

For Immediate Release:

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Almost \$10,000 raised at Lincoln Literacy's 12th annual Scrabble Scramble

125 guests attended the wordsmithing event.

Lincoln, NE — Lincoln Literacy's 12th annual Scrabble Scramble was a success. Approximately 125 people attended the event, including volunteers, board members, staff, and players, raising almost \$10,000.

The event took place at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church on March 23, 1-5 p.m., to celebrate literacy and to familiarize people with Lincoln Literacy's ongoing mission to support and provide free classes to local immigrant, refugee, and adult skills students.



"After a 5-year hiatus due to COVID-19, we were thrilled to bring this friendly competition back in 2024," said Executive Director Bryan Seck. "We wanted to bring

people together to celebrate literacy and teach them about Lincoln Literacy. More than a fundraiser, I like to think of Scrabble Scramble as a friend-raiser."

The afternoon began with a greeting from Seck, who kicked off the competition with the event's referee, Lincoln City Councilman Bennie Shobe. Accompanying Shobe was Glenda Pierce, the Scrabble judge, and 10/11 News Anchor Madison Pitsch, who served as the event's MC.



Bryan Seck (left), Glenda Pierce (middle left), Madison Pitsch (middle right), Bennie Shobe (right)

25 four-person teams enjoyed some light snacks while they competed in both recreational and competitive divisions for prizes. Players also competed for best costume and name. The Spellican Brief won the naming contest, and the Spellcasters won the costume contest.



Pictured: The Spellcasters

The Lincoln Scrabble Club in the competitive division walked away with the coveted traveling trophy. Congratulations to George Asaka, Reid Warren, Jim McGrath, and Judy Troutman (Lincoln Literacy's former Tutor of the Year) for their stunning victory.

Seck remarked, "I applaud all our amazing players and can't wait to see who wins next year. We're all looking forward to another great event in 2025. Scrabble Scramble is back!"



Pictured: The Lincoln Scrabble Club

Lincoln Literacy thanks its many sponsors for their generous support, including grand sponsor, <u>Nelnet, Inc</u>. Other sponsors and donors are listed on Lincoln Literacy's <u>Scrabble Scramble event page</u>.

To support Lincoln Literacy, please donate at <u>LincolnLiteracy.org/Ways-to-Give</u>.

More about Lincoln Literacy

Established in 1972, Lincoln Literacy is an award-winning, community-based 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization. Thanks to 185 trained volunteer tutors, it has grown to become the community's leader in helping refugees and immigrants gain the English language skills, cross-cultural competence, workplace skills, and career navigation they need to become productive citizens, while also helping homegrown Nebraskans acquire the skills they need to attain living-wage jobs.

Over 100 classes per week are hosted six days per week in the neighborhoods where Lincoln Literacy's students live — including in schools, churches, partner non-profits, and businesses where the organization teaches employees to improve their English skills and safety on the job.