

What is a Conversation Circle?



Conversation Circles are free, weekly meetings that provide opportunities for non-native English speakers to practice basic conversational English in an informal setting.

"I have made progress in speaking English. Before I was lost when I had to speak in English. Now I feel more confident." -- Aksana M.

Circles are designed to increase each participant's comfort level and confidence when using English, increase vocabulary and knowledge of American culture and customs, improve pronunciation and learn idiomatic expressions. Most Circles require English speaking skill to participate. Circles focus on everyday topics such as shopping, food, current events, traveling, etc.



Who is in a Conversation Circle?

Each Circle includes a volunteer Circle Leader and a small number of language learners who are matched based on their speaking skill level. The Circles are small so that everyone has ample opportunity to practice speaking. Circles are scheduled for Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced levels.



To join a Circle, call 978.531.0100 to schedule a brief skill assessment interview.

Resources for New Speakers



The Library's Adult Language Learning Collection includes activity and workbooks, picture dictionaries, phrase books, Audio CDs, Citizenship materials and online language learning resources to support English language learning at all skill levels.

Volunteer Opportunities



Volunteers serve as Circle Leaders. The Library's collections include a wide range of resources for volunteers including customized lesson plans at all skill levels to support volunteers with minimal

formal instruction in teaching English as a second language. Orientation and training sessions are provided to all volunteers.

"I love being a Conversation Circle Leader. It's one of the most fulfilling things I have ever done. The participants are so eager to learn! We've had a very diverse circle from the very beginning and I love getting to know all of our participants. I often feel like I've learned more from them than they have from me."
-- Melissa R.

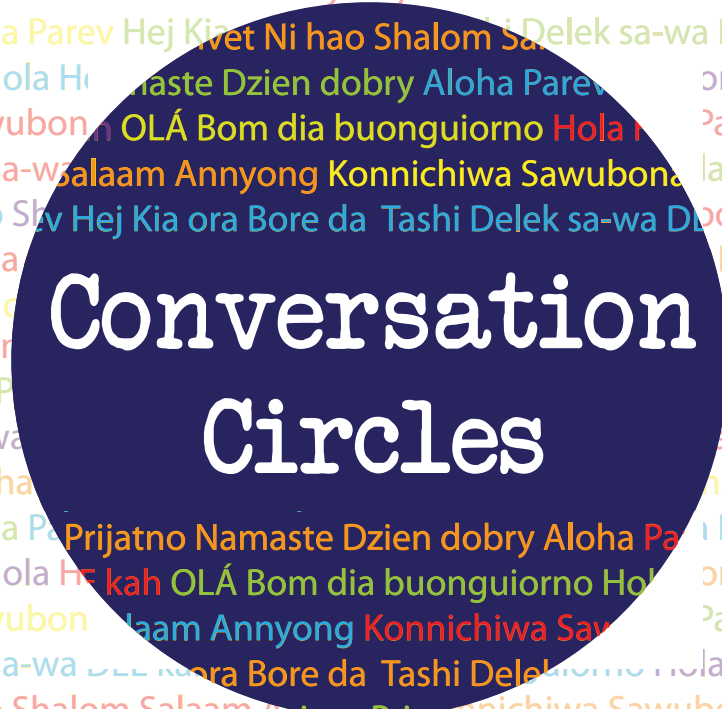
Opportunities are available days, evenings and weekends. The typical volunteer commitment is 2 hours per week.

If you are interested in becoming a Circle Leader, call 978.531.0100 or email peabodyELL@noblenet.org.

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978.531.0100 www.peabodylibrary.org

English Conversation Circles at the Peabody Institute Library



Conversation Circles

Practice Speaking with Others

Improve Pronunciation

Build Your Vocabulary and Confidence