



Annual Conference will be held in Niagara Falls, NY, on **October 20-21**. We are planning many special surprises and look forward to seeing all of our NYSAFLT family there. Please save Thursday evening, **October 19**, for our gala reunion banquet!

Don't forget to check out all of the exceptional regional conferences held throughout the year. These are wonderful venues for sharing ideas. Why not present a workshop of your own? Once again, the generosity of the NYS Statewide Language Regional Bilingual Education Resource Network (R-BERN) of NYU, has enabled us to offer members 7 webinars completely free of charge.

Our **100K for 100 Years** campaign is almost halfway to our goal. Please contribute what you can to help us build a sustaining fund that will carry us through the next 100 years. We intend to maintain and even increase the number of grants, awards, and scholarships available to our membership.

I am looking forward to working with the entire NYSAFLT family in 2017 as we promote best practices in our classrooms, encourage our students to pursue world language education as a career, and as we advocate for world language education at the state and national levels.

I wish everyone a wonderful 2017!

Marie J. Campanaro

2017 NYSAFLT President

NYSAFLT Spring Conference



Michelle Shenton

NYSAFLT and **ALoud** are collaborating on the 2017 NYSAFLT Spring Conference **Saturday, May 6** at Marist College in Poughkeepsie. The theme of the conference is **World Languages: "S.T.E.A.M."ing Ahead**. The conference will start with a general session by keynote speaker **Lori Langer de Ramirez**, director of world and classical languages and global language initiatives at the Dalton School in New York City. The general session will be followed by several breakout workshops. Registration is open! Visit the [Spring Conference website](#) for conference details and registration. Contact conference chair [Michelle Shenton](#) with questions.

SAVE THE DATE!!

Are you ready for adventure? The theme for the 2017 NYSAFLT Summer Institute is **World Languages: Adventure Awaits!** Come and join us **August 8-11** at SUNY Oneonta. Watch for more information in the June newsletter or contact info@nysaflt.org with any questions.



NYSAFLT 100th Annual Conference



Beth Slocum

Mark your calendars for the NYSAFLT Centennial Celebration:

Harnessing the Power of World Languages

October 20-21 in Niagara Falls, New York

This is an historic milestone for language teaching and learning. Join in the celebration of our rich history while looking ahead to a very bright future as NYSAFLT proudly leads New York State with languages for the next 100 years!

The 100th Annual Conference offers world-class professional development in a spectacular venue. Our keynote speaker **Greta Lundgaard**, is the ACTFL 2016 Florence Steiner Award Winner for Leadership in Foreign Language Education. Greta is a leader in our field who brings a fresh perspective on language teaching and learning. Check out her article from the *Language Educator* (Jan/Feb 2015) [here](#).

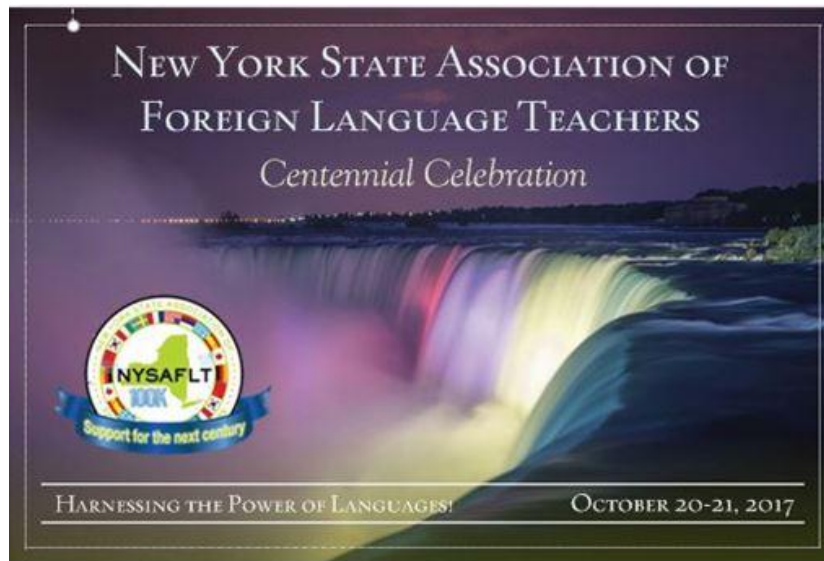
The Conference & Event Center at Niagara Falls offers incredible spaces with free WiFi throughout. In addition to the quality sessions that are characteristic of NYSAFLT conferences, this year promises exciting additions such as:

- 🕒 Separate ticketed 100K Fundraiser on **Thursday, October 19**, celebrating NYSAFLT's history and raising funds to sustain our organization for the next 100 years!
- 🕒 NYSAFLT's *1st Un-Con* (the unconference), moderated by **Jenny Delfini**
- 🕒 *Breakout EDU*, an incredible, interactive adventure with **Erin Johnson**
- 🕒 Fireside chats with NYSA-notables offering small group discussion opportunities
- 🕒 Special guest presenters from throughout the United States and Canada
- 🕒 NYSA-fun challenges, games, prizes and dancing!

