Captech Team wins the 2019 Trivia Bee

CapTech’s “Check Yourself Before You Trebek Yourself” team took home the 2019 Great Richmond Trivia Bee trophy on Wednesday, April 24, after testing their knowledge against a field of 55 other teams. It was their very first time at the Bee, and we hope the sweet taste of victory will encourage them to defend their title next year!

The Trivia Bee is The READ Center’s signature fundraising event, held annually at The Hippodrome. Event participants and guests raised more than $44,000 at the 2019 Bee to support READ’s much-needed adult literacy programs.

The Virginia Patriots from St. John’s Church Foundation — Thomas Jefferson, George Washington, and Patrick Henry — called the Trivia Bee to order and resolved its commencement. From there, emcees Kat Simons of Mix 98.1 Richmond and the Flying Squirrel’s Todd “Parney” Parnell kept the fun going all evening long.

“Ruth Bader Winsburg” and “Oliver Windell Holmes”, both teams from Hunton Andrews Kurth, took 2nd and 3rd place respectively. Columbia Gas’s “Know Collusion” team was voted Best Team Name, their second win in a row.

The event would not have been possible without our generous sponsors:
- Queen Bee Sponsor Atlantic Union Bank
- Swarm Sponsor Columbia Gas
- Hive Sponsors Crouch Family in memory of Robert H. Newton, Sr., Friends of Adult Literacy, & RSM US LLC
- Honey Bee Sponsor Sands Anderson

UPS Freight was the event’s Volunteer Sponsor, providing more than 25 volunteers for the Bee. Allegra Printing was the print sponsor.

A big thank you to all who helped make the Trivia Bee a smashing success. We will see you next year!
The second week of May was National Teacher Appreciation Week. The READ Center recognized and thanked our teachers for all they do for READ Center students.

A Home for READ:

The search continues with the goal of a new home by January 2020

Picture this: three classrooms, a computer lab, space for one-to-one tutoring, access to the READ library and resources, and offices for READ Center staff all under one roof... this is the dream of the Home for READ. The READ Center staff, with the help and support of experienced community volunteers, are currently reviewing sites trying to find just the right fit for students, volunteers, and staff.

The READ Center developed a checklist of items that are essential for a new location. In addition to space for classrooms and one-to-one tutor pairs, a computer lab, and a library, student and tutor transportation is a big consideration. The space needs easy access to the bus line as well as on-site/street parking.

READ will continue to operate satellite locations for the convenience of our students, but having a main location to build programming, provide new services, and be part of the community we serve is exciting, and offers many new opportunities to positively impact our students’ lives. We will keep you up to date!
Nutrition and Exercise: READ Center’s second health-themed READABLE

According to the US Department of Health website, nearly nine out of ten adults may lack the skills needed to manage their health and prevent disease. Populations most likely to experience low health literacy are older adults, racial and ethnic minorities, people with less than a high school degree or GED certificate, people with low income levels, non-native speakers of English, and people with compromised health status.

Poor health and chronic illness management for themselves or family members often keep READ Center students from attending classes. As a result, The READ Center will be bringing valuable health information to our students during each semester of the 2019-2020 academic year.

In the 2018 fall semester, READ Center students learned about dental health from students enrolled at VCU’s dental school. Last semester, all READ students received the first READABLE, Stress and Your Heart, which focused on reducing stress for heart health.

In June 2019, READ Center students will receive the latest READABLE, designed to help them learn about the importance of exercise and nutrition. In addition, students will be able to attend a Nutrition and Exercise Fair on June 5. The event is also open to the community.

The Nutrition and Exercise READABLE includes a word search, writing, math, comprehension activities, and plenty of reading.

“Our students have asked for information on nutrition and exercise,” explains READ Center Program Manager Nausha Brown Chavez. “The READABLES series is a great way to offer health related information to students while improving their literacy skills. It’s a win-win.”
**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**July 4:** Independence Day - No Classes/Office Closed  
**July 5:** No Classes/Office Closed  
**July 25:** Last Day of Summer Semester  
**July 27:** Year End Celebration at TBD  
**September 25:** READ Between the Wines

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**Keep your eyes peeled for a follow up email, or check The READ Center website for great updates on our very first Exercise and Nutrition Fair, which took place on Wednesday, June 5 at The Robinson Theater. The Fair was open to the public and part of our health literacy program for students.**

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Congratulations, Nausha!

READ Center Program Manager Nausha Brown Chavez (middle) is flanked by READ Center Board President, Nora Crouch (left) and Board Member Delores Kimbrough (right) at the opening ceremonies of the Emerging Nonprofit Leaders Program (ENLP).

Nausha will graduate from the ENLP on June 20. She has spent nine months in the program preparing to be part of the next generation of metro Richmond nonprofit leaders, and has not missed a step at The READ Center!

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**DONOR SPOTLIGHT**

Thank You

The READ Center is a proud grant recipient!

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READ Center students at the Cary Street Class worked on their digital skills while selecting new books to read from the *Did You Know?* series by 1000 Readers. The titles selected by the class show their varied interests: writer and poet Maya Angelou, 9/11 hero Todd Beamer, Mexican American rights champion Hector P. Garcia, and heroes of wartime, The Four Chaplains.