

Friends of the Stirling Road Branch Library

3151 Stirling Road Hollywood, Florida 33312

December 4, 2018

During the past ten years, the Friends of the Stirling Road Library has partnered with International College Counselors to create, develop, and present programs regarding the college admissions process. We approached ICC when our group first began to explore the need within our county for top quality presentations on the college admissions process given the scarcity of free programs available to students in 8th grade and up and their families. Since our initial program, we have become the “go-to” library for this initiative, thanks to the outstanding content and presentations of ICC and our college program has served hundreds of students and their families during this time.

As an example, this past Summer and Fall, ICC presented a series of four seminars based on the specific needs of our community. The program included the application process, applying to the Ivy Leagues, applying to Florida schools, and financial assistance. The presenters from ICC were professional, thorough, and dynamic. As in the past, our group was impressed with the quality and breadth of the presentations. In fact, although we had initially only requested three programs, ICC agreed to add a fourth seminar based on parents’ requests for information about the financial assistance process.

The college seminars attract a true cross-section of our community. This past year we had attendees from almost every public middle and high school in our extended community together with students from many private schools. This is one of the few programs which truly addresses the needs of families from all different segments of our community.

ICC also assisted our group in setting up free SAT classes for our community for the past few years. Together with the college seminars, these classes helped cement our library’s role in providing much needed services to this population. Our programs are a template for other libraries who wish to create similar programs.

We remain amazed and grateful that ICC has offered these top-quality programs at no cost to our library or to the community. Many of the attendees at these seminars do not have the resources to get the information provided on their own and are so grateful to have this much needed information made available to them at no cost. The positive feedback from the families, together with the recognition we have received from the community, confirms that these programs are the jewel in our offerings and we value our partnership with ICC.

Sincerely,



Hannah Handler Hostyk

Co-President, Friends of the Stirling Road Branch Library