



The Friends of the Everett Public Library and the Board of Trustees invite you to participate in the second annual **Spell Down**: A Spelling Bee for Grown-Ups. If you participated last year, you know how much fun it was—plus it raised enough money to get us started on our teen space project. This year should be even better because we know what worked and what didn't.

This year our goal is to support programs for children and teens. Buying book prizes for Summer Reading Program participants, funding author and performer programs, and purchasing early learning activity centers are all things the Friends would be able to do if the Bee continues to be successful.

Support Everett's kids and have a great time doing it: It's as simple as recruiting a team of three spellers—friends, neighbors, colleagues, or business acquaintances, and paying the \$100 entry fee. Don't worry about stage fright—you work as a team.

What Do I Need to Do? Sign up using our handy registration form to secure your team's place in this event—and hurry, because we are accepting only the first 30 teams. For entry information call 425-257-8022 or email esimmons@ci.everett.wa.us. More information will be available on the Library's web page, www.epls.org, soon. Team costumes are optional, but encouraged. Word lists will be posted online, but we don't care if you study in advance, cram the night before, or don't even crack the dictionary. Just come prepared to enjoy yourself on Friday, October 7, 2011 at the Everett Performing Arts Center.

What Do I Get If My Team Wins? The respect and admiration of your co-competitors and library staff members, and some very special prizes. We may have a spirit award this year for the team with the biggest and loudest cheering section, as determined by our judges—so encourage your friends and family to attend. Admission for the general public is still free.

What's Different This Year? The main difference is that we are improving the buy-back process. Last year we only allowed one buy-back per team (and we weren't very organized). This year we promise to be more organized, and we will accept multiple buy-backs from each team. The only catch is the cost per buy-back will go up each time. See the Bee Rules for details—but this is a great reason to recruit sponsors for your team. Friends, family, co-workers, and employers may all be willing to help your team stay in the game. It's all tax deductible, and it goes to a great cause: **Helping Us Make the Library a Great Place for All Our Kids.**

We encourage you to round up a team, consider becoming a business sponsor of the bee, and make sure your friends and family are on hand to watch your team **Spell Down** to victory!

For additional information, please call or email; 425-257-8022, esimmons@ci.everett.wa.us.

Sincerely,

Eileen Simmons, Library Director
Larry O'Donnell, Board of Trustees
Judy Pascale, Friends of the Everett Public Library