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NPL NAMES ROBBIE HUNTER ADULT EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR
Volunteer Teacher and “Math Jedi” Honored for Work at Three Nashville Nonprofits



Left: Adult Educator of the Year Robbie Hunter accepts her award. Right: NPL Director Kent Oliver, SunTrust Bank’s Sabrina Miller, Mayor Megan Barry and honoree Robbie Hunter.

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – Nashville Public Library (NPL) today awarded its second annual **Adult Educator of the Year** Award to Robbie Hunter, a teacher and tutor with the Nashville Adult Literacy Council (NALC), Nashville International Center for Empowerment (NICE) and Workforce Essentials.

NPL accepted nominations in the fall of 2016, seeking an educator — paid or volunteer — who exemplified creativity and passion for making Middle Tennessee’s adults better equipped to achieve their educational goals.

Hunter’s nominators and the selection panel praised her dedication to helping adult learners, including refugees and immigrants, understand math concepts and translate those concepts into skills needed to

gain high school equivalency certification and workforce skills.

In their nomination, Hunter's colleagues at Workforce Essentials praised her ability to communicate complex mathematical ideas effectively, earning her the nickname of "Math Jedi."

The Adult Educator of the Year honor includes a prize package of a membership to a professional organization of the winner's choice.

Hunter accepted the award at **NPL's 2017 Adult Education Winter Summit** at the Main Library, where adult educators and community partners gathered for professional collaboration and development. "I love what I do, and I love my students," Hunter said.

"Robbie Hunter's commitment to her community and to the cause of adult literacy is truly inspiring," said Mayor Megan Barry. "It's so important for all of us that we never stop learning. We tend to focus on the education of our children, but we also need to support Nashville's adults as they strive to achieve their full potential."

NPL Adult Literacy partners with local adult education organizations to offer access to the Library's education technologies and tools and to facilitate professional development opportunities.

In 2016, NPL supported more than 7,000 adults in achieving their personal education goals, such as learning to read, increasing language skills, earning their high school equivalencies, applying for citizenship and becoming more digitally literate.

Adult Literacy programs at NPL are made possible by the Dollar General Literacy Foundation, the SunTrust Foundation and generous gifts made to the Nashville Public Library Foundation (NPLF).

"Together with local organizations and adult educators—professional and volunteer—who are dedicated to helping Nashvillians of all backgrounds reach their lifelong learning goals, the Library helped reach more than 7,000 adult learners in the past year," said NPL Director Kent Oliver. "This would not have been possible without our partners in the field. We appreciate their commitment and their collaboration."

About Nashville Public Library

A Nashville Public Library (NPL) card is free, but it's also priceless. A [2016 study](#) by the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce calculated the value of NPL's services and collections at \$2,951 per Nashville family and the direct impact of NPL on Davidson County at \$94 million. NPL maintains a collection of millions of items, including books, periodicals, DVDs, CDs, audiobooks, and streaming and downloadable books, movies and music. The Library also offers more than 800 public-use computers, free art exhibits, educational programs, events for all ages, 24/7 reference assistance, online databases, interlibrary loan and special collections. Metro Archives, located at the Main Library, houses 5 million historic documents. Equal access is provided by the Talking Library audio reading service for the print disabled and Library Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. For more information, call 615-862-5800 or visit library.nashville.org.