



## **Astonished! Summer Literacy Program (2017)**

### **Expression of Interest**

#### **Background Information**

Astonished! Inc is a registered non-profit charity based in Regina, Saskatchewan. We work in **inclusive community** to address barriers facing young adults with complex physical disAbilities (**Core Members**) by creating opportunities for teaching and learning; social, recreational and cultural engagement; and for employment and housing. One of our four program areas is the **Astonished! Summer Literacy Program**.

#### **Program Overview**

A summer program designed to explore and respond to the literacy strengths, dreams, and needs of Astonished! Core Members. Program content is shaped by the strengths, dreams, and needs of each participant. To begin, Astonished! staff work with each participant and those close to them to identify their 'Literacy Strengths, Dreams, and Needs'. Example dreams might include developing literacy skills (reading, numeracy, technology, etc.), increasing literacy skills, or simply having more time to read and/or use various forms of technology. Based on the strengths, dreams, and needs expressed, program participants will be offered individualized opportunities and/or group opportunities.

Some of the noteworthy successes of summer 2016 included: **working with the ALL Curriculum** (Accessible Literacy Learning) to develop and refine pre-literacy skills; participating in a book club; working on comprehension skills; engaging in creative writing exercises; and having fun with technology, social media and various 'apps'. In addition, each week we had one optional evening session that took place at local pubs and community establishments. There we enjoyed utilizing our literacy skills by playing various board games and social media games.

The program will be comprised of 16 afternoon sessions (1:00-4:00) at the University of Regina. Program participants are responsible for their own transportation to and from the University.

July 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> 27<sup>th</sup>  
August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>

#### Optional Evening Sessions

July 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>  
August 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>

#### Requirements

- ✓ Active Astonished! Core Member<sup>1</sup>
- ✓ Commitment to Social Inclusion
- ✓ Desire to work cooperatively with other program participants, staff, volunteers, and companions.
- ✓ Interest in literacy
- ✓ Provide a companion/attendant if you require personal care during program hours or arrange for a companion/attendant to meet you at the University to support your care needs.
- ✓ Transportation to and from program activities

#### Application Process

Interested Core Members who meet the above criteria can express interest in becoming a participant in the literacy program by filing out the application included below. Completed applications can be sent to [BCV@beingastonished.com](mailto:BCV@beingastonished.com) by March 31st.

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<sup>1</sup> Young adults 18-35 years of age with complex physical disAbilities, who support the dream, vision and guiding principles of the organization are core members and as such are not required to pay membership fees. We do however require a membership form to be completed. For more information please visit <http://www.beingastonished.com/become-a-member/>

The Big Sky Centre for Learning and Being Astonished Inc.  
3737 Wascana Parkway Regina, SK S4S 0A2

**Expression of Interest  
Summer Literacy 2017**

Applicant Information		
Name:		
Date of birth:	Core-Member <input type="checkbox"/>	Phone:
Current address:		
City:	Province:	Postal Code:
Email Address:		

Share with us why you are interested in taking part in this program.

Please indicate what types of activities you think you might be interested in (select all that interest you):

- Individualized lessons to increase pre-literacy skills and/or emerging literacy skills
  
- Shared Reading (as a group, participants select a book and work through the book together. Participants may choose to read aloud to the group or relax and enjoy hearing the story read aloud)
  
- Social Media Lessons (examples. Facebook, Pinterest, Instagram, Twitter, Snapchat, Vine etc.)
  
- Comprehension activities (examples include story mapping, definitions/vocabulary, multiple choice questions, word cloud etc.)

Participants may work on the activities alone or with the support of Astonished staff and other participants)

Learning or having more time/ support to use various 'Applications' (What pic, 4pics1word, logo game, etc)

Lessons to increase financial/numerical literacy

Other:

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In an effort to get to know you better, please list any activities you participate in and elaborate on your interests.

Please identify any personal care, or other support matters that you will require. Please note that as indicated above, applicants who require personal care time are required to provide their own companion/attendant for every session. Program staff and volunteers will be available to support you during nutritional breaks and navigating through the University hallways.