

## **Tutor All-Star Celebration**

On September 14, at CFL's "Tutor All-Star Celebration," Xingxing Zhang thanked her tutor, Pam Anderson, for preparing her to pass her citizenship test and Rose Hopkins thanked her tutor, Don Simmons, for teaching her how to read. The event honored CFL's volunteer tutors who have contributed 5,000 hours of time over the past year to teach Adult Education and ESL (English as a Second Language) students. Pam and Don received the Joan & Richard Behr Exceptional Service Award.

Pam Anderson was inspired by the presidential election to volunteer as a tutor at CFL and wants to make a difference in the lives of immigrants and refugees. A cellist, Pam is currently performing occasionally with musicians of the Unitarian Church in Cherry Hill, and with The Cello Society. Born in China, Xingxing Zhang came to the U.S. in 2013 and became a U.S. citizen on July 24, 2017. Xingxing is grateful for her relationship with Pam. "I hope to keep working with her for many years. She is not just my teacher. I think we've become great friends, too."

Don Simmons retired from the banking industry after 21 years and thought volunteering at CFL would be a good fit for him. In July 2014, Don came to CFL and asked to tutor a small group of students instead of having the usual one-on-one sessions. He now tutors three students, including Rose Hopkins. Rose's fear of reading vanished after several sessions with Don. "Before I came to CFL I told myself I would never be able to read. I no longer have a fear of reading."