Have you already visited Niagara Falls? Has it been awhile? Why not make a weekend of it and bring the family? Our hotel accommodations are adjacent to the Event Center and at the heart of breathtaking Niagara Falls. All guest rooms feature an in-room refrigerator, microwave, safe, coffee-maker and 42-inch television w/ cable TV (including SHOWTIME). Did we also mention the pool, fitness center, restaurants & shopping?! For your convenience, *complimentary* premium wireless high speed internet is available throughout the hotel.



The NYSAFLT Centennial Celebration is the must-experience event of the year! Mark your calendars and watch your email. Registration will be open in the Spring. In the meantime, have you or your colleagues considered presenting? Visit www.nysaflt.org to submit your proposal or contact conference coordinator [Beth Slocum](#) for further information. See you in October!



Leaders of Tomorrow

“Before you are a leader, success is about growing yourself.

When you become a leader, success is all about growing others.” (Welch, 2005)

NYSAFLT proudly presents the Leaders of Tomorrow Project as part of an ongoing campaign to identify future leaders in our profession and foster a climate of support, collaboration, and continued professional development.

The Leaders of Tomorrow Project is designed to develop participant leadership skills through a three part leadership training seminar. Participants will be educated about NYSAFLT’s mission, goals, and programs. Upon completion of the project, participants are encouraged to step forward into positions of leadership in NYSAFLT and/or other professional organizations at the local, state, or national level.

Timeline: Once selected, members of the leadership program will attend

- Spring Conference
- Summer Institute
- Annual Conference
- Online (GoTo) meetings and webinars



- Eligibility:** Applicants must be a current teacher of World Language in New York State and a member of NYSAFLT in good standing for at least three of the past five years. Applicants must be willing to present a workshop at an upcoming NYSAFLT Annual Conference and to share information and materials developed during the experience.
- Application:** The application is available under the Members Only Section of the NYSAFLT [website](#).
- Deadline:** The deadline to apply is March 15th
- Contact:** [John Carlino](#), NYSAFLT Executive Director

Regional News

Capital-East

Hello Capital District East NYSAFLTers! Here are a few items of interest from the Capital Region.

COLT held its annual “*Beat the Winter Blues*” webinar event on **January 25** at Draper Middle School. We watched a webinar entitled “Top 10 Activities to Liven Up Your Language Class” put on by **Valerie Greer** (a new NYSAFLT Board member) and Vanessa Mercado.

Melinda Barnes, Capital East co-director, was invited to attend a meeting of the Suburban Council Foreign Language Department Chairpersons on February 3 where she shared NYSAFLT’s current information on the reinstatement of Regents’ Exams for 4 languages: Spanish, French, Italian and Chinese, with 2020 as the target year for starting them up again. Even better, **Ricardo Constantino** from the Office of Bilingual Education and World Languages at the New York State Department of Education came to the meeting to discuss the plan for reinstatement of the exams from the State’s point of view. After discussion, it was clear that currently some districts have developed their own exams and others have participated in or joined a group that has created an exam. Mr. Constantino’s office is currently compiling a list of those exams through Marie Campanaro at NYSAFLT so that the State can give its approval for those exams to be used by students in their pathway toward graduation.

In our region, we are aware of the FLACS exam which comes out of the Long Island area. Any district that wishes to give the exam pays a fee and the exam is sent to them in June. This exam has shifted slightly from its inception to align with the Common Core teaching standards. An alternative to FLACS is the CALC exam, created by the Capital Area Language Consortium. There is no fee, but they ask for involvement in writing, editing, or authenticating the exam. The CALC exams are modeled on the old Regents Exams except that the word requirement in the writing section for the Checkpoint A proficiency has been bumped up to 50 words. Fortunately for all of us, **Suzanne Rayome** will be presenting at our **March 18** Conference at Queensbury High School so you can ask more questions there.



Please get involved and write a letter to your State Senators letting them know you would like them to fund the return of the Regents Exams! In the meantime, we will try to get our local exams certified for our students.

