MARGO HUDSON
2012 GED Grad, Literacy Champion, Tutor, Ambassador, Motivational Speaker

Margo Hudson signs her emails “With Delight.” This phrase perfectly sums up her personality: sunny, hopeful, positive, and energetic. Margo attended Seeds of Literacy for eleven years, working toward her GED®.

Margo has incredible determination. She was not deterred by her age (45 when she began) or her job at the United Club at Cleveland Airport. She made education a commitment, coming two and three times a week to Seeds as a student. Margo knew that a GED opened doors, and she persevered at Seeds of Literacy. With the support of her husband, Seeds tutors and staff, numerous co-workers and customers, and with incredible commitment, Margo graduated with her GED in 2012 – which was the sixth time she took the exam.

But what is truly incredible is what she has done following her “formal” education at Seeds of Literacy.

She hasn’t stopped learning.

When Margo ended her time at Seeds as a student, she started a new role as a tutor. For nearly six years, she has tutored twice a week, year-round, at Seeds, working with students with whom she has a lot in common, and acting as a role model of success. Since graduation, she continues to learn new skills by taking classes in jewelry making, knitting, line dancing, candy making, and music. She is an avid reader, bringing in articles on stress and health to share with students, staff, and tutors.

And she became an ambassador for the hope that adult education and literacy brings. Margo Hudson is a very vocal champion for the power of adult literacy. She has strong relationships with her customers, many of whom are high-powered business people from around the country and the world. (Currently, Margo is learning piano, and sends MP3 files of her weekly lessons to an email list that includes internationally acclaimed guitarist Jason Vieaux!)

In 2016, she was named National Adult Learner of the Year and received Governor Kasich’s Courage Ward. That same year, she led the Pledge of Allegiance at a session of the Republican National Convention. In 2019, Margo testified at the Ohio Statehouse, urging the government to see the importance of adult literacy.

Since then, Margo has gone out into the community to share her story of hope through education, and the message that literacy changes lives. She speaks at homeless shelters, food pantries, health fairs, library events, and more.

All pretty amazing for a woman who grew up on Chicago’s south side, and who left school and home in the 10th grade, hoping to leave behind abuse and heartache for a better life.

Adult literacy helped her do just that, and now she proudly tells the world.