

# Advancing Literacy

A Monthly Newsletter from The Literacy Alliance



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## Volunteer Spotlight: Jillian

"Watching the process from the beginning to the end of the year and the difference it makes to the kids is worth all the hard work. " [Visit our blog](#) to read more about Jillian and her experience as a volunteer at The Literacy Alliance.

## Welcome New Board Members!

The Literacy Alliance is thrilled to announce the addition of three individuals to its board of directors: Teresa Knoblach (East Allen County Schools), Fred McKissack (Fort Wayne Journal Gazette), and Luke Mungovan (Lake City Bank). Further, the organization introduces its new executive committee, led by Isabel Nuñez (Purdue University Fort Wayne) as chair, Erin Nicolette (Lincoln Financial Group) as vice chair, Michaela Baldwin (Blueprint Test Preparation) as treasurer, Tammy Allen (Community Volunteer) as secretary, and Corey Porter (Lincoln Financial Group) as past chair. The Literacy Alliance expresses its deepest gratitude to all its board members for their tireless commitment to promoting literacy and building a stronger community through education.

The complete TLA 2024-25 board of directors can be seen at the bottom of this email.

## Project Reads

### Book of the Month

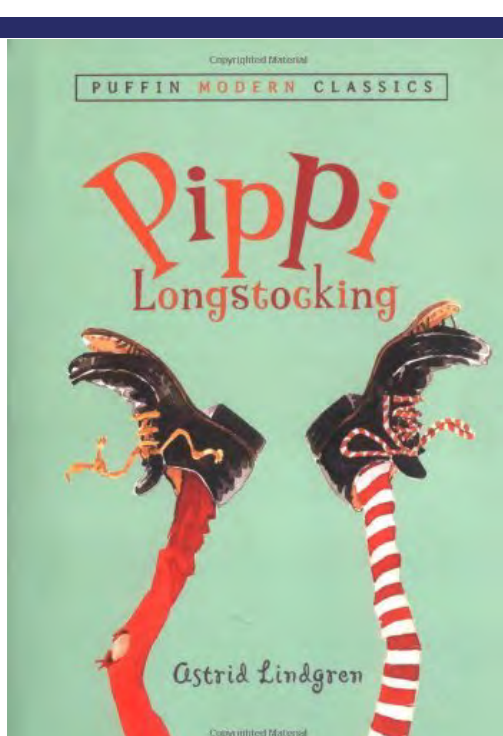
#### Pippi Longstocking

Astrid Lindgren (Author), Michael Chesworth (Illustrator), Louis S. Glanzman (Illustrator), Florence Lamborn (Translator)  
160 Pages | Ages 6-9 | Grades 3-7

**"A rollicking story." —The Horn Book**

The beloved story of a spunky young girl and her hilarious escapades.

Tommy and his sister Annika have a new neighbor, and her name is Pippi Longstocking. She has crazy red pigtails, no parents to tell her what to do, a horse that lives on her porch, and a pet monkey named Mr. Nilsson. Whether Pippi's scrubbing her floors, doing arithmetic, or stirring things up at a fancy tea party, her flair for the outrageous always seems to lead to another adventure.



[Get Your Copy Here](#)



## Student Spotlight: Connor

"This has been a wonderful experience, and I am honored I got the ability to meet all these wonderful people. I only wish to remind others that life is not a competition, and that you will graduate..." [Visit our blog](#) to read more about Connor's experience at The Literacy Alliance.

## Schlichtenmyer Scholarship Fund

[literacyalliance.org/scholarship/](http://literacyalliance.org/scholarship/)



The Schlichtenmyer Scholarship Fund provides funding for our students who need additional resources that will make it possible for them to attend Ivy Tech as they seek to earn a certification or degree. Students who receive the scholarship are eligible for a stipend that helps them overcome financial barriers related to tuition, books or living expenses.

Chief operating officer Brian Schlichtenmyer retired in 2023 after more than 20 years of service to The Literacy Alliance.



**The Literacy Alliance**  
*Literacy Changes Lives.*

**Our mission is to empower people and strengthen community through education.**

#### You Can Help

[Volunteer](#)  
[Refer a Student](#)  
[Donate Today](#)

#### Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm  
Friday 8:30 am to 1:30 pm

1005 W. Rudisill Blvd., Suite 307  
Fort Wayne, IN 46807  
**260-426-7323** | [Email](#)

[2022-2023 Annual Report](#)

**Melinda Haines**  
Chief Executive Officer

**Matt Wire**  
Chief Marketing and Communications Officer

**Francine Liebhauser**  
Director of Operations

**Laura Weldon**  
Associate Director of Development

**Deb Dutton**  
Project Reads Program Director

**Nikki Minarik**  
Volunteer and Event Coordinator

**Brian Thomas**  
Administrative Coordinator

## Board of Directors

- Isabel Nuñez, Chair**  
Purdue University Fort Wayne
- Erin Nicolette, Vice Chair**  
Lincoln Financial Group
- Michaela Baldwin, Treasurer**  
Blueprint Test Preparation
- Tammy Allen, Secretary**  
Community Volunteer
- Corey Porter, Past Chair**  
Lincoln Financial Group
- Trudy Adams**  
Brightpoint
- Susan Baier**  
Allen County Public Library
- Zach Barron**  
Barnes & Thornburg
- Kara Densmore**  
Old National Bank
- Ron Duchovic**  
Retired Educator
- Teresa Knoblach**  
East Allen County Schools
- Fred McKissack**  
Fort Wayne Journal Gazette
- State Representative Kyle Miller**  
Kekionga Bookkeeping Services
- Luke Mungovan**  
Lake City Bank
- Sharon Tubbs**  
HealthVisions Midwest of Fort Wayne
- Tim VanHouten**  
Fort Wayne Metals
- Melinda Haines, Ex Officio**  
The Literacy Alliance

[Click here to see the entire TLA team.](#)



[Log into your Kroger account](#), search for THE LITERACY ALLIANCE either by name or EC246, and click Enroll.



The TLA [Amazon Wish List](#) is updated often with current needs.

Give The Gift Of Literacy



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