Look for free New York State sponsored professional development in May regarding the ACTFL standards. Mr. Constantino shared that State Ed would like to transition slowly away from Checkpoints A and B to ACTFL ratings. In order to do this, they would like to offer free training to our world language teachers. Mr. Constantino also mentioned that summer training sessions are in the works, but no definite dates have been set at this time.

My name is **Mary Goetz** and I am your new Co-Director for the Capital East region of New York State. I currently work in Argyle Central School teaching Spanish 7 and 8 and SUNY Adirondack Spanish. I previously taught Spanish in South Colonie CSD for 15 years. In Argyle CSD, I organize our International Exchange program with our sister school, Jesús Maria, in Madrid, Spain. I have led many overseas adventures with students in the past to destinations including: England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Australia, New Zealand, Greece, Turkey, Austria, Italy, France, Perú, Ecuador, and Costa Rica. Opening up the horizons of my students and allowing them to see and experience how much of a world is out there to explore has been a highlight of my career.

Another highlight has been forming and organizing the Adirondack Professional Learning Community for World Language Educators. This group of professional and collaborative educators learns together, shares together, and supports one another in improving our craft. Come and join us! Or, if you live in the southern region of our district, consider joining the Albany Chapter which is based on the Adirondack PLC! Also, please attend our NYS AFLT/COLT sponsored Regional Conference scheduled for March 18 for some cutting edge language news, updates, and professional development. Do not hesitate to introduce yourself and let me know how I may be of assistance to you, your department, or your language program. I hope to meet and work with you soon!

Around Our Schools, Capital East

Queensbury Union Free School educator **Meghan Chance**, was in Quebec City from February 3-5 with students and parents celebrating Carnival! They explored the area around Quebec City and participated in various traditional winter activities, sampled a traditional dinner, and visited Old Quebec. They also participated in a guided tour of the Hotel de Glace, and watched the opening parade with festive floats and costumed parade participants. It sure was a weekend to remember!

Also from Queensbury High School, students are off to Costa Rica on a Spanish immersion program! Says teacher, Susan Sanchez: “The Sámara Beach homestay has proven to be very successful in allowing our students a true immersion experience in the Costa Rican culture. The students stay in the homes of native speakers, attend intensive Spanish classes for 4 hours each day, and enjoy excursions such as a canopy tour, kayaking, snorkeling, and horseback riding.”



Lake George Central High School is holding its BRAVO! Lip sync competition on Thursday, March 9 at 7 pm. This is guaranteed to be an exciting night as the event usually packs the house! **Susan Frost** is credited with the idea for the special event, which is in its 17th year of success!

Laurie Fronhofer, Spanish teacher in Salem Central Schools, organized a Salsa Dance Day with her students, inviting a dance instructor and choreographer to show the students authentic dance moves! Laurie also led her students to Puerto Rico. They visited the- San Juan Nature Reserve, held sea cucumbers, and toured Old San Juan and the Castillo San Felipe del Morro. Students hiked to swim in a waterfall at El Yunque Rain Forest, took a Coffee Plantation tour, and visited the Art Museum in Ponce.

<p><i>Salem/Greenwich trip to Puerto Rico; students cooked and enjoyed mufongo</i></p>	<p><i>Queensbury High School students participate in the Sámara Beach homestay experience</i></p>	<p><i>Salem Spanish Club enjoys Salsa dance lessons!</i></p>

So, tell us! What are you doing in your schools? Keep us apprised!

Central

On **Friday, March 3**, the NYS AFLT Central Region and Binghamton University will host the annual World Languages/ TESOL conference, *Unplugged and Wired: Language Engagement for All*. This event will begin at 8:30 a.m. and feature great presenters on topics regarding curriculum, differentiation, best practices for all learners, and much more. The conference will take place at The Zurack Room in the library tower at Binghamton University. Registration is now open. Contact regional director [Marisol Marcín](#) for more information. This is an event you will not want to miss.

On **Saturday, February 4**, LECNY held its annual *LLL- LECNY Workshop* (formerly known as SUPER-LECNY) at the Goldstein Center on the Syracuse University campus. This event was well attended and teachers left with new and exciting information. Some of the topics from this event included self-assessment, presented by **Dr. Joanne E. O'Toole** and Carolyn Delles, and National Board Certification, presented by **Dr. Denise Mahns**. Thank you to **LECNY** and Syracuse University for providing such a wonderful and beneficial event.



