

press release

LIFELONG LEARNERS TURN ON THIRTEEN FOR A NEW BEGINNING

Thirteen's Telecourses For Adults Offer The Skills To Move Ahead

Every day adults across the tri-state region are improving their lives by participating in televised courses broadcast on Thirteen/WNET New York. Whether studying to pass the GED exam, learning to read, or improving their basic knowledge, adults find that channel Thirteen's programs help them move ahead.

"Adult students face unique challenges in pursuing education such as difficult work schedules, diverse educational backgrounds, family obligations, and language barriers," according to André S. Gleaton, director of Thirteen's Adult Education Department. "Thirteen meets their needs by offering telecourses that can be taped and reviewed at their convenience, along with workbooks and support services to help them achieve their goals."

GED CONNECTION (Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5:30 a.m. and repeated at 12:30 p.m.) is the new prep course to the revised High School Equivalency Exam (GED). By watching the series and completing lessons in accompanying workbooks, participants gain the skills they need to pass the exam.

GED EN ESPAÑOL (Mondays and Wednesdays at 5:30 a.m. and repeated at 12:30 p.m.) provides instruction for the GED offered in Spanish. Workbooks in Spanish are available for this program.

TV 411 (Fridays at 5:30 a.m. and repeated at 12:30 p.m.) is a lively half-hour series is geared to adults at the pre-GED level. Viewers learn reading, writing and math skills in real-life

situations dealing with money, parenting and health. Workbooks provide opportunities to practice the skills modeled on the show.

LEARN TO READ (Monday through Friday at 5:00 a.m. and repeated at noon) teaches basic reading skills to adult non-readers, including reading tips, handwriting techniques and encouragement as well. Wally “Famous” Amos, hosts this program, which is accompanied by a free workbook filled with exercises to practice the skills learned in the series.

For information on adult literacy telecourses, workbook fees or obtaining workbooks, call Thirteen’s Adult Education Department at (212) 560-2831 (English) or (212) 560-2081 (Spanish). Participants may tape the programs and view them for one year after the broadcast.

Adult education specialists have found these series to be valuable resources in the classroom. Lesson plans and more adult education resources are available at **Thirteen Ed Online**, <http://www.thirteen.org/edonline> (click on “Adult Ed”). Educators may also use the recorded programs in the classroom for one year after the broadcast.

The **Adult Education Department** provides a variety services for adult learners and is offered by Thirteen’s Education Department, a leading provider of innovative programming, online education, and professional development for educators.

Major corporate support for Thirteen's Adult Education Projects has been provided since 1989 by Con Edison. Promotional support is provided by WBLS-FM Radio, *Hoy* newspaper, and the *New York Amsterdam News*.

GED CONNECTION, ***GED EN ESPAÑOL***, and ***LEARN TO READ*** are productions of Kentucky Educational Television as part of PBS LiteracyLink® project. TV ***411*** is produced by the Adult Literacy Media Alliance.

[Further information on Thirteen’s Adult Education Projects can be found in the Thirteen Online Pressroom: <http://www.thirteen.org/pressroom> -- type in “Adult Education Releases.”]

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Thirteen/WNET New York is one of the key program providers for public television, bringing such acclaimed series as *Nature*, *Great Performances*, *American Masters*, *Charlie Rose*, *Religion & Ethics NewsWeekly*, *Wide Angle*, *Secrets of the Dead*, *NOW With David Brancaccio*, and *Cyberchase* – as well as the work of Bill Moyers – to audiences nationwide. As the flagship public broadcaster in the New York, New Jersey and Connecticut metro area, Thirteen reaches millions of viewers each week, airing the best of American public television along with its own local productions such as *The Ethnic Heritage Specials*, *The Thirteen Walking Tours*, *New York Voices*, and *Reel New York*. Thirteen extends the impact of its television productions through educational and community outreach projects – including the *Celebration of Teaching and Learning* – as well as Web sites and other digital media platforms. More information can be found at: www.thirteen.org.

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