"As one in six Yolo County residents cannot read and write sufficiently to carry out day-to-day activities at work and at home, it is important for us to provide this program, and to acknowledge those who have the courage to improve their literacy skills. We also thank those volunteers who dedicate their time to helping these adult learners," said Yolo County Board of Supervisors Chairwoman Helen Thomson.

Volunteers are always needed for the Yolo Reads program which provides free and confidential instruction to English-speaking adult learners. The program is currently in need of volunteers able to tutor adults in Winters, Davis, Knights Landing and West Sacramento. Yolo Reads also seeks continued assistance with spreading the word about the program to those in need of assistance.

For those interested in tutoring, no experience is necessary, the hours are flexible and Yolo Reads provides all necessary training and materials. To learn more about the program, call Yolo Reads at (866) 609-7303 (toll free) or e-mail maria.alvarez@yolocounty.org.