Hello to all NYSAFLT members! My name is **Laura Rouse** and I am very honored to be one of your NYSAFLT directors for the Central Region. I look forward to representing our world language community. I am a French teacher and WL Teacher Leader at the Vernon-Verona-Sherrill CSD where I currently teach French 2 and French 3. I am also an instructor at Mohawk Valley Community College, teaching French 191 and 201 courses. I am a past president of **LECN**Y and I have also been a presenter for various organizations at the local, regional, and state levels. I am pursuing a Certificate of Advanced Study degree in Educational Leadership at Syracuse University. Because of this, I am also currently completing my administrative internship. I look forward to serving you as a director of the Central Region. Please feel free to contact me about any questions you may have regarding the many opportunities that NYSAFLT offers.

AATF of CNY

The AATF of CNY wishes you a “Bonne Année.” We are happy to announce some of our upcoming events!

Registration is open for Le Grand Concours! Information can be found on our [website](#). To register and find additional resources regarding this national contest, visit: www.frenchteachers.org/concours or www.frenchcontest.org.

The annual Spring workshop will be held in **April 2017**. Please check the website for more information regarding date, time, and registration! We can’t wait to share with you what we’ve been planning. Join us for a movie night featuring *La Famille Bélier*. The show starts at 6 p.m. on **Thursday, March 2** at the Onondaga Free Library. Hope to see you there! Finally, current members of AATF of CNY should keep an eye out for an email regarding student scholarship information.

Mid-Hudson/Westchester

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself, **Charlene Sirlin**, to the NYSAFLT community and to thank my colleague, **Sally Barnes**, for her contributions as the previous NYSAFLT regional director for the Mid-Hudson/Westchester region. Although this is a new and challenging position for me, Sally and I are both teachers at Pierre Van Cortlandt Middle School, so that easily facilitates communication and the sharing of ideas. As NYSAFLT approaches its 100th anniversary, I anticipate a busy year for all of the member organizations and look forward to being an active supporter of this historical event.

PWRFL’s December 6 meeting was held at Westlake Middle School. Saint Nicholas Day complemented the theme of Holiday Celebrations and exchanges of how to incorporate culture in the classroom. The **January 10** meeting was postponed due to inclement weather. The meeting on **February 7** was held at Roosevelt High School in Yonkers. and covered Project-Based Learning. Participants were able to create a project and then discuss how students can



participate in project-based learning. Our make-up snow day for January will be on **March 7** from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. The meeting will be at Nyack Middle School in Rockland County. The theme will be “Back to Basics,” focusing on National Foreign Language Week, advocacy, and other tried and true strategies to finishing out the year.

Our *PoWerFul Regional Spring Conference*, co-sponsored by NYSAFLT, is scheduled from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on **Saturday, March 25** at Putnam Valley High School. Please consider being a presenter. We would welcome presenters from outside our region as well. Early Bird registration ends on **March 3**. Again this year, **PWRFL** is sponsoring a variety of contests for students of our members (FLES, Middle School and High School). Please find information about the Regional Meeting, Presenter Application, and Student Contests at our [website](#) or contact our President, [Alexis Thornton](#).

As all regions are eagerly preparing for the 100th NYSAFLT Anniversary, we are in the planning stages of a cocktail and dinner get-together and, hopefully, a raffle of gifts provided by regional vendors and members. More information will be forthcoming!

A final reminder is to mark your calendars for the *NYSAFLT-ALoud Regional Conference* at Marist College on **Saturday, May 6**.

NYC-Long Island

The 2017 FLACS World Language Conference will be held on **Friday, March 24** at the Sondra & David S. Mack Student Center at Hofstra University. The theme is *The World Language Toolkit: The Nuts & Bolts of Teaching & Learning*. The cost of the conference is \$85, which includes breakfast, lunch and various workshops. Visit the FLACS [website](#) for more details.

Celebrate National Foreign Language Week **March 6-10** by entering student submissions to the LILT Poster Contest. The deadline for submission of entries is **March 17**, and the topic this year is “*Many Languages, One Humanity*.” Visit www.liltfl.org for more information.

LILT was excited to celebrate the successful return of its annual conference on **Saturday, November 5**. There were over 300 teachers in attendance. There were many workshops that covered a variety of topics, from FLES to Checkpoint C. This conference offered a chance for professional growth and for teachers across Long Island to come together to share and collaborate. Thank you to the following presenters, **William Anderson, Xianxian Cascella, Stephany Contreras, Valérie Greer, Rosemary Haigh, Wei Huang, Brigitte Kahn, Janice Kincaid, Dr. Patricia Lennon, Wendy Mercado, and Jennifer Nesfield**, for sharing their wonderful ideas.

The New York City Association of Foreign Language Teachers (**NYCAFLT**) will hold its *Annual Spring Professional Development Workshops* on **Saturday, April 1** at the UFT Headquarters in Manhattan. The program will consist of two one and a half hour sessions with breakfast, and a 20 minute coffee break between each session. Teachers will be able to choose one of four workshops in each session. Registration will be on-line and the fee will be \$25. There



will be no on-site registration for this event. Each workshop will be limited to thirty-five participants. Registration materials are available at the conference [website](#).

NYCAFLT's principal mission is to provide high quality professional development for New York City world language teachers. Thanks to NYSAFLT as a unifying force in New York State, we also are able to serve the foreign language teachers of neighboring Long Island and Westchester. Our spring workshops will emphasize the high-demand topics of class management, technology, formative and summative assessments, and building literacy. The **NYCAFLT** Committee is looking forward to another inspiring and meaningful professional development conference.

My name is **Valérie Greer** and I am the newly elected NYC/LI regional director for NYSAFLT. I will be working with **Nora Diaz Guevara** to represent the NYC/LI region. I have been teaching French at the Bay Shore UFSD for 19 years. I have a BA in French Language and Literature and an MA in Liberal Studies from SUNY Stony Brook. I have been a member of both NYSAFLT and LILT for more than 20 years and I am also a member of ACTFL. I have presented many workshops for LILT, NYSAFLT and NECTFL over the years in Baltimore, Boston, Syracuse, Saratoga Springs, Oneonta, NYC, and across Long Island. I have most recently presented at the NYSAFLT annual conference in **October 2016**, the LILT annual conference in **November 2016** and the NECTFL conference in **February 2017**. I am honored to serve on the Board of Directors for NYSAFLT for the next three years.

Please contact [Valérie Greer](#) if your school, world language students, or teachers are doing something special or exciting that you would like highlighted in an upcoming newsletter. This can include contests, awards, special activities/projects etc.

Western New York

Mark your calendars!!! If you're looking for professional development opportunities, the Western Region has two excellent conferences coming up soon! Kick off your language week in style with the **WNYFLEC** Regional Conference, *Foreign Language: The Global Connection*, which will be held on **Saturday, March 4** at Hamburg High School, just outside of Buffalo. If you haven't registered yet, you may still register on-site! Please visit our [website](#) for more information! Attendees will receive a copy of the winning poster from our annual Foreign Language Week poster contest to decorate their classrooms!

Wrap up your Language Week with a bang by attending the Rochester Regional Conference the following weekend! The conference, *Learn a World Language: Grow your Global Mindset*, is scheduled for **Saturday, March 11** and will be held once again on the beautiful Nazareth College of Rochester campus. The planning committee has worked diligently to secure presentations by local LOTE professionals to enrich and enhance your classroom practices. You will have your choice of professional development opportunities in technology, best teaching practices, culture, and so much more. If you haven't registered yet, register today at www.nysaflt.org. Look for the Rochester Regional registration link under the conferences tab. At



this conference, you will also have the chance to contribute to the 100k for 100 Years initiative by shopping at the Classroom Cleanout table. Each item will sell for only \$1. All proceeds will go to NYSAFLT to support 100K for 100 years. NYSAFLT has supported countless professionals in numerous ways since its inception 100 years ago. Are you looking for other ways to support NYSAFLT? Consider making a personal or departmental contribution to this initiative to help secure NYSAFLT support for 100 more years to come.

If you are unable to join us for the regional conferences, look to our amazing webinar professional development series available to you free with your NYSAFLT membership. These webinars are available live and in archive under the webinar tab at www.nysaftl.org.

2017·NYSAFLT·Rochester·Regional·Conference¶
Learn·a·World·Language·:·Grow·Your·Global·Mindset¶
March·11,·2017·at·Nazareth·College¶



All·for·a·Dollar¶

Bring your singles – there will be plenty of new and gently-used world language items for your classroom or your home. Everything for \$1!¶

Classroom¶
Cleanout!¶

Donate your new, unused, and gently used items that may be of interest to other world language teachers.*¶



All·proceeds·will·go·to·the·100K·for·100·Years·fund!¶



*If you are from the Rochester area and would like to donate items to the ALL-FOR-A-DOLLAR CLASSROOM-CLEANOUT! please contact [Marie.Campanaro](mailto:Marie.Campanaro@nazareth.edu) to make arrangements.¶





AATF of WNY

The **American Association of Teachers of French Western New York Chapter (AATF of WNY)** announces the honoring of **Dr. Éliane McKee's** life and legacy as an outstanding French Educator in Western New York. In her memory, we would like to offer the **Dr. Éliane McKee French Teacher Immersion Scholarship**.

A native of Casablanca, Morocco, Éliane earned her Doctorate of Philosophy at Ohio State University, in Columbus, Ohio. As a full-time Professor at the State University College in Buffalo, she taught foreign language methodology courses, phonetics, and French language & literature courses. She also authored *Le Français Standard, Prononciation et Orthographe*. Following her illustrious career, she became Professor Emerita of Foreign Language Education and French Language & Literature.

As a master teacher, Éliane was highly committed to the profession. She greatly supported her colleagues and students as well as the **AATF of WNY**. She was also an active member of several cultural and professional educators' organizations including NYSAFLT, **WNYFLEC**, ACTFL, and **NNELL**, among others. Éliane tirelessly dedicated herself to helping students who could count on her support for guidance at any time in or outside of the classroom.

During her life, she educated and inspired countless French teachers at all levels. Her influence continues to be felt in French classrooms throughout WNY! We hope that this scholarship will allow her powerful legacy to live on among future French educators and their students.

Mr. Darrell McKee, her husband, and our Past President **Brenda Benzin** have graciously donated seed money to honor **Dr. Éliane McKee** and her legacy to her students as well as all teachers and students in Western New York. Our WNY Chapter posthumously awarded Dr. McKee the Chapter's Friend of French Award at our Annual Gala Reception that kicked off National French Week on **Monday, November 7**. Upon accepting the award in her memory, Darrell McKee fondly recalled how she loved teaching; "She was in every school in WNY!" Please click [here](#) visit if you would also like to make a donation in her honor.

Teacher candidates for this scholarship will apply to our Western New York Chapter for the opportunity to study in an Immersion program and enrich their expertise in the French speaking culture. Their communicative and cultural experience will enhance their instructional opportunities to be shared with their French students in the classroom. We enthusiastically encourage **AATF of WNY** members to apply for this incredible experience of a lifetime!

This year, **AATF of WNY** would like to honor the memory of **Dr. Éliane McKee** with the **Dr. Éliane McKee Scholarship for Teachers of Higher Study Immersion of French**. The recipient of this scholarship will be able to attend a school in an accredited French Teacher Immersion Program. The scholarship in the amount of \$2500 will be awarded to study in a French speaking country or region. Any current **AATF of WNY** (since at least 2016) member holding a full-time teaching position and who is a non-native speaker of French is eligible to apply. The Scholarship will be given for participation only in programs accredited by the host



country or an American university. Payment will be made upon proof of enrollment and paid directly to the accredited institution offering the immersion program. Up to \$2500 will be paid to the program institution, including relevant material fees.

This scholarship will be awarded to members who indicate a plan to use the scholarship to benefit him or herself professionally and expand his/her proficiency as a French speaker while enhancing his/her cultural understanding of the Francophone world. Applications will be reviewed and the decisions will be announced within two months of the application deadline. A number of factors will be weighed including clarity and specificity of the candidate's statement and proposed budget; motivations for applying, and the candidate's perceived level of proficiency of French; evidence of professional commitment; future career plans in education; and letters of recommendation. Finalists will be asked to interview face-to-face with our Chapter Board members in a final meeting.

Interested applicants should complete the [application form](#) and submit two letters of recommendation via [e-mail](#) with the candidate's name and **Dr. Éliane McKee Scholarship** clearly indicated in the subject field. One of the letters should come from the principal, dean, or department chairperson, and one from someone who knows the candidate and his/her work well. These letters of recommendation should contain a serious, detailed evaluation of the applicant's professional and personal qualities. All materials must be submitted and received by **Wednesday, March 15**. For more information or questions, please contact Chapter President, [Michele Roberts](#).

Public Advocacy

Reinstatement of Regents Exams

The NYS Board of Regents has requested funding in NYSED's 2017 budget for the reinstatement of the World Language Regents exams in the four most commonly taught languages in NYS (Spanish, French, Italian and Chinese). Our NYS Legislators are now in session to review each line item in the NYS budget. NYSAFLT is inviting you to participate in our letter writing campaign asking the Legislators to support the return of these exams by approving the requested amount. To show your support, contact your Senators and Assembly members about the importance of world language learning and of the need for valid benchmark exams. The [Regents Reinstatement Letter Writing Campaign](#) is located on NYSAFLT's Public Advocacy (PA) webpage, and has pre-written letters that you can print, address, and sign as well as a variety of paragraphs with which you can create your own letter. There are also templates if you would like to request the addition of Proficiency exams and World Language Regents exams in German and Latin. You can find the names, addresses, and fax numbers of your [elected officials](#) on our PA webpage.

If you think you're too small to have an impact, try going to bed with a mosquito.

Anita Roddick

National Foreign Language Week



March 6-12 is National Foreign Language Week. This means that it is time to celebrate foreign languages! This event was created by Alpha Mu Gamma, in the spring of 1957, to help make the United States aware of the need for, and the importance of, foreign language study. Even in 2017, this mission is still essential.

Here are a few activities that you can do with your classes and in your school to celebrate languages and cultures: displays, decorations, labels, cuisine, speakers, music, dance, crafts, announcements, movies, scavenger hunts, virtual tours, acting, careers. Most of all, have fun with your students! Remember to share photos of your activities on social media and with your local newspaper. It's great advocacy!

Stay up-to-date on world language issues through our NYSAFLT [Advocacy Center](#). We have a wide range of articles and research documents, a listing of ways to contact your legislators and take action, and links to valuable resources. You can also contact your Public Advocacy Co-Chairs **Barbara Patterson** and **Diana Zuckerman**.

NYSUT World Language Subject Area Committee



NYSUT's World Languages Subject Area Committee met in December to update the NYSUT/NYSAFLT/NYS PTA World Language Brochure, review the Fact Sheet titled "The Relevance of World Languages in the Global Community", and discuss the direction of our assessments. Pictured left to right are: **Diana Zuckerman**, **Christine Brucker**, **Linda Zusman**, **Elizabeth Sheffer-Winnig**, Amy Schabillon, and Kier Palmer.

National Network for Early Language Learning / FLES News

The NYSAFLT FLES Committee is thrilled to have awarded a Hahn FLES Teacher Scholarship to **Claire-Louise Meng**. This award helped her to attend the *Northeast Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages* (NECTFL) in February. Looking ahead, Claire hopes to share the information that she gathered at the conference with her FLES colleagues in Uniondale, NY by delivering professional development sessions to further the quality, consistency, and continuity of the FLES Spanish program.

The National Network for Early Language Learning (NNELL) had a terrific showing at NECTFL in New York City from **February 9-11**. Led by **Marissa Coulehan**, Northeast NNELL Representative, teachers of pre-K to grade 8 gathered at the "NNELL Networking Session" to discuss topics and share ideas about assessment, technology, heritage speakers, and classroom management!



Please join us for another networking opportunity for early language educators at FLES Fest on **May 20** in New York City, hosted by The Dalton School's **Dr. Lori Langer de Ramirez**. The keynote speaker will be Ana Lomba!

If you've caught the STEAM "bug," come join some amazing educators and presenters in Summit, NJ for the *NNELL Summer Institute* from **July 7-9**. The theme is "STEAMing Ahead: Critical Thinking and Problem Solving for Early Language Learners." Visit the NNELL [website](#) for more information.

Announcements

NYS AFLT offers many professional opportunities for teachers and professors to travel abroad, attend conferences, have ideas or projects funded, and be lauded for their website or departmental work. Submitting an application or nominating someone for a grant, scholarship and/or award enhances your curriculum vitae and the professional domain of your APPR. Winning allows you to showcase the talent within the LOTE department in your district or university. Most importantly, we grow as individuals in the profession that we love! Visit the awards [page](#) for more information and **APPLY!** Below are upcoming deadlines:

March:

15 – NOMINATE a student for a *Fulvi Award*. \$150 is awarded to a high school senior for excellence in world language study, \$100 is awarded to a high school senior with a strong interest in and love of languages, and \$50 is awarded to an outstanding 8th grader in world language study. These three awards are given out in each of the five NYS AFLT regions.

15 – SUBMIT an entry for the NYS AFLT Virtual Video [Contest](#). In celebration of world language learning and world language month, NYS AFLT is excited to offer a new and improved version of their former Videocast Contest. Let's promote the wonderful work that our students do in our world language classrooms by showcasing them in a state-wide competition!

April:

1 – APPLY for a *James E. Allen Award*. This award recognizes and honors outstanding world language programs in each of the five NYS AFLT regions.

1 – APPLY for a *Hahn Outstanding FLES Program Award*. \$1,000 is awarded to an outstanding school-based FLES program. The monies are to be used to support and promote the expansion of this outstanding FLES program.

15 – APPLY for a *Hahn FLES Teacher Scholarship*. Up to \$500 is awarded to a FLEX or FLES teacher to attend a professional conference in order to enhance quality language instruction and promote networking among FLES teachers.

15 – APPLY for a *NYS LOTE Website of the Year Award*. Presented to an outstanding member's and department's web page that contains information on current, past and future LOTE activities relevant to a student or parent of a student in a professional and exceptional manner.



15 – APPLY for a *Teacher Incentive/Gertrude Rossin Cultural Grant*. Up to \$200 is awarded to support teacher efforts that improve instruction, expand extracurricular programs of a class, school or school district, or create a school and/or community project that is cultural in nature.

May:

1 – NOMINATE a teacher for the *Dorothy S. Ludwig Memorial Award*. Awarded to a world language teacher for outstanding service to the profession.

1 – NOMINATE a person for the *National Culture Through the Arts Award*, awarded to a person in the performing arts for whom knowledge and appreciation of world languages and cultures are important.

1 – NOMINATE a person for the *Outstanding Journalist/Media Presenter Award*. Awarded to a NYS publication, TV/radio station, or film/video writer or producer which promotes world language education.

1 – NOMINATE a supervisor for the *Remunda Cadoux Award for Leadership in Foreign Language Supervision*. Awarded to a NYS AFLT member who has demonstrated excellence, service, and leadership in a supervisory position.

1 – NOMINATE a teacher for the *Ruth E. Wasley Distinguished Teacher Award*. Awarded to a K-12 and/or post-secondary teacher who has demonstrated excellence.

1 – NOMINATE a person for the *Senator Paul Simon Friend of Foreign Languages Award*. Awarded to an individual and/or organization outside of the world language profession who has demonstrated support for FL education and/or FL teachers.

1 – NOMINATE a person for the *Sister Rose Aquin Caimano Distinguished Administrator Award*. Awarded to a non-language specialist who is supportive of the teaching of world languages.

1 – APPLY for a *France Scholarship* which consists of a \$350 stipend for the winner of the French Embassy scholarship to study in France.

1 – NOMINATE an article for the *Papalia Award* which is awarded to an outstanding professional article on second language education from the preceding year.



NYSAFLT Cards

Are there people whom you would like to recognize or honor? You can now send greetings, words of comfort, or any other sentiment with a NYSAFLT card. For a minimum of \$5.00 per card, we will print your message to indicate that a donation has been made. These will be published in the *NYSAFLT News* and will benefit the teacher travel scholarship. Cards may be obtained by going to the donations [page](#) or by sending a check (made payable to **NYSAFLT**) to:

NYSAFLT Headquarters
2400 Main Street
Buffalo, NY 14214-2364

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Condolences to

**JOHN CARLINO**

on the loss of his mother, Natalie. Our thoughts and prayers have been with you.

Sincerely,  
Your NYSA-family

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Mark Your Calendars

March

- 1** **Deadline:** Teacher Travel Award Applications (Except France; see application)
- 1-31** National Foreign Language Month
- 6-12** NYS Foreign Language Week
- 13-15** Board of Regents Meeting
- 15** **Deadline:** Fulvi Student Awards Applications
- 15** **Deadline:** Virtual Video Contest
- 22** **Webinar:** “Teaching for Transfer”
- 21-22** Board of Regents Meeting



April

- 1** **Deadline:** James E. Allen Award Applications
- 1** **Deadline:** Hahn Outstanding FLES Program Applications
- 10-11** Board of Regents Meeting
- 15** **Deadline:** Hahn Teacher Scholarship Applications
- 15** **Deadline:** Teacher Incentive/Gertrude Rossin Cultural Grant Applications

May

- 1** **Deadline:** Annual Conference Awards Nominations
- 1** **Deadline:** France NYSAFLT Travel Stipend Applications
- 1** **Deadline:** June *Newsletter* Submissions
- 1** **Deadline:** Papalia Nominations
- 6** **NYSAFLT Spring Conference (Marist College, Poughkeepsie)**
- 7** Board of Directors Meeting
- 8-9** Board of Regents Meeting
- 10** **Webinar:** “Speaking Out for Languages: Leading the Way”
- 15** **Deadline:** Submission of Names of Retiring Teachers

The *NYSAFLT News* is published by the New York State Association of Foreign Language Teachers, Inc